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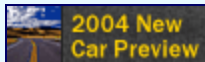
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Today's St. Augustine Record

LOCAL NEWS

latest update: Thursday, January 01, 2004 at 08:23 AM EST

A timeline of the year's most notable events

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

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Jan. 9: North Korea withdraws from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Jan. 20: With Germany's support, France threatens a U.N. veto against war in Iraq.

Jan. 28: President George W. Bush says in his State of the Union address that the country must be prepared to attack Iraq.

Jan. 29: Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his Likud Party win at the polls.

Feb. 1: The space shuttle Columbia breaks up on descent, killing all seven aboard.

Feb. 5: Secretary of State Colin Powell tells the U.N. Security Council that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction.

Feb. 15: Anti-war marchers parade in New York, London, Paris and elsewhere.

Feb. 21: A nightclub fire in West Warwick, R.I., kills 100.

Feb. 28: The White House says that to avoid war, Iraq must disarm and Saddam Hussein must go.

March 1: Turkey's parliament bars passage into Iraq for U.S. soldiers.

March 12: An assassin kills Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic.

Elizabeth Smart is reunited with her family in Utah nine months after being kidnapped.

March 15: The World Health Organization calls Asian outbreak of SARS a worldwide threat.

March 17: In TV speech, Bush gives Iraq 48 hours to submit.

Facing a veto, the United States, Britain and Spain withdraw a U.N. resolution on Iraq.

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January [Calendar of Events](#)

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March 19: Mahmoud Abbas becomes the first Palestinian prime minister.

March 20: Bombs bursting over Baghdad open the war against Iraq.

March 23: Iraqis ambush a convoy and capture 12, including Pfc. Jessica Lynch.

March 25: Sex scandals at the Air Force Academy cost four top officers their jobs.

April 2: Special Operations forces rescue the badly injured Lynch.

April 5: Heavy U.S. forces charge through Baghdad in a "thunder run."

April 9: A statue of Saddam falls, as does Baghdad itself.

April 11: Congress approves a \$2.2 trillion budget resolution.

April 14: With the fall of Tikrit, the Pentagon says the fighting in Iraq is all but complete.

April 24: North Korea says it has nuclear bombs.

April 29: United States says its soldiers and airmen will leave Saudi Arabia in the summer.

May 1: Aboard a U.S. carrier, Bush declares an end to major combat in Iraq.

May 3: Nine Democrats face off in the first debate among presidential contenders.

May 5: Tornadoes kill 38 in Missouri and three neighboring states.

May 6: L. Paul Bremer replaces Jay Garner as the top U.S. administrator in Iraq.

May 12: Terror attack in Saudi Arabia kills 34, eight of them Americans.

May 21: An earthquake kills more than 2,200 in Algeria.

May 22: The U.N. Security Council lifts sanctions on Iraq.

May 28: Bush signs a 10-year, \$350 billion tax-cut package.

June 5: Bush meets in Jordan with Sharon and Abbas to push Mideast peace plan.

Two top editors quit The New York Times in a plagiarism scandal.

June 10: A Canadian court in Ontario OKs gay marriage in that province.

June 18: Bush warns Iran that the United States won't tolerate an Iranian nuclear weapon.

June 21: The newest Harry Potter novel is snatched up across America.

June 23: Supreme Court upholds affirmative action program at University of Michigan's law school but overturns undergraduate

program.

June 26: In key gay-rights case, the Supreme Court overrules Texas law barring sodomy.

June 27: The Federal Trade Commission sets up a no-call list to curb telemarketers.

July 7: The White House admits its Iraqi weapons intelligence was flawed.

July 13: The Iraqi Governing Council is set up and meets in Baghdad.

July 22: U.S. forces kill Odai and Qusai Hussein, Saddam's sons.

Aug. 5: U.S. Episcopal bishops confirm openly gay Gene Robinson as one of their own.

Aug. 7: Charles Taylor resigns as president of Liberia, torn by civil war.

Aug. 14: A power blackout in the northeast and parts of Canada affects 50 million.

Aug. 19: A suicide bomber kills 23 at the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad.

A suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem kills 20 Israelis, threatens peace plan.

Sept. 4: Amid a Democratic filibuster, Miguel Estrada withdraws as a judicial nominee.

Sept. 6: Abbas quits as Palestinian prime minister.

Sept. 7: Yasser Arafat nominates Ahmed Qureia to succeed Abbas.

Sept. 9: Pentagon says Guard and Reserve soldiers will spend up to a year in Iraq.

Boston's Catholic Archdiocese settles suits from sex abuse victims.

Sept. 11: An assassin kills Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh.

Sept. 14: Delegates from poor countries walk out of World Trade Organization meeting.

Sept. 18: Hurricane Isabel hits the United States, eventually killing 18.

Oct. 7: In California's gubernatorial recall vote, Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger ousts Democrat Gray Davis.

Oct. 15: China orbits its first astronaut.

A Staten Island ferry rams a New York pier, killing 10.

Oct. 17: John Paul II celebrates his 25th anniversary as pope.

Oct. 19: Mother Teresa is beatified en route to becoming a Catholic saint.

Oct. 20: Washington sniper suspect John Allen Muhammad goes on trial in Virginia.

Oct. 24: The supersonic Concorde makes its last passenger flight.

Oct. 26-27: Terror bombs in Baghdad kill 40 and wound hundreds.

Oct. 27: Bush declares a disaster after California wildfires kill 17.

Nov. 1: The United States says it will speed the handover of sovereignty to Iraqis.

Nov. 6: Bush challenges Iran, Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia to begin embracing democratic traditions.

Nov. 8: Terror bombs kill 17 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Democratic presidential hopeful Howard Dean waives public campaign financing.

Nov. 12: Terror bomb at Italian military headquarters in Iraq kills 26.

Nov. 13: Lee Boyd Malvo goes on trial in the Washington sniper case.

Nov. 14: Bombing of Istanbul synagogue kills 23.

Nov. 15: Fifteen U.S. soldiers perish in collision of helicopters in Iraq.

Nov. 18: Massachusetts' highest court allows gay marriage.

Nov. 20: More terror bombs in Turkey kill 30.

Nov. 21: Senate opponents block consideration of Bush's massive energy bill.

Nov. 24: Jurors in sniper case recommend death penalty for Muhammad a week after he was convicted of two counts of capital murder.

Nov. 25: Congress approves Medicare overhaul with a prescription drug benefit.

Nov. 26: India and Pakistan begin a cease-fire along their frontier.

Nov. 27: Bush pays a surprise Thanksgiving visit to soldiers in Iraq.

Nov. 28: The U.S. death total for the month in Iraq stands at 79 -- higher than for any month of the war itself.

Nov. 30: U.S. soldiers kill 46 ambushers in Samarra, Iraq.

Dec. 2: After allegations of misdoings, Pentagon puts deal for Boeing aerial tankers on hold.

Dec. 4: Facing European retaliation, Bush lifts tariffs on imported steel.

Dec. 6: U.S. warplane in Afghanistan accidentally kills nine children.

Snow snarls East from Maryland to Maine; 11 die.

Dec. 7: Russian voters give big boost to President Vladimir Putin's party.

Dec. 10: The Supreme Court upholds most of a campaign finance law limiting donations.

Dec. 13: American soldiers in Iraq capture a seedy and shabby Saddam.

Dec. 21: The Homeland Security Department raises the terror warning level a notch, to orange.

Dec. 23: A jury recommends life in prison for Washington sniper Lee Boyd Malvo, 18, five days after he is convicted of capital murder.

Tests confirm mad cow disease in a Washington state Holstein -- apparently the first case in the United States.

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