

Increases in pay, other requests may have teachers striking

By Leanne Lally
Of The Print

Unless an agreement can be reached between the College faculty and school board, the teachers plan to strike on Oct. 12, they announced Tuesday. A letter announcing the faculty's intent to strike has been mailed to Larry Wright, College board chairman, and the state employment relations board.

Wages have been a key issue in the contract negotiations, which began last spring. At the last bargaining session, the board reportedly offered a 10.5 percent wage and benefit increase, while the faculty association asked for a total package equal to 11.6 percent.

But it's not just the money that has the teachers upset, according to Mark Schmidt, president of the Oregon Education Association. "For the third round of negotiations in a row, the board has forced us to go to factfinding before seriously trying to reach an agreement with us," he said at the Tuesday faculty meeting. "Our position is that we can accept nothing less than the settlement recommended by the factfinder."

The factfinder's report, intended to offer a neutral, third-party analysis of the disputed issues, recommended a total increase of 11.5 percent for salaries and insurance.

Roles studied

The current research and trends in male sex role development will be examined during "Men in Transition" a seminar to be held at the College Oct. 17, at 7 p.m.

The seminar is being co-sponsored by the College's Men's Resource Program and Focus on Women Series.

Vince Fitzgerald, College counselor, will direct the seminar.

The cost of the seminar is \$2 and pre-registration is encouraged. For more information contact the College's counseling department, 656-6631, ext. 266.

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"In the prior two cases, and again this time, the board has rejected the results of the report and called upon the faculty to compromise in less favorable terms than what was reported by the factfinder," Schmidt said. "If we once again negotiate down from the report of the factfinder, we will never put a stop to this strategy of the board of forcing us to go through fruitless negotiations, mediations and factfinding before we can write a contract."

"Some people ask us if we shouldn't be willing to compromise in order to prevent a strike," said Schmidt. "We did prevent strikes in 1975 and 1976 by making major concessions. We think it is the board's turn this time," he said.

According to Allen Hein, of the Oregon Education Association with which the College faculty is affiliated, there has never been a teacher's strike at a community college in Oregon before.

Hein said the College board "is still not in a good faith bargaining position. It's a real pain to go to factfinding when you know it's a futile gesture," Hein added.

