

# Parade Rejection Appealed

## Buffalo Soldiers may ride after all

Despite playing an important part of the diversity in the Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade since 1989, the Buffalo Soldiers were recently given a harsh rejection letter from officials to participate in Saturday's festivities. Considering African Americans are already underrepresented in the parade, this is a huge blow to the community.

The letter explained that safety violations had been breached by the Buffalo Soldiers during a parade in 2003 when horses were left unattended, sores were found on the horses and one of the animals bucked before the parade.

The accusations are ridiculous and unfair, the local chapter says.

Several handlers stayed with horses during the parade, they said, which is contradictory to the official's response that only one handler was with eight horses that had been tied to trees.

The chapter's vice president Jimmy Smith said there weren't even any trees around the setup area for horses to be tied to.

While it was true that a horse bucked before the parade, the animal calmed down during festivities. Smith pointed out that one year, a rodeo queen's horse ran into the crowd during the parade— but it's unlikely the queen and her horse were reprimanded.

The sores found by the parade's veterinarian were rain rot, a common skin condition with minor consequences. They did not trigger a problem of neglect or any health concerns.

Rose Festival officials have scheduled a meeting Wednesday morning to reconsider its decision.

Leslie Goodlow-Baldwin, an African American vice president of the Rose Festival association, was quoted in the Oregonian as saying parade officials may have erred on the side of safety and were unmindful of the symbolic consequences of excluding people of color in the parade.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Madeline Martinez of Portland finds relief from marijuana for her chronic pain from a degenerative disk and joint disease. She described her ordeal in a Portland Observer story from last fall during the Ballot Measure 33 campaign to ease access to cannabis for qualified patients.

# Medical Marijuana Loses in Court

## Feds open to prosecute patients

(AP)—The U.S. Supreme Court says state laws allowing medical use of marijuana don't protect sick people from federal prosecution.

In 6-3 ruling Monday, justices sided with the Bush Administration, finding that users can be prosecuted under a federal ban on the drug — even if used under a doctor's order.

Writing for the majority, Justice John Paul Stevens said Congress can change the law to allow medical use of the drug.

The decision is a defeat for the drug's advocates, who have successfully passed medical marijuana laws in California, Oregon, Washington and 7 other states. Oregon officials said Monday they would temporarily stop issuing medical marijuana cards to patients in response to the court ruling.

The issue being decided was whether it was constitutional to prosecute medical marijuana users under the federal Controlled Substances Act. Under the Con-

stitution, Congress can pass laws to regulate states' economic activity as long as "interstate commerce" is involved.

The Supreme Court's decision was based on a California case where the marijuana was home-grown, distributed to patients for free and didn't cross state borders.

In a dissent, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said state powers "have always included authority to define criminal law and to protect the health, safety, and welfare" of citizens.

# In the Neighborhood

## Are you going to participate in this year's Rose Festival?

Yes. I think it's good for the city and it brings in people and gives the city publicity nationwide. We are known as the "City of Roses."  
--Anthony Olson Estes



Right now I'm in the Army National Guard and I am supposed to be going to Iraq. I just don't have time to join in the festivities. Hopefully, when things settle down by next year I can attend.  
--Deborah Anderson

I'm not interested. I think my time is better spent in other places. The fair is too expensive.  
--Matthew Dour



I sometimes avoid downtown during the Rose Festival because of the congestion, but I'm always happy that it's happening.  
--Lynne Shinto

I don't anymore since my children have been out of middle school. They come downtown on their own. I don't like putting up with the traffic.  
--Pete Wagner



