



World Affairs

United States Affairs

Pop Culture & Entertainment

Arts & Sciences

JANUARY 01

Czechoslovakia is officially divided into two nations, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, at the stroke of the New Year.

A group show at Paula Cooper Gallery featuring Robert Gober, Donald Judd, Cady Noland, and Rudolf Stingel closes.

On Kawara's show "One Thousand Days One Million Years" opens at Dia Art Foundation in Chelsea, New York.

JANUARY 02

In Geneva, leaders from war-torn Bosnia and Herzegovina propose creating ten new provinces in the Balkans, intended to mediate between the various territorial claims by Serbs, Croats, and Bosnian Muslims.

Wired magazine launches at the Macworld conference in San Francisco.

JANUARY 03

US President George Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin sign the second Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, agreeing to a two-thirds reduction in their respective nuclear arsenals by the year 2003.

JANUARY 04

The US Commerce Department releases a report finding that health care costs accounted for more than 14 percent of the nation's total economic output in the previous year, posing a "threat to the country's economic health."

JANUARY 05

President Bush, in a final address at West Point, cautions the US against becoming "the world's policeman," despite the far-reaching international military engagements of his own presidency.

Serial killer Westley Allan Dodd is executed in Washington State by hanging, at his own request—the first execution by hanging in the US since 1965.

JANUARY 06

Jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie dies of cancer at seventy-five.

Ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev dies at fifty-four, though the true cause of his death—complications from an AIDS-related illness—is not reported for another ten days.

JANUARY 07

The US Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand tobacco smoke as a "known human carcinogen" responsible for three thousand nonsmoker deaths annually.

New York City Mayor David Dinkins expands the rights of unmarried and homosexual New Yorkers, announcing a city registry for domestic partners. His executive order grants hospital visitation rights and other legal benefits for registered couples.

JANUARY 08

Chicago Bull Michael Jordan scores his twentythousandth career point in a game against the Milwaukee Bucks.

JANUARY 09

American forces in Somalia begin an offensive to wrest greater control over Mogadishu in a bid to improve security conditions for United Nations peacekeeping forces.

In Angola, the fifty-five-day-long battle for Huambo between UNITA rebels and the ruling government begins, ultimately causing the death of an estimated ten thousand people.





JANUARY 10

The University of Pittsburgh surgically transplants a baboon liver into a patient dying of hepatitis, the second baboon-liver xenotransplant in history. The patient dies of an infection twenty-six days later.

JANUARY 11

Defeated Independent presidential candidate Ross Perot reappears in the public view to announce the aims of his campaign-organization-turned-nonprofit, "United We Stand, America," including "electronic town meetings" to broadcast citizens' views.



JANUARY 12

Cream reunites for a performance at their Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Los Angeles. Other inductees include Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Doors, Van Morrison, and Sly and the Family Stone.

JANUARY 13

The United States, Britain, and France destroy missile sites in southern Iraq after Saddam Hussein ordered forays into Kuwait in violation of UN resolutions.

US Air Force Major Susan Helms becomes the first US military woman in space as a mission specialist on the shuttle *Endeavour*.

JANUARY 14

The Federal Communications Commission assigns a new block of radio frequencies for a new satellite-based GPS paging device, allowing 100-character text messages to be sent and received around the world.

Six scientists and three tourists are killed inside the Galeras volcano in Colombia during an eruption; they entered the crater despite pre-eruption "tornillo" earthquakes occurring in the previous weeks.

A US federal judge forbids the National Security Council from erasing emails and other digital files that may contain information on the Iran-contra affair before President Bush leaves office.

JANUARY 15

The US Coast Guard, with the support of Presidentelect Clinton, sends ships and aircraft to block the route of an expected wave of refugees from Haiti, in a reversal of a campaign promise.

Oliver Herring's show "A Flower for Ethyl Eichelberger," Lyle Ashton Harris's show "Face," and the group shows "In Transit" and "Skin Deep" open at the New Museum.

JANUARY 16

Zoë Baird, President-elect Clinton's nominee for attorney general, pays \$2,900 in fines for employing undocumented workers as a nanny and a chauffeur. The scandal, known as "Nannygate," ultimately results in the withdrawal of her nomination.

Paul McCarthy's solo show opens at Luhring Augustine Gallery.

JANUARY 17

The US Navy launches forty cruise missiles targeting a military installation on the outskirts of Baghdad in retaliation for Iraq's noncompliance with UN weapons inspectors.

JANUARY 18

The states of Arizona and New Hampshire observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, making 1993 the first year of full participation by all fifty states.

JANUARY 19

Iraq agrees to stop its attacks on US aircraft in a "sign of good will" toward President-elect Clinton.

Israel's parliament votes to annul a 1986 law that deemed it illegal for Israeli citizens to meet with members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, buoying hopes for future peace talks.

JANUARY 20

William Jefferson Clinton is inaugurated as the fortysecond president of the United States.

Actor Audrey Hepburn dies of cancer at sixty-three.

JANUARY 21

The White House announces that Hillary Rodham Clinton will have her own office in the West Wing, where she will work on a number of domestic policy issues; Hillary and Bill arrive at the Oval Office together on his first full day as president.

JANUARY 22

President Clinton overturns restrictions on abortion on the twentieth anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, lifting bans on abortion counseling at federal clinics and on financial aid to international family-planning programs.

JANUARY 23

The fiftieth Golden Globe Awards are held; Martin Brest's *Scent of a Woman* wins best picture.

Andres Serrano's solo exhibition at Paula Cooper Gallery opens.

JANUARY 24

Thurgood Marshall, the first black Supreme Court Justice, dies of heart failure at the age of eighty-four.

JANUARY 25

Sears, Roebuck and Company announces that they will no longer produce their annual "Big Book" catalogue, their revolutionary mail-order initiative that began in 1896.

Aimal Qazi, a Pakistani immigrant armed with an AK-47, fires at CIA employees in Langley, Virginia, killing two; he later states that he was motivated by anger with US policy in the Middle East.

JANUARY 26

Václav Havel, formerly the president of Czechoslovakia, is elected the first president of the newly formed Czech Republic.

JANUARY 27

Wrestler and actor André Roussimoff, better known as André the Giant, dies in his sleep of congestive heart failure at forty-nine.

JANUARY 28

Artist Hannah Wilke dies from lymphoma at fiftythree; her illness is the subject of her posthumously published last work, *Intra-Venus*.

Lothar Baumgarten's solo exhibition "American Invention" opens at the Guggenheim Museum in New York.

JANUARY 29

President Clinton announces a temporary suspension in military discharges of homosexuals after a furor over his plan to lift the ban on gay service members in the military outright; he also announces that new military recruits would not be asked about their sexual orientation, the compromise that would come to be known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

JANUARY 30

The Metro Red Line, a 4.4-mile-long subway route, opens in Los Angeles after seven years of construction.

JANUARY 31

The Dallas Cowboys defeat the Buffalo Bills in the Super Bowl; Michael Jackson performs during halftime.

FEBRUARY 01

Hillary Clinton announces a complete ban on smoking in the White House, citing her focus on health.

Wayne Koestenbaum's nonfiction book on opera and queer culture, *The Queen's Throat*, is released.

FEBRUARY 02

President Clinton meets with governors and members of Congress, announcing that he will seek \$31 billion in stimulus spending to revive the economy.

FEBRUARY 03

Jury selection begins in the federal civil rights trial of four of the police officers charged in the beating of Rodney King.

FEBRUARY 04

The Dow Jones industrial average closes at a record high of 3,416.74, thanks to falling interest rates and positive corporate earning reports.

FEBRUARY 05

President Clinton signs his first piece of legislation into law: the Family and Medical Leave Act, which provides twelve weeks of unpaid leave for workers to care for a child or sick family member.

FEBRUARY 06

Arthur Ashe, the only black man to win Wimbledon, the US Open, and the Australian Open, dies from an AIDS-related illness at the age of forty-nine.





FEBRUARY 07

A proposed Bosnian peace plan fails on the eve of a United Nations Security Council session.

FEBRUARY 08

The Clinton Administration announces that, in the wake of the "Nannygate" scandal, candidates for government jobs subject to Senate confirmation will be questioned on whether they have ever employed undocumented workers, which was made explicitly illegal in a 1986 law.

FEBRUARY 09

A celebration parade for the Dallas Cowboys' Super Bowl win is attended by four hundred thousand revelers; the crowd turns violent, and more than two dozen people are injured by stabbings, gun shots, and fistfights.

