

Style Invitational

BY PAT MYERS

Report from Week 986

in which we asked for humor based on homophones — different words that sound alike: Homophones tend to be the basis for groaner puns, so . . .

THE
WINNER
OF THE
INKIN'
MEMORIAL

"I can't believe my dad told our Vietnamese neighbor he'd improved on her soup recipe . . . Oh, hi! We were just talking about your pho, Pa!" (Mark Richardson, Washington)

Razing the bar: honorable mentions

What's the not-quite-American dish that's trendy right now at Paris bistros? It's the Filly Cheesesteak. (Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)

Say what you will about the televangelist's "powers," but he sure is able to make his followers heel. (Howard Walderman, Columbia)

How does the commercial go for that new Puerto Rican restaurant on 115th Street? "There is arroz in Spanish Harlem . . ." (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Did you hear about that great new software that speeds up your uploads? It's called AceApp. (Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)

"You've been ranting online since 1995?" "Yes, I was one of the Internet's surly adopters." (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

2 Winner of the catapulting Superfly Monkey: In his résumé, the zoo vet claimed experience delivering tigers, leopards, jaguars . . . but really he was just a lioness OB. (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

3 "I heard there's a new reality show about desperate couples who turn to in vitro fertilization." "Yes, it's called 'Extreme Make-Ova.'" (Steve Honley, Washington)

4 Your observations were most inciteful, Congressman Akin. (Andy Bassett, New Plymouth, New Zealand) [Yup, Akin's comment was the cheap shot heard round the world.]

When gun-nut journalist Hunter Thompson covered the '72 election, reporters and candidates alike were fearin' loadin' on the campaign trail. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

What English singing group had a surprise novelty hit with "Do the Funky Chicken"? The Cornish Gay Men's Chorus. (Dudley Thompson)

"These days you live full time on your yacht?" "Yes, I look at life from boat-sides now." (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

Reunion weekend culminated in a gala dinner at which the oldest alumni were all fetid. (Elly Lampner, Cockeysville, Md., a First Offender)

Westboro Baptist Church's funeral-crashing strategy? "If we stand shoulder to shoulder, we will be a fence of people." (Peter Shawhan, Silver Spring)

After the apple juice market was cornered, people claimed it was all in cider trading. (Jeff Contompasis,

Ashburn)

Gertrude didn't like people to wear hats in her house, even in the kitchen. So she always insisted that Alice be toqueless. (Christopher Lamora)

Whenever I see January Jones's cleavage I want to fall into the depths of this pair. (Harry Farkas, Columbus, Ohio)

What do you call heterosexual men who color their hair? Dyer straights. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

What's that sitcom about the wacky bride? That's "Aisle of Lucy." (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

William Shatner's hair loss can't stop the show, particularly when there's Bill's toupee. (Brad Alexander, Wanneroo, Australia)

During the U.N. commission's tour of Lubbock, local reporters didn't take no foreign answer. (Kevin Dopart)

"After we finish getting the grand piano up the stairs to the third floor, there'll be biers for everyone." (John Shea, Philadelphia)

The freshman figured his first semester would be a breeze — at orientation he found out he'd even be studying works of Play-Doh. (David Ballard, Reston)

What do Baal-worshippers call their social-media network? Idol Chitchat. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

What was the note on the hernia patient's chart before he went in for surgery? Trussed butt — verify. (Dudley Thompson)

See more homophone humor in the online *Invite* at bit.ly/inv990.

Still running — deadline Monday night — is Week 989, a contest to combine two professions. See wapo.st/inv989.



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST

Week 990: Indecent relations

Woodrow and Brian Wilson: They'd sing: "I'm starting a League of Nations, it's giving me excitations . . ."

James Brown scored with hit after hit, while Charlie Brown couldn't get in a single kick.

Back in Week 963 this past spring — a contest for "portmanteau names," in which the last name of one person overlapped with the first name of another — Loser in Exile Christopher Lamora of Guatemala City suggested a variant: **Pair two people, real or fictional, who have the same last name; say how they're alike or different, or something they might do (even in fantasy) as a pair**, as in the examples above.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the tasteful Porkin' Pigs Bank, a pair of ceramic piggy banks that are pictured here in a more decorous arrangement than their intended placement (you'll have to use your imagination). Donated by 91-time Loser Nan Reiner.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet. First Offenders receive 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, Oct. 8; results published Oct. 28 (online Oct. 25). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include "Week 990" in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/inviterules. The subhead for this week's honorable mentions is by Beverly Sharp. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev.



BY NAN REINER

STYLE CONVERSATIONAL

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

« This week's prize piggy banks, posed more primly than their maker intended.

POP CULTURE

New York auction to include 125 meteorites

BY ULA ILNYTZKY

A New York auction will offer 125 meteorites, including a large chunk of the moon and a 179-pound iron cosmic rock that evokes Edvard Munch's painting "The Scream."

The sale, one of the largest of its kind, is being held Oct. 14 by Heritage Auctions.

The sale includes a large piece of the Peekskill meteorite, famous for puncturing a Chevy Malibu in 1992 about 50 miles north of

Manhattan, and the largest complete slice of the most famous meteorite in the world, the Willamette, a huge specimen housed at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

The moon rock has the highest pre-sale estimate of \$340,000 to \$380,000; less than 0.1 percent of all meteorites recovered are lunar in origin. The 18-inch-tall "Scream" meteorite is estimated at \$175,000 to \$225,000.

Darryl Pitt consigned the piece. More than half of the mete-

orites come from the collection he is principal owner of, the Macovich collection. It's the world's largest grouping of aesthetic iron meteorites, specimens considered desirable for display. Specimens from the collection are found at the Smithsonian and at natural history museums in London, New York and Paris.

Pitt said that 20 years ago all meteorites sold for the same price irrespective of their aesthetic attributes. "That has radically changed with the introduction of

the first natural history auction in the mid-1990s," he said. "I knew that the only way I would be able to attract interest on the part of the public was to offer objects that were more visually captivating. The overwhelming majority of meteorites are not aesthetic."

— Associated Press

SCREAMING SPECIMEN: An iron meteorite that evokes Edvard Munch's painting "The Scream" will be offered Oct. 14.



HERITAGE AUCTIONS VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS