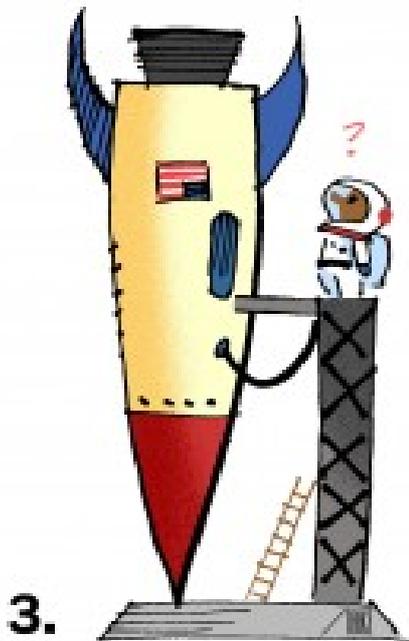


# Quip on the draw: The Style Invitational's winning cartoon captions

Plus new for Week 1201: See what you NOVE in our Tour de Fours neologism contest

By Pat Myers • Entertainment November 10

(Click [here to skip down](#) to this week's new neologism contest, the annual Tour de Fours)



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)

In [Week 1197](#) we asked for captions for any of these Bob Staake cartoons. Remember, the entry deadline was well before Election Day. Whoever it was who described the woman in Picture 4 as Melania Trump ... wha?

## 4th place

*Picture 2:* Everyone said Crocs weren't very stylish but comfortable to wear; Frank's experience, though, was exactly the opposite. (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

## 3rd place

*Picture 3:* "Oh, crap. I hate backing out of parking spaces." (Hildy Zampella, Falls Church, Va.)



No, the milk doesn't come out the udder tucked under this ceramic mug, this week's second prize. (Pat Myers/The Washington Post)

**2nd place and the faux- 'primitive' surfer figurine:**

*Picture 1:* Although pleased with his ice cream cone head and drumstick ears, Buffet the Clown was less sure about the haggis nose. (Jerry Birchmore, Springfield, Va.)

**And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial:**

*Picture 4:* "Grab them by the uvula. You can do anything you want when you're famous." (Steven Steele Cawman, Poughquag, N.Y.)

**Art depreciation: honorable mentions**



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)

#### PICTURE 1

"I'm not breaking up with you; I'd just like to see other faces." (Art Grinath, Takoma Park, Md.)

Donald Trump Jr. wonders about letting in just one Skittle. (Ralph Nitkin, Rockville, Md.)

"Mama always said that if I didn't quit playing with it, it was gonna fall off." (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Bobo wonders if the five-second rule applies to body parts. (Chuck Salerno, Chelmsford, Mass., a First Offender; Roger Dalrymple, Gettysburg, Pa.)

A big blob of blood comes out of Donald's wherever after an alley meeting with Megyn. (Stephen Dudzik, Olney, Md.)

Medieval court jesters were often required to spite their faces. (Art Grinath)

When Blinky was expelled from Clown Kollege, he just went to pieces. (Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)

Bubbles wondered how the nine circus clowns would fit inside the Mini-Beetle. (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

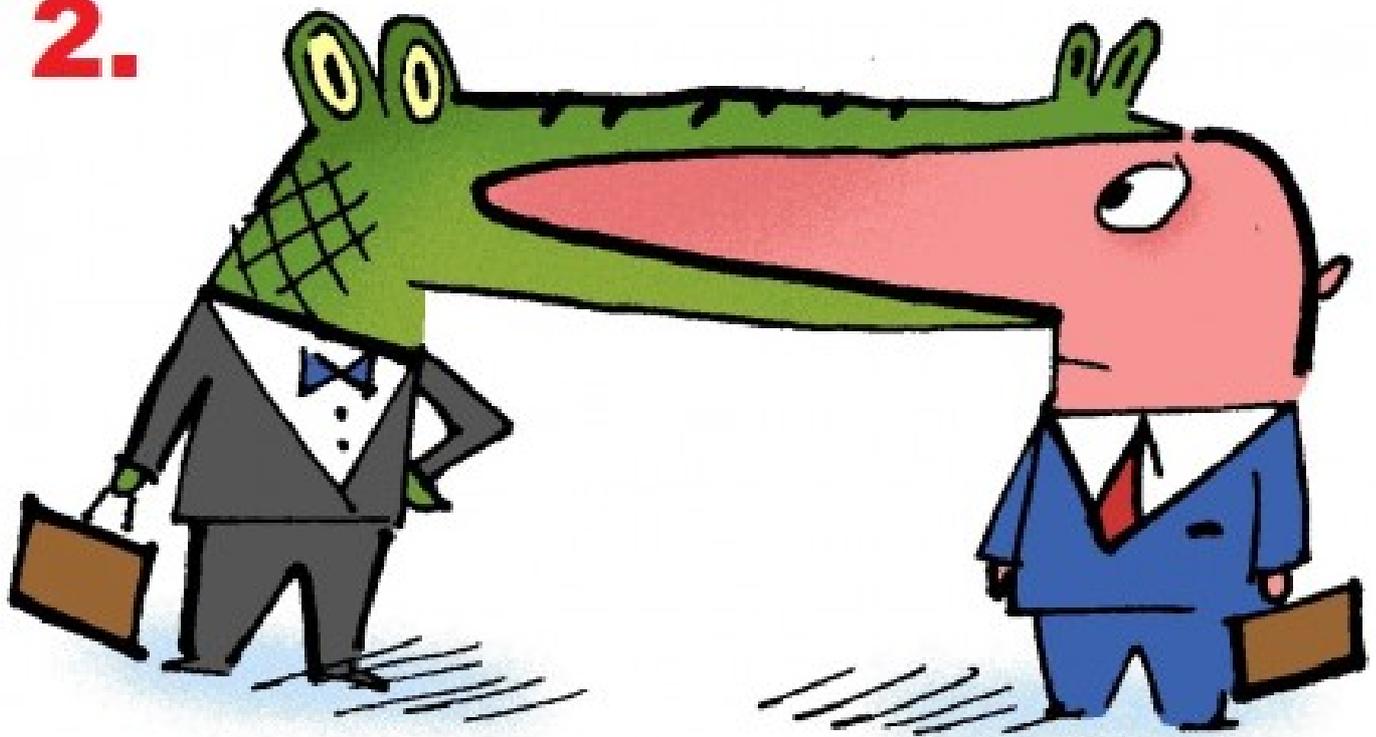
Fredo's balloon animal poops weren't the hit he'd imagined. (Cindi Rae Caron, Blowing Rock, N.C.)

