

# DEPRAVDA

Published By and For Infectees of The Washington Post's Style Invitational

September 1995

Vol. II, Number 7

## WANTED: SMART BOOKKEEPER, FOR A CHANGE

The staff of *Depravda* regrets to report the rather sudden departure of its chief financial officer, whose other pressing duties, and the fact that he's no good at it, make it impossible for him to continue in that position (and who among us does not know what *that* feels like).

A new Comptroller is therefore required immediately. The selectee will process all incoming payments and re-imburse staff members for printing and circulation expenses, and will prepare periodic statements to be distributed to our pathetically trusting membership. Familiarity with linear-programming concepts would be a plus, so the selectee can tell us how many copies of this preposterous undertaking to send out to hook new readers without putting all of our butts in a sling.

An uncommon salary and benefits package is available for the successful applicant: other than a rebate of your subscription fee, it is US\$0, which you won't find many places these days, even at entry level.

This is not a joke, and it is getting to be less and less of a trivial exercise. Your Editor, a teetotaler, is so stressed by this right now that he thinks he was hung over this morning from sleep deprivation.

Kindly contact the Publisher.

## HEARTENING NEWS FROM THE OTHER PAGES OF THE WASHINGTON POST

Sept. 2: "DNA Proves Bones Belong to ... Czar"

Sept. 16: "[CHARLES] SMITH QUILTS"

**ANOTHER FAMILY DYNASTY?** MICHAEL SINGER, SILVER SPRING, EMERGES WITH H.M. IN WEEK 127 TO JOIN PREVIOUS LOSERS SAUL JAY SINGER AND SAUL S. SINGER; MAY SIGNAL COMPETITION FOR HOUSES OF SMITH, CHONG, ZARROW, SULLIVAN, SORSENSEN, KRATTENMAKER, AND DANIEL-WEINGARTEN

K. CUDDIHY SURVIVES ATTACK BY WHITE-ROBED KNIFE-WIELDING ASSAILANT; DOWNTIME APPARENTLY A BOON, AS K. PULLS IN FIRST SHIRT WITH "FATMAN" JAPE FOR GADGET #1

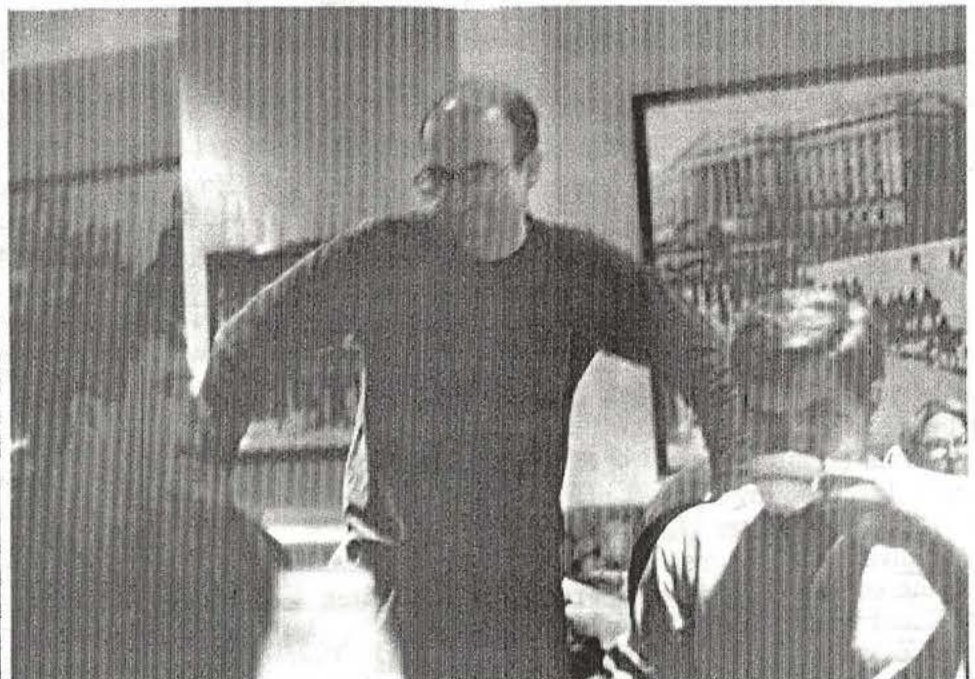
C. SMITH SURVIVES CLOSE BRUSH WITH SIMPLE MORTALITY AS CONSISTENCY SINKS TO RECORD LOW 1.500 IN WEEK 126, BUT REBOUNDS BY 0.012 WITH 3 GADGET HITS

FIRST-EVER TRIPLE THREAT BY WEST VIRGINIA NATIVE NOTED AT WEEK 127--L. A. MAZURE BRINGS US A SEAGULL-IMPALER, A WORLD-CLASS CONTRACEPTIVE, AND LUMPY BLOBS EVERYWHERE

IN FIRST SUCH ACTION SINCE WEEK 54, COMPETITION FLOOR RAISED TO 5, AS 96 CONTESTANTS NOW HAVE 4 OR MORE (DETAILS, PAGE 6)

DEPRAVDA ILLUSTRATOR P. COYNER TIES LONG-SILENT T. GEARTY IN WINS WITH 4, SKEWERS DEVELOPERS, GUBMINT, AND HUNTERS SIMULTANEOUSLY TO TAKE HOME PRECIOUS NIXON PHOTO IN WEEK 126

RECORD TURNOUT OF 28 FOR 14th NON-CONSECUTIVE N.R.A.R.S. BREAKFAST IN SHADOW OF TREASURY DEPARTMENT; FIRST TIME OUT FOR COMPETITORS FRED DAWSON, MIKE CONNAGHAN, AND ELLEN LAMB; KATHY CONNAGHAN, JULIE BIRD, SARAH LEWIS, AND KATE SULLIVAN DROP IN TO SEE WHAT ALL THE RACKET IS



Joseph Romm, Washington, hoping a good head-knocking will compromise the performance of competitors Chuck Smith and Russ Beland (with cup) in Week 130, waits for his moment.

Photo by Erin Carnahan



# LETTERS TO THE ORATOR

I know you've pretty much decided by now, and anyway I suppose that "Bite Me" would not be a very good name for the New and Improved Newsletter, even though you could answer "Bite Me" to the question, "what's that your reading?"

(or, in your case, "what's that you're Xeroxing?" or "what are you spending all your time on?")



