

Style Invitational

BY PAT MYERS

Report from Week 927: Drive-by shoutings

in which we sought the short poems of the sort that used to be posted as a series of roadside signs to advertise Burma-Shave shaving cream. Like those relics, they sometimes hawk a product and other times serve as a driver-safety PSA.



Why exercise
To get a date?
WE'LL do the push-ups;
YOU'LL look great!
Wonderbra. (Beverly Sharp,
Montgomery, Ala.)

2 Winner of the Cluster Springs Sanitary Services Portable Toilet Rentals official ball cap:

Tip for new drivers
In the Sunshine State:
Blinker on means
Going straight.
AARP. (David Ballard, Reston)

3 On a bridge
With breezes wafting,
Drive carefully
Or you'll be rafting. (Phyllis Reinhard,
East Fallowfield, Pa.)

4 Sure, do your makeup!
That should please
The first responding
EMTs. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Now I lay me
Down to sleep.
I pray the Lord
Knows how to beep.
No-Doz. (Judy Blanchard, Novi, Mich.)

If, Mrs. Sprat,
You choose to fly,
Please greet your mate
Like this: "Jack! Hi!"
TSA. (Ann Martin, Bracknell, England)

You drink champagne
And dine on partridge?
If so, you can
Afford our cartridge.
HP Printers. (John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.)

An ample breast,
A supple thigh.
Come on in
And watch us fry!
KFC. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Congressman Weiner
Has resigned,
But we still have
The other kind.
Massengill.
(Amanda Yanovitch,
Midlothian, Va.)
We know you now
Depend on us —
So please don't leave
For Google+.
Facebook. (Stephen
Litterst, Newark, Del.)



BY PIE SNELSON

No tiara either: The Empress of the Style Invitational wears Paparazzi Shades, this week's prize.

dont txt an driv
or u wl b
not LOL
but OMG.
(Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn..)

No longer alive,
Since, sadly, he blundered:
He thought 95
Was the Indy Five Hunderd.
(Mae Scanlan, Washington)

Sex at the wheel
Is horribly risky,
So hire a driver
Before you get frisky.
Acme Limo Service.
(Stephen Gold, Glasgow, Scotland)

The call of FarmVille
Never ends
From all your so-called
Facebook friends.
Google+. (Christopher Lamora,
Guatemala City)

And last:
Lady Bird,
Don't spin distressed,
We're only doing
This in jest.
— The Style Invitational. (Kevin
Dopart, Washington)

Next week: Play feature, or Back Talkies

Kerouwhacked: honorable mentions

The same-sex marriage
Path is cleared,
So now's the time
To lose your beard.
Burma-Shave. (Brendan Beary)

Lather up
So you can stop
Approximating
ZZ Top.
Burma-Shave.
(Mike Caslin, Round Hill, Va.)

Life is tough
And that's for sure —
Luckily
We have the cure!
Philip Morris.
(Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.)

He watched the female
Jogger's keister;
With eyes off road,
He predeceased her. (Brendan Beary)

POP CD REVIEW

Luke Bryan TAILGATES & TANLINES



It might not sound like much of a compliment, but if rising country singer Luke Bryan

were a rock star, he would be "Blaze of Glory"-era Jon Bon Jovi, although the same could be said for lots of people.

Like many of his peers, Bryan specializes in rock-and-pop-inflected country songs with an imperceptibly dated arena rock sheen. (Bryan's last album

featured a cover of OneRepublic's "Apologize" that could have been an original.)

Most of Bryan's third disc hits the elusive sweet spot between mainstream country and cheesy rock. The ballads are weepy, the choruses big, the sentiments broad, the arrangements and instrumentation calculated to appeal to as wide a base as possible.

The shimmering lead single "Country Girl (Shake It for Me)," risque by Nashville standards, is the closest country music has come to turning out a banger, complete with a shout-out to the DJ.

— Allison Stewart



RICK DIAMOND/GETTY IMAGES

Luke Bryan's third disc should appeal to a wide audience.

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Week 931: Limerixicon 8

**An ecdysiast likes to be nude,
Which to some people seems a bit crude.
But some others applaud
This most talented broad.
(By "some others" we mean genus Dude.)**

If it's August — and this year it's abundantly obvious in Washington — then it's time for the Invite to catch up with the monumental task of Chris J. Strolin and his minions to produce the Omnificent English Dictionary in Limerick form, five lines at a time. They're now just about to reach the 70,000-limerick mark since starting with A in 2004, and are now all the way to . . . **This week: Supply a humorous limerick significantly featuring any English word, name or term beginning with the letters ea-through el**, as in the example above ("ecdysiast" is a fancy word for stripper) by Washington Post Limerician on Retainer Gene Weingarten. See washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational for our fairly strict rules on limerick rhyme and meter, and see oedilf.com for submitting limericks there after this contest is over.

Winner gets the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy. Second prize receives Paparazzi Shades, a pair of sunglasses that looks in a photo as if someone's stuck a strip of identity-hiding tape across your eyes. The Empress wears them in her Facebook status photo. Donated by totally visible Loser Jeff Contompassis.

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" (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Aug. 15; results published Sept. 4 (Sept. 2 online). Include "Week 931" in your e-mail subject line, or it may be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational. The revised title for next week's results and this week's honorable-mentions subhead are both by Kevin Dopart.



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

MUSIC

Amy Winehouse duet with Tony Bennett going to charity

A duet between jazz great Tony Bennett and the late singer Amy Winehouse is being released as a single to benefit a charity established by her father.

The classic pop standard "Body and Soul," which Winehouse recorded with Bennett in March, was one of her last works. She died unexpectedly at 27 on July 23, after a long battle with alcohol and drugs.

An official cause of death for Winehouse has not been determined, but her father, Mitch, is creating a foundation in her name to help drug addicts. Proceeds will go to the foundation, said Liz Rosenberg, a spokeswoman for Bennett.

The song will also appear on Bennett's "Duets II" CD, to be released Sept. 20.

— Reuters