



Today in History

May 8, 1541

▲ Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto discovered the Mississippi River. Its name derives from the Native American Ojibwe name Misi-Zibi, meaning Great River

1876: The last full-blood Aborigine from Tasmania, Truganini, died

1886: Pharmacist John Pemberton began selling a carbonated drink, Coca-Cola, as a health drink in the United States

1912: Paramount Pictures, the last major film studio still based in Hollywood, was founded

1982: Canadian Formula 1 racing driver Gilles Villeneuve was killed at the Belgian Grand Prix