Sarah Worcester, Bowie

[ In reference to Mike Thring's editorial in the August issue ], what did I ever do to deserve that verbal assault? This is like when you get invited on *Geraldo* thinking you're going to be talking about your loving family and it turns out your wife is having [s\*x] with your dog because you aren't "communicative of your emotions" like Fido. But I digress. Joseph Romm, Washington

That was you on *Geraldo*?

John Kammer, Herndon

About the August issue: the good news is I easily decoded the message on page 15. The bad news is I didn't see my reflection. Tell Elden he can have MY children--they're nasty but they've all had their rabies shots.

Mary Olson, Springfield

MICHAEL T. THRING 5-94

0299

Pay to the order of Elden Carnahan \$ 15.00

Fifteen & Dollars

**SIGNET BANK**  
ACHT RST 051000718  
Leesburg, VA

MEMO Will, here's fifteen bucks down the toilet

0299

A response to Dr. William Snizel ['s comments in the July issue]: I, as a representative sample of the Style Invitational population, would like to say that I do NOT have too much time on my hands. The precious little spare time I can muster must go to some creative outlet. Can I now, through [sheer] force of logic, quid pro quo, deduce that men who do not enter the contest are sociologically equivalent to women and that women who enter the contest are either repressed transvestites or afflicted with he-ness envy? [D]r. Snizel, sometimes a cigar is just a cigar and a loser is

just a Loser.

Stephen Dudzik, Silver Spring

The July issue traumatized my Muse so thoroughly that she may never SI again.

Sylvia Byrne, Arlington

As a good Son of the South, I am offended by Peyton Coyner's unwarranted slap at the Confederacy, and will write a stinging denunciation at a later date, once I find a way to differentiate between the Army of Northern Virginia and the Michigan Militia. Hmm ... this may take a while.

Arthur Adams, Laurel

Kindly address your concerns to the Publisher by letter, fax, e-mail, telephone, courier, or personal visit.

## TOP TEN WAYS TO TELL YOU'VE SPENT TOO MUCH TIME ON ONE CONTEST

You go in to work on Saturday to e-mail in the 200 entries you couldn't go to during normal working hours. (Stephen Dudzik)

You spend all Sunday afternoon searching for a rhyme for "colostomy." (Joseph Romm)

No one else in your family can get into the bathroom. (Sue Lin Chong)

You swerve off the road while writing down what you believe to be the winning idea after receiving inspiration from the license tag of the unmarked State Police car following you. (Paul Styrene)

In desperation, you go out and return your wife's Christmas present in order to buy a case of Glenlivet for the Czar. (Chuck Smith)

Six months after he's gone, everything you see reminds you of Bob Packwood. (Elden Carnahan)

You realize the reason you keep fainting while writing is that your mother stopped cooking for you three days ago. (Peyton Coyner)

You're so out of laundry that you have to wear one of the T-shirts. (Kevin Cuddihy)

Your proofreader goes blind. (Mary Olson)

Your name is Mary Lee Fox Roe. (Mike Connaghan)

For October send us something for:  
**"Top Ten Things  
Overheard at the Czar's  
Performance Appraisal"**



## THE THIRD-MEN THEME

Here we list all persons who have reached 4 credits so far in Year 3, Weeks 105 through 128.

Year 3, Crdts: total print appearances in Year 3.  
Year 3, Conss: total credits divided by the 24 Weeks so far of Year 3.  
Year 1, Credits: total print appearances in Year 1, Weeks 1 through 52.  
Year 1, Rk: where you finished Year 1.  
Year 2 Credits and Rk: as above, for Weeks 53 through 104.  
Top Yer Best: amount of credits you must earn Week to improve on your best Year so far.  
Take Title: amount of credits you must earn each Week to finish with #1 ranking for Year 3.

Rk	Name	Year 3		Year 1		Year 2		Top Yer	Take
		Crdts	Conss	Credits	Rk	Credits	Rk	Best	Title
1	Romm	26.00	1.083			42.33	3	0.583	1.083
2	Smith, C.	25.33	1.056	75.33	1	83.33	1	2.071	1.116
3	Carnahan	25.00	1.042	19.00	3	69.00	2	1.571	1.128
4	Beland	24.83	1.035			14.50	11	-0.333	1.134
5	Witte	20.00	0.833	13.00	11	29.00	5	0.321	1.307
6	Krattenmaker	16.33	0.680			31.50	4	0.542	1.438
7	Hart	16.00	0.667	3.33		18.00	8	0.071	1.449
8	Kammer	11.50	0.479			11.00	18	-0.018	1.610
9	Zarrow	10.50	0.438	1.33		10.00	20	-0.018	1.646
10	Sorensen	10.00	0.417			11.50	17	0.054	1.664
11	Pannullo	9.50	0.396			3.50		-0.214	1.682
12	Sullivan	9.00	0.375	14.00	8	4.00	47	0.179	1.699
13	Smith, J. C.	8.50	0.354			20.00	7	0.411	1.717
14	Chong	8.00	0.333	4.00	36	7.50	27	-0.018	1.735
15	Grove	7.50	0.313	13.00	12	12.00	16	0.196	1.753
16	Styrene	7.33	0.305	6.00	25	13.25	14	0.211	1.759
17	Grinath	7.00	0.304						1.771
18	Arnold	7.00	0.292			5.00	33	-0.071	1.771
	Worcester	7.00	0.292	3.00		22.00	6	0.536	1.771
	Dudzick	7.00	0.292	12.00	14	13.00	15	0.214	1.771
	Patishnock	7.00	0.292	7.50	22	2.00		0.018	1.771
22	Thuermer	6.50	0.271	3.50		1.00		-0.107	1.789
	Mellema	6.50	0.271	8.00	21	16.00	10	0.339	1.789
24	Plait	6.00	0.462						1.807
25	Thring	6.00	0.250	17.00	4	13.50	13	0.393	1.807
26	Kondis	5.50	0.229	15.00	6	17.50	9	0.429	1.824
27	Fox Roe	5.00	0.208	5.50	28	2.00		0.018	1.842
28	Cuddihy	4.83	0.201	3.00		7.83	26	0.107	1.848
	Steinhice	4.83	0.201			6.00	30	0.042	1.848
30	Caron	4.50	0.188	10.00	16	7.00	28	0.196	1.860
	Malcolm	4.50	0.188	14.50	7	10.00	19	0.357	1.860
	Sabourin	4.50	0.188	13.00	10	0.75		0.304	1.860
33	Vanatter	4.00	0.267						1.878
34	Weinstein	4.00	0.167	1.00		3.00		-0.036	1.878
	Bross	4.00	0.167	1.00		3.00		-0.036	1.878