FEBRUARY 10

Apple Computer, Inc. introduces the PowerBook 165c, the very first Apple laptop with a color display, at a retail price of \$3,400.

Michael Jackson speaks candidly about his childhood with Oprah Winfrey in the most-watched television interview in history, drawing ninety million viewers.

The US agrees to be involved in the peace process in the Balkans, indicating a willingness to send ground troops to the region.

FEBRUARY 11

President Clinton selects Janet Reno as his attorney general, his third choice for the post.

FEBRUARY 12

The film *Groundhog Day* is released in theaters. One of the most critically acclaimed comedies of all time, the United States National Film Registry ultimately taps it for inclusion in the Library of Congress in 2006.

Jeanette Winterson's erotic novel Written on the Body is released.

FEBRUARY 13

Scientists discover the greatest concentration of active volcanoes on earth on the floor of the Pacific Ocean near Easter Island.

FEBRUARY 14

The body of an abducted two-year-old boy, James Bulger, is discovered outside Liverpool, England. Bulger's killers, two ten-year-old boys, later become the youngest convicted murderers in modern British history.

FEBRUARY 15

Art Spiegelman's cover illustration for the New Yorker, featuring a Hasidic man and a black woman embracing amorously in honor of Valentine's Day, causes a controversy in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, whose racial disturbances in 1991 inspired the cartoon.

FEBRUARY 16

President Lech Wałęsa of Poland signs a law virtually banning abortion despite widespread public opposition.

2Pac releases his second album, *Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z.*

FEBRUARY 17

President Clinton presents his program for cutting the deficit by \$500 billion to Congress, outlining a tax hike on the wealthiest Americans and cuts in military spending.



FEBRUARY 18

South Africa's African National Congress approves a plan to allow the white-led National Party to govern as junior partner for the five years following the April 1994 election, the first in which South Africa's black population would be able to vote.

The US Senate passes an amendment to the Health Reauthorization Bill to bar immigrants with HIV or AIDS from entering the country.

FEBRUARY 19

Alan Greenspan, the conservative Republican chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, endorses Clinton's economic plan.

FEBRUARY 20

Ferruccio Lamborghini, founder of the eponymous Italian automobile company, dies of heart failure at seventy-six.

FEBRUARY 21

Syria announces that it will participate in peace talks without demanding the repatriation of four hundred Palestinians deported from Israel under suspicion of being security threats.

A major exhibition of Joseph Beuys's drawings, "Thinking is Form," opens at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

FEBRUARY 22

President Clinton travels to Silicon Valley to announce a \$17 billion initiative promoting government-industry partnerships to advance computing technologies.

The United Nations Security Council establishes the International Criminal Tribunal to prosecute humanitarian abuses in the former Yugoslavia.

FEBRUARY 23

United Nations Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali endorses the US proposal to airdrop humanitarian supplies into Bosnia, the largest proposed American involvement in the Balkan conflict to date.

FEBRUARY 24

Widespread riots and looting erupt on the streets of Mogadishu when General Mohamed Aidid blames the US-led military coalition for an attack on his troops in the south of Somalia.

FEBRUARY 25

Kim Young Sam is inaugurated as South Korea's first nonmilitary president in over thirty years, vowing to restore trust in the government and cure economic and social ills.

FEBRUARY 26

Six people are killed and over one thousand are injured at the World Trade Center in New York when a truck bomb planted by terrorists explodes in the parking garage below the North Tower.

FEBRUARY 27

Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" ends its record-breaking run as the number one Billboard hit song, slipping into second position the following week.

Lillian Gish, early silent-film star, dies in her sleep at the age of ninety-nine.

FEBRUARY 28

The Waco siege at the Branch Davidian compound in Elk, Texas, begins when agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms attempt to serve a search warrant. A protracted gun battle ensues, killing ten and beginning a fifty-one day standoff.

MARCH 01

The US completes the first airdrop of supplies in the Balkans, delivering twenty tons of food and medicine to besieged areas; however, two-thirds of the supplies do not reach their intended targets, and the Muslim town of Cerska falls to Serbians hours later.

The Irish band the Cranberries releases their debut album, Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We?

John Grisham's fourth novel, The Client, is released.

MARCH 02

The State of Alabama exonerates Walter McMillian, a black man held for six years on death row for the murder of a white woman, after multiple trial witnesses admit to committing perjury.

The Federal Communications Commission formally announces that cartoons can no longer count toward the educational programming quota that television broadcasters must meet for license renewal.

Zone Books releases the Bruce Mau-designed book version of Chris Marker's seminal film *La Jetée*.

Sonic Youth releases the single "Sugar Kane"; the music video features clothing from Marc Jacobs's notorious grunge collection for Perry Ellis, which debuted in the fall of 1992 and resulted in Jacobs's termination.

MARCH 03

Dr. Albert Sabin, the researcher who developed the live-virus polio vaccine, dies of heart failure at eighty-six.

A show on the work of Japanese architect Tadao Ando opens at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris.

MARCH 04

Mohammed Salameh, one of the perpetrators of the World Trade Center bombing, is arrested when he returns for the third time to the Ryder rental agency to demand the refund of his \$400 deposit for the truck used in the explosion, claiming that the vehicle was stolen.

Opening of the Whitney Biennial.

MARCH 05

In Italy, there is public outrage at a Ministry of Justice proposal for widespread amnesty to be granted to elite politicians involved in *Tangentopoli*, the vast bribery network exposed in the *mani pulite* scandal in 1992.

MARCH 06

Hundreds of thousands of Roman Catholics assemble in the Philippines hoping to see an apparition of the Virgin Mary after a twelve-year-old boy claimed to have seen the Virgin on the first Saturday of every month for the past four years.





MARCH 07

Experts report that President Clinton will likely fill the record number of judge vacancies not by ideological preference, but with an eye toward diversity.

MARCH 08

The Nigerian musician Fela Kuti, an outspoken dissident, is arrested and charged with murder despite lack of evidence in an apparent act of government harassment.





MTV's irreverent animated television series *Beavis* and *Butt-Head* premieres.

MARCH 09

Japanese investigators discover \$50 million in cash and hundreds of pounds of gold bars taken in bribes at the home of Shin Kanemaru, formerly Japan's most powerful politician.

Rodney King takes the witness stand during a civil trial, reporting that he was taunted with racial epithets during the beating by Los Angeles police officers.

Roberto Calasso's novel *The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony* is published in English.

MARCH 10

Dr. David Gunn, an abortion provider, is shot and killed outside his clinic in Pensacola, Florida, in the first documented antiabortion assassination in the US.

MARCH 11

The Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation votes on a referendum to curtail President Yeltsin's power, setting off a protracted battle for governmental control.

MARCH 12

A series of bombs are detonated across Bombay, killing at least 250 people and injuring hundreds more; more than a hundred suspected perpetrators are later tried in India's longest-running court case, ending in 2006.

North Korea withdraws from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty to avoid an inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

MARCH 13

The "Storm of the Century" hits the Eastern Seaboard of the United States, killing 310 people, leaving ten million Americans without power, and blanketing the country with snow from the Florida Panhandle all the way up to Canada.

MARCH 14

Nine hundred Somali security guards hired to protect relief supplies at the Mogadishu port clash with the UN, demanding salary for a three-month period when they weren't working.

MARCH 15

The United Nations Commission on the Truth releases a report on El Salvador's twelve-year-long civil war, calling for the dismissal of implicated military officers and an overhaul of the judicial system.

MARCH 16

Haiti's ousted president, Reverend Jean-Bertrand Aristide, visits the Oval Office; President Clinton pledges support for restoring Haitian democracy.

MARCH 17

Stage actor Helen Hayes dies of heart failure at ninety-two.

MARCH 18

Serbs block a United Nations relief convoy from reaching the besieged town of Srebrenica and launch a heavy artillery attack on Saraievo.

MARCH 19

Supreme Court Justice Byron White announces that he will retire at the end of his term, paving the way for President Clinton's first Supreme Court appointment, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first Jewish female justice.

An advisory committee recommends that Interferonbeta-1b, a major new drug treating multiple sclerosis, be submitted for FDA approval; it is the first drug to effectively treat the symptoms of the disease.

MARCH 20

President Yeltsin spurns the Russian parliament and claims virtually unlimited power, appealing directly to Russian citizens to support him in a popular vote referendum.

The IRA detonates two bombs in a busy shopping center in Warrington, England, killing two young children and injuring fifty-six.

