

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

GoodIE Bag: Neologisms with B-I-D-E

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1471, our annual Tour de Fours neologism contest, we asked for new words or phrases containing the four consecutive letters BIDE, in any order. You ABIDEd, dudes — 1,400 times over.

**4th place:** **IMBEDIMENT:** The thing that makes you roll over and go back to sleep. “Sorry I was late to work, but I encountered a major imbediment this morning.” (David Stonner, Washington)

**3rd place:** **BIDEN-GO-SEEK:** The president’s search for any agreement across the aisle. “After hearing about Biden-Go-Seek, even cricketers said, ‘That game lasts way too long.’” (Leif Picoult, Rockville)

**2nd place and the Poo Doo Toilet Toss game:** **APPLIED BIOLOGY:** Sex. “Hey, baby, did you know I have a master’s degree in applied biology?” (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

**And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:** **STUPID BELT!:** One that went and made itself smaller over the past year. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**side B: HONORABLE MENTIONS** **BEDIT:** To lie awake at night perfecting the retort that you should have given that morning. (Sam Mertens, Silver Spring)

**NSTABIDET:** Oh, the many uses of the humble garden hose. (Pam Shermeyer, Lathrup Village, Mich.)

**BEDI KNIGHT:** A master in the use of the delight saber. (William Kennard, Arlington)

**ACID BEES:** Murder hornets are soooo 2020. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

**PLAN B DIET:** When Plan A, the chocolate diet, doesn’t work. (Lori Lipman Brown, Silver Spring)

**PRAYEMPTIVE BID:** 24 no trump! (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

**LIBIDEWWW:** When your parents tell you they’re going upstairs early tonight because they’re “in the mood.” (Jeff Shirley)

**B. DIE:** Choice after “A. Do” in a tough situation. (Jesse Frankovich)

**ALL-CARB DIET:** Man cannot live by bread alone? Okay, also pizza. (Jesse Frankovich)

**AMBIDEN®:** This new drug helps one sleep through an unpopular presidency. “Snore more years!” (Craig Dykstra, Centreville)

**BEDIVERSE:** The world as a sleepy cat sees it. (Sam Mertens)

**COWHIDE BORDELLO:** The best little whorehouse in Denton, Texas — or so they tell me. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

**BIDENTAL:** Having teeth way too white for an old guy. (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg)

**BIDET O!:** “Daylight come and me washin’ me bum.” (Craig Dykstra)

**BLOBBIED:** Worked to get doughnuts recognized as an essential food group. (Beverley Sharp)

**BIDETENTE:** An agreement to accept each other’s bathroom habits. “Okay, if you’re going to hang your pantyhose over the shower rail, I’m going to clip my toenails in the sink.” Also known as appeasement and crapprochement. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

**BRIBED AND GROOM:** What the snickering wedding guests called the 82-year-old oil tycoon and his 23-year-old soul mate. (Beverley Sharp)

**CANDIED BROCCOLI:** When someone sugarcoats some bad event and only makes it worse. “I appreciate your attempt to let me down gently, but calling it ‘a permanent unpaid vacation’ is just candied broccoli.” (Coleman Glenn, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Style Invitational Week 1475: Hail to the Commanders!

Hail the Commanders, Come fill the stands! Don’t mind the owner, Or where he puts his hands!

And we have a name! Washington’s football team, formerly known as the Washington Football Team, and before that the Washington Racial Slurs, is now the Commanders. Let’s go, Commies! And since we’ll no longer be singing “Hail to the Racial Slurs,” we need a new song, yes? **This week: Write a song (set to any familiar tune) or shouted cheer for the Washington Commanders. OR: Write one for any other D.C. institution, e.g., the Metro, the Senate, the National Zoo, The Washington Post. Loserbard and Style Invitational Hall of Famer Mark Raffman suggested the contest and wrote the fine serenade above. You could even make a video!**

**Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1475** (no capitals in the Web address). Deadline is **Monday, Feb. 28** (you get an extra week!); results appear March 13 in print, March 10 online.

