

## In The News!



### Clinton negotiates release

Two journalists, Laura Ling and Euna Lee were arrested in March for illegally entering the country on the Chinese border. They were pardoned by President Kim Jong-II after a meeting with former President Bill Clinton.



## Making Headlines



President Barack Obama signed into law his stimulus bill, designed to create or save 3.5 million jobs and end the worst US economic crisis since the 1930s.

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor became the Court's 111th justice, its first Hispanic and its third woman to serve at the Supreme Court.





Jaycee Dugard surfaced 18 years after she was kidnapped, and held captive. She was kidnapped in 1991 in Lake Tahoe when she was just 11 years old.

US Senator Hillary Clinton was confirmed by the full Senate by a vote of 94-2 as President Obama's





### Sarah Palin steps down

Alaska Governor Sarah Palin officially resigned during the annual Governor's Picnic in Fairbanks, Alaska. Palin said she would be able to do more for the people of Alaska while out of office.

### Blagojevich impeached

In a 114-1 vote, Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich was impeached from his seat by the Illinois House of Representatives after he was arrested on federal corruption charges. Blagojevich allegedly sought money in exchange for filling Sen. Barack Obama's vacated seat.



## Pop Culture!



## Farewell to the King of Pop

While preparing for the This Is It concert tour in 2009, Jackson died at the age of 50 after suffering from cardiac arrest. He reportedly had been administered drugs such as propofol and lorazepam, and his death was ruled a homicide by the Los Angeles County coroner. His death triggered an outpouring of grief from around the world with his globally live broadcast memorial service attracting an audience of up to one billion people.

### **Entertainer** of the year!

Taylor Swift became the voungest person ever, and the first female in nearly a decade, to be named entertainer of the year at the CMA's on November 11th.



## Seen & Heard



Kanve West steals Talvor Swift's moment at the VMAs.

Glee made its debut in September and its music has been a success. with over 2 million digital sales.



Year of the

Vampire!

Susan Boyle became an

overnight sensation when she appeared on Britain's Got Talent.

Kris Allen was voted the winner of the eighth season of American Idol.









Since its release in November, the second installment of the Twight Saga, New Moon, grossed over \$255 million. That plus the break out show The Vampire Diaries, 2009 is shaping up to be the year of the vampire!

## **Retirement?**

Oprah Winfrey told viewers that she will dim the lights on The Oprah Winfrey Show at the close of its 25th season in late 2011. "I love this show. This show has been my life. And I love it enough to know when it's time to say goodbye," she said, holding back tears. "Twenty-five years feels right in my bones, and it feels right in my spirit. It's the perfect number, the exact right time."



## Pop Culture!



### The End of Analog TV

Analog TV officially became a thing of the past as the country finally transitioned to digital broadcasting in June after months of delays.

## Top at the Box Office!

Earning \$402 million, the Transformers sequel was the top grossing movie at the box office. It even out sold the first Transformers installment by \$80 million.



## Coming & Going



Ellen Degeneres takes over for Paula Abdul as judge on American Idol.

Conan O'Brien replaces Jay Leno as Host of The Tonight Show.



ER

ER aired its finale after a 15-year run in April.

A new Melrose Place returns to TV, 10 years after the original.



# Chris Brown felony assault

count of felony assault on pop star Rihanna during an argument in February, Brown was sentenced to five years probation, six months of community labor and a year of domestic violence counseling.

#### **Farrah Fawcett**

Farrah Fawcett, whose signature hairstyle and role in Charlie's Angels made her an international star, succumbed to cancer in June. She was 62.

#### **Patrick Swayze**

Patrick Swayze, well known for his roles in Dirty Dancing and Ghost, died on Sept. 14th after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 57.





## In The News!



## Shooting at Fort Hood

US Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan, 39, a psychiatrist and specialist in combat stress, allegedly unleashed a massacre at the Fort Hood US Army base, killing 13.

### You Lie!

Rep. Joe Wilson shouts as President Barack Obama addresses a joint session of the U.S. Congress. Obama addressed the joint session to urge passage of his national health care plan, the centerpiece of his domestic agenda.



## in 2009



Senator Edward Kennedy died August 25th after a year-long battle with brain cancer.

Former NASDAO Chairman Bernard Madoff pleaded guilty to 11 federal offenses. He was sentenced to the maximum 150 years in prison.





U.S. Navy snipers killed three pirates holding an American cargo ship captain hostage for five days on a covered lifeboat about 350 miles off the Somalia coast.

Chicago's bid for the 2016 Olympics Summer Games was the first to be eliminated from consideration.