# Ask Deanna!



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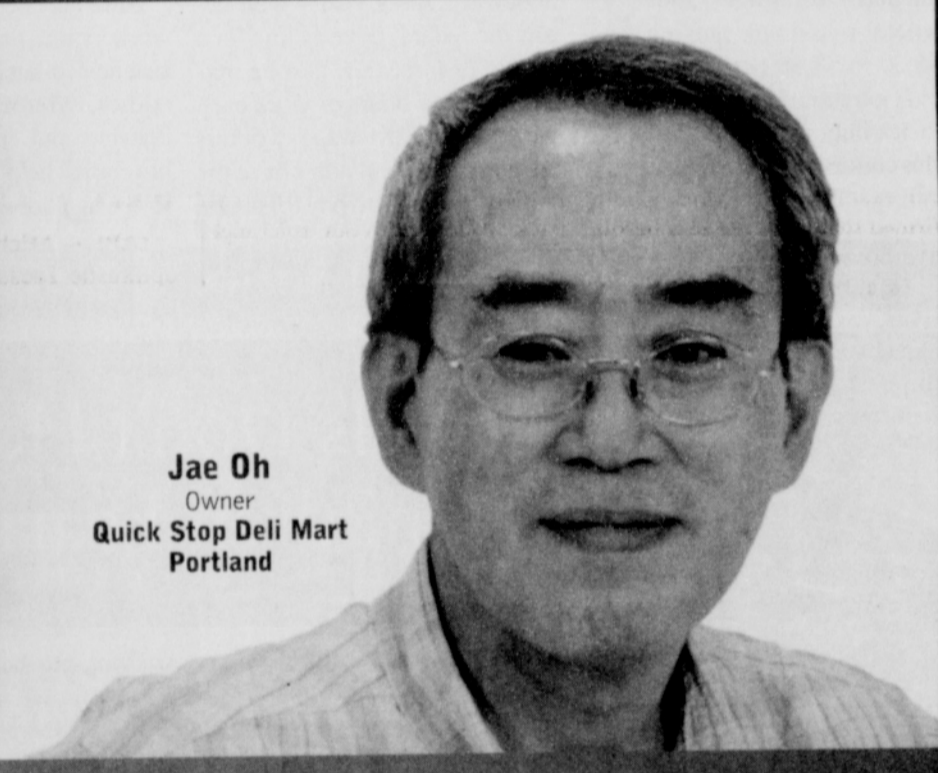
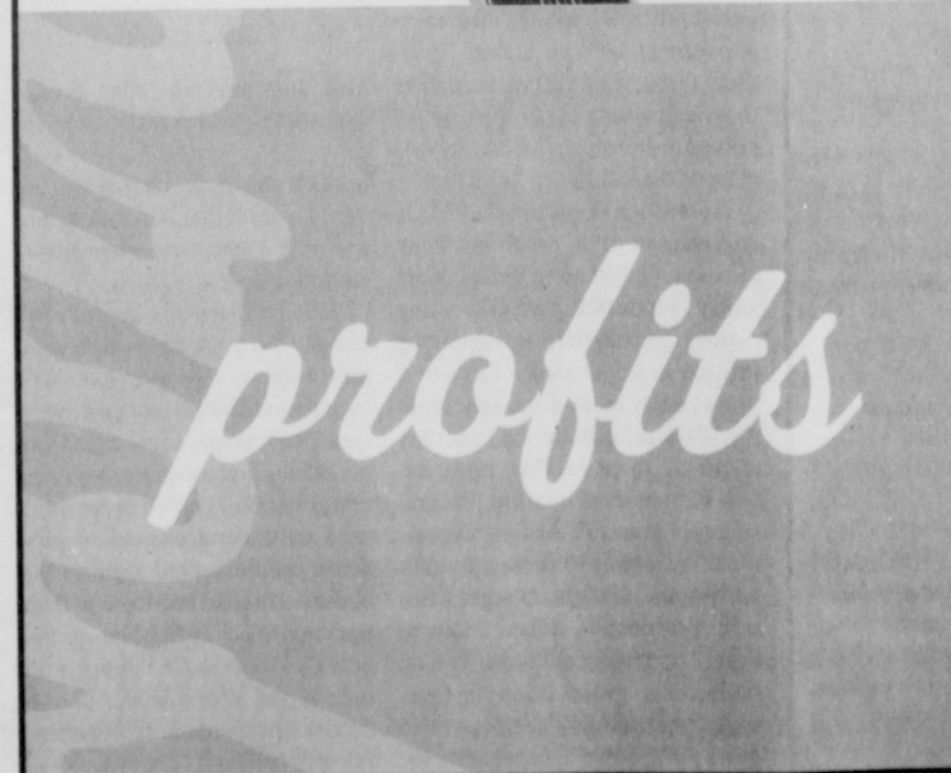
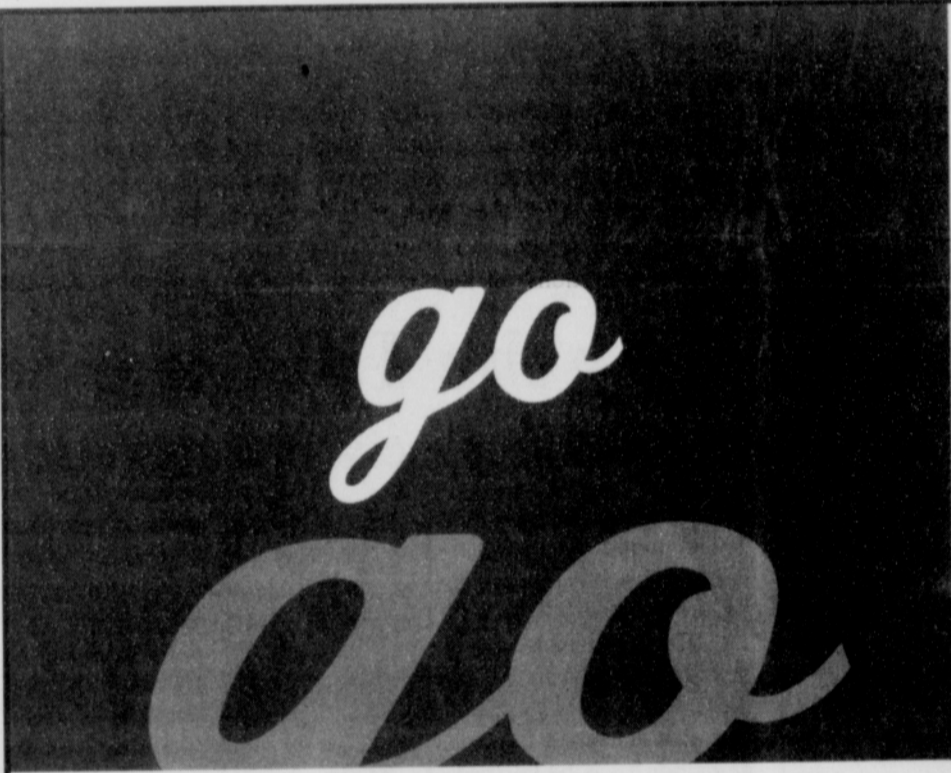
Dear Deanna!

Before I get started, I'll go ahead and be honest. I fell in love with a lady because of her looks. She's very pretty and because of this, I've been giving her material things, money and anything she asks for. Now I realize she's using me, cheating and everything else but I don't know what to do. My friends told me she was a gold digger but I didn't listen. What do I do about this? --Andre; Washington, D.C.

Dear Andre:

Let's fast forward and realize this lady is not a gold digger. She's part of the new breed called Animal Lovers. These are women that want a Jaguar in the garage, a Mink on their back, a Tiger in the bed and a Jackass to pay for everything. Regain your pride and your wallet while you can and simply leave her and keep it moving.

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