

1980s TIMELINE

■ 1980

- Mount St. Helens erupted in Washington state.
- Pierre Trudeau defeated Joe Clark to regain his office as Canadian Prime Minister.
- Ronald Reagan was elected U.S. President with George Bush as Vice President.
- Beatle John Lennon was shot to death outside his apartment.

■ 1981

- Two assassinations were attempted against President Reagan and Pope John Paul II. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was killed in an assassination.
- Iran freed U.S. embassy hostages after 444 days.
- Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer were married.

■ 1982

- Canada's Constitution Act was enacted, severing the nation's last legal ties to the United Kingdom.

■ 1983

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birth anniversary became a federal holiday.
- Terrorists destroyed U.S. embassy and Marine headquarters in Beirut.

■ 1984

- Pierre Trudeau resigned as Canadian Prime Minister and was replaced by John Turner. Turner lost the election to the Progressive Conservative Party led by Brian Mulroney.
- Reagan-Bush won reelection in the Presidential election over Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro.
- Indira Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, was assassinated by Sikh extremists.
- The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that home use of TV videotapes was legal.

■ 1985

- Mikhail Gorbachev was named Soviet Party Chief.
- The World Bank organized a famine relief fund for Africa with contributions from 13 nations. To raise money, 43 of America's top pop, rock, and country singers recorded an LP that featured the song, *We Are the World*.
- Nintendo launched its home entertainment system (video games).

■ 1986

- The U.S. space shuttle, *Challenger*, exploded on take-off, killing all seven crew members.
- Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson were married and became the Duke and Duchess of York.
- There was a major nuclear accident to Chernobyl in the Ukraine killing many people and leaking radiation into the atmosphere.
- President Reagan admitted his administration had secret arms deals with Iran. It became known as the Iran-Contra Scandal.

■ 1987

- Margaret Thatcher became the first United Kingdom Prime Minister in the 20th century to be elected three times.
- Iran-Contra congressional hearings began as Lt. Col. Oliver North and others defended their roles in the arms for hostages scandal.
- October 19 was dubbed "Black Monday" as stock market shares plummeted all over the world.

■ 1988

- Australia celebrated the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the first settlers from Britain.

- Canada and the U.S. signed a comprehensive free-trade agreement.
- George Bush was elected U.S. President with Dan Quayle as Vice President.
- Mikhail Gorbachev became U.S.S.R.'s President .

■ 1989

- The metal bottom of the oil tanker, *Exxon Valdez*, scraped against the ocean floor and ripped open, and millions of gallons of oil poured into Alaska's Prince William Sound.
- The Berlin Wall that separated West Germany from East Germany was opened.
- An earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter Scale and lasting 15 seconds struck San Francisco, causing billions of dollars of damage.
- *Creative Forecasting* published their first issue.

BOOKS: *The Covenant* (Michener), *The Bourne Identity* (Ludlum), *Nobel House* (Clavell), *A Light in the Attic* (Silverstein), *Cujo* (King), *Workout Book* (Fonda), *The Color Purple* (Walker), *Living, Loving and Learning* (Buscaglia), *Megatrends* (Naisbitt), *Pet Sematary* (King), *Hollywood Wives* (Collins), *Lincoln* (Vidal), *Iacocca: An Autobiography*, *Texas* (Michener), *Lonesome Dove* (McMurty), *Lake Wobegon Days* (Keillor), *A Passion for Excellence* (Peters, Austin), *The Polar Express* (Van Allsburg), *The Fisher King* (Powell), *You're Only Old Once* (Dr. Seuss), *Where's Waldo?* (Handford), *The Bonfire of the Vanities* (Wolfe), *Patriot Games* (Clancy), *Breathing Lessons* (Tyler), *The Satanic Verses* (Rushdie), *The Great Waldo Search* (Handford), *The Mitten* (Brett), *Vineland* (Pynchon)

STAGE: *I Ought to Be in Pictures*, *42nd Street*, *Woman of the Year*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Agnes of God*, *Dream Girls*, *Cats*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Noises Off*, *Baby*, *Biloxi Blues*, *Big River*, *Sweet Charity*, *Song and Dance*, *Les Misérables*, *Broadway Bound*, *M. Butterfly*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*

