In a touching display of generosity (by which we mean the most flagrant snub since Loser Kevin Dopart won a lunch date at the "Wafle Shop" with the Empress and asked for a T-shirt instead), veteran Loser Art Grinath wishes to re-gift (actually, de-gift) his prize from Week 672, "The Worst Picture Ever Painted." "Frankly, it scares my cats," Art reports.

This week: Explain why you, or anyone else in particular, ought to have this fine oil-on-panel by Fred Dawson of Beltsville, or what it might be used for. Winner gets — what else? So no Inker this week. Runners-up win a coveted Style Invitational Loser T-shirt. Honorable Mentions (or whatever they’re called this week) get one of the lusted-after Style Invitational Magnets. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. ET on Monday, Nov. 6. Send your entries by e-mail to losers@washpost.com or by fax to 202-334-4312. Results will be published Nov. 26. No purchase required for entry. Employees of The Washington Post, and their immediate families, are not eligible for prizes. Pseudonymous entries will be disqualified. The Style Invitational reserves the right to disqualify entries for any reason. Prizes are not transferable. All entries become the property of The Washington Post.

THIS WEEK’S CONTEST

Week 686a: It’s Baaanaaack!

REPORT FROM WEEK 682

Our second photo contest. This time asking for funny takes on pumpkins and other vegetables. Hey, we said tomato in the fruit contest, too. Who are we to say?

AND THE WINNER OF THE INKER:

"Don’t worry — she signed it." (Jane Auerbach, Los Angeles)

Children of a Lesser Gourd (Honorable Mentions, Below)

The famous Cuisinart scene from “Fargo.” (Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)

"Jacko Lantern." (Jay Shuck, Minneapolis)

Kerry’s smiling because I made these in 2004 before the election. Drama isn’t, butternut squash nose, radish eyes, yuca teeth, parsley eyebrows, cabbage hair. (Alan R. Garletts, Cooper City, Fla.)

"Pity . . . she’s been a vegetable ever since the Reagan administration." (Jane Auerbach, Los Angeles)

"You’re a pepper, he’s a pepper, they’re all peppers. Can’t I be a pepper too?" (Drew Bennett, Alexandria)

These and more photos can be seen in a gallery at www.washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational.

Next Week: What a Piece of Work, or Alas, Poor Dork

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Sunday, October 29, 2006

The Style Invitational