

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Week 1292: Glimericks and Goggerel

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1292 marked our 15th annual Limerixicon, in which we ask for limericks featuring words from a little sliver of the dictionary — this year beginning with GL- to GO- — to help the folks at OEDILF.com continue to amass a whole dictionary in limerick form. These inking entries today might well push the ILFers over the 100,000-lim mark.

4th place

She wore **go-go boots**, shorts and a bra.
When I saw her, I laid down the law:
"I don't care if your mates
Dress like that on their dates,
You are not going out like that,
Ma!"
(Paul VerNooy, Hockessin, Del.)

3rd place

Stop talking to Vlad? He won't buy it.
Gotta find a new way he'll keep quiet.
So we've taken the phone
From his **golf cart** and throne,
And now Trump's on a Putin-free diet. — J. Kelly, Washington
(Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

2nd place and the Big Mac-shaped candy and gummy rat:

A **gnat** is a minuscule fly,
While a Nat is a bat-wielding guy.
When a gnat bites it itches,
A Nat swings at pitches,
October's when both of them die.
(Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

His assistant said, "Sir, you're so late!
Should I call to arrange a new date?
'Cause those two other chaps
Could reschedule, perhaps . . ."
"No, it's fine," said **Godot**. "Let 'em wait."
(Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Hind limbs:

Honorable mentions

Since he was the original **G-man**
J. Edgar was truly a key man
In time, though, we learned
Where apparel's concerned
He just wasn't that much of a he-man.
(Elliott Shevin, Oak Park, Mich.)

Said the Zen monk, "Beware of this trap:
Do not focus on what's in your lap."
Said the novice, "But why?"
"**Gonorrhea!** No lie!
Ever heard of the 'one-handed clap'?"
(Mark Raffman, Reston)

An alien, programmed to roam,
Lands on Earth many light-years from home.
When kids learn that he's not
A real dwarf, as they'd thought,
They make fun of him: "E.T., faux **gnome!**"
(Chris Doyle)

She was Trump's protegee (till he canned her!)
Now he's charged Omarosa with slander.
If backstabbing's your trade,
Do expect it repaid:
It's as good for the **goose** as the gander.
(Nan Reiner, Boca Raton, Fla.)

When **Goldilocks** traveled to see 'em,
She arranged to arrive in the p.m.
Growled her hosts: "Rooms ain't free
In our BearBNB!"
And they charged her a hefty per diem.
(Jackie Beals, Staunton, Va.)

"The White House? As soon as I win it,
I'll go there and always stay in it.
Behind my big desk
I'll be so Churchillesque!
And for **golf** I won't have a spare minute." — Candidate Trump, February 2016
(Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

The grand host of the party showed honor:
He said, "Nobody here is a **goner!**
I've made a nice stew;
It's all good for you."
They replied, "Thanks a lot, Mr. Donner."
(Neal Starkman, Seattle)

A coldhearted meanie from **Gloucester**
Had a wife, but he badgered and boucester.
Short-tempered, imperious —
It's not too mysterious
Figuring out why he loucester.
(Brendan Beary)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1296: A, we're Adorbs: New-word poems

I've the best-looking beard, horns and coat.
I'm a natural at nibbling a note.
I climb mountains with ease,
And each nanny agrees
I'm the **Greatest Of All Time** — the **GOAT!**
(Jesse Frankovich)

We may be a venerable 25 years old — that's "we" The Style Invitational, not Royal We the Empress, who, uh, used to be 25 — but we do try to stay current. And this week, courtesy of our pals over at Merriam-Webster, we bring you these 35 new terms that were among those added just this past Tuesday to its online dictionary.

But AHA! The Loser Community is right there with you, MerriWeb. By total coincidence, this week we present the results of our contest for limericks featuring words beginning "gl-" through "go-" — which included Jesse's use of "GOAT" in its new, acronymic sense. (Jon Gearhart also did one, but poor Jon was out-GOATed.)