Mike knows he shouldn't pick someone else's nose, but when in need ... (Roger Dalrymple)

Even for a clown, it's no laughing matter when your prostate falls out. (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

The end of Coco's career found him working at a tiny one-ring circus. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

2.



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)

## PICTURE 2

"I'm a litigator, not a crocodile!" (John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.)

"I suppose your mother told you she was a bit wild back in college?" "Um, yeah. Nice to finally meet you, Dad." (Hildy Zampella)

The two attorneys were naturally drawn to pro boscis cases. (Dave Prevar, Annapolis)

The IRS's newest investigator decides to poke his nose in the Caimans. (Doug Frank)

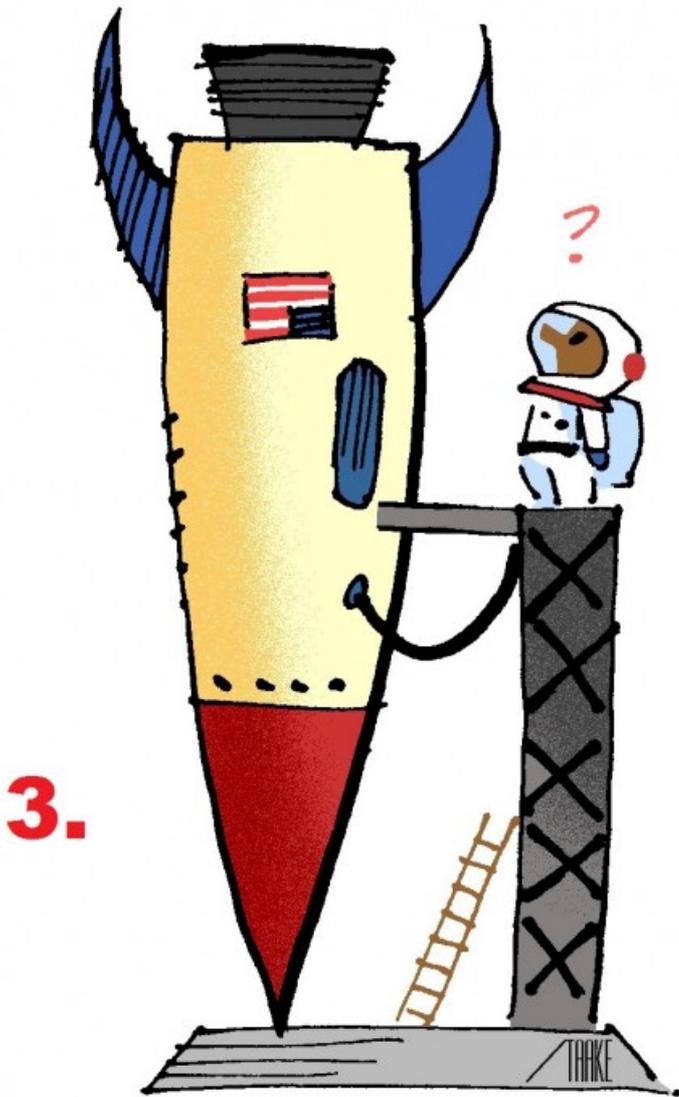
"If you think it's such a hostile takeover, why don't you walk?" (Dan Kinney, Charlottesville)

The new Grand Floridian Resort gateway arch was designed by [Stephan Pastis](#). (Kevin Doport, Washington)

Jim didn't quite understand when he heard that gaiters were coming back into vogue. (Larry Gray)

Ambulance Chaser's Success Tip No. 4: The pre-meeting breath check. (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis, Md.)

