

The Style Invitational

WEEK 155: COMPARISON SHOPPING

The former Yugoslavia.
A white Ford Bronco.
A \$4 haircut.
A bowling ball.
The devoted followers of
Pat Buchanan.
The Washington Wizards.
That gap between Letterman's teeth.
Butt cleavage.
Gaithersburg, Md.

Bob Dole's grandfather.
A pound of poop.
A pound of aluminum.
A pitchfork.
That dog on "Frasier."
Saddam Hussein's brother-in-law.
Pringles with olestra.
Those ads featuring Ronnie Mervis,
of Mervis Diamond Importers Inc.

What's the difference between that dog
on "Frasier" and a pound of aluminum?

Only one of them
should be put
in the microwave.



BY BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

This week's contest was suggested by Russ Beland of Springfield, who wins the fabulous Disaster of the Month Calendar, a gigantically scientific 1996 calendar that is not at all gratuitously lurid except for the enormous

photographs of horrific disaster scenes, one a month. Russ suggests that you explain the difference between any two of the above items, as in the example above. First-prize winner gets an "Alien Autopsy" videotape, a value of \$30.

Runners-up, as always, receive the coveted Style Invitational Loser's T-shirt. Honorable Mentions get the mildly sought-after Style Invitational bumper sticker. Winners will be selected on the basis of humor and originality. Mail your entries to The Style Invitational, Week 155, c/o The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C., 10071, fax them to 202-334-4312, or submit them via Internet to this address: losers@access.digex.net. Internet users: Please indicate the week number in the "subject" field. Entries must be received on or before Monday, March 11. Please include your address and phone number. Winners will be announced in three weeks. No purchase necessary. The Faerie of the Fine Print & the Ear No One Reads wishes to thank Malcolm S. Forbes Jr. of Bedminster, N.J., for today's Ear No One Reads, plus his generous financial contribution to the Style Invitational. Editors reserve the right to alter entries for taste, humor or appropriateness. Washington Post employees and their families are not eligible for prizes.

REPORT FROM WEEK 152,

in which we asked you to play tabloid journalist, submitting new, lurid headlines for real stories in that Sunday's Post.

◆ Fourth Runner-Up:

CLINTON LEAVES WIFE

Story reported president's departure from Washington with aides for a quick campaign appearance. (Rodney and Joyce Small, Herndon)

◆ First Runner-Up:

Baboon-Man Escapes!

Story reported that the recipient of an ape's immune cells was feeling so good he had resumed an active lifestyle, even going boating. (John Kammer, Herndon; Bruce Johnson, Annapolis)

◆ Honorable Mentions:

Aliens Captured Alive Near Nation's Capital!
Story reported an Immigration and Naturalization Service raid at a Bethesda restaurant. (Russell Beland, Springfield; Tommy Litz, Bowie)

Populace to Submit to Sailors' Base Desires
Story reported the community's uneasy acceptance of expanded Navy bases in Maryland. (Jim Proctor, Bethesda; Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

\$400,000 Poured Into C&O Canal
Story reported on the status of a donation drive to repair the canal. (Michael J. Hammer, Washington)

◆ Third Runner-Up:

Texans Watch Killing, Do Nothing

Story described an execution. (Fred Dawson, Beltsville)

◆ Second Runner-Up:

College Men, Coeds Streak to 7-Eleven

Story reported on consecutive victories by George Washington University's men's (seven games) and women's (11 games) basketball teams. (Dave Zarrow, Herndon)

◆ And the Winner of the
Tabloid Teasers board game:

Californian Shoots 201 During 3-Day Spree in Buick, Continues to Elude Pursuers

Sports story reported that golfer Lennie Clements held on to the lead after three days at the Buick Open. (Michael J. Hammer, Washington)

Machine Crushes Man Before Mate!

Story reported that Garry Kasparov conceded defeat in his first game against a computer. (Phil John, Arlington)

30,000 Wet T-Shirts! Story reported flooding in the Northwest. (Sue Lin Chong, Washington)

MA TAKES AX TO COMPOSER!

Story reported that cellist Yo-Yo Ma had persuaded pianist Emanuel Ax to accompany him in a Schubert concert. (Fred Dawson, Beltsville, R. Gregory Capaldini, Arlington)

◆ And last:

Replace The Washington Post with **NEWYORKPOST**
(Russell Beland, Springfield)