

# 2005 THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

## January



**1** As the new year dawned massive relief efforts continued to assist survivors of the Indian Ocean tsunami

**9** **Mahmoud Abbas** won a commanding election victory to succeed **Yasser Arafat** as Palestinian president



**27** The 60th anniversary of the liberation at **Auschwitz** was the first of many events commemorating the end of the Second World War

**30** Despite insurgent attacks, millions of Iraqis voted in the first democratic elections for over 50 years

## February



**7** British sailor **Ellen MacArthur** completed her solo round world voyage in 71 days and 14 hours, over 30 hours faster than the previous record



**14** Former Lebanese Prime Minister **Rafik Hariri** was assassinated when his motorcade was bombed in Beirut

## March



**11** Health experts geared up to prevent a global outbreak of the H5N1 strain of **avian flu** as deaths in south-east Asia passed 50

**31** Severely brain-damaged Florida woman **Terri Schiavo** died 14 days after her feeding tube was removed following a high-profile legal battle



## April



**2** **Pope John Paul II** died after years of debilitating illness. The ensuing conclave elected **Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger**, who took the name **Benedict XVI**

**6** **Prince Rainier III** of Monaco died after a 56-year reign

**9** Britain's **Prince Charles** married his long-term companion **Camilla Parker Bowles**



**27** The world's largest passenger plane, the **Airbus A380**, made its maiden flight from Toulouse

## May



**5** British Prime Minister **Tony Blair's** Labour Party won an unprecedented third consecutive election victory



**17** U.S. tycoon **Malcolm Glazer** took full control of **Manchester United**, delisting the club from the stock exchange

**29** The European Union was pitched into crisis when French voters rejected the proposed constitution, followed three days later by the Dutch



## June



**4** Rising star **Rafael Nadal** won his first Grand Slam tennis title at Roland Garros

**13** **Michael Jackson** was cleared of 10 charges of child molestation. The jury's verdict was broadcast live



**19** **Michael Schumacher** won his only race of the season after all but six cars pulled out of the U.S. GP over tyre safety concerns. Fans were not amused



**24** **Mahmoud Ahmadinejad**, hardline mayor of Tehran, won a landslide victory in Iran's presidential election

## July

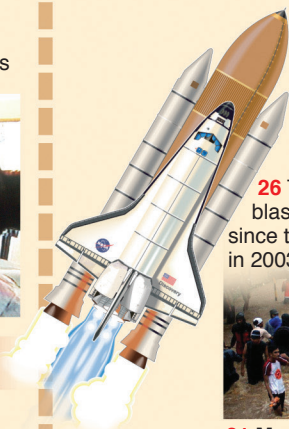
**7** Four suicide bomb attacks decimated London's transport network, killing 56



people, as the city celebrated winning the 2012 Olympics the previous day

**24** **Lance Armstrong** retired on a high as he won a record seventh Tour de France

**26** The space shuttle **Discovery** blasted off on its first flight since the **Columbia** disaster in 2003



**31** Monsoon rains in Mumbai and India's Maharashtra state killed over 1,000 people

## August



**3** Millions faced starvation in Niger after locust swarms and drought decimated the grain harvest

**17** Israel removed some 9,000 settlers from all 21 settlements in Gaza and four in the northern West Bank

**29** **Hurricane Katrina** devastated the U.S. Gulf Coast. Over 1,200 died, mainly in **New Orleans**, which flooded after massive storm surges breached the city's levees

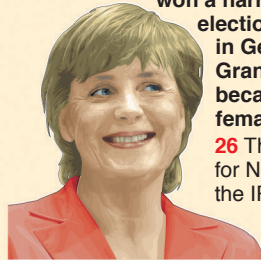


## September

**12** England's cricketers regained the **Ashes** from Australia for the first time in 18 years



**18** **Angela Merkel** won a narrow election victory in Germany and, after a Grand Coalition was agreed, became the country's first female chancellor



**26** The arms decommissioning chief for Northern Ireland announced that the IRA had put all weapons beyond use, two months after formally ending its armed campaign

## October



**8** A powerful 7.6 earthquake in northern Pakistan and Kashmir killed 73,000 people and left three million homeless

**19** The trial of deposed Iraqi President **Saddam Hussein** and seven others, charged with crimes against humanity, began in Baghdad



**27** Riots erupted in the suburban ethnic ghettos of Paris, spreading nationwide over the next three weeks



## November



**1** **Makybe Diva** won a third consecutive Melbourne Cup

**9** Three suicide bomb attacks on hotels in Amman, Jordan, killed 60. **Al-Qaeda**



in Iraq, led by **Abu Musab al-Zarqawi**, claimed responsibility

**11** Liberia's President-elect, **Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf**, became Africa's first female head of state



## December



**2** Singapore hanged a Vietnamese-born Australian for drug trafficking and the U.S. executed its 1,000th prison inmate since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976

**11** Smoke blanketed much of southern England after explosions at a fuel depot ignited the largest fire in peacetime Europe

