

National

ELSEWHERE

Sarah Palin to offer Octomom VP slot in prep for 2012 race

Gov. Sarah Palin announced Tuesday that she will be offering the vice presidential slot of her 2012 presidential campaign to Nadya "Octomom" Suleman, who gave birth to octuplets in January.

"The Octomom has proven that not only can she deliver, but can deliver big."

Palin said at a press conference in the state capitol. "Her achievement is a reminder of just how large and fertile this nation is. That's why I want her on my team."

When asked about Octomom's lack of political experience, Palin replied, "Well, her really big lips should compensate for that."

Palin said her first act in acclimating Octomom to the political process would be to take her on a new wardrobe shopping spree at taxpayer expense.

As to whether Octomom would be having any more children, Palin winked and said, "Ask me again in three and a half years."

Presidential historian Ruth Grace Kercheval said if elected, Octomom would be the first VP named after a cephalopod.

Protest artists having a difficult time transitioning to Obama

Sitting in a downtown warehouse space among signage and paper mache puppets, protest and rally artist Howe Vignen seems out of sorts.

"I've really found myself at a creative impasse. What with this new administration, the demand for protests has really dropped off. I used to churn out all kinds of stuff. Nobody wants it anymore. But, truthfully, I don't even know what I would make if someone asked."

According to Petition Accountant Mary Grebe at City Hall, those applications are down 80 percent over last year.

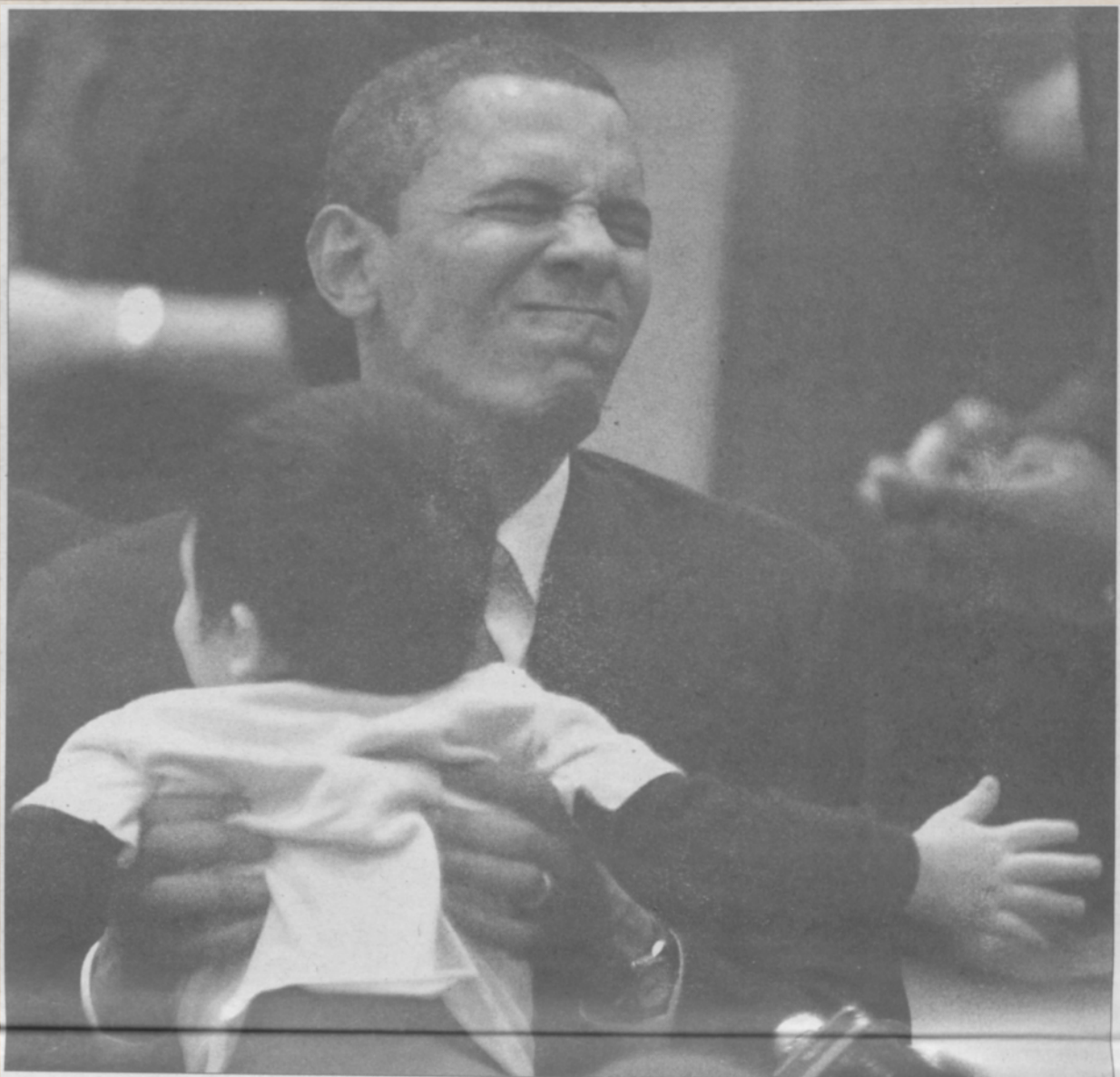
Activist Jorge Britte, found at a recent nine-hole disc golf game at Kenilworth Park, told reporters that he just "can't get a steam on, I'm just too hopeful that everything's gonna be okay. I think we should just give it some time, three - four years maybe." Gathering up his 170g driver disc, he got back into the game.

