

# The Style Invitational

## WEEK 199: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- A genuine Pickett slide rule
- Miss Manners's commode
- A Rottweiler in a baby carriage
- Pregnancy
- "The course of human event"
- That woman who married JFK Jr.
- A cell in Lorton
- That flappy thing at the back of the throat
- The medical uses of marijuana
- A shortstop from Yemen
- An ethical lecture from Newt Gingrich
- Monkeys at keyboards
- A balanced budget
- A cinnamon bun shaped like Mother Teresa
- A Cabbage Patch Snack Time Kid doll
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg doing the Macarena
- God

**This Week's Contest:** Tell us the difference between any two of the above items. (As in: "What is the difference between a genuine Pickett slide rule and an ethical lecture from Newt? Some idiot might pay a nickel for a genuine Pickett slide rule.") First-prize winner gets a genuine Pickett slide rule, circa 1968, still in the box, a value of 4¢.

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 199, c/o The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071, 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, Jan. 13. Please include your address and phone number. Winners will be announced three weeks from today. Editors reserve the right to alter entries for taste, humor or appropriateness. No purchase necessary. The Faerie of the Fine Print & the Ear No One Reads wishes to thank David Genser of Vienna for today's Ear No One Reads. Employees of The Washington Post and their immediate families are not eligible for prizes.

### REPORT FROM WEEK 196,

in which you were asked to come up with a Scene We'd Like to See, in the style of Mad magazine. But first, a special report on the shocking results of Week 193. That was the week in which we required regular winners to enter secretly, under believable pseudonyms; the idea was to test the theory that the Czar plays favorites. In all, there were 3,550 entries from about 500 people. Of the 38 entries that were printed, it turns out, 21 were ringers, including the winner. The winner of the Michael Jackson record player was, in fact, Chuck Smith of Woodbridge. The annotated, ruthlessly vindicating results of Week 193 appear on Page F4.

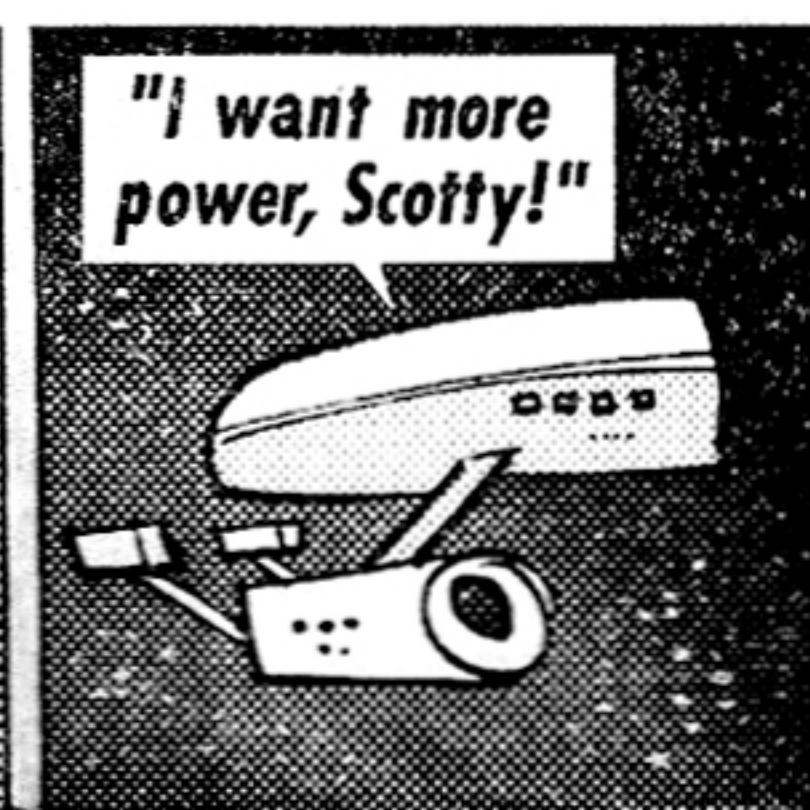
◆ Third Runner-Up:

(Chuck Smith, Woodbridge; Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)



◆ Second Runner-Up:

(Philip Vitale, Arlington)

