

Happy Father's Day

Dead in
the water



Below

Herndon to
be delegate?



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Nike
swooshes into NE

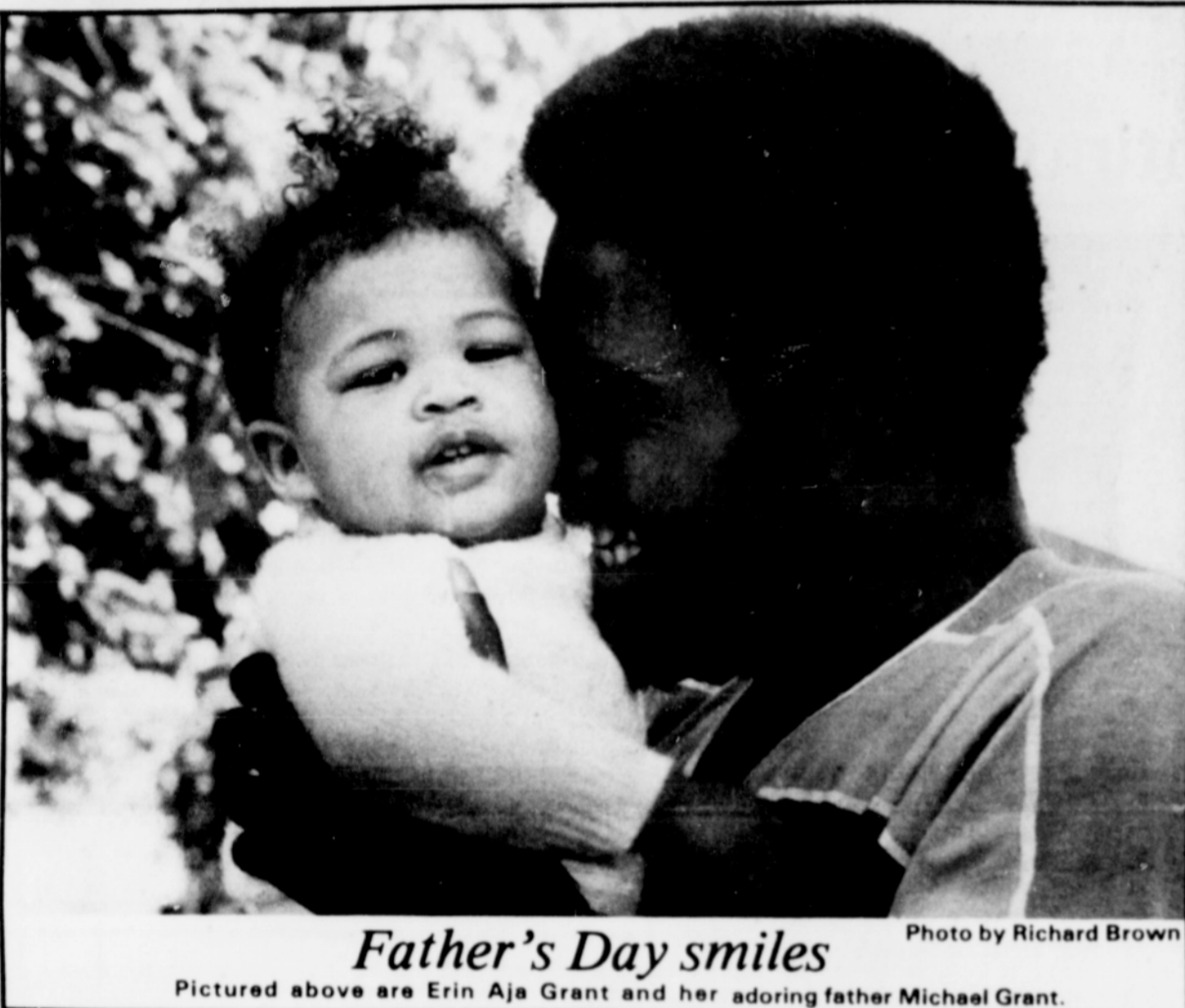


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Father's Day smiles

Photo by Richard Brown

Pictured above are Erin Aja Grant and her adoring father Michael Grant.

Union takes on PP&L

by Chuck Goodmacher

"Your stock could be affected by PP&L's labor relations policies." This was the message brought to stockholders of Pacific Power and Light by officials of the United Mine Workers, Wednesday, at the corporation's annual meeting at the Lloyd Center Red Lion Inn.

Cecil Roberts, International Vice-president of the United Mine Worker's Union, told the *Observer* a "corporate campaign" against Pacific Power and Light (PP&L) is needed to force the corporation to bargain in good faith with the union representatives of the 330 miners of the Decker coal mine near Sheridan, Wyoming. PP&L owns 100 percent of Nerco, Inc., which owns 50 percent of the Decker mine.

Gerard K. Drummond, president of Nerco, claims his company is not responsible for negotiations. Rather, he said, the co-owner (Peter Kiewit and Sons) has responsibility for labor contracts and Nerco only "monitors" the process. Drummond also said, "there has been an extremely large number of meetings in which good faith bargaining has occurred."

He added, Nerco "did not ask for any concessions," but also stated,

"we have asked for some employee participation in sharing medical costs (the company now pays 100 percent.)"

United Mine Workers purchased PP&L stock specifically so they could attend, and speak to, the corporation's annual stockholder's meeting. UMW spokesperson Joe Corcoran said the union was present to "let the community at large know what kind of labor relations climate PP&L has outside of Portland."

The UMW won the right to represent Decker's 330 miners last August when they defeated the "Progressive Mineworkers Union," a union they say is basically weak and company oriented. Since then, says Roberts, the company has "not negotiated in good faith," and called tactics "an attempt to force an extended strike 'during which time, 'the company will replace the workers.'"

In a letter to Don C. Frisbee, Chairman of PP&L, United Mine Worker president Richard Trumka wrote:

"I am writing to ask that you take immediate action to prevent a major confrontation between your company and members of our Union.

"I am sure you have heard of so-

called 'corporate campaigns' that union members have been forced to undertake to win fair collective bargaining agreements with unreasonable employers such as J.P. Stevens.

"Your company soon will become the target of such a campaign unless you begin to bargain seriously with our members at the Decker Coal Company mine near Sheridan, Wyoming."

Roberts said the effort against PP&L is to be "a full-scale corