

# The Style Invitational

Week 518: Say, Kids, What Time Is It?



BY BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

**"You know it's time to leave the restaurant when you see that every table has its own Roach Motel."**  
**"You know it's time to find a new job when your health insurance premiums are higher than your salary."**

**This Week's Contest** was suggested by Carmen T. Kitt of Charlottesville. Your job is to fill in the blanks in the following sentence: "You know it's time to \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_," as in the examples above. First-prize winner gets a really bizarre prize donated by Brendan O'Byrne of Regina, Saskatchewan. It is a set of 25 really fancy vintage rag-paper coupons—each is as elaborate and uncounterfeitable as a dollar bill—good for a grand total of \$6 off any purchase from Canadian Tire Ltd.

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](mailto:losers@washpost.com). U.S. mail entries are no longer accepted. Deadline is Monday, Aug. 18. 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 Mark Young of Washington.

**Report from Week 514**, in which you were invited to give "Jeopardy!"-like questions to answers we supplied.

- ◆ **Third Runner-Up:** Answer: **Porky McBeal**. Question: **What character was played by Calista Blockheart?** (Roy Ashley, Washington)
- ◆ **Second Runner-Up:** Answer: **Because it could cause asphyxia**. Question: **In Scrabble, why should you never come up with "asp" pointing toward a triple word score?** (Seth Brown, Williamstown, Mass.)
- ◆ **First Runner-Up:** Answer: **Chilean Sea Bass, but not George W. Bush**. Question: **Who knows where Chile is?** (Joe Cackler, Falls Church; Sue Lin Chong, Washington)
- ◆ **And the winner of the hard candy with an embedded cricket larva:** Answer: **Paris, Zurich, and Certain Parts of West Virginia**. Question: **Where is it not permissible to marry one's sister?** (Sanford D. Horn, Alexandria)

◆ Honorable Mentions:

**Ben Aflack**  
**Who is the co-star of the 1997 film "Good Duck Hunting?"** (Tom Campbell, Highland Park, Ill.; Elliott Schiff, Allentown, Pa.; Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

**Which insurance company covers butt-related injuries?**  
 (David Moore, Odenton)

**Who used to date Gwyneth Poultry?**  
 (Russell Beland, Springfield)

**Who said, "Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man less of a liability risk"?**  
 (Carolyn Murphy, Fayetteville, N.Y.)

**Just the Parts You Can See**  
**Is Madonna a real blonde?**  
 (Dot Yufer, Newton, W.Va.)

**What is missing from the government's case for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction?**  
 (Mike Genz, La Plata)

**WMD-40**  
**What is the lubricant DUBYA used when he slipped it to us about the war?** (Dan Gray, Spotsylvania, Va.)

**What do you use when your launch key sticks?** (Karen Toner, Rockville; Bird Waring, New York)

**In personal ads, what is the abbreviation for a middle-aged white male dork?** (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

**Woody Allen's Analyst**  
**Who has even greater job security than Robert Downey Jr.'s bail bondsman?**  
 (Fred Wichham, San Francisco)

**Who is the only person still interested in Woody Allen's neurosis?**  
 (Elden Carnahan, Laurel)

**Paris, Zurich, and Certain Parts of West Virginia**  
**Where is it hard to get understandable directions in English?**  
 (Milo Sauer, Fairfax)

**Where has the cutting of cheese taken on the status of an art form?**  
 (Paul Kocak, Syracuse)

**Where might a purse made out of aluminum foil and duct tape be considered fashionable?**  
 (Mike Genz, La Plata)

**Because It Just Sounds Wrong**  
**Why don't people ever order Kooing Phat Prik at Thai restaurants?**  
 (Lori Olcott, Seoul)

**Why should you never compliment your wife afterward by saying, "You handled yourself like a real pro"?**  
 (Mike Connaghan, Alexandria)

**Once in a Blue Moonves**  
**How often does The Style Invitational print one of the 6,713 identical entries that say, "How often do people under 40 watch CBS?"**  
 (Daniel Mauer, Silver Spring)

**A Concerto in Lee Majors**  
**What is even less interesting than a concerto in Lee Marvin?**  
 (David Moore, Odenton)

**Porky McBeal**  
**What are they calling the new ham-cube-on-a-toothpick appetizer at McDonald's?**  
 (Fred Wichham, San Francisco)

**In a universe far, far away, who is dating Ham Solo?**  
 (Josh Tucker, Kensington)

**Because It Could Cause Asphyxia**  
**Why don't they serve franks 'n' beans 'n' beer on the space shuttle?**  
 (Stephen Fahey, Kensington)

**Why did Pamela Anderson decide not to breast-feed her babies?**  
 (Judith Cottrill, New York)

**Why should you not hold your breath until the Gephardt campaign catches fire?** (Mike Genz, La Plata)

**Chilean Sea Bass, But Not George W. Bush**  
**What should be grilled over mesquite, instead of by a Senate committee?**  
 (Roy Ashley, Washington)

**Which is less likely to have offspring that are stewed to the gills?**  
 (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

**Who goes deep?**  
 (Paul Kundrav, Harrisonburg, Va.)

**The loss of what creature would be seen as a tragedy for environmentalists?**  
 (David Rogers, Aurora, Ill.)

**What does Rush Limbaugh enjoy tearing into as often as possible?**  
 (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

**Who is afraid of global warming?**  
 (Mike Genz, La Plata)

**Whee Monsieur**  
**What would be a good name for a brothel in Marseilles?**  
 (Jim Anderson, Corvallis, Ore.)

**What is a memorable line from the French remake of "Deliverance"?**  
 (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg; Jeff Brechlin, Potomac Falls; Elden Carnahan, Laurel)

**What is the most popular ride at Six White Flags Amusement Park?**  
 (Sue Lin Chong, Washington)

**Next Week: Martha, Martha, Martha**

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WHAT?

