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The year 1984 is often remembered for its cultural and historical significance, as well as its eerie similarities to the dystopian novel of the same name by George Orwell. In the realm of politics, 1984 was a pivotal year, marked by significant events that would shape the course of global affairs. One of the most notable events was the presidential
election in the United States, where incumbent President Ronald Reagan, a Republican, faced off against Democratic challenger Walter Mondale's 13, cemented his position as a dominant figure in American politics. On the international stage, 1984 was
marked by rising tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union. The Cold War was in full swing, with both superpowers engaging in a series of proxy wars, espionage, and propaganda campaigns. In February 1984, Soviet leader Yuri Andropov died, and Konstantin Chernenko took his place, leading to a period of uncertainty and instability
in Soviet politics. Meanwhile, the United States continued to escalate its military presence in Europe, deploying Pershing II missiles in West Germany, which further heightened tensions with the Soviet Union. Key Events of 1984 One of the most significant events of 1984 was the Los Angeles Summer Olympics, which took place from July 28 to August
12. The games were notable for the Soviet-led boycott, which saw 14 Eastern Bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, East Germany, and Poland, refuse to participate in protest of the United States' alleged "chauvinistic sentiments" and "anti-Soviet hysteria." Despite the boycott, the Olympics were a resounding success, with the United States
topping the medal count and the introduction of new events, such as women's cycling and synchronized swimming. Apple Introduces the Macintosh computer. On January 24, 1984, Apple launched the Macintosh 128k, a
revolutionary machine that popularized the graphical user interface (GUI) and mouse navigation. The Macintosh was unveiled in a now-famous Super Bowl commercial, directed by Ridley Scott, which featured a dystopian themes and a woman throwing a hammer at a screen displaying a Big Brother-like figure. The commercial's eerie similarity to
Orwell's 1984 novel was not lost on viewers, and it cemented the Macintosh's place in history as a symbol of innovation and rebellion against the status quo. EventDateSignificance Ronald Reagan re-electedNovember 6, 1984Cemented Reagan's position as a dominant figure in American politics Yuri Andropov diesFebruary 9, 1984Marked a period of
uncertainty and instability in Soviet politics Los Angeles Summer OlympicsJuly 28 - August 12, 1984 Notable for the Soviet-led boycott and the introduces the Macintosh computer January 24, 1984 Popularized the graphical user interface (GUI) and mouse navigation. The year 1984 was a complex and multifaceted time,
marked by significant events in politics, technology, and culture. While the Soviet Union and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the United States continued to engage in the United States continued to engage in the United States continued to engage in the United States continued t
States in 1984, winning 49 states and receiving 525 electoral votes. The Soviet Union, led by Yuri Andropov and later Konstantin Chernenko, continued to engage in a Cold War with the United States, marked by proxy wars, espionage, and propaganda campaigns. The Los Angeles Summer Olympics, which took place from July 28 to August 12, 1984,
were notable for the Soviet-led boycott and the introduction of new events, such as women's cycling and synchronized swimming. Apple introduced the Macintosh computer on January 24, 1984, popularizing the graphical user interface (GUI) and mouse navigation. The year 1984 was marked by significant cultural and historical events, including the
publication of books, the release of films, and the rise of new musical genres. Cultural and Historical Significance The year 1984 saw the publication of several notable books, including Gabriel Garcia Marquez's "Love in the Time of Cholera" and Joseph Heller's "God
 Knows." In film, 1984 was the year of blockbuster releases, such as "The Terminator," "Beverly Hills Cop," and "Ghostbusters." Music also played a significant role in 1984, with the rise of new genres, such as hip-hop and electronic dance music (EDM), and the popularity of artists, such as Michael Jackson, Prince, and Madonna. Sporting Events In
sports, 1984 was a notable year, marked by significant events, such as the Los Angeles Summer Olympics, the European Football Championship, and the Formula One World Championship, and the Formula One World Championship, and the introduction of new events, such as women's
cycling and synchronized swimming. The European Football Championship, which took place in France, saw the host country win the tournament, defeating Spain 2-0 in the final. In Formula One, the 1984 season was marked by a fierce rivalry between drivers, such as Niki Lauda, Alain Prost, and Nelson Piquet. In conclusion, the year 1984 was a
complex and multifaceted time, marked by significant events in politics, technology, culture, and sports. While the Soviet Union and the United States continued to engage in a Cold War, the introduction of the Macintosh computer and the Los Angeles Summer Olympics represented a new era of innovation and global cooperation. As we look back on
1984, it is clear that the year had a profound impact on the world, shaping the course of global affairs and leaving a lasting legacy in the realms of technology, culture, and sports. The Los Angeles Summer Olympics, which took place from July 28 to August 12, 1984, were notable for the Soviet-led boycott and the introduction of new events, such as
women's cycling and synchronized swimming. The games were a resounding success, with the United States topping the medal count and the Olympics marking a new era of global cooperation and athletic competition. The Macintosh computer, introduced by Apple on January 24, 1984, had a profound impact on the technology industry, popularizing
the graphical user interface (GUI) and mouse navigation. The Macintosh revolutionized the way people interacted with computers, making them more accessible and user-friendly, and paving the way for the development of future technologies, such as the internet and mobile devices. The year 1984 was marked by significant cultural and historical
events, including the publication of books, such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez's "Love in the Time of Cholera" and Joseph Heller's "God Knows," the release of films, such as "The Terminator," "Beverly Hills Cop," and "Ghostbusters," and the rise of new musical genres, such as hip-hop and electronic dance music (EDM). The year also saw the popularity
of artists, such as Michael Jackson, Prince, and Madonna, and the introduction of new technologies, such as the Macintosh computer and the first mobile phones. On June 8, 1949, George Orwell's tour de force, 1984, hit shelves. The literary rebellion against Big Brother ranks among the most influential works of science-fiction ever. It's been adapted
into plays, ballets, operas, TV shows, and films (one of which is critically acclaimed). It also made an indelible mark on our lexicon, ushering in such words and phrases as "Orwellian," "thoughtcrime," "Newspeak," and "memory hole." More recently, 1984 has experienced a bit of a resurgence, popping to the top of Amazon sales charts twice in recent
years: once in 2013, after news of an NSA surveillance scandal broke, and again in 2017, when the phrase "alternative facts" was first uttered on national television. At the time of the latter, esteemed New York Times book critic Michiko Kakutani called Orwell's fictional dystopia "all too familiar." Clearly, it took a bit longer for Orwell's predictions
about the future to become reality (or close enough). But 1984 was still a banner year in history. Sure, it may have been less dystopian than Orwell's initial vision—but that doesn't mean it was any less exciting. And these landmark events that actually happened in 1984 are proof. YouTube/AppleThere are few things more quintessentially "1984" than
Apple Computer's instantly iconic commercial. Inspired by Orwell's 1984, the Super Bowl ad changed the face of advertising overnight. Not only was the production value through the roof—the dystopia-tinged spot was directed by Ridley Scott, fresh off of Blade Runner—it was also, at $900,000 ($2.2 million, adjusted for inflation), one of the most
