**D2** SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2005

The Washington Post

### THE TV COLUMN

## The Style Invitational

### Week 619: WordCount Us In







BY BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A sleepwalking grande dame who lived right off Park Would often roam 'round in her penthouse so dark. Her odd cause of death (this required no probe): She hung from a ledge in a plus-sized,\* humorous,\* tangled\* robe.\*

This week's contest takes you back to the Internet, to an intriguing Web site called WordCount.org. This site, shown to the Empress by Art Chimes of Arlington, lists - horizontally in one lonnnnng line — 86,800 English words, from "the" to "conquistador," including names, in order of the frequency in which they appear in a collection called the British National Corpus (which would explain why "London" pops up at No. 242, while "Washington" festers down at 2,932). Our contest: Write a poem of no more than four lines containing four or more consecutive words on the WordCount list. They must occur in the sentence in the order they appear on the list, but they may be interspersed with other words of your choice — even though the example above (by our own Bob Staake) extra-cleverly uses Nos. 12184-12187 adjacently. Warning: You won't be looking at all 86,800 words. Not even if you are, say, Invitationally Obsessed Chris Doyle of Forsyth, Mo. Because the site permits you to scroll up and down the list one word at a time. So what you'll do is search for a word that occurs to you, or a certain rank, and you'll be shown that and the ones around it.

The winner receives the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy. First runner-up wins a Porky Pooper!™, a little plastic pig that "trots out tasty treats," namely little brown jelly beans, discourtesy of Elden Carnahan of Laurel

Other runners-up win a coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt. Honorable mentions get one of the lusted-after Style Invitational Magnets. One prize per entrant per week. Send your entries by e-mail to losers@washpost.com or, if you really have to, by fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, July 25. Put "Week 619" in the subject

line of your e-mail, or it risks being ignored as spam. Include your name, postal address and phone number with your entry. Entries are 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 Aug. 14. 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 Brendan Beary of Great Mills.

Report from Week 615, in which we asked for some material that could be used by comic Dave George, who's paid by Independence Air to tell jokes at Dulles

### ♦ Third runner-up: Would the owner of a red and tan Boeing 737 please report to the tarmac? Your lights are on.

(Eric Murphy, Chicago; Russell Beland, Springfield)

### Second runner-up: Pan American Airways Flight 213 to Idlewild Airport is now ready for boarding. We apologize for the delay. (Noah M. Bartlett, Washington)

♦ First runner-up, winner of the welder's mask: Ladies and gentlemen, we'd like to recognize some special groups we have on the flight today: The "Fat and Proud of It" Club of Burke; the panel of judges returning home from the Fourth Annual Cooking With Garlic Competition; the Society of Pauly Shore Impersonators; and the National Association of Families With Colic-Prone Twins. Welcome aboard! (Russell Beland)

♦ And the winner of the Inker: Attention, passengers: We've just been informed that a butterfly has flapped its wings in Brazil. So be prepared for flight delays. (Stephen Dudzik, Olney)

### Honorable Mentions:

At this time, we'd like all passengers who paid full price for their ticket to stand up so you can be mocked. (Seth

### carousel, unless the person is a certified Dulles Luggage Carousel Ticket Vendor. (Art Grinath, Takoma Park)

Attention, passengers: Many family members look alike. Please be sure you are leaving the airport with your own family. (Elliott Schiff, Allentown, Pa.)

## A Love Affair . . . Till Carolla Stepped Up

TV COLUMN, From D1

conclude that what we crave in these troubled times is more Jennifer Love Hewitt. She actually kicked off Summer TV Press Tour 2005, appearing in a skintight black skirt and black peasant blouse tastefully unbuttoned at the top last Monday afternoon to announce the nominations for the AOL TV's Top 5 Viewer Awards, including such must-see-TV moments as Brit Brit and Kev having lots of sex on UPN's "Chaotic," girl-on-girl kissing on "The O.C.," Ken Jennings losing on "Jeopardy!," Paula losing her mind on "American Idol" when America boots rocker Constantine, and, of course, armadillo sex on David Letterman's late-night show.

After reading, perkily, the list of nominees, Love posed, Betty Grable-esque, at a computer on a plexiglass dais up on the stage while pretending to cast the first vote as a paparazzi mob screamed "Love — to the right!" and "Over here, Jennifer, one more time!"

Friday, Jennifer Love Hewitt popped up in the clip of an upcoming ABC Family flick called "If Only." playing a super-sweet impetuous musician damsel in distress (actually dead damsel to be completely accurate) whose slightly self-absorbed but extremely gorgeous British boyfriend (Paul Nicholls) gets one of those do-over opportunities for their last day together again, with lots of helpful advice from a wise and kindly taxi driver played by the enormously talented Tom Wilkinson, who is probably wishing he could have one of those do-overs right about now.

Sadly, Love was not able to join us that day at the tour to talk about the challenge of playing a dead woman perkily.