## DEAR ABBY

**Dear Abby:**  
 It's hard to believe, but today in the United States more than 8.5 million children have no health insurance. They do not have access to annual checkups or eye exams, and are less likely to receive proper medical care for common childhood illnesses such as sore throats, earaches and asthma.

Covering Kids and Families, a project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is working to let parents know that low-cost and free health care coverage is available through the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and Medicaid.

Programs are available in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Uninsured children are eligible for these programs, even if their parents work. Eligibility varies by state, but families earning up to \$36,000 a year or more may qualify for these programs, which cover doctor visits, immunizations, hospitalizations and more.

As parents prepare their children to go back to school, Covering Kids and Families is encouraging parents of uninsured children to enroll them in a low-cost or free health care coverage program now.

Thank you for helping me spread the word, Abby.  
 Risa Lavizzo-Mourey,  
 President And CEO,  
 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Abby? I have to choose before September.**  
*Girl With Hair-Raising Problem*

Attend one of the "awesome colleges" for at least a year, and sign up for courses in business. Whether you choose to graduate, those courses will be helpful to you in starting and running your own business.

Discuss your goal with your college counselor. In addition to the business courses, some knowledge of chemistry and marketing would also be valuable. Although you may think you want to concentrate on cosmetology, you might at some point want to come up with your own product line.

**Dear Abby:**  
 I have been teased by my classmates since third grade. In the sixth grade, I tried to act like I could read palms—and I also wore strong perfume. The teasing got worse.

I will be in seventh grade in the fall, and I'm wondering if I should still try to be an "actor," or be myself. One person likes me the way I am. His name is "Nate," and he is my boyfriend. Nate says it doesn't matter to him whether I put on an act—or if I'm just myself. (I think he would prefer me to act more natural.) What do you think I should do?  
*Unpopular—but Loved*

Thank you for your important letter. Parents, I urge you to call 877-KIDS-NOW (877-543-7669) to establish whether your children are eligible for these important programs.

**Dear Abby:**  
 I'm 17, and just graduated from high school. I have been accepted at two awesome colleges, but I have no clue as to what my major should be. What I really want is to go to a vocational school and become a hairdresser.

Do you think I should blow off those colleges,

Your friend Nate is wise beyond his years. Be yourself. It's a lot less work than pretending to be a fortune teller or someone you're not.

P.S.: If you enjoy acting, try out for the school plays and musicals. It doesn't take a crystal ball to predict you'll be sensational.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.*  
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## BRIDGE | Frank Stewart

Both sides vulnerable

NORTH  
 ♠ 8 6 3  
 ♥ 7 2  
 ♦ Q 7 4  
 ♣ Q J 10 6 3

WEST  
 ♠ 4  
 ♥ K Q J 9 8 6 3  
 ♦ 9 8  
 ♣ 8 7 2

EAST  
 ♠ Q J 10 9  
 ♥ 10 5 4  
 ♦ K J 10 6  
 ♣ 9 4

SOUTH (D)  
 ♠ A K 7 5 2  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ A 5 3 2  
 ♣ A K 5

The bidding:  
 South West North East  
 2 ♣ 3 ♥ Pass Pass  
 Dbl All Pass

Opening lead: ♥ K

A player entered the club lounge, his face bunched up like a fist, and sagged into a chair by mine.

"We played in the afternoon duplicate," he said. "We used those weak two-bids you advocate and ran into trouble."

He displayed today's deal. "What happened?" I asked.

"I opened two clubs, strong and artificial, as South," he said, "planning to bid spades next, but when West's preempt came back to me, I decided to double. My partner passed, and we were plus 200 points when we'd have been plus 620 at four spades."

"I'd open one spade," I observed. "The values are borderline to force to game. You can still get to game after opening two clubs if you bid your suit next or if North takes out your double."

"In fact," I went on, "I think you'll score well for plus 200. Many Souths at four spades will go down."

Suppose at four spades South takes the ace of hearts and then the A-K of spades. When West discards, South can't succeed against best defense. If he leads another trump, East wins and leads a heart. South ruffs but can't afford to continue trumps. If he starts the clubs, East ruffs the third club and leads his last heart, and South loses three diamonds. Nor does it help South to start the clubs at Trick Four.

To make four spades, South must keep control of the trumps in order to run the clubs. South should lead a low trump at the second trick. He ruffs the heart return and leads another low trump. South can then win any return and easily take the rest.

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