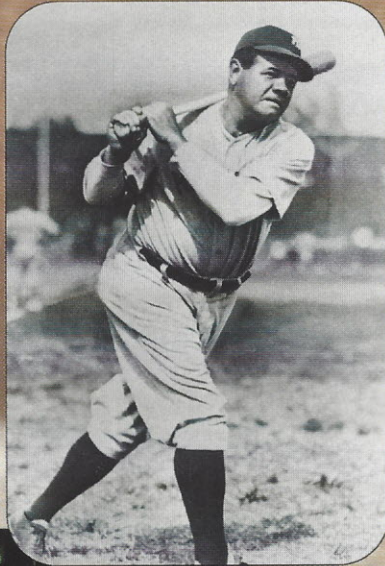
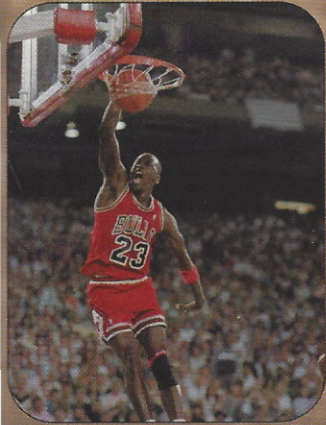


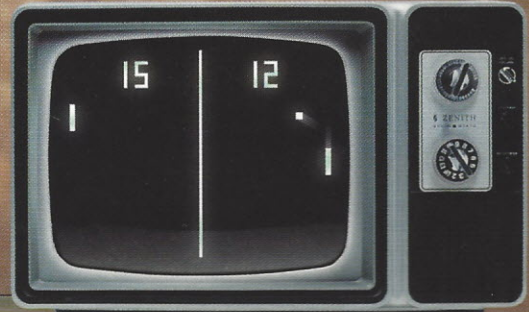
# Sports Entertainment

UPI/Corbis-Bettmann



Corbis Bettmann

➔ Atari introduces Pong®, the first commercial video game, in 1972. Today's home video game systems include Sony PlayStation®, Sega Saturn® and Nintendo 64®. About 63 percent of teens play video games an average of 3.9 hours a week.



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➔ In 1903, *The Passion Play* at 30 minutes is the longest movie produced at this time, with average films running three or four minutes. The 1997 movie *Titanic* runs about three-and-a-half hours.

➔ Joseph Merlin develops the first practical pair of roller skates in 1759. Scott Olson invents the modern version of in-line skates in 1979. Today, 41 percent of teens own in-line skates.



➔ In 1920, the New York Yankees pay George "Babe" Ruth \$125,000. In 1997, 21-year-old Kevin Garnett signs a seven-year contract worth \$126 million with the Minnesota Timberwolves.

AP/Wide World Photos

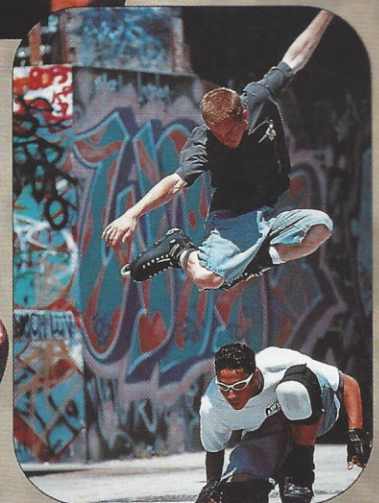
➔ The first roller coaster, built in 1892 at Cedar Point® in Sandusky, Ohio, stands 25 feet high and travels 10 miles per hour. The Riddler's Revenge™ at Six Flags Magic Mountain™ is the tallest and fastest stand-up roller coaster, standing 156 feet and hitting a top speed of 65 miles per hour with a maximum of 4.2 gravity forces.



➔ Court jesters first appear in 1202. Modern jesters come in the form of comedians, such as Jerry Seinfeld whose TV show, *Seinfeld*, ends its nine-year run in 1998.



AP/Wide World Photos



Anne-Marie Weber/PPG

➔ In 1978, a federal judge rules that high school girls may participate on teams with boys. Women take further strides in sports with the first WNBA game on June 21, 1997.