

July 7

1817 "The Napoleon of the West" was born in Kentucky. Benjamin Holladay's family came to Missouri, and he later foreclosed on a bankrupt stage company that owed him money. He renamed it the Overland Mail and Stage Company. Holladay was soon running stages over three thousand miles of the west.

1870 The city passed an ordinance to register and license all prostitutes. Examining physicians were told to try to lead the wayward onto the path of virtue. Under the short-lived "Social Evil" ordinance, the women were taxed, and the money used to support a hospital for their treatment at Manchester and Arsenal.

1879 George Caleb Bingham died in Kansas City. "The Missouri Artist" is best known for his genre works of famous Missourians and events in Missouri history, such as "The Jolly Flatboatmen" and "Order Number Eleven."

1892 The first Missouri Central train arrived at the newly named town of Defiance. The town had been known as Pleasant Hill before James Parkinson Craig fought a battle with the railroad to win a depot over the rival town of Matson. The railroad kept changing its demands, and the area farmers "defiantly" met every one.

1896 Browns president Chris Von der Ahe fired manager Harry Diddlebock for drinking. Disgusted with the team, Von der Ahe said he would manage the Browns himself. He managed two games, a player managed two more, and then Von der Ahe hired Roger O'Connor as skipper. "Der Boss President" would use 18 managers over seven seasons. That includes three occasions when he took over the club.

1901 Police Chief Robert Kelly ordered new uniform regulations for his patrolmen in the fashionable Broadway ladies shopping district. The patrolmen were selected for their manly good looks. They were to wear white gloves and decorate their billy clubs with blue tassels. They were reminded that they must keep their uniforms impeccable at all times.

1904 The Filipino natives on display at the World's Fair appeared in silk trunks. A War Department official had ordered that the natives wear more modest attire. Fair officials were protesting the order. President Roosevelt himself would declare that there was nothing immoral about the native dress, and the order would be rescinded.

1906 This is the date generally listed as the birthday of Satchel Paige. In the Negro Leagues, Paige once won 21 games in a row and won 31 games in a season. He was estimated to have won 2,000 games before making his major league debut at age 42 with Cleveland in 1948. Bill Veeck brought him to the St. Louis Browns in 1951 and Paige pitched here for two more seasons. Paige tossed three innings for the Kansas City Athletics in 1965, at the age of 59.

1915 A tornado left seven people dead, and virtually destroyed the small towns of O'Fallon and St. Peters. St. Charles was hard hit as well. Officials were thankful that the twister had hit such a sparsely populated area.

1916 Parks officials were pleased with a new policy at the city swimming pools, but some residents around Fairmount Park were not. Females were now allowed to swim in the morning, and the men in the afternoons and evenings. Clergymen and many homeowners said the casual mixing of the sexes would cause trouble.

1929 Transcontinental Air Transport inaugurated coast-to-coast air and railroad service along a route from Los Angeles through St. Louis laid out by Colonel Charles Lindbergh. In 1930, TAT merged with Western Air Express to form TWA.

1936 Dizzy Dean of the Cardinals gave the National League its first All-Star win. The NL won 4-3 in the game played at Braves Field in Boston.

1937 Earl Averill broke Dizzy Dean's toe with a line drive in the sixth inning of the All-Star game at Griffith Stadium in Washington. Because of the injury, Dean altered his delivery. The change resulted in an injured arm, and Dean never was the same. The Cardinals traded him to the Cubs in 1938.

1956 Stan Musial was named the "Player of the Decade" in a poll of players, club officials, broadcasters and sportswriters conducted by *The Sporting News*. Stan was preparing to play in a record 13th All-Star Game.

1964 The Cardinals called up a St. Louis native who had made All-American as a football player at CBC High School. He was also named as the top high school basketball player in the state. Mike Shannon spent some time with the Cards in 1962 and 1963. But this time, he was in the big leagues to stay. Shannon provided valuable offense down the stretch, as the Cardinals won the 1964 pennant and World Series.

1967 Missouri's ban on interracial marriages was declared unconstitutional by State Attorney General Norman Anderson. The statute provided for criminal penalties for those who married outside of their race.

1986 Jackie Joyner-Kersey set a world heptathlon record of 7,148 points in the Goodwill Games at Moscow.

1993 The Army Corps of Engineers warned the flood would surpass the record crest of 1973 within three or four days. Their latest predictions didn't include the downpours that swept across the area that day. The levee protecting West Alton gave way.

2003 Buddy Ebsen died at the age of 95. The actor from Belleville is best remembered for his role as Jed Clampett on TV's "The Beverly Hillbillies." Ebsen was originally cast as the Tin Man in "The Wizard of Oz," but an allergic reaction to the metallic dust in the

makeup nearly killed him. Ebsen also appeared on TV in “The Adventures of Davey Crockett,” “Barnaby Jones” and “Matt Houston.”