And so let's get some more: **This week: Use one or more of these words new to M-W.com in a humorous poem of eight lines max.** They must be used in the way they're defined in the new M-W.com listings; e.g., "CBD" is for the marijuana component cannabidiol, and not for, say, "couldn't be dumber." The online Invite has links to all the definitions; my Style Conversational column lists

- adorbs**
- airplane mode**
- avo (avocado)**
- bougie (bourgeois)**
- CBD (cannabidiol)**
- cybercrime**
- fav**
- fintech**
- flight** (an assortment of drinks for sampling)
- force quit**
- Generation Z**
- GOAT** (the abbreviation)
- gochujang**
- guac**
- hacktivism**
- hangry**
- haptics**

- hophead** (a beer enthusiast)
- Instagram** (as a verb)
- Latinx**
- marg** (margarita)
- medical marijuana**
- mise en place**
- mocktail**
- nanobot**
- rando**
- ribbie** (resentful)
- salty** (sarcastic)
- self-harm**
- shy bladder**
- tent city**
- time suck**
- TL;DR**
- zoodle**
- zuke**

mini-definitions so you won't have to click on each word; or you can go straight to M-W.com. (And we don't want to hear "TL;DR.")

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1296 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a set of four mildly risqué magnets with cartoons of dogs; in one, there's a boxer on his hind legs and the slogan "Your dog doesn't know sit"; another says, "Friend request" under a picture of a dog sniffing another dog's butt. Inexplicably regifted by Loser Edward Gordon, who won them in Week 1158.

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship." Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "IDiot Card." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, Sept. 17;** results published Oct. 7 (online Oct. 4). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results comes from both Chris Doyle and Tom Witte; Jesse Frankovich wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday; @StyleInvite on Twitter.

THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

The cowardly Colonel McGee
Turned and fled from the fight
toward the sea.
His acts, far from **glorious**,
Have made him notorious
For shouting, "Retreat after me!"
(Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Our travel site's special, you know.
With a click of your mouse, it will show
Tons of toilets, and loads
Of latrines and commodes—
We've got all the best places to **go**.
(Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

"**Going** once," said the old auctioneer
In a voice tinged with pride and quite clear.
"Going twice," he did shout;
I said, "Swell, now get out!
There's a line for the men's room out here."
(Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

God is modern; he's no longer prone
To carve rules on a tablet of stone.
On his iPad in Heaven
Types Commandment Eleven:
Thou shalt not send drunk tweets on thy phone.
(Hildy Zampella, Alexandria)

"Stupid job!" he exclaimed, far from hearty.
"Where's the keg and the girls? Tell me, smarty!"
"Mr. President, sir,
I regret, as it were,
GOP isn't *that* kind of party."
(Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

With sculpting perfection a must,
O'er every last detail Anne fussed.
She chiseled from boulders
One head and two shoulders:
Now Anne has a pretty **gneiss** bust.
(Brian Cohen, Winston-Salem, N.C.)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1296.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Sept. 10: our contest for jokes in the "bad/really bad" format. See wapo.st/invite1295.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"TV PARTNERS" By ROSS TRUDEAU

- ACROSS**
- 1 Thin Mint cousins
- 7 Music-playing Apple
- 11 Campus residence, maybe
- 15 "I touched your nose!" sound
- 19 Luke's mentor
- 20 Choice
- 21 Casino city near 32-Down
- 22 Part of A.D.
- 23 Show in which the Tanners move to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.?
- 26 "All ___ are off"
- 27 Had
- 28 Usual method: Abbr.
- 29 Selena's music style
- 30 Block
- 32 "Star Trek" actor
- 34 Big name in foil
- 36 Justice Kagan appointer
- 37 Show in which Daenerys questions her suitors?
- 41 "Phooey!"
- 42 Dooftus
- 43 Knighted Irish rocker
- 44 "... but maybe I'm wrong"
- 46 Twin Cities campus, informally
- 49 Old horse
- 50 "The A-Team" actor
- 53 Show in which Gloria and Lois commiserate about lazy husbands?
- 58 Half a comedy duo
- 60 Riviera saison
- 61 One-eighties
- 62 People couple
- 63 Better ventilated
- 64 Insole material
- 65 Show in which a Time Lord becomes a live-in domestic worker?
- 69 '60s war zone
- 70 Panini cheese
- 72 Inlets
- 73 Lamb pen name

