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Card of the Day - March, 2002

Card of the Day
Friday, March 1, 2002



Birds of Paradise

Card of the Day - Friday, March 29, 2002

Alpha rare.

The Birds have been one of the staples of the game since it began, but they were created as an afterthought. Their art was originally supposed to be for Tropical Island, but the bird was too prominent. So Richard Garfield created a card just for the art, and it ended up being the most versatile mana-producing creature ever.



Regal Unicorn

Card of the Day - Thursday, March 28, 2002

Portal common.

Along with Blaze, the Regal Unicorn was the first *Portal* card to be introduced directly into the base set. It appeared in *Sixth Edition*.



Mirari

Card of the Day - Wednesday, March 27, 2002

Odyssey rare.

Sixth Edition rules have proven to work well enough that the terminology is showing up in card text. Mirari is the first **Magic** card to mention "the stack."



Citanul Druid

Card of the Day - Tuesday, March 26, 2002

Antiquities uncommon.

Citanul Druids were "driven mad by the fall of Argoth," and it's evident in their name: "Citanul" is "Lunatic" spelled backwards.



Frightcrawler

Card of the Day - Monday, March 25, 2002

Odyssey common.

The original name for this card was... Faceless Butcher. But the art has mouths, which implied a face, so the name Faceless Butcher was saved for *Torment*.



Scathe Zombies

Card of the Day - Friday, March 22, 2002

Seventh Edition common.

The zombies may be simple, they may be plain, but they also hold the title of "longest running flavor text." Coleridge's haunting lines are the only flavor text to survive unchanged from *Alpha* through *Seventh Edition*.



Obsianus Golem

Card of the Day - Thursday, March 21, 2002

Alpha uncommon.

The "Song of the Artficer" in the Golem's flavor text is a take-off on the old African-American spiritual "Dem Bones."



Durkwood Boars

Card of the Day - Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Legends common.

Legends was the last expansion set to use real literary quotations for flavor text, and the only set to use the Bible as a source for those quotes. The Boars sport one such Biblical quotation.



Dauthi Trapper

Card of the Day - Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Stronghold uncommon.

The flavor text for the Trapper is interesting because it mentions two other obscure cards: Dandân and Rag Man.



Granite Gargoyle

Card of the Day - Monday, March 18, 2002

Alpha rare.

The name of the author of "The Underworld Cookbook" appears in the Gargoyle's flavor text. It is the longest word ever to appear on a **Magic** card (and won't fit here). For the German version of the card, the name had to be arbitrarily shortened, since it wouldn't fit in one line of text.



Cabal Patriarch

Card of the Day - Friday, March 15, 2002

Odyssey rare.

Throughout the entire *Odyssey* storyline, the Patriarch is never given a "real" name. He is always referred to as the Cabal Patriarch.



Noble Panther

Card of the Day - Thursday, March 14, 2002

Invasion rare.

The original concept for Noble Panther was a giant scarab beetle that could gain flying for one mana. When flying was removed in favor of first strike, the card was changed into a panther.



Time Vault

Card of the Day - Wednesday, March 13, 2002

Alpha rare.

Time Vault was the first non-ante card banned from tournament play. Using its original wording, it comboed with Animate Artifact and Instill Energy to create an infinite-turn engine. Errata has since been issued to prevent such abuse, and the card has been un-banned.



Zodiac Rooster

Card of the Day - Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Portal: Three Kingdoms common.

Plainswalk is a rare ability, and non-white creatures with plainswalk are even rarer. The Rooster, released just in Asian markets, is the only one.



Blizzard Elemental

Card of the Day - Monday, March 11, 2002

Urza's Destiny rare.

Blizzard Elemental was originally slated to be in *7th Edition*, but it was replaced by the more popular Mahamoti Djinn.



Falling Star

Card of the Day - Friday, March 8, 2002

Legends rare.

Perhaps the weakest non-ante card currently banned in Type 1, Falling Star is "guilty by association" of being a problem card. The real culprit is its over-powered big brother, Chaos Orb.



Floral Spuzzem

Card of the Day - Thursday, March 7, 2002

Legends uncommon.

The original wording on Floral Spuzzem implies that the decision to destroy an artifact is made by... the Floral Spuzzem itself! We didn't know Spuzzems could play **Magic**!



Rubinia Soulsinger

Card of the Day - Wednesday, March 6, 2002

Legends rare.

Rubinia was originally called "Titania," but that name was used in *Antiquities*. The model for Rob Alexander's painting of Rubinia was a former employee of Wizards' sales department.

Raging Bull

Card of the Day - Tuesday, March 5, 2002

Legends common.

Legends was not made for limited play; Raging Bull is the only red common creature that can attack for damage. The others are all walls or have 0 power.



All Hallow's Eve

Card of the Day - Monday, March 4, 2002

Legends rare.

All Hallow's Eve is one of a very few cards to be printed with the wrong card type. It says "Sorcery," but has been officially errataed to "Enchantment" since it remains in play for two turns.



Reconstruction

Card of the Day - Friday, March 1, 2002

Antiquities common.

In a printing error, the expansion symbol was left off this card. It should have the anvil.

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