MOVIES: *Airplane*, *Urban Cowboy*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, *Fame*, *Private Benjamin*, *Nine to Five*, *Arthur*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Superman II*, *Sophie's Choice*, *Stripes*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *On Golden Pond*, *E.T.*, *An Officer and a Gentleman*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Rocky III*, *Gandhi*, *Tootsie*, *The Big Chill*, *Flashdance*, *National Lampoon's Vacation*, *Return of the Jedi*, *Superman III*, *Places in the Heart*, *Ghostbusters*, *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*, *Romancing the Stone*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *Splash*, *Amadeus*, *The Muppets Take Manhattan*, *Back to the Future*, *Cocoon*, *Jewel of the Nile*, *Witness*, *Mask*, *Out of Africa*, *Crocodile Dundee*, *Blue Velvet*, *Platoon*, *Top Gun*, *Children of a Lesser God*, *The Last Emperor*, *Lethal Weapon*, *Down and Out in Beverly Hills*, *Wall Street*, *The Untouchables*, *Moonstruck*, *Big*, *A Fish Called Wanda*, *Good Morning Vietnam*, *The Naked Gun*, *Rain Man*, *Batman*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Turner & Hooch*, *When Harry Met Sally*, *Look Who's Talking*, *Field of Dreams*

SONGS: *Lady*, *Sailing*, *Fame*, *Glass Houses*, *Off Broadway*, *Shining Star*, *September Morn'*, *On the Road Again*, *New York, New York*, *Physical*, *9 to 5*, *Queen of Hearts*, *Don't Stand So Close to Me*, *Elvira*, *Bette Davis Eyes*, *Ebony and Ivory*, *Rosanna*, *Always on My Mind*, *Truly*, *One Hundred Ways*, *Chariots of Fire Theme*, *Beat It*, *Billie Jean*, *What a Feeling*, *Every Breath You Take*, *Maniac*, *Puttin' On the Ritz*, *Allentown*, *What's Love Got to Do With It*, *Jump*, *Against All Odds*, *Dancing in the Dark*, *Ghostbusters*, *Mama He's Crazy*, *Girls Just Want to Have Fun*, *Uptown Girl*, *To All the Girls I've Loved Before*, *We Are the World*, *Saving All My Love For You*, *Shout*, *Miami Vice Theme*, *The Boys of Summer*, *Nightshift*, *Money for Nothing*, *Glory Days*, *Material Girl*, *The Heat Is On*, *Higher Love*, *That's What Friends Are For*, *Addicted to Love*, *Kiss*, *Back Where You Started*, *'Round Midnight*, *Grandpa (Tell Me 'Bout the Good Old Days)*, *Somewhere Out There*, *I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me)*, *Graceland*, *(I've Had) The Time of My Life*, *Tunnel of Love*, *Minute By Minute*, *Forever and Ever Amen*, *80's Ladies*, *Don't Worry Be Happy*, *Fast Car*, *Simply Irresistible*, *Hold Me*, *Crying*, *Wind Beneath My Wings*, *Nick of Time*, *How Am I Supposed to Live Without You*, *Aura*, *Indigo Girls*, *There's a Tear in My Beer*, *Batman Theme*

POPULAR TV SHOWS: *M*A*S*H, 60 Minutes, Dallas, The Love Boat, Monday Night Football, The Dukes of Hazard, Newhart, Kate & Allie, Magnum P.I., The Cosby Show, Family Ties, Cheers, The A Team, Falcon Crest, Cagney & Lacey, Murder She Wrote, Dynasty, The Golden Girls, Growing Pains, Night Court, The Wonder Years, L.A. Law, A Different World, Who's the Boss?, Moonlighting, Alf, Amen*

FIRSTS: nonstop balloon crossing of U.S., pocket-size TVs, surgical treatment of embryo, disk cameras, woman judge on U.S. Supreme Court (O'Connor), permanent artificial heart in human, African-American Miss America (Williams), American woman in space (Ride), compact discs, woman Vice Presidential candidate (Ferraro), woman to walk in space (Savitskaya), solo trans-Atlantic balloon flight (Kittinger), diesel fuel from vegetable oil, first flight around the world without refueling (Rutan and Yeager), talking watch (answers when asked the time), Sony video walkman (combining color TV and VCR), personal TV sets for airline passengers (Northwest Airlines), holographic postage stamps (Austrian Postal Service), gene responsible for cystic fibrosis identified (by Canadian scientists)

