THE NAME IS THE GAME

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- Al Gore’s name spoonerized is “galore” which turns out to be a clever Al Gore rhythm. This year Republicans are experiencing Al Gore-aphobia, but are hoping to Bush whack the opposition. George Bush’s name anagrammed becomes “He bugs Gore,” and, adding the W, “He grew bogus” which I realize you may interpret as a Bush League prey on words. Switching first letters of the candidates’ last names, we discover that one will gush and the other will bore. Looks like we’re in for a Gore-Tex campaign—I hope it doesn’t leak. I predict that at the end of the campaign Gore will be bushed and Bush will be gored. Then we’ll either have four Gore years or rule by a son of a Bush.
- Has Elvis Presley achieved immortality because “Elvis lives” is an anagram of itself?
- The first name of the man who tried to put Kuwait between Iraq and a hard place reposes in the following palindromic statement: “Drat Saddam, a mad dastard!”
- If Ella Fitzgerald married Darth Vader, she’d be Ella Vader. If Rosemary De Camp married William Kunsler, she’d be Rosemary De Camp Kunsler.
- H. Rider was Haggard, but Thomas was Hardy. Oscar was Wilde, but Thornton was Wilder. Dame May was Whitty, but John Greenleaf was Whittier.

My name happens to anagram into “Riddler Reacher,” and today I’m asking you to reach for the answers to some riddling puns. The incorrigible punster (please don’t incorrigle!) can’t help but notice that some people have first or last names that sound like lower-case words, such as Ulysses Grant, Oliver Sachs, and Iris Murdoch. Special fun lurks in those people who possess both first and last names that sound lie lower-case words. One might call Doug Flutie a “buried flautist,” Johnny Cash “coins collected from a pay toilet”, Norman Mailer a “French postman,” and Lionel Hampton a “train to a fashionable suburb.” The game for today focuses on movie stars whose names are doubly blessed, such as “scarlet clothing fasteners” for Red Buttons. From the punny clues below, give the name of each movie star. (The answers are in alphabetical order by star surname.)

1 Christmas fruit  2 boyfriend spans  3 toilet confection  4 transport the workout space
5 car pursuit  6 valley nearby  7 Christmas scaredy cat  8 steal the blackbird  9 male cat
on a ship trip  10 male goat quartz  11 toilet crane  12 tiny car operator  13 Egyptian
ruler’s spigot  14 toilet meadows  15 transport the scholarship  16 chromosome slicer
17 talkative fog  18 cabin in the sky  19 what fishermen live on  20 stony automobile
21 pop-top collector  22 jewel bargeman  23 steal from the bottom  24 thoughtful con­querer  25 she wagers modestly  26 unpedigreed male alley cat  27 toilet agony  28 nail
fruit  29 stream protectors  30 crimson bones  31 tear ripped  32 solder after Monday
33 crazier chromosome  34 coldest season at beach  35 tastefully attired forest