

May 10

1861 Federal volunteers under Nathaniel Lyon surrounded the pro-southern militia at Camp Jackson on the western edge of the city. A huge crowd assembled on Olive Street and hurled insults at the “damned Dutch” as the rebel prisoners were marched towards the Arsenal. No one knows where the first shot came from, but the untrained Home Guard turned and fired into the crowd. At least 27 civilians and eight soldiers died. The president of a St. Louis streetcar company barely escaped injury by diving into a ditch. His name was William T. Sherman.

1869 A golden spike driven at Promontory, Utah symbolized completion of the first transcontinental railroad. The railroad ensured that Chicago would soon pass St. Louis in population and economic importance. In 1848, Senator Thomas Hart Benton persuaded businessmen to finance a route through St. Louis. But there was no Mississippi Bridge, and Benton lost power in Congress. The northern route was chosen in 1862.

1874 Former Mayor John Daggett died. He served from 1841 to 1842. After serving as mayor, he went on to help found the Gas Light Company and served as School Board Secretary. Daggett Street on "The Hill" was named in his honor.

1875 A special election was held to choose a successor to Mayor Barrett, who had died in office. James Britton was declared the winner. But supporters of Henry Overstolz claimed the election was rigged. They threatened to march on city hall. In February of 1876, Overstolz was declared the winner. Britton had already served nine months of his term.

1875 Federal agents seized several St. Louis distilleries that had defrauded the government out of millions of dollars in tax revenue. The "Whiskey Ring" started in St. Louis and spread to other cities. William McKee, who combined two newspapers controlled by the ring into the *Globe-Democrat*, was one of the leaders of the scam. Over 200 people were indicted, including President Grant's personal secretary.

1881 Washington University established the first art museum west of the Mississippi River. Today, the Washington University Gallery of Art at Forsyth and Skinker houses a permanent collection of works by masters such as Rembrandt and Picasso.

1899 Three leaders of the notorious "Baldknobbers" were hanged for murder at Forsyth, ending an infamous chapter in Missouri history. The Baldknobbers were a vigilante group formed by Nat Kinney. They spread a reign of terror across the Ozarks until 25 were arrested following a double murder in Christian County.

1899 The gunboat *Nashville* arrived in St. Louis. The *Nashville* fired the first shot of the Spanish American War. Its arrival was a huge event, marked by a lavish banquet and huge crowds on the riverfront. The *Nashville* was the first ocean-going warship ever to visit St. Louis. It returned for the World's Fair in 1904.

1904 Streetcar service began between St. Charles and St. Louis, over the new "Electric Bridge." The bridge was built to carry streetcars, wagons and pedestrian traffic to the fair. The streetcars ran over the bridge until 1932. The bridge was demolished in 1998.

1927 Charles Lindbergh took off from San Diego in his new plane, "The Spirit of St. Louis." He arrived at Lambert Field 14 hours and 25 minutes later, a new record for a flight from the west coast. After a days rest, he took off for New York, breaking the record for a coast-to-coast flight. On May 20th, he took off for Paris.

1931 Union Electric President Louis Eagan predicted that the new Lake of the Ozarks would become a summer playground for the 10,000,000 people who lived within a days drive. U.E owned 70 percent of the lake's 1,300-mile shoreline and planned to sell the land to private investors, but there was little interest. U.E. even gave away thousands of acres!

1949 Former Cards owner Sam Breadon died of cancer at the age of 72. Breadon was president of the Cardinals from 1920 to 1947. When he sold the club to Bob Hannegan and Fred Saigh, his original investment of \$200 had grown to \$3 million.

1957 Annie Turnbo Pope Malone died. Her line of Poro Beauty Care products made her one of the first female African-American millionaires. She opened Poro College here in 1917. Malone pioneered the practice of hiring women to sell the products. She founded a finance company to help blacks buy homes and donated the money for the St. Louis Colored Orphans Home, now the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center. She moved her business to Chicago in 1930.

1970 Bobby Orr's overtime goal gave the Boston Bruins the Stanley Cup and gave Blues fans another heartbreak. Noel Picard flattened Orr right after the goal. It was the third year the Blues had reached the finals, only to be swept in four straight.

1970 Black students at St. Louis University were on strike against alleged racism on campus. Two marches in St. Louis were held to protest the war. One group marched to Mayor Cervantes' apartment, but he was out of town. Area campuses had been the scenes of demonstrations for nearly a week, since Kent State.

1990 Police arrested the stripper known Susan Sykes, better known as "Busty Heart," as she tried to enter Busch Stadium. The dancer with the 88-inch bosoms had been performing at a Sauget nightclub and prompted complaints by "skipping lewdly" in a skimpy halter top during the game a night earlier. Her agent complained that other women wearing halter tops were not busted.

1999 Mary Morgan was sentenced to five years in prison for stomping her stepdaughter to death in 1961 near Scott Air Force Base. The death of four-year-old Michelle Morgan was ruled an accident in 1961. But her body was exhumed in 1996, after Michelle's convicted rapist step brother raised questions about the death.