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MAD

There are some who would argue that the internet is the most important technological development of the last 100 years... that it has altered the very way we think, act and communicate... that it has led to an information revolution that will empower us and make us better citizens in the New Millennium! And it's pretty obvious that those people have never been to OUR website, because believe it or not, at madmag.com we consider this...

THE BEST OF THE WEB

What — me worry? — Alfred E. Neuman

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THE MAD POLLING BOOTH AUGUST 15, 2000

POLL RESULTS

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION: Jer-ry! Jer-ry! Jer-ry! Three years ago, Great Britain, obviously still angry about that whole American Revolutionary War thing, dumped the Spice Girls on us. Now it seems as if we'll finally get our revenge: All-American scuzzbucket Jerry Springer is London-bound to referee — er, host — a talk show in the U.K. this Fall. We can only imagine how his chaotic style will translate in the reserved land of tea and crumpets! And so we ask...

What topic(s) do you expect to see on Jerry Springer's new British talk show?

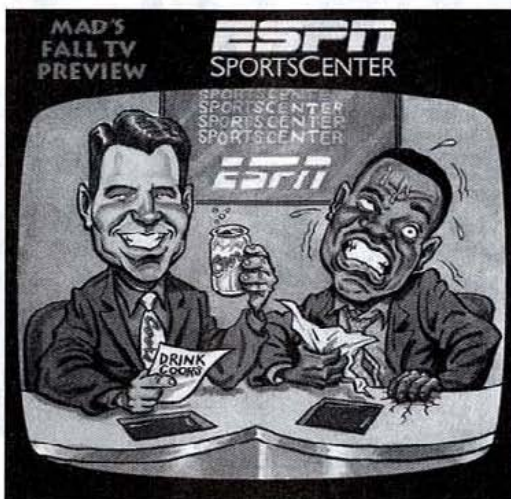


"My Daddy Dresses Like the Queen Mum!"	16.6%
"Soccer Hooligan Makeovers!"	12.7%
"Silicone-Breasted Pop Stars and the Heirs to the Throne Who Love Them!"	2.5%
"Pardon Me, My Dear, I Don't Mean to be Indiscreet, It's Just That, Well, I'm Not Sure, How Do You Put It, I Mean, I Surely Don't Want to be a Blighter and Cast Any Aspersions, But I Thought It Important That You Know You're a SKANKY HO!"	2.2%
"I Was Margaret Thatcher's Love Slave!"	11.4%
"Compulsive Wankers!"	33.3%
"Women Who Love to Bob on Bobbys!"	3.2%
"My Royal In-Laws Hate My Weight Loss Endorsement Deal!"	1.6%
"I Had A Menage-A-Trois With Your Sister and The Undersecretary for Provincial Redevelopment!"	16.5%

ARTIST: GREY BLACKWELL

MAD's FALL TV PREVIEW

ARTIST: RAY ALMA

**MAIN CHARACTERS**

Stuart – The Emerging Superstar
 Dan – The Savvy Veteran
 Melissa – The Foxy Cheerleader

Where We Left Off

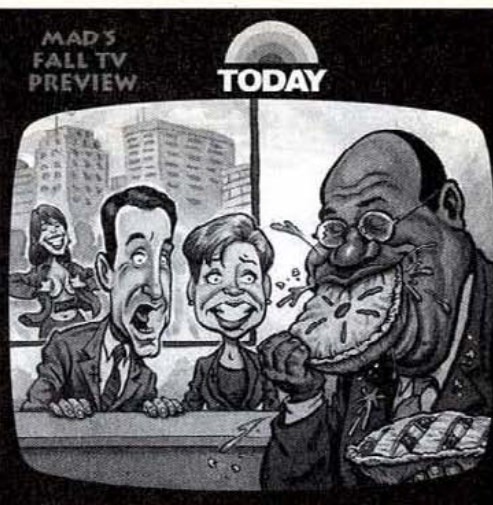
Stuart's wisecracks and expressions helped him soar to new heights of popularity. Dan threw his integrity out the window to hawk cheap beer. Melissa volunteered for double duty, replacing an older, less attractive woman as sideline reporter for *Monday Night Football*.

