



Get Ready to Turn Clocks Back

Clocks will fall back one hour on Sunday, Oct. 28, to begin Standard Time.

The Fortland Physis Of Roses"

Volume XXXI Number 43

www.portlandobserver.com

Committed to Cultural Diversity

Established in 1970

Wednesday October 24, 2001

Coast Guard Base Sprayed

NATCHEZ, Miss. - A crop duster sprayed a white substance on the U.S. Coast Guard post just north of the Natchez-Adams County Port in the lower Mississippi River, a Coast Guard spokesman said. Initial tests for chemical or biological agents were negative.

Capitol Reopens

WASHINGTON—The Senate returned to work and the House was expected to follow soon afterward, despite the fact congressional office buildings are still closed for anthrax testing.

Israel Moves Into West Bank

JERUSALEM -- Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said that Israel would end its offensive against the Palestinian Authority when it was satisfied that Yasser Arafat was cracking down on terrorism. Four Palestinians were killed as Israeli tanks moved into the West Bank.

U.S. Rewards Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan - The United States promised to help Pakistan, crippled by a \$37 billion debt, get international money as a reward for its cooperation in the U.S. war on terrorism.

USA in Concert

WASHINGTON-All-starcharity concerts in New York, Nashville and Washington, D.C. raised money and spirits fter the Sept. 11 terror atta three shows raised more than \$20 million for various charities.

APEC Leaders Unite, But Grievances Remain

SHANGHAI — Leaders of 20 nations collectively condemned terrorism during weekend meetings of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, but old grievances and new tensions percolated beneath their unity.

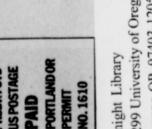
Ulster Unionists to Resign from Unity Government

BELFAST, Northern Ireland - Northern Ireland's largest Protestant party, the Ulster Unionists, announced it was resigning from the province's unity government, a move designed to force Britain to suspend indefinitely the troubled experiment in Catholic-Protestant cooperation.

Kenya Confirms Anthrax Case

NAIROBI, Kenya - White powder in a letter mailed from Atlanta to a Kenyan has tested positive for anthrax spores, the health minister said, the first case of a tainted letter outside the United States since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Post Office, FBI Offers \$1M Reward WASHINGTON - The FBI and U.S. Postal Service offered an award up to \$1 million for information leading to the arrest of those who sent anthrax through the mail. Investigators continued to link the various incidents through evidence.



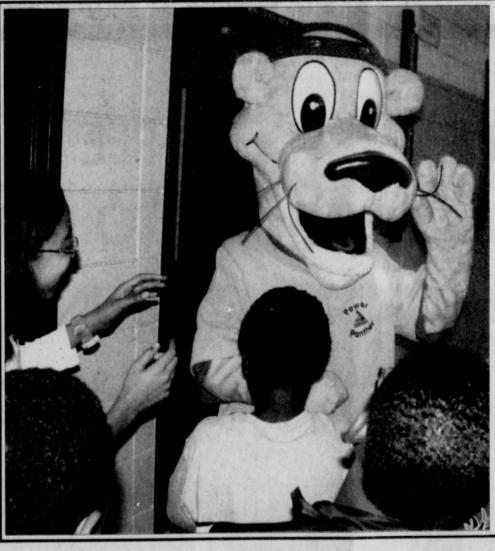
299 University of Oregor ugene OR 97403-1205



Pumpkin Patch is Reason for Adventure

The fun associated with the season for Halloween bring twins Laurel and Paige Tyson of Portland to the Krueger Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island where they find two pumpkins to their liking.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Power Panther Helps **Kids** Learn **Nutrition**

Humboldt Elementary kids from north and northeast Portland get a pep talk on healthy eating and exercise from the Power Panther, a spokescharacter from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The visit last week was scheduled as part of National School Lunch

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Whitaker Middle **School May Close** Permanently

Portland Public School Interim Superintendent Jim Scherzinger and the Portland School Board have received a report that may lead to the permanent closing of Whitaker Middle School in northeast Portland.

The building is not in use and Whitaker students are in temporary schools this year after mold was found in the building over the summer. Repairs to the building could not be completed in time for the start of school.

Following the discovery of mold, the district hired Shiels Obletz Johnsen to develop cost estimates for fixing the building, options for the building and property including restoring it as a school, and recommendations.

The report's conclusions were:

•The building could cost between \$6.9 million and \$14.3 million to repair, with the likely cost nearer to \$8.3 million.

•The building was designed as a high school and doesn't work well as a middle school. It is too big and the school lay-out is not well-suited to the activities of middle school students. This will continue to be a problem even after the building is repaired.

•Because enrollment is dropping there is surplus space in the District and the Whitaker building is not needed.

On the basis of these conclusions, the report recommends the Whitaker building be declared "surplus" and not reopen as a middle school. The report details a number of scenarios for the surplus building and property, but recommends the District investigate the scenarios further before choosing one.

The report addresses only financial and facilities issues, not instructional or community impacts.

"The estimate from the report is higher than expected," Scherzinger said. "While we acknowledge the conclusions of the report, we need to stay focused on what's most important to us, which is educating students."

Scherzinger said the district will not make any recommendations regarding the Whitaker building until there are other high quality educational options for Whitaker students, a process that may take a few weeks.

continued \ on page B2

Famed Lawyer Addresses Racism, Justice in Oregon

In a majority-white state like Oregon, does race affect who goes to prison? Who stays in prison? Who the system helps or targets?

Nationally known scholar and defense attorney Charles J. Ogletree Jr. will visit Portland to talk about those questions and explore the theme of race, class, and the criminal justice system.

As the 2001-2002 occupant of the Wayne Morse Chair of Law and Politics at the University of Oregon School of Law, Ogletree also will participate in several law classes and public events in Eu-



Charles J. Ogletree Jr.

Senate confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. He continues. to represent high-profile clients such as Hill and

Law School.

Ogletree is a well-

known African-Ameri-

can defense lawyer and

a professor at Harvard

for Anita Hill during the

He served as counsel

the Rev. Al Sharpton, an African-American leader arrested for protesting military bombing in Vieques, Puerto

Along with attorney Johnnie Cochran, Ogletree is a leading advocate in the movement to gain reparations for slavery.

"We are thrilled to host someone of Professor Ogletree's caliber in our examination of race and justice in America," says Margaret Hallock, director of the Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics.

Ogletree will address a day long forum entitled "Racial Equity in the Criminal Justice System" on Friday, Oct. 26 in the Vanport Room at Smith Center at Portland State University.

The son of farm workers, Ogletree grew up in Merced, a small town in California's Central Valley. He won a scholarship to Stanford University and earned his law degree from Harvard in 1978. He began his career in the District of Columbia Public Defender Service and quickly rose through its ranks, earning the nickname "Set 'em Free

Tree" after winning a string of acquittals. Ogletree is a prolific commentator and

writer, especially about issues pertaining to racism in America and constitutional guarantees under the law.

He is co-author of the award-winning book, "Beyond the Rodney King Story: An Investigation of Police Conduct in Minority Communities." His writings appear in many legal and popular publications, and he's a frequent guest on national television programs.

Ogletree was in the news recently, during the United Nations conference on racism, as an advocate seeking reparations for African Americans descended from slaves.

The Morse Center was established as a living memorial to the late Sen. Wayne Morse. also a former dean of the UO law school.