



**10** years after she was stabbed in the back by a self confessed Steffi Graf fan during a tournament in Hamburg, Monica Seles is in the news after the worlds tennis fans and media have voted the 1992 final between Seles and Steffi Graf one of the two best matches in the WTA Tour's 30 year history. Born in Novi Sad, in the former Yugoslavia, Seles became an American citizen

in March 1994, by which time she had already won eight of her nine Grand Slam titles. She became a professional in 1989 and, in only her second tournament, beat Chris Evert to win a title in Houston. Only Evert and Steffi Graf won more titles as a teenager and Seles put together a personal-best 36-game winning streak to get to the quarter-finals of Wimbledon in 1990.

Despite increasing injury problems, Seles remains near the top of the women's game, reaching three Grand Slam quarter-finals in 2000 and the last eight in Australia in 2001. However she has recently hinted that she may consider retirement in the near future.

**25** years ago, on October 16<sup>th</sup> 1978 Karol Wojtyla, became the first non-Italian pope since Hadrian VI (1522-3). He succeeded Cardinal Albini Luciano who had been chosen to be Pope on 26 August 1978 after one of the shortest papal reigns in history. Pope John Paul I, died of a heart attack while reading in bed after only 33 days in office.



Born in Wadowice, Poland. on May 18, 1920 Pope John Paul II is the most traveled pope in the history of the papacy, having visited nearly every country in the world which would receive him. It is his custom to kiss the earth of each land he visits as soon as he puts his feet to that country.

**50** Years ago, the most significant event marking the beginning of a new era was the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. As fate would have it the announcement of Edmund Hillary's successful ascent of Everest was made by the London Times in England on the day of her Coronation June, 2, 1953.

After another party from the British contingent had attempted to scale Everest had failed Hillary and the Nepalese Sherpa, Tenzing Norgay were selected to make a second attempt and finally succeeded in reaching

the summit at 11:30 am May 29, 1953.

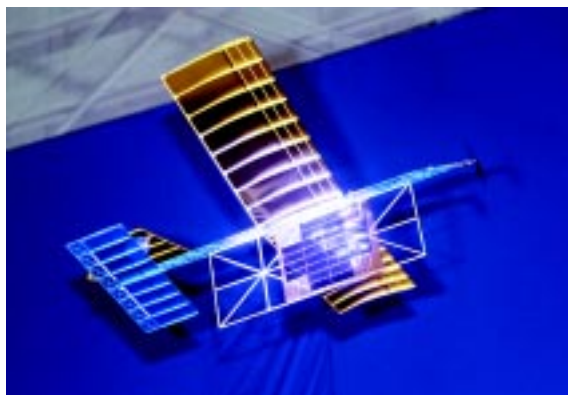
Later in that same year in November 1953 King Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al Saud (known as Ibn Saud) passed away in the city of Taif, in the Western Region. His body was transferred to Riyadh, where he was buried with his Al Saud ancestors.



**100** years after the 1903 Wright Flyer became the first powered heavier than air machine to achieve controlled sustained flight, scientists at NASA have achieved another first.

The team has developed and demonstrated a small-scale aircraft that flies solely by means of propulsive power delivered by an invisible, ground-based laser. The laser tracks the aircraft in flight, directing its energy beam at specially designed photovoltaic cells carried onboard to power the plane's propeller. The plane, with its five-foot wingspan, weighs only 312 grams and is constructed from balsa wood, carbon fiber tubing and is covered with Mylar film, a cellophane-like material. The Wright Flyer by comparison weighed 274kg (unmanned)

Designed and built at Dryden, the new aircraft is a one-of-a-kind, radio-controlled model airplane. After the craft was released from a launching platform inside a building, the laser beam was aimed at the airplane panels, causing the propeller to spin and propel the craft around the building, lap after lap. When the laser beam was turned off, the airplane glided to a landing.



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