**Winner gets the Clowning Achievement,** our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives this surprisingly well-made pair of **turkey-leg-motif high-rise socks.** When it’s time to visit the future in-laws for Thanksgiving, what could be more appropriate? They should fit either gender’s feet, though they might not reach over everyone’s knees; the Empress, who models them here, is not a tall bird.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of our “For Best Results, Pour Into Top End” Loser Mug or our “Whole Fools” Grocery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our new lusted-after Loser magnets, “A Small Jester of Appreciation” or “Close, but Ceci N’est Pas un Cigare.” First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/inviteFAQ](http://wapo.st/inviteFAQ). The headline “GoodIE Bag” is by Craig Dykstra; Craig also wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://on.fb.me/invdev). **The Style Conversational:** The Empress’s weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week’s at [wapo.st/conv1475](http://wapo.st/conv1475).



They’re the bird’s knees: Turkey leg socks, this week’s 2nd prize.

**CARBIE DOLL:** Finally from Mattel, a doll that looks like America. (Beverley Sharp)

**ANTI-DEBT:** What the GOP suddenly becomes, again, as soon as a Democrat takes the White House. (Chris Doyle)

**DEBILE:** To remove the vitriol from an online discussion. “After Aunt Sue debiled the responses to her Facebook post calling her a murderer, she did find a couple of decent chicken recipes.” (Richard Franklin, Alexandria)

**DIE BARD:** Action movie rewritten for Shakespeare fans. “Huzzah! Yippee! My joy I cannot smother./ I speak to thee, thou &\*@#er of a mother.” (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

**DOUGHBEDIENT:** Performing the desired way after the bribe. (Dan Helming, Whitmarsh, Pa.)

**DISCOBEDIENT:** “I WILL do a little dance! I WILL make a little love! I WILL get down tonight!” (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

**FIB DETECTOR:** A far more sophisticated instrument than a lie detector, consisting of a mom. (Coleman Glenn)

**HIDEBALETT:** The elaborate dance performed by Supreme Court nominees. “See how she prouetted away from that

question about honoring precedent — beautiful hideballet there.” (Duncan Stevens)

**RABBI ED:** In this ’60s sitcom reboot, a horse leads the B’neigh Israel synagogue. With Mare Winningham as the canter. (Bob Kruger, Rockville)

**MEDIBLAHBLAHBLAH:** That super-fast run-through about dire side effects in drug commercials (“... may cause blindness, suicidal thoughts and some rare cancers...”) (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

**NAMBIPAMBIDEXTROUS:** Able to go in any ethical direction. “In the place of a moral compass, nambipambidextrous Lindsey Graham has always used a political dowsing stick.” (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

**NOBEDIENCE:** What Rodney Dangerfield gets from his dog. (William Kennard, Arlington)

**SOUP OF BIDET:** If your French waiter offers this, maybe it’s just his accent. But it’s still safer to opt for the *salade*. . . (Duncan Stevens)

**DEBITANTE:** A young lady who gets her first bank card. Two weeks later she sees her account balance and has her debitante bawl. (Leif Picoult)

**THE INCREDIBLE SULK:** Bruce Banner: The Teen Years (Jesse Frankovich)

**IDBELIEVABLE:** For a teen, looking 21. “Wear that dress — it makes you IDbelievable.” (Drew Bennett, Rogers, Ark.)

**And Last: DWEEB DINNERS:** It’s not just Loser Brunches anymore! (Rozi Slemp, Bariloche, Argentina) [Next Loser Brunch: Feb. 20 in Bethesda; see [wapo.st/conv1475](http://wapo.st/conv1475)]

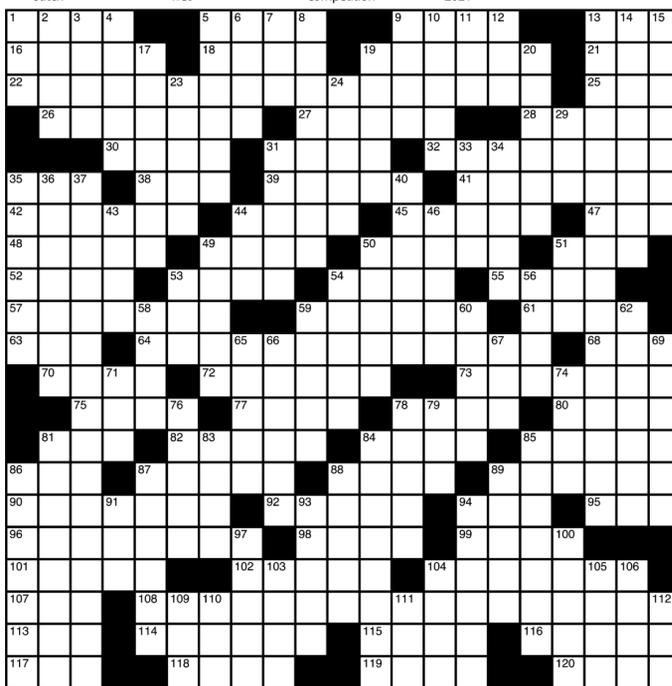
More winners in the online Invite at [wapo.st/invite1475](http://wapo.st/invite1475).