MARCH 21

Lucy Hannah, a supercentenarian born in 1875 to American slaves, dies at 117 years of age.

MARCH 22

The engine of the space shuttle *Columbia* fails just before takeoff from Cape Canaveral, Florida, delaying a nine-day space mission.

MARCH 23

Researchers announce that they have discovered the gene that causes Huntington's disease, completing a ten-year collaboration between six laboratory groups around the world.

MARCH 24

South African President F.W. de Klerk announces that the country had successfully built six atomic bombs in a clandestine program and then destroyed them in 1989, making South Africa the first and only country to have destroyed its nuclear arsenal.

MARCH 25

Rupert Murdoch offers to repurchase the bankrupt New York Post, America's oldest continuously published daily newspaper; Murdoch had previously bought the paper in 1976 and sold it in 1988.

MARCH 26

The famous photograph of a starving Sudanese child crawling toward a feeding center with a vulture watching nearby is published in the *New York Times*, inciting anger against the photographer, Kevin Carter, who was awarded a Pulitzer Prize and later committed suicide.

MARCH 27

After weeks of negotiations, all fifteen warring factions in Somalia signed a disarmament and reconciliation agreement, which was later broken by General Aidid's factions in early June.

MARCH 28

Russian President Yeltsin survives a surprise vote by the Congress of People's Deputies to remove him from office.

MARCH 29

Oscars are awarded in various categories for Unforgiven, Scent of a Woman, Howard's End, and My Cousin Vinny.

MARCH 30

Painter Richard Diebenkorn dies of respiratory failure at the age of seventy-one.

MARCH 31

Technologist Carl Malamud broadcasts the inaugural episode of the first internet radio show, "Geek of the Week," with the slogan, "Asynchronous times demand asynchronous radio."

APRIL 01

In the largest consumer protection measure instituted in decades, the Federal Communications Commission orders television cable companies to reduce their prices by 15 percent.

Jeffrey Eugenides's novel *The Virgin Suicides* is published.

APRIL 02

Philip Morris cuts the price of Marlboro cigarettes by 40 cents to \$1.80 in response to the competition of generic brands during the recession; stock plummets by over 20 percent.

APRIL 03

At a summit meeting in Vancouver, President Clinton offers \$1 billion to President Yeltsin to help speed Russia's free-market transition.

APRIL 04

Sheryl Swoopes sets the National Collegiate Athletic Association single-game scoring record in women's basketball with the Texas Tech Lady Raiders.

APRIL 05

A New York Times/CBS poll reports that the majority of Americans would accept new taxes for a universal health care plan.

APRIL 06

The White House orders NASA to work with Russia to design a joint space station to cut costs, ending decades of space rivalry.

APRIL 07

The US proposes a new head to a Palestinian delegation for the Middle East peace negotiations in an incentive to resume talks.





APRIL 08

Marian Anderson, the first black singer to perform at the Metropolitan Opera, dies of heart failure at ninety-six.

APRIL 09

Iraqi forces fire on American fighter jets in the no-fly zone; American planes bomb in retaliation.

APRIL 10

A white right-wing fringe group member assassinates the popular black leader of South Africa's Communist Party, Chris Hani, at his home.

APRIL 11

Five days of talks between Taiwan and China conclude, opening a path for the rival governments to meet formally for the first time since 1949.

APRIL 12

A two-week cease-fire in Bosnia is broken by Serbian nationalist attacks in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, just minutes after NATO planes begin enforcing a ban on Serbian aircraft.

APRIL 13

Tom Stoppard's play *Arcadia*, widely considered one of his finest works, premieres in London.

Wallace Stegner, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, dies of respiratory failure at eighty-four.

APRIL 14

Riots across South Africa during the national day of mourning for Chris Hani result in seven deaths and hundreds of injuries.

APRIL 15

An agreement is reached to save the red-cockaded woodpecker, an endangered species threatened by logging in the Southeast US.

Katharina Fritsch's exhibition "Rat King" opens at Dia Art Foundation in Chelsea, New York.

APRIL 16

Military commanders in Haiti reject an offer of amnesty, setting back negotiations to reinstate overthrown President Aristide.

APRIL 17

A verdict is reached in the Rodney King civil rights trial, finding two of the four police officers guilty as charged.

APRIL 18

The fiftieth anniversary of the monthlong Passover uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto is commemorated in New York.

APRIL 19

The standoff at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, ends when the building collapses in a fire—set by sect members themselves after multiple rounds of tear gas were inserted into the building by government agents—killing seventy-six sect members.

In Italy, voters go to the polls in a historic national referendum spurred by the *mani pulite* scandal, abolishing three ministries and cutting off political party funding.

APRIL 20

A licensing agreement for the abortion drug mifepristone, known as RU-486, is signed, paving the way for American distribution of the controversial medication.



India's president assents to a constitutional amendment that reserves one third of all local government seats for women and proportional numbers of seats for members of lower castes.

APRIL 21

President Clinton's stimulus bill is filibustered by Senate Republicans in his first serious legislative defeat.

APRIL 22

The Mosaic web browser, the very first graphical web interface, is released by the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois; it soon becomes the world's most popular browser.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is dedicated in Washington, DC.

APRIL 23

César Chávez, founder of the first union of farmworkers in America, dies in his sleep at sixty-six.

Felix Gonzalez-Torres's solo show opens at Andrea Rosen Gallery.

APRIL 24

A truck bomb planted by the IRA explodes on Bishopsgate in the City of London, killing one and wounding forty-four.

APRIL 25

A major march for gay rights attracts an estimated one million protesters, demanding the passage of a civil rights bill ending LGBT discrimination and seeking increased funding for AIDS research.

APRIL 26

NBC announces that Conan O'Brien will replace David Letterman as the host of *Late Night*.

APRIL 27

Middle East talks resume in Washington after an announcement that some of the Palestinians deported to Lebanon in 1992 as suspected terrorists will be granted repatriation.

APRIL 28

The Pentagon lifts the ban on female participation in aerial and naval combat.

Thousands of girls take the day off from school to accompany their parents during the first "Take Our Daughters to Work Day," spearheaded by the Ms.

APRIL 29

President Yeltsin, buoyed by widespread support in a popular vote referendum, presents a new draft of the constitution recommending the abolishment of the Congress of People's Deputies, his political rival.

APRIL 30

Monica Seles, the number-one-ranked female tennis player, is stabbed in the back by a spectator during a match in Bonn. Germany.

MAY 01

Ranasinghe Premadasa, President of Sri Lanka, is assassinated by a suicide bomber from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam during a May Day rally.

The group exhibition "Coming to Power: 25 Years of Sexually X-Plicit Art By Women" opens at David Zwirner Gallery, New York.

MAY 02

Radovan Karadžić, the leader of the Bosnian Serbian nationalist faction, signs a peace plan under threat of US airstrikes.

MAY 03

An American sailor admits that he beat his gay shipmate, Allen Schindler, to death in Japan, in a high-profile case cited in the ongoing debate over gay service members in the military.

MAY 04

Tony Kushner's play *Angels in America* premieres in New York; it would later win a Pulitzer Prize.

PJ Harvey releases her second album, Rid of Me.

MAY 05

Irving Howe, literary critic and cofounder of *Dissent* magazine, dies at the age of seventy-two.

MAY 06

Bosnian Serbs reverse course and reject the peace plan; President Clinton pushes European allies to join in a plan to arm Bosnian Muslims so that they can fight to attain a stronger negotiating position with Serbs.

Two separate instances of USPS workers "going postal" occur: In Dearborn, Michigan, Lawrence Jasion wounds three and kills two, and in Dana Point, California. Mark Hilbun kills three.

MAY 07

Hillary Clinton's Task Force on National Health Care Reform announces that the proposed government health care plan would include worker's compensation coverage and injuries suffered in automobile accidents.

Nari Ward's exhibition "Carpet Angel," Kazumi Tanaka's solo show, and the group show "The Final Frontier," which includes Andrea Zittel's "Breeding Unit for Reassigning Flight," open at the New Museum.

MAY 08

In Geneva, the US proposes the creation of a High Commissioner for Human Rights at the UN, in a reversal of twelve years of Republican policy.

MAY 09

Citizens of Paraguay flock to the polls in the country's most democratic election to date, choosing the first civilian president in thirty-nine years.





MAY 10

Art historian Rosalind Krauss's seminal rethinking of modernism, *The Optical Unconscious*, is released by October Books.