## **Balloon Boy**

"Balloon Boy" kept people glued to the news networks when it was first thought six year-old Falcon Heene was riding aboard an experimental balloon built by his father. The whole thing was revealed as a hoax when Falcon was later found hiding in the attic of his family home.

### Swine Flu

Swine flu is a global outbreak of a new strain of influenza A virus subtype H1N1. This is a type of swine influenza was first detected in March and April 2009. The earliest case of the flu was confirmed in the U.S. on March 28th. The first death in the U.S. occurred on April 27th. As of September, 9,079 people inside the U.S. were hospitalized and fatalities were at 593. A vaccine was developed to prevent the spread of the disease.



## World of Sports!



### Lakers!

The Los Angeles Lakers, top-seeded champions of the Western Conference, defeated the Orlando Magic, third-seeded champions of the Eastern Conference, four games to one in a best-of-seven series.



### Yankees!

It's been 9 years since the last World Series title for the Yankees, who have won 27 championships. The Yankees broke in their new stadium in style, winning the World Series over the Philadelphia Phillies in 6 games.



### Steelers!

In early February the Steelers were able to secure their second Super Bowl in four years, knocking off the Cardinals 27-23.

On July 23, 2009, Mark Buehrle pitched a perfect game. It was the 18th perfect game in MLB history and Buehrle's second career no-hitter.



Serena Williams was handed a three-year suspension from the US Open after her verbal tirade at a lineswoman at the 2009 event.



On September 27 The Detroit Lions

finally broke their losing streak after losing every game they played in 2008.

In early 2009, Michael Phelps admitted to "behavior which was regrettable and demonstrated bad judgment" for use of drugs.



## Penguins Prevail!



Just a year after losing to Detroit in six games in the Stanley Cup Finals, the Pittsburgh Penguins were back in the finals again, rematched against the Red Wings. This time the series went seven games and the Penguins prevailed to take home



Jockey Calvin Borel and Mine That Bird came into the 135th Kentucky Derby as 50-1 long shots. Their win was the second biggest upset in Derby history, and the biggest in 85 years.

Mine That Bird

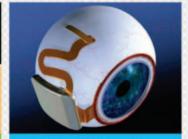
## Science & Technology!





#### Cold-Blooded!

An extinct goat that lived on a barren Mediterranean island (now Majorca), survived for millions of years by reducing in size and by becoming cold-blooded, which has never before been discovered in mammals.



### **Out Of Sight!**

MIT researchers are developing a microchip that could help blind people regain partial eyesight. The chip, which is encased in titanium to prevent water damage, will be implanted onto a patient's eyebail. The patient will then wear a pair of eyeglasses equipped with a tiny camera that transmits images directly to the chip, which in turn sends them to the brain.



#### **Hands Free!**

This year Microsoft demonstrated a technology, code-named Project Natal, that enables players to control games using only body movements and voice commands, no controller required. Project Natal uses several cameras, plus a highly specialized microphone and a lot of lancy software, to track the gamer's body and interpret his or her voice.

Adam Wilson, working with adviser Justin Williams, tweeted 23 characters just by thinking. He wore a cap outfitted with electrodes that monitored changes in his brain activity to figure out which character he wanted.



Phil Bowen and camera provider OmniVision, are attempting to replace his proshetic eye with a battery-powered, wireless video camera, thereby making himself into an "Eyeborg," with the power to record exactly what he's looking at as digital video.



By attaching radio antennas and embedding electrodes a beetle's optic lobes, flight muscles and brains, professors Michel Maharbiz and Hirotaka Sato can manipulate their sublects into taking off, hovering in

midair and turning on command.







Scientists have unearthed the fossilized remains of the largest snake ever discovered on Earth. The prehistoric snakes, dubbed 'Titanboas' (due to their resemblance to present-day boa constrictors) lived some 60 million years ago. They are thought to have been 42 feet in length and weighing a quarter of a ton.

Titanboa

Say Cheese!

Fujiflim introduced a 3-D digital camera: the FinePix Real 3D W1. The 10-megapixel FinePix has two lenses, set about as far apart as human eyes, which snap shots of an object from slightly different angles. Those images are then combined into one, creating the illusion of depth. Its 3-D images can be viewed — without clumsy 3-D glasses — on the camera's back LCD screen or displayed in a special digital photo frame.



## My Favorites!



**Favorite Singer** 



**Favorite Song** 



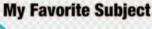
**Favorite TV Show** 



**My Best Friends** 



**My Favorite Food** 





Favorite Movie





**Favorite** Memories