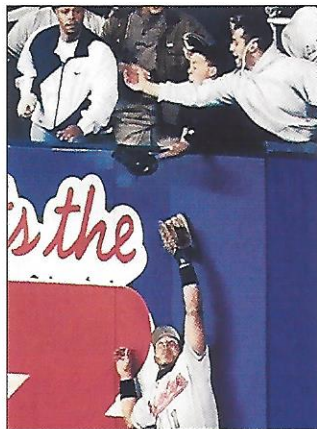




Stephane Cardinale, Sygma

In a small, secret ceremony on an island off the coast of Georgia, John F. Kennedy Jr. marries Carolyn Bessette, a Calvin Klein publicist, in September. Kennedy, who dated Bessette for two years, had long been considered one of the world's most eligible bachelors.



AP/Wide World

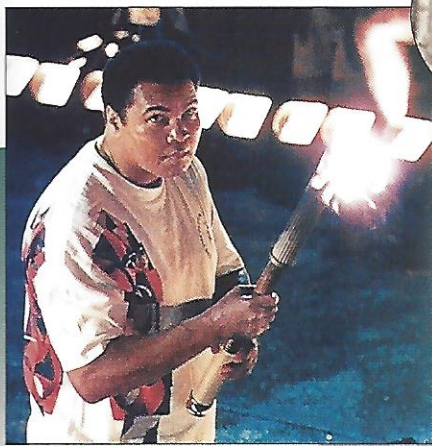
New York Yankees fan Jeffrey Maier interferes with a fly ball during game one of the American League Championship Series on October 9. The hit is ruled a home run, tying the game 4 to 4 in the eighth inning and making Maier New York's hero for a day.



John F. Kennedy Library

Legendary heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali is the final athlete to bear the Olympic torch, lighting the Olympic flame at the opening of the Centennial Summer Olympics in Atlanta on July 19.

More than 4,000 items owned by former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and President John F. Kennedy are auctioned off in April 1996, including a necklace of simulated pearls shown in this 1962 photograph. The fake pearls, valued at \$500 to \$700, sell for \$211,500, bringing the auction total to \$34.5 million.

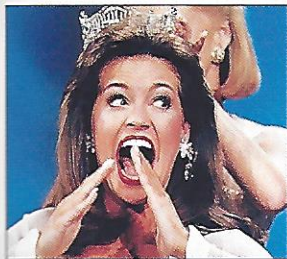


AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

Veteran comedian George Burns dies in March 1996, just weeks after reaching the age of 100. The legendary Burns won an Oscar, an Emmy and a Grammy Award in an illustrious career dating back to vaudeville.



Reuters/Archive Photos

Miss Kansas, Tara Dawn Holland, is crowned Miss America at the 1996 pageant on September 14.

Angela Lansbury appears in her final season as mystery writer Jessica Fletcher on CBS's "Murder, She Wrote." The hugely successful show ran for 12 seasons.

Basketball player Kobe Bryant joins the Los Angeles Lakers straight out of high school, signing a multi-million dollar contract during the team's 1996-1997 season.

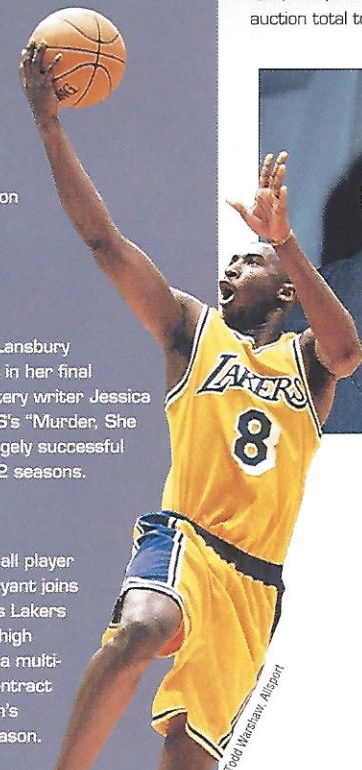


Lee / Archive Photos

As a stand against the invasion of his privacy, George Clooney, star of NBC's "ER," boycotts Paramount's "Entertainment Tonight" after its sister show "Hard Copy" runs unauthorized footage of the actor's private life.



Universal City from Shooting Star



Todd Herrington, Allsport