

Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1211: Write us the best tweets in history

Disparage a laudable figure of the past or present; plus winning creative crossword clues



(Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)

By Pat Myers 

January 19

(Click [here to skip down](#) to the winning creative crossword clues)

This week's contest was suggested by 166-time Loser Howard Walderman. The Empress has *no* idea what might have inspired him. This week: **Write a stupidly disparaging tweet (140 characters or fewer, including spaces) about some laudable figure of past or present, true or fictional, as in the example above.** You may attribute it to anyone. Please don't actually post it on Twitter until we post the results of this contest.

Submit entries at this website: bit.ly/enter-invite-1211 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the [Inkin' Memorial](#), the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place gets, apropos of the dignity of this week's subject matter, receives [Fishin' for Floaters](#), a bathtub game in which the child (presumably) uses a little rod and net to snag some googly-eyed foam poos. Donated by Nan Reiner.



The Style Invitational will not stoop to discussing "golden showers," but we will happily give out a prize useful for bathtub-cleaning.

Other runners-up win 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 new lusted-after Loser magnets, "[No Childishness Left Behind](#)" or "[Magnum Dopus.](#)" First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, Jan. 30; results published Feb. 19 (online Feb. 16). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Jesse Frankovich; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Jon Gearhart. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at 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, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

[And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .](#)

CAUGHT IN THE CROSS-HARS: REPORT FROM WEEK 1207

In [Week 1207](#) we asked you to supply creative clues for any of the words in a grid by Washington Post Sunday crossword constructor Evan Birnholz; here are the best among them. (To see Evan's original clever clues, go to bit.ly/devilcross2 and scroll down to the blank grid.) Note that you have to look at many of these clues flexibly; even the hint "2 wds" might mean that one of them is an abbreviation (e.g., "Ew, OK") or a single letter ("Alp O").

4th place:

CHESTS: Besides booty, what pirates and pageants have in common (Jeff Hazle, San Antonio.)

3rd place

ALPO: "What is ___?" — Gary Johnson to starving dog (Dave Matuskey, Sacramento)

I	T	S	A	T	R	A	P		B	A	R	G	E	S
M	E	I	N	H	E	R	R		I	P	H	O	N	E
S	E	N	T	E	N	C	E		D	E	I	D	R	E
		C	I	T	E		L	P	S		N	A	A	N
H	A	L		A	W	F	U	L		C	O	R	G	I
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H	O	R	R	O	R	S		H	E	A	R	S	E	S
			I	D	O	T	O	O		L	O	E	W	E
C	H	U	P	A	C	A	B	R	A		S	L	O	G
H	I	N	T	S		I	T	A	L	Y		A	K	A
E	L	S	E		I	D	A		S	O	B	S		
S	T	U	A	R	T		I	D	A	R	E	S	A	Y
T	O	R	S	O	S		N	E	C	K	L	I	N	E
S	N	E	E	Z	Y		S	W	E	E	T	E	N	S

The grid that provided this week's words. To see Evan's own clues from 2014, go to bit.ly/devilcross2 and scroll down to the blank grid. (Grid by Evan Birnholz/DevilCross.com)

2nd place

and the [Chia Homer](#) (Simpson) plant-growing sculpture:

AKA: Three letters few imagined would ever appear between "The Leader of the Free World" and "The Donald" (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial:

PLETHORA: "Daffy Duck requesths the ___ your company at the marriage of his daughter." (Hildy Zampella, Falls Church, Va.)

Nada clue: honorable mentions

ITSATRAP: Where the music scene is these days (3 wds) (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

MEINHERR: Fraulein's excuse: "Sorry, I have to wash ____" (2 wds) (George-Ann Rosenberg, Washington)

IPHONE: What I do when the telegraph's down (2 wds) (Steve Fahey, Kensington, Md.)

SENTENCE: The only instance where commuting is a relief (Bruce Ryan, Bellevue, Wash., a First Offender)

DEIDRE: Latin for "Headphones of God" (2 wds) (Ivars Kuskevics, Takoma Park, Md.)

CITE: Shift all blame to previous researchers (Peter Boice, Rockville, Md.)

CITE: What Dan Quayle enjoyed flying as a child (Dave Matuskey)

LPS: Scalped scalps (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

AWFUL: Like a new parent's Facebook page (Leonard Williams, Fort Wayne, Ind.)

ALAS: The Nationals' traditional season-ending cheer (Jeff Hazle)

ALAS: Chicken King and Pie Mode (Steve Glomb, Alexandria, Va.)

