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From today's featured article



C. O. Brocato (1929–2015) was an American [scout](#), coach and [football](#) player best known for his work with the [Houston Oilers](#) (later the [Tennessee Titans](#)), for which he was a scout from 1974 to 1976, and again from 1981 until his death. A native of [Shreveport, Louisiana](#), Brocato attended [St. John's High School](#) and played [college football](#) for [Baylor](#). [Drafted in 1953](#) by the [Chicago Cardinals](#), he left during training camp to pursue a coaching career. He spent eleven years as head coach at his high school alma mater. He was [defensive coordinator](#) for [Northern Arizona](#) from 1969 to 1970, and for [Texas–Arlington](#) from 1971 to 1973. He then joined the Oilers as a scout and became regarded as one of the greatest in history in that role. Brocato helped his team draft several players who went on to the [Pro Football Hall of Fame](#). He also invented the [three-cone drill](#), one of the main events at the [NFL Scouting Combine](#). He was a semifinalist for induction to the Hall of Fame for the classes of 2023 and 2024. ([Full article...](#))

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Did you know ...

- ... that even though espresso is Italian, [espresso and tonic](#) (*pictured*) originated in Scandinavia?
- ... that the banker [Charles Merlin](#) played a major role in the trafficking of antiquities between Greece and London in the 19th century?
- ... that [The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer: A Worldwide Survey](#)



i December 19th, 9:38 pm: “Wikipedia is not for sale.” - A personal appeal from Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales.

Please don't ignore this 1-minute read. This Tuesday, December 19th, I ask you to reflect on the number of times you visited Wikipedia in the past year, the value you got from it, and whether you're able to give €5 back. If you can, please join the 1% of readers who give. If everyone reading this right now gave just €5, we'd hit our goal in a couple of hours.

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On this day

December 19

- 1828 – **Nullification crisis**: American vice president [John C. Calhoun](#)'s **South Carolina Exposition and Protest**, written to protest the [Tariff of Abominations](#), was presented to the [South Carolina House of Representatives](#).
- 1843 – ***A Christmas Carol*** (*illustration pictured*), a *novella* by [Charles Dickens](#) about the miser [Ebenezer Scrooge](#) and his transformation after being visited by ghosts, was published.
- 1983 – The **Jules Rimet Trophy**, awarded to the winner of the [FIFA World Cup](#), was stolen from the offices of the [Brazilian Football Confederation](#).
- 1997 – **SilkAir Flight 185** crashed into the [Musi River](#) in Indonesia, killing 104 people.
- 2013 – The [European Space Agency](#)'s spacecraft **Gaia** was launched with the goal of constructing the largest and most precise [star catalogue](#) ever made.



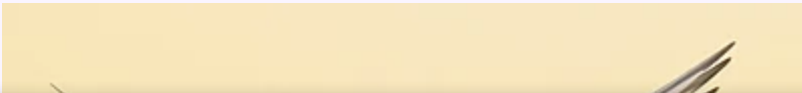
Frontispiece to *A Christmas Carol*

[Adelaide of Susa](#) (d. 1091) · [Sakakibara Kenkichi](#) (b. 1830) · [Kristina Keneally](#) (b. 1968) · [Ahmet Emin Yalman](#) (d. 1972)

More anniversaries: [December 18](#) · **December 19** · [December 20](#)

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Today's featured picture



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such as the roofs of buildings and artificial islands in [salt pans](#) and [sewage works](#). Its eggs and young are taken by [gulls](#) and [ibises](#), and human activities such as fishing, shooting and egg harvesting have caused local population declines. There are no global conservation concerns for this bird, which has a stable total population of more than 500,000 individuals. This greater crested tern in flight was photographed at Mortimer Bay in [Tasmania](#), Australia.

Photograph credit: [John Harrison](#)

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- [Community portal](#) – The central hub for editors, with resources, links, tasks, and announcements.
- [Village pump](#) – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues.
- [Site news](#) – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement.
- [Teahouse](#) – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia.
- [Help desk](#) – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia.
- [Reference desk](#) – Ask research questions about encyclopedic topics.
- [Content portals](#) – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia.

Wikipedia's sister projects

Wikipedia is written by volunteer editors and hosted by the [Wikimedia Foundation](#), a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other volunteer [projects](#):



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Wiki software development



Meta-Wiki

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