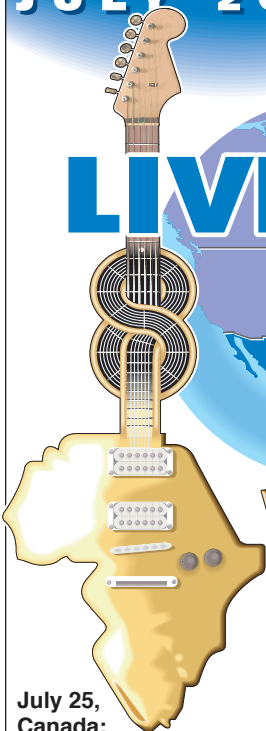


WORLD AGENDA

JULY 2005

LIVE



July 25, Canada:

Nine women plan to defy the Vatican and become the first female Roman Catholic priests and deacons ordained in North America with a ceremony on the **St Lawrence River**. Similar river ceremonies have been held in Europe



July 2, France: **Lance Armstrong** begins his bid for a seventh consecutive **Tour de France** victory before retiring. The champion of cycling's most famous event made one of sport's biggest comebacks after being struck with testicular cancer in 1996

July 2: London, Paris, Rome, Berlin, Philadelphia, Tokyo: Star-studded concerts around the world aim to raise awareness and pressure G8 countries, ahead of their summit, into eradicating African poverty. **U2, Coldplay** and **REM** are among bands that will perform at **Bob Geldof's Live8**



July 6-8, Scotland: A sixth Live8 concert takes place in Edinburgh as leaders of the world's richest nations gather at nearby Gleneagles. The two key themes for Tony Blair's presidency of the G8 are Africa and climate change



July 1, Berlin: Chancellor **Gerhard Schröder**, whose Social Democrats are 20 points behind the main opposition party in opinion polls, faces a parliamentary vote of confidence. Germany is suffering chronic unemployment and a sluggish economy



July 6, Singapore: The **International Olympic Committee** announces the host of the 2012 Games,

with **Paris** and **London** frontrunners in the contest. **Madrid, Moscow** and **New York** are also competing in what has been the highest-profile Olympic bid race in history

July 12, Helsinki: Peace talks between **Indonesia** and the northern province of **Aceh**, where a 30-year civil war has killed 12,000 people, are due to resume

July 10, European Union:

Luxembourg votes on the EU constitution as debate over the 25-member union's future rages following No votes by **France** and the **Netherlands**. **Malta** is also due to vote on the new constitution in July



July 1, Abidjan: A global cocoa certification system, aimed at tackling child labour on West African plantations which produce 70% of the world's cocoa, is due to come into force. More than 100,000 children work in dangerous conditions in **Ivory Coast**

July 24-29, Laos: Myanmar's junta is expected to announce at an **ASEAN** meeting whether it will chair the group in 2006. If so, the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations** faces a boycott by the U.S. and Europe



July 30, Bangkok: Brazilian soccer great **Pelé** leads an international all-star team in a charity game to raise funds for victims of the December tsunami which killed 5,300 people in Thailand alone