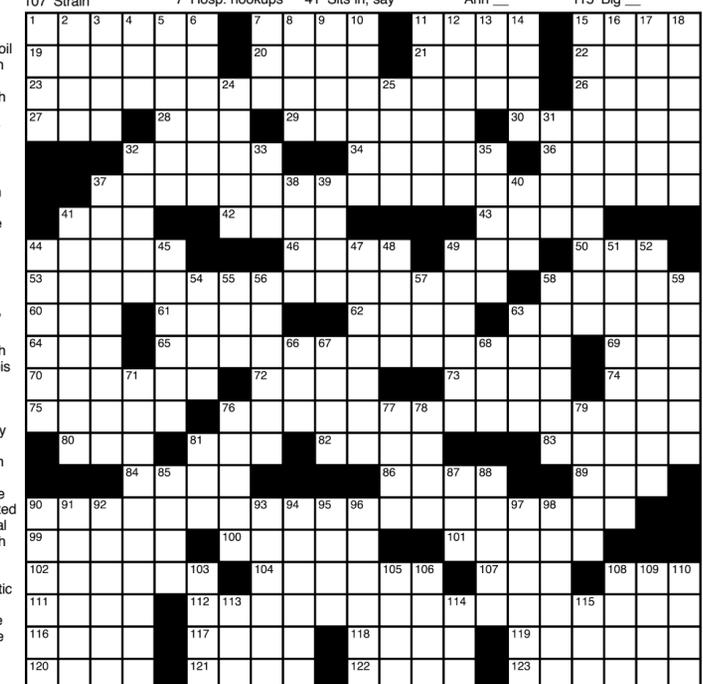
- 74 Civil War letters
- 75 Lifted
- 76 Show in which zombies invade an 1870s South Dakota town?
- 80 Program named for its broadcast day, for short
- 81 Lower, as lights
- 82 "Are you ___ not?"
- 83 Beloved 1981 bride
- 84 Thor's father
- 86 Cambodia neighbor
- 89 Sgts.' superiors
- 90 Show in which Richie and the Fonz write a soap?
- 99 Silent and amazed
- 100 Anklebone
- 101 Scourges
- 102 Went up again
- 104 Chop shop wheels
- 107 Strain

- 108 Show ending?
- 111 They may be inflated
- 112 Installment of each of the "shows" in six puzzle answers?
- 116 Like blokes
- 117 "I know! Call on me!"
- 118 Curds in blocks
- 119 Hardened (to)
- 120 Raced
- 121 Too curious
- 122 Little branch
- 123 Way out

- 8 Burns, e.g.
- 9 Great Plains tribe
- 10 Kanye West label
- 11 Italian director Zeffirelli
- 12 Put new shingles on
- 13 "Your point being?"
- 14 Trash
- 15 Gen Xer's parent, perhaps
- 16 Solo
- 17 As scheduled
- 18 Impersonate
- 24 Overturn
- 25 NASCAR's Yarbrough
- 31 Ripped
- 32 Western resort
- 33 "Can ___ now?"
- 35 Good way to keep an enemy
- 37 Unwelcome flower
- 38 Feeling down
- 39 Yours, in Tours
- 40 Swine
- 41 Sits in, say

- 44 Swatch Group products
- 45 Plod
- 47 Enters daintily
- 48 Folk story
- 49 Prepared for a filling
- 51 Slickers
- 52 Traitorous acts
- 54 Robert De ___
- 55 Not many
- 56 Guru's lodging
- 57 "Golly!"
- 58 Have sum trouble
- 59 Fleet
- 63 China setting
- 66 Surprisingly, what the "O" in OPEC doesn't stand for
- 67 Literary pen name
- 68 Soccer cheer
- 71 Naysayers?
- 76 Succeed in
- 77 ___ contendere:
- 78 1965 Pulitzer author Shirley Ann ___

