

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Rack 'n' LOL: ScrabbleGrams winners

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1371 was the seventh round of The Tile Invitational, in which we listed 45 "racks" from the ScrabbleGrams word game and asked readers to find a new word or phrase, of five to seven letters, from any of the racks.

4th place:

ABELMNU > UNBLAME: The Senate's new role. "We need to unblame the president for today's minor misstep," McConnell stated after Trump's order to bomb the Eiffel Tower. (*Mari Melton, Carmel Valley, Calif.*)

3rd place:

AAEGMPR > PRE-MAGA: Back when you could still talk to your brother-in-law at Thanksgiving. (*Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore*)

2nd place and the 'Meh' cuff links:

AAFIPRT > AIRPAT: Gesture of condolence or friendship when touching isn't a good idea. "The campaign asked Joe Biden to please replace hugs with airpats." (*John Hutchins, Silver Spring*)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

AAEHRSY > HERSY: What often gets less credence than himsay. "Nineteen women have accused me of harassment? That's just hersay." (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna*)

Hitting rack bottom: Honorable mentions

AAEHRSY > SHAREY: Mediocre wine you bring to a party. "Honey, it's only the Thompsons. Let's just take a bottle of sharey." (*Richard Franklin, Alexandria*)

EIMPRW > WE RIP: How Nancy Pelosi ends the sentence "When he goes low . . ." (*Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.*)

ABELMNU > LAB MENU: "Rats! I forgot to bring my lunch. But hey, that gives me an idea . . ." (*Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.*)

AAEHRSY > EASY RAH: A fan who's loyal to a fault. "You still have Redskins season tickets? Man, you're such an easy rah." (*Duncan Stevens*)

AAACLPS > ASCALP: Media slang for catching a photo of a lily-white pate under a flapping, gel-cemented nest of dyed yellow wool over a flaming-orange forehead. (*Lynne Larkin, Vero Beach, Fla.*)

AAJAMPS > PAJASM: The "ohhh" moment that comes from getting out of your work clothes putting on your warmest PJs on a cold evening. (*Jeff Haze, San Antonio*)

AAJAMPS > SPAJAM: That gunk they charge \$150 to smear on your face. (*Sam Mertens, Silver Spring*)

AABDNNO > NANABOD: The perfect comfy physique for snuggling with grandchildren. (*Maggie Haring, Leesburg*)

AABDNNO > NANOBAD: How much Brylcreem would do ya. (*Alan Zirkle, Fredericksburg, Va., a First Offender*)

AABMNOT > NO BAM: "Emeril really doesn't like your food, man." (*Lee Graham, Rockville*)

AABMNOT > NOT BAMA: Unofficial tourism slogan of 49 states. (*Duncan Stevens*)

AACELPT > PAL ETC.: A friend with benefits. (*Jonathan Jensen*)

AACELPT > CAT-PLEA: "Get off my frickin' keyboard!" (*Mark Raffman, Reston*)

AACELPT > EAT/CLAP: Pejorative term for a dinner theater. (*Jeff Contopoulos, Ashburn*)

AADELMR > LARD ME: "I'll have the refried beans." (*Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase*)

AADENN > TAN END: The line across the forehead where the bronzer stops. (*Jesse Frankovich*)

AADENNT > DE NANA: "They wouldn't give you a cookie? That's okay, Grandma will take care of it." (*Duncan Stevens*)

AADHILS > HI - SALAD: Extremely unlikely reply to "Hello, Mr. President. What can I get you for lunch?" (*Jesse Frankovich*)

AADILWY > AWAYLID: Beer-resistant cap. I always wear my Mets awaylid at Nationals Park. (*John McCooey, Rehoboth Beach, Del.*)

AADILWY > DIY LAW: Why bother with pesky Congress when you can make your own EZ executive order? (*Jesse Rifkin, Arlington*)

AAEGMPR > MAP RAGE: What families used to endure before lost



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1375:
Mess With Our Heads

Headline in an ad, followed by Style Invitational bank head:

Call today to connect with a senior living advisor

Or book a seance to connect with a senior dead one

Washington Post sports headline, Invite bank head:

Wizards fall with limited resources

Eye-of-newt shortage causes sorcerers to weaken, stumble on beards

It's one of the Empress's favorite perennial contests, since she used to write headlines for a living:

Reinterpret an actual headline (or a major part of it) by adding a bank head, or subtitle, as in the examples above. The headlines may be from any publication, print or online, dated March 12-23, 2020. Please give the source and date for the headline so the Empress can verify it; see details on the entry form.

Submit up to a total of 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1375 (no capitals in the Web address). Deadline is Monday, March 23; results will appear April 12 in print, April 9 online.

Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a very large dark T-shirt celebrating heart defibrillator operators, the ones who can make your berserk heart unberserk again with those emergency paddles. The legend: "If You Fib, I Will Paddle You." Donated with heartfelt generosity by Loser Edward Gordon.

Other runners-up win their choice of our "For Best Results, Pour Into Top End" Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "Too-Weak Notice" or "Certificate of (de) Merit." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Rack 'n' LOL" was submitted by both Chris Doyle and Kevin Dopart; Kevin, William Kennard and Jesse Frankovich all sent in the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the 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 reviews each new contest and set of results. Check it out at wapo.st/conv1375; this week, classics from earlier Mess With Our Heads contests.