**Still running — deadline Monday night, Feb. 14:** Our Hyphen the Terrible neologism contest. See [wapo.st/invite1474](http://wapo.st/invite1474).

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- \*MAKE MINE A TRIPLE? By PAM AMICK KLAWITTER
- ACROSS
- 1 Willing partner
- 5 Dapper dudes
- 9 Break-even transaction
- 13 “... Eye Is on the Sparrow”: hymn
- 16 Easily played
- 18 Hilarious sort
- 19 Thelma, to Louise, or vice versa
- 21 \_\_\_ Mae: Whoopi’s “Ghost” role
- 22 “Game piece with a ‘6” on it
- 25 “3x” on an Rx
- 26 Baskin-Robbins treats
- 27 27-member gp.
- 28 Good way to plan
- 30 GPS command
- 31 Toon maker of a female road runner costume
- 32 Garland’s girl
- 35 Tee sizes, initially
- 38 Curtain holder
- 39 Pool hustler
- 41 It’s found in a fizz
- 42 \_\_\_ Dazs
- 44 Like many a bow
- 45 Selfish pair?
- 47 Take advantage of
- 48 Fluish symptoms
- 49 Lends a hand
- 50 Do some road repairs
- 51 Add to the pot
- 52 Yard opening
- 53 Skin soother
- 54 Name above “The Lady and Her Music” on a 1981 Broadway poster
- 55 Kikkoman sauces
- 57 One of two field borders
- 59 Where it’s at
- 61 “I will if you will”
- 63 Neither partner
- 64 “Camp sleeping arrangement
- 68 Pops
- 70 Hardly a vet
- 72 “... short and stout”
- 73 As-the-crow-flies route
- 75 Chute opener?
- 77 FedEx rounds, briefly
- 78 Hollywood brothers’ name
- 80 Extras
- 81 \_\_\_ town
- 82 It needs a driver
- 84 \_\_\_ dog
- 85 Cook-off bowlful
- 86 Stomach
- 87 Thumbs-ups
- 88 Move quickly, as clouds
- 89 Big name in theaters
- 90 Literally, “going,” in scores
- 92 Sierra Nevada lake
- 94 Man Ray contemporary
- 95 Higher ed hurdle
- 96 Some union acquisitions
- 98 Poet
- 99 Lowry of kid lit
- 101 \_\_\_ firma
- 102 Pulls an all-nighter
- 104 Fictitious pilot who said “Never tell me the odds”
- 107 “TM!!!”
- 108 “Where women once learned to stitch
- 113 Stranded letters?
- 114 Disguise, in a way
- 115 Wrap that sounds apologetic
- 116 Giant’s NFL foe
- 117 Belarus, once: Abbr.
- 118 El \_\_\_
- 119 Parted partners
- 120 One of three found in each answer to a starred clue
- DOWN
- 1 “Gemini Man” director Lee
- 2 Signal-strength display
- 3 “In \_\_\_ of gifts \_”
- 4 Occasion
- 5 One on a Facebook list
- 6 Spa supplies
- 7 Pro in a party
- 8 What a comedy show might have you in
- 9 Get one’s feet wet
- 10 Book of memories
- 11 Cruise amenity
- 12 Actor Linden
- 13 “Primary concern of a Four Seasons chef
- 14 One with a vision
- 15 Metaphorical rush-hour subway rider
- 17 Stands the test of time
- 19 Garson of “Mrs. Miniver”
- 20 Plains, in Peru
- 23 Industry tycoon
- 24 Sportscaster Rashad
- 29 “\_ Haw”
- 31 In reserve
- 33 Rae of “The Lovebirds”
- 34 Reds and Cards, briefly
- 35 Shadowless?
- 36 French military leader with an eponymous line
- 37 “50s-’60s ad competition
- 40 Actor Wynn
- 43 “\_ Louise!”
- 44 Andalusian uncle
- 46 Celery piece
- 49 Early seal hunter
- 50 Shorten further
- 51 “I’m outta here”
- 53 Mayo is in it
- 54 Timber wolves
- 56 Quaint shoppe adjective
- 58 Notable feature of 59-Down
- 59 Toon with a 58-Down
- 60 Subsidized
- 62 Adam of “Grown Ups” films
- 65 Smoothie fruit
- 66 Most up-to-date
- 67 Dusk, to Donne
- 69 Hankering
- 71 Like clams on the half shell
- 74 Bert in Oz
- 76 “I didn’t \_\_\_ be here”
- 78 Informed, with “in”
- 79 Ref. that added “chapstick” in 2021
- 81 Base bars
- 83 City on the Orne
- 84 “Taxi Driver” director
- 85 Tony Soprano’s “Got it?”
- 86 Really nails
- 87 Marked down
- 88 Trickeries
- 89 “Don’t think so”
- 91 Aries mo.
- 93 Put down
- 94 Grammy winner of 59-Down
- 97 Offspring
- 100 Word with panel or system
- 103 Overhaul
- 104 Bring on board
- 105 Maracaibo, por ejemplo
- 106 Munch Museum city
- 109 Fashionable Taylor
- 110 Caesar’s 601
- 111 Tussaud’s medium
- 112 School yr. division



