



Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1342:
Mrgrs — combine two
abbreviations

+ Add to list

Plus the winning captions for four Bob Staake cartoons. (What WAS that green thing?)



(Cartoons by Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

By **Pat Myers**

July 25

(Click [here to skip down](#) to this week's inking cartoon captions)









AirBNBRB: We'll hold your reservation.

TGIFBI: Coming to our office — Undercover Fridays!

NASAARP: For astronauts on their later voyages around the sun.

This week's contest was suggested by Longtime Loser Paul Laporte, and it seems as straightforward as can be (as it always does to the Empress until she's bombarded five minutes later with questions): **Combine two acronyms or other abbreviations, whether of entities or expressions, into one big one, and then describe it, offer a slogan for the new organization, etc.** As always, feel free to enhance your description with a funny sentence showing how you'd

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- 3 **Review**
Send your regrets to Hulu's 'Four Weddings and a Funeral' (and a sympathy card) 
- 4 A CNN anchor's emotional response to Trump's Twitter rant about his 'infested' hometown 
- 5 So, you stopped watching 'Orange Is the New Black' three seasons ago? Here's how it ends. 



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A MONTH

use it in the real world. Your entry will probably be a lot funnier if it's obvious what abbreviations you're combining, as in Paul's examples above, but there's a chance that your joke would work even with an explanation. The abbreviations don't necessarily need to appear in their entirety, as long as it's clear what they are.

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1342 (all lowercase).

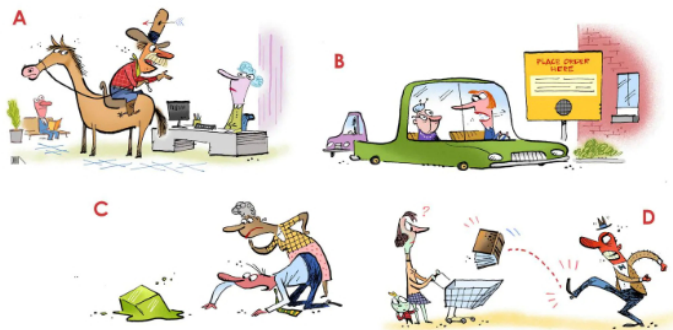
Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a **Sarcasm 2-Pack**: a metal "[National Sarcasm Society](#)" sign with the motto "Like We Need Your Support"; and a [tiny wearable button](#) with the slogan "I never faked a sarcasm in my life." Yeah, right. The sign was donated by Nan Reiner, the button by Christina Courtney.

Other runners-up win our "[You Gotta Play to Lose](#)" Loser Mug or our "[Whole Fools](#)" Grocery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "[Too-Weak Notice](#)" or "[Certificate of \(de\) Merit](#)." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, Aug 5**; results published Aug. 25 in print, Aug. 22 online. See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results was submitted separately by Chris Doyle, William Kennard and Jesse Frankovich; Jon Gearhart wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. 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](#) on Twitter.

The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses the week's new contest and results. Check out this week's at wapo.st/conv1342.

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

HAR-TOONS: WINNING CAPTIONS FROM WEEK 1338

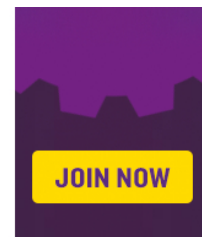


(Cartoons by Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

In [Week 1338](#) we presented yet another four bizarro renderings by Bob Staake and asked for captions. A dismaying number of you dragged out the apt but so old "Loan Arranger" joke for Picture A.

4th place:

Picture B: "Mama, that's just their name. They don't actually serve panda." (*Kyle Hendrickson, Frederick, Md.*)



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3rd place:

Picture C: “Trust me: You don’t want to be taken to our leader.” (*Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.*)

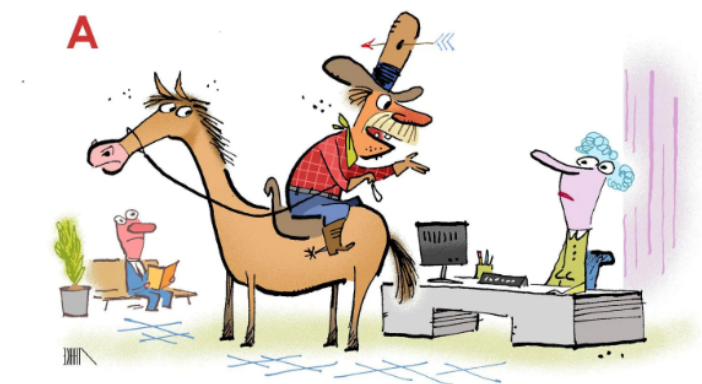
2nd place and the patronizing "Girls' Guide to Grilling":

Picture D: “The plot was thin and the characters one-dimensional!” (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.*)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Picture B: “For crying out loud, Brittany — leave the mask on until I get the senior discount!” (*Jean Sorensen, Herndon, Va.*)

Art blecho: Honorable mentions



PICTURE A

“Well, howdy there, little lady. Who can I chat with about unsecured nonconvertible debentures?” (*John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.*)

PICTURE A

“Well, howdy there, little lady. Who can I chat with about unsecured nonconvertible debentures?” (*John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.*)



“Just thought I’d mention that the third stall in the men’s room is now out of toilet paper.” (*Rob Kruger, Rockville, Md.*)

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out of toilet paper. (Bob Kruger, Rockville, Md.)