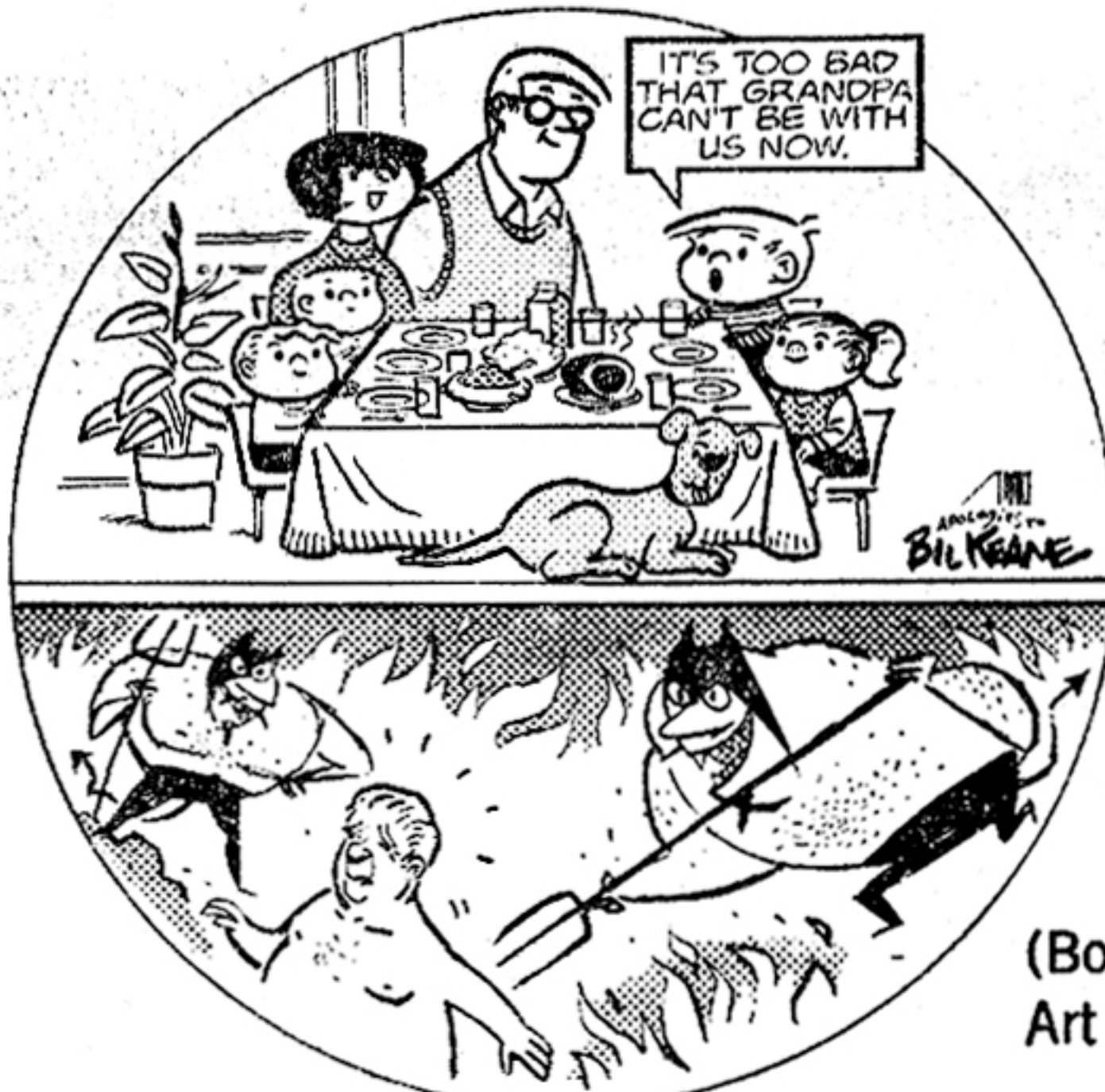


◆ First Runner-Up:

(Jean Sorensen, Herndon)



◆ And the winner of a genuine photocopy of a fax of this cartoon, autographed by Bob Staake:



(Bob Kulawiec, Washington; Art Grinath, Takoma Park)

### ◆ Honorable Mentions:

**Panel One:** Open garage as Herbie the Love Bug enters. **Panel two:** Door closed. Gas seeping out. **Caption:** Herbie the Love Bug decides to end it all. (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge)

**Panel One:** Ditsy young woman extols virtues of Psychic Friends Network. "My psychic was incredible! She said, 'You're a young woman'—and I am!" **Panel Two:** "And she said, 'You've had troubles with your mom,' and I have!" **Panel Three:** "And then she said, 'You're a superstitious, gullible idiot,' and I am!" (Frank and Cindy Curry, Richmond)

**The Coors Light drinkers' Frisbee** sails over the top of a mountain. When one of the guys goes to retrieve it, he is gored by a giant mountain goat. (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

