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Style Invitational Week 1422: The Collaboratory

Add a co- (someone) to a movie, song, etc., and change the title. Plus UNDO neologisms.



(“James and the Giant Reach,” by Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

By Pat Myers

Feb. 4, 2021 at 10:12 a.m. EST

+ Add to list

(Click [here](#) to skip down to the winning “UNDO” neologisms)

If Roald Dahl had worked with LeBron, they could have made “James and the Giant Reach.”

Bill Haley + Internet inventor Tim Berners-Lee = “Rock Around the Click”

Gary Cooper + the Church Lady = “The Prude of the Yankees”

This week’s contest was suggested by Daniel Fleisher of Baltimore, who has but a single blot of Invite ink — for an obit-poem for Stephen Hawking two years ago — but clearly a feel for classic Style Invitational contests: **Think of a book, movie or song title. Then pair its creator, star, singer, etc., with an unrelated “collaborator” to produce a wordplay on the title,** as in Daniel’s own examples above.



Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1422 (no capitals in the Web address).
Deadline is Monday, Feb. 15; results appear March 7 in print — ooh, which just happens to be the 28th anniversary of The Style Invitational — and March 4 online.

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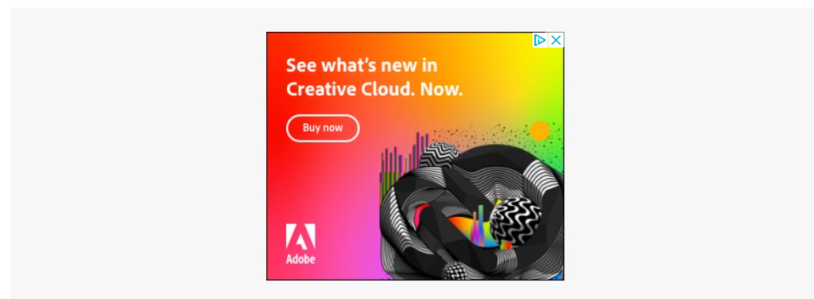
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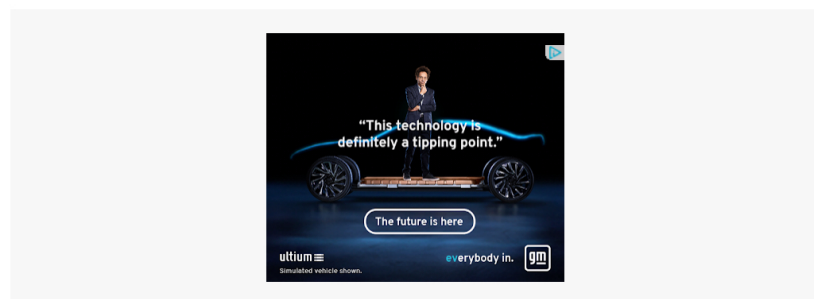
The best way for your drink to go to your head – and around it. (LCPSHOP.NET)



Winner gets the Clowning Achievement, our new Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives **the Amazing Silly Straw**, a five-part curly tube you fit together and can wrap around your face like a pair of glasses as you imbibe. We suggest using a Château Pape Clément Red 2010 for the best Amazing Silly Straw experience. Donated by Dave Prevar.

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, “No 'Bility” or “Punderachiever.” 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 “Fundoings” is by Chris Doyle; Jeff Contompasis wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. 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; and follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

The Style Conversational: The Empress’s weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week’s, published late afternoon Thursday, Feb. 4, at wapo.st/conv1422.



The “You’re Invited” podcast: In Episode 10, Mike Gips treats Invite Rookie Phenom Sarah Walsh, who’s been on both “Jeopardy!” and “The Chase,” to a surprise Invite Jeop game. It’s a riot. See bit.ly/invite-podcast.

