

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

For the rhyme, beeing: Big-word verse

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1494 we asked our Loserbards to write poems using words from this year's National Spelling Bee. Maybe these results will add some variety to Google searches on the words — which in many cases amount to nothing but dictionary listings. (Some of the less arcane ones are from the bee's vocabulary rounds.)

4th place:

Brose, a Scottish dish made by pouring boiling water over oats
When making brose, Miss MacLehose
Is apt to add malt whisky.
It gives her zest, warms up her chest,
And keeps her feeling frisky.
Good sense may say don't start the day
By going on a bender.
But don't condemn poor wee Miss M
A cereal offender.
(*Stephen Gold, London, formerly of Scotland*)

3rd place:
Toquilla (to-KEY-uh), a leaf fiber used to make panama hats
"Where's my booze?" growled a tourist named Jim
As a hat was presented to him.
"I am sorry, señor,
Did you not ask me for
'Pure toquilla, right up to the brim?'" (*Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.*)

2nd place and the toy bedbug: Coryza (co-RY-za), a head cold
If you think a pandemic is just a coryza
Your future's secure as a MAGA advyza.
(*Kevin Dopart, Washington*)

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement: Chimichurri, a green sauce used in Latin American cuisine
A funny-tasting chimichurri taco from a Taco Bell
Along a highway in Missouri brought me to E coli hell:
A restroom filled with puking men where not a single stall was free.
Does misery love company? So people say, but hey, not me.
(*Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.*)

Bee-sides: Honorable mentions
Brose (II)
While backpacking through Scotland, a rich obnoxious fop
Had run out of his trail mix, so he went into a shop.
The keeper boiled water and he poured it over top
Of plain, unsweetened oatmeal and the tourist flipped his mop.
"What's this rot supposed to be?"
"It's brose; just let it sop
While you're hiking; it'll mix and you can eat it when you stop."
He bought some and then later, as he choked down every drop,
He learned a brose by any name is still a bag of slop!
(*Jon Gearhart, Des Moines*)

Brose (III)
Said the Edinburgh witch, "I suppose
Using college boys' fingers and toes,
In my porridge of oats
Adds some tasty grace notes,
And I'll call it Fraternity Brose."
(*Kevin Dopart*)

Golilla (go-LEE-yuh), a ruff-like collar worn by Spanish officials in the Renaissance
A nonbeliever, Juan Garcia,
Fixates on the white golilla,
Knows the man's a magistrate,
And steels himself to learn his fate.
It's Torquemada, he's been told,
Who's here to damn him to perdition.
Sadly, no one — young or old —
Expects the Spanish Inquisition.
(*Chris Doyle*)

Argillaceous, claylike
"He's dead, Jim," stated Bones, in direct, plain-spoken tones,
Which Enterprising crewfolk thought ungracious:
"This pronouncement, made so often — can we find a way to soften?"
"Say, 'Captain Kirk, our ensign's argillaceous,'" (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.*)

Dasydodid (da-SIP-odid), relating to armadillos.
A dashing young dasydodid was setting out one day
To make his way across the road and pass the time away.
This armadillo hit a snag, so he did not get far;
He met his alter ego on the road: an armored car. (*Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.*)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Now, Week 1498: V for verses — misuse a word in a poem

My kids used to sleep on stacked single beds, While they dreamed and rested their sweet little heads. But they brought in the noise and brought in the funk, So now I'm afraid it is time to debunk.

One of the Empress's rules for the contest that produced today's inking poems was "you must use the word with its real meaning and pronunciation; you can't pretend it's something else." But this week, at the suggestion of Loser Sarah Walsh, I ask the opposite: **Write a short (eight lines or fewer), humorous poem that uses one or more words in other than their actual meanings, as in "debunk" in Sarah's own example.**

Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1498 (no capitals in the Web address). **Deadline is Monday, Aug. 1;** results appear Aug. 21 in print, Aug. 18 online.



SCHYLING.COM

If you get writer's block, at least you can play with this on your desk. This week's second prize.

submitted by both Jesse Frankovich and Jeff Rackow. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://www.facebook.com/on.fb.me/invdev); "like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bt.ly/inkofaday](https://www.facebook.com/bt.ly/inkofaday); follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week's at wapo.st/conv1498.

