



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

On This Date

1884 – The Ringling Brothers Circus premiered in Baraboo, Wisconsin. It later joined with the Barnum & Bailey Circus.

1965 – Roger Miller received a gold record for the hit “King of the Road.”

1973 – Secretariat won the second jewel of horse racing’s Triple Crown by capturing the Preakness Stakes in Baltimore, Maryland. The famed



horse later went on to win the Belmont Stakes and earn the Triple Crown.

Geography Quiz

Q: What is the largest freshwater lake in South America?

A: Lake Titicaca, which is in the Andes Mountains, on the border of Bolivia and Peru. The surface area is 3,232 square miles. At just over 12,500 feet above sea level, it is also the world’s highest navigable lake.

Quote of the Day

“They moved like the pistons of a gasoline engine with somebody opening the throttle wider all the time.”

~ track coach Bob Granger on
Percy Williams’ legs

Happy Birthday!

Percy Williams (1908–1982) was a phenomenal track athlete, born in Vancouver, British Columbia. He grew up with a rheumatic heart but



was determined to battle his handicap. At age 19, Williams tied the world record in the 100-yard dash with a run of 9.6 seconds.

This won him the right to represent Canada at the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam, where he more than excelled, taking gold medals in the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints with upset victories against the fastest field ever assembled. In 1929, the national hero won 21 of 22 races on the U.S. indoor circuit.



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Today is May Ray Day. As the old saying goes, “April showers bring May flowers.” And those flowers bloom thanks to the sun! This holiday encourages people to soak up the warm rays of the sun at the onset of summer.

The Games People Play

For thousands of years, Arabian kings have enjoyed the sport of camel racing. But a camel will not race by itself; it needs a jockey, and the lighter the better. For centuries, young boys acted as jockeys because of their light weight. But today, robots have taken their place. Small Swiss-made robots are commonly seen sitting atop camels racing along at 25 mph in 113-degree heat. Designing a robot sophisticated enough for the job took years. Today’s robots cost \$10,000. Operators race after their camels in SUVs, using a joystick to control the robot, and thereby control the camel.

Name Three

Can you name the three U.S. national parks with “great” in their name?

ANSWER: Great Smoky Mountains, Tennessee; Great Basin, Nevada; Great Sand Dunes, Colorado

Garden Party

There are few flowers more dramatic than *Tacca chantrieri*, the bat flower. What makes the flower so unusual is its dark purple petal-like bracts that look almost black. These dark, ruffled petals open 12 inches wide, resembling the open wings of a bat. Long, threadlike “whiskers” hang from the flower’s center, while a cluster of dark flowers hangs down. The flower is native to the jungles of Southeast Asia, preferring high humidity and a lot of water.



Word Wise

Which word is not like the others?

catalog

cassette

docket

enumeration

ANSWER: A cassette is a length of tape or film; the others are lists.