"Bob mistakenly thought the "alligator, briefcase" listing was for an alligator briefcase. (John Hutchins)



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)

### PICTURE 3

NASA soon gave up on planning April 1 launches. (Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.)

The order to “aim rockets at China” appeared to have been misinterpreted. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

“My ex-wife was right — I *am* going straight to Hell!” (Michele Uhler, Fort Washington, Md.)

Ever vigilant, Capt. Wilbur detected that someone had mounted the rocket’s flag upside down. (Steve Fahey, Kensington, Md.; Warren Tanabe; Dave Prevar)

Cash-strapped NASA begins drilling for oil. (John Hutchins)

“Your software update is complete.” (Roger Strauss, Silver Spring, Md., a First Offender)

Biff still wasn’t convinced that an expedition to the sun was a good idea, even if done at night and backward. (Frank Osen)

Those literal-minded engineers misinterpreted NASA’s “Back to the Moon” program. (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

“When I said, ‘We’ve got to turn this program around,’ I didn’t mean this.” (Jack Turner, Milford, Del.)

“Liftoff in T minus 3, 4, 5 . . .” (Nick Semanko, Washington, a First Offender; Warren Tanabe)

NASA’s reverse-engineering effort seemed fraught with confusion. (Howard Walderman, Columbia)

There's a difference between "moon rocket" and "moon, rocket." (Kevin Doport)



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)

#### PICTURE 4

Even at age 67, Gene Simmons still has groupies. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Hills, Md.)

"What do you mean your tapeworm doesn't like my lasagna?" (Jennifer Dickey, Silver Spring, Md.)

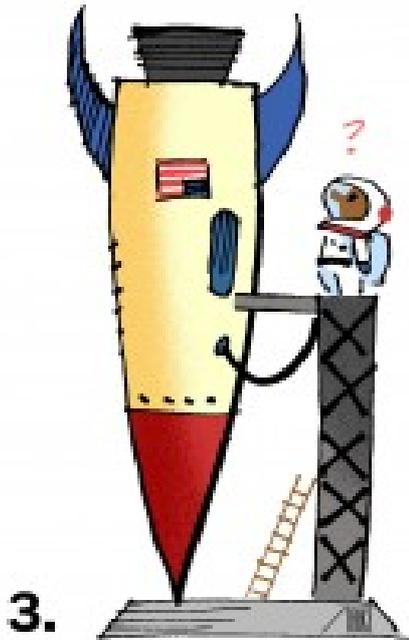
Margie caught the linguine thief right in the act. (Roger Dalrymple)

If your wife tells you to watch your tongue, NEVER sass back, "Just how can you do that?" (Dave Prevar)

Problem: Foulmouthed politician. Solution: Soap on a rope. (Ben Aronin, Washington)

"I told you that was no way to get rid of a sex tape!" (Jennifer Dickey)

"I love you, Harold, but it's high time you got one of those self-starting brains." (Nathanael Dewhurst, Lynn, Mass.)



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post )

#### ALL FOUR PICTURES

It's always awkward asking someone to dance. (Art Grinath)

Still running — deadline Monday, Nov. 14: Our contest for wry “Devil’s Dictionary” definitions. See [bit.ly/invite1200](http://bit.ly/invite1200).

[And this week’s new contest:](#)

**WEEK 1201: TOUR DE FOURS XIII – WHAT’S THERE TO NOVE?**

**NEVOLUTION: The science-denier’s theory of human development.**

**LOVE-NUMB: Suffering the results of extended lip-lock.**

It’s a neologism contest that the Empress has run in each year of her ~~sorry regime~~-celebrated reign, each time with a different set of four letters: **Coin a word or multi-word term that contains the letter block N-O-V-E** (hey, it’s November) and describe it, as in the examples above; **the letters may be in any order, but there may be no other letters between them (you may insert a space or hyphen)**. Feel free to use it in a funny sentence, especially since several other people might coin the same word you did, and the funniest description is going to get the ink.

[Sign up](#)

Submit entries at the website [bit.ly/enter-invite-1201](http://bit.ly/enter-invite-1201) (all lowercase).

Winner gets the [Inkin' Memorial](#), the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives this purebred Holstein black and white ceramic mug with a little pink ceramic udder between its little mug-legs. Donated by Loser Every Year Since Year 1 Elden Carnahan, who thought he might have won it in the Invite way back when, but we don't think he can pin this one on us.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of the yearned-for ["This Is Your Brain on Mugs" Loser mug](#) or our Grossery Bag, ["I Got a B in Punmanship."](#) Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, ["Magnet Dum Laude"](#) or ["Falling Jest Short."](#) First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, Nov. 21; results published Dec. 11 (online Dec. 8). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. See general contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](http://wapo.st/InvRules). The headline for this week's results is by Kevin Doport; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Chris Doyle. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://on.fb.me/invdev). "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](http://bit.ly/inkofday); follow [@StyleInvite](https://twitter.com/StyleInvite) on Twitter.

● **The Style Conversational** The Empress's weekly online column, published late Thursday afternoon, discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter Week 1201, check it out at [wapo.st/styleconv](http://wapo.st/styleconv).

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