

A BEST SELLER ▶

The latest entry in the *Call of Duty* series of video games, *Modern Warfare 3*, sold more than 6.5 million copies in the U.S. and U.K. within 24 hours of going on sale in November. Those numbers made it the most successful video game launch of all time.



BREAKING RECORDS ▶

Audiences flocked to the theater in droves on opening weekend to check out *Breaking Dawn*, the final chapter in the *Twilight* series. The last installment in the vampire love story of Edward and Bella was made into two movies, with part one being released in the fall.

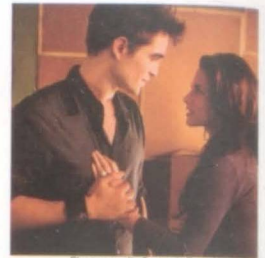
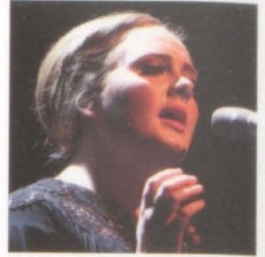


Photo credit: Summit Entertainment

ROLLING IN THE HITS ▶

The hit single "Rolling in the Deep" from British pop star Adele sold more digital copies in the U.S. (nearly 6 million) than any song ever had in a single year. Her album, *21*, became the best selling record of the year.



◀ <http://bit.ly/ryrladygaga>



◀ QUAKE RATTLES MONUMENT

The Washington Monument was expected to be closed to the public for repairs for at least a year after a 5.8 magnitude earthquake in August. A team rappelled the 555-foot structure and found most of the damage occurred at the top. Other buildings, including the National Cathedral, also were damaged.

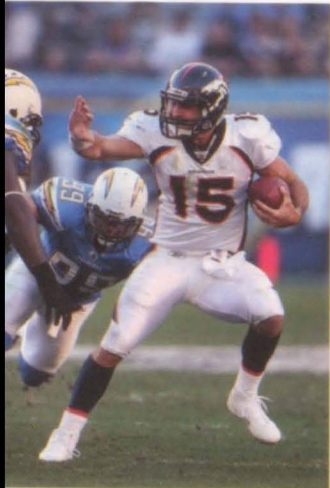


▲ JUST BORN THIS WAY

Lady Gaga's latest album, *Born This Way*, sold more than a million copies in one week, she was nominated for three Grammy Awards and the Guinness Book of Records declared she had more followers than anybody on Twitter at more than 13 million.

▲ NOT SO FAST, NETFLIX!

Popular DVD-by-mail provider Netflix experienced a rough year with its strategic direction. The company was bombarded with negative feedback after announcing it was splitting its online streaming and DVD mail services into two plans. In the third quarter of 2011 alone, Netflix lost 800,000 subscribers.



▲ TIME FOR TEBOW

Denver quarterback Tim Tebow gained notoriety for leading the Broncos to an unlikely six-game winning streak, with many of the games needing late comebacks. The former Heisman Trophy winner's knack for taking to a knee in prayer on the sideline became known as "Tebowing."

72 DAYS

The marriage of Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries

12 DAYS

The final Atlantis space shuttle mission

136 DAYS

NFL lockout

Source: Parade magazine

By the numbers