Meanwhile, back at the warehouse, the air riddled with dust motes, artist Vignen stares woefully at his triple-headed "Asses of Evil" puppet. "What am I supposed to do with this now?"

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President Obama squeezes a child to demonstrate a basic flatulence-extraction process for his renewable-energy plan.

PHOTO BY STR NEW

Obama releases new energy plan

BY UVGATA B. KITTING
UNEMPLOYED WRITER

Rebuking critics who say his administration has taken on too many complex tasks, President Obama has announced a bold initiative to tackle the twin problems of renewable energy and childhood obesity.

At a packed East Room press conference, the president outlined his plan to harness the flatulence of obese children to create a sustainable energy resource.

"For years," the president said, "the operating theme in schoolyards across America has been, 'He who smelt it, dealt it.' Well," he said, gazing sternly at the assembled reporters, "my administration is going to deal with it."

Using a PowerPoint demonstration on a laptop powered by a corpulent 9-year-old seated beside him, the president displayed

charts illustrating the potential energy output of an obese child. "Our calculations show that a single pre-teen butterball who has just eaten at McDonald's is capable of producing 5,000 BTU, or Bowel Thermal Units - a measure comparable to the standard British Thermal Unit," Mr. Obama said.

"People, that is enough to power an average household air conditioner. Our research further shows that if the child eats at Taco Bell, the energy output can be increased to almost 9,000 BTU. That's nothing to sneeze at, although you may want to hold your nose anyway," the grinning president said, drawing laughter from the press corps and an inadvertent toot from the Washington Post correspondent. "See, Bob knows what I'm talking about," the president said, pointing at the ink-stained wretch and waving his

other hand in front of his nose.

Turning serious again, Mr. Obama said, "In the same manner that my administration is attempting to rescue our hobbled banking system by investing in 'toxic assets,' we can rescue America's chunky children by investing in their toxic asses, if you will. We can boost their self-esteem as we boost the nation's energy self-reliance."

"And I'm not just talking about America's energy future in some abstract terms," he added. "I'm talking about jobs."

"Converting classroom chairs in schools across the nation to tap this abundant resource will be no small task. It will require a massive infrastructure overhaul."

Concluding his conference, the president said, "There is a change in the wind. You can practically smell it."

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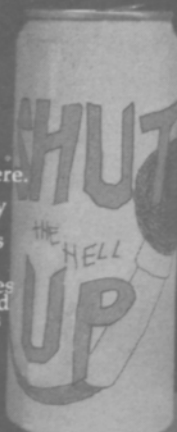
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