expensive commercials ever. It single-handedly created an entire industry-within-an-industry: Super Bowl commercials. Oh, and it also introduced the world to the Macintosh. ShutterstockRichard Branson had already earned plenty of cultural cache with the success of Virgin Records—signing everyone from the Sex Pistols to Peter Gabriel to Paula
Abdul. But in 1984, he would raise his profile far higher with the formation of Virgin Atlantic Airways. Its maiden flight, from Gatwick Airport in London to Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey, would begin a successful run that made it a significant competitor in the airline market for just over 30 years. (Alaska Airlines purchased it in
2016.) Warner Bros. RecordsPrince owned the summer of 1984, thanks to the release of both the film and album Purple Rain, which formally introduced the world to his backing band, The Revolution. The music was more complex than what Prince had been doing up to that point, and the film was a commercial hit. But the lead single, "When Doves
Cry," arguably had the most lasting impact; Rolling Stone would eventually place it among the top 100 on its list of the 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.lazyllama/ShutterstockWith the Cold War raging, the Olympics became a high-profile opportunity for the rival countries to put pressure on one another. In 1980, the United States led a boycott of the
Moscow Summer Olympics. So, in 1984, when the event moved to Los Angeles, the Soviet Union returned the favor. Fourteen Eastern Bloc countries and allies (including Cuba, Poland, and East Germany) refused to compete in the 1984 Summer Olympic Games. In a statement about the decision, the USSR cited the commercialization of the event,
security concerns, and the "chauvinistic sentiments and anti-Soviet hysteria being whipped up in the United States cored a record 83 Olympic gold medals. Shutterstock May 1984, another major sports record was shattered: The Chicago White Sox and
Milwaukee Brewers played the longest game in Major League Baseball history. Lasting eight hours and six minutes over 25 innings, the game had to be spread across two days, until the Brewers eventually pulled out a 7-6 win, thanks to a home run from Harold Baines. Shutterstock During the 1984 election, a woman ran on a major political party's
presidential ticket for the first time in history. Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro joined former Democrat Walter Mondale as he went up against Republican incumbent Ronald Reagan. Mondale was behind throughout most of the campaign and hoped the choice of Ferraro for vice presidential candidate would not only boost enthusiasm from women
for his candidacy, but peel away voters from Reagan. Shutterstock Unfortunately for the Democratic ticket, the addition of Ferraro was not enough to turn the election. Mondale would not just get beaten by Reagan in November 1984, he'd be absolutely crushed. Reagan won 58.8 percent of the popular vote and 49 out of 50 states (all but
Mondale's home state of Minnesota). It netted him a record-breaking 525 electoral votes, which remains the most ever won in a presidential election. The month after the election, when asked what he wanted for Christmas, Reagan joked, "Well, Minnesota would have been nice." ShutterstockWell into the 1980s, much about the AIDS virus, which was
killing thousands of people, remained a terrifying and tragic mystery. This finally began to change in 1984 when U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Hecklerannounced that the National Cancer Institute's Dr. Robert Gallo and his colleagues found the cause of AIDS: a retrovirus they labeled HTLV-III, which would
eventually be renamed HIV (standing for human immunodeficiency virus). ShutterstockFast-food company Wendy's launched its TV ad titled "Fluffy Bun" in 1984, but it soon earned another nickname. The ad featured three older women receiving a burger with a huge bun and little meat, to which actress Clara Peller asks, "Where's the beef?" The
director had instructed Peller to say "Where is all the beef?" but because of her emphysema, she shortened it, according to Ad Age. And thank goodness she did: The commercials earned tons of attention, and the phrase entered popular culture, even inspiring a (not-quite-hit) song. Vicki L. Miller/ShutterstockHis legacy is complicated, to put it lightly,
but nobody was more famous in 1984 than Michael Jackson. That made January 27th a major moment in pop culture, as reports emerged that, while filming the sixth take of a pyrotechnical shot for a Pepsi commercial, sparks landed on Jackson's heavily gelled hair and set it aflame. The incident reportedly left severe burns on his scalp, face, and
body. Though both Jackson and Pepsi kept matters quiet, the tragedy garnered added attention following the pop star's death—the episode may have begun his regular use of and dependence on painkillers. ShutterstockFor a certain subset of gamers, it might seem like Tetris has always been there. But it was first released in June 6, 1984, nearly 35
years ago. The block-building puzzle game—designed by Alexey Leonidovich Pajitnov, an artificial intelligence researcher—was one of the earliest hit video games. Tetris was first available on Commodore 64 and IBM PC, but quickly appeared on, well, nearly every console you can think of. And it shows no signs of slowing down: In 2019, Tetris 99—a
competitive online version of the game, played against 99 other people—launched on the Nintendo Switch. ShutterstockToday, we take these direct-response commercials that prominently feature a toll-free number and a pitchman—selling everything from cleaning fluid to get-rich-quick schemes—for granted. But this form of advertising couldn't even
exist until 1984, when the Federal Communications Commission eliminated a regulation that banned program-length advertisements. TV at 3:00 a.m. would never be the same again. Shutterstock Crack, a less-expensive and smokable form of cocaine, first showed up in Los Angeles in 1984 and quickly spread to major cities throughout the United
States; the word "crack" first appeared in The New York Times on November 17, 1985. And within a few years, it would balloon into a full-blown epidemic.IMDB/Paramount PicturesIn February 1984, Footloose hit theaters, telling the story of a city kid (played by Kevin Bacon) who moves to a very conservative town where rock music and dancing are
prohibited. The movie was a hit, but its soundtrack master Kenny Loggins, which hit number 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.IMDB/Universal PicturesIn May 1984, he opening of Sixteen Candles, the directorial debut of John Hughes, kicked off a string of era-defining movies
from the filmmaker. With The Breakfast Club, Pretty in Pink, and Ferris Bueller's Day Off on top of it, Hughes would introduce the world not only to the Brat Pack (Molly Ringwald, Judd Nelson, Ally Sheedy, Emilio Estevez, Anthony Michael Hall, and Andrew McCarthy), but also to a vision of high school as a privileged but dangerous playground. And
who could forget the fashion choices and great soundtracks, to boot? Shutterstock Jeopardy! had been kicking around network TV since 1964, but the Alex Trebek first moved behind the podium, beginning a record-breaking run as a game show host, which he continues
to extend to this day—more than 8,000 episodes and counting! ShutterstockThough it was a year earlier that the world first saw Jackson's Moonwalk dance on TV, 1984 had its own important interstellar stroll. During an eight-day mission on the Challenger in February 1984, the astronauts on board attempted the first space walk "free of any lifeline
and propelled into the dark void by tiny jets," as The New York Times reported, becoming, "in effect, the first human satellites." Shutterstock Speaking of space travel, 1984 was also the year that saw the third of NASA's shuttles, Discovery, launch. Taking off from Kennedy Space Center in Orlando, Florida, Discovery would become the longest-serving
orbiter, eventually flying 39 times between 1984 and 2011. ShutterstockRetired U.S. Air Force Colonel Joseph Kittinger traded in his combat plane for a hot-air balloon, and, in September 1984, he set out to be the first person to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo in the unique mode of transportation. He lifted off from Caribou, Maine (the northeastern-
most point of the U.S.) aboard Rosie O'Grady's Balloon of Peace. Eighty-six hours and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte, Italy, solidifying his place in history books. IMDB/Columbia Pictures and nearly 3,600 miles later, he touched down in Montenotte and nearly 3,600 miles later.