"Smoky here doesn't spark joy anymore, so I'd like to trade him in on an F-150." (*J. Larry Schott, West Plains, Mo.*)

"All us old cowboys sit this way. It's easier on our prostates." (*Rick Haynes, Ocean City, Md.*)

So ma'am, now that I just showed you where the other arrow went, would you kindly tell the vet that this really is an emergency?!" (*Kerry Humphrey, Arlington, Va.*)

"I have more of a brown-chip stock portfolio." (*Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.*)

"I'd be honored to sign up, but I've got spurs on my feet." (*Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.*)

"So I got you this gift, see, but I didn't want you to look it in the mouth . . ." (*Jesse Frankovich*)

"You called for Tex Support?" (*Duncan Stevens*)

"Ma'am, these days the AAP recommends we stay rear-facing for as long as we fit in the seat." (*Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.*)

As Sally had been quite emphatic on the point, Chet dutifully brought her the horse he rode in on. (*Duncan Stevens*)



PICTURE B

"Relax, Mom. Dad's funeral doesn't start for another 20 minutes." (*Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.*)

"Dammit, Mother, you've repeated that Clara Peller thing 2 million times since 1984! Besides, this is Chipotle." (*Ellen Ryan, Rockville, Md.*)

"Maybe I don't FEEL like ordering a Happy Meal today, OKAY, MOTHER???" (*Steve Honley, Washington*)

"Zurg, retract your antennae before someone notices we are undocumented aliens!" (*Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.; Jeff Hazle, San Antonio*)

"SHE ASKED IF YOU WANTED SOME BU BUBBLES. " (*Jeff*

SHE ASKED IF YOU WANTED SQUEETTY TIDLETT MINKLE. (Jeff Shirley; Rob Cohen, Potomac, Md.)

“What do you mean we just stopped? It’s been almost a whole MILE since my last Starbucks.” (Bill Lieberman, Ellicott City, Md.)

“They said, ‘We regret to tell you that we’re flat out of the Coquilles St. Jacques.’” (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.; George Smith, Frederick, Md.)

“You wouldn’t get me a Frosty in 1982, you don’t get a Frosty now!” (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

Sartre defined hell as being confined with your mother-in-law in a car with no doors. (Mark Raffman)



PICTURE C

“My God, Carl! Gesundheit!” (Jesse Frankovich)

The first microwaveable salads were extremely disappointing. (Frank Osen)

“I wonder if our Incredible Hulk will ever finish potty training.” (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

“Aw, someone left the cake out in the rain, and all the icing’s flowing down! Well, never gonna make *that* again.” (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

“Huh, SpongeBob really *can’t* survive on land.” (Steve Fahey, Olney, Md.)

“There must be a better way to swat flies than the Jell-O Catapult.” (Duncan Stevens)

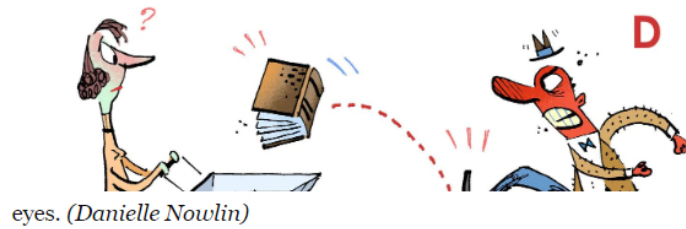
“You say you bought this ice sculpture on Etsy?” (Jean Sorensen)

Turns out that green smoothies can’t quite replace three squares a day. (Pete Morelewicz, Fredericksburg, Va.)

At EPA new appointees were surprised to find that warmer

temperatures do, indeed, cause ice to melt. *(Mark Raffman)*

Bill and Wilma can hardly believe it, yet they thaw it with their own eyes. *(Danielle Nowlin)*



PICTURE D

“Mommy, why is Governor Northam so angry at that yearbook?” *(Bill Dorner, Indianapolis)*

Harold was going to make sure little Timmy became one of the 937 winners of the 2029 Scripps National Spelling Bee if it was the last thing he did. *(Danielle Nowlin)*

When CVS switched to hardcover bindings for its receipts, Bill had finally had enough. *(John Hutchins; Mike Gips, Bethesda, Md.)*

“Here’s a cookbook, Barbara. Now can you please make something besides broccoli?” snarled a fed-up George H.W. Bush in 1954, the last time he visited a supermarket. *(Bob Kruger)*

Agent Ray Sistman flips out upon learning that asylum-seeking families are legally allowed to bring their own cages. *(Kevin Dopart, Washington)*

Danno’s retirement job as a Costco security guard didn’t last long when he began booking people for no apparent reason. *(John Kupiec, Fairfax, Va.)*


“Here’s what you can do with ‘Anger Management for Dummies!’” *(Jesse Frankovich)*

Eugene knew the book was defective — it leaked hyphens everywhere. *(Sam Mertens, Silver Spring, Md.)*

Having failed repeatedly as a child, a bitter Charlie Brown now kicked anything that wasn't nailed down. *(Tommy Thompson, Richmond)*

Still running — deadline Monday night, July 29: our contest for portmanteau words. See wapo.st/invite1341.

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