## PEYTON'S COYNER

(OPRAH SCHOOL? LOAFER FOOL?)... HEY, DOLLIN', HELP ME OUT. I NEED A RHYME FOR "GOPHER DROOL". I SLIPPED 2 PLACES THIS WEEK, AND BELAND'S COMING UP FAST. OF COURSE, THAT SLACKER THRING MAY BE RIGHT. DID YOU SEE WHAT HE DID TO THE ANAL-COMPULSIVE CONTINGENT IN LAST MONTH'S EDITORIAL? AND IS THAT SULLIVAN WOMAN LETTING US NAME HER CHILD? NOW, THAT'S POWER! YOU THINK THE CEAR REALLY WENT TO VIRGINIA FOR VACATION? WONDER WHAT THE DEAL IS ON HART AND KRATTENMAKER. HELL, I BET HART IS KRATTENMAKER! HOW DOES ELDER THINK WE'RE GONNA FIND TIME FOR ENTRIES IF HE KEEPS INVENTING DEPRAYDA CONTESTS? MAYBE THAT'S HIS PLAN...



AS THE WEEKS WORE ON, FAMILY MEMBERS FOUND THEMSELVES WITH SOMEWHAT LESS ENTHUSIASM THAN THE ENTRANTS.



# THE WHINE GARDEN

by Dr. Style



Dear Dr. Style:

I just don't get this Style Invitational crap. I sent in a really funny joke about 2 nuns, a rabbi, and a cellular phone in an elevator, and not only did they not print it, they didn't even have the common decency to acknowledge my submission! This seems grotesquely unprofessional to me and I would like to know what legal recourse if any I might have. Thank you. --Anxious in Annandale

Dear Ann: You have a very solid case here if you act quickly. Soon you will lose all such rights once those \*\*%\$#! Republicans pass their legal reform measure, with its particularly disturbing "Loser Pays" requirement, which according to the fine print of the Contract with America would require all people who send entries in to the Style Invitational and don't win to cover all subsequent costs of publishing The Washington Post. Did I mention that you should seek counseling?

Dear "Doctor" Style:

You got a hell of a nerve telling that lady to dump her husband and take off. You are even worse than Dr. Laura Salinger. Who appointed you Boss of the Universe oh wait a minnit that wasn't you, it was that other broad, what's-her-name, you know, Ann Landings. Well, anyway, I

WEEK 128: LIKE, DUH

Q: "Dear, don't you think you accidentally overcooked the ziti just a bit?"

feel that's what you would have said if she had asked you.

--Mr. James Hoffa, Unit #18  
Kwik-E-Stor, Poolesville

Dear Jim: You wouldn't know good advice if it rolled itself up into a little thin tube of paper and rammed itself up your nose until you bled. Oh wait a minnit, that wasn't my advice to you, that was my advice to someone with a brain.

Dear Dr. Style:

Help! I haven't had a winning losing entry in over a month. I think I have some strain of writer's block. What should I do? It was bad enough when friends reminded me of my failures--now they don't even call! JSH

Dear JSH: We regret to report that Dr. Style has suddenly, ah, been taken ill. Since you are a regular correspondent now, we will try to answer your question. (And since we know who you are, and Dr. Style doesn't, perhaps we can do a better job of it anyway.) Anyway, first off, you should punt any so-called friends who delight to remind you of your failures, friends who, as we recall from one of your earlier letters, think they can do better but just haven't gotten around to it yet. Get rid of them, babe--they're just going to drag you down. Secondly, you do not have writer's block, which according to Dr. Kondis doesn't apply to us unless you have less than 50 1- or 2-line entries per Week. And what should you do? Judging from your last Runner-Up, wear your trout tie, tour Europe, quote poetry, take a bottle of Dammitall, and call us in the morning. --Ed.

Problems? Send them to Dr. Style, c/o the Publisher, and we'll see that they're sorted right out for you.

## LOSER, KNOW MORE!

(being an editorial bungling of the original title proposed by author Chuck Smith)

A previous newsletter [July 1995] quoted me to the effect that, while a number of other regular entrants are as funny as I am, I am better known to the Style Invitational public because I just began earlier. While this is a transparently insincere attempt at modesty on my part, it does contain a modicum of truth. It does not, however, explain repeated attempts by my female public to send their panties to me through e-mail. In any event (except for synchronized swimming, which I hate!), it is my understanding that this newsletter is now reaching a broader readership than the usual grazing, talking-with-their-mouths-full, "It-should-have-been-me!" monthly breakfast crowd. This particular newsletter may be the proper forum for me to impart a few tips to the uninitiated on how to be published in the Style Invitational.

1. Volume. Volume. Volume. Some may counsel quality over quantity, but I am living proof of the converse (or is it the perverse?). You may have noted that the column often contains ideas (other than my own) considerably less humorous than yours. How many times have you exclaimed, "this is a piece of crap!" and then moved on past Elden Carnahan's submission to search for one of your own? We regulars count on volume as the Czar often bypasses our shining gems of hilarity to pick one of our lesser

(vpmymirf pm shr 6)



I theorize that the Czar, tired at the end of a thankless day of editing Tony Kornheiser and fighting off the carnal advances of Miss Manners, often uses the dartboard method of selection. How else to account for the times that my submissions have been absent?

**2. Poopy humor.** The Czar is fixated on bodily functions and, to our everlasting shame, many of us have bought into this. It may be too late for us, but it's not too late for you! However, if you want to sell your soul to the Roto-Rooter man, read on.

To paraphrase Stephen King: if the Czar can't make readers laugh, he will try to gross them out. Personally, I have found proctology jokes to be a particular favorite of the Czar. I have made that orifice my own (perhaps I should rephrase that). Note, however, that it is not easy to constantly search for the perfect bun mot. Anyway, write to your audience! Which in this case is the Czar, someone in a suspended state of adolescence, a zipper fly suspended in amber. Bobbitt jokes, bodily functions, and juvenile humor are sure ways to be printed in *The Post*.

Don't be afraid to humor-slum. Wit may occasionally work, but don't count on it. If an entry of yours is printed that involves canapés and Jeffrey Dahmer, your bosses won't say: "You are a sick individual and we're going to check your psychological profile one more time!" They'll say instead: "Saw you in *The Post* yesterday. Way to go! How about an exchange of bodily fluids?" (P.S. Always wear condiments. Curiously, I find that women seem to prefer paprika.)

**3. Try to work my name into the entry.** However, it won't win. It probably won't even be funny, but it may be one of the Honorable Mentions printed at the end. I don't know why this works, but somehow I find it very refreshing.