Reitman-directed fantasy comedy became an instant smash, with its proton packs, ectoplasm-spewing spirits, and a skyscraper-tall Stay Puft Marshmallow Man. The film, which opened in June 1984, would go on to gross more than half a billion dollars and showed how unstoppable a good comedy could be. ShutterstockWhile Ghostbusters turned its
lead actors (Bill Murray and Dan Aykroyd) into superstars, it was another Saturday Night Live alum who hit even bigger in 1984. Eddie Murphy was already a household name—thanks to the success of movies like 48 Hrs. and Trading Places—but his turn as Axel Foley in Beverly Hills Cop, his first solo lead role, would shoot him into the stratosphere.
The film became the top-grosser of the year and Murphy became a legend. Shutterstock f you think the news is crazy today, imagine cracking open the newspaper in 1984 to read that several preschool teachers were engaged in ritualistic satanic child abuse, which allegedly included everything from flying in the air to drilling holes in kids. These were
among the accusations that came up during the trial of several teachers at the McMartin Preschool in Manhattan Beach, California, and their associates. No convictions were made, and all charges were eventually dropped—but only after a six-year trial and numerous other, similarly sensational allegations exposed the whole "Satanic Panic" as little
more than collective hysteria with no basis in reality. ShutterstockMarch 1984 saw the simmering tensions between the United Kingdom's National Mineworkers Union and the British government's National Mineworkers Union and the British government of th
some 20,000 jobs led to more than 150,000 miners going on strike, causing England's mining industry to come to a standstill. The strike, which lasted until March 1985, became one of the longest-running trade disputes ever and a defining moment in British industrial relations. Shutterstock In the waning days of 1984, Thatcher and Chinese Premier
Zhao Ziyang signed the Sino-British Joint Declaration, agreeing to return Hong Kong (a British colony since 1842) to China, in 1997. The agreement set out a dual-system policy in which Hong Kong would become a special administrative region of China while maintaining a capitalist system. The parties involved stuck to the agreement and, at
midnight, on July 1, 1997, Hong Kong became part of China. AlamyMTV held its first Video Music Awards on September 14, 1984 at Radio City Music Hall. It featured Madonna's iconic "Like a Virgin" performance, in which she emerged from a 17-foot wedding cake. And the award for Video of the Year went to The Cars' "You Might Think"—which beat
out Jackson's "Thriller" for the win. Shutterstock Miss America has lost much of its cultural cache in recent years, but the beauty competition used to be a huge deal. And one of its biggest moments came in July 1984 when Miss America winner Wanessa Williams—the first African-American winner in the history of the pageant—was stripped of her
crown when nude photos she'd posed for previously were published in Penthouse. She'd never authorized the photos, and the Miss America organization's CEO has since apologized for the decision, but Williams would have the last laugh: The wave of publicity around the scandal only raised her celebrity and helped launch her into a successful acting
and singing career. Shutterstock A series of abductions, rapes, and grisly murders throughout the United States over a six-week period in early 1984 shocked the nation. Australian Christopher Wilder drove from state to state, luring young women to his car with promises of modeling work before assaulting and, in at least eight cases, killing his
victims. He earned the name "Beauty Queen Killer" because of the attractiveness of his victims and authorities finally caught up with him at a service station in New Hampshire, where he traded bullets with state troopers and was killed in the confrontation. ShutterstockOn July 15, 1984, 41-year-old James Huberty walked into a McDonald's restaurant
in San Ysidro, California, and opened fire on the customers. He killed 21 people and wounded 19 before being killed by the police. It was the deadliest mass shooting ever committed in the United States at the time. (Currently, it's the seventh.) ShutterstockOn March 16, 1984, William Francis Buckley, the CIA station chief at the U.S. embassy in
Beirut, Lebanon, was kidnapped outside his residence. His jihadi kidnappers offered to use him as a negotiating device in a prisoner exchange, but he was instead transported to Iran where he was allegedly drugged and tortured for more than a year, before eventually dying of his injuries. His remains were returned to the United States in
1991. ShutterstockOn an express train rolling through Manhattan, four African-American youths approached Queens native Bernhard Goetz, who pulled out a handgun and sking for change. It sparked a national debate about race and
crime. Some viewed Goetz as a hero; some believed the four men's version of events; and still others believed the men had indeed been attempting a robbery, but felt like Goetz overreacted. No matter how you felt about it, there was no escaping the incident, which remained on the front page of New York City papers for months. ShutterstockIndira
struggled to navigate the country's intense divisions, which came to a head when she ordered an army raid on a Sikh temple as a strike against Sikh extremists. A pair of her bodyguards, both Sikh, put their religion first and, on October 31st, assassinated Gandhi.ColumbiaStartled by images of famine in Ethiopia that he saw on BBC, musician Bob
Geldof and friend/fellow musician and producer Midge Ure decided in early November 1984 that they'd write, produce, and release a benefit song in time for Christmas—and recruit a few dozen of their famous U.K. musician friends to contribute vocals. They managed to pull it off, getting singers and musicians like Phil Collins, Bono, Boy George, and
George Michael, to name a few, to record the catchy, "Do They Know It's Christmas?" The song was a massive hit, selling a million by the end of 1984. It remains a fixture of pop radio during the holidays (helped in no small part by periodic reworked/updated versions). Feb 1 American lawyer and businessman David
Stern becomes NBA Commissioner, succeeding Larry O'Brien; stays in position until 2014 Feb 1 China & Netherlands regain diplomatic relations Feb 1 Indian diplomatic relations Feb 1 Indian diplomatic relations Feb 1 Indian diplomatic relations Feb 2 Lebanese army fights
in Beirut Feb 3 10th NASA Space Shuttle Mission (41B): Challenger 4 launches Feb 4 "Backstage Magic" opens at CommuniCore Feb 4 Frank Aquilera sets then world record for distance of a frisbee flying disc toss of 551.2 ft (168m) in Las Vegas, Nevada Feb 4 Maury Yeston's musical "Nine", starring Raul Julia, closes at the 46th Street Theater, NYC
For the 1st time eight people are in space Feb 8 Soyuz T-10 launches with crew of 3 to Salvut 7 Feb 8 XIV Winter Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 9 East German ski jumper Jens Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 career Olympic Games open in Sarajevo Weißflog wins first of 3 ca