Keron Thomas, a sixteen-year-old boy posing as a New York City subway motorman, successfully drives the A train for forty-seven miles before being discovered.

MAY 11

IBM and Blockbuster announce a joint venture to create "on-demand" stores where digital music, video, and game files can be downloaded and transferred to disc by customer request through new computer technology.

Still Life with Apples by Paul Cézanne sells for \$28.6 million at a Sotheby's auction, the first painting to sell for over \$20 million in three years.

MAY 12

American Airlines announces that it will ban computers, CDs, and electronic devices during takeoff and landing, citing instrument interference. In the first sale of its kind, two relics purported to be slivers of the "true" cross sell for \$18,000 at a Paris auction, despite Vatican protests.

MAY 13

A guilty verdict is reached in the infamous "condom rape case," in which the defendant argued that the victim implied consent by asking her knife-wielding attacker to wear a condom.

MAY 14

Nine of the former fifteen Soviet republics sign a preliminary agreement to create a unified economic community.

MAY 15

William Randolph Hearst, Jr., the Pulitzer Prizewinning journalist and publishing heir, dies at eighty-five.

Janet Jackson's single "That's the Way Love Goes" hits number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

MAY 16

Dr. Jack Kevorkian is arrested for assisting a suicide in Michigan; two weeks later, he is featured as "Dr. Death" on the cover of *Time* magazine.

MAY 17

The Supreme Court accepts a case to decide whether sex can be a validcriterion in jury selection. They find it unconstitutional in *J.E.B. v. Alabama ex rel. T.B.* the following year.





MAY 18

The US formally recognizes the government of Angola for the first time since 1975 when the civil war began.

MAY 19

Officials announce that an Iraqi prisoner has admitted to a plot to assassinate former President George H.W. Bush during a visit to Kuwait in April.

MAY 20

President Clinton signs the "Motor Voter" act, allowing voter registration at state motor vehicle departments, leading to the registration of more than twenty-eight million new voters—more than the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, which lowered the voting age to eighteen in 1971.

NBC airs the final episode of *Cheers*, watched by an estimated 42.4 million households.

MAY 21

The United States Archivist and the White House are found in contempt of court for failing to preserve computer files in the ongoing legal battle that would eventually become Armstrong v. Executive Office of the President, which mandated the permanent preservation of all governmental email messages.

MAY 22

European allies and Russia agree to the US plan for aiding Bosnia, offering planes but no ground troops.

MAY 23

United Nations-led democratic elections begin in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, after decades of genocidal rule by the Khmer Rouge.

MAY 24

A research and industry consortium including AT&T, Philips, Zenith, and MIT announces that they will work together to develop a new television technology: HDTV.

The Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) breaks its ceasefire with the Turkish government, ambushing and killing thirty-three Turkish soldiers.

MAY 25

New York Archbishop John O'Connor convenes a meeting to discuss sexual abuse of minors.

MAY 26

Hillary Clinton gives a highly publicized speech to members of the Service Employees International Union, laying out a bold case for her health care reform plan.

MAY 27

A bomb planted in a car outside the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy, detonates, killing six and destroying several works of art.

President Clinton's budget passes the House of Representatives after months of negotiations in a major political victory.

Clinton formally backs the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" plan for gay service members in the military.

MAY 28

Poland's only female prime minister, Hanna Suchocka, loses a vote of confidence in parliament and resigns.





MAY 29

Five Turks die in an arson attack perpetrated by neo-Nazis in Germany.

MAY 30

Senator Boren, the swing voter from Oklahoma, suggests that he is open to compromise on the Clinton budget bill.

MAY 31

President Dobrica Ćosić of Yugoslavia is ousted by parliament in a no-confidence vote.

JUNE 01

In the worst attack in the Balkans in a year, mortar shells kill twelve and wound eighty at a soccer game in Sarajevo.

Psychiatrist Peter Kramer's ground-breaking book on psychopharmaceuticals, *Listening to Prozac*, is released.

Susanna Kaysen's memoir *Girl, Interrupted* is released.

JUNE 02

The jury in the notorious libel case against New Yorker writer Janet Malcolm finds her guilty of fabricating misleading quotes about psychoanalyst Jeffrey Masson; the following year, another court rules that more evidence is needed.

JUNE 03

Norton Simon, the industrialist and art collector who endowed the Pasadena museum bearing his name, dies at eighty-six.

JUNE 04

The United Nations authorizes strikes against Serbian factions in Bosnia.

JUNE 05

Conway Twitty, the chart-topping country-andwestern singer, dies at fifty-nine.

JUNE 06

A ship carrying hundreds of illegal Chinese immigrants runs aground off of Rockaway Peninsula, Queens; ten passengers drown.

JUNE 07

Brennan Hayden, a wireless engineer, sends the first commercial text message. His one-word SMS: "burp."

JUNE 08

Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito weds Masako Owada in a traditional Shinto ceremony in Tokyo.

JUNE 09

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission mandates that disabled and sick workers cannot be excluded from jobs due to health insurance costs.

JUNE 10

The US National Institute of Health mandates that clinical research trials must include women and minorities.

Architect Fumihiko Maki is named the sixteenth Pritzker Architecture Prize Jaureate

JUNE 11

Steven Spielberg's *Jurassic Park* is released, setting a box office record of \$47 million in ticket sales during the first weekend.

JUNE 12

The Norman Rockwell Museum opens in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, featuring more than five hundred paintings by the artist.

JUNE 13

Diabetes researchers announce that severe complications from the disease can be avoided by intensive daily regulation of blood-sugar levels through monitoring and insulin administration.

The forty-eighth Venice Biennale, "The Cardinal Points of Art," curated by Achille Bonito Oliva, opens.

JUNE 14

Twenty Somali demonstrators are killed when Pakistani peacekeeping troops fire into a marching crowd.

President Clinton formally announces Ruth Bader Ginsburg as his choice for Supreme Court Justice.

JUNE 15

The Pepsi syringe hoax reaches fever pitch in the media, with sixteen different accounts of foreign objects found in Pepsi cans now reported across the country—all spontaneous fabrications.

JUNE 16

Nigeria's presidential election results—intended to restore civilian rule after a decade of army rule—are suspended by military leaders.

JUNE 17

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops convenes in New Orleans and announces a new committee to find and punish sexually abusive priests.

JUNE 18

The Spanish government announces a plan to buy the art collection of Baron Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza for \$350 million.

JUNE 19

Legislators in Japan's Parliament pass a vote of no confidence in Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in the wake of numerous government scandals.

JUNE 20

Lee Janzen wins golf's US Open, beating Payne Stewart by two strokes.

Robert Gober's installation at Dia Art Foundation in Chelsea closes.

JUNE 21

British mathematician Andrew Wiles presents his preliminary proof of Fermat's Last Theorem, first proposed in 1637.

JUNE 22

A federal appeals court rules that First Lady Hillary Clinton is a de facto federal official, and thus can conduct health care task force business in private.

UC Berkeley geneticist Charles Epstein receives an explosive package from the Unabomber, Theodore Kaczynski, which partially destroys his hearing and severs three of his fingers.

Liz Phair's first album, Exile in Guyville, is released.

JUNE 23

Lorena Bobbitt severs the penis of her husband, John Bobbitt, stating that he had repeatedly sexually assaulted her.

The exhibitions "Abject Art" and "The Subject of Rape," organized by the Whitney Independent Study Program, open at the Whitney Museum of American

JUNE 24

Yale computer science professor David Gelernter is seriously injured by a mail bomb sent by the Unabomber, in the second attack on a university professor in three days.

Eight militants suspected of planning bomb attacks and assassinations are arrested in New York.



Jürgen Habermas's recent contributions to ethical theory are published in English as *Justification and Application* by MIT Press.

JUNE 25

Kim Campbell, Canada's first female prime minister, assumes leadership.

Nora Ephron's film Sleepless in Seattle is released in theaters.

"The Inferno-Paradiso Switch," a solo exhibition of Rebecca Horn's work, opens at the Guggenheim in New York.

JUNE 26

The US fires twenty-three missiles at Iraq's intelligence headquarters in Baghdad in retaliation for an attempt to assassinate former President Bush in April.

JUNE 27

Anthony Young, a pitcher for the Mets, sets a major league record with his twenty-fourth consecutive loss, in a losing streak that eventually hit twenty-seven.

JUNE 28

Zone Books releases the groundbreaking essay collection *The Invention of Pornography, 1500–1800*, edited by historian Lynn Hunt.

