

The Style Invitational

REPORT FROM WEEK 699

In which we asked readers to change any word beginning with E, F, G or H by one letter and define the result. This week we'll present the best of the E's and F's, with a whole set of winner and Losers. The best of the G's and H's will appear March 18. That week, the winner will also get the Inker, the official Style Invitational trophy, and the first runner-up will receive the magnetic Greek alphabet letters pictured here, brought back from Hellas itself by Kevin Dopart of Washington. (The letters are spelling out the Greek word for "loser." Says Kevin.)

The rule for Week 699 was that the original word, not the result, had to begin with E, F, G or H. So, for instance, "flactate," a verb for a PR person's feeding drips of gossip to hungry reporters, couldn't go. The rules permitted a letter to be added, subtracted or substituted with another letter. Also, two letters could be transposed; several Losers realized that they didn't have to be adjacent letters. Also not qualifying: adding a number instead of a letter, as in Kevin Dopart's clever "GeiCO": Global warming insurance, "one of his 191 entries. (To answer your next question, no, Kevin is not on the federal payroll.)

For some reason, the single word that appeared on practically everyone's list was "fratulence," defined variously as a wafting from beer or kegs or college-kid dirty laundry.



BY BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

(We) Give Us a Break

The results for Week 699, one of the change-a-word-by-one-letter contests that some people think we should run every single week instead of all this other stuff with jokes and cartoons and poems and such drivel, were — we have to admit — so clever and so abundant that we needed two weeks' worth of columns to share the worthiest entries with you. Also, this is a convenient way for the Empress to take a day off from judging and go lounge poolside in the Imperial Hammock, taking care first to don the Imperial Parka and Earmuffs and Moon Boots.

AND THE WINNER OF THE INKER

Epigram: A maxim that brands the speaker as an old codger: "If God had wanted women to wear pants . . ." (Brendan Beary)

4 Fuhrenheit: The temperature in Hell. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills)

3 Eruditz: A philosophy professor who can't figure out how to work the copying machine. (John Kupiec, Fairfax)

2 The winner of the artsy tubes of Breath Palette toothpaste: Fearcical: Ludicrous yet vaguely alarming. "There's a fearcical rumor we're going to invade Venezuela." (Martin Bancroft, Rochester, N.Y.)

NOT EF BAD

Tedema: That jowly Kennedy look. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Educrate: To teach in one of the "modules" set up "temporarily" in the parking lot of an overcrowded school. (Ted Einstein, Silver Spring)

Elbrow: Extremely long underarm hair. (Ellen Raphaeli, Falls Church)

Emacitate: Go out with a fashion model. (Kevin Dopart)

Editor: Edited. (Peter Metrinko, Chantilly)

Demoticon: A little symbol signifying bad news on an e-mail from the boss. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Tempress: Today, Mistress of the Domains of Chaos; tomorrow, just another loser. (Ann Martin, Annapolis)

Zencompass: Wherever you go, there you are. (Kevin Dopart)

Unergy: A condition that strikes people on the way to work, mostly on Mondays. (Janet Alexandrow, Springfield)

Ennau: The least exciting of the Hawaiian islands. (Brendan Beary)

Entrophy: The consequence of resting on one's laurels. (Bill Strider, Gaithersburg)

Eohoppus: A prehistoric kangaroo. (Brendan Beary)

Enguish: What elocution teachers feel when they hear the president on the radio. (Karl Koerber, Crescent Valley, B.C.)

Estchew: To stay on daylight saving time. (Bob Kopac, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.)

Stonia: A small European country with very loose drug laws. (Russell Beland, Springfield)

Engin: Gasohol. (Andrew Hoenig, Rockville)

Innu: How you feel upon seeing the same landscape painting you saw in your last six hotel rooms. (Dave Komornik, Danville, Va.)