**What prize could set your heart aflutter more than a defibrillator T-shirt?**dads had GPS to yell at. (*Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.*)

AAFFIRS > SAFFIAR: "I got this ring for just 500 bucks — look at the box and see what kind of jewel it is!" (*Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.*)

AAFFIRS > FAIR AF: What millennial would-be judges claim to be at their confirmation hearings. (*Duncan Stevens*)

ALMORY > YO ALARM: A clock that wakes you with a call like "Hey, you with the face! Get up." (*Barbara Turner, Takoma Park*)

ABBDMOR > BARDOM: What many a high school freshman endures while studying "Romeo and Juliet." (*Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station*)

AADILWY > HI - SALAD: Beer-resistant cap. I always wear my Mets awaylid at Nationals Park. (*John McCooey, Rehoboth Beach, Del.*)

AADILWY > DIY LAW: Why bother with pesky Congress when you can make your own EZ executive order? (*Jesse Rifkin, Arlington*)

AAEGMPR > MAP RAGE: What families used to endure before lost

show off his six-pack — so abnox! (*Alex Steelsmith, Kailua, Hawaii, a First Offender*)

ABEGMOR > ME GO BAR: Cookie Monster's first words when daily filming ends. (*Chris Damm, Charles Town, W.Va.*)

ABELMNU > NUMBLE: To try to speak before the Novocain wears off. (*Tom Witte, Montgomery Village*)

ABILRRY > LIARY: A journal of one's supposed activities. "Dear Liary: Today I won yet another Lose Cannon. I'm running out of shelf space!" (*Eric Nelkin, Silver Spring*)

ACDERSU > SAD ECRU: Ecru. (*Todd DeLaP, Fairfax*)

EGINOSU > GENIOUS: A very stable, very smart person who is the BEST speller and don't let the fake news tell you otherwise. (*Mark Raffman*)

GILRTUY > RU GILTY: Opening question in trials of the future, when the overburdened justice system tries all misdemeanors with plea bargains by text: RU GILTY?

WHT YR SENTENCE 4 YES

1 MONTH PROBATN

K GILTY (*Lynda Hoover, Shepherdstown, W.Va.*)

FLMMOUX > MF MXL: Obscenity uttered by a frustrated ancient Roman trying to fill out his federal income tax form. (*Roy Ashley, Washington*)

LIBDLOUS > EIRE

CONICPAINS > ETNA

URANIAN > THETILLIS

REVENGE > AERATE

EMERGED > PRESSET

AAEGMPR > MAP RAGE: What families used to endure before lost

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"NO RHYME, NO REASON"	79 Bit of animation	112 Gariicky spread	12 Talkie acronym	52 Ending for hip	87 With 58-Across, area with severely declining industry
By PAM AMICK	80 "We're gonna be late!"	116 "Aladdin"	13 Unleashes (on) subj.	53 Bilbao bulls	89 Bar in Baja
KLAWITTER	81 Utter	118 Lazy son, vis-a-vis his lazy dad?	14 Med school	54 Con game, say	92 Dickens title starter
	84 Expert on current energy options?	122 Sleep disorder	15 Mic wielders	55 Roof edge	94 Verbal attack
	1 Just one of the fam	123 Fib	16 Flat-bottomed boat	56 Genetic strands	95 First European to sail to India
	4 Quayle successor	90 Wide receiver	17 Comparable in distance	58 Trace	96 Juarez winter months
	8 Part of PBR	Don who played in five Super Bowls	18 "Blimey!" cousin	60 Cookbook author DiSpirito	97 Gold and silver swimmers?
	13 Brazilian dances	91 Shanghai money	20 Run or work	64 Protective shot	98 Well-armed swimmers?
	19 1881 face-off spot	93 Part of a Norwegian sounding ice cream name	24 English	65 Dutch wheels	99 Shutout feature
	21 "...only God can make ___": Kilmer	95 Dud of a car that Stephen King might write about?	29 Rocker Bob	67 Diner menu staples	100 Good luck charm
	22 How some bills are paid	100 Chophouse bandit?	32 Blackjack holding	68 MIT Chapel designer Saarinen	104 Fork fingers'
	23 Costuming choice for a "Cats" performance?	102 All over	34 "Up and ___"	69 Caesar's France	107 Frequent flier
	25 Move to protect a king	103 Lasagna layer	35 Zap in the kitchen	71 Writer of really old stories?	108 Singer Lance, or the part he sang with *NSYNC
	26 Put away	105 More than half	36 Indoor buzzer?	72 Valiant's son	111 Leftover scraps
	27 Mag. edition	106 H.S. dropout's goal	37 Sporty muscle cars	74 German wine region	113 Check out creepily
	28 "Hulk" director Lee	107 Small shot	38 Milk Dud rival Coltrane, e.g.	76 Abstract expressionist	114 Island chains
	29 Retired flier, briefly	109 Piece of TNT?	40 Egg-hunt holidays	78 Chihuahua choo-choo	115 Ticks off
	30 Fair-hiring abbr.	110 First lady Hoover	42 Sells aggressively	81 Stuffing stuff	117 Barnyard bleat
	31 Narrow inlets		43 "B'rith	82 Well offshore	118 Thanksgiving tuber
	33 Crowded subway metaphor		45 Rose oil	83 Reb's rival	119 Whale group
	36 Prince in "Frozen"		46 Deluge result, perhaps	85 Transmitting trucks	120 World Cup cry
	37 Proctor's nightmare?		50 The best one is airtight	86 Sphere opener	
	41 Tree surgeon's challenge?				
	44 Just right				
	45 Yukatan's yesterday				
	47 Reeve of "Point Break"				
	48 Self-descriptive adjective				
	49 Prof's assistants				
	51 One skilled at squandering?				
	57 "Mamma Mia!" song				
	58 See 87-Down				
	59 Midori in a rink				
	60 Brother of Macaulay and Rory				
	61 Like each succeeding eye chart line				
	63 Butterflies				
	66 Broad bean				
	67 Fathered, biblically</				