

An incomplete history of Forbes.com as a platform for scams, grift, and bad journalism | Nieman Journalism Lab

By Joshua Benton

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I sometimes think about what the, oh, 1997 version of me would find most surprising about the news industry of today. For all that's happened in the worlds of newspapers and TV news, I think it might be magazines that would throw me for the biggest loop.

"You know [Newsweek](#) — the [Cracked](#) to Time's [Mad](#)? The third-best option in your typical doctor's waiting room? Now it's pretty much a place to run [alt-right conspiracy theories](#) — especially since [that big raid](#) of [their office](#). You pretty much only hear about it when someone says, 'Oh, [Newsweek isn't really Newsweek any more](#).' Oh, and they [might be run](#) by [some fringe Christian sect](#) out of Korea or something?"

[...]

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