What To Expect This Season

Stuart can't handle the pressures that come with success, and his patented catchphrases devolve into gibberish – but audience members don't notice the difference. Dan continues to sell out, dueting with William Shatner on a cover of "Talkin' Baseball (Willie, Mickey, and The Duke)" for Priceline.com. And the question on everyone's lips: Will Melissa leave Stuart and Dan behind for the warm embrace of Dennis Miller?

Our Critic Says...

SportsCenter is one of the most durable shows on TV. The cast keeps rotating, but the laughs still come at you faster than a Roger Clemens' pitch aimed at Mike Piazza's head. There are a lot of sports highlight shows on TV, but there are only 12 *SportsCenters*. I watch the 11pm *SportsCenter*, because that's when my wife goes to bed and I can watch what I want to.

**MAIN CHARACTERS**

Katie – The Perky Newswoman
 Matt – The Bland Hunk
 Al – The Portly Weatherman

Where We Left Off

Katie's ex-partner Bryant trashed her in the press, then started a rival "news" show about the contestants on *Survivor*. Matt's marriage to a Dutch model was flourishing. Al warned the others about light 5 to 10 miles-per-hour winds coming East in the early evening. And a mysterious stranger caused a stir by flashing her breasts.

What To Expect This Season

Matt can't stop mentally comparing his wife's breasts to those of the flasher, and begins a torrid affair with the woman. When Al reveals he'd like to lose some weight, Katie schedules him for a liposuction procedure in front of a live nationwide audience.

Our Critic Says...

The bare breasts were a cheap, sleazy stunt designed to titillate viewers and boost ratings. *The Today Show's* been on the air for 47 years, and it's finally showing its age. The material's gotten so dated, they should rename this *The Yesterday Show*.

THE MAD POLLING BOOT

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION: When *X-Men* opened last week, comic book nerds rejoiced! They were thrilled to see their favorite heroes on the big screen and even happier to discover that Hollywood had for once stayed true to the original. But frankly, we thought that was the problem — old-fashioned powers like Wolverine's adamantium claws and Cyclops' laser eyes are pretty useless in today's high-tech world! We would've liked to have seen superheroes with mutant powers a little more relevant to the 21st Century! And so we put forth the following query...

What mutant would you most like to see join the X-Men?

MAD'S
FALL TV
PREVIEW



ANTIQUES ROADSHOW



MAIN CHARACTERS

Noel – The Well-Mannered Toy Appraiser
Joyce – The Well-Mannered Jewelry Appraiser
Gordon – The Well-Mannered Clock Appraiser

Where We Left Off

Noel admired the caliber of a woman's cast-iron toys. Joyce pointed out the damage to some hair jewelry. Gordon marveled at a commemorative mantel clock.

What To Expect This Season

A decorative cartouche rouses the hidden passions in Joyce. Defenses down after their evening sherry, Gordon and Noel are lured into her menage-a-trois, and thus begins a deadly game of cat-and-mouse to gain control of Joyce's heart... and a rare 1929 animation cel from *Steamboat Willie*.

Our Critic Says...

Antiques Roadshow has been a guilty pleasure of mine for quite some time now. There's almost as much drama, mystery and excitement here as in an episode of *Nash Bridges*! And with savvy new host Dan Elias on the scene, here's hoping the appraisers don't fall prey to another phony-dinosaur-egg-made-of-Play-Dough forgery like in previous seasons!

