

October 23

1826 The army officially changed the name of its post south of St. Louis from Camp Adams to Jefferson Barracks. Jefferson Barracks was established as a military post to replace Fort Bellefontaine, on the Missouri River north of St. Louis. Many of the greatest names in military history, including five presidents, spent part of their service at Jefferson Barracks before it closed in 1946.

1864 Confederate forces under General Sterling Price were defeated by federals under Samuel Curtis at the Battle of Westport, near Kansas City. Price had turned away from St. Louis after Pilot Knob, and marched west. The rebels won victories at Hermann and Booneville before heading towards Kansas City. The Battle of Westport is often called "The Gettysburg of the West." The battle effectively ended the war in Missouri.

1876 William D. Becker was born in East St. Louis. He was elected as the 39th Mayor of St. Louis in 1941. He pushed for the present Civil Service System of city personnel. Prior to that time, the office holders were tossed out when a different party came to power. Becker and five other area leaders died in the crash of an Army glider during a test flight at Lambert Field on August 1, 1943.

1886 The Browns won the World Championship by beating Chicago 4-3. Chicago jumped out to a 3-0 lead. But the Browns tied it in the 8th, and Curt Welch scored with the "\$15,000 slide" on a wild pitch in the 10th. St. Louis took the entire gate receipts from the series (\$13,920), with each of 12 players getting about \$580.

1923 The war between the Egan and Hogan gangs took two more lives. Egan gunmen killed a Chicago safe blower and his wife at the Plantation Inn in Wellston. They had been sent there to gain the confidence of Egan leader William Colbeck and "put the pistol on him."

1925 The city approved plans for \$5 million municipal auditorium, one of the projects from the \$87 million 1922 bond issue. The huge structure would seat 19,000. The auditorium site was to be bounded by 14th and 15th, Market and Clark.

1928 It was announced that St. Louis would have a professional football team this year. Bud Yates, the manager of the Jackson Johnson post of the American Legion, said the "Legionnaires" would be made up of several of the old "Blues" and begin play the following Sunday against Des Moines.

1936 Amateur impresario Major Bowes pushed a button in New York, and the doors swung open to the newly enlarged KMOX studios in the Mart Building at 12th and Spruce. The most modern studios in the nation opened into a corridor where sponsors could display their wares.

1941 A group called the Campaigners of Americanism filed a petition to change the name of Lindbergh Boulevard back to the original Denny Road. The group said

Lindbergh's name had become "repugnant" to many St. Louisans because of his isolationist activities.

1947 The section of Highway 40 between Lindbergh and Brentwood Boulevard opened to traffic. Forty had opened between Lindbergh and Wentzville in 1938. The highway would remain a dead-end at Brentwood Boulevard until 1959.

1953 One of the key figures in the Greenlease case, Police Lieutenant Louis Shoulders, suddenly resigned. He said the unprecedented investigation into the missing ransom money had assassinated his character and ruined his effectiveness as a police officer. Shoulders and the other arresting officer, Elmer Dolan, would be convicted of perjury for saying they brought the ransom money to the police station.

1971 Albert Saey of St. Louis became the 4 millionth person to visit the Arch. Interior Secretary Rogers Morton congratulated him. Morton was in town on a tour for the Committee to Re-elect the President.

1972 A car bomb exploded in the crowded parking lot of an Overland supermarket, killing former Police Lieutenant F. Lyman Davis. Police were investigating his relationship with a bodyguard injured when a car bomb killed steamfitter's union muscleman Louis Shoulders. Police found 32 sticks of dynamite in Davis' apartment.

1980 Four employees of Pope's Cafeteria in Des Peres were shot to death during a robbery. Three more were critically wounded. Maurice Byrd was executed for the murders of James Wood, Carolyn Turner, Edna Ince and Judy Cazaco on August 23, 1991. Death penalty opponents spoke out against the execution, saying the prosecution had no eyewitnesses and that the jury was racially biased.

1983 Steady throngs of shoppers visited downtown department stores on the first day of Sunday sales. The city rescinded the ban on Sunday shopping in an effort to attract business from the suburbs.

1985 The Cardinals took a commanding three-games-to-one lead in the I-70 world series. John Tudor threw a complete game, shutting out the Royals 3-0.

1992 Gunmen robbed an armored car guard of more than \$1 million at the United Missouri Bank in the Equitable Building downtown. The largest cash armed robbery in city history remains unsolved.

1995 Tony LaRussa was named as manager of the Cardinals, replacing Mike Jorgensen. Jorgensen had served as manager for 96 days after the firing of Joe Torre. GM Walt Jocketty had worked with LaRussa in Oakland, and convinced him to come to St. Louis. LaRussa brought pitching coach Dave Duncan with him.

1999 A crowd of over 10,000 attended the first game at the Family Arena for the Missouri River Otters. Mark Reeds, former Blues player is coach of the team. The River Otters beat the Asheville Smoke that night 6-2.