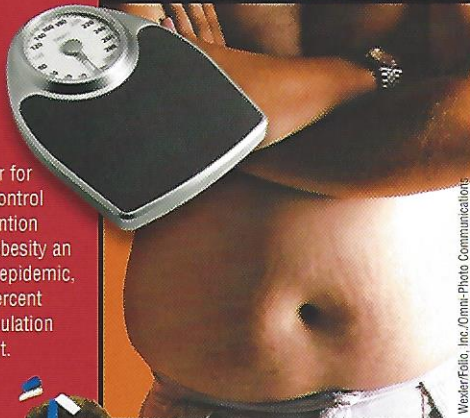


→ Michael Jackson is arrested on multiple counts of child abuse after an accusation from a 12-year-old boy.



UPI/Landov

→ The Center for Disease Control and Prevention declares obesity an American epidemic, with 64 percent of the population overweight.



WiederFolio, Inc./Oma-Photo Communications



U.S. Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, a POW of the war in Iraq, becomes a media sensation after her rescue by U.S. Forces is aired on the news.

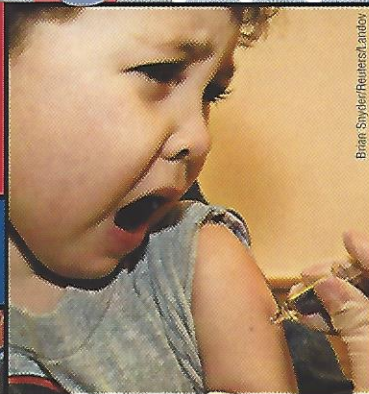


Mark J. Terrill/AP/Wide World Photos

← Action star Arnold Schwarzenegger replaces Gray Davis as governor of California in a highly publicized recall election.



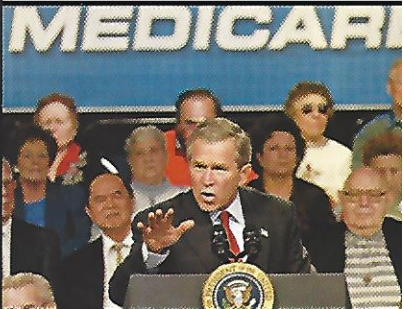
On August 14, the largest North American blackout occurs when three Ohio line failures leave more than 50 million people in eight states and Canada without power.



Brian Snyder/Reuters and/or

← Americans rush to receive vaccinations as the country is hit hard by a new strand of the influenza virus.

Larry Downing/Reuters NewMedia Inc./Corbis



↑ President Bush signs a controversial bill calling for a \$400 billion Medicare overhaul.



Reuters/Landov

← Scott Peterson stands trial on murder charges in the slaying of his pregnant wife, Laci, and their unborn son.