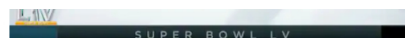
And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .

fUNDOings: The Tour de Fours neologisms of Week 1418

Week 1418 was our annual Tour de Fours neologism contest; this year all the new terms had to include the letter block U-N-D-O, in any order. Submitted by several Losers: **Undowear:** easily removable lingerie.

4th place:

Undo pressure: “So look. All I want to do is this. I just want to find 11,780 votes . . . So tell me, Brad, what are we going to do?” (Lee Graham, Rockville, Md.)



1 SNL avoids politics in its cold open, going after the Super Bowl instead

2 Q&A with Ann Wilson: Singing a new song, contemplating Heart and that Annie Leibovitz controversy



3 Queen Latifah’s ‘The Equalizer’ remake, airing post-Super Bowl, intentionally set itself apart from the franchise



4 **Analysis**
Britney Spears and the trauma of being young, female and famous in the '90s



5 **Review**
The best books to beat this year’s special brand of Valentine’s Day blues



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3rd place:

Undorphins: An intimate dinner with Mike Pence releases a surge of these. (*Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.*)

2nd place and the electronic Elvis penguin:

Undoh: To realize you were right after all. (*Dave Prevar, Annapolis, Md.*)

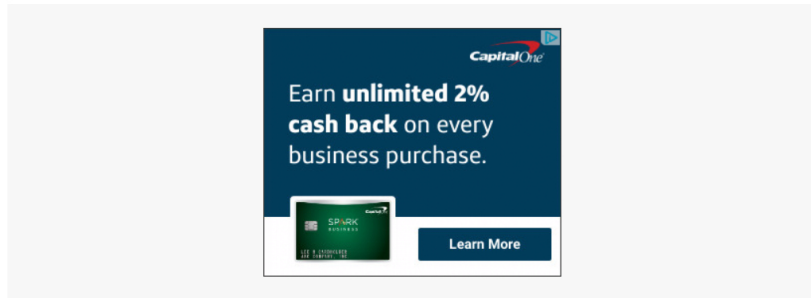
And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Ickspound: To overshare about your bodily functions. "To start the Zoom meeting, the boss ickspounded on barfing up a whole bag of multicolored Skittles." (*Terri Berg Smith, Rockville*)

Marked DOUN:

Honorable mentions

Backhandout: Financial assistance with a slap of shame. "Here's your emergency relief payment, you lazy bum." (*Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.*)



Stoopendous: Astonishingly self-degrading. "Senator Graham, we recognize you for your stoopendous accomplishments during the Trump administration." (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.*)

"Don, U Can't Be Serious!": Subtitled "Famous Last Texts, 2016-2021: An Anthology." (*Ira Allen, Bethesda, Md.*)

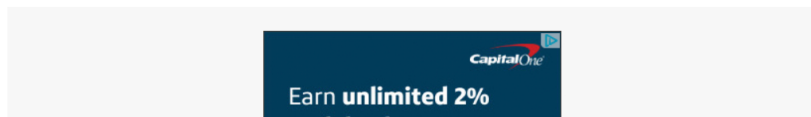
Boos-hounds: What home team fans become when the Houston Astros are in town. (*Steve Smith, Potomac, Md.*)

Brofound: Sounding deep and insightful only after a few brewskis. "Yes, we drank beer. I liked beer. Still like beer. We drank beer," Brett intoned brofoundly. (*Hannah Seidel, Alexandria, Va.*)

Condumb: Discount prophylactic with a hardly noticeable tear. (*Stephen Dudzik, Olney, Md.*)

Correspondunce: Someone who starts a letter with "To Who It May Concern." (*Jesse Frankovich*)

Creshundo: The growing chorus of outrage from Republicans distancing themselves from Trump. (May soon be followed by a decreshundo.) (*Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore*)



