

# EDITORIAL

Editorial Articles Do Not Necessarily Reflect Or Represent The Views Of The Portland Observer

### Attention Readers!

Please take a minute to send us your comments. We're always trying to give you a better paper and we can't do it without your help. Tell us what you like and what needs improvement... any suggestions are welcomed and appreciated. We take criticism well! Get your powerful pens out NOW and address your letters to: Editor, Reader Response, P.O. Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208.

## The Portland Observer

(USPS 959-680) Established in 1970

Charles Washington  
Publisher & Editor  
Gary Ann Taylor  
Business Manager  
Iesha Williams  
Graphic Design

Mark Washington  
Distribution Manager  
Larry J. Jackson, Sr.  
Director of Operation  
Laphael Knight  
Graphic Design

Contributing Writers:  
Professor McKinley Burt,  
Lee Perlman,  
Joy Ramos

4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.,  
Portland, Oregon 97211  
503-288-0033 • Fax 503-288-0015  
Email: Pdxobserv@aol.com

Deadline for all submitted materials:  
Articles: Friday, 5:00 pm Ads: Monday, 12:00pm

POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes To: Portland Observer,  
P.O. Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208.

Periodicals postage paid at Portland, Oregon.

Subscriptions: \$60.00 per year

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 1996 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED.

The Portland Observer--Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication--is a member of the National Newspaper Association--Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc, New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association • Serving Portland and Vancouver.

Dear Editor,

Marijuana use by Oregon eighth graders has tripled since 1990 and is 36% above the national level. Marijuana is the number one problem drug for Oregon teenagers entering drug addiction treatment programs. Teens who use marijuana are six times more likely to bring guns to school, four times more likely to attack another person with the intention of hurting them, three times more likely to engage in sex (probably unprotected), twice as likely to attempt suicide, and 85 times more likely to use cocaine. as if we don't already have enough drug problems in Oregon, Ballot Measure 67 would add even more.

Measure 67 would allow doctors, massage therapists, tattoo artists, coffeehouse operators, counselors, and other businesses to provide marijuana to their clients. It would prevent State licensing boards from disciplining members of at least 134 occupations for growing and using marijuana, including surgeons, truck drivers, teachers, boilermakers, electricians, and river pilots. It would allow marijuana use for complaints as vague as "general ill health." It would allow hashish use. It would allow Oregon prison inmates and Oregon children to legally use marijuana.

Measure 67 is not about medicine. A written prescription is not required. A person does not have to see a doctor to obtain marijuana privileges. And, the safety provided by the US Food and Drug Administration medication approval process is bypassed.

Measure 67 is about legalizing marijuana for any Oregonian to use with impunity. voters who care about the future of our youth will reject this deceptive proposal.

Sincerely,  
Roger and Jenny Burt  
SE Portland

## Commodities Stock Traders Target Minority Ethnic Community

BY WILLIAM (BILL) TOOMER

Commodities, options, futures and margin accounts are terms tossed around quite casually in the financial world, but what do you really know about these terms?

Playing the game for many individual investors, buying commodities options or futures are tantamount to rolling the dice. The investor is betting which way the price of a commodity like wheat or gas will move. The wheat or gas is not actually being bought.

Futures are obligations to buy or sell a commodity on a specific day for a preset price.

Options are the right to sell an item for a present price during a specific period of time. Trading on the floor of the exchange determines prices.

The buying power of the minority ethnic community has come to the forefront of financial world, the ethnic community's spending habits, patterns, tendencies and nuisances are channeled, chronicled and charted everyday. For this reason, many traders are not only discovering but wooing minority ethnic community for its business.

Some commodities trading scams target, in particular, potential customers in the minority community through advertisements in ethnic newspapers and television infomercials.

Many such advertisements offer so called job opportunities for "account executives" to trade foreign currency. This is another way of getting customers to part with their money.

For small players, the risks are high. Although, the margin (the cost of buying a contract) is only 2% to 10% of the contract's market price. The investor is making or losing money based on what the total price does, and it can

fluctuate wildly from day to day.

If the investor takes a big loss on a given day, he or she must add money to the margin account to keep it at the required level, and of course the investor is taking a commission on each trade.

\*\*The investor buys an option on a \$10,000 wheat contract by depositing 10% or \$1,000 in a margin account. Wheat prices rise 10%, making the value of the contract worth \$11,000, the investor sells, and another \$1,000 goes into the margin account.

If the wheat price drops 10%, making the value of the contract \$9,000, the investor must make up the loss to keep a minimum balance in his/her margin account, by depositing another \$1,000.

\*\*Remember, the broker always wins, he earns commission with every trade.

"Warning For Prospective Commodities Investors"

Avoid companies predicting or guaranteeing large profits; statements to be wary of made by currency traders:

\*\*\*"Whether the market moves up or down, in the currency market you will make a profit."

"Expect returns of 35% to 75%"

"We guarantee you will make at least 30%-40% rate of return within two months."

Avoid companies that promise little or no risk; be suspicious of companies that down play risks. The following statement should be a red flag:

\*\*\*"You take only as much risk as you see fit. With a \$10,000 deposit the maximum you can lose is \$200 to \$250 per day."

This is a misleading statement. The futures markets are volatile and risky for unsophisticated customers. Re-

tirement funds should not be used for currency trading.

Do not trade on margins unless you understand how it works:

\*\*Many traders ask customers to give them money known as "margins," often sums of \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Those amounts actually control larger dollars of trading, a fact that is often time explained poorly to customers. Margin trading can make you responsible for dollar losses that greatly exceed the margin amount you deposited.

