A Year In Review . . .

Sports

Olympic gold medalist Michael Johnson won an unprecedented double win in the Summer Olympics in Atlanta. He won the 200 and 400 meter race.

The New York Yankees brought a world championship back to the Bronx by edging out the Atlanta Braves 3-2 in Game 6 of the World Series.

It was late in the third quarter when Desmond Howard of the Green Bay Packers returned his first kick off for a touchdown as a pro. The Packers went on to beat the New England Patriots 35-21 in Super Bowl XXXI.

Peace in the Middle East remained unstable as the school year began. A crisis erupted after Israel opened a new exit in a tunnel alongside a plateau, raising suspicion among Muslims that the Israeli were seeking to change the delicate religious balance in Jerusalem’s Old City. The incident proved to be the breaking point in mounting Palestinian frustrations with the lack of movement in carrying out the peace accords. Demonstrations followed where nearly 100 people were killed. The emergency meetings were arranged by President Clinton in Washington between Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasir Arafat.

The seven members of the U.S. women’s gymnastic team won the unlikeliest of gold medals in the unlikeliest of fashions. Teammember Kerri Strug made the clinching vault on a bad ankle and became the Olympic heroine the instant she landed. Her coach, Bela Karolyi, carried her to the stand to be awarded the medal.
(Above) The stock market surged to record highs as the school year began. It was a continuation of one of the greatest bull markets in history. The Dow Jones industrial average hit record highs in late September, and closed over 6,000 in October. The spark that kept the markets moving upward was news that suggested that the economy was slowing down, thus keeping the interest rates low.

(Left) Months after the TWA Flight 800 exploded in midair in the summer of 1996, investigators were still searching for a cause. The Boeing 747 jumbo jet took off from Kennedy Airport for Paris, all 230 people on board were killed.
The Macarena hit all the charts—from Latin to Pop—and enlivened the dance floors all over the world.

Jewel is a 22 year old performer from Alaska.

Tracy Chapman is on the charts with the album "New Beginning."

Alanis Morissette delivers deeply personal lyrics with a dramatic voice and a dynamic rhythm.

The Dave Matthews Band brought funk into the mainstream. Nontraditional instruments, such as the violin and the sax expanded the band's sound and universal appeal.
Bob Dole retired after 35 years in Congress to devote himself full time to running for President. He selected as his running mate Jack Kemp, a former cabinet member.

Ross Perot launched a campaign as the 1996 nominee of the Reform Party by lambasting budget deficits and big government.

President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore maintained a strong and consistent lead in the polls during their campaign for four more years in the White House.

Shannon Lucid is the new record holder for most consecutive days in orbit by a woman with 188 days.

Hong Kong was a colony on the brink of great change in 1997. Great Britain's lease on Hong Kong is set to expire on July 1, 1997 when the Chinese will reclaim the island.
As we look back at 1997, we see many new beginnings...

Members of the Babson community signing the last beam for the new student center.