



Blessid Union Debutes Their New CD Featuring The Song 'I Believe'

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Music Song & Dance - Riverdance Storms into Portland

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Interest Rates Rise

The Federal Reserve has raised interest rates by a quarter point. This is the second time this summer that the Fed has raised the rate. The intent of the Fed is to boost the federal fund rate - the interest banks charge each other on overnight loans, and to cool the economy by making it more expensive for Americans to borrow.

Turkey's Health Fears

Hundreds of aftershocks in Turkey have occurred after the devastating 7.4-magnitude quake that left 18,000 dead and 200,000 homeless. The real health threat stemming from the disaster is poor sanitation, contaminated water and the interruption of routine medical care, not the presence of large numbers of unburied corpses.

Collision at Sea

A cruise ship, containing mostly Americans, collided with a cargo ship off of England's southeast coast. At least 20 people were slightly injured in the collision, and both ships have stayed afloat. The cargo ship, Ever Decent was on fire and had been taking in water. There were no details on how the collision occurred. The weather was not a factor.

Hurricane Bret

Hurricane Bret hit the southern coast of Texas and spun toward the Rio Grande. It dumped up to 20 inches of rain and had top winds of 140 miles per hour. Authorities said that there were no known dead or even anyone suffering major injuries from Bret. Power lines were down which left 10,400 people without electricity.

Airlines Cut Fares

Seven major airlines have cut their fares by 15 to 30 percent. The sale, introduced by UAL Corp's United Airlines, offers discounts on most routes in the U.S. and Canada and applies to flights between September 7 and December 17. Tickets require a 14-day advance purchase, a Saturday night stay and must be bought by September 3.

Portland Schools

The first school day for Portland public school children will be Wednesday, September 8. Teacher inservice activities will take place in schools on Tuesday, September 7 with many teachers focusing on the district's new math materials.

Margaret Carter Announces Candidacy For Oregon Senate



Photo by M. Washington

Margaret Carter is greeted by long time friends and confidantes, Raleigh Lewis, and Lolita Jones Darby

Former State Representative Margaret Carter (D-Portland), Saturday, August 21, 1999, chose a festive Block Party in Irvington Neighborhood, as the site to announce her candidacy, for the Oregon Senate,

District 8.

The event was free to the public and featured food, music, games for children and public safety information presented by representatives from the Portland Fire and Police bureaus.

Friends, supporters and well-wishers were elated with the announcement and the prospects of Margaret's future involvement in the shaping of laws that protect the quality-of-life issues of all Oregonians.



Photo by M. Washington

Children enjoying the festivities, take time out to show their support for the Senate Candidate Margaret Carter.

Bret Downgraded to Tropical Storm

By MARK BABINECK
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RIVIERA, Texas - A blustery shadow of its former self, Hurricane Bret was downgraded to a tropical storm as it plodded across a sparsely populated swath of southern Texas.

The storm, the biggest hurricane to strike Texas in nearly 20 years, continued to drench the region with thunderous squalls, but no injuries had been reported since Bret made landfall about 6 p.m. Sunday in Kenedy County.

"It sounded like a big jet engine was coming down on top of us. It was very scary," Jesse Salinas said in Sarita, the only town in Kenedy County.

There was little structural damage in Sarita, a town of 460 people, but power lines and trees were down, including several large trees around the courthouse square.

Up to 25 inches of rain fell by early today on the coastal plains of Kenedy County, where the average rainfall for a whole year is 29.7 inches, the National Weather Service said. Rain tapered off there but continued falling elsewhere and there was a chance of flooding in places plus isolated tornadoes.

The King Ranch occupies much of Kenedy and Kleberg counties. Ranch president Jack Hunt said about 50 people were evacuated before Bert arrived, leaving some 55,000 head of cattle to fend for themselves.

A tornado between Rockport and Aransas Pass destroyed a mobile home and damaged several other buildings, the Aransas County sheriff's department reported today.

Damage was substantial in Falfurrias, about 60 miles southwest of Corpus Christi, Mayor Michael Guerra said.

The eye passed over the town of about 5,800 residents, ripping roofs from homes and businesses. Up to 90 percent of the town had no electricity, he said.

"We have a lot of debris and live power lines in the roads, and we've had four convenience stores lose the canopies from their gas pumps. And some of the less-structurally sound buildings have lost roofs and windows," he said.

Major damage also was reported in Port Mansfield, about 50 miles north of Brownsville, especially to mobile homes.

Power outages were reported from the state's southern tip near Brownsville and McAllen to the counties surrounding Corpus Christi, said Jessica Mahaffey, spokeswoman for Central Power and Light Co. in Corpus Christi. The company serves much of South Texas.

Three of the four major power lines serving the lower Rio Grande Valley were down because of the storm, said Jack Colley, assistant director of the state Division of Emergency Management. Demand was low because so many people had been evacuated, he said, "but if the fourth line goes down then there is a major problem."

Evacuees were allowed to re-
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