

Today in Math History...

-24 August 1778

**Wronski born in
Wolsztyn, Poland.**



In 1794 Wronski served in Poland's Kosciuszko Uprising as a second lieutenant of artillery, was taken prisoner, and remained until 1797 in the Russian Army. Resigning in the rank of lieutenant colonel, he studied briefly in Germany and in 1800 enlisted in the Polish Legion at Marsille. There he began his scientific and scholarly work.

*Most significant was his work on **series**. He had strongly criticized **Lagrange's** use of infinite series, introducing instead a novel series expansion for a function. The coefficients in Wronski's new series were after his death found to be important, forming the **determinants** now known as the **Wronskians**.*