

SPECIAL EDITION

1982

News

British invade Falklands

The Falkland Islands, long the subject of diplomatic contention, were seized by Argentina April 2. The next day, Great Britain sent a naval task force to reclaim the islands.

Thunderbird pilots die

Four Thunderbird show jets practicing a stunt maneuver crash one after the other into the Nevada desert January 18, killing all four pilots. The planes crashed after failing to complete an upward loop at over 400 miles an hour.

Slavery in North Carolina

A crew leader for migrant laborers and two assistants are convicted January 22 by a federal jury in Raleigh on 9 of 12 counts of conspiracy to kidnap, intimidate, and enslave migrant workers. The workers were abducted from cities across the East Coast and brought to work on a sweet potato farm in N.C.

Sports

Baseball

The St. Louis Cardinals, led by Lonnie and Ozzie Smith, defeat the Brewers of Milwaukee 4 games to 3 in the World Series.

Football

The NFL held its first-ever player strike and it lasts six weeks. The San Francisco 49ers win the shortened season's title with a victory of the Bengals of Cincinnati in the Super Bowl. In college football, Clemson wins its first national championship by defeating Nebraska in the Orange Bowl. Also, Alabama's Paul "Bear" Bryant retires from football.

Basketball

The Lakers win their second title of the decade, once again defeating the 76ers 4 game to 2. In college hoops, freshman Michael Jordan hits a last-second shot to lift the UNC Tar Hills to the national championship over the Hoyas of Georgetown.

Entertainment

"Chariots of Fire" wins the Academy Award for best motion picture. "On Golden Pond" sports the top two actors of the year in Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn. At the box office, however, Eddie Murphy and Nick Nolte ran away with "48 Hrs"; Jason came back in "Friday the 13th Part II"; the world met John Rambo in "First Blood"; and Indiana Jones wowed us in "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

The year's popular music included "Down Under" by Men at Work, "Eye of the Tiger" by Survivor, "Other Woman" by Ray Parker, and "Truly" by Lionel Richie.

Deaths

Henry Fonda, award-winning American actor, died of heart disease August 13.

John Belushi, comedian and star of "Animal House", "The Blues Brothers", as well as "Saturday Night Live" died March 6 of a drug overdose.

Princess Grace of Monaco died in a car wreck September 13.

Ingrid Bergman, award-winning actress, died of natural causes August 31.

1983

News

First U.S. woman in space

On June 24, Sally K. Ride became the first American woman in space when she took off on the space shuttle "Challenger" for a six-day mission. During the mission, crew members deployed two satellites using the shuttle's robotic arm.

Soviets down Korean plane

A Korean jetliner, with 269 passengers, disappeared from radar screens and ended up in Russian air space. The Soviets, claiming it was a U.S. spy plane, shot down the jetliner, killing all 269 passengers. The United States denounced the action as "barbarous."

U.S. invades Grenada

More than 1,900 Marines stormed the shores of this tiny Caribbean island to help restore Democratic institutions and defeat a band of what President Reagan called "Cuban thugs." American troops trounced the Cubans as easily as a 1st place sports team might demolish a last place loser.

Sports

Football

The Washington Redskins, led by M.V.P. John Riggins, defeat the Miami Dolphins 27-17 in the Super Bowl. In college football, Penn State defeats Georgia 27-23 in the Sugar Bowl to win the national championship. Nebraska's Mike Rozier wins the Heisman Trophy.

Basketball

The Philadelphia 76ers beat the L.A. Lakers at home, 115-108 to win the title. The Sixers are led by Moses Malone and Julius "Dr. J" Erving. In college hoops, N.C. State defeats the Cougars of Houston on a last second tip-in to win the national championship.

Entertainment

In television, the last episode of "M*A*S*H" ended an era of Hawkeye, Radar, and Hot Lips. The show was seen by a record 125 million viewers in the United States.

On the silver screen, the top movies were "Return of the Jedi", "Terms of Endearment", and "Tender Mercies."

1983 saw Michael Jackson smash the archives of music history with the album "Thriller." Among other awards, Jackson won Grammys for single ("Beat It"), album, and vocalist of the year.

Deaths

Karen Carpenter, singer and song writer, died February 4.

Tennessee Williams, author of "The Glass Menagerie" and leading U.S. dramatist, died February 25.

Muddy Water, famous American blues man, died April 30.

David Niven, actor and star of several "Pink Panther" films, died July 29.

George Halas, founder and owner of the NFL Chicago Bears, died October 31.

1984

News

Iran-Iraq war continues

The war over control of the Persian Gulf entered its 5th year in 1984. The war took on a new look with nothing being sacred, including strictly civilian posts.

An estimated 500,000 soldiers were reported to be engaged in heavy fighting on both sides. Iraq controlled the skies while Iran's land forces fought gallantly.

Soviets boycott Olympics

The Soviet Union and 14 other countries boycotted the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles in retaliation for the U.S. boycott of the Moscow games. Despite the boycott, the games were a phenomenal success with over 150 million dollars in ticket revenue in the United States alone.

The Games alone were a success. The summer saw 140 nations represented with a record total of 7,800 athletes participating. Major American victories were recorded in a wide variety of fields. Greg Louganis captured two gold medals in diving, while Mary Lou Retton became America's sweetheart by leading the U.S. gymnastic team to a silver medal. The men's team won the gold, defeating China in a dramatic finish.

Sports

Baseball

Peter Ueberroth, head of the U.S. Olympic committee, becomes the commissioner of baseball. Dwight Gooden is named N.L. Rookie of the Year.

Football

Walter Payton breaks Jim Brown's all-time rushing yardage record and Eric Dickerson breaks O.J. Simpson's single season record in December. Doug Flutie wins the Heisman and the Baltimore Colts move to Indianapolis overnight.

Entertainment

On the tube, Bill Cosby had the screen burning up with his new show "The Cosby Show." "Hill Street Blues" continued its success and "Cheers" won an Emmy for outstanding comedy.

The music scene was led by Prince, whose "Purple Rain" album and film were fantastic smashes. Soundtracks became big business with "Beverly Hills Cop" and "The Breakfast Club" both producing chart-topping hits. Bruce Springsteen, a New Jersey hero, burst onto the national scene with "Born in the U.S.A." The second British invasion began as groups such as Wham U.K. and Frankie Goes to Hollywood made their mark on the charts.

Deaths

Baby Fae died after a heart transplant from a baboon failed. She survived 32 days before her death.

Marvin Gaye, musician, was shot to death by his father. Gaye is best remembered for "Heard it through the Grapevine" and "Sexual Healing."

John Rock, developer of the birth control pill, died at the age of 94.

