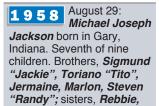
Pop icon who thrilled the world



Janet and La Toya 1962 Michael ioins family pop group The

Jackson 5. with Jackie, Tito, Marlon, and Jermaine

10-year-old 1968 Michael and his brothers sign contract with Motown records

1969 Debut single I Want You Back hits number one

Jackson 5 1970 becomes first group in pop history to have their first four singles top the

U.S. charts 1972 Jackson has first solo U.S. number one single Ben -

title song from children's thriller about gang of homicidal rats 1976 Solo career loses momentum –

signs with his brothers to Epic as the Jacksons

1977 Singer lands starring role as a

in all-black film musical The Wiz, a retelling of The Wizard of Oz. Movie is box office disaster but Jackson meets music impresario Quincy Jones

1979

With Jones producing, Jackson records his first solo album. Off



1982 In Quincy Jones-produced Thriller, Jackson duets with Paul McCartney, brings in guitarist Eddie Van

Halen for jaw-dropping solo, and Vincent Price for a creepy recitation. Thriller becomes biggest-selling album of all time with 65m copies worldwide

1983

Massive hits from Thriller include fiery

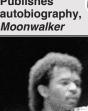
Billie Jean and and Van Halen anti-gang-violence track Beat It. Jackson performs moonwalk dance step for first time on TV

Jackson lands 1984 largest individual sponsorship

deal in history with \$5m ad campaign for Pepsi Cola. Is injured when his hair catches fire while filming a commercial. Rejoins Jacksons for "Victory" tour - donates his \$5m performance fee to charity. Wild rumours about bizarre private life begin to circulate

Release of third 1987 album. Bad. Buys Neverland ranch 1988

Publishes autobiography, Moonwalker





scarecrow

The Wall. Album goes on to sell over seven million copies

1991 Signs \$65 million recording deal with Sony. Fourth album Dangerous marks end of singer's collaboration with Quincy Jones

1993 Accused of molestina 13-year-old boy; Jackson

categorically denies allegation. Pepsi cancels sponsorship deal

1994 Marries Lisa Marie Preslev

album

1995 Releases HIStory: Past, Present and Future, Book 1

Lisa Marie files for divorce. Singer marries nurse Debbie Rowe.

1996

Fathers three children: Prince Michael I (1997), Paris Michael (1998), and Prince Michael II (2002)

Releases 2001 Invincible album gets cool reception Following four-

2005 month trial Jackson is acquitted of charges of child molestation

Jackson and 2008 music promoter AEG Live announce he will perform 50 concerts at . London's O2 Arena

June 25: 2009 Michael Jackson

Caricature:

Bob Hoare

Associated Press

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Pictures:

suffers cardiac arrest at his Beverly Hills home. Pronounced dead at UCLA medical centre

