

Style Invitational

BY PAT MYERS

Report from Week 1056

in which we asked for some novel meteorological terms:

THE
WINNER
OF THE
INKIN'
MEMORIAL

Geiclone: Windstorm followed 15 minutes later by a deluge of insurance claims. (Megan Durham, Reston)

2 Winner of the cow-on-motorcycle "snow" globe:

Tropical repression: Stifling high-pressure system that has stalled over Cuba for the past 55 years. (Mark Raffman, Reston)

3 Snowed in: Stuck in Russia and unable to come in from the cold. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

4 Wintry meeks: People who refuse to leave home if there's even a chance of snow in the forecast. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Category 1s: honorable mentions

Driptease: Amount of rain that taunts you by being too much not to use your windshield wipers, but too little to use them continuously. (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge)

Typhool: A TV reporter standing in the middle of a hurricane to tell us it's windy out. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

Chris-T-storm: A wind so blustery that it renders bridge travel nearly impossible. (Dave Silberstein, College Park)

Winter feather advisory: Time to pull out the down quilt. (Kathy El-Assal, Middleton, Wis.)

Molar vortex: Wind so cold it makes your fillings hurt. (Doug Montgomery, North Potomac, a First Offender; Tom Witte)

Polar cortex: The result of venturing out in subzero weather without a hat. (Laura Remaly, New Windsor, Md., a First Offender)

Metropolical front: A line of city building facades from which a pedestrian in summer will be steadily rained on by air conditioner drips.

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(Ring Alexander, New York)

Mai tai phoon: Get your umbrellas out for this one. (Nan Reiner, Alexandria; Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

Borometric pressure: The force keeping you tuned to the Weather Channel, even though you've heard the forecast for the entire world 12 times. (Ken Gallant, Conway, Ark.)

Monsooner: A wind that comes sweepin' down the plain. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

Blizzard of Oz: Two inches of snow in Sydney. (Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)

Flash food warning: Probably it's going to be nothing, but you should run to the store before they're out of

bread, milk and toilet paper. (Heather Spence, New York)

Tornado: A sudden gust of wind that whips up a woman's skirt. (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

Salt shaker: A snowfall in which the amount of salt dropped on the roads exceeds the amount of snow. (Dale Newbury, Gaithersburg, a First Offender)

Foot of snow: A never-seen part of a snowman's anatomy, the mere mention of which sends shivers down the spines of Washingtonians. (Jean Smith, Clinton, a First Offender)

Showdownpour: Torrents of rain that drench the hero at the climax of nearly every '80s action movie. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)



CARTOONS BY BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST

Week 1060: Picture this

We've managed to lure Bob Staake away momentarily from his next volume for children, the ambiguously named "My Pet Book" (spoiler: it's not a book about different pets), not to mention his next 23 projects, so that once again he can ask your help in figuring out what's going on in these pictures, because *he* sure has no idea. **This week: Write a caption, or captions, for one or more of these cartoons.** Please indicate which cartoon you're captioning; you'd think I could figure that out, but believe me, I've judged at least 24 Invite cartoon contests, and your thought processes aren't always much clearer than Bob's. (Yes, I'm talking to you personally.)

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place — in honor of Valentine's Day — receives a little gadget called the Karleks Band, brought back from romantic Sweden by Loser Mike Gips. If you're in a hotel room and feeling amorous, and the room has two beds pushed together, you hold them together with this thing so your romance doesn't fall through the cracks, as it were. We will even throw in, for our European travelers, a roll of toilet paper imprinted with the design of euro bills. Donated by Inge Ashley and, amazingly, declined by the recipient the last time we tried giving it away.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired "Whole Fools" Grocery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet, either the Po' Wit Laureate or Puns of Steel. First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Feb. 24; results published March 16 (online March 13). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include "Week 1060" 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/InvRules. This week's honorable-mentions subhead is by William Kennard. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev, and click "like" on Style Invitational Ink of the Day at bit.ly/inkofday.

materializes. They include **Nonsoon** (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.); **Snor'easter** (Jeff Contompasis); **Typhooey** (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.); **Tornado** (Nancy Schwalb, Washington); **Ice charades** (Jeff Hazle, Woodbridge); **Fizzard** (Dan Ramish, Washington); and, when CNN does it, **Wolf Blizzard** (Gary Crockett).

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at bit.ly/invite1060.

Still running — deadline Monday night: Our contest to add parentheses to song titles. See bit.ly/invite1059.

Terpulence: Long-term trend of bad season after bad season. (Ira Allen, Bethesda)

Meatierologist: Al Roker, before the gastric bypass. (Chris Doyle, The Villages, Fla.; Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

Tush sheets to the wind: The effect of a windstorm on unlatched port-a-potties. (Sylvia Betts, Vancouver, B.C.)

Wheather: The worst spell of weather we've seen in a long time. (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

A number of entries coined names for a predicted storm that never



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