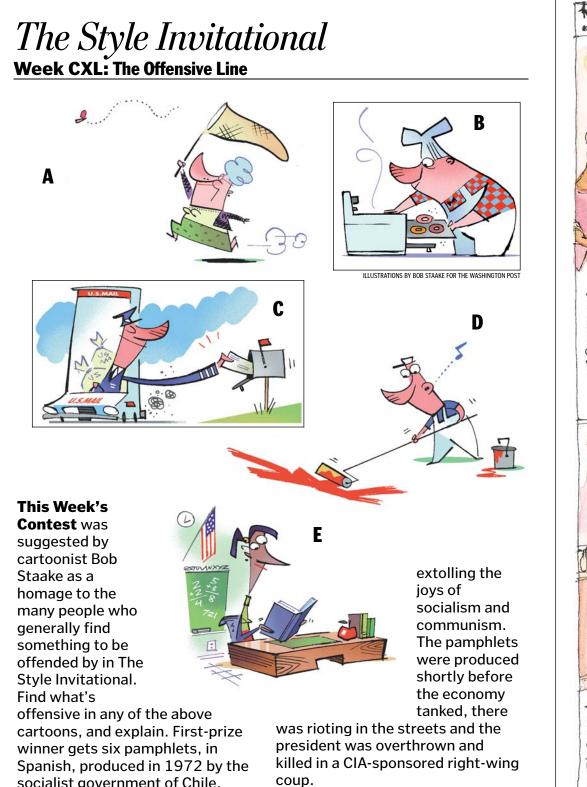
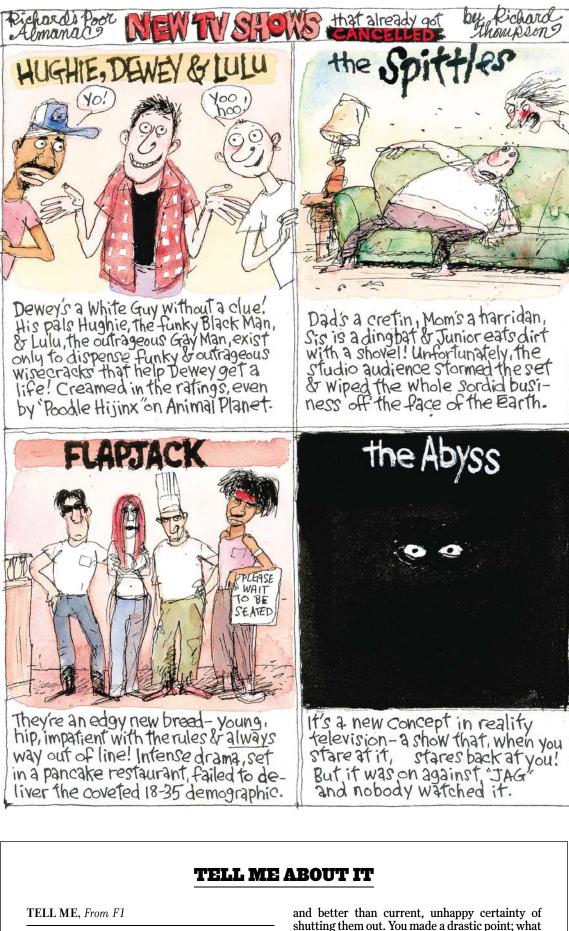
SUNSTYLE 09-29-02 EZ EE F2 CMYK

The Washington Post



First runner-up wins the tacky but estimable Style Invitational Loser Pen. Other runners-up win the coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt. Honorable mentions get the mildly sought-after Style Invitational bumper sticker. Send your entries via fax to 202-334-4312, or by e-mail to losers@washpost.com. U.S. mail entries are no longer accepted due to rabid, spit-flying fanaticism. Deadline is Monday, Oct. 7. All entries must include the week number of the contest and your name, postal address and telephone number. E-mail entries must include the week number in the subject field. Contests will be judged on the basis of humor and originality. All entries become the property of The Washington Post. Entries may be edited for taste or content. Results will be published in four weeks. No purchase required for entry. Employees of The Washington Post, and their immediate relatives, are not eligible for prizes.

Pseudonymous entries will be disqualified. The revised title for next week's contest is by Thos. Witte of Gaithersburg.



foresee is continued interference in how we are raising our children. Even though I'm doing what I feel is best for my child, I still feel like a monster. –New Father in Turmoil

Please—only a monster wouldn't feel like a monster for banishing Granmaw.

If it makes you feel any better, though, it might be what needed to happen. Clearly you should we communicated better and they should have listened better, but given that overreaction is in the genes, you were probably destined for either capitulation or feud. Regrets can't reverse that. Here's what might. I hope. It seems to me, and I could be wrong (can you tell how badly I don't want to take sides here?), that however rude, condescending or misguided, their actions are rooted in love. It's love wrapped in a massive, lifelong power trip, granted. But now that you've shown, really really decisively, what your limits are, maybe you can ease off a bit in their enforcement and concentrate now on the love part.

a waste if you don't at least try to see if some of it finally got through.