The Clinton Administration announces that in a reversal of Bush-era policy, those infected with HIV will no longer be denied federal disability benefits.

JUNE 29

Two bodies slain by Joel Rifkin, the prolific New York serial killer, are found.

The Notorious B.I.G.'s debut single, "Party and Bullshit," is released.

JUNE 30

Representative Henry Hyde successfully defends his restrictions on federal Medicaid financing for abortion, in place since 1977.

Sydney Pollack's John Grisham adaptation, *The Firm*, is released in theaters.

JULY 01

The first novel written by artificial intelligence, *Just This Once*—based on the literary styling of *Valley of the Dolls* author Jacqueline Susann—is released after eight years of programming.

JULY 02

Egyptian cleric Omar Abdel-Rahman, the "Blind Sheikh" linked to the World Trade Center militants and other New York-area bomb plots, surrenders to authorities.

Three boats in a religious procession in the Philippines sink, killing 279 passengers.

JULY 03

Exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide signs a military accord (later broken), agreeing to return to Haiti to lead a democratic government by October 30.

JULY 04

A blimp advertising the restaurant chain Pizza Hut crashes on the roof of a Manhattan building after deflating from a puncture.

JULY 05

Iraq refuses to allow United Nations weapons inspectors to install a camera at a missile test site, violating the truce agreement.

JULY 06

The J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles purchases a Michelangelo drawing of the Holy Family for \$6.27 million, the highest price paid at auction for an Old Master drawing.

New York's highest court rules that it is unconstitutional for the state to fund a Hasidic school for special needs students in the town of Kiryas Joel.

JULY 07

Six Somali employees of the UN are ambushed and killed in Mogadishu by members of General Aidid's faction.

JULY 08

G7 world leaders meet in Tokyo for their nineteenth annual economic summit.

Egypt executes seven militant followers of Sheikh Abdel-Rahman for attacking foreign tourists and planning to overthrow the government, in the largest execution in forty years.

JULY 09

Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala orders an inquiry into blood-distribution practices from 1982–84, when companies knowingly distributed HIV-infected clotting agents to hemophiliac patients; the inquiry ultimately leads to a \$600 million settlement in 1997.

JULY 10

British scientists announce that they have identified the bones of Czar Nicholas II and his family members using DNA tests after seventy-five years of speculationas to the whereabouts of the Russian Romanov family.

JULY 11

President Clinton sharply urges North Korea to drop their nuclear arms program, warning of future economic sanctions.

After days of heavy rain in a swath of Midwestern states along the Mississippi, Des Moines, Iowa, floods catastrophically, tainting the water supply for a quarter-million residents.

JULY 12

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake strikes to the west of the Japanese island of Hokkaido, triggering a tsunami and causing 230 fatalities.





Debut, Björk's second studio album, is released.

JULY 13

A US Census report is released, revealing a 60 percent increase in births out of wedlock in the preceding decade; a quarter of American women now become mothers without marrying.

LaFace Records releases Toni Braxton's self-titled debut album.

JULY 14

Abkhaz separatists in Georgia ignore a government ultimatum and continue to bomb the Abkhaz capital, Sukhumi.

JULY 15

A study of Greenland's ice samples published in Nature reports that extreme weather shifts were common prior to the last ten thousand years on earth, shocking many climate scientists.

JULY 16

For the first time in its history, the British security service MI5 allows its director to be photographed and speak openly to the press about the activities of the organization.

Geneticists report that male homosexuality is linked to a gene residing in the lower half of the X chromosome.

JULY 17

FBI director William Sessions is asked to resign due to evidence that he abused the privileges of his office.

JULY 18

The seven-year-old boy, Jesse Sepulveda, Jr., whose two heart transplants catalyzed a national debate and led to the formation of a federal organ donation program, dies.

JULY 19

President Clinton formally announces the new policy toward gay service members in the military, allowing them to serve as long as they do not disclose their sexual identity or engage in sexual activity.





JULY 20

The lurid parental-murder trial of Erik and Lyle Menendez begins, broadcast by Court TV.

A settlement values the Andy Warhol estate at \$220 million, far less than its original estimate, after a long battle between lawyers and foundation members.

JULY 21

During the second day of her Supreme Court confirmation hearings, Ruth Bader Ginsburg unequivocally supports legal abortion in the most direct language ever used by a nominee.

JULY 22

A government report finds that the majority of HIV-positive women contracted the virus through heterosexual sex, rather than intravenous drug use.

JULY 23

Britain's Prime Minister John Major wins a vote of confidence from parliament, clearing the way for final approval of the Treaty on European Union to create a unified economic community.

JULY 24

UB40's single "Can't Help Falling in Love" hits number one on the Billboard Top 100 chart.

In a bid to stem inflation, the central bank of Russia withdraws all currency notes issued before 1993, inducing panic.

JULY 25

Israeli aircraft heavily shell Hezbollah bases in Lebanon in retaliation for attacks on Israeli forces during the previous months.

In the flooded Midwest, the second largest levee in the nation breaks in Illinois; as the water rises, two workers are trapped aloft in trees along with dozens of fleeing snakes, and are eventually rescued by helicopter.

JULY 26

In China, a preliminary design for the Three Gorges Dam is approved and construction preparation formally begins.

The Smashing Pumpkins release their second album, Siamese Dream.

JULY 27

Reggie Lewis, a player for the Boston Celtics, collapses during a practice session and dies of cardiac arrest at the age of twenty-seven.

An alternative-medicine treatment plan for heart disease, which includes meditation, is accepted for reimbursement by insurers in the first decision of its kind.

JULY 28

President Clinton agrees to a military strike against Serbian forces attacking UN peacekeepers in Bosnia.

JULY 29

In Japan, the political opposition coalition chooses Morihiro Hosokawa as their leader, clearing a path for him to become the first non-Liberal Democrat prime minister of Japan in thirty-eight years.

JULY 30

Belgium's King Baudouin I dies of a heart attack at the age of sixty-two.

Speculative currency traders attack the franc, driving the French currency to a perilously low value.

JULY 31

After a week of shelling in Lebanon, Hezbollah and Israel agree to a cease-fire brokered by Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

AUGUST 01

The baseball player Reggie Jackson is inducted into the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

AUGUST 02

The biological parents of "Baby Jessica" DeBoer, who changed their minds five days after putting her up for adoption, win the two-and-a-half-year custody fight with her adoptive parents.

A rocket ferrying an \$800 million spy satellite explodes over the Pacific, destroying the entirety of the US intelligence budget savings.

AUGUST 03

Ruth Bader Ginsburg becomes the second female Supreme Court Justice in the US, confirmed by a ninety-six to three vote in the Senate.





Sheryl Crow releases her debut album, *Tuesday Night Music Club*.

AUGUST 04

The two police officers found guilty of civil rights violations in the beating of Rodney King are each sentenced to two and a half years in prison.

AUGUST 05

Explosions caused by a nitric acid leak rip through warehouses in Shenzhen, China, killing seventy and injuring hundreds.

AUGUST 06

President Clinton's budget plan to reduce the deficit by \$496 billion is passed without a single Republican vote when Vice President Gore breaks a tie in the Senate.

AUGUST 07

As fighting between Afghanistan and Tajikistan intensifies, Russian President Yeltsin encourages other Central Asian countries to help defend the porous border.

AUGUST 08

Tropical Storm Bret strikes Caracas, Venezuela, triggering mudslides and killing ninety-nine people.

AUGUST 09

In a major shift in land policy, the Clinton administration announces that fees for ranchers using federal land will double, in a bid to preserve the environmental heritage of the West.

Art Club 2000's exhibition "Commingle" closes at American Fine Arts Gallery.

AUGUST 10

The US publicly discusses sending commandos to Mogadishu, Somalia, to hunt down General Aidid, the warlord responsible for the deaths of four Americans.

President Clinton signs the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act; under the new law, Americans will pay an additional 4.3 cents per gallon for gasoline.

AUGUST 11

The US Marines announce publicly that they will phase out married servicemen and women, and are quickly overruled by Secretary of Defense Les Aspin in an embarrassing public relations gaffe.

AUGUST 12

Pope John Paul II meets with President Clinton in Denver, directly registering his disapproval with the administration's policy on abortion.

AUGUST 13

A body discovered in a South Carolina swamp is identified as James Jordan, Sr., the father of basketball legend Michael Jordan. Jordan Sr. was murdered in a car theft incident.

