



Today in History

February 17, 1818

▲ **Baron Karl von Drais de Sauerbrun patented the “draisine”, the forerunner of the bicycle. The two-wheeled, steerable vehicle was propelled by the rider’s feet**

1673: The French playwright Moliere died after collapsing on stage during a performance of one of his plays

1938: The first public demonstration of Baird colour television was transmitted in London

2003: Over \$100 million worth of diamonds were stolen in the largest jewel theft in Belgian history

2008: Despite fierce opposition from Belgrade and Moscow, Kosovo declared its independence from Serbia