Enke wins the 1,500m in world record 2:03.42 at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics; also wins 1,000m gold Feb 9 Finnish cross-country skier Marja-Liisa Hämäläinen wins the 10k gold medal at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics; first of 3 individual medal sweep, also winning 5k and 20k events Feb 11 10th NASA Space Shuttle Mission (41B): Challenger 4
returns to Earth Feb 12 12 years after winning the doubles in Sapporo (1972), Italian Paul Hildgarten wins the men's luge singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's singles at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics Feb 12 East German luger Steffi Martin wins the first of 2 consecutive women's single single
country skier Marja-Liisa Hämäläinen wins the 5k gold medal at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics; 2nd of 3 individual medal sweep, also winning 10k and 20k events Feb 12 West Indies beat Australia 2-1 to win cricket's World Series Cup after going undefeated in the qualifying rounds Feb 12 William Grant Still's Symphony No. 3 ("The Sunday
Symphony"), composed in 1958, receives premiere performance, by the North Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Carlton Woodsi Feb 13 Karin Enke of East Germany wins her 2nd gold medal of the Sarajevo Winter Games, winning the women's 1,000m in Olympic
record 1:21.61; also wins 1,500m gold Feb 13 Swedish cross country skier Gunde Svan wins 1,500m; narrowly beats Soviet
skater Sergey Khlebnikov in both events Feb 15 500,000 Iranian soldiers move into Iraq Feb 15 An East German sweep of the medals in the women's 3,000m speed skating at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics; Andrea Schöne takes gold ahead of teammates Karin Enke and Gabi Zange Feb 16 Bill Johnson becomes first American to win an Olympic
downhill skiing gold at the Sarajevo Games; beats Swiss Peter Müller by 0.27s Feb 16 Canadian speed skater Gaétan Boucher takes out the 1,500m at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics, his second gold medal of the Games; also wins the 1,000m Feb 16 NJ Devils 1st OT goal, Jan Ludvig beats Hartford Whalers 6-5 Feb 16 Swedish cross country skier
Gunde Svan takes his 2nd gold medal of the Sarajevo Winter Olympics in the 4 x 10k relay; also wins 15k gold Feb 16 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 2nd career gold; 15k Lake Placid (1980), 50k Sarajevo, relay Calgary (1988) Feb 17 34th Berlin
International Film Festival: "Love Streams" wins the Golden Bear Feb 17 Biathletes Eirik Kvalfoss of Norway and West German Feb 18 East German figure skater Katarina Witt wins first of 2
Feb 19 "Doonesbury" closes at Biltmore Theater, NYC, after 104 performances Feb 19 1st brother combo to win Gold & Silver in same event at Olympics (Phil & Steve Mahre-Slalom) Feb 19 26th Daytona 500: Cale Yarborough wins for 2nd consecutive year and 4th time in career; last-lap pass to beat Darrell Waltrip Feb 19 Soviet Union wins its 6th
Olympic ice hockey gold medal with a 2-0 win over silver medallists Czechoslovakia at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish cross country skier Thomas Wassberg wins 50k event at the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish winter Swedish winter Swedish with the Sarajevo Winter Games Feb 19 Swedish winter Swedish with the Sarajevo Winte
Semipalatinsk Test Site in northeast Kazakhstan Feb 19 XIV Winter Olympic Games close in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia Feb 24 Iraq resumes air attacks on Iran Feb 25 Oil fire in Cubatao Brazil kills 500 Feb 26 Last US marines in multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon left Beirut Feb 26 Pulitzer Prize winner Robert Penn Warren is named the 1st US
poet laureate Feb 27 Worker's union leader Billy Nair (55) freed from Robben Island Prison in South Africa after 20 years as a political prisoner Feb 28 British satirical puppet show "Spitting Image" premieres on ITV
Feb 29 Swedish center Patrik Sundström scores a goal and adds 6 assists as Vancouver Canucks beat the Penguins 9-5 in Pittsburgh; just the 3rd player in NHL history to record 6 assists in a road game Admirals Aviators Gangsters Generals Industrialists Suffragists Dec 1 49th Iron Bowl: Alabama beats Auburn 17-15 in Birmingham Dec 1 American
boxer Greg Page KOs home town favourite Gerrie Coetzee in 8th round to win WBA heavyweight title in Sun City, South Africa Dec 1 American tennis icon Chris Evert wins her 1,000th career professional match; beats Pascale Paradis of France 6-1, 6-7, 6-2 in the round of 16 at the Australian Open; Evert goes on to win the event Tennis Legend Christer and Chr
Evert Dec 1 France performs nuclear test Dec 2 Australian Test cricket spin bowler Bob Holland takes a career best 9-83 for NSW in the Semipalatinsk Test Site in northeast Kazakhstan Dec 3 Bhopal disaster: A Union Carbide pesticide plant leaks 45
tons of methyl isocyanate and other toxic compounds in Bhopal, India, officially killing 2,259 - other estimates are as high as 16,000 (including later deaths) and over half a million injured Dec 4 6th ACE Cable Awards: "David Bowie: Serious Moonlight" by Anthony Eaton and HBO win Dec 4 Hezbollah militants hijack a Kuwait Airlines plane, killing
four passengers. Dec 5 French colonies killed 10 Kanaken in New Caledonia Dec 5 New York Yankees trade catcher Rick Cerone to Atlanta Braves for pitcher Brian Fisher Dec 6 France performs a nuclear test Dec 6 Helena Suková snaps Martina Navratilova's 74-match winning streak 1-6, 6-3, 7-5 in the semi finals of the Australian Open in
Melbourne; ends Navratilova's hopes of completing the Grand Slam Dec 8 Hijackers aboard Kuwaiti jetliner kill 2nd hostage Dec 8 Australian Open Women's Tennis: Chris Evert-Lloyd beats Helena Suková 6-7, 6-1, 6-3; continues streak of winning at least 1 major per year since 1973 Dec 8 Europe & 64 developing countries sign Lome III treaty Dec 9
Great Britain performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site Dec 9 Iranian commandos end 5-day hijacking of Kuwaiti plane Dec 10 1st "planet" outside our solar system discovered Dec 10 WNSY-AM in Newport News VA returns from WGH Dec 11 "Doug Henning & His World..." opens at Lunt-Fontanne NYC for 60 performances Dec 11 Mauretania
military coup under Col Maawiya Ould Sid'ahmed Taya Dec 13 Artificial heart recipient William Schroeder suffers 1st stroke Dec 14 Sportscaster Howard Cosell retires from Monday Night Football Dec 15 USSR launches Vega 1 for rendezvous with Halley's Comet Dec 18 73rd Davis Cup: Sweden beats USA in Gothenburg (4-1) Dec 19 33 unknown
Bach keyboard works found in Yale library [1] Dec 19 China performs nuclear test at Lop Nor, PRC Dec 19 Fire at Wilberg Mine in central Utah killed 27 people Dec 20 US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site Dec 21 Brigham Young University (BYU) beats Michigan, 24-17 in the Holiday Bowl at Jack Murphy Stadium, San Diego to remain
undefeated and secure their first ever NCAA Division I-A football title Dec 21 Islander Kelly Hrudy's 1st shut-out win-Whalers 1-0 Dec 21 USSR launches Vega 2 for fly-by of Halley's Come Dec 22 Bernhard Goetz shoots 4 black muggers on NYC subway train Dec 22 Test Cricket debut of Craig McDermott, v WI at the MCG Dec 24 Palace coup in
Mauritania Dec 25 Knicks basketball forward Bernard King scores 60 points, but New York loses, 120-114 to the New Jersey Nets on Xmas Day at Madison Square Garden Dec 28 Creosote bush determined to be 11,700 years old Dec 28 TV soap "Edge of Night" ends 28 year run Dec