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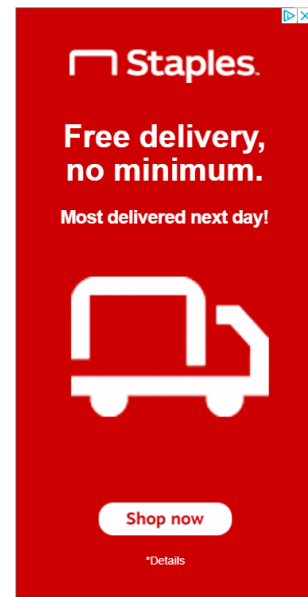
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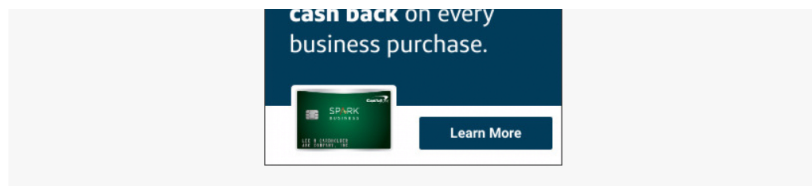
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Dadouncement: The old man’s embarrassing habit of saying things like “I’m off to lose a few pounds” when he leaves the table holding the newspaper. (*John Bauer, Gaithersburg, Md.*)

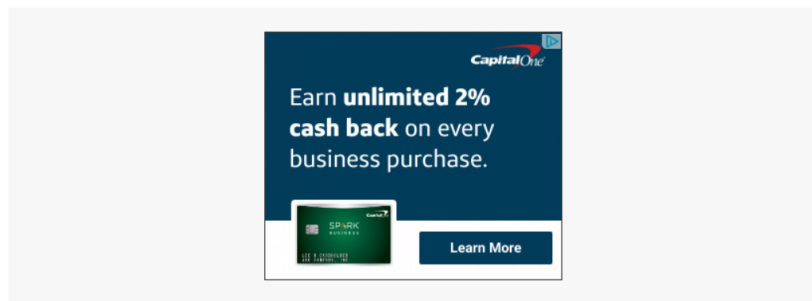
Donuments: What Trump really thinks should replace Confederate statues. (*Jesse Frankovich*)

Donut Orifices: Dunkin’s marketing failure before coming up with a better name. (*Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.*)

Doody-bound: Constipated. “I wish I could have that second helping, but I’m doody-bound to decline.” (*Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.*)

Endonube: Someone experiencing their first colonoscopy. “I’m such an endonube, I thought Bowel Prep was a boarding school.” (*Bill Dorner, Indianapolis*)

Fonduel: Fork-jabbing competition for that last cube of bread that fell into the pot. (*Mark Raffnan, Reston, Va.; Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.*)



Fonduodenum: The Donner Party’s version of Taco Tuesday. Also known as Chitlins ’n’ Cheese. (*Mike Gips, Bethesda, Md.; Dave Prevar*)

Fondupes: Restaurant patrons who are tricked into cooking and serving their own food. (*Frank Mann, Washington*)

Foreplayground: The back row at a movie theater. (*Jeff Contompasis*)

Founding Fodder: It’d be a great brand name for baby formula. (*Jesse Frankovich*)

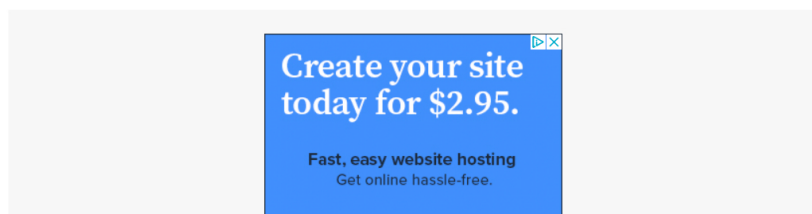
Go undercover: Euphemism for bedwetting. (*Jon Ketzner*)

Guano duty: How Rudy Giuliani’s ex-publicist described her job. (*Steve Smith*)