If all else fails, fall back on wit, originality, and inspiration, but don't say that I didn't warn you.



... it ain't  
cheap, or  
easy ...

## NAME-THAT-KITTY Contest Results

Well, the fabulous Name-That-Kitty contest has concluded. The entires have all been judged, the kitties have all been named, and the prizes have all been sent (probably). Now all that remains is to announce the winners. But first, I'd like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all who entered--thanks a lot to both of you.

*And now, the kitty names (drumroll, please):*

Kitty #1 is now "Orangina," one of many mighty fine names sent in by Stephen Dudzik (the best being "Gene"). Commented one member of the expert panel, "isn't Orangina that expensive, slightly bitter orange drink? That seems appropriate." And indeed it does, after a visit to the vet, shots, a course of penicillin, and an operation (spaying) yet to come for a cat who is still largely unapproachable. Well done, Stephen.

Kitty #2 is now "Floyd," after what winner Arthur C. Adams assures me is a singularly heroic goldfish, and not just Mayberry's resident barber (not, of course, that we have anything against good old Floyd).

Bonus Names! Floyd and Orangina have two previously-named sisters, Calamity and Bart (yes, Bart--you see why we need help with cat names). Calamity is spayed, but, like Orangina, we didn't get to Bart in time. She had three orange and white kittens, two females and one male. These kitties are now: "Marigold," a name sent in by Mary Olson, who wins a lovely glass cat made by some guy down in Panama City Beach, Fla.; and "Norma" and "Isidor," the names of Jacki Drucker's mother and grandfather respectively. The expert panel turned out to be a bunch of suckers for that kind of sentimental stuff. For her successful tug at our corporate heartstrings, Jacki wins sort of a tin movie-poster thing from the epic, milestone motion picture *Viva Las Vegas*, starring Elvis Presley and Ann-Margret.

If you thought of your kitty names too late for this contest, hold on to them anyway. My sister is expecting her first child some time in December, so they might just come in handy for a possible "Name That Baby" contest. If I can just convince my sister . . .

Thanks again to all who entered, and please, if you ever decide that you want a cat, or if you know someone who wants a cat, or if you've ever heard anyone say the word "cat" in anything resembling a favorable tone of voice, pleast let me know.



Meg Sullivan  
8502 Bells Mill Rd.  
Potomac, Md. 20854  
(301) 983-8476



# F2 TROOP

This list includes all Invitational participants who have appeared in print at least FIVE times, as of the Report from Week 128. Please note: we have raised the bar from four appearances to five, as of this issue, as we had run out of room to list all 96 persons with four or more. We should also point out that the top 68 in the credits column, as listed to the right, would not necessarily be the top 68 in all other categories among all other persons ever appearing in the Invitational. However, the aging N.R.A.R.S corporate main-frame can't deal with that many Losers at once, so only contestants who have five or more appearances are put through all the additional sorts.

## Key to Column Headings

Rk Chg: Change in rank since last issue.  
 Asterisk indicates recent addition.  
 Debu Wk: Week of first print appearance.  
 Total Credits: Printed entries. Shared win yields partial credit.  
 W/L Streak: If positive, consecutive Weeks of print appearances. If negative, consecutive Weeks shut out.  
 Consstncy: Credits divided by total Weeks since debut (no Week 64). & Rank: Order of names if sorted by value.  
 Slugging: Weighted Credits: 4 points for Win, 3 for Contest Idea, 2 for Runn-er-Up, 1 for Honorable Mention. & Rank: Order of names if sorted by this value.  
 Purity: percentage of Total Credits not attributed to Honorable Mentions. & Rank: Order of names if sorted by this value.

## NRARS names on Page F2, compared to all names appearing

Week 125: 38% (12 of 32)  
 Week 126: 45% (10 of 22)  
 Week 127: 41% (14 of 34)  
 Week 128: 74% (17 of 23)

## New names on Page F2, compared to all names appearing

Week 125: 31% (10 of 32)  
 Week 126: 18% (4 of 22)  
 Week 127: 41% (14 of 34)  
 Week 128: 9% (2 of 23)

## Longest Streaks Broken

Week 125: Michael, -50  
 Week 126: Fribush, -64  
 Week 127: Madden, -15  
 Week 128: Witcher, -43

