

Entrepreneur finds meaning in owning an art gallery See Minority Business on page A6, inside.

# The Fortland (hiserver

Volume XXXI Number 40

www.portlandobserver.com

**Committed to Cultural Diversity** 

Established in 1970

Wednesday October 03, 2001

50¢

BRIGHTON, England—British Prime Minister Tony Blair issued a ringing call for action against terror and suggested that the Taliban may not rule Afghanistan much longer, saying the Taliban regime must "surrender the terrorists or surrender power."

WASHINGTON - President Bush authorized reopening Reagan National Airport with new security measures, including two marshals on each flight. The airport will reopen this week.

BRUSSELS - Belgian police have uncovered potential links to Osama bin Laden's terrorist network throughout Europe. They also provided the first major break in the U.S.-led worldwide manhunt for bin Laden. And, law enforcement authorities say, the police action disrupted what might have been a deadly terrorist assault on the U.S. Embassy in France or NATO military headquarters in Brussels.

WASHINGTON-The Supreme Court ordered former President Clinton disbarred from practicing law before the high court and gave him 40 days to contest the order.

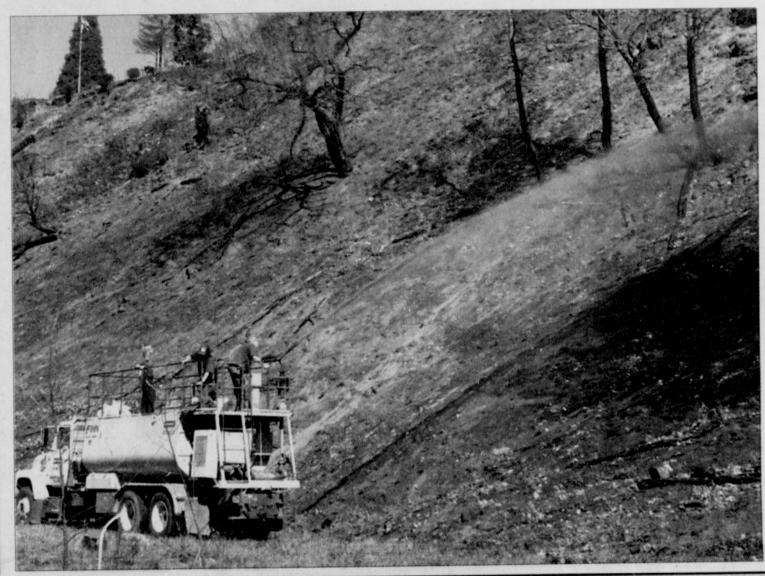
WASHINGTON—Osamabin Laden is acquiring components for weapons of mass destruction from the Russian mafia, The Washington Times said. Bin Laden, key suspect in the U.S. attacks, is also believed by U.S. intelligence to have a nuclear weapons laboratory inside Afghanistan.

TEHRAN, Iran—Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei ruled out Iranian help for any U.S.-led attack on neighboring Afghanistan, saying that the U.S. was not "competent" to lead a global campaign and calling U.S. behavior "disgusting."

ZUG, Switzerland - A Swiss man in an orange police vest sprayed assault rifle fire and set off an explosive during a session of a state parliament, killing 13 people before turning the gun on himself, officials said.

GAZAINTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Gaza Strip-Israel and the Palestinians agreed on a series of confidence-building measures aimed at ending a year of fighting. The two sides said they would resume security coordination and exert maximum efforts to enforce a cease-fire.

### Native Grass Seeded on Bluff Fire Site



A contracting crew hired by the city sprays a green soil binder with native grass seeds onto the slopes of the Willamette Bluff in north Portland Monday. Thousands of homes were threatened this summer when the hillside caught fire. Now the concern is erosion during the winter. The hill was overgrown with blackberry and brush before. The project is expected to cost about 200-thousand dollars. PHOTO BY MARK WASHING-TON/THE PORTLAND OB-SERVER

## Plan to Rebuild Columbia Villa Approved



Many of the homes in Columbia Villa are World War II era structures that have been deemed obsolete.

#### Grant is catalyst to revitalization of World War II era neighborhood

U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore. visited Columbia Villa, a public housing development in north Portland Friday, to announce its receipt of a \$35 million grant to help renovate the neighborhood.

The "Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere" grant from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development is designed to revitalize severely distressed

lic housing.

he money will become a key part of the using Authority of Portland's total \$160 lion needed to replace obsolete housunits and diversify the types of housg and income levels within the commu-

nity. It also provides home ownership opportunities for public housing residents in the Portland area.

Additional financing includes \$20 million from the City of Portland, \$5 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funds, and \$15 million in urban infrastructure funds.

"The new community plan will give families a greater sense of community pride and children a greater sense of security and belonging," said Smith. "This project is not merely about reconstructing buildings, it is about changing lives."

Built during World War II as temporary



Sen. Gordon Smith and students from north Portland's Tubman Middle School attend a ceremony last week announcing the approval of a grant called HOPE (Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere) to redevelop the city's largest public housing development into a more livable community with better housing opportunities.

PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

housing for shipyard workers, Columbia Villa continues to be Oregon's largest public housing resource and home to 1,200 residents. The plan to revitalize the neighborhood was supported by a host of local elected officials and organizations.

It calls for demolishing current housing structures and replacing them with more dense, updated housing; altering the street grid to create better flow and access to the neighborhood; creating a new system of parks; and a village square to provide a central gathering place for neighbors.

Portland City Commissioner Erik Sten called it one of the most significant opportunities in Portland's history.

"This project will symbolically and physically reconnect the people of Columbia Villa with the rest of the community," Sten said.

The development is also expected to serve as a powerful catalyst for more local investments and involvement in affordable housing for the area.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity for the City of Portland to make a real difference for many families," Smith said. "Together with residents and the surrounding community, the Housing Authority had developed a vision to envolve Columbia Villa into a livable community."

299 University of Oregon Jim Hill Wins Support for Governor

A Salem resident and former state legislator who as treasurer became the first black person ever elected to statewide office in Oregon has won a big endorsement in his race for governor.

Former State Treasurer Jim Hill was the clear winner in an informal poll Oregon's

Democrats held over the weekend to learn which of the party's three candidates for governor has the most support.

Hill received 114 votes while former state Supreme Court Justice Ted Kulongoski came in second with 78 votes and former Multnomah County Commis-

sion chairwoman Beverly Stein had 76 votes from party activists and officials. The straw poll carries no official weight and does not reflect a cross section of the voting population in the state. But Hill says he's pleased all the same with the informal endorsement.