Erstwhale: The success story in the Jenny Craig ad. (Jay Shuck, Minneapolis)

Nestrogen: A hormone produced during pregnancy that produces cravings for wallpaper with matching borders and dust ruffles. (Brendan Beary)

Estrogent: Someone who asks if the fabulous pumps are available in a 13½ E. (Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)

Excaliburp: Sword swallower's reflux. (Marian Carlsson, Lexington, Va.)

Excretary: The office worker who seems to spend two hours a day in the bathroom. (Jay Shuck)

Exhilaration: what Monica almost caused in Bill. (Peter Metrinko)

Expedition: The journey to Hell. (Martin Bancroft; Mae Scanlan, Washington)

Excavate: To dredge up an old grievance during an argument. (Mike Fransella, Arlington)

Facebook.com: For warding off cyber-stalkers. (Ben Aronin, Washington)

Yellowship: Cowards Anonymous. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Fiefdome: A state capitol building. (Creigh Richert, Aldie)

Fistipuffs: Very minor squabbling. (Jim Lubell, Mechanicsville)

Flabboyant: Proudly displaying one's girth. "In his Chippendales skit on 'SNL,' Chris Farley was amazingly flabboyant." (Brendan Beary)

Fatulence: That squishing noise of thighs rubbing together. (Jim Lubell)

Flimflame: To commit arson for the insurance money. (Howard Walderman, Columbia)

Loozies: All those women who hang on Style Invitational contestants. (Kevin Dopart)

Foaly: An elderly horse who likes to bother young colts. (John Holder, Charlotte)

Foresking: The best motel in town. (Brendan Beary)

Fortissimoo: More, more, more cowbell! (Chris Doyle, sent from vacation in Bangkok)

Farternity: An old boys' club. (David Franks, Wichita)

Forget-me-note: A Dear John letter. (Chris Doyle)

Faux pAI - When your Inker-winning gab about "Gandhi II" turns out to have already been used by some guy named Yankovic. (Andy Bassett, New Plymouth, New Zealand)

Next Week: Stump Us, or The Battle of Hustings (Mark Eckenwiler, Washington)



For the second-best G- or H-word: How to lose in Greek.

BY JULIA EWAN — THE WASHINGTON POST

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Holiday Mathis

Aries (March 21-April 19)

When things happen that are beyond your control, it's an opportunity for you to shine in a way you wouldn't under normal circumstances. You're focused, and you get it done quickly — regardless of what "it" is.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You're on your way to recovering all that has been lost. This takes a few days. Don't fret. You're going to be just fine — one breath at a time. A Sagittarius person is your ally.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

There are only about 120 reasons why you should keep your original appointments and agreements now. If this is inconvenient, it's nowhere near as inconvenient as it will be to change things.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Your extreme interest in a subject is mistaken for extreme interest in the person who is knowledgeable on the topic. Then again, it stands to reason that others who share your interest would be attractive, as you are to them.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

You're in a sassy, loud, sarcastic mood, and that's just why loved ones adore you. The key is in keeping some kind of social balance. You can get away with using more humor than others, but don't push your luck.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

A small amount of discipline can take you all the way toward becoming a master. Fifteen minutes a day add up quickly. Devote yourself to practicing what you long to be great at.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Life doesn't have to be hard, although you're used to a certain amount of struggle. When you're with an unflappable person, take notes. You'll soon face a

challenge with equal grace.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

It's remarkable how quickly you can work when you know what the amazing benefits will be. Focusing on what you get will help you produce better and give more.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

What you're drawn to and what's good for you may very well be two different things — or maybe you were just taught to believe that. Try to figure out what the basis is for this irresistible attraction.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Knowing what you want makes you a killer in business and a hot item in your personal life. So get back in tune with your desires and motivations. A Libra person helps with this purpose.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

It's a challenge to keep expectations in the realm of reality. So don't. Chances are the reality in question was never really yours anyhow. Think bigger than your parents, friends and everyone you know.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Think about it: No one has lived precisely as you have on this planet. The stars urge you to retell parts of your life story. Better yet, write it down. An Aries person is the perfect audience for you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY, FEB. 25:

You long to approach life and work in a creative way. It's not only for your own pleasure, intrigue and fun. Your creativity is also a gift to the world. So move "explore my creativity" high up on the to-do list. The next 10 weeks bring funding for one such exploration. Steer clear of materialistic influences in April. Virgo and Libra people adore you.