FADS: Sony walkmans, sensory deprivation float tanks, punk fashions, Rubik's cubes, jellybeans, Brooke Shields dolls, personal computers, deely bobbars, tuxedos for women, Cabbage Patch dolls, break dancing, light foods and beverages, men's underwear for women, Trivial Pursuit[®] game, Cazal[®] eyeglasses, designer bandages, Madonna look, brooches, Reebok[®] footwear, acid-washed jeans or jackets, tie-dyed shirts, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, mousse for hair, velour running suits, spandex running outfits or biking shorts, leather miniskirts or jackets, Swatch watches, *The Official Preppy Handbook*

SPORTS HEADLINES:

- The 13th Winter Olympics were held in Lake Placid, NY. U.S. speed skater Eric Heiden won a record five gold medals. The underdog U.S. hockey team beat the world champion Soviet national team in the semi-final round and then beat the Finland team to win the gold medal. (1980)
- The U.S. Olympic Committee voted to boycott the Summer Olympic Games in Moscow. (1980)
- Swedish tennis player Bjorn Borg won his fifth consecutive Wimbledon singles title. (1980)
- Major League Baseball players went on strike on June 12 and returned July 31. The strike forced cancellation of 706 games or 38% of the schedule. (1981)
- The United States Football League began play as a league with a March - July season. (1982)
- The players in the National Football League went on strike for 57 days, starting on September 21 and ending November 16. The season was shortened. (1982)
- After winning the National Hockey League championship, the New York Islanders became the second team to win four straight titles. (1983)
- The Summer Olympics in Los Angeles were boycotted by U.S.S.R. and 13 other nations. U.S. athlete Carl Lewis won four gold medals in track and field. U.S. gymnast Mary Lou Retton won the all-around gymnastics gold medal. (1984)
- Sports Quote: "If you ask my 4-year-old granddaughter what grandpa does, she says, 'He kicks dirt on umpires.'" Billy Martin, New York Yankee Manager on his media-created image (1985)
- Greg Lemond became the first American to win the Tour de France cycle race. (1986)
- The owners of the remaining teams of the United States Football League voted to call off the 1986 season and disband. (1986)
- Just three months after reaffirming his intentions of having a baseball-only career, Bo Jackson signed a five-year contract to play professional football. Jackson's two-sport plan called for playing football as a "hobby" through the winter months with the Los Angeles Raiders, and as soon as that season was over, to play baseball with the Kansas City Royals. (1987)
- The Winter Olympic Games were held in Calgary, Alberta. Highlights included figure skaters Katrina Witt (E. Ger.) and Brian Boitano (U.S.), speed skater Bonnie Blair (U.S.), and ski jumper Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards (United Kingdom). (1988)

- The Summer Olympic Games in South Korea were the first games without a boycott since 1980. Stars of the Olympics included swimmer Kristin Otto (E. Ger.), weightlifter Naim Süleymanoglu (Tur.), runner Florence Griffith Joyner (U.S.), swimmer Matt Biondi (U.S.), and diver Greg Louganis (U.S.). (1988)
- Former baseball player Pete Rose was banned from baseball for life because of betting on games. (1989)
- Just moments before Game 3 of the World Series between the San Francisco Giants and Oakland A's, Candlestick Park in San Francisco started shaking, and the power went off. The Bay Area was hit with an earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale. The game was postponed for that night, and the series continued 10 days later. The A's won the series in four games. (1989)
- Saskatchewan and Hamilton played in the Canadian Football League's championship game, and the total number of points scored was a record for the Grey Cup championship. Saskatchewan won the game with a score of 43 - 40.
- Other names in the headlines: Marcus Allen (football), Jackie Joyner (track and field), Mike Tyson (boxing), John McEnroe (tennis), Bill Shoemaker (horse racing), George Brett (baseball)

FOOD

- Some food products that became popular in the 1980s were sushi, blackened redfish, brand-name bottled water, rice cakes, Paul Newman's salad dressing, quiche, gelato, Dove[®] bars, and brewed decaffeinated coffee.
- In April, 1985, Coca-Cola Company said a new formula would be in stores in May. After only 10 weeks on the market, New Coke fell flat. The old formula came back in July as Coca-Cola Classic[®]. Just two months after its 100th birthday, Classic Coke was a hit and New Coke had fizzled out.
- In 1988, McDonalds opened 20 restaurants in Moscow.
- People began eating out more. The trendiest way to end a meal was with decaf. espresso and tiramisu (translated it means "pick me up").