Be wary of transferring cash on the internet; by mail, or otherwise. Do your homework. Know the company you are dealing with.

\*\*It costs an internet advertiser a few dollars per day to reach a potential audience of millions, and phony commodity trading firms have seized upon the net to pursue business.

Be especially careful about trading on-line; it is very easy to transfer funds on-line, but it can be cumbersome to get money refunded. Many companies offering currency trading on-line are not in the United States and may not display an address or any other information identifying their nationality on their web site.

Get the company's track record.

\*\*While a firm or broker is not required to provide this information, you should be wary of any person who is not willing to do so; however, even if you do receive a glossy brochure or sophisticated looking brochure, the information may not be true. Continue to do your homework.

For more information you may write U.S. Commodity Future Trading Commissions, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, Washington, DC 20581 or to the commission on-line at www.cft.gov.

### SUBSCRIBE TO The Portland Observer

The Portland Observer can be sent directly to your home for only \$30.00 per year. Please fill out, enclose check or money order, and mail to:

SUBSCRIPTIONS

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER; PO Box 3137  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip-Code: \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Advertise In

The Portland Observer  
call 288-0033

Pierda Peso En Los '98 10%  
natural.  
Producto absorbedor de  
grasa  
1(888)777-6277

### Blumenauer, Member of Congress:

The veterans of America and especially those from your district in Portland, Oregon want to take this opportunity to let you know their displeasure for your "NO VOTE" on Congressman Obey's motion on HB 2400 to protect veterans benefits from being used to pay for transportation projects.

This Anti-Veteran bill takes money that was intended for Veterans Disability Compensation to pay for the huge increase in funding for Highway Projects.

The money YOU voted to take away from each of those veterans who served their country, wounded-in-action or disabled while in the service, probably would not pay half of a square inch of the bloated highway measure; however it is important to each of them!

You obviously did not feel that way, your "No Vote" is saying "You veterans don't count, highways and concrete are more important than you."

Veterans do count Blumenauer, they played an important part in making this country the wonderful place it is. I hope some day that you will feel that they are.

The veterans that live in your district feel dishonored that their Representative in Congress voted to eliminate many of the benefits that they deserve and were promised.

W.R. Thompson  
Portland, Oregon



SAFeway  
FOOD & DRUG

Look For Your  
Safeway Weekly  
Shopping Guide

In Your Oregonian FOODday  
in the Portland Metro Area  
...and save more shopping  
at Safeway

SAFeway CLUB



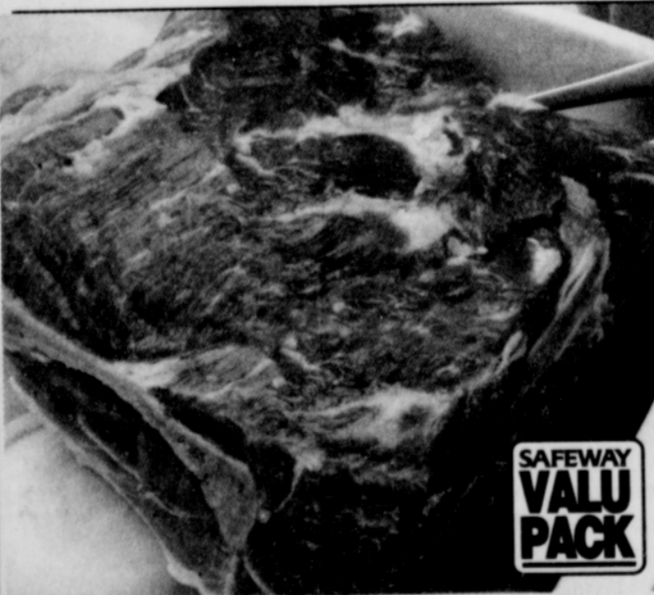
Visit Safeway's Web site at  
www.safeway.com

PRICES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1998

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
20	21	22	16	17	18	19

Items & prices in this ad are available at your local Safeway store. No sales to dealers, restaurants or institutions. Sales in retail quantities only. Quantities of some items may be limited and subject to availability. Not responsible for typographical or printed errors. We reserve the right to correct all printed errors. ©1998 Safeway Stores, Inc.

# WE'LL SHOW YOU THE... SAVINGS!



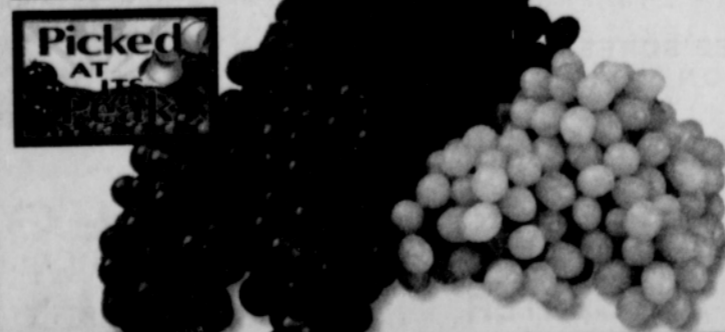
**Fresh Pork Roast**  
Bone-In Blade Cut  
Valu Pack 2 or more.  
SAVE up to \$1.49 lb.

**.79 lb.**



**Bumble Bee  
Chunk Light  
Tuna**  
6-oz. Water or Oil pack.  
Limit 3.  
SAVE up to 60¢

**.39**  
Safeway Club Price



**Seedless  
Grapes**

Red, Black or Thompson.  
Grown in California.  
SAVE up to 91¢ lb.

**.68 lb.**  
Safeway Club Price

Now the savings are in the Card!