

That Caringer Guy's

# DAILY PREP STANDARD

Tuesday, December 10, 2002

## The News

### U.N. Inspection in Iraq Continue

U.N. weapons inspectors drove six hours across the desert today (Tuesday) to inspect a remote uranium mine. *After learning of the inspection, a White House spokesman said: "There's going to be a BIG problem...if even ONE flake of uranium is found to be radioactive."*

Also, today, weapons inspectors visited a veterinary medicine center just west of Baghdad. Little known fact: *Back in the 80's Saddam Hussein's scientists pioneered the breeding of atomic dogs.*

*(The idea -- ship the dogs to America...and hope that the dog would poop enough in a neighbor's yard -- to reach critical mass and cause a nuclear "poo-tastrophe.")*

### New Bush Economic Team

President Bush has turned to railroad executive John W. Snow -- CEO of CSX Corporation -- to be his new Treasury secretary. *Makes sense, as a railroad executive, Mr. Snow's an expert at dealing with things that have totally derailed.*

Word is the President wants to push ahead with a new round of tax cuts to jump-start the economy. *However, in case the tax cuts don't jump-start it, he's also instructed the Treasury Department to begin constructing the world's largest set of jumper cables.*

Records show, in 2001, CSX paid Mr. Snow, 20.5 million dollars in salary.

*That's not including overtime.*

*Maybe Mr. Bush isn't looking for a Treasury Secretary -- as much as he's looking for a loan!*

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Mr. Bush is pledging to provide more tax relief. He says, "many Americans have very little money left over after taxes." -- to which many Americans responded: "Hell, I'd be happy to pay taxes -- how 'bout a job?"

## United Airlines Bankruptcy

A Day after United Airlines filed for Chapter Eleven, the company ran newspapers ads that said "Chapter 11 was 'Chapter 1' of a bright new future." *With a grip on reality like that, it's no wonder the airline's going under!*

The same day the ads were proclaiming a bright new future...United CEO, Glenn Tilton, warned of wrenching changes to come in the future. *Ohmigod! They're not thinking of taking away the complimentary pretzels...are they?*

Tilton told reporters, "We're going to have to be leaner, we're going to have to be more focused." One way they'll do that is to "limit service to smaller cities." *If you wonder what that means, it's simple: United will still fly to the smaller cities - - but, instead of landing...they'll hand you a parachute as they fly over.*

In their bankruptcy filing, United Airlines said it was losing between 20 and 22-million dollars a day. Tilton said the remedies for this are obvious: Reducing the number of flights, dropping unprofitable routes, cutting jobs and slashing wages. *He then added, "Merry Christmas!"*

## Mel Gibson to Return as "Mad Max"

Mel Gibson has signed a deal for 25 million dollars to return to the movies as "Mad Max" for a fourth time in a flick called "Fury Road." *However, Mel admits, that when somebody's paying you 25-million bucks, it's hard to stay mad for very long.*

The 104 million dollar project will start shooting in Australia next May. *It should be losing money at the box office by year's end.*

George Miller, who directed and co-wrote the first three films, will have spent three years writing "Fury Road" -- and will direct this one, too.

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*Oh oh...does that mean Tina Turner's coming back, too?!*

That means the same guy who was responsible for "Beyond Thunderdome" is responsible for this one, too. Maybe the name for the new movie should be "Beyond Believable."

For those of you who don't remember, the series is about "Mad" Max Rockatansky who roams the lawless, post-apocalyptic Australian outback in a souped up race car...battling nasty, tattooed gangs of thugs in dune buggies and on motorcycles. *In other words, it's "reality based."*

## **Britney Spears Wants Restraining Order**

Britney Spears has asked a judge to issue a restraining order against a 41-year-old Japanese man, Masahiko Shizawa, who has been stalking her since September. *In his defense, Shizawa says he simply wants his money back for one of Britney's concerts last summer...where she sang three songs and quit.*

According to the petition, Shizawa of Yokohama, Japan, has "tracked and attempted to contact" Spears at her home in Los Angeles. Those attempts have ranged from sending photos of himself along with notes reading, "I'm chasing you," to showing up at Spears' home and refusing to leave when he was ordered off the property. I've got an idea. Britney should give this Japanese guy Michael Jackson's address. I bet the "King of Pop" would appreciate the attention!