SPITS: Next baseball stat they'll track? (Michael Rosen, New York)

HEARSE: Box cars (Jeff Hazle; Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

HEARSE: Practices only once (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

IDOTOO: How I make two circles look like boobs (3 wds, sort of) (Steve Langer, Chevy Chase, Md.)

ITALY: Home of the leera (Howard Walderman, Columbia, Md.)

AKA: What a Bostonian might use to get around (2 wds) (Duncan Stevens)

ELSE: The alternative that no kid is brave enough to make Mom use (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

SOBS: Tear/jerks (Danielle Nowlin; Chris Doyle)

SOBS: Textspeak to reply to your no-count boyfriend's excuses (2 wds) (Jesse Frankovich)

IDARESAY: Expression seldom heard in N. Korea (3 wds) (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

TORSOS: Greek island famous for topless beaches (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

NECKLINE: When this goes down, eyebrows go up (Hildy Zampella)

NECKLINE: "Wanna make out?" (Mark Raffman)

SWEETENS: Try these if M&M's are too bitter for you (David Peckarsky, Tucson)

TEE: Devo follower (Chris Doyle)

SINCLAIR: Response of zero men to "Who's your favorite Upton"? (Mark Raffman)

THETA: "Who do I have to sleep with to pass this class?" (2 wds) (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

THETA: It's inside Mrs. Cyclops's bra (2 wds) (Mark Raffman)

RENEWS: What you hear from the [Glass-Enclosed Nerve Center](#) if you listen more than 10 minutes (Lindsay McClelland, Fairfax, Va.)

RENEWS: What happens when Stimpy passes gas (2 wds) (Bruce Alter, Fairfax Station, Va.)

PRELUDE: Part of a visit with Cosby that both parties can remember (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

APE: What some people go when mimicked (Loyd Dillon, Charlotte, a First Offender)

GODARK: The Trump yacht (2 wds) (Barry Sackin, Murrieta, Calif.)

PLETHORA: A whole gang of Israeli folk dancers (Elliott Shevin, Oak Park, Mich.)

HASH: How the librarian responded when she liked your joke (2 wds) (Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.)

ALPO: A "peak" achieved on the Matterhorn — the real Mile High Club (2 wds) (Jeff Shirley)

FIRSTAID: Birch brash, but ____ (2 wds) (Steve Langer)

STRIPTEASE: Patron saint of fart jokes (Jesse Frankovich)

STRIPTEASE: Will Blondie get in the tub with Dagwood? Find out tomorrow! (Ricardo Rodriguez, Springfield, Va.)

EWOK: "That's disgusting! . . . Oh, what the heck, let's do it" (2 wds) (Seth Christenfeld, New York, a First

Offender)

EWOK: Range of response to the “Access Hollywood” tape (hyph) (Dave Silberstein, College Park, Md.)

EWOK: “Mr. Fudd, where did you say Baghdad was?” (Jesse Frankovich)

SEGA: Genesis of Genesis (Amy Harris, Charlottesville, Va.)

SEGA: What Benjamin Button does backward (John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.)

CHESTS: What plastic surgeons get their treasure from (Jesse Frankovich)

CHESTS: What Guevara wore under his dress shirts (2 wds) (Chris Doyle)

HILTON: Quality control check at Swords R Us (2 wds) (Duncan Stevens)

UNSURE: An odorant/pro-perspirant (Gary Crockett, Chew Chase, Md.)

UNSURE: Nikki Haley’s response when Trump offered her a job (2 wds) (Steve Glomb)

ALSACE: What wasn’t up Gore’s sleeve in 2000 (2 wds) (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Entertainment Alerts

Big stories in the entertainment world as they break.

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ITSY: Site where DJT buys his custom-made gloves (Barry Sackin)

ANN: What the cattle brand looks like at the Lazy Z Ranch (2 wds) (Liz Thelander, Bend, Ore., a First Offender)

YES: Type of man dictators prefer (Howard Walderman)

YES: Being English, they couldn’t title their big hit “Traffic Circle” (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Still running — deadline Monday night, Jan. 23: our “joint legislation” contest. See bit.ly/invite1210

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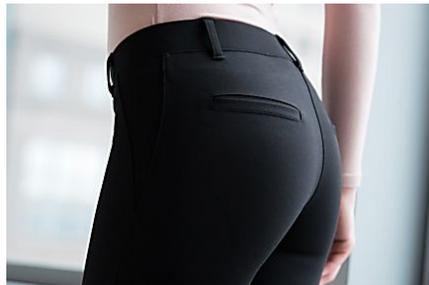
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