An appeals court rules that the White House must treat all email messages as official government records to be saved for posterity in the ongoing case Armstrong v. Executive Office of the President.

AUGUST 14

In Oklahoma, the nation's governors announce that they will take up the issue of the proposed federal health care plan during their annual meeting, noting their concerns that it will disturb health initiatives in individual states.

AUGUST 15

As discomfort with attitudes expressed in rap music mounts, the feminist scholar bell hooks is quoted in the *New York Times* saying, "I think a lot of misogynous rap is similar to crack. It gives people a sense that they have power over their lives when they don't."

AUGUST 16

AT&T announces that it will pay \$12.6 billion for the nation's largest wireless phone company, McCaw Cellular Communications, in the fifth-largest takeover in the nation's history to date.

Tuxedo manufacturer Harvey Weinstein is found buried alive in a bunker in Manhattan after being kidnapped and held for thirteen days in a bid for a \$3 million ransom.

AUGUST 17

New York City bulldozes the "Hill" alongside the Manhattan Bridge in Chinatown, one of the last remaining shantytowns in the city, claiming it is a fire hazard.

Susan Sontag's staging of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* opens with a matinee performance in Sarajevo.

AUGUST 18

The White House proposes combining the FBI with the Drug Enforcement Agency in an effort to coordinate the government's war on drugs, eliciting a fierce debate.





AUGUST 19

In a reversal of a long-held policy, the Metropolitan Opera announces that it will use "supertitles" to display translations of foreign-language opera texts.

AUGUST 20

Dr. George Tiller, a prominent abortion provider in Kansas, is shot five times by an antiabortion protester inspired by the murder of Dr. David Gunn earlier in the year. Tiller survives and goes back to work in a matter of days.

AUGUST 21

The robotic space probe *Mars Observer* is lost three days before it is scheduled to enter Mars's orbit, totaling a \$1 billion loss for NASA.

AUGUST 22

Kasdi Merbah, the former prime minister of Algeria, is assassinated by Muslim militants.

AUGUST 23

The National Archives' dossier on the John F. Kennedy assassination is unsealed after thirty years, making ninety thousand pages of CIA documents available.

AUGUST 24

Two Iraqi ambassadors defect, seeking haven in Britain and condemning Saddam Hussein's "reign of terror."

AUGUST 25

The US indicts Egyptian cleric Sheikh Abdel-Rahman for orchestrating the World Trade Center bombing, a planned attack on New York City's tunnels and buildings, and the killing of Rabbi Meir Kahane.

AUGUST 26

Delta Force Rangers reportedly arrive in Mogadishu, Somalia, to hunt down warlord General Aidid.

AUGUST 27

President General Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria resigns after eight years of rule, naming a civilian successor.

AUGUST 28

The children's animated program *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* debuts.

Israel agrees to a plan for Palestinian rule in Jericho and the West Bank, in a major turning point during secret negotiations.

AUGUST 29

A memorial service is held in South Africa to honor Amy Biehl, a young American woman slain in a racially motivated attack in the township of Guguletu.

Hooded gunmen enter a shantytown in Rio de Janeiro and kill twenty-one people in a massacre retaliating for the deaths of police officers earlier that day.

AUGUST 30

The Israeli cabinet backs the draft agreement to grant autonomy to Palestinians, while four thousand right-wing Israelis protest outside.

AUGUST 31

The Queen of England announces that the staff at Buckingham Palace will no longer receive automatic pay raises, but instead will see their salaries rise with performance.

SEPTEMBER 01

A cabinet minister of Jordan announces that they are willing to make peace with Israel if the PLO agreement is ratified.

SEPTEMBER 02

The US and Russia formally agree to end their space rivalry and begin work on the International Space Station.

SEPTEMBER 03

A bipartisan letter from 283 economists is released, backing the proposed North American Free Trade Agreement as a "net positive for the United States."

Gabriel Orozco's solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art opens in New York.

SEPTEMBER 04

Yasser Arafat, leader of the PLO, announces that he has won support from Fatah for the peace agreement with Israel

SEPTEMBER 05

Track and field athlete Noureddine Morceli of Algeria breaks the record for running a mile, with a time of 3:46.32.

SEPTEMBER 06

Yasser Arafat travels to Cairo to conclude the final negotiations in the peace agreement with Israel.

SEPTEMBER 07

The corpse of exiled President Ferdinand Marcos, refrigerated in an air-conditioned coffin in Hawaii for four years, is returned to the Philippines to thousands of rejoicing supporters.

The ruling white party of South Africa agrees to share governing power with disenfranchised blacks in the run-up to the first universal election.





SEPTEMBER 08

The cast of *Beverly Hills*, 90210 heads off to college in the first episode of the fourth season.

The Bosnian President, Alija Izetbegović, visits the White House to ask for US aid against Bosnian Serbs, and is rebuffed by President Clinton.

SEPTEMBER 09

The PLO and Israel formally publicize their agreement to the historic Oslo I Accord; the PLO renounces terrorism and Israel agrees to recognize the PLO as the representative for Palestinians.

SEPTEMBER 10

The award-winning science fiction television series *The X-Files* premieres.

Tony Scott's film *True Romance* is released in theaters.

Regina Frank's show "L'Adieu: Pearls Before Gods" and the group shows "Testimonio" and "Trade Routes" open at the New Museum.

SEPTEMBER 11

The German tennis player Steffi Graf wins the US Open singles title.

Jason Rhoades's exhibition "CHERRY Makita—Honest Engine Work" opens at David Zwirner Gallery in New York.

SEPTEMBER 12

Raymond Burr, the actor who played the part of television attorney Perry Mason, dies of cancer at seventy-six.

SEPTEMBER 13

Nirvana releases *In Utero*, their third and final studio album before Kurt Cobain's suicide the following year.

Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat sign the first Oslo Accord in Washington, DC, shaking hands on the White House lawn.

SEPTEMBER 14

Jury selection begins in the World Trade Center bombing trial.

SEPTEMBER 15

A plane lands at Washington National Airport after being automatically piloted for twelve miles by satellite signals in a huge civilian aviation breakthrough.

SEPTEMBER 16

The first episode of the *Cheers* spin-off *Frasier* is broadcast, featuring Kelsey Grammer as Dr. Crane, a radio psychiatrist.

In Paris, Bosnian Muslims and Serbs reach an agreement to modify the proposed accord.

SEPTEMBER 17

UNESCO awards its annual peace prize to Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres, and Yasser Arafat.

Martin Scorsese's adaptation of Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence* is released in theaters.

SEPTEMBER 18

Swedish officials announce that they have found the body of a woman who lay undiscovered for three years because her pension and her bills were being paid by computer.

SEPTEMBER 19

Emmy awards are given to *Seinfeld* and *Picket Fences*.

60 Minutes broadcasts Morley Safer's "Yes...
But Is It Art?," a scathing critique of the contemporary art world.

SEPTEMBER 20

After weeks of delays due to asbestos abatement in aging buildings, the majority of New York City's public schools reopen for the 1993–94 school year.

SEPTEMBER 21

Douglas Crimp's essay collection exploring the status of contemporary art institutions, *On the Museum's Ruins*, which features photographs by Louise Lawler, is published by MIT Press.

President Clinton's service initiative, AmeriCorps, is signed into law, providing community service opportunities in return for educational funding.

SEPTEMBER 22

Forty-seven passengers are killed when a train derails in Alabama in the deadliest accident in Amtrak's history.

President Clinton addresses the nation, asking for backing for his universal health care plan.

Katie Roiphe's first book, *The Morning After: Sex, Fear, and Feminism,* is published.

SEPTEMBER 23

The Federal Communications Commission auctions airwaves for new wireless networks across the country, expanding wireless services to millions; the *New York Times* predicts the move may "free people from their desks yet chain them to their jobs."

SEPTEMBER 24

Broderbund releases *Myst*, the hit CD-ROM computer game that remains the best-selling PC game for nearly nine years.

With democracy in sight, Nelson Mandela calls for economic sanctions against South Africa to end.

Richard Linklater's classic slacker movie *Dazed and Confused* is released.

SEPTEMBER 25

In his first act as Cambodia's new prime minister, Norodom Ranariddh asks the Khmer Rouge to release the territory under their control.

SEPTEMBER 26

After two years spent cloistered inside an airtight dome in the Sonora Desert of Arizona, eight participants exit Biosphere 2, a \$150 million quasiscientific experiment in closed-ecosystem living.