## **Mel Karmazin's Plans**

Mel Karmazin, who runs CBS says he's got some news for all Americans about his network. He says: "We give you all this great content for free, and all we ask is for you to watch our commercials. If the time comes when you don't watch our commercials, then we will have to make our money some other way." He says the way he intends to do it -- is to make CBS a pay per view channel.

*Gee, we'd all better start watching commercials pronto!*

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*How 'bout that...he's threatening all Americans for channel surfing. Can you imagine what it's like to work for a guy like that?*

*So how much would they charge us to be able to hear Dan Rather give us his two cents?*

*So, let me get this straight. He's threatening that if we don't watch the commercials on CBS, he's going to make us pay? Forget Saddam Hussein...we need to go after Mel!*

## Bit Idea

United Airlines Fake Commercial

(Music: happy)

ANN1: At United Airlines, we've just declared bankruptcy!

ANN2: But, don't worry. Chapter Eleven isn't the end. It's really Chapter One of a bright new future!

(SFX: jet fly by)

ANN1: Of course by "bright new future," what we mean is --

ANN2: Fewer flights to places you need to go.

ANN1: No flights to other places you need to go.

ANN2: Service that's even worse than the crappy service we already provide!

ANN1: The addition of even more seats to make what flights we still have -- even more cramped and crowded.

ANN1&2: And, a "no satisfaction" guarantee -- every time you fly.

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ANN2: At United Airlines, we used to invite you to "fly the friendly skies."

ANN1: Now, we just want you to sit down, strap-in and shut-up.

ANN2: At United Airlines we know -- flying just HAS to get better once we get the lawyers involved!

(Music: resolves)

## **Today's Historical Facts and Fiction**

**On this date in 1830**, Emily Dickinson was born in Amherst, Massachusetts. Only seven of her works were published while she was alive. So, if you're a struggling writer, take heart. You might really do well -- after you die.

**On this date in 1845**, British civil engineer Robert Thompson patented the first pneumatic tires. For those who don't know, it's not really a "pneumatic tire" -- unless it's inflated by a numismatist.

**On this date in 1963**, Donny Osmond made his debut with the Osmonds on NBC's "Andy Williams Show." I believe Nostradamus warned us about that in one of his quatrains.

**On this date in 1965**, The Grateful Dead played their first concert. The show took place at the Fillmore Auditorium in San Francisco. The show wrapped up last night.

**On this date in 1971**, Frank Zappa was pushed from a London stage by the jealous boyfriend of a Zappa fan. Zappa spent months in a wheelchair recovering from a broken leg, ankle and fractured skull. As family members asked Frank later: "Other than that...how as England?"

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## **Today's Celebrity Birthdays**

Dorothy Lamour is 88.

Actor Tommy Kirk is 61.

Actor Tim Considine is 61.

Singer/Music Producer Chad Stuart (Chad and Jeremy) is 59.

Singer Gloria Loring is 56.

Singer Ralph Tavares is 54.

Singer Walter "Clyde" Orange (The Commodores) is 54.

Singer Jessica Cleaves (Friends of Distinction) is 54.

Singer Johnny Rodriguez is 51.

Actress Susan Dey is 50.

Singer Paul Hardcastle is 44.

Actor Kenneth Branagh is 42.

Singer Nia Peeples is 41.

Singer/Musician J Mascis (Dinosaur Jr.) is 37.

Singer/Musician Scot Alexander (Dishwalla) is 31.

Rapper Puff Johnson is 30.

## **Quotes for the day:**

If you want to say it with flowers, a single rose says: "I'm cheap."

- - Delta Burke

Don't carry a grudge. While you're carrying the grudge, the other guy's out dancing.

- - Buddy Hackett

## **CELEBRITY NEWS AND GOSSIP**

We can't copy it. But, we CAN tell you where to find it on the Web!

<http://www.eonline.com/> (click on "First Look")

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<http://www.nationalenquirer.com/>

<http://www.starmagazine.com/>

<http://www.hollywood.com/>

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