- 79 Charms
- 81 Accomplished
- 85 Easter supplies
- 87 Earth, for one
- 88 Gray shade
- 90 Seraglios
- 91 Possible barrier to romance
- 92 Way out of jail
- 93 Bumpkins
- 94 Like melting snow puddles
- 95 Contract exceptions
- 96 ___ Fitzgerald
- 97 Where "the birds began to sing"
- 98 Annoying
- 103 Nobel Prize subj.
- 105 Swear
- 106 Better mtg. deal
- 108 Real snoozefest
- 109 Dire March time
- 110 London jazz duo?
- 113 Pi follower
- 114 Shag or throw
- 115 Big ___



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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Sept. 9: This year could be unusually significant if you use your energy well when opportunities appear. You seem more desirable to others. An idealistic goal could appear and easily can be manifested. If you are single, you are likely to attract several potential suitors. Curb a tendency to be too me-oriented. If you are attached, you need to be sensitive and attentive to your sweetie; it isn't just about you. A fellow Virgo's criticism makes you uncomfortable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You find that a loved one goes out of their way to make you smile. You could be confused about the message the other party wants to convey. Use your nurturing style and sense of timing to uncover the feelings that motivate this person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
A friend or loved one expresses their feelings about you. You beam, as you feel acknowledged and cared about. Those around you might want to be closer to you and make plans with you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You sense that you would be better off reading your Sunday paper over a favorite meal. Do not allow pressure to intrude on this special time. You might want to change the topic if someone should insist on discussing money.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
This is the day that you finally decide to get something off your chest. With hope, you can find the person who needs to hear this message. The conversation you have could mark a new beginning between the two of you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You have an innate quality of wanting to indulge others and make them feel good. Confusion could greet you first, as you might receive an unexpected reaction. Know that you might not be reading the situation clearly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Use today's new moon in your sign to make some decisions or resolutions, and they are likely to work out. You need to reach out to someone you care about who doesn't seem to understand you. Try to clarify your feelings to this person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
You seem to be able to empower yourself by taking some time alone. As social as you can be, you also need periods for centering and reflection. Passions run high when you share time with a loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
When an invitation involving your friends appears, there is only one answer: yes. You might find a get-together relaxing. You also will be able to get a better read on one person who is quite important to you.

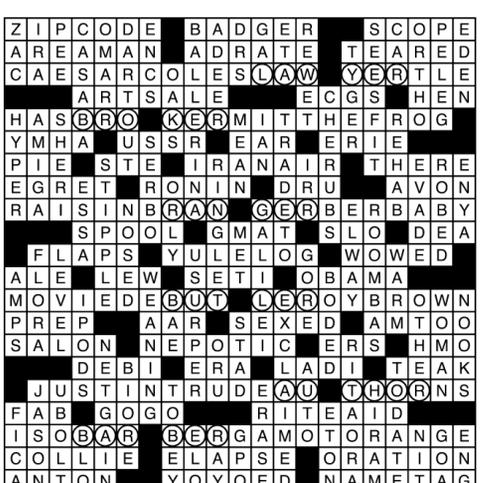
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You clearly need to visit with an older friend or relative. Even if you feel as though the relationship is off, you have the unique opportunity to make way for a new beginning. If you need to work, clear the air with a boss.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You might be changing so much that what appealed to you a month ago no longer does. Take the opportunity to look at taking classes or advancing your knowledge in your chosen field.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
One-on-one relating draws in more information than you thought was available. You might have some questions, so feel free to ask them. If you don't, you probably will regret it later. Your relationship with a special person might be changing. Adjust accordingly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Understand what is happening with others. You might not have been as conscious as you have needed to be about key members of your family. Listen to what they share. Encourage others to open up, and allow them to experience more security.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



9/2/18