MAD'S
FALL TV
PREVIEW

LATE SHOW with David Letterman



MAIN CHARACTERS

Dave – The Grouchy Curmudgeon
Paul – The Loyal Sidekick
Mujibur & Sirajul – The Enterprising Souvenir Shop Workers

Where We Left Off

Dave showed strong signs of recovery from open heart surgery, but still hasn't recovered from the shock of finding out that Kathie Lee Gifford was allowed to guest host in his absence. Paul continued to wear sunglasses to hide the fact that most nights he's stoned off his gourd. Mujibur and Sirajul sold a lot of plastic Statue of Liberty banks and "autographed" *Late Show* T-shirts.

What To Expect This Season

When Dave jokingly ad-libs "Boy, it's cold in here!" and Paul refuses to provide the obligatory "Haaa!" tensions mount between the two, and Paul begins shouting out "I smell bacon!" during the "Know Your Cuts of Meat" segment. Meanwhile, Mujibur and Sirajul beat the holy crap out of Rupert Jee, the neighboring deli owner, just to watch him bleed.

Our Critic Says...

Creative tension between Dave and Paul could liven up a show that's gotten stale in recent years, but if the producers knew what was good for them, they'd call this *The Late Show With Mujibur Rahman*. He's always been the funniest character of the bunch. Would somebody please get this guy his own show already?

JULY 17, 2000



POLL RESULTS

Dr. Nokia: Has the power to turn off everyone's cell phone in public places17%

Spirulina: Has the ability to make really nutritious smoothies3%

Easyfit: Has the power to make Gap blue jeans last more than three washings8.6%

Modem: Is the only person in the universe able to stay online with AOL for more than 14 minutes without getting bumped22.3%

Kournikovatron: Can provoke impure thoughts in any man — even the Amish32.4%

Philbinator: Has the ability to award large sums of money for answering fourth-grade level trivia questions17%

ARTIST: BOB STAAKE

A Jew, an Arab and a philandering redneck get together for a peace talk – stop us if you’ve heard this one before. Seems like there’s a Mid-East peace summit almost as often as Clinton gets accused of sexual harassment, and every time these folks get together, they inch closer to ending the unrest – until some small detail like who controls the Holy Land ruins the whole deal! It’s time for an in-depth analysis of what really went on behind the scenes at Camp David. So find out more with...

The Mid-East Peace Talks:

Where Progress Was Made...

And What Ultimately Went WRONG!

Where progress was made...



1) There was a unanimous vote among the leaders for a strict policy of "No Starbucks" in the Golan Heights.

2) Arafat reluctantly accepted a proposal that the next time Hillary kisses his wife, Clinton gets to be there to, you know, watch.

3) Both Barak and Arafat agreed that no matter who winds up controlling Jerusalem, the two sides will go "halfies" on any money raised there by the sale of "Holy City – Wish You Were Here" postcards.

4) Barak and Clinton pledged that when discussions hit a standstill, they will no longer play "Monkey in the Middle" with Arafat's towel hat.

What ultimately went wrong!



1) Clinton quickly alienated Barak by insisting on "BLT and Shellfish Night" in the Camp David Dining Room.

2) Arafat enraged Barak by constantly referring to him as that "f#\$@-ing Jew bastard."

3) Arafat taunted Barak with an insulting karaoke rendition of "If I Were a Rich Man" during the Peace Talks' Nightly Happy Hour.



4) Talks got off on the wrong foot when Clinton greeted each of the arriving dignitaries with a big, slobbering "Wha'sssssup?"

5) Clinton frequently hinted that if Israel and Palestine really want peace, a China-style soft money donation would be in order.

6) Every time the two sides agreed on an issue, Clinton would throw doubt on it by repeatedly badgering them with: "Is that your final answer?"



7) Despite Clinton's constant prodding, Madeleine Albright refused all of Arafat's advances to "get jiggy wit' it."

8) Albright and Barak formed an alliance to vote Clinton out of Camp David during Tribal Council.

9) Screenings of Clinton's private "Oval Office Cam" tapes left too little time to discuss substantive issues.

ARTIST: JACK SYRACUSE