28 USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh, Semipalitinsk USSR Dec 29 5th United Negro College Fund Dec 29 Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi claims victory in parliamentary elections Dec 29 NHL St. Louis Blues launch 27 shots in 1 period during 5-1 loss to visiting New York Islanders; NY goaltender Kelly Hrudey finishes game with 47
saves Dec 29 Wayne Gretzky scores his NHL career 32nd hat trick & adds 3 assists in Edmonton's 6-3 win over Detroit Red Wings for his 100th points in just 35 games; 2nd fastest in history - recorded 100 points in 34 games in 1983 Dec 31 Def Leppard drummer Rick Allen loses his arm in a car crash Dec 31 NYC subway gunman Bernhard Goetz
surrenders to police in NH Dec 31 Test Cricket debut of Mohammad Azharuddin, v England at Calcutta Dec 31 US leaves UNESCO Authors Civil Rights Activists Inventors Kings Revolutionaries Scientists Page 2 Jan 2 Leg-spin bowler Bob "Dutchy" Holland takes 4/90 for match figures of 10/144 as Australia beats the West Indies by innings in 5th Test
in Sydney; Windies take series, 3-1 Jan 2 Nevada Las Vegas basketball gives coach Jerry Tarkanian his 600th career victory with a 142-140 win over Utah State in triple overtime; total of 282 points breaks NCAA men's record of 275 set in 1976 Jan 3 Future Indian cricket captain Mohammad Azharuddin scores 110 on debut in drawn 3rd Test against
England in Kolkata Jan 3 Israel's government confirms the resettlement of 10,000 Ethiopian Jews Jan 5 Discovery moves to launch pad for STS 51-C mission Jan 6 AFC Championship, Miami Orange Bowl: Miami Dolphins beat
Pittsburgh Steelers, 45-28 Jan 6 NFC Championship, Candlestick Park, SF: San Francisco 49ers beat Chicago Bears, 23-0 Jan 7 Japanese space probe Sakigake launched to Halley's comet Jan 7 KHQ-AM in Spokane, Washington, changes call letters to KLSN (now KAQQ) Jan 8 Japan launches Sakigake space probe to Halley's Comet Jan 9 Flames set
NHL record 264th regular season game without being shut-out Jan 11 CDC MMWR publishes guidelines for screening U.S. blood supply for AIDS antibodies with ELISA test that would be available later that year Jan 13 23rd Tennis Fed Cup: Czech beats USA in Nagoya Japan (2-1) Jan 13 99-year-old Otto Bucher from Switzerland becomes the oldest
man to record a hole-in-one at Spanish GC La Manga's 130-yard 12th hole Jan 13 Blackhawk Doug Wilson failed on 12th penalty shot against Islanders Jan 14 16 indicted by US for granting sanctuary to Central American refugees Jan 14
British pound sinks to record low $US1.11 Jan 15 Bollingen Prize for poetry awarded to John Ashbery & Fred Chapell Jan 15 CBS' premiere of TV made teen drug abuse drama, "Not My Kid", based on the previous year's book by Beth Polson Jan 15 Mike Gatting (207) and Graeme Fowler (201) become first pair of England batsmen to complete double
centuries in the same innings during 9-wicket 4th cricket Test win against India at Madras Jan 15 Tancredo Neves becomes 1st elected President of Brazil in 21 years, but dies before taking office Jan 16 "Playboy" announces end of stapling centerfolds Jan 17 Azharuddin scores second Test (v England) Jan 18 US renounces
jurisdiction of World Court despite previous promise Jan 19 4 die in a car & train crash in Buda Ill Jan 20 Cold front strikes US, at least 40 die (-27°F (-33°C), Mt Mitchell, North Carolina (state record) Jan 21 -19°F (-28°C), Caesar's Head, South Carolina (state record) Jan 21 -19°F (-37°C), Mt Mitchell, North Carolina (state record) Jan 21 -19°F (-38°C) in Chicago) Jan 21 -19°F (-38°C) in C
Jan 21 Dennis Potvin ties Bobby Orr's career record of 270 NHL goals Jan 22 -30°F (-34°C), Mountain Lake Bio Station, Virginia (state record) Jan 22 Kelly Hu, 16, of Hawaii, crowned 3rd Miss Teen USA Jan 23 Britains House of Lords debate 1st televised Jan 24 15th Space Shuttle (51-C)
Mission-Discovery 3 is launched Jan 25 "Black & Blue" premieres in Paris Jan 26 Edmonton Oiler Wayne Gretzky scores 50th goal in 49th game of season Jan 27 "Doug Henning & His World of Magic" closes at Lunt-Fontanne NY after 60 performances Jan 27 15th Space Shuttle (51-C) Mission-Discovery 3 returns to Earth Jan 27 Mark Mckoy cycles
world record 50m hurdles indoor (5.25) Jan 27 NFL Pro Bowl, Aloha Stadium, Honolulu, HI: AFC beats NFC, 22-14; MVP: Mark Gastineau, NY Jets, DE Jan 28 Houston's Bill Fitch becomes the 6th coach in NBA history to post 600 wins as the Rockets beat the New Jersey Nets, 97-93 Jan 31 Max Showalter and Peter Walker's musical "Harrigan 'n Hart"
starring Harry Groening and Mark Hamill, opens at Longacre Theater, NYC; runs for 4 performances Actor Mark Hamill Authors Dictators Explorers Outlaws Queens Spies The year of Band Aid, the UK Miners strike and numerous scientific discoveries, 1984 events will forever be remembered. The winter and summer Olympics saw record numbers of
United Kingdom. It had been a British protectorate since 1888. January 3: The Financial Times introduces its Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the London Stock Exchange Index, listing the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the Index 
imprisonment under the Official Secrets Act for leaking government documents to The Guardian newspaper. January 10: After a long history of religion and politics the United States restores diplomatic relations with Holy See (the Vatican). January 14: A fire at Maysfield Leisure Centre in Belfast kills six people. They are overcome by toxic fumes from
burning gym mats in the centre's storeroom. January 18: 83 workers are killed, and a further 16 injured in an explosion at Mitsui Miike coal mine in Fukuoka, Japan. January 22: Super Bowl XVIII is played at Tampa Stadium, Florida. The Los Angeles Raiders win 38-9 against the Washington Redskins. January 22: Apple run their ad for the Macintosh
personal computer during the Super Bowl. The dystopian world portrayed in the advert is inspired by George Orwell's novel 1984. The ad, directed by Ridley Scott, is met with both criticism and praise and is replayed on numerous news channels due to the stir it causes. January 24: Apple's Macintosh computer goes on sale, priced at $2,500. January
27: Michael Jackson is rushed to hospital with second degree burns from pyrotechnics while filming a Pepsi commercial. Original Macintosh computerImage: Wikimedia Commons Back to the top ↑ February February 3: Dr. John Buster and his research team at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center announce the birth of a healthy baby. The baby is the first
successful result of embryo transfer, where a fertilised egg is transferred from one woman to another. This method differs from test tube embryos, where the egg is fertilised outside the woman's body in a lab. February 4: Culture Club's Karma Chameleon hits number 1 on US billboard chart and remains there for three weeks. February 7: The first
untethered spacewalk is made by Astronauts Bruce McCandless II and Robert L. Stewart during NASA's STS-41-B space mission. Rather than be attached to the shuttle, the astronauts control their propulsion using specially designed jetpack. February 8: The opening ceremony for the XIV Olympic Winter Games are held in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.
