

August 30

1794 “The Father of the U.S. Cavalry,” Stephen Watts Kearney, was born in Virginia. Major Kearney was the first commander of Jefferson Barracks. In 1833, he became commander of the first cavalry unit of the U.S. Army. During the Mexican War, he led the Missouri volunteers that took Santa Fe.

1895 City Superintendent of Schools, Louis Soldan, said it was imperative for the city to build new high schools in both North and South St. Louis. Soldan said the one high school was crowded with 2000 students in a building meant to hold only 12-hundred.

1901 Roy Wilkins was born in St. Louis. Wilkins became editor of *The Crisis*, the NAACP publication. In 1955, he became executive director of the NAACP. Wilkins served during the height of the civil rights movement, retiring in 1977. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969.

100 years ago today - 1904 The temperature soared over 90 degrees during the Olympic marathon. Fred Lorz of New York City crossed the finish line first and accepted congratulations from Alice Roosevelt. But Lorz had hitched a ride in a car for eleven miles! The A.A.U. banned him for life, but lifted the ban a year later so Lorz could compete in the Boston Marathon.

Alice Roosevelt was ready to pose with the next finisher, but never got a chance. Thomas Hicks was carried off the track after winning with a time of 3:28:53. His trainers gave him strychnine mixed with raw eggs during the race. It took four doctors to get him in good enough condition to leave the grounds. Hicks then fell asleep on a trolley.

Felix Carvajal of Havana finished fourth. He had begged for donations to pay his way to America, but lost it all in a New Orleans crap game. Carvajal hitchhiked to St. Louis. He cut the legs off his pants and ran the race in street shoes. He might have won, except for a detour through an orchard for some green apples that gave him cramps.

The first black Africans to compete in the Olympics took part in the marathon. Zulu tribesmen Len Taunyane and Jan Mashiani were actually brought here to be part of the Boer War Exhibit. Taunyane finished ninth, but would have done better if not for a dog that chased him a mile off course. Mashiani finished 12th.

John Furla, a Greek produce vendor, was asked to compete because there were no runners from his country at the games. Running in street clothes and shoes, he managed to finish 13th. Runners had to eat dust from automobiles carrying officials. Two of those officials were hurt when their auto ran down an embankment on North and South Road.

1906 St. Louis Police were ordering a crackdown on saloons selling to minors. Establishments in the factory districts sold beers to young boys. They were sent to the saloons at lunchtime with a dozen or more buckets on a stick to bring suds back to the workers.

1908 St. Louis was in the grips of pennant fever. The Browns were two games out with only 40 to play. Mayor Rolla Wells issued an order forbidding city employees from

talking about baseball during working hours. He said "Constant conversation and argumentation about baseball" had brought work to a halt at city hall.

1920 Eugene Conroy, the night Sheriff of Clayton, and City Marshall Benjamin Corner were shot dead in a gun battle with a highwayman at Forsyth and Jackson. A lynch mob of about 500 people formed outside the jail, but the sheriff thwarted their plans when he snuck the suspects out in his own car.

1941 Lon Warneke of the Cardinals threw a no-hitter against the Cincinnati Reds. In the 2-0 Cardinal win, only three Reds hitters managed to even get the ball into the outfield.

1958 The designer of the Arch, Eero Saarinen, was asked to study the possibility of relocating the historic "Rock House" at the foot of Chestnut Street. Built in 1818, the site was destined to become the grand stairway leading to the monument. The building would be dismantled, its bricks and stones stored for re assembly later. But most of them were lost.

1958 The very first McDonald's restaurant in Missouri opened at 9915 Highway 66. (Watson Road) Bill Wyatt and partner Don Kuehl brought the golden arches to St. Louis. The first store was a walk-up location only.

1963 Members of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) began demonstrations at the Jefferson Bank and Trust Company. The protests were aimed at ending discriminatory hiring practices. Several demonstrators were arrested and served jail time for ignoring injunctions over the next seven months. Demonstrators included Alderman William Clay, JB "Jet" Banks, and Norman Seay. The protests ended when the bank hired five black employees on March 31, 1964.

1971 St. Louis County Supervisor L.K. Roos asked the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council to withhold endorsement of the proposed airport at Columbia-Waterloo, Illinois. Roos wanted a thorough study of possible sites in Missouri. Approval of the council was needed to secure federal funds for the project.

1972 The Cardinals traded Dal Maxvill to Oakland for a virtually unknown minor league player and a player to be named later.

1972 For the first time, St. Louis and Southeast Missouri were linked by a safe four-lane highway. Dedication ceremonies were held for a 68-mile stretch of Interstate 55 from Festus to Fruitland. The interstate replaced a twisting stretch of U.S. 61.

1983 Marine environmentalist Jacques-Ives Cousteau was in St. Louis, with his famous research vessel, the *Calypso*, docked on the Mississippi below the Gateway Arch. Cousteau spent three days in St. Louis, promoting an awareness of river ecology

1990 The Cardinals traded fan favorite Willie McGee to the Oakland A's for Felix Jose, Stan Royer, and a minor league pitcher. Willie would be back.

1998 The statue of Jack Buck outside Busch Stadium was dedicated. Cards fans were enraged after a rookie umpire threw Mark McGwire out of the game the day before. Buck urged fans to show class when the umps took the field that day. Cards fans responded with a standing ovation.