PREFIX MEALS
More Media Bloopers with Waggish Comebacks

DON HAUPTMAN
New York, New York
donhauptman@nyc.rr.com

Below, a fresh batch of entertaining mistakes and anomalies followed by witty ripostes—assembled for my book in progress, the working title of which is To “Er . . .” is Human. Contributions, to the above address, are welcome.

The New York Times, restaurant review, March 8, 2009:
The restaurant is offering a prefix dinner menu with a choice of two courses for $35 or three courses for $42.

If you order a plate of suffixes for dessert, there will be an additional charge.

The New York Sun, headline, August 25, 2008:
CLOSING CEREMONIES BRING OLYMPICS TO AN END
And in belated news, the games began with the opening ceremonies.

“In today’s world, the cellphone number is . . . worth more than its weight in gold,” said Zaw Thet, chief executive of 4INFO Inc., a text-messaging and content provider.

So according to the scale . . .

The New York Times, “Inside Art” column, September 19, 2008:
Death is always a good thing for auction houses, and this season Christie’s was able to secure two major estates . . .

I knew we shouldn’t have fired the Tact Editor.

Playboy, “Advisor” column, December 2008:

Vibrators are now “trendy” . . . [With this model,] if a woman finds a sequence she likes, she pushes a button and the rechargeable toy memorizes it.

A feature that not all males offer.
The New York Times, June 25, 2008:

Brenda Stanhouse, who bought the game for her son, 15 years old at the time, said in a deposition that she did not know [about all the criminal activities depicted] . . . “I’m aware that there is killing in the game,” Ms. Stanhouse said in the deposition. “I wasn’t aware of the stealing.”

Now that puts it off limits.

New York Magazine, June 9, 2008:

[At Egg, a hip breakfast venue,] chef-owner George Weld has forged a modest kingdom from local-free-roaming-chicken’s eggs and artisanal heirloom grits.

Land sakes, child. In my day, we just wanted to know hominy there were.

The New York Times, Corrections, September 3, 2008:

A picture caption on Thursday with the continuation of an article about Senator Barack Obama’s life and career referred incorrectly to a stick from his grandmother’s village in Kenya that he displays in his office. It is a leopard-beating stick, not a tiger-beating stick. (There are, of course, no tigers in Africa.)

Now we know why!

The New York Times, Corrections, February 12, 2009:

An article on Jan. 24 about hip-hop in China misstated the family name of a Chinese rapper and of the director of Acupuncture Records, which produces hip-hop recordings. The rapper is Wang Li, not Wong Li, and the director of Acupuncture Records is Wang Miao, not Wong Miao.

They aren’t Wong . . . but we are.

The New York Times, Corrections, January 29, 2009:

An article on Saturday . . . referred incorrectly to an enterprise of a woman known as the Baroness. . . . While she hosts what she describes as New York’s longest-running fetish party, she does not run an S&M dungeon.

Shucks!

For submitting the “Olympics” and “grits” newsclips, thanks to Iris Bell, New York City.