

BACK-TO-SCHOOL ADDRESS

In August, Sonia Sotomayor is sworn in as the Supreme Court's first Hispanic justice and only third female member in the top U.S. court's history.

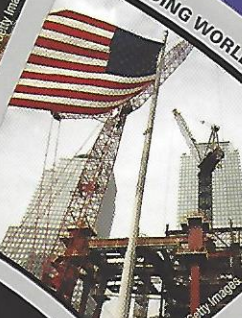
Jim Young/Reuters/Landov



REBUILDING WORLD TRADE CENTER

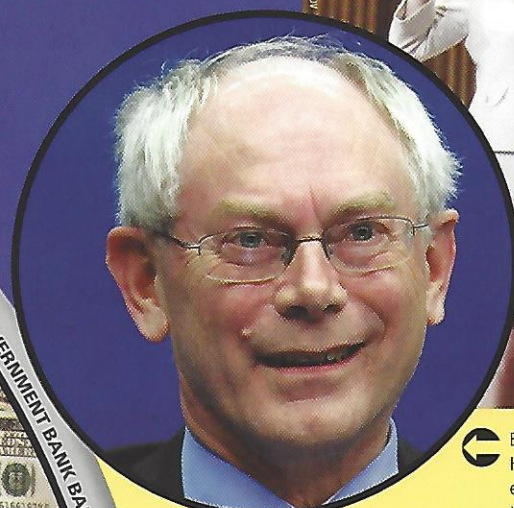


Mario Tama/Getty Images News



Rick Bermon/Getty Images

GOVERNMENT BANK BAILOUT

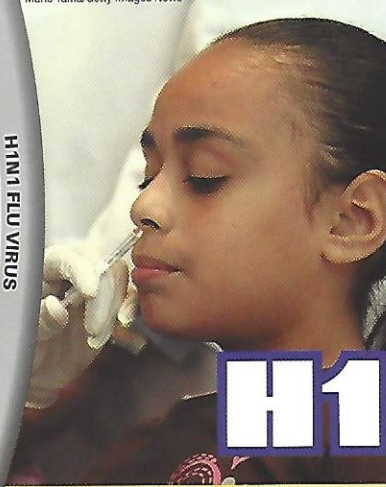


Yes Hermany/Reuters/Landov

Belgian Prime Minister Herman Van Rompuy is elected the first president of the European Council (EU) under the Treaty of Lisbon.

# VIEWS

Mario Tama/Getty Images News



The H1N1 virus appears to affect teens more than typical flu viruses. Hand sanitizer is a commonplace sight in classrooms and other public spaces.

# H1N1



Tim Siten/AFP/Getty Images

H1N1 FLU VIRUS



Bruce Harteis/Getty Images

SENATOR TED KENNEDY DIES

Joe Raedler/Getty Images



America honors the lives of 13 innocent victims of a tragic shooting spree at Fort Hood, Texas, in November.

Justin Sullivan/Getty Images



Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

In efforts to make General Motors more economically viable, the company discontinues the Saturn brand and announces plans to phase out its Pontiac division.

Unemployment rate in 2000: 4%  
2009: 10%

bls.gov

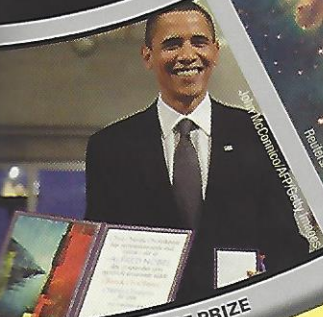
U.S. population in 2000: 281 million  
2009: 305 million

census.gov

Facebook users 2000: 0  
2009: 350 million

theatlantic.com, guardian.co.uk

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE



Tim McComico/Associated Press

HUBBLE TELESCOPE IMAGES



Pratt et al./NASA