Rnk	Rk Chg	Name	City	St	Wk	Total Credits	W/L	Consstncy & Rank	Slugging & Rank	Purity & Rank
1		SMITH, C.	Woodbridge	VA	6	184.00	4	1.508	1	253.33
2		CARNAHAN	Laurel	MD	22	113.00	-1	1.066	2	153.00
3		ROMM	Washington	DC	58	68.33	1	0.976	3	99.83
4		WITTE	Gaithersburg	MD	7	62.00	2	0.512	6	80.00
5		Krattenmaker	Lndovr Hills	MD	80	47.83	-3	0.976	4	54.33
6		BELAND	Springfield	VA	73	40.33	3	0.720	5	48.83
7	-1	KONDIS	Alexandria	VA	14	38.00	-1	0.333	13	52.50
8		HART	Arlington	VA	11	37.33	-3	0.319	14	47.33
9		THRING	Leesburg	VA	23	36.50	1	0.348	12	48.50
10	+1	GROVE	Washington	DC	6	32.50	-2	0.266	17	37.50
11	-1	WORCESTER	Bowie	MD	46	32.00	-6	0.390	10	51.00
12		DUDZIK	Silver Sprng	MD	7	32.00	1	0.264	18	42.00
13		MELLEMA	Falls Church	VA	10	30.50	-1	0.258	20	39.50
14		MALCOLM	Silver Sprng	MD	18	29.00	-5	0.264	19	40.50
15		SMITH, J. C.	Laurel	MD	60	28.50	-3	0.419	8	36.50
16	+1	SULLIVAN	Potomac	MD	14	27.00	-3	0.237	22	32.00
17	+1	STYRENE	Olney	MD	17	26.58	-1	0.239	21	35.33
18	-2	Gearly	Washington	DC	16	26.50	-64	0.237	23	45.50
19	+3	KAMMER	Herndon	VA	71	22.50	-1	0.388	11	24.50
20		ZARROW	Herndon	VA	30	21.83	1	0.223	24	31.16
21		SORENSEN	Herndon	VA	75	21.50	1	0.398	9	29.00
22	-3	CARON	Lenoir	NC	11	21.50	-5	0.184	29	31.50
23		King	Alexandria	VA	16	20.50	-41	0.183	31	33.50
24	+6	CHONG	Washington	DC	35	19.50	1	0.210	26	22.50
25	-1	Segal	Vienna	VA	4	19.50	-31	0.157	36	32.50
26	+2	COYNER	Afton	VA	26	18.75	-2	0.184	30	31.50
27	-2	SABOURIN	Silver Sprng	MD	17	18.25	-4	0.164	33	25.25
28	-2	Rooney	Rstn/Blcksbg	VA	16	17.83	-50	0.159	35	23.83
29	-2	Zane	Woodbridge	VA	3	17.00	-93	0.136	38	22.00
30	-1	ALTER, P.	Hyattsville	MD	41	16.50	-26	0.190	28	22.50
31		PATISHNOCK	Laurel	MD	26	16.50	1	0.162	34	24.50
32	+1	CUDDIHY	Fairfax	VA	13	15.66	-2	0.136	39	18.32
33	+2	PANNULLO	Chevy Chase	MD	84	13.00	-3	0.289	16	17.50
34	-2	WEISSE	Skysville	MD	6	13.00	-21	0.107	43	14.00
35	-1	FOX ROE	Mt. Kisko	NY	13	12.50	-15	0.109	42	15.50
36		ARNOLD	Herndon	VA	72	12.00	-4	0.211	25	20.00
37		Maclean	Burke	VA	44	11.50	-21	0.137	37	13.50
38	+3	Smith, J. P.	Washington	DC	60	11.33	-3	0.167	32	14.33
39	-1	Richardson	Laurel	MD	14	11.00	-12	0.096	46	13.00
40	-1	THURMER	Washington	DC	14	11.00	-7	0.096	47	27.50
41	+1	STEINHICE	Washington	DC	74	10.83	1	0.197	27	24.33
42	-2	Olson, D.	Laurel	MD	14	10.67	-64	0.094	48	13.00
43		HAMMER	Washington	DC	5	9.50	-7	0.077	52	13.50
44		OLSON, M.	Springfield	VA	38	9.00	-37	0.100	44	16.00
45		ROBBINS	Bethesda	MD	5	9.00	-11	0.073	56	16.00
46		Gilbert	La Plata	MD	57	8.50	-43	0.120	40	9.00
47		Dierman	Potomac	MD	2	8.33	-10	0.066	61	15.33
48	+6	DRUCKER, J.	Arlington	VA	5	8.17	1	0.067	59	13.67
49	-1	WALSH	Rockville	MD	37	8.00	-64	0.088	49	10.00
50	+9	Bross	Chevy Chase	MD	24	8.00	-3	0.077	53	14.00
51	-2	Weinstein	McLean	VA	24	8.00	-13	0.077	54	14.00
52	-2	Miller	Rockville	MD	13	8.00	-82	0.070	58	8.00
53	-2	Williams	Alexandria	VA	51	7.67	-37	0.100	45	9.67
54	-1	Delduke	Bethesda	MD	14	7.50	-5	0.066	63	9.00
55	-3	VERREY	Arlington	VA	15	7.50	-9	0.066	62	9.00
56	-1	Grinath	Takoma Park	MD	106	7.00	-11	0.304	15	8.00
57	-1	DAWSON, F.	Beltsville	MD	47	7.00	-13	0.086	50	8.00
58	-1	CUSHING	Washington	DC	36	7.00	-53	0.076	55	7.00
59	-1	Rabin	Fredericksbg	VA	29	7.00	-26	0.071	57	11.00
60		WENGER	Montgry Vlg	MD	2	7.00	-45	0.056	64	12.00
61	*	Plait	Silver Sprng	MD	116	6.00	1	0.462	7	10.00
62	-1	Meyer	Alexandria	VA	38	6.00	-63	0.067	60	11.00
63	-1	Layman	Silver Sprng	MD	1	6.00	-44	0.047	65	8.00
64	-1	Reagan	Reston	VA	3	5.50	-32	0.044	67	6.50
65	-1	ADAMS	Laurel	MD	84	5.00	-26	0.111	41	11.00
66	-1	Gordon	Potomac	MD	65	5.00	-51	0.078	51	5.00
67	-1	Day	Gaithersburg	MD	16	5.00	-54	0.045	66	7.00
68	-1	Kovalak	Springfield	VA	9	5.00	-87	0.042	68	7.00
69	-1	von Behren	Washington	DC	5	5.00	-17	0.041	69	8.00

TOTAL INVITATIONAL VICTIMS TO DATE: 1245

## THE HALL OF LAME: Local Jurisdictions Harboring the Most First-Prize Winners

Twelve Washington, D.C.      Nine Alexandria, Va.      Seven Arlington, Va.      Six Silver Spring, Md.

Five Bethesda, Md.      Four Falls Church, Va.      Three Rockville, Md.

Two  
 Dunn Loring, Va.    Gaithersburg, Md.    Laurel, Md.    Leesburg, Va.    McLean, Va.    Olney, Md.  
 Potomac, Md.    Reston, Va.    Springfield, Va.    Takoma Park, Md.    Wheaton, Md.    Woodbridge, Va.

A: "No, it will be just fine when I rip out your heart and lungs and put them into the sauce. But first I'll let them age out on a stake in the backyard for a while." (Dave Zarrow)



IT'S NOT NECESSARILY THE LEAD AND THE CESIUM IN THE LAUREL WATER SUPPLY

Important and popular those nutrients may be, but they are not the reason we here at *Depravda* are so wrapped around the axle about keeping track of everyone else's business. That, perhaps, comes from within, and we are not alone.

With this issue we introduce a competing set of statistics with which to tick everyone off. Mr. Russell Beland, Springfield, has been keeping his own counsel, which looks at the contest results in different ways, and which he now shares with the rest of us. At the moment this covers only the those who have wormed their way into the Top 30, but we have plans to integrate all remaining Losers that are listed on Page 6 of this issue. There are also a few anomalies that we will fix, we promise.