February 14: One of the most famous events in 1984, Torvill and Dean enter the record books by scoring a perfectly across the board, winning a gold medal for ice skating. February 16: Bill Johnson becomes the first ever American to take gold in an Olympic downhill skiing event. February 19: The Sarajevo Winter Olympics close. Over the events 49
nations took part, more National Olympic Committees than any preceding Winter Olympics. February 24: In Los Angeles, California, Tyrone Mitchell opens fire at an elementary school playground. Two students are killed and 12 injured. As SWAT teams swarm the house he had been firing from, Mitchell turns a shotgun on himself and dies. February
26: In Florida, the Beauty Queen Killer murders his first victim. Christopher Wilder goes on to commit at least seven more homicides of aspiring models over the space of seven weeks. February 26: US troops pull out of Beirut. Their presence was originally a bid to restore peace between warring Christian and Muslim factions within Lebanon
February 28: Spitting Image, a satirical puppet TV show premieres in the UK. Back to the top 1 March March 2: The This is Spinal Tap mockumentary is released in the US. The film popularises the term "up to 11". March 5: Iraq is accused of using chemical weapons against Iran. The use of mustard gas on Majnoon Island is thought to cause 2,500
casualties. March 6: British coal miners begin their strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government. The strike to protest the closing down of mines by Thatcher's government the closing down of mines 
at 20 times by members of the Ulster Volunteer Force, leaving him with three bullet wounds. March 16: CIA station chief based in Beirut, William Francis Buckley, is kidnapped by Hezbollah. He dies in captivity after 15 months of torture to reveal his network of agents. March 16: At Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport, Louisiana, Gary Plauche shoots
and kills Jeff Doucet. The vigilante killing is captured on film by a TV crew who were filming Doucet arriving in Louisiana to stand trial for the kidnap and sexual assault of Plauche's son Jody. March 22: Seven people are charged with Satanic ritual abuse of school children at the McMartin Preschool in Manhattan Beach, California. The McMartin
Preschool trial becomes the longest in US history and all 321 charges are eventually dropped due to testimony from the children being coerced by an unlicensed therapist. March 24: Lionel Richie's single Hello tops the UK chart and remains there for six weeks. March 27: Musical Starlight Express opens in London at the Apollo Victoria Theatre.
March 30: The United Nations investigate the claims of Iraq's use of chemical weapons. Evidence is found proving the use of mustard gas and nerve agents and the practice is condemned by the UN. Back to the top ↑ April April 1: One day before his 45th birthday, Marvin Gaye dies. The famous singer intervenes in an altercation between his parents
and is shot by his own father. April 2: Soviet mission Soyuz T-11 launches Indian Squadron Leader Rakesh into space. Rakesh is the only Indian citizen to ever go into space. April 4: During an official news conference, President Ronald Reagan calls for chemical weapons to be internationally banned. April 9: At the 56th Academy Awards, Terms of
Endearment wins five of the 11 Oscars it is nominated for. This includes Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor for Jack Nicholson. April 12: In Egged, Israel, bus number 300 is hijacked by Palestinian gunmen demanding the release of 500 Arab prisoners. After a high-speed chase and failed roadblocks, Israeli military forces storm the bus after
forcing it to stop by shooting and bursting its tyres. Two of the hijackers and one hostage is killed in the segue and the remaining two gunmen are executed. April 13: Indian armed forces launch Operation Meghdoot, to capture the Siachen Glacier in the region of Kashmir. The assault takes place on the highest battlefield in the world with an altitude
of 6,400 metres (21,000 feet). April 15: Comedian Tommy Cooper dies live on TV. Cooper suffers a massive heart attack and his fall backwards gasping is initially thought to be a part of his comedic act. April 17: Metropolitan Police officer, Yvonne Fletcher is killed when shots are fired into a crowd of anti-Gaddafi demonstrators protesting outside the
Libyan People's Bureau. Fletcher was there as part of the crowd control for the protest. The British Home Secretary orders police to siege the Libyan Embassy but the gunman is not identified. April 20: In the baggage area of Terminal 2 at Heathrow Airport, London a bomb explodes. 22 people are injured but there are no fatalities. April 24: The sun
releases an X-class solar flare. Flares classified as X can affect the Earth, causing blackouts and radio disruptions. This flare measures as X13, the second most powerful flare recorded (until an X20 occurs in 1989). Back to the top ↑ May May 7: After a five-year battle, an out-of-court settlement of $180m is awarded to American Vietnam war veterans
suffering illnesses and disabilities caused by Agent Orange. May 8: In London, construction of the Thames Barrier is officially completed. The movable barrier system is designed to stop flooding across 125 square kilometres (48.3 square miles) of the city. May 8: As retaliation for the USA led boycott of the Moscow hosted Olympics in 1980, the Soviet
Union announce they will boycott the 1984 Summer Olympic Games. The games will take place in Los Angeles, California. May 12: Nelson Mandela, imprisoned in the final at Wembley Stadium. The score at the final whistle stands at 2-0, awarding
them the trophy for the fourth time. May 23: In Lancashire, England, 16 people die in a methane gas explosion at Abbeystead water treatment works. May 27: Tulsa, Oklahoma is hit by overnight flash-floods. 15 inches (38 cm) of rain falls over a four-hour period and 14 people are killed. May 17: Prince Charles delivers a speech about modern
architecture calling the design for a new building for the National Gallery a "monstrous carbuncle" on the face of London. May 30: Liverpool and Roma of Italy resort to penalties after a 1-1 draw in the final of the European Cup at Olympic Stadium in Rome. With this win, Liverpool become the first English club to win three major trophies in the same
season. May 31: Six inmates escape from death row at Mecklenburg Correctional Center, in Virginia. Lem Tuggle, Earl Clanton, Derick Peterson, Willie Jones and brothers James and Linwood Briley become the only prisoners to ever escape from death row in the United States. All six are apprehended within days of the escape. The Thames Barrier in
LondonImage: Geograph Back to the top 1 June June 1: In Wokingham, Berkshire, seven-year-old Mark Tildesley goes missing from a local fairground. His body is not found, but after a lengthy investigation, and appearing on the UK's first ever episode of Crimewatch, Leslie Bailey is jailed. June 4: Born in the U.S.A. Springsteen's seventh album is
the most major events in 1984. June 18: Alan Berg a radio host in Colorado is shot outside his home. The Jewish lawyer and radio personality is assassinated by members of The Order, a white supremacist group. June 18: In South Yorkshire, England a violent clash between striking miners and police is dubbed the Battle of Orgreave. 95 of those
picketing are arrested and as many as 123 people are reported to be injured. June 20: In Britain it's announced that O-level and CSE exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs. The new form of exams will be replaced by GCSEs.