Dasydodid (II)

There once was a king who revered armadillos;
They featured in tapestries, portraits and pillows.
He wished that his knights for the battle would thirst,
But his "brave" cavaliers were, quite simply, The Worst.
On tournament day, to the king's great chagrin
Each one left his hauberk behind at the inn.
Fed up and enraged, the king angrily chid,
"Wear your armor all day, like the dasydodid!" (*Sarah Walsh, Rockville*)

Chorine, old-time chorus girl

A Parisian chorine can recall
Being cautioned: "No leaning, stand tall!
When you kick, stay erect
So your legs will project.
In the cancan, you can't cant at all!" (*Chris Doyle*)

Cacoepy, mispronunciation (the word itself may be pronounced ka-CO-pee, as in the first poem below, or kaka-WEH-pee, as in the second)

While her name doesn't rhyme with "impala,"
Some, on purpose, will call her "ka-MAL-a."
Most regard that as dopey,
But the play of cacoepy
Sure makes many a MAGA type holla.
(*Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.*)

Cacoepy (II)

You munch on "sherbert" or a "crape"?
Your blunders are horrific.
Mischievously you excape!
Oh, I could get pacific.
"Your cacoepic point is mute!
Relax! It's Febuary!"
You'll find me in the bridal suit
Committing harry-carry.
(*Duncan Stevens*)

Lipofuscin (lip-oh-FUSS-in), pigments found in internal cells, associated with aging

Is your hair going gray? Don't you fret.
It turns out that, the older you

get,
As your cells turn to Jell-O,
Lipofuscin (brown-yellow)
Makes your insides more blond and brunette.
(*Melissa Balmain*)

Mercator projection: a world map that exaggerates the size of lands near the poles

My lawmaker colleagues, you see on this globe
How the ice caps have shrunk; a correction
Is urgently needed. Instead of a globe
We should use a Mercator projection. (*Coleman Glenn, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.*)

Ostreger, a keeper of goshawks

He's the one with a bird in the hand
Not the one with a head in the sand. (*Kevin Dopart*)

Torrefaction, roasting with fire or intense heat

When I'm trying to style my hair
And my Airwrap breaks as the heat goes out
blowing nothing but lukewarm air
Flatt'ning out my thoroughly drenched Mohawk
As they laugh at me out on the boardwalk ...
I can't get no torrefaction
I can't get no frizz redaction
and I dry and I dry and I dry and I dry ...
(*Frank Mann, Washington*)

And Last: Oculogric, relating to eye-rolling

Stylishly smilishly,
Wannabe humorists
Rattle off entries to Poor progeny,
All of whom sigh and say, Oculogrically,
"Inking or not, you're a Loser to me." (*Coleman Glenn*)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1498.

