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2010 PREVIEW

What not to look forward to: Due to logging of forests to make palm oil, the Orang-utan may be extinct in the wild by the end of 2010 (9AM with David and Kim). **Of Interest:** NASA's Space Shuttle program scheduled for retirement, 29 years after its maiden flight.

IN POLITICS: TONY ABBOTT BECOMES LIBERAL LEADER

Oh well, "█ happens." Tony Abbott is now part of a very exclusive club; that of party leaders who never planned to be in the position. He is also now a member of another, less exclusive club - the Liberal opposition leaders.

CPRS REJECTED

It's getting hot in here. The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme was rejected in the Senate for the second time. The government now has a trigger for a double dissolution election. The arguing in Parliament has created enough hot air to justify including politicians in the scheme - maybe this is why Tuckey is so against the bill?

OBAMA'S INAUGURATION

"People who do things" - Barak Obama
The election of America's first black President and the return of the Democrats marks a change in American politics. Although economic plans are still in their infancy, Obama's presidency has seen vast reemployment; albeit just for the JFK assassins.

HAMID KARZAI RE-ELECTED

Something in doubt in Afghanistan? Well I never!
The re-election of incumbent Hamid Karzai

as President of Afghanistan aroused suspicions of vote rigging when multiple discrepancies in the voting method and security were noted.

IN FINANCE: THE GFC STILL GRIPS THE WORLD

"Grab that cash with both hands and make a stash." - Pink Floyd
Despite banks around the world still giving out large executive bonuses, many countries are still in deficit. It's a strange thought that a homeless person probably has more money than the Australian government!

IN ENTERTAINMENT: BRITNEY SPEARS STAGES COMEBACK TOUR

What's mime for "run"?

HEY HEY IT'S SATURDAY RETURNS

Kerry Packer turns in his grave.
Two reunion specials marking ten years of Hey Hey It's Saturday being pulled were aired earlier this year. The shows were so successful that Hey Hey will be returning with a new series in 2010.

However, in a strange programming decision, these shows were both first aired on Wednesdays, and despite the show being streamed live around the world, not one country anywhere around the

world actually saw this broadcast on a Saturday!

FREEVIEW KICKS IN BEFORE ANALOUGE JUMPS OUT

When does the next one get here?

Channel One kicked off the year with comprehensive Formula One and coverage and 24 hour sport. SBS 2 joined in with more news networks than once thought possible and ABC 3 gave kids their own channel again. 7Two took cooking programs to half the weekday afternoon timeslots whilst Go! took on pay TV, showing more repeats of Seinfeld, and Frasier, and everything else than one person can handle.

IN THE HEADLINES: SWINE FLU THREATENS SOCIETY AS WE KNOW IT

Eating like a pig is NOT a symptom.
Swine flu - it was seen as the virus that might destroy large chunks of the human population, now the risks are largely just a distant memory. The big Australian media outlets hardly touched on the subject when the European winter came about.

SNOW STORMS BLANKET THE UK AND US

Why is this still a surprise in the UK?
Whilst the seas to the

north of Russia are losing their seasonal ice, much of the UK and US have been covered in snow. It's brought a strange tale from Eurostar, which has blamed train breakdowns in the Channel Tunnel on "fluffier than normal" snow. A cause for concern or a soft excuse?

IN IT WINDOWS 7 LAUNCHED

On time? Surely not!
Set to undo the damage of Vista, Microsoft's shiny new operating system in the form of beta releases was welcomed with open arms long before it was released to the public. However the advertising campaign leaves me thinking. If Windows 7 actually is "my idea", then where are my royalties?

USB 3 LAUNCHED

It may be fast in your computer, but it certainly isn't fast in adoption!

IN SPACE "LCROSS" PROBE FINDS WATER ON THE MOON

Too bad it's now in orbit!
NASA tested for water on the luna surface this year by slamming a satellite into the surface of the moon and testing the debris that erupted with a second satellite.

This discovery of water in the form of ice at the moon's south pole is significant as it means a base on the moon could melt this and use it to drink and to make oxygen and rocket fuel.