STATUS AS OF WEEK:				128		17-Sep-95							Stats for the year						Projected			
Rank	Net	Total	Name	Cat	Debu	Consis	Str.	27Aug	3Sep	10Sep	17Sep	3month	1995			Comp	Estimated		17Dec95	15Sep96	Ranking	
								week	week	week	week	consis	score	rank	wks		Avg	consis	rank	wk141	wk180	in 1 Year
	from	Score						125	126	127	128	13							3 month	1 year	Est	Net
	125											weeks										
1	=	184.00	Smith, C	A	6	1.51	+4	1.00	1.00	3.00	1.00	1.41	46.33	1	66%	4.00	1.46	1	203.0	259.9	1	=
2	=	113.00	Carnahan, E	A	22	1.07	-1	2.00	0.50	1.00		1.04	39.00	4	68%	2.90	1.05	2	126.7	167.7	2	=
3	=	68.33	Romm, J	A	58	0.98	+1				1.00	0.85	41.50	2	61%	2.51	0.91	5	80.2	115.7	3	=
4	=	62.00	Witte, T	A	7	0.51	+2			3.00	3.00	1.00	30.00	6	47%	2.03	0.76	6	71.8	101.3	4	=
5	=	46.83	Krattenmaker,K	A	80	0.96	-2	1.00	1.00			0.87	40.33	3	55%	2.38	0.91	4	58.7	94.4	6	-1
6	+1	41.83	Beland, R	A	73	0.75	+3		0.50	2.00	3.00	1.33	32.83	5	58%	2.38	1.04	3	55.4	95.9	5	+1
7	-1	38.00	Kondis, P	B	14	0.33	-1			1.00		0.19	9.50	20	21%	0.77	0.26	21	41.4	51.7	9	-2
8	=	37.33	Hart, J	B	11	0.32	-3	2.00				0.77	27.00	7	37%	1.54	0.54	7	44.4	65.6	7	+1
9	=	36.50	Thring, M	B	23	0.35	+1	1.00			1.00	0.31	10.00	18	24%	0.86	0.33	12	40.8	53.5	8	+1
10	+1	32.50	Grove, R	C	6	0.27	-2	1.00	1.00			0.38	12.50	13	34%	0.90	0.33	13	36.7	49.4	10	=
11	-1	32.00	Worcester, S	B	46	0.39	-6					0.23	11.00	17	26%	0.83	0.10	33	33.4	37.5	20	-9
12	=	31.50	Dudzik, S	C	7	0.26	+1		1.00		1.00	0.42	11.50	15	26%	0.89	0.34	10	35.9	49.3	11	+1
13	-1	30.50	Mellema, K	C	10	0.26	-1			1.00		0.12	13.50	12	29%	0.71	0.19	25	32.9	40.2	16	-3
14	=	29.00	Malcolm, L	C	18	0.26	-5					0.35	9.50	20	16%	0.78	0.17	27	31.3	38.0	18	-4
15	=	28.50	Smith, JC	B	60	0.42	-3	0.50				0.19	10.00	18	21%	0.78	0.31	16	32.5	44.4	13	+2
16	+1	27.00	Sullivan, M	C	14	0.24	-3	1.00				0.38	12.00	14	26%	0.84	0.31	14	31.0	43.2	14	+2
17	+1	26.58	Styrene, P	C	17	0.24	-1			1.00		0.29	14.33	11	39%	0.82	0.27	20	30.1	40.5	15	+2
18	-2	26.50	Gearty, T	A	16	0.24	-64					0.00	0.00	n/a	0%	0.30	0.00	n/a	26.5	26.5	28	-10
19	=	23.50	Kammer, J	B	71	0.41	-1		1.00	1.00		0.54	19.50	8	39%	1.20	0.47	9	29.6	48.0	12	+7
20	+1	21.83	Zarrow,D	C	30	0.22	+1				1.00	0.38	15.50	9	29%	0.87	0.30	17	25.8	37.6	19	+1
21	+1	21.50	Sorensen, J	B	75	0.40	+1				1.00	0.27	14.50	10	34%	0.88	0.33	11	25.8	38.9	17	+4
21	-2	21.50	Caron, C	D	11	0.18	-5					0.27	4.50	30	11%	0.53	0.15	28	23.5	29.5	24	-3
23	-1	20.50	King, S	C	16	0.18	-41					0.00	0.00	n/a	0%	0.23	0.00	n/a	20.5	20.5	31	-8
24	+5	19.50	Chong, SL	C	35	0.21	+1	1.00			2.00	0.38	9.00	22	16%	0.71	0.30	18	23.4	35.0	22	+2
24	=	19.50	Segal, S	C	4	0.16	-31					0.00	1.00	44	3%	0.23	0.00	n/a	19.5	19.5	32	-8
26	+2	18.75	Coyner, P	D	26	0.18	-2		2.00			0.19	2.50	39	5%	0.41	0.19	24	21.2	28.5	26	=
27	-2	18.25	Saborin, P	D	17	0.16	-4					0.19	3.50	35	11%	0.42	0.14	30	20.0	25.4	29	-2
28	-2	17.83	Rooney, C	C	16	0.16	-52					0.00	0.00	n/a	0%	0.20	0.00	n/a	17.8	17.8	36	-8
29	-2	17.00	Zane, B	A	3	0.14	-93					0.00	0.00	n/a	0%	0.18	0.00	n/a	17.0	17.0	37	-8
30	-1	16.50	Alter, P	C	41	0.19	-26					0.00	2.00	41	5%	0.26	0.00	n/a	16.5	16.5	38	-8
Averages												0.00										
Top 10		66.0		A	30.0	0.7	0.2	0.80	0.40	1.00	0.90	0.82	28.90	7.9	47%	2.03	0.8	7.4	75.9	106.5	5.5	0.0
Sec. 10		27.7		B	28.9	0.3	-8.2	0.15	0.20	0.30	0.20	0.29	11.68	13.8	25%	0.80	0.2	19.0	30.9	40.5	16.6	-1.1
Third 10		19.1		C	24.4	0.2	-25.2	0.10	0.20	0.00	0.30	0.13	3.70	31.6	8%	0.41	0.1	22.2	20.5	24.9	29.2	-3.9
Top 30		37.6		A	27.8	0.4	-11.1	0.35	0.27	0.43	0.47	0.41	14.76	16.3	27%	1.08	0.4	14.8	42.4	57.0	17.1	-1.7

Rank: based on total points; tied scores yield tied rank.

Net from 125: change in rank since Week 125 results.

Total Score: appearances, with partial credit for shared entries.

CAT (Consistently Actively Trying): consistency over the period from

first appearance to most recent appearance (minimum 10 Weeks).

A = 0.5+; B = 0.3-0.5; C = 0.2-0.3; D = 0.1-0.2; E < 0.1.

Debu: Week of first appearance.

Consis: Score divided by number of Weeks since first appearance.

Str. (Streak): number of consecutive Weeks currently appearing (+) or absent (-).

Week 125-128: these columns show recent week-by-week scoring.

Bold type indicates the winner; italics indicates an appearance for other than weekly contest results (e.g., suggesting a contest).