**Panel One:** Cheers bar. A doctor from the shoulders up talks to Norm. "It's impacted. It will have to come out." **Panel Two:** Norm on a bar stool. You cannot see the seat. (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge)

**Road Runner cartoon:** As usual, Road Runner causes Wile E. Coyote to fall off the cliff, and a boulder falls on his head. The coyote dies. Road Runner is hauled off to jail, and charged

under federal statutes. It turns out the coyote was an endangered species. (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

**Family Circus:** Car in driveway with each person having a thought balloon. **Father:** "Look at that babe who lives next door. I'd sure like to get in her pants." **Billy:** "I wonder how long before they find the body." **Dolly:** "The effects of the glue I was sniffing are starting to wear off." **Mother:** "Look at that babe who lives next door. I'd sure like to get in her pants." **Jeffy:** "I think I'm gay. Even the babe next door does not attract me." **Barfy:** "I wonder if there are any good bones in that hole Billy was digging." **Shrub:** "E=mc<sup>2</sup>." (Art Grinath, Takoma Park)

**Panel One:** Hi and Lois. Trixie the baby is in the living room by the window as her sunbeam streams in. **Trixie:** "My sunbeam!" **Panel Two:** Trixie looks concerned. "... or is it a UFO tractor beam?" **Panel Three:** Trixie is sucked out the window. (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge)

**Andy Capp.** Andy comes home, drunk as usual. But this time it is realistic. He falls down on the doorstep and opens a gash on his forehead. He stumbles in and vomits on the floor ... (Tom Witte, Gaithersburg)

Next Week: Tickle Me Twenhafel



# THE WASHINGTON POST

## REPORT FROM WEEK 193

In which we asked you to come up with "Jeopardy!" questions to answers we provided. This was the week that we asked all regular winners to enter covertly, under believable pseudonyms, to test a frequently voiced theory that The Quiz is biased in favor of a certain select group of entrants. We honestly do not know if any of the winners below are ringers. If there are any, they must identify themselves to us within one week, and prove it to our satisfaction, to get credit for their entries in a future Invitational. By the way, we warned you not to get cute: Some persons entered under obvious, comical pseudonyms, such as "Al Terego, Bowie." As threatened, all such entries were discarded.

PEYTON COYNEK  
AFTON

◆ Eighth Runner-Up—Answer: Al Terego, Bowie, but Not the Pope. Question: Who has a record, worn spot in his hat? (Charlie Keatts, Stuart/Draft, Va.)

◆ Seventh Runner-Up—Answer: The Tonsillectomy. Question: What worked well against the Yankees in 1755, but not so good in 1906? (Jay Morton, Silver Spring)

◆ Sixth Runner-Up—Answer: Bob Dole and Grigori Rasputin, the Mad Monk. Question: Who are two figures in history who were poisoned by their supporters? (Bill Moulden, Frederick)

◆ Fifth Runner-Up—Answer: A Man, a Plan, a Root Canal. What entry immediately precedes "Madam, I'm a dentist" in "The Big Book of Mangled Palindromes"? (Michael Baird, Derwood)

◆ Fourth Runner-Up—Answer: A Man, a Plan, a Root Canal. Question: What is Panama?

◆ Third Runner-Up—Answer: :-)%. Question: What is the smiley for the verb "to Bork"? (Jeff Lubbers, Takoma Park)

◆ Second Runner-Up—Answer: David Letterman's Top-Two List. Question: What is 10) Marilyn Moore 9) Raquel Welch 8) Jenny McCarthy 7) Elvira 6) Loni Anderson 5) Jamie Lee Curtis 4) Morgana 3) Pamela Anderson Lee 2) Madonna and 1) Dolly Parton? (Robert Sams, Springfield)

◆ First Runner-Up—Answer: Bagels and Legs. Question: What are the signs on the rest room doors at Murray's World of Bagels? (Michael Koch, Potomac; Jacqueline Moore, Washington)

And the winner of the Michael Jackson phonograph:

Answer: Time, Newsweek and Scrooge McDuck

Question: On the day he refused to pay the ransom for his kidnapped uncle, whose three bills did Donald Duck receive in the mail? (John O'Brien, Falls Church)

### Honorable Mentions:

A Man, a Plan, a Root Canal

What would you have had in Panama if Teddy Roosevelt had been secretary of state and Elihu Root had been president, instead? (Bruce and Christ Blackstone, Avenue, Md.)

