

IT HAPPENED IN 1999

NOTABLE:

- Popular songs: “Mambo No. 5,” Lou Bega; “Smooth,” Santana; “I Need to Know,” Marc Anthony; “Livin’ La Vida Loca,” Ricky Martin, “Baby One More Time,” Britney Spears.
- John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife Carolyn and her sister, Lauren Bessette, die in a plane crash off the coast of Martha’s Vineyard.
- A tower of logs used for a traditional bonfire collapses at Texas A & M University, killing 11 students and injuring 27 others.
- Television show debuts: “Freaks and Geeks,” “Malcolm in the Middle,” “Family Law,” “Roswell,” “The West Wing,” “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit,” “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?.”
- Popular movies: “South Park,” “Wild Wild West,” “The Blair Witch Project,” “The Sixth Sense,” “Star Wars—Episode I—The Phantom Menace,” “The Runaway Bride.”

COST OF LIVING:

- The cost of first class postage is raised from 32¢ to 33¢.
- The average cost of a gallon of gasoline is \$1.22.
- The Dow Jones average passes the 10,000 milestone and reached a yearly high of 11,497.
- A Ford Taurus XL sells for \$16,995.

SPORTS:

- The New York Yankees sweep the Atlanta Braves, winning the World Series in four games.
- In Superbowl XXXIII, the Denver Broncos defeat the Atlanta Falcons 34-19.
- Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls, Wayne Gretzky of the New York Rangers, and John Elway of the Denver Broncos are some of the legends who retired this year.
- The U. S. Soccer team wins the Women’s World Cup by defeating China. After the game, Brandi Chastain of the U. S. celebrates by ripping off her jersey.

HEADLINES:

- Two student gunmen at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, kill 14 students and one teacher, injuring about 30 others before committing suicide.
- President Clinton is acquitted by the U. S. Senate of impeachment charges relating to the sex and perjury scandal involving Monica Lewinsky.
- Six-year-old Elian Gonzalez leaves Cuba for America on a small boat with 12 others. He is one of three survivors on the 90-mile journey in which his mother drowned.