But, she's on the calendar to appear early next week during CBS's portion of the tour. She'll speak to critics about the challenges of portraying, perkily, a super-sweet impetuous antique-store-owner chick who talks to dead people, while keeping an eye on her little white T-shirt to make sure it slips down her cleavage just enough to attract the elusive 18-to-34-year-old male audience. But not so much as to cause Brent Bozell to rev up his laptop and fire off another of those fire-and-brimstone complaints to the Federal Communications Commission. Yes, Love does all that and more in the new CBS drama "Ghost

### Whisperer."

In the interim, Adam Carolla has already appeared twice at Summer TV Press Tour 2005. Yesterday, he smacked down a critic when he came to pitch his new home renovation show for Discovery's The Learning Channel

Carolla had appeared at the tour just the day before, to pitch his new late-night talk show "Too Late" for Comedy Central. That seemed to have gone well, with Carolla regaling the Mostly Men Who Cover Television with some of his of his "Man-Show"-esque schtick:

"I'd rather date an ugly woman than an attractive woman, so I get to be boss. You know what I mean? ... You marry a troll and you're in charge .... Sure you take a beating in the bedroom but it's worth it.'

We actually missed most of it while chatting up Comedy Central boss Doug Herzog in the back of the room as to what the heck is going on with missing-in-action, grossly overpaid show host Dave Chappelle. (Comedy Central boss to TV Column: "The ball's in [Chappelle's] court . . . if you see him tell him to phone home.")

Critics appeared to be having a good time. The next day, however, things got ugly. One critic began a question by noting that Carolla had starred in a short-lived sitcom. Which Carolla said, unpleasantly, was not the case.

"After 15 years [covering the TV industry] you all run together," responded the critic.

"Just go write 'The show sucks' and leave me alone!" Carolla shouted. "Go write something [poopy] about the show and give the mike to somebody else.

"Everyone has a problem with everything I do, but the shows are good," he complained. "So there you go ... 'Minus four stars' ... I got minus a million stars

....Fine, the show goes on and everyone likes the show . . . Next question . . . You got an axe to grind, go up to your room and write something [poopy].' Later, another critic noted that he'd done a short-lived reality show.

"That was after the failed sitcom," Carolla snapped, about "me and a Hungarian soccer team" living in cramped quarters on a dry-docked submarine.

Things usually don't get this nasty until the second week.

# But What a Consolation Prize!

### POKER, From D1

nament began playing at 4 p.m. Friday Las Vegas time and continued until past dawn yesterday morning. About 13 hours into the round,

officials dumped the first-place prize — \$7.5 million, in thick \$50,000 bundles of \$100 bills — in stacks on a table near the players. Security men wielding shotguns stood by the cash.

Within an hour, Hachem claimed the fortune.

It was a theatrical finish to a plodding night that had been filled with smart and goofy moves by os and amateurs ex austed by 90



In order to speed our departure, we would like to skip the explanation of how a seat belt works. So for anyone who has not been in a car since 1968, please step forward for a private lesson. (Bob Sorensen, Herndon)

Attention, please, could everyone please just stop where they are and just shut up for one teeny little moment? I really like this sona. (Robin D. Grove, Woodbridge)

Wow! According to this schedule, I should have bragged about our airline's punctuality almost 15 minutes ago! (Brian Broadus, Charlottesville)

Although Virginia *is* for lovers, a simple handshake is adequate for our flight attendants. (Stephen Dudzik)

Passengers waiting for the flight to Denver, I regret to report there will be an additional delay of . . . hmm, have you considered just driving to Denver? (Russell Beland)

Your captain for this flight will be 6-yearold Tyler Corcoran, who won our Pilot for a Day poster contest. Say hi to Tyler, everyone! (Mike Cisneros, Centreville)

Attention, please, any passengers traveling with small children, now is the time to completely rethink that decision. For the love of Pete. (Bob Sorensen

We are continuing to experience delays from the flying pigs caused by Washington finally having a first-place baseball team. Flights may need to be diverted to BWI, where they do not appear to be experiencing this problem. (Elizabeth Molye, Fairfax)

Please be aware that, in order to overcome a sudden case of stage fright, the air hostess will be envisioning you naked during the safety demonstration. (Brian Jones, Lilburn, Ga.)

Attention: If a stranger has put something in your bag without your knowledge, please report it to us immediately. (Michelle Stupak, Ellicott City)

Would the buxom blond owner of the tight red sweater please report to the courtesy desk? Your headlights are on. (Rob Poole, Ellicott City)

During today's flight we'll be playing The Quiet Game. I have such a headache. (Jean Sorensen, Herndon)

Your attention, please: As a cost-cutting measure, this flight will be remotely piloted from India. (Tom Witte, Montgomerv Village)

Please do not make any purchases from anyone selling tickets to ride the luggage stick together. (Brendan Beary)

### Next Week: Picture This, Kids, or Goodnight Moron

We would like to welcome Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt to our flight today. . . . We said we would like to. I mean, wouldn't vou? (Tom Witte)

Ladies and gentlemen, we apologize for the delay in takeoff, but has anyone seen the pilot's blankie? (Tom Witte)

Ladies and gentlemen, I regret to inform you that, due to an error by our baggage handling department, your luggage has accidentally been loaded aboard the same aircraft that you will be traveling on. We apologize for the convenience. (Greg Pearson, Arlington)

Would the person identifying herself as Mommy please contact security to retrieve her child? (Kevin D'Eustachio. Linwood, N.J.)