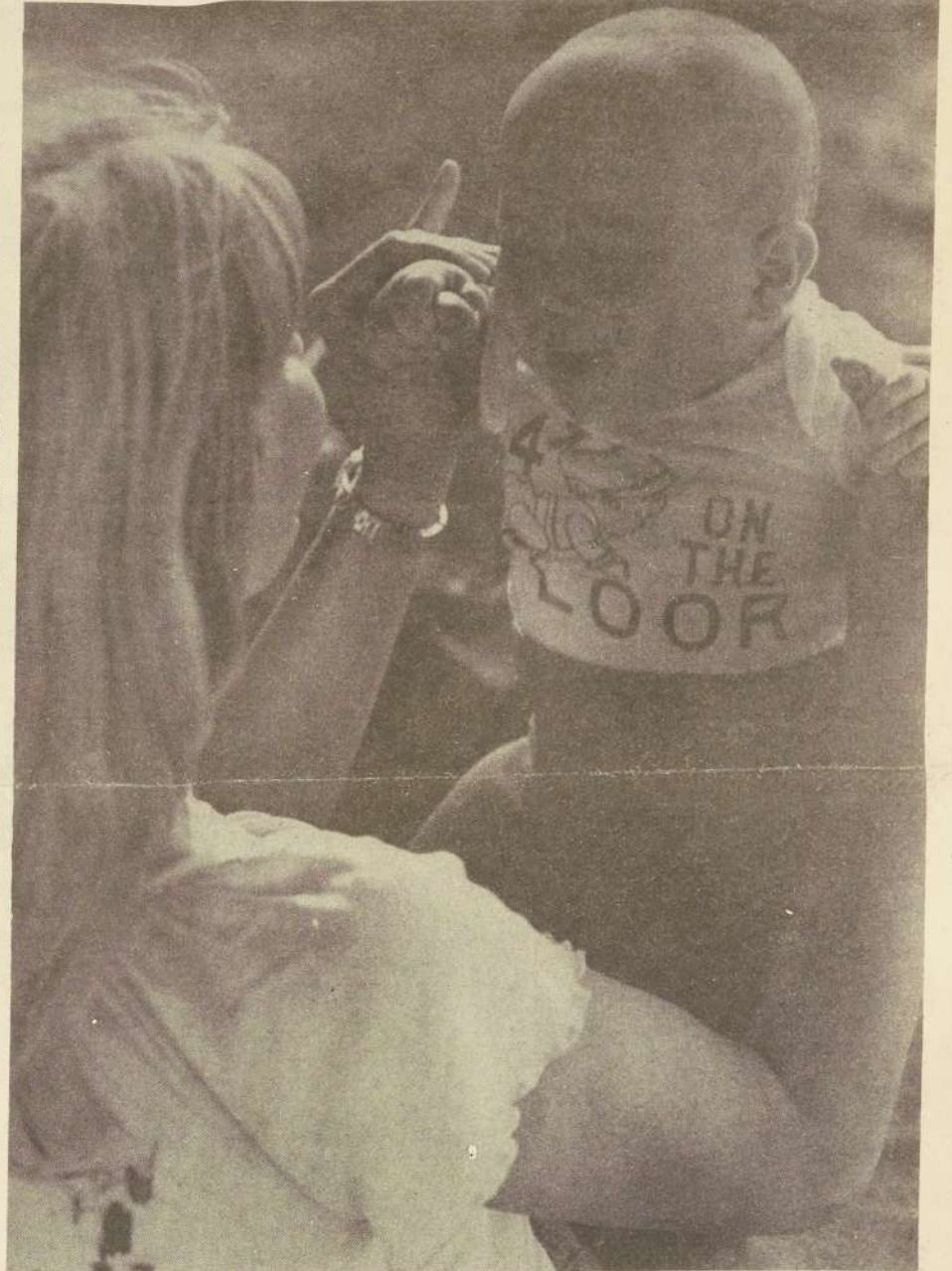
In addition to wages, the two sides are also at odds on policy regarding faculty work hours and faculty members' option to teach summer and overload courses. The faculty association has also requested the contract cover a two-year period.

The board's reaction to the threatened strike is unknown. Bill Ryan, dean of college services, said Tuesday, "I can't speak for the teachers or the board."

Mike Montgomery, negotiator for the board, would make no comment Tuesday about the threatened walk out.

But the faculty position seemed clear at the Tuesday meeting. "It's time to shake up the elite corps," said one instructor. "We have to show them it's not a game."

A school board meeting is scheduled for tonight, when further discussion is expected.



GITCHY GITCHY GOO—Mother and son enjoy Indian Summer on College campus as bright sunshine and warm temperatures beckon to nature lovers to play in the sun. Photo by Duffy Coffman

Doc's starts new year

By Mike Koller
Of The Print

"A really good turnout" was the phrase used by Associated Student Government President Don Porter in describing the opening night of the new school year for Doc Holiday's which was held Sunday.

Doc Holiday's, a pub-disco located on Main Street in downtown Oregon City, was made available to College students last year as an 18-and-over, non-alcoholic disco each Sunday night.

"Disco" is a term Porter believes doesn't totally apply. "They don't just play disco

music, a lot of rock and roll music is also played," Porter emphasized.

Porter expects the turnout will continue to increase as the school year progresses.

"Students are just starting to get comfortable with school. The first week is hectic enough just trying to find where your classes are located. There's not much time to worry about other activities," Porter said.

Porter also stressed that Doc Holiday's is not just for dancing. "Doc Holiday's also serves as a great place to get to know people. It's an excellent

place to take that girl or guy in your English class you've been wanting to ask out," Porter said.

A questionnaire will be given to those attending Doc Holiday's this Sunday, Porter said.

"We hope to get some feedback from the questionnaire by those using Doc Holiday's so we will know if any improvements are needed to make Sunday nights better," Porter said.

Doc Holiday's is open every Sunday night from 8 p.m. to midnight with a \$2 cover charge.

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