its inaugural flight from Gatwick Airport in London to Newark, New York. June 25: The album, Purple Rain is released by artist Prince. June 30: Elton John's Night and Day Concert at Wembley Stadium is broadcast live in its entirety across BBC radio. Back to the top 1 July July 7: When Doves Cry hits the billboard number one slot in the US and stays
there for five weeks, becoming the most successful song of the year. July 9: In the early hours of the morning the south roof of York Minster is set ablaze. The fire, thought to be caused by lightning, is eventually extinguished by 114 firefighters. The burning roof is intentionally collapsed to save the rest of the building, some of which dates back to
1220. July 13: 19-year-old Terry Wallis loses control of his truck outside the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas. The accident puts Wallis into a coma and kills his friend. He will eventually awaken after 19 years, July 17: The National Minimum Drinking Age Act is passed in America. Those under the age of 21 can't buy or possess alcohol. Before the act is
passed the legal drinking age varied from 18 to 21 depending on which American State you were in. July 18: San Ysidro McDonald's massacre happens in, San Diego, California. Declared the deadliest shooting by a single gunman, James Oliver
Huberty, 41, kills 21 people and injures 19. Huberty is killed by a police sniper who was deployed to a rooftop opposite the fast food restaurant. July 19: The largest onshore earthquake recorded in the UK hits the Llŷn Peninsula in Wales. The quake measured at 5.4 on the Richter scale and was felt throughout almost the entirety of Great Britain. July 19: The largest onshore earthquake recorded in the UK hits the Llŷn Peninsula in Wales.
25: Cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya becomes the first ever woman to perform a spacewalk during Soviet space mission Salyut 7. July 28: The Summer Olympic Games open in Los Angeles, California. Despite the Soviet boycott, a record-breaking 140 nations take part. July 29: The first women's cycling event to be included in the Olympic program is
held. The women's individual road race gold medal is awarded to Connie Carpenter from team USA. Back to the top 1 August 2: Jeff Blatnick, who is in remission for Hodgkin's disease, becomes the first American Greco-Roman wrestler to win a gold medal at the Olympics. August 3: 32 people are killed when a bomb detonates in Madras India
airport. The bomb is intended for Air Lanka flight UL-122 and timed to detonate once the plane lands. Due to a mix up at the airport and the passenger who checked the bag not claiming it, the bag containing the explosives was not put on the flight and detonates in the wrong country. August 3: Mary Lou Retton of the USA's Olympic gymnastics team
scores a perfect 10 for her final vault. She is the first American woman to win an Olympic gymnastics gold medal. August 8: In the first women's 400m hurdles event to be held at an Olympic Games, Nawal El Moutawakel of Morocco beats the odds and wins the race. She beats her nearest opponent by five meters (16 feet) to become the first female
Muslim to ever win a gold medal. August 11: US President Ronald Reagan jokes about bombing Russia during a mic check for a radio interview. The remark is leaked to the press and becomes an infamous report around the world. August 11: Front runners Zola Budd, running for Great Britain, and Mary Decker from the US collide while competing in
the Olympic 3,000 meters final. Budd had been in the lead but finishes seventh after the crash and Decker fails to finish due to injury. This incident pits the British press against the American press as each country backs their own runner. Officials later confirm that Budd did not purposefully trip Decker. August 16: Automobile executive, John
DeLorean is acquitted of drug trafficking charges in Los Angeles. The founder of DeLorean Motor Company was arrested in 1982 after being caught on tape agreeing to bankroll a drugs deal worth $24 million. The tape is deemed entrapment and DeLorean is cleared of all charges. August 27: In a programme designed to inspire more children to take
an interest in maths and science, Ronald Reagan announces NASAs Teacher in Space project. The project will send real teachers into space alongside astronauts and return them to class afterwards to share their experiences. August 25: American author, Truman Capote, author of the novella Breakfast at Tiffany's dies of liver cancer aged 59. August
30: NASA space Shuttle Discovery takes off on its maiden voyage on mission STS-41-D to deploy three communications satellites. Truman CapoteImage: Wikimedia Commons Back to the top ↑ September 2: Two rival motorcycle gangs in Milperra, a suburb of Sydney Australia clash resulting in a shootout. Seven people are killed with a
further 12 wounded when gangs known as the Bandidos and Comancheros in Sydney, Australia. The incident leads to changes of Australia abolishes the death penalty, the last state of Australia to do so. September 7: An outbreak of salmonella
kills 19 people across two Yorkshire hospitals in the space of two weeks. September 10: British Geneticist, Alec Jeffreys develops genetic fingerprinting, allowing him to identify people using their DNA. The method, when commercialised will allow forensic scientists to assist with solving crimes. September 10: Inspired by the death of a classmate from
cancer, Sean O'Keefe cycles from Santa Monica, California to New York City, O'Keefe, aged just 11 is the youngest person to cycle coast-to-coast across America and his 24 day bike ride is funded and supported by his immediate family. September 15: Princess Diana gives birth to her second child with Prince Charles. The new prince's name is
announced the next day as Henry Charles Albert David. September 18: Former United States Air Force colonel, Joe Kittinger sets a world record for the longest flight made in a 3,000 cubic metre balloon. In doing so, Kittinger sets a world record for the longest flight made in a 3,000 cubic metre balloon. In doing so, Kittinger sets a world record for the longest flight made in a 3,000 cubic metre balloon. In doing so, Kittinger sets a world record for the longest flight made in a 3,000 cubic metre balloon. In doing so, Kittinger becomes the first solo person to fly a gas balloon across the Atlantic. He flies from Caribou, Maine, aiming to land in Russia
but instead crash landed in Montenotte, Italy. September 20: A member of Hezbollah drives a car packed with explosives into the U.S. Embassy annex in Beirut. 24 people, including the bomber, are killed. September 23: In the UK, Threads, a haunting TV film set in a post-apocalyptic Britain, airs on BBC Two. September 24: The American family
sitcom Happy Days is cancelled after 11 seasons. Back to the top 1 October October 4: The first Australians reach the summit of Mount Everest. Tim Macartney-Snape and Greg Mortimer completed the clime across the mountain's North face without the use of oxygen tanks. October 9: Children's TV show Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends is first
broadcast in the UK. The series is based on original stories by Rev. W Awdry and is narrated by former Beatle, Ringo Starr. October 11: Astronaut, Kathryn D. Sullivan becomes the first female American to perform a spacewalk. NASA mission STS-41-G is also the same mission where Marc Garneau becomes the first female American to perform a spacewalk.
