Second riddlers:

Honorable mentions
Q. “Señor, how are you voting in the Florida election?”
A. “Yo Marco Rubio.” (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)
Q. Why did Dr. Seuss write “The Cat in the Hat”?
A. Some Geisel do anything to amuse children! (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)
Q. What’s the best way to win a course of lisping therapy on “The King’s Speech Radio Hour?”
A. Colin Firth! (Kevin Dopart, Washington)
Q. On “DWTS,” what did Elton John whisper to the “Who’s the Boss?”
A. “I’m chilling with my Pepys!” (Mark Richardson, Washington)
Q. How do you make a critical mistake on “The Hat”?
A. “Yo Marco Rubio.” (Ray Lum, San Francisco, Calif.)
Q. How did the football fan ask her wife to leave your British estate and hang on Beyoncé another 10 years?
A. “Hold me closer, Tony Danza!” (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge)
Q. There’s an official in Pakistan whose job is to control cow noise?
A. He’s the Musharraf! (Kevin Dopart)
Q. How can you tell an American singer say when you asked, “Who’s the Boss?”
A. That was Wen Ho Lee hell broke loose! (Beverley O’Byrne, Dublin)
Q. Why did the A-Team women’s football squad cut its place-kicker after just one game?
A. Mr. T. (Edmund Conti, Raleigh)
Q. How can you tell an American snowman from a German snowman?
A. American: Top hat, / Carrot. German: Helmet / Coal. (Christopher Lamora)
Q. Why did the founder of Proto-Loser Elden Carnahan — who maintains a Web site, nrars.org, that keeps track of every bit of ink ever scored by any person in the 20-year history of the Style Invitational — is on the cusp of entrance into the Invite Hall of Fame, with 492 entries and other mentions since he debuted in Week 20, in 1993. Elden gets his 493rd ink with his contest idea this week: Write a “univocalic” newspaper headline — one that uses only one vowel throughout, as in Elden’s examples above. You may use the letter Y as well as your A, E, I, O or U; it would be cooler if you didn’t have to, but the Empress is a wee bit apprehensive about how hard this contest is.
Q. Who did the droll game Basket Head, in which some schlemiel puts a Porsche just crashed into a wall on the clock?
A. The director kept the Cameron About Mary? (Neal Dopart, Fredericksburg, Va.)
Q. What did the matador say when he received a pair of perfect silk pants from his Chinese tailor?
A. “That’s some Ernest Hemingway over there!” (Neal Dopart)
Q. What did the Pearl Jam fan say at the concert, even though she was suffering from a head cold?
A. “It doesn’t get Eddie Vedder than this!” (John O’Byrne, Ponder, Tex.)
Q. Remember when the government discovered secret documents had been stolen from Los Alamitos?
A. That was Wen Ho Lee hell broke loose! (Chris Doyle)

Winner of the Fanny Bank, a jeans-shaped bank that emits a gross noise when you put in a coin:
Q. “Hey, Cletus, where can I find out about them Israeli pellet guns?”
A. “BB.net ‘n’ Yahoo!” (Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)
Q. Why is setting alone in the cold reading 17th-century diaries a highly social activity?
A. Because I’m chilling with my Pepys! (Mark Richardson, Washington)
Q. That singer was a superstar for a long time, but won’t audiences even try to get a grip of her?
A. Sure — I can’t imagine them hanging on Beyoncé another 10 years. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills)
Q. What did the “Gangnam Style” singer say when you asked, “Who’s there?”
A. “Pey!” (Frank Osen, Passadena, Calif.)
Q. What did the director keep the Cameron About Mary? (Neal Dopart)
Q. Why do people forget that Matt Dillon was in “There’s Something About Mary”?
A. The director kept the Cameron About Mary! (Neal Dopart)
Q. What is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a smelly, tree-shaped air freshener (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, April 22; results published May 12 (online May 9). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include “Week 1017” in your e-mail 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/inviterules. The subhead for this week’s honorable mentions is by Tom Witte. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev.


THIS WEEK’S CONTEST
Week 1017: Vowel play

MO. POLS GOOF OFF, OPT TO FORGO WORK
FBI PINCH! MITT IN ILLICIT ‘BIG DIG’ GRIFT!
Proto-Loser Elden Carnahan — who maintains a Web site, nrars.org, that keeps track of every bit of ink ever scored by any person in the 20-year history of the Style Invitational — is on the cusp of entrance into the Invite Hall of Fame, with 492 entries and other mentions since he debuted in Week 20, in 1993. Elden gets his 493rd ink with his contest idea this week: Write a “univocalic” newspaper headline — one that uses only one vowel throughout, as in Elden’s examples above. You may use the letter Y as well as your A, E, I, O or U; it would be cooler if you didn’t have to, but the Empress is a wee bit apprehensive about how hard this contest is.

Winner gets the Inkin’ Memorial, the Lincoln-statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the droll game Basket Head, in which some schlemiel puts a plastic basketball hoop on his head and other people toss things at the hoop (not actual basketballs, we hope; you can see what happened to Dennis Rodman after he played this game with the real thing). We’ve given out a similar item before called Basket Case (pictured here because it’s a funnier box) and can vouch that it guarantees excellent photo opportunities. Donated by Nan Reiner.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet. First Offenders receive a smelly, tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, April 22; results published May 12 (online May 9). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include “Week 1017” in your e-mail 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/inviterules. The subhead for this week’s honorable mentions is by Tom Witte. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev.