

Style Invitational

BY PAT MYERS

Report from Week 912

in which we asked you to find a word inside another word, pair it with the original word, and define the resulting phrase. There were far too many clever "pair-a-phrase" than we have room for on this page; see the full list with 24 more honorable mentions in the online version at washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational.



"I'm miming!": One of the least heard phrases in the English language. (Michael Reinemer, Annandale)

2 Winner of the "Gorila Snott" green hair gel from Guatemala: **Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious AI:** To describe himself properly, Gore invented this moniker. (Susan Gearity, Menifee, Calif.)

3 "Whatever, Eve": The first-ever male response to nagging. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

4 Perv supervisor: A boss who... hey, my eyes are up here, pal! (Mike Turniansky, Pikesville, Md.)

OK JOKES: Honorable mentions

Pawlenty awl: A boring tool. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Massacre Acre: What the other teams call FedEx Field. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

Superman perm: Mane of Steel. (Chris Rivera, Burke, a First Offender)

Act I Attraction: Nude scene at the start of a play to assure that the audience arrives on time. (John McCooey, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

Eek peek: A compulsive look at something you know you don't want to see. (Roger Hammons, North Potomac)

Us justice: The new term for vigilantism. (Jim Reagan, Herndon)

Peace Ace: A little-known nickname for Mahatma Gandhi. (Molly Kelley, Columbia, a First Offender)

Emergency Merge: A shotgun wedding. (Roger Hammons)

Trappist rap: Silence, but with

attitude. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

Volcano can: What you get after bringing home a six-pack on your bicycle. (Jennifer Sklarew, Washington; Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

Zirconia con: When you care enough to put your cheapo ring in a blue Tiffany box. (Barrie Collins, Long Sault, Ontario, a First Offender)

Tarpon TARP: A way of protecting the really big fish. (Nancy Schwalb, Washington)

Trumpet rump: The person inevitably in front of you in the elevator. (Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.)

Official CIA: The one in Langley, not the one that [redacted] (Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)

Cement inducements: Mafia "offers." (Ann Martin, Bracknell, England)

Candid candidates: Also-rans. (Peter Siegwald, Arlington; Todd Carton, Wheaton)

Tabernacle NaCl: Morton for

Mormons. (Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)

On occasionally: Pepco finally sets a customer service goal it can achieve. (S.P. Nudd, Brookeville, a First Offender)

Urban turban: A do-rag. (Craig Dykstra, Centreville)

Bella Rubella: The lesser-known cousin of Typhoid Mary. (Mark Sasseville, Burke)

Zucchini Chin: What the mean kids used to call Jay Leno. (Pie Snelson, Silver Spring; S.P. Nudd)

Sesquipedalian quip: Yoknapatawphaesque cachinnation-inducing repartee. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Valentine Lent: Forty days of abstinence. (Nancy Schwalb)

Got bigotry? The slogan on the KKK recruiting poster. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Disputin' Putin: The new Russian roulette. (Trevor Kerr, Chesapeake, Va.)

Inspid sip: Instant decaf. (Melissa Yorks, Gaithersburg)

Wind Dwindle: Rejected initial name for Beano. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

Her Netherlands: His travel destination. (Chris Doyle)

Academy cad: An officer but not a gentleman. (Pam Sweeney)

A-Rod parody: A-Rod. (Craig Dykstra)

Omit vomit: Since 1992, the State Department's Guideline No. 1 in its briefing for presidential visits to Japan. (Michael Reinemer)

Snooze ooze: Drool. (Roger Hammons)

Nihilist "hi": "#\$%#\$ you!" (Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)

Next week: Bring up the rear, or Tail spin

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Week 916: Bank shots

BAYSOX FANS CAN FIND EGGS 'Pelt an Infielder Day' expected to draw thousands

Misunderstanding The Post seems to be something that some of our readers are expert in — especially when they read no farther than the headline. So why not try to get a prize for it? In this perennial Invite contest, **take any headline, verbatim, appearing anywhere in The Post or on washingtonpost.com from April 22 through May 2 and reinterpret it by adding a "bank head,"** or subtitle (like the joke bank head offered under the actual Post headline above about an Easter egg hunt). For heads in the print paper, include the date and page number; for heads from the Web, give the date and copy a sentence or two of the story (even better, copy the URL from the address bar). You don't have to use the entire headline, but don't skip words or change the essential meaning by cutting off the end, as from "President kills bill" to "President kills." Headlines in ads and subheads within an article (as well as actual bank heads) can be used, too, but not lines that are only links or "keys" to a story on another page.

Winner gets the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a handy pocket-size bottle of Maybe You Touched Your Genitals hand sanitizer, donated by 22-time Loser David Garratt.

Other runners-up win their choice of a coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt or yearned-for Loser Mug. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet. First offenders get a smelly, tree-shaped air "freshener" (Fir Stink for their First Ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, May 2; results to be published May 22 (May 20 online). Include "Week 916" in the subject line of your e-mail, or it may be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See more rules at washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational. The revised title for next week's results is by Dave Prevar; this week's honorable-mentions subhead is by Tom Witte.



STYLE CONVERSATIONAL Have a question for the Empress or want to talk to some real Losers? Join us at washingtonpost.com/stylconversational.

MUSIC

Francesca Battistelli is surging to the top of Christian charts

BY JONATHAN LANDRUM JR.

ATLANTA — This year has been the most successful and busiest of Christian singer Francesca Battistelli's life. She and husband/band leader Matthew Goodwin juggled being parents to their baby boy while on the road for three months as one of the headliners for the 47-city Winter Jam tour.

Her second major label album, "Hundred More Years," reached No. 1 on Billboard's Top Christian

Albums chart last month.

And Wednesday night, she won three honors — including artist of the year — at the 42nd annual Dove Awards in Atlanta. She also won for best female vocalist — her second straight — and pop-contemporary recorded song. The awards show will air Easter Sunday on GMC, formerly known as the Gospel Music Channel.

Battistelli, 25, became noticeable in the Christian music scene with her debut album, "My Paper

Heart," which has sold 410,000 copies. Last year, she ended Natalie Grant's four-year reign as the Dove's female vocalist of the year.

Some of Battistelli's songs from her debut album were featured on several television shows such as ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" and NBC's "The Biggest Loser."

Battistelli says her message of faith and elation of life, meshed with her piano-pop melody and country vocals, contributed to her music being heard beyond

the Christian music realm. She says she's longed to produce Christian music for those who may never listen to Christian radio or step into a religious bookstore.

"They could find my music and it could bless them," she says. "From the beginning, I wanted to write songs that encourage people."

Battistelli says her husband took much of the pressure off her while touring. She leaned on Goodwin's experiences of travel-

ing for many years with his father's group NewSong as a band member.

Goodwin also played drums for Battistelli, helped her with administrative duties such as handling her slew of e-mails, and managed her concert setup.

"It's a hard lifestyle, but to him it was normal," she said. "To just partner together with his knowledge of the road was very helpful. I don't think I would've survived through the tour without him."

— Associated Press