Still running — deadline Monday, Aug. 25: Tell us a what-if scenario and its funny result. See wapo.st/invite1497.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"THE OLD SWITCHEROO" BY GARY LARSON & AMY ENSZ	92 "Stall selling souvenirs on graduation day?"	125 As many as	32 New England sch.	54 Bongbong of the Philippines	92 Soft drink giant
1 "Dragnet" star Jack	95 Fizzled out	126 "Gin and Juice" rapper Snoop	33 "Tiny Bubbles" singer	55 Conductor	93 Scott Simon's network
5 Got to laugh	97 German pronoun	127 Verve	34 First word of "The Raven"	57 Be relevant	94 Filled
11 Big galoots	98 QB-to-receiver successes	128 Sushi bar soup	36 Yemeni port	58 Sounded loudly	96 "Sorry Not Sorry" singer
15 Feathery scarves	99 Wife, in Spanish		37 "Rizzoli & Isles" crime series novelist	60 Recycle bin item	100 Bowl of greens
19 Diva's delivery	101 Declare		38 "Bohemian Rhapsody" Oscar winner	62 Boxer Muhammad	101 Composer Copland
20 Albania neighbor	103 Nissan models		39 Actor McGregor	64 Honda luxury cars	102 Land by the sea
21 Office note	107 Great Salt Lake state		40 American Girl product	65 Doze	103 Anti-censorship org.
22 Luxury hotel chain	109 First name in skin care		41 Intertwines	67 Guy of "Memento"	104 Belt holder
23 "Truly unappetizing French dish?"	114 "Appeal from a jailhouse lawyer?"		42 Frozen waffle brand	68 Allocate	105 Fastener with flanges
25 "In favor of monetary penalties?"	117 Both sides of an argument, and what have been switched to create the answers to the starred clues		44 Sabrina	69 Got rid of	106 "Should that be the case ..."
27 Ruhr Valley city	121 "On First": book about comedian		45 Squid relatives	70 Pal	108 Toll rd.
28 On	122 Antioxidant berry		46 Resident of Lima, Lisbon, or Athens	72 Counters	109 Mime Marcel
30 Lhasa native	123 Czech currency		47 Big name in smooth jazz	75 Mime Marcel	110 Bogus offer
31 "The Optimist's Daughter" Pulitzer winner	124 Aardvaark meal		48 Lime and rust	76 Collectible frames	111 "Beloved" novelist
35 Group in the minors			49 Astronaut's insignia	77 Glazier's item	112 Sinus docs
38 Snoopy adversary				79 Sport-; versatile vehicles	113 Exxon's original brand name
42 Down source				82 Lose ground?	115 Badger
43 Quaked				83 Noted times	116 Band booking
48 "Proposed bill?"				84 All there	118 La Table: kitchenware retailer
51 Dull pain				85 Auto pioneer	119 Director Lee
52 ___ fide: in bad faith				87 Verve	120 Anti vote
53 Honeycomb figures				88 A dog's age	
54 Actor Sheen				89 Chart toppers	
56 Left hanging					
59 "Time ___ the essence"					
60 Animated short					
61 Lentil dish					
62 Cynthia Nixon's role on "The Gilded Age"					
63 Some tribute pieces					
66 Salary					
67 "Source of talent for a major-league franchise?"					
71 "Opposed to medical treatment?"					
73 Claire, Wisconsin					
74 Platitude					
76 Bovine chew					
77 Load from a lode					
78 Moving right along					
80 Violinist Leopold					
82 Anka song with a Spanish title					
86 Slowing down, musically: Abbr.					
87 Cowardly Lion					
89 Eurasian range					
91 Last name of both " Fargo" writers					

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7/24/22

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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Happy Birthday | July 24: You are a practical dreamer. You are friendly, sympathetic and comfortable with people from all walks of life. You value security, yet you're courageous about pursuing new avenues. This year is the beginning of a new nine-year cycle for you. Be ready to act on new opportunities. Be courageous. Open any door.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
It's a lovely day to relax or entertain at home, which means you can invite family or friends over for good food and drink. Many of you will be interested in redecorating or tweaking your digs to make them look better. Got something to show off?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
This is a feel-good day. Enjoy talking to siblings, relatives and neighbors. You will have greater appreciation of your daily surroundings. In other words, life feels good! You're happy to be alive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Business and commerce are favored. Give serious thought to your moneymaking ideas, because they might be worthwhile. If shopping, you will want to buy beautiful things. However, be cautious about going overboard or being too extravagant.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
You feel happy and positive, which is why you will enjoy the company of others. It's important that you do something you really enjoy. (Put pleasure before work.) Consider shopping for wardrobe items, but caution against extravagance. Keep your receipts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You are at peace in your world. With both the Sun and Mercury in your sign, you will be happy to talk to others and share your ideas. Nevertheless, some of you will choose to cocoon and enjoy some downtime by yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Relations with friends and members of groups are warm and friendly. It's an excellent day to interact with classes, clubs and organizations, especially with

creative projects and artistic people. Travel plans are still appealing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
You'll enjoy excellent relations with people in authority because they will be favorably inclined toward you. (Ask for approval or permission.) Meanwhile, someone might want your advice about making something look better.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
You have a strong urge to travel for pleasure today. If you can do so, act on this desire. Romance with someone different or from another culture might flourish. Enjoy doing something different from your usual routine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
This is a solid day for money and finances. In fact, gifts and goodies might come your way. It's a particularly good time to settle disputes about inheritances and shared property because you will

be favored.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Relations with others are excellent. Because you're so smooth, this is a good day to mend rifts with others. One reason for this is that you find it easy to express your affection and make your feelings clear to others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You'll be happy working at whatever task you choose because you feel a sense of reward from whatever you're doing. You might enjoy helping someone else. Don't go overboard on fattening or sweet foods. A work-related romance is possible.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your involvement with children will be upbeat. All kinds of social activities are favored. This is a great day for a vacation or any kind of social outing, because your primary objective is to have a good time and enjoy yourself.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

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