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BY REED SAXON — ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Los Angeles headquarters of Univision, which will be fined \$24 million for failing to provide adequate educational programming.

Record FCC Fine Expected Against Univision

UNIVISION, From D1

FCC source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the commission has not voted on the fine — although it is expected to be approved soon.

Univision attempted to pass off youth-oriented soap operas as educational fare for youngsters, according to the source.

After complaints about Univision's children's programming were raised by the United Church of Christ during license-renewal proceedings for a Univision television station in 2005, the FCC investigated and found that 24 Univision stations had failed to meet their children's programming requirements for 116 weeks, from 2004 to 2006, the source said.

To keep their FCC-issued broadcast licenses, stations are required by the agency to air a minimum of three hours of programming per week aimed at educating or informing young viewers.

The proposed fine, which averages about \$8,600 per violation per station, was reported in yesterday's editions of the New York Times. Univision has agreed to pay the fine to gain FCC approval of the broad-

caster's \$12 billion sale to private-equity investors, the source said.

The Univision penalty would be nearly eight times greater than the largest-ever fine imposed against a broadcaster — a \$3.5 million judgment against Viacom Inc. in 2004 to settle a number of indecency violations, including those by radio "shock jock" Howard Stern. Prior to the Univision case, the FCC's largest single fine against a corporation was a \$9 million ruling against Qwest Communications International in 2004 for allegedly colluding with competitors.

Unlike indecency issues, children's programming has been lightly policed by the FCC. Such programming, however, is of keen interest to FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin. One broadcast industry source said he believed "a \$24 million fine will certainly cause people to sit up and take notice." Further, the source speculated, the fine could put Spanish-language broadcasters — which largely have flown under the FCC's radar — on notice that their radio and television programs now will be scrutinized for possible indecency violations too.

A spokeswoman for Univision declined to comment on the matter

yesterday.

The telenovela in question is "Complices al Rescate," the story of 11-year-old identical twin girls who swap identities.

The FCC's ruling against Univision comes as two other television broadcasters — CBS and News Corp.'s Fox network — are appealing FCC indecency rulings in federal courts.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit in New York is expected to rule soon on Fox's case, in which the FCC said that profanities uttered by Cher and reality-TV star Nicole Richie during programs in 2002 and 2003 were indecent, though the agency proposed no fines. Fox says the FCC overstepped its bounds in declaring the incident indecent.

And in Philadelphia's U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, CBS is appealing a \$550,000 FCC fine imposed after the halftime show of the 2004 Super Bowl, broadcast on CBS, in which singer Janet Jackson's right breast was briefly exposed. CBS is arguing that the FCC's decisions on broadcast indecency are inconsistent.

Regardless of the courts' rulings, either or both cases might be appealed to the Supreme Court.

The United Church of Christ, which advocates for children's television programming, applauded the expected FCC fine against Univision. Former FCC commissioner Gloria Tristani headed the denomination's Office of Communication when the complaints against Univision were filed.

"This a tremendous victory for all of our children," the Rev. Robert Chase, the UCC's communications director, said in a statement. "... This action by the FCC sends a clear signal that media conglomerates must act in the public interest."

Univision's reach in the Spanish-language audience is unrivaled by any English-language broadcaster. The company owns 62 Univision and TeleFutura television stations in the United States and Puerto Rico, including D.C.-based WMDO-47.

In addition, the Univision network reaches nearly all Spanish-speaking U.S. households, and its Galavision cable network reaches 5.9 million subscribers. Further, the company is the largest Spanish-language radio broadcaster, with 73 stations in the United States and Puerto Rico, and it owns three music labels.