SEPTEMBER 27

In Georgia, Abkhaz separatists break a cease-fire in Sukhumi, storming the city and massacring citizens in the streets in an ethnic cleansing campaign.

The Digable Planets release their debut album, Reachin' (A New Refutation of Time and Space).

SEPTEMBER 28

Art historian Hal Foster's psychoanalytic take on Surrealism, Compulsive Beauty, is released by October Books.

Souls of Mischief release their debut album, '93 'til Infinity.

KRS-One releases his first solo album, Return of the Boom Rap.

SEPTEMBER 29

The Pentagon reveals that it will offer vegetarian Meals Ready to Eat rations in response to its involvement in humanitarian missions in regions with specific dietary customs.

SEPTEMBER 30

The worst earthquake in India in fifty years hits the Latur district in the state of Maharashtra, killing twenty thousand people.

OCTOBER 01

Navy Secretary John Dalton calls for the removal of top naval officer Admiral Frank Kelso, who oversaw the Tailhook Convention in 1991 during which service members sexually assaulted eighty-three women and seven men.

Short Cuts, Robert Altman's film based on Raymond Carver's short stories, premieres at the New York Film Festival

Reinaldo Arenas's memoir *Before Night Falls* is released posthumously in English.

OCTOBER 02

Supporters of the Congress of People's Deputies, blockaded by President Yeltsin in an ongoing feud, take to the streets of Moscow, rioting and burning barricades.

OCTOBER 03

The Battle of Mogadishu or "Black Hawk Down" begins when US forces attempt to capture two of General Aidid's lieutenants and two Black Hawk helicopters are shot down, leading to an overnight standoff in the Somali city and eighteen US deaths.

Derek Jarman's last film, *Blue*, is presented at the New York Film Festival four months before his death from an AIDS-related illness.

OCTOBER 04

Forces loyal to President Yeltsin attack the armed parliament building with tanks, driving out legislators with massive explosions.

OCTOBER 05

China breaks the world's informal atomic testing moratorium, exploding a nuclear device beneath a desert in Xinjiang.

OCTOBER 06

Michael Jordan announces his retirement from the National Basketball Association.

OCTOBER 07

Radio personality Howard Stern releases his autobiography, *Private Parts*.

Toni Morrison becomes the first black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Agnes de Mille, pioneering choreographer, dies of a stroke at the age of eighty-eight.

A retrospective of Roy Lichtenstein's work opens at the Guggenheim in New York.

Ann Hamilton's show "tropos" opens at Dia Art Foundation in Chelsea, New York.

OCTOBER 08

The Justice Department releases new details on the Waco siege, contradicting Attorney General Janet Reno's account.

OCTOBER 09

Somali General Aidid offers a cease-fire in Mogadishu and proposes resuming peace talks with warring clans.





OCTOBER 10

Greek leader Andreas Papandreou, the former prime minister ousted on corruption charges, is voted back into power in a decisive majority.

OCTOBER 11

Armed Haitians challenge US and UN forces landing at Port-au-Prince, attacking diplomats in their vehicles in anger at the proposed restoration of exiled President Aristide.

OCTOBER 12

The Nobel Committee awards the Memorial Prize in Economics to two economic historians, Robert Fogel and Douglass North.

OCTOBER 13

The Church of Scientology is granted tax-exempt status by the US government, ending a four-decade-long legal battle.

OCTOBER 14

The US helicopter pilot held captive by General Aidid is released.

Haiti's Justice Minister and two aides, appointed by exiled President Aristide, are slain by opposition forces

OCTOBER 15

Nelson Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk of South Africa share the Nobel Peace Prize for bringing an end to apartheid.

OCTOBER 16

Jane Campion's film *The Piano* debuts at the New York Film Festival.

OCTOBER 17

As violence in Haiti escalates, Senator Bob Dole, the minority leader, moves to curb President Clinton's power to commit American troops in the region.

OCTOBER 18

A Russian naval ship dumps hundreds of tons of nuclear waste into the Sea of Japan, undermining President Yeltsin's diplomatic visit to that country the week before.

OCTOBER 19

Pearl Jam releases their second album, Vs.



OCTOBER 20

The White House issues an executive order requiring the military and all federal agencies to buy paper containing a minimum of 20 percent recycled material beginning the following year.

OCTOBER 21

The Ukrainian government votes to keep the Chernobyl nuclear power plant running despite the disaster in 1986, citing an energy shortage in the country.

President Melchior Ndadaye, the first democratically elected president of Burundi, is assassinated after only three months in office.

OCTOBER 22

Thirty thousand Hutus flee Burundi after a military coup by Tutsis, crossing the border into Rwanda.

OCTOBER 23

The Toronto Blue Jays beat the Philadelphia Phillies, winning the 1993 World Series.

The IRA mistakenly kills eight civilians with a time bomb intended for paramilitary loyalists in Belfast.

OCTOBER 24

A five-year-old boy who believes he can fly jumps from the seventh story of a New York City building, surviving without a single broken bone or external injury.

OCTOBER 25

Canada's Liberal Party ends the Progressive Conservatives' nine-year rule in a decisive victory.

OCTOBER 26

US officials publicly state that exiled President Aristide should not attempt to return to Haiti by the October 30 deadline set earlier in the year, fearing for his safety.

OCTOBER 27

President Clinton gives Congress a 240,000-word proposal for universal health care, developed over the previous eight months under Hillary Clinton's leadership, signaling that he is open to compromise as long as coverage extends to all.

OCTOBER 28

Doris Duke, the American philanthropist and heiress, dies of a heart attack at eighty, leaving the bulk of her \$1.2 billion fortune to charity.

OCTOBER 29

Bikini Kill releases their debut album, Pussy Whipped.

The first "Got Milk?" television commercial runs, featuring a history buff who can't answer a winning trivia question over the phone due to a mouth full of peanut butter and no milk to wash it down.

OCTOBER 30

Martin Fettman, an American veterinarian, travels to space on the shuttle *Columbia* and performs the world's first space dissection on a white rat in order to better understand the effect of weightlessness on tissues.

OCTOBER 31

Italian film director Federico Fellini dies of a heart attack at the age of seventy-three.

Actor River Phoenix dies of a drug overdose at twenty-three.

NOVEMBER 01

Hillary Clinton angrily denounces insurance industry groups, claiming that they have misled the American public by lying about the proposal for universal health care.

The Maastricht Treaty takes effect, officially establishing the European Union and its common currency.

NOVEMBER 02

Rudy Giuliani beats David Dinkins, becoming New York City's 107th mayor.

NOVEMBER 03

Léon Theremin, the inventor of the world's first electronic instrument, dies in Moscow at ninety-seven.

NOVEMBER 04

Sotheby's auctions eighty-eight works by Picasso from the Stanley Seeger Collection, selling every one.

NOVEMBER 05

Dr. Jack Kevorkian is taken to jail in Detroit after refusing to post bond; it is the first time he is jailed in three years of assisting suicides.

The FDA approves recombinant bovine growth hormone (rGBH) for use in dairy cows, the first genetically engineered product approved for use in producing food.

Mike Kelley's solo exhibition, "Catholic Tastes," opens at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

NOVEMBER 06

Evander Holyfield beats Riddick Bowe, regaining his place as boxing's heavyweight champion.





NOVEMBER 07

The vice president of Colombia's Senate dies in Medellín from gunshots inflicted by drug cartel assassins in retaliation for a new law encouraging traffickers to become informers.

NOVEMBER 08

Lorena Bobbitt takes the witness stand in Virginia, testifying that she cut off her husband's penis after he raped her.

NOVEMBER 09

Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers), the debut album of the Wu-Tang Clan, is released, a milestone record in the history of hip-hop.

The Supreme Court unanimously rules that plaintiffs in sexual harassment cases do not need to prove severe psychological injury to be awarded damages.

A Tribe Called Quest releases their third album, *Midnight Marauders*.

R. Kelly releases his first solo album, 12 Play.

NOVEMBER 10

Brian de Palma's film *Carlito's Way* is released in theaters.

NOVEMBER 11

Tamil rebels take over a military base in Sri Lanka, killing 241, in the Battle of Pooneryn.

NOVEMBER 12

An FBI inquiry begins into the election of New Jersey Governor-elect Christine Todd Whitman, in response to reports that her staff may have attempted to suppress the vote in black urban areas.

NOVEMBER 13

A partial solar eclipse is visible in Australia at sunrise and visible at the tip of South America by sunset.

