YOU GO GIRL

"Overused on TV talk shows and now it's everywhere."

Lillie Taylor, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

aromatherapy

"This catchy word can be found on the labels of everything from shampoo bottles to air fresheners. If it's truly 'therapy', perhaps it should come at a higher price."

Michelle Batterbee Fox, Ellsworth School teacher, Ellsworth, Michigan

PHONE TAG

"It may have been a cool trendy phase in the 80s, but it is really annoying now." Mark Trenniger, LSSU math professor

WINNINGEST I'M LIKE

AS IN: "She's the winningest coach in history."

"There being no alternative, our overpaid athletes can safely offer to do at least this much." Jack Dietrich, Albuquerque, NM.

Joe Sixpack

"I am president and founder of the International Order for the Abolition of the Word Sloppy Joe. Its goal is to ban Sloppy Joe. Common Joe... Joe Blow... It gives Joe a bad name, you never hear of a Sloppy Steve, Ruth etc. Joe should never be lumped together as common or everyday. I therefore nominate Joe Sixpack. Man on the street is good enough." Joe Gallagher, Port Huron Michigan.

(Ed. note: According to our Canadian neighbors, the Canadian equivalent to Joe Sixpack is "Joe Lunchbucket." This would be included in the banishment.)

Paper or Plastic?

"Are they talking about payment or package totes?"

Paul D. Freedman, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

Get a life!

First place winner. "Whatever what? Whatever I want! Whatever I need! It doesn't make any sense." Rachel Bliven, Manton High School student, Manton, Michigan

DON'T GO THERE

DON'T EVEN GO THERE

Another gift from the talk show circuit. "Go where? Do what?"

Peistlton High School Creative Writing Class, Peistlton, Michigan

La Macarena

"Ad nauseam." Robert Sutherland, London, Ontario

Doing the____ thing

"Mom thing, Dad thing, Kid thing, Right thing. Word Banishment thing." Nominated for overuse and uselessness by Susan Elek, St. Clement Catholic High School English teacher, Center Line, Michigan

ATTITUDE OUT SOURCING

A euphemism for an overbearingly aggressive nature." Byron R. Crary, Clark Lake, Michigan

multi-tasking

"Doing several things at once said it all." Donna Gayon, Perry High School teacher, Perry, Michigan

burning bridges

"The 1996 elections have voters tired of hearing the many bridge metaphors from politicians. Building bridges to a vibrant future... or the past... I think some bridges should be burned." Donna Gayon, Perry High School teacher, Perry, Michigan