3month Consis 13 Weeks: consistency over last 3 months (13 Wks).

Score for the Year: Total scored in 1995 (not the same as

**Rank for the Year:** Ranking based on this year's appearances (includes only those people tracked, roughly the top 35 plus a few Young Turks).

**Estimated Consistency:** Estimated long-term future consistency, a statistical sample of future appearance rates. For those who have not scored in 6 months, it is assumed to be zero. For those who have scored in the last 3 Weeks, it equals the average of Consistency and 3-Month Consistency. For those in between, it is the same average, reduced by a probability factor based on Consistency and Streak (for example, someone with a Consistency of 0.5 who has missed 10 Weeks in a row is likely to have stopped submitting entries regularly and will have Estimated Consistency reduced far more than someone whose overall Consistency is 0.01 and has also missed 10 Weeks in a row.

Estimated Rank: the ranking of Estimated Consistency. This is the order of scores to be expected if everyone kept appearing at current rates forever (n/a for those inactive 6 months or more).

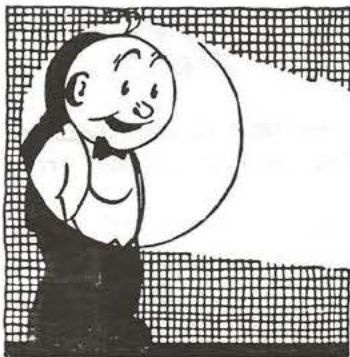
Projections: Score based on estimated Consistency 3 months from now and 1 year from now.

Estimated Rankings in 1 Year: Estimated ranking 1 year from now, and the net change in ranking over that year (Top35 + Turks).



# IN THE LAMELIGHT

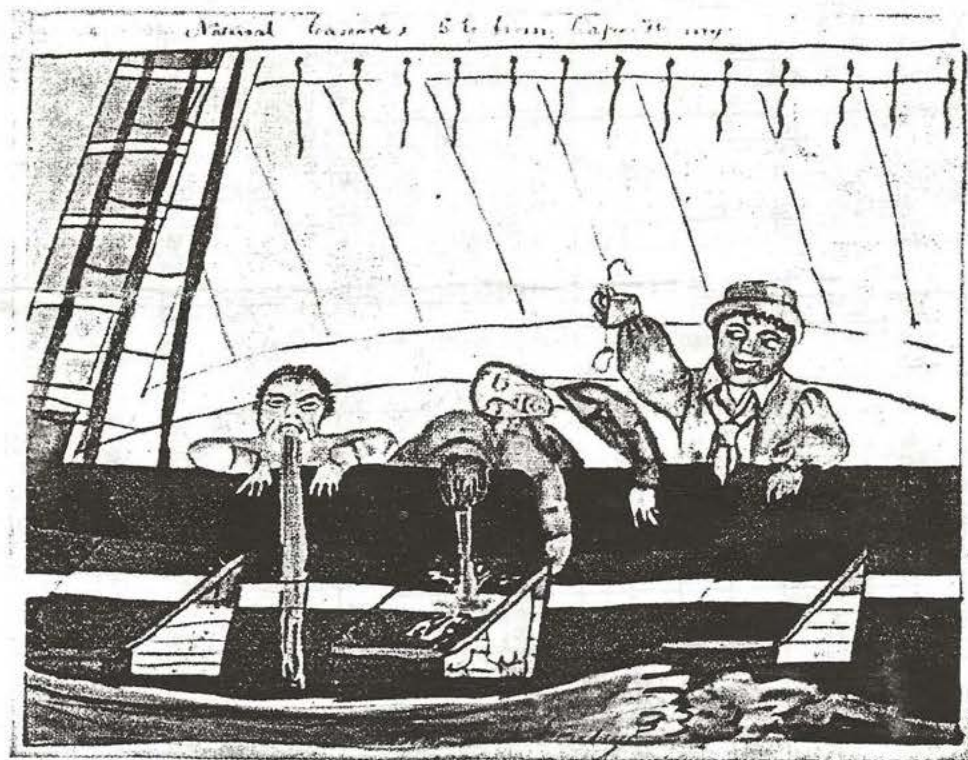
## Fred Dawson: Not Just Another Ink-Stained Wretch



Fred Dawson is highly thought of by his astrologer. Working at Digital Prepress Imaging in Columbia, Md., he sees himself as one of this era's great might-have-beens. What he might have been varies from week to week. His writings can be found in such obscure magazines as *Word Ways* and *Asylum*, and at the bottom of the shelves in his basement.

At the present time he is working on a diary which should be completed sometime before his demise. Current volumes include "Of," "Teh," "Vacilo," "They Thought It Was Pork," and "The Natural History of My Head."

[Editor's Note: Mr. Dawson has skulked with the rest of us on e-mail for some months and finally put in a personal appearance at The Hotel Washington for the N.R.A.R.S. breakfast on September 10. He debuted with a First Runner-Up in Week 47, Can You Do Verse ("When it comes to verse/ I'm no Stephen Sondheim,/ But you could do worse,/ I'll always use a condheim") and recently won Honorable Mentions in Week 115, The Mnemonic Plague ("The Supreme Court, in order of appointment\*: **Rare Bursts Of Sanity Keep Sustaining This Great Body.**")



HERE I AM IN ONE OF  
MY PREVIOUS LIVES.  
SECOND FROM RIGHT,  
I BELIEVE.

LAST-MINUTE WIT  
HAPPENS FROM  
HELENE HADUCH:  
WEEK 121, IT'S NO  
USE  
I Can't Believe It's  
Not Liver

\* Identification of the Justices is left as an exercise for the reader.

### NEW READERS THIS ISSUE

**Michael Connaghan, Silver Spring, Md.:** Debuted with Honorable Mention, Week 108. Latest-- "How is a Christmas photo at the mall like what your child is sure to do for the photographer? One is Nick pose; the other is pick nose."

**Ellen Lamb, Washington, D.C.:** Debuted with Honorable Mention, Week 123-- "Where does dust come from? It's little bits of people's brains that come out when they sneeze. It never goes away. Parts of Julius Caesar's brain might be in your house. I wouldn't touch it if I were you."

**Mark Lesko, Alexandria, Va.:** Debuted with Honorable Mention, Week 104. Latest: Useless Product-- "Intermittent Headlights."

**Markell West, Laurel, Md.:** New contestant and recent winner of the Levey neologism contest.

**John Wolfman, Philadelphia, Pa.:** Avid reader and lurker, teaches at a Friends middle school, and sees unique teaching aid in the Weekly Reports.



