

Alberta Street Fair Fun

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

NATO Attacks Yugoslavia

NATO had agreed to stop their air campaign if Yugoslavia agrees to withdraw their estimated 40,000 troops and special police from Kosovo. So far, there has been no evidence of that. Serb media cited at least seven people killed from the air raid attacks. Chinese and Russian officials expressed their condemnation of NATO's indiscriminate bombings.

Chinese Finance Scandal

Democratic donor Johnny Chung testified before officials that a senior Chinese official told him "we really like your president" and gave him \$300,000 to funnel to the Democratic Party and President Clinton. Chung was a key figure in the 1996 campaign finance scandal that's currently being investigated by the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee. Chung had accused Robert Luu (from Beijing) for the death threats against him as a result of the scandal.

Yeltsin Impeachment Hearing

Impeachment proceedings against President Boris Yeltsin have begun despite strong opposition from the government and Russian citizens fearing that it would destabilize the country. Some politicians predict that Yeltsin may respond by dissolving parliament, prompting a major political crisis.

Killer Tornadoes

A string of killer tornadoes had continued to surge through Oklahoma and Tennessee causing a total of seven deaths and numerous victims in those states. The latest damages in Oklahoma had raised the death toll to 41.

AT&T

Software giant Microsoft Corp. will be forging an alliance with AT&T Corp. to speed the delivery of voice, video and Internet services to millions of American homes. As part of this partnership, AT&T will increase its use of Microsoft's Windows CE-based operating system software in its digital set-top boxes, through which AT&T expects to manage its high-capacity cable links to customers.

Oregon Freeway

Oregon's busiest freeway interchange is headed for a major remodeling. State transportation officials have announced plans to spend some \$60 million on the Interstate-5/ Highway 217 interchange south of Portland. It presently handles an average of 140,000 vehicles a day and has a high number of accidents. The remodeling will take about two years and detours will be put in place to try and prevent congestion due to construction.

An Evening With Family & Friends

By **DIONNE PEEPLES**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When it comes to pressing on despite of, and paving the way for others, Margaret Carter, Kay Toran and Jaki Walker stand out. This trio of African-American women have worked to put this state in the forefront of politics, housing and service to children and families.

As each leaves her current position, they all say that their mothers played an integral role in their success. The lessons they learned from their mothers will continue to play a part in their

future careers, which include becoming authors and entrepreneurs.

Margaret Carter

After an incident with an abusive husband in 1967, Margaret Carter headed to Portland — a place she had only dreamed about.

"I left Shreveport, Louisiana with five babies, a hundred dollars in my pocket and no place to stay. Period."

She never regretted it.

Carter retired as a state representative and as a counselor of 25 years at Portland Community College- Cascade campus earlier this year. She continues to work at

PCC as a community workforce specialist. She also has started her own business, M.Carter and Associates, and will become a lobbyist. In 2001, she plans to run for the state senate.

Oregon's term limits prevented her from seeking another term as state representative.

"You can't change from the outside, you must make change from within," Carter said of politics.

Carter's mother, Emma, believed the same thing in addition to hard work.

At the age of 7, Carter went door-to-door with her mother to register black people to vote in Shreveport, La.

Her father, Rev. Hilton Hunter held NAACP meetings at his church.

The Ku Klux Klan threatened her parents, once running them off the road.

But that never deterred her parents' efforts to use the political system to make positive change for their community.

Carter has done the same thing for her community.

During her time in the Legislature, Carter helped make the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a state holiday. She won legislation requiring the state to divest from South Africa. She also sponsored a law creating enterprise zones

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A dinner party was held at Jaki Walker's home announcing her resignation from NECDC (Northeast Community Development Center). From left to right: Kay Toran, Jaki Walker, Chuck Washington and Margaret Carter.

New Orleans Bus Crash Kills 22 Inquiry Begins

By **CHRISTI DAUGHERTY**

NEW ORLEANS, May 10 (Reuters) - The death toll from a charter bus that crashed in New Orleans while en route to a Mississippi Gulf Coast casino rose to 22 on Sunday night, as investigators began piecing together the cause of the city's worst traffic accident.

Nineteen of the mostly elderly victims died at the scene, while two died at the state Charity Hospital and another on Sunday night at Tulane University Medical Centre, authorities said. Some were thrown from the bus during the crash.

At least seven other people were hospitalized in extremely critical condition, Charity Hospital spokesman Jerry Romig told Reuters shortly before midnight. "One very critical woman is in surgery now, but we have no idea what the outcome will be," he said.

Six other passengers on board for the Mother's Day gambling excursion were hospitalized with less serious injuries at other facilities, New Orleans police

spokesman David Bowser told Reuters. "This is the worst vehicular collision in the city's history," Mayor Marc Morial said.

Details on possible causes of the accident will not be released until at least a preliminary joint investigation by city police and the National Transportation Safety Board accident team is completed, Morial said.

The charter bus veered across three lanes of traffic on I-610, struck a guardrail and smashed into a concrete embankment and metal fence outside the City Park Golf Course at 9 a.m. CDT (10 a.m. EDT) (1400 GMT).

Police said it took emergency workers more than four hours to free the bodies of victims from the twisted metal wreckage. Most of the passengers were members of a gambling club that often chartered buses for excursions to the Gulf Coast casinos.

"This is the worst disaster we've seen here in years," Romig said. "We're dealing with very, very critically injured elderly people in their 70s and 80s suffering

from multiple fractures — skulls, chests, legs — and blood loss."

As word of the accident spread, dozens of residents and some tourists lined up at the local blood bank to donate blood for victims, blood bank officials said. Almost 100 people donated blood during the four hours the centre was open.

Bowser said the NTSB team, which routinely investigates all accidents involving common carriers, began arriving in New Orleans on Sunday night.

Authorities initially said the bus carried 37 passengers, but later said that more could have been on the charter from LaPlace, Louisiana, 20 miles (32 km) west of New Orleans, to a casino in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. The bus had a capacity of 55 people.

"We still don't know exactly how many were on the bus since the company hasn't come up with a manifest yet," Bowser said. "We do know that...some were treated and released, but not how many."

Carl LaBranche of Garyville, La., whose 81-year-old father was being treated at Charity Hospital, said seven other family members also were on the bus.

Romig said the driver, who was critically injured with a shattered pelvis, told him he thought someone cut in front of him and the last thing he remembered was veering to the right.

Custom Bus Charter Company safety engineer Terrell Walker identified the driver as 47-year-old Frank Bedell, who had been with the company for three years and had a clean driving record.

He would not speculate on the cause of the accident.

Police are analyzing blood samples from Bedell, a routine procedure in fatal crashes, to determine if alcohol or drugs were a factor in the wreck.

The east-bound lanes of the highway where the bus crashed were closed for nine hours, snarling traffic on other east-bound routes through the city.