Arriving passengers on Flight 64 from Las Vegas: You know that saying, "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas"? Well, it seems your baggage handlers misunderstood. (Brendan Beary)

We'll be on our way soon, after some scheduled maintenance on our bagelhardening machine. (Martin Bancroft, Ann Arbor, Mich.)

As a cost-saving measure we have eliminated the in-flight movie. Please ask the passenger next to you to read you a story. (Rick Haynes, Potomac)

Look! It's a bird! No, it's a plane! No, it's . . . no wait, of course it's a plane. This *is* an airport. Duh. (Russell Beland)

We also have a unisex bathroom on board, for those of you who are unisexual. (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge)

We will begin boarding Flight 1576 in 10 minutes. The in-flight movie today will be "Groundhog Day." [10 minutes later] We will begin boarding Flight 1576 in 10 minutes. The in-flight movie today will be "Groundhog Day." (Rob Poole)

Flight 625 now departing for Buffalo. Passengers should set their watches back 25 years. (Marty McCullen, Gettysburg, Pa.)

All flights today will depart 15 minutes early. And I'm King of the Gypsies. (Edward Nykwest, Stanley, Va.)

Let's have a little fun with the crew. When your plane lands, and your attendant says, "Welcome to San Jose, the local time is 1:30," I want you all to say, "San Jose? We were supposed to go to San Diego!" This'll only work if you all

hours of poker over six brutal sessions.

The final play unfolded slowly as Dannenmann raised before the flop, where three community cards are turned face up, and Hachem called. A six, a five and a four came out. Dannenmann bet an additional \$700.000, and Hachem raised to \$1.7 million.

The turn card was an ace and Hachem tossed \$2 million more into the pot. Dannenmann hesitated, studied the table and then raised to \$5 million. Hachem went all-in with more than \$30 million and the small crowd packed in the bullpen roared as Dannenmann instantly called.

Hachem flipped over his cards a seven and a three for a straight against Dannenmann's ace-three. Dannenmann needed a seven on the river, or last card, to split the pot with an equal straight. A four came out instead and Hachem was the champion.

The first Australian to win the poker World Series, Hachem, 39, hugged Dannenmann, then wrapped himself in an Australian flag while his many compatriots and fellow poker players in the room chanted "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie! Oi! Oi! Oi!" as they had through the night.

"Thank you, America," Hachem shouted in delight.

"Steve had some great hands and he played them very well," said Dit-



The bladning.		
South	West	North
1 🔺	Pass	2 🔺
4 🔺	All Pass	
Opening	g lead: 🔶 J	

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BY ETHAN MILLER — GETTY IMAGES

Security guards Dave Greger, left, and Joe Howard stick close to the \$7.5 million prize on display on the final day of the World Series of Poker.

zel. "The other guy just caught a straight. Steve could've won just as easily. But it was pretty intense."

After the game, Dannenmann, Ditzel and some other Maryland pals went out to breakfast and then hit the craps tables.

"I think Steve won some money," Ditzel said. "I broke even."

Reached in their hotel room at the Mirage, Anita Dannenmann said they were checking out to go on vacation. She didn't say where. "He'll call you next week," she

said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



### **BRIDGE** | Frank Stewart

ccording to Cy the Cynic, honesty may be the best policy. The problem is that there aren't a lot of policyholders out there.

cards and defend as East. West leads the jack of diamonds against South's game, and South wins with the queen, leads a trump to dummy's queen and returns a trump to his ace. West follows with the seven and eight. South then leads the eight of clubs: deuce, king . . . your play.

In real life East took the ace of clubs and led the four of hearts not good enough. South played low, and though West won with the jack, he could cash only the ace next to hold South to his contract. Since dummy's clubs are good for discards, the defense needs three fast heart tricks to prevail.

East must therefore hope West's hearts are headed by the ace and iack. East must take the ace of clubs and lead the dishonest queen of hearts, pretending he has the jack.

South will have a nasty guess. He may assume East has led from a holding such as Q-J-9-4. Then South is safe if he plays low but would go down if he covered with the king. Even if South judges to cover, he's not safe: West can take the ace and return a low heart, and South must guess again.

This position allows for cross, double-cross and triple-cross. Suppose East's hearts were Q-J-9. He might shift to the jack of hearts, and this time South would go down if he covered. And if East's hearts were J-9-4, he could lead the jack, and South would have to guess East's holding.

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East

Pass



Cover today's West and South