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Answers to last week’s puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

**Happy Birthday | Feb. 13:** You are naturally intuitive and brilliant. You are also hard-working and focused, which means others know they can rely on you. You have a down-to-earth, realistic quality that people appreciate. This year is more enjoyable and sociable, and you will feel a greater zest for life. Remember your goals, but take time to have fun.

**Moon Alert:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Cancer.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) Friendships are important to you right now. In fact, it can be to your advantage to sit down with a friend (or a member of a group) and define some long-term goals for yourself. If you bounce your ideas off someone, their feedback might help you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Without doing anything special on your part, you can impress others. You have this advantage, so use it. Do what you can to advance your agenda.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) You are naturally curious, which is why you are eager to expand your world through learning, study and travel. You can also enrich your life by talking to people from other cultures and different countries.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) Relations with others are smooth. Admittedly, Mars can make you impatient with those who are irritating. But this is nothing you can’t handle. Continue to look for ways to broaden your world, especially through travel.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Remember to get more sleep, because you need more rest right now. Nevertheless, you’re determined to work hard and accomplish as much as you can. Fortunately, co-workers and others are supportive.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Continue to explore ways to improve your health, to become better organized and, likewise, to enjoy and take care of your pets. Mercury, Venus and Mars want you to play and enjoy fun activities with kids.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) This is a playful, fun-loving time. Family gatherings, redecorating projects and home entertaining are also on the menu. Don’t spread yourself so thin that you can’t enjoy life.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Your focus on home and family continues to be strong. Many of you are involved more than usual with a parent. This is a fast-paced time for you because you have appointments, errands and an ambitious schedule.

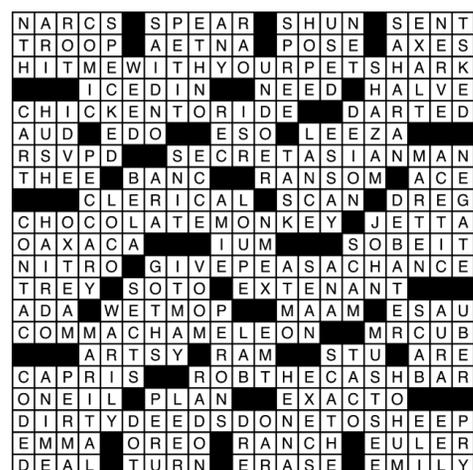
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) It’s a good day to catch your breath, because this has been a busy week. Choose quiet activities like learning something new, studying, doing puzzles or reading for pleasure to give yourself a break.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Even though fiery Mars is boosting your energy and fair Venus is making you charming and diplomatic, the Moon opposes you, which means you have to cooperate with others.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) With the Sun in your sign, you are in a commanding position. However, there are three planets hiding in your chart, which means you might choose to keep a low profile and enjoy solitude in beautiful surroundings.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) Enjoy your good fortune with lucky Jupiter in your sign for the first time since 2010. You feel creative, artistic and dreamy. You also feel sympathetic to the needs of children.

Answers to last week’s puzzle.



2/6/22