Dear Carolyn:

How do you suggest responding when friends in relationships have clearly forgotten what dating is like and try to give you advice? I broke up with a guy after three dates and my best friend, happily engaged, scolded me by saying I had to give him more of a chance, relati too much time alone, yadda yadda. This guy was a jerk (actual line: "Can I come over? I went to the drugstore tonight") and I think my friend wants me to be in a relationship as happy as hers so much that she's forgotten all the bad dates that went before. Or am I a bitter single person?

Report from Week CXXXVI, in which we asked you to suggest aliases that celebrities might use to hide their identities when checking into hotels. Many, many people offered "Scott Free" for O.J. Simpson, or some version of "Mary Anne Oldrichman" for Anna Nicole Smith.

♦ Fourth Runner-Up—*Jack Kevorkian:* **Angel Odett** (Tom Klippstein, Scottsville, Va.)

Third Runner-up—Pamela Anderson & Kid Rock: Mr. and Mrs. Trev La Park (Judith Cottrill, New York)

Second Runner-Up—Kathleen Kennedy Townsend: Kathleen Townsend (Brooks E. Bowers, Damascus)

♦ First Runner-Up—*Barbara Walters:* **Fave Swift** (Steve Fahey, Kensington)

♦ And the winner of the Elvis sunglasses with dangling sideburns: Bill Clinton: Mr. John Smith and daughter (Russell Beland, Springfield)

♦ Honorable Mentions:

Anna Kournikova: Anita Wynn (Aaron Durst, Upper Marlboro)

socialist government of Chile,

Monica Lewinsky: Honor Nease (Michael Clem, McLean)

Barbra Streisand: Mrs. James Brolin (Russell Beland, Springfield)

Mike Tyson: Will F. Uppe (Brooks E. Bowers, Damascus)

Michael Jackson: Ivan Toby White (Chris Doyle, Burke)

Winona Ryder: Heidi Silver (Christy Cornelius, Chantilly)

Winona Ryder: Robin Saks (Milo Sauer, Fairfax)

George W. Bush: Ariel **Bombardment** (Joseph Romm, Washington)

Bill Clinton: Seamus All

(John Held, Fairfax) Marion Barry: Joe Blow

(Kyle Bonney, Fairfax)

The Rev. W.A. Spooner: Don Joe (Russell Beland, Springfield)

Martha Stewart: Selma Stockoff (Hamdi Akar, Broad Run)

Emperor Nero: Christian Herter (Steve Fahey, Kensington)

Gary Condit: Gil T. Walker (Frank Mullen, Aledo, Tex.)

Katherine Harris: Eileen Wright (Dan Steinberg, Falls Church)

Ari Fleischer: Pat Anser (John Held, Fairfax)

Jimmy Hoffa: Pete Moss (Russell Beland, Springfield)

Michael Jackson: Les Black (Jenn Sarajian and Jerome Alfred, Fairfax)

Lorena Bobbitt: Gladys Severt (Hamdi Akar, Broad Run)

Jack Kevorkian: Hugo Gently (Dan Steinberg, Falls Church)

Jesus Christ: Jesus H. Christ (Gary Patishnock, Laurel)

Adam Clymer: Major LeGasseau (Hamdi Akar, Broad Run)

Dan Quayle: Anday Aylequay (Steve Fahey, Kensington)

Next Week: The Goods Must Be Crazy

Tell them this is shredding you inside, and welcome them back-with the understanding that the door is wiiide open, and always would have been, and always will be, as long as they show respect for you, your wife and your right to make your own decisions.

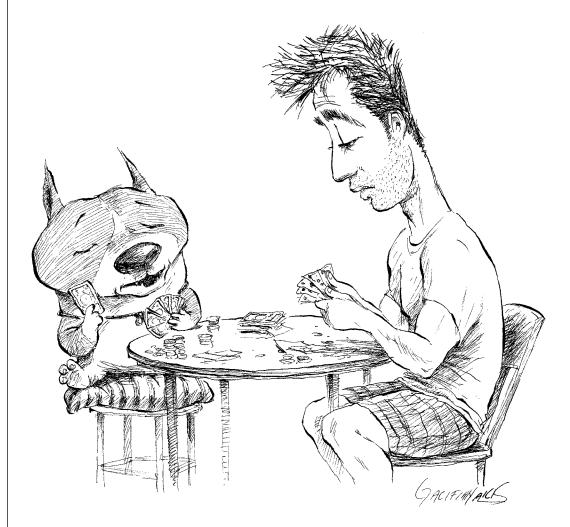
They might not. That's still a maybe, though,

—Dateless

No, just a single person who has forgotten that truly wretched advice can come from unattached people, too. Just thank your friend, assure her you'll let her know when desperation measures are warranted (never) and relish your jerk-free existence.

Write to Tell Me About It, Style, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071, or tellme@washpost.com, and join Carolyn's live discussion at noon Fridays at washingtonpost.com/liveonline

BY NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



HEY, DON'T ASK ME, WHEN THE GDING GETS TOUGH, I JUST LICK MYSELF.