How would you describe Bob Dole's campaign? (Moe Hammond, Falls Church; Mike Sorohan, Alexandria)

What are three things that are hard to have only one of at a time? (Jay Morton, Silver Spring)

How does Colin Hynes paraphrase Shakespeare to abbreviate his name? (Michael Koch, Potomac)

What is the smootie used to indicate "a dragonfly is ripping my throat out, yet I am strangely at peace"? (Alexander B. Holcomb, Germantown)

What are the first four letters of the Geek alphabet? (Scott Stealer, Germantown)

What is an anagram for Mad? (Kevin McTeague, Gaithersburg)

Those Milk Mustache Ads

What would be really funny hanging on the wall of the La Leche League? (G. Jura, Maplewood)

What goes best with those chocolate cake guster ads? (Greg Pryor, Washington)

What disgusting ad campaign was inextricably chosen over the far more appealing concept of pictures of celebrities laughing and squirting milk through their noses? (Alan Hasberic, Silver Spring)

What advertising concept just wouldn't work for Preparation H? (Kevin McTeague, Gaithersburg)

Mary Lou Retton's Smile

What is the only thing whiter than a Texaco board meeting? (Michael Koch, Fedimac)

Dot Com

Who was Jack Web's girlfriend in DragNet? (Jeff Lubbers, Takoma Park)

101 Damnations

What is 5-Damnations in base 2? (Jacqueline Moore, Washington)

Bacteria From Mars

What are men? (Margaret Stone, Fairfax)

Cool Disco Edward Pennington IV

Whom do wanky neighborhoods hire to add

"gritty urban realism" to their overpasses and water towers? (Alexander B. Holcomb, Germantown)

Caffeinated Water

What does Don King wash his hair in? (Michael Baird, Derwood; Joan D'Urso, Gaithersburg)

What is it? (Mary Lou Boggiate and Mark Yoney, Lake Ridge, Va.)

David Letterman's Top Two List

What would be the first change if TV were edited for "taste, humor and appropriateness"? (Michael Baird, Derwood)

What are David Letterman's and David Letterman's? (William Jensen, Rockville; Jack Turner, Arlington)

Time, Newsweek and Scrooge McDuck

After the Walt Disney Co. completes its purchase of the three magazines, what will be the name of Time, Newsweek, and Money? (Jay Morton, Silver Spring)

The Great Taco of Versailles

What monument commemorates Marie Antoinette's lesser-known pronunciation, "Let them eat Mexican"? (Michelle Fowler, Wadort)

What gives rise to the saying "NOR to the hoagie"? (John O'Brien, Falls Church)

What was the name of Luis XIV? (Ollie Williams, Tenleytown and Chris Gignoux, Bethesda)

The Fonz, but Not the Pope

What non-Italian has been able to pull off a role of a wise and beloved character that is usually played by an Italian? (Jay Morton, Silver Spring)

What famous person whose first name is "The" can get a standing ovation just for showing up and doing a few trademark guitar riffs and can handle a Harley? (Phil Frankfield, Washington)

Is the pope Jewish? (Hank Wallace, Washington)

Who would do a competent snare job on the popmobile? (Andy Kerin, Reston)

◆ And Last:

Okay, you are standing outside the pearly gates, and Saint Peter asks, "Ever lampoon anyone in a newspaper column?" Who do you guess recall? (Seymour Stanley, Laurel)

ELDEN CARNAHAN,  
LAUREL

CHARLIE  
STEINHICE,  
CHAFANODIA

DAVE FERRY,  
LESSBURG

JOSEPH ROMA,  
WASHINGTON

CHUCK SMITH, WOODBRIDGE

JENNIFER HART,  
ARLINGTON

JEAN SORENSEN,  
HERNDON

ELDEN  
CARNAHAN,  
LAUREL

DAVE FERRY,  
LESSBURG

JENNIFER HART,  
ARLINGTON

TOM WITTE,  
GAITHERSBURG

CHUCK SMITH,  
WOODBRIDGE

STEPHEN DUDZIK,  
SILVER SPRING

ELDEN CARNAHAN,  
LAUREL

SANDRA HULL,  
ARLINGTON

CHUCK SMITH,  
WOODBRIDGE

TOM WITTE,  
GAITHERSBURG

ELDEN CARNAHAN,  
LAUREL

DAVE FERRY,  
LESSBURG

ELDEN CARNAHAN,  
LAUREL

JOSEPH ROMA,  
WASHINGTON

SUSAN REESE,  
ARLINGTON

DAVE ZARROW,  
HERNDON