



Today in History

February 14, 2004

▲ Italian cyclist Marco Pantani died from heart failure, aged 34. He won the 1998 Tour de France and Giro d'Italia, but allegations of doping blighted his career

1929: The Valentine's Day Massacre took place in Chicago, as Al Capone's gang gunned down seven rivals

1939: The German battleship Bismarck was launched

1984: British pop singer Elton John married German recording engineer Renata Blauel in Sydney, Australia. They divorced in 1988

1989: Ayatollah Khomeini ordered the death of author Salman Rushdie for blasphemy in *The Satanic Verses*