NOVEMBER 14

Puerto Rico votes to retain commonwealth status, declining to become the fifty-first state.

Elizabeth Peyton's solo show in room 828 at the Chelsea Hotel opens for a two-week run.

NOVEMBER 15

Joey Buttafuoco is sentenced to six months in jail for the statutory rape of Amy Fisher, the woman with whom he was having an affair and who shot his wife, Mary Jo, in the face.

NOVEMBER 16

Thousands of tons of US-grown rice leave the port of Sacramento, California, heading for Japan, the first foreign rice to be imported there in nearly twenty years, due to a shortage caused by adverse growing conditions.

NOVEMBER 17

E. Annie Proulx's novel *The Shipping News* wins the National Book Award for Fiction and Gore Vidal takes the nonfiction prize for *United States: Essays* 1952–1992.

Joan Bankemper's exhibition "Intoxication: or, the Echo of One Hand Clapping," Thornton Dial's exhibition "Image of the Tiger," and the group show "La Cultura Tambien Cura-The Culture Also Heals" open at the New Museum.

NOVEMBER 18

South Africa's politicians endorse a new constitution, guaranteeing equal rights for all.

NOVEMBER 19

A fire at the Zhili plastic-toy factory in Shenzhen, China, kills eighty-seven workers who were unable to escape due to sealed windows and locked doors.

NOVEMBER 20

US scientists announce that they have successfully isolated the strain of hantavirus that appeared in the Southwest earlier in the year, killing twenty-seven, many of them Navajo Indians.

NOVEMBER 21

A plane crashes in a blizzard in Macedonia killing 115 people, including a UN relief worker from Bosnia.

NOVEMBER 22

A strike involving American Airlines flight attendants ends when President Clinton steps in to broker an agreement between the union and the airline, allowing flights to resume in time for Thanksgiving.

NOVEMBER 23

Snoop Dogg's hotly anticipated solo debut, Doggystyle, is released, cementing West Coast gangsta rap in the mainstream American consciousness.

The Swedish group Ace of Base's album *The Sign* is released in North America.





NOVEMBER 24

The notorious Florida-based bank chairman David Paul is convicted of federal fraud charges for spending lavishly while his thrift bank was failing during the savings and loan crisis.

NOVEMBER 25

Scientists hoping to reduce the need for agricultural pesticides report the first successful transfer of a cloned disease-resistant plant gene.

NOVEMBER 26

In Tokyo, a Japanese court ruled against the government, awarding \$1.8 million to thirty-eight of the surviving victims affected by the notorious mercury dumping from 1932–68 at Minamata Bay.

NOVEMBER 27

In a bid to reduce the welfare rolls, President Clinton announces a plan to consider federal subsidies for companies that hire welfare recipients.

NOVEMBER 28

Congress formally acknowledges the end of the Cold War by repealing anti-Soviet laws.

NOVEMBER 29

Haynes Mahoney III, an American diplomat who was kidnapped and held hostage by tribal forces in Yemen, is released.

NOVEMBER 30

President Clinton signs the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, which requires background checks before gun purchases and establishes a National Instant Check System.

DECEMBER 01

India's militant Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party, attempting to capitalize on anti-Muslim sentiment to capture the government, is roundly defeated at the polls.

An enormous pink condom sheaths the obelisk at the Place de Concorde in Paris to mark World AIDS Day. The condom—the world's largest—is funded by the clothing company United Colors of Benetton.

DECEMBER 02

Pablo Escobar, the fugitive leader of the Medellin drug cartel, is shot to death by Colombian law enforcement agents.

DECEMBER 03

The US unemployment rate falls to 6.4 percent, the largest monthly improvement in a decade.

DECEMBER 04

In preparation for repairs, astronauts on the shuttle Endeavour successfully catch the Hubble space telescope with a robotic arm.

The musician Frank Zappa dies of cancer at the age of fifty-two.

DECEMBER 05

The Pentagon announces a possible plan to "detarget" its Cold War missiles from Russia, training them on the ocean instead.

DECEMBER 06

As the controversy over Calvin Klein's "heroin chic" ads continues, model Kate Moss gives "no comment on the weight debate" in *New York* magazine.

DECEMBER 07

A gunman with a 9mm handgun opens fire in a Long Island Rail Road train car, killing six and wounding

DECEMBER 08

President Clinton signs the North American Free Trade Agreement into law, ending most trade tariffs between Canada, the US, and Mexico.

DECEMBER 09

After twenty years of preparation, physicists at Princeton's Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor produce the world's largest fusion reaction.

DECEMBER 10

Ann Franklin, a Westchester nanny, admits that she threw the infant in her care to the floor in anger, causing his death. Later, investigators discover that she had a criminal history, and in 1998, Kieran's Law—named after the slain child—passes in New York State, allowing background checks on prospective caregivers.

DECEMBER 11

For the first time since the Communist Party came to power in 1949, China sends American war dead home when the remains of three airmen killed in World War II are discovered on a mountainside in Tibet.

DECEMBER 12

A public activist group announces that medical industry groups have given a record amount of money to congressional campaigns in a nonelection year as debates on the universal health care plan are set to begin.

DECEMBER 13

The jury hears the closing arguments in Erik Menendez's murder trial; his brother Lyle's case is in the third day of deliberation.

Israelis do not leave the West Bank as they were scheduled to do, in a delay to the transition to Palestinian autonomy.

DECEMBER 14

In Geneva, the US and Europe agree to put aside their differences and go forward in updating the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades, ultimately leading to the creation of the World Trade Organization.

DECEMBER 15

Steven Spielberg's film *Schindler's List* is released in theaters.

DECEMBER 16

In response to growing violence in schools, Walter Annenberg announces that he will donate \$500 million to groups involved in school reform, the biggest single gift to public education in American history.

DECEMBER 17

President Yeltsin, in a change of course, announces a series of massively subsidized loans to agriculture and other industries in Russia, after elections show strong support for nationalist candidates.



DECEMBER 18

Reverend Louis Farrakhan speaks in New York at the Jacob Javits Convention Center, urging black men to abandon violence.

DECEMBER 19

Israel and PLO officials secretly meet in Norway, where they try and fail to resolve the deadlock over implementing Palestinian autonomy in Gaza and the West Bank.

DECEMBER 20

Donald Trump and Marla Maples are married in a lavish affair at the Plaza Hotel in New York; approximately one thousand guests attend.

DECEMBER 21

As reports surface that President Clinton may have had liaisons with other women when he was governor of Arkansas, Hillary Clinton says that the personal attacks being made on her husband are "outrageous."

DECEMBER 22

Michael Jackson releases his first public statement about the allegations that he molested a child, saying that they are "totally false."

DECEMBER 23

Jonathan Demme's film *Philadelphia*, starring Tom Hanks as a lawyer suffering from AIDS, is released in theaters.

A show featuring the work of Young British Artists Sarah Lucas and Steven Pippin opens at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

DECEMBER 24

The last remaining specimens of the smallpox virus, now eradicated in humans and held in laboratories in Russia and the US, are not destroyed as planned, as scientists claim that they will be useful in future

DECEMBER 25

The CIA reports that North Korea likely has one to two nuclear weapons; the State Department disagrees.

DECEMBER 26

The Guggenheim Museum goes to court with a lawsuit seeking the return of the Chagall painting Le Marchand de Bestiaux, which was stolen from the museum but purchased unwittingly by its owners.

DECEMBER 27

France closes its beaches on the Atlantic side, from Belgium all the way down to Spain, as dangerous detritus from irresponsible shipping vessels washes up on the shores, including explosives, acetone, fungicides, and pesticides.





DECEMBER 28

After revelations that the US government conducted radioactive medical experiments on Americans after World War II, the US Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary calls for government compensation for victims.

DECEMBER 29

The National Association of Realtors announces that thanks to the fledgling economic recovery and low mortgage interest rates, Americans purchased single-family homes in the prior month at the fastest pace ever recorded.

DECEMBER 30

The Federal Communications Commission delays approving deals for Infinity Broadcasting, the parent company of the *Howard Stern Show*, in retaliation for the lewd content of the program.

DECEMBER 31

The transgender Nebraska youth Brandon Teena is raped and murdered; his story is later memorialized in the film *Boys Don't Cry*.

The Barbie Liberation Organization, an artist group involved in culture jamming, get nationwide press for switching the voice boxes on talking G.I. Joe and Barbie dolls and restocking them onto store shelves to the surprise of more than three hundred unsuspecting parents.