assassination attempt on Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her British Cabinet happens in Brighton, England. The Provisional Irish Republican Army bomb the hotel where the Prime Minister is staying. Thatcher narrowly escapes but the attack kills five people and injures 31 more. October 13: Stevie Wonder reaches the billboard number 1 in
the US with his song I Just Called to Say I Love You. The song stays there for three weeks. October 14: The Detroit Tigers win the Baseball World Series defeating the San Diego Padres. October 16: Archbishop Desmond Tutu is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. October 23: BBC News presenter Michael Buerk reports on famine in Ethiopia which has
already claimed thousands of lives. As a result, numerous charities across the world begin raising funds to support the millions of Ethiopians affected by the famine. Singer Bob Geldof views the heart-breaking report and subsequently forms the Band Aid supergroup, more information about this can be read at the end of this 1984 timeline. October 26:
James Cameron's film, The Terminator, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger is released in the US. October 31: Indira Gandhi the Indian Prime Minister is assassinated at her home in New Delhi. Her by two bodyguards, Satwant Singh fire numerous rounds into the politician and are both executed for her murder. Back to the top 1
November 1: Anti-Sikh riots occur across India following the murder of Prime Minister India. November 2: In Raleigh, North Carolina, convicted murderer Velma Barfield becomes the first woman in the United States to be executed since 1962. November 6: In
the Presidential election, Ronald Reagan defeats Democratic candidate Walter F. Mondale with a landslide victory. The Democrats only gain majority in one state, giving the Republicans 49. November 12: Paul McCartney releases his
single We All Stand Together. November 9: Horror film A Nightmare on Elm Street is released in the United States. November 19: A series of explosions at a petroleum storage facility in San Juan, Mexico ignites a major fire. Thousands of people suffer severe burns and around 500 people are killed. November 23: The Oxford Circus station on the
London underground is caught alight. Around 1,000 passengers aboard five trains are trapped underground by the smoke and fire but no-one is killed. November 25: 36 pop musicians from across Britain and Ireland gather in a Notting Hill, London studio to record Do They Know It's Christmas to raise money for Ethiopian famine victims. November
30: Two South Wales miners are charged with murder after dropping a concrete block from a bridge onto a taxi which was part of a police convoy escorting working despite the strike, escapes with minor injuries. Back to the top 1 December December 1: To
gather data about airplane crashes NASA and the FAA stage a Controlled Impact Demonstration. They intentionally crash a remote-controlled Boeing 720 in the Mojave Desert in California. December 1: Beverly Hills Cop starring Eddie Murphy premieres in Los Angeles. December 3: In Bhopal, India, a chemical leak at a pesticide plant exposes over
half a million people to methyl isocyanate. Known as the worst ever industrial disaster, thousands more continue to suffer the aftermath. December 8: Neo-Nazi and leader of The Order, Robert Jay Mathews is killed in a shootout with the FBI. The agents had been surrounding Matthews' house for over 24
hours before the shootout begins. December 10: Astronomers in Arizona announce the discovery of a planet outside our solar system. The planet orbits a star known as Van Biesbroeck 8, located 21 lightyears away from Earth. December 11: Do They Know It's Christmas?" goes to the top of the UK Singles Chart. The Band Aid charity single was
released December 3rd. December 19: Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom signs the Sino-British Joint Declaration, an agreement to return Hong Kong to China in 1997. December 22: Madonna's single Like a Virgin single goes to the billboard number 1 in America for 6 weeks. December 22: Bernhard Goetz shoots and injures
four muggers on the New York City subway. The incident sparks a debate on the lengths people should go in self-defence. December 31: Def Leppard drummer Rick Allen, loses control of his car while driving along the A57 outside Sheffield, England. As a result, he loses his left arm. Back to the top 1 UK Coal Miners' Strike The National Union of
Mineworkers (NUM) president, Arthur Scargill, led the movement for a major strike to shut down the British coal industry to protest the permanent closure of 20 pits across the UK. In 1984 there were 170 active collieries, most of whose employees went out on strike, with miners in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire being the last to
join the strike action. The picket lines became places of violence and clashes with the police as those who chose to continue working were labelled 'scabs'. By the end of the strike in March 1985 11,000 workers had been arrested and 5,000 of the faced trial for a variety of offences. The number of workers on the poverty line increased as the months
went on; more and more miners struggling to make ends meet began to go back to work. When the strike ceased on March 3rd, 1985, as an act of pride, many returned to the pits marching behind brass bands as a show of loyalty to their cause. Back to the top ↑ Band Aid The charity supergroup Band Aid was formed by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure was
formed to raise funds for the anti-famine effort in Ethiopia. With Geldof's words and Ure's melody the song Do They Know It's Christmas is created. The song recording was done in one day as the studio could only provide 24 hours of free time to the cause. Artists flew into London to record at the Notting Hill studio and all recorded their segments in
two or three takes. Bono was the only artist to perfect his recording on the first try, and Culture Club's Boy George took the most time due to a sore throat. The single sold over one million copies in its first week of sale and raised over £8 million within 12 months. The song remained the highest selling record of all time in the UK until 1997. Back to
the top 1 Indira Gandhi Assassination The first female Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi was elected in January 1980 to serve a second term. Tensions between religious groups came to a head when in June 1984, she ordered a raid on a Sikh temple in Punjab for the
army to flush out armed Sikh extremists. This is though to be what started death threats towards her. Gandhi vouched for Beant Singh, her Sikh bodyguard rather than transfer him from her protective duty as he had given her many years of loyal service. Beant was killed shortly after he and fellow bodyguard Satwant Singh assassinated the Prime
Minister. Singh survived and stood trial in '86; he was subsequently executed in 1989. Share — copy and redistribute the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow
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