

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

No JOK, no INK: Paired abbrevs. from Week 1153

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1153 was the third installment in our recurring contest in which we asked you to find two or more entities that have the same three-letter abbreviation — this time it had to be between IAA and LZZ — and compare or otherwise link them. The linking part proved a daunting challenge; even some of today's inking entries tread that fine line between Ingeniously Clever and Ridiculously Tortured.

4th place

LBO: If you Google "bowling pin" you could expect a link to the **Ladies Bowling Organization**, but you might not expect a link to **large bowel obstruction**. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

3rd place

JLO: Joint logistics operations and **Jennifer Lopez**: They both know how to move their assets around impressively. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

2nd place and the LP record of Spiro Agnew's speeches:

Indoor residual spraying has to do with bloodsucking insects . . . Oops, I can't think of any connection with any other **IRS**. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial

JAH: Article in the **Journal of Aboriginal Health**: "Throwing Boomerangs in the Outback." Article in the **Journal of Aging and Health**: "Boomer Angst: Throwing Your Back Out." (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

Triply im-paired: honorable mentions

If you engage in an **initial public offering** you may end up selling a share, but if you engage in **impersonating a police officer** you may end up sharing a cell. (Jeff Contompasis)

International Cheer Union or **Intensive Care Unit**: If you're a curmudgeon like me, it's a hard call which would be worse to visit. (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

If the **Israel Airports Authority** and **Internet Alcoholics Anonymous** joined forces, they could call themselves El Al-Anon. (Chris Doyle)

International Association of Ministries and **interest at maturity**: Both promise a big payout when the end comes. (George-Ann Rosenberg, Washington)

The **Iowa Caucus Process** x this year's candidates = **Insane Clown Posse** (Jon Gearhart; Kevin Dopart, Washington)

The **International Police Association**, the **International Psychoanalytical Association** and the **International Phonetic Alphabet** all have their ways of getting you to talk. (As might **India Pale Ale**.) (Kristen Rahman, Silver Spring)

The **least significant digit** adds nothing truly perceptible, whereas **lysergic acid diethylamide** makes everything truly perceptible. Truly, truly perceptible. (Jeff Contompasis)

Indoor air quality and **infrequently asked questions**: "Do you mind if I fart?" (Mark Raffman, Reston)

The aim of the **Inflatable Boat Association** is to keep people out of the drink. Unlike the **International Bartenders Association**. (George-Ann Rosenberg)

If those in the **International Cablemakers Federation** don't do their job well, the **International Cremation Federation** will help pick up the pieces. (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

Curiously, it hasn't occurred to either the **Journal of Applied Physics** and the **Journal of Applied Physiology** to seek advertising from Prada or Louis Vuitton. (Mark Raffman)

The **Journal for the Study of Religion** and the **Journal of Sex Research**: People who say "Oh God!" figure prominently in both. (Mark Raffman)

Labor and delivery rooms and **long-distance relationships**: Stick with the latter to avoid the former. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.; Roy Ashley, Washington)

The president whom **John Wilkes Booth** removed was succeeded by



GRID BY EVAN BIRNHOLZ AT DEVILCROSS.COM

Week 1157: Clue us in — a backward crossword

BAR: Meeting hall for rabbis, priests and imams

ESSEX: He won't accept that Esther's no longer into him

Once again, it's our backward-crossword challenge. But for the first time, we're using a filled-in grid by Evan Birnholz, the brand-new constructor of The Post's Sunday crossword, replacing the late Merl Reagle. This one, though, is from Evan's own website, Devil Cross, on which there are dozens of free puzzles he created. **This week: Supply clever, funny clues to up to 25 of the words and multi-word terms in Evan's grid**, as in the examples above. Yes, the grid has no numbers — we don't need them; just list each word along with your clue (if it's a multi-word or hyphenated term, please list it as one word anyway, so the Empress can search for all the entries with, say, SOISEE). The clues should be brief, but they need not be as short as for a real crossword. (Note: This is an American-style crossword, not the British type in which the clue contains an anagram of the desired word.) Of course, Evan's own clues are often clever as well; for FARMS he has "Places where there is real growth potential." See devilcross.com/2014/03 for the real clues.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a fabulous piece in our series of Solar-Powered Kitsch: It's a Buddha — brought back from Spain by Losers Roy and Inge Ashley — who nods and fans himself vigorously under the slightest sunshine or fluorescent light.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug, the older-model "This Is Your Brain on Mugs" mug or the ardently desired "Whole Pools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our brand-new Loser magnets, "Magnet Dum Laude" or "Falling Jest Short." First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). Email entries to losers@washpost.com. Deadline is Monday night, Jan. 18; results published Feb. 7 (online Feb. 4). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include "Week 1157" in your email subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Kevin Dopart; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Danielle Nowlin. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday; follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

● **THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.