Houndini: A dog that’s an escape artist. “Sorry that Max got out of the yard and into your trash can again — he’s a regular houndini.” (*Adie Peña, Makati, Philippines, a First Offender*)

Iguan’udon: Mm-mm, Godzilla noodle soup. (*Chuck Helwig, Centreville, Va.*)

In-Doubt Burgers: Always made with USDA Choice mystery meat. (*Mark Raffnan*)



Sin-and-Out: A chain of drive-thru brothels. (*Jeff Contompasis*)

Innuendo U.: “Come inside and check out the intimate relationship you’d have with our well-endowed faculty.” (*Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.*)

Produnk U.: An “academic” institution that’s nothing more than a feeder school for the NBA. (*Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.*)

Loudnum: A drug that causes uncontrollable yelling. “It seems likely that he got a big dose of loudnum at Walter Reed.” (*Sarah Walsh, Rockville, Md.*)

Nincompounded: Exacerbated by idiots. “Nothing like a call for ‘trial by combat’ to nincompound the insurrection, Rudy.” (*Kevin Dopart, Washington*)

Nanodunk: An extremely quick quickie. (*Kevin Dopart*)

Plagueground: Right now, any indoor recreation facility. (*Duncan Stevens*)

Pseudo-understudy: You, in your living room, singing every word of “Hamilton” at full volume. (*Danielle Nowlin*)



Pundora’s box: What you will open if you say “Who’s there?” to a racist’s knock-knock joke. (*Kevin Ahern, Corvallis, Ore.*)

Sondunce: The scion who tweets a video of his girlfriend dancing in joy over his dad’s coup attempt. (*Sam Mertens, Silver Spring, Md.*)

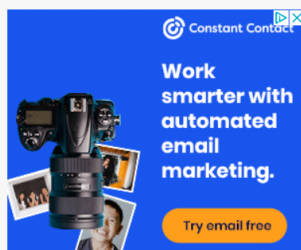
The Sound of Mucus: Even when her heart is lonely, Maria should *not* go to the hills during hay fever season. (*Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.*)

Thun (d’oh) storms: Sudden squalls reminding you that you left your car windows open. (*Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.*)

Trolling in dough: Sending fundraising emails about “election fraud” while the Capitol is under attack. (*Steve Smith*)

Undonate: What some Republicans wish they could do these days. (*Steve Honley, Washington*)

Undownhill skiing: The ultimate cardio workout. (*Pamela Love, Columbia, Md.*)



Muon Day: Feb. 19 of every year, to represent the approximate mean lifetime of the positive muon (2.1969811 millionth of a second ± 0.0000022). “This year, me and my buddies are going to celebrate Muon Day by — duh, how else? — calculating the square of Fermi’s coupling constant with the overall dimension of the inverse fourth power of energy. Gotta say, though, this is getting a little old.” (*Neal Starkman, Seattle*)

Undoo: To remove poop references. “Were the Empress to undoo this week’s entries, she’d have a far smaller pile to judge.” (*Jeff Shirley*)

And Last: **Pseudonice:** What the Empress was being when she said your entries were surprisingly good. (*Jesse Frankovich*)

And Even Laster: **Stupundous:** What neologisms that get ink are. Well, most of them. (*Jesse Frankovich*)

Two contests still running — deadline for both is Monday night, Feb. 8:
— **Write a song for or about a job.** wapo.st/invite1420
— **Write something funny using only words from Biden’s inaugural address.** wapo.st/invite1421

DON’T MISS AN INVITE! [Sign up here](#) to receive a once-a-week email from the Empress as soon as The Style Invitational and Style Conversational go online every Thursday, complete with links to the columns.

0 Comments



Pat Myers

Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post’s page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. Follow [Twitter](#)

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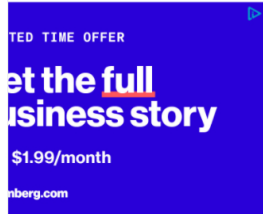
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