# WIT HAPPENS

Some Good Ones That Got Away, Or Missed The Deadline, Or Curry Got On Them, Or Something

## WEEK 67: FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Chuck Smith, Woodbridge: "So you're Paul Kondis." (Paul Kondis)

## WEEK 72: OH, HELL

Prince Charles: He goes on a secret weekend tryst with Camilla Bowles but is permitted to look only at her face. (Elden Carnahan)

## WEEK 79: TERROR DACTYL

Troubulo, tribbula,  
Captains James Kirk  
and Jean Luc Picard  
Face endless compare.  
Formerly, very  
Disambiguateable,  
Now they're just old men  
Without any hair. (Greg Arnold)



## WEEK 84: THE WASHINGTON IRVINGS

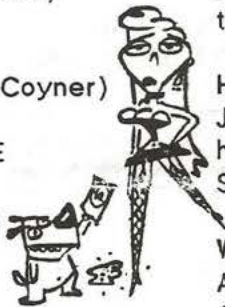
The Nyack (N.Y.) Stooges (Mike Hammer)

## WEEK 90: BILL US NOW

Bono-Fox Anti-Bestiality Act (Peyton Coyner)

## WEEK 99: WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE PICTURES?

Dog is excited although streetwalker is obviously not in heat. (John Cushing)



## WEEK 100: THE JOKE'S ON YOU

Joke 1 as told by Adam: "A man is standing in a garden when--whoa! that would have to be me!" (Mike Thring)

## WEEK 122: THE UNKINDEST CUTE OF ALL

## WEEK 101:

The Washington Post unveils its new smudge-proof ink. (Meg Sullivan)

First of all, you idiots printed it *backwards*. (Gary Patishnock)

## WEEK 119: MUZAK TO OUR EAR

While on hold with the office of the head warden at Lorton: "What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life?" (Sue Lin Chong)

## WEEK 123: WHY IS POOP FUNNY?

Where do babies come from? Your mother and I went through a miraculous and complicated procedure called in vitro fertilization. Now get your 90,000-dollar butt upstairs and clean up your room. (Mary Olson)

## WEEK 125: ASK BACKWARDS VI

Here's a Hint: It's Yellow: Why do I get up three times a night? (Name withheld by request)

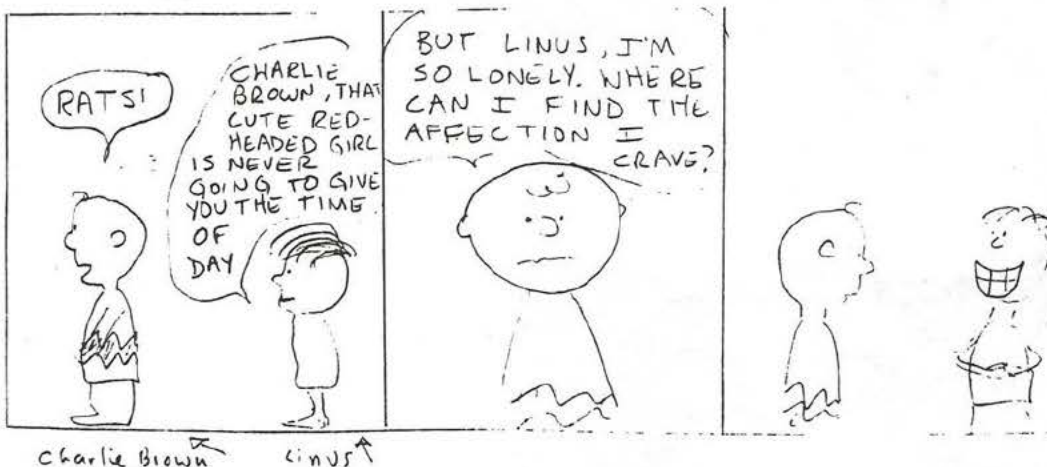
Here's a Hint: It's Yellow: What coy response did Joycelyn Elders give about the fruit featured in her new self-help video for women? (Jean Sorenson)

## WEEK 127: GADGET IF YOU CAN

Al could only afford the cheapest Swiss Army Belt. (Chuck Smith)



The Ellen Sauerbrey Voter Fraud Detect-o-Meter. She swears it's working, but nobody else can get it to register anything. (Sarah Worcester)



(Blair Thurman)

A new cigarette developed by Philip Morris to be test-marketed on pre-schoolers. (Joseph Romm)



## WEEK 128: LIKE, DUH

Q: "Are you drunk?" A: "[hurl, urff...] no, I just can't seem to compensate for the earth's rotation today." (Stephen Dudzik)





D E P R A V D A

## DEPRAVDA

The Official Mail Organ of the Not Ready for the Algonquin Roundtable Society

### DEPRAVDA

-- Subject: Depravda

This is a publication of satire, buffoonery, juvenile humor and whatever else we can scrape together at the last minute. It is not distributed to the public at large.

*Not associated with The Washington Post Co. in any way, shape, manner, aspect, form, or regard.*

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Alert Reader	Kevin Cuddihy
Spiritual Advisor	John Peter Zinger
America's Funniest	Dave Zarrow
Office Products Dealer	

### DON'T KEEP THOSE CARDS AND LETTERS!

We keenly solicit:

- Letters to the Editor
- "Top 10" for October
- Questions for Dr. Style
- Your votes for "Best On Page" (transmit to Steve Dudzik)
- A volunteer for the next "In The Lamelight"
- Your rejects for "Wit Happens"
- Notice of your fellow Loser humiliated in public
- Ideas for future articles
- No more zucchini, please

### NEXT MONTH IN DEPRAVDA Beland on Losing

"Even my family is unimpressed ... back into their waffles ..."

Cuddihy on Altoona

"We whispered the name ... I had no socks on ... free tacos"

### SUBSCRIPTION NOTE

You are paid in full unless one of the boxes below is checked:

- ☐ This is your first free issue.
- ☐ This is your second free issue. That's it, bub.
- ☐ You're getting this because we love you and know you'll return some day.

### NEXT N.R.A.R.S. BREAKFAST

**October 1, 8:45 a.m.**

Papa's Café, Double Tree Hotel  
1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville  
Across from Twinbrook Metro

Reservations Under "Dudzik"  
Buffet For \$9.95, Coffee Extra  
Free Parking Everywhere

Open To All Style Invitational  
Contestants, Admirers, Lurkers,  
Skulkers, Stalkers, Support  
Staff, Mutually-Dependent Co-  
Enablers, Wannabes, Free-  
Loaders, and Guests