BRADY HOLT

If you're not assigned a yes-man at work, this nodding solar Buddha is your perfect desk accessory.

A. Johnson, while the wife of **John Wayne Bobbitt** succeeded in removing a johnson. (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich)

LON: Longitude and **Launch on Need**: Two things promised by ED drugs. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Letter of recommendation and **letter of reprimand**: "Certainly, Smathers, I'll be delighted to write you a heartfelt LOR." (Frank Osen)

The **International Academy of Architecture** and the **International Advertising Association**: Both depend on well-built models. (Lawrence McGuire,

Waldorf, Md.)

The **International Criminal Court** deals with a wide range of crimes, while Maryland's **Intercountry Connector** limits itself to highway robbery. (Jeff Contompasis)

The **Kentucky Psychological Association** used to give discounts to the **Kinship Parents Association** but was overwhelmed by the number of requests. (Barbara Turner, Takoma Park)

Still running — deadline Monday night, Jan. 11: our obit poem contest to commemorate people who died in 2015. See bit.ly/invite1156.

SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY LYNN LEMPEL © 2016 CROSSYENERGY SYNDICATE LLC

ACROSS

1 Stops yakking

8 Daphne du Maurier classic

15 "Try it!"

16 Legendary beast symbolizing chastity

17 Nonsense

19 Distance around the Churchill Downs oval

20 Junk

21 Socks, e.g.

22 Mind-set

24 Period of illness

25 Dove who won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry

26 Rework, as a book into a film

28 W. European monarchy

29 Slender spotted sprinters

33 Marie Curie's Nobel partner

34 Tots' playwear

35 Team honcho

36 Current measure

37 Judge a second time

38 1990s tennis champ with nine Grand Slam titles

39 Monterrey mom

40 Care providers, briefly

41 Battle site where Napoleon earned the nickname Little Colonel

42 Onetime Italian colony on the Mediterranean

47 Former megastar Myrna

48 Red spices in Middle East cuisine

50 Well-groomed

51 Its U.S. extremes are in Hawaii and California

54 Danish composer Carl

55 Lack of movement

56 Dieter's downfall

57 Cheapens

DOWN

1 Deceptive practices

2 Ingrained practice

3 Mouthpiece?

4 Basic belief

5 Baglike structure

6 Sounds from the squeamish

7 Stuck-up officeholders, à la "The Mikado"

8 Get rid of

9 Pass in parliament

10 Defraud

11 Author of "Foucault's Pendulum"

12 Hotel staffer

13 Bilbo and Bigfoot

14 "Who wants to volunteer?"

18 Turkeys

23 Those taking courses?

25 Emu cousins

27 Virginia ____ (first English child born in the New World)

28 Spruce sprucer-upper

29 Perform a feat like Captain Sullenberger's

30 YouTube staple

31 Wage earners

32 They'll keep you on guard

33 Pioneering late-night host

35 "Safety net" program

37 Meteorologist's tool

39 Jiffy

41 German pistol

43 Red leader?

44 Upsets

45 George H.W. Bush or George W. Bush

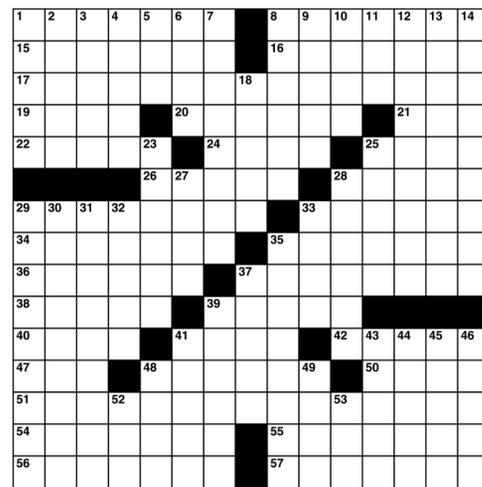
46 Guy with a lot on his shoulders

48 Courtesy for an ed.

49 Ratio involving a hypotenuse

52 "Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes" monogram

53 Lincoln's surroundings, for short



Answer to last week



HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | JAN. 10: This year you open up to new opportunities created by a better sense of self and greater confidence. You will notice the power of your thoughts in accomplishing more of what you want. You could gain financially, if you don't take too many wild risks. Tame a love of gambling. If you are single, you will attract someone who can appreciate your offbeat style. You will learn to be more accepting as a result of knowing this person. If you are attached, plan a trip with your sweetie that will take you to a special place you both have wanted to visit. Aquarius might not be materialistic, but somehow they end up costing you a lot!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Surround yourself with friends, and you will feel as if you can do no wrong. Many benefits are likely to emerge as a result, though you might need or want some downtime without anyone around you. Make sure you get what you need.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You might want to take another look at a potential trip. An invitation heads your way that could take you out of town, at least for a day. Your creativity soars, though you might decide to hold back some. You will see the results of not being open with a friend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Keep reaching out to someone at a distance who has been MIA. You could take this person's behavior personally, but it won't help you find out what is going on. Try to be as clear as possible and nonjudgmental when you finally reach this person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Allow a loved one to make the plans and be more in charge of

day-to-day events. It might be hard to give up control but don't worry; this situation is not long term. Understand that this person could be bored with this role once you allow them to fill in.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might be the one to whom most people defer. Today, you have an opportunity to step up to the plate, but you will allow someone else the privilege of following through. This person has wanted to be the center of plans for some time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might want to socialize in the morning. By the afternoon, you could have your mind on a different matter. Take a nap after you read the paper or watch a movie. You will probably discover that you would like to simplify your plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You have been very serious when handling personal and business matters as of late. Suddenly, you might feel like a child again and frolic out the door. A conversation feels overwhelming, as the topic seems to be overly discussed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Stay close to home, or visit with a family member. Conversations could be animated. You will be more serious than you need to be with a sibling or neighbor. Get off your pedestal and treat this person as you would treat a friend full of many ideas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Handle a personal matter early on. You will be able to relax more if you do. In the afternoon, you can't seem to get away from an animated conversation, nor do you really want to. Laughter and insight merge together.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Seek out answers in the morning. Call a friend and explore potential options. You could change your plans several times during the day. Keep an eye on your spending or on any other areas where you tend to overindulge, as that could be a theme today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You beam in what you want, but a partner could be uncomfortable with your good luck. A loved one can't say "thank you" enough for your efforts. Let this person show their appreciation, as you'll enjoy the way he or she chooses to express it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Use the period up to mid-afternoon to socialize and get together with friends. Maximize your influence. A loved one or dear friend is far more likely to be open and will want to share more of his or her feelings with you. Respond in kind.

Husband fears weighty wife won't diet

Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

Dear Amy: I love my wife. She is 5-3 and weighs 200 pounds. When we married (35 years ago) she weighed

125 pounds. She is physically challenged because it.

I have suggested everything from surgery to the liquid diet. We tried therapy about eight years ago, when she said the skinny female therapist couldn't tell her what to do. We have our son's wedding in about a year. She professes that she wants to lose weight, but takes minimal, non-effective steps. My unhappiness about the situation does not matter to her. Help!

Frustrated Husband

Frustrated Husband: At the risk of being branded another skinny woman telling your wife what to do, I'm not going to direct her.

I question the wisdom of your choice to enter counseling with her, which seemed to be focused on her losing weight. It is her

body. Obviously this has an impact on you, but she already knows what to do. She is staying fat for a reason. And the reason might be to prove to you who is in charge of her. This is speculation on my part, of course, but we are surrounded by a multimillion-dollar diet industry telling us how to get thin. And it is more complicated than you seem to think.

Losing a substantial amount of weight is challenging enough, but if you are completely unmotivated, it is impossible. Leave your personal unhappiness out of this. Your wife needs to own her choices. You think you are encouraging her, but it feels like pressure to her, and she is pushing back.

Your wife has a deadline and a reachable goal if she cares enough to try to get there. Tell her you will support her efforts, but after that, don't bring it up unless she wants to discuss it. Do not recommend any diets or exercise plans. She should

consult with her doctor. She might also benefit from joining Overeaters Anonymous, which is a fellowship of people who are engaged in this life-altering struggle (OA.org). Other people who have faced this challenge might be able to understand and coach her better than you can.

Dear Amy: I appreciate that you are promoting charitable giving during the holidays, but I was disturbed that you only featured larger charities. There are so many worthy small ones!

Charitable Giver

Charitable Giver: Because my column is run nationally, I featured mostly larger charities. My main hope is to inspire people to give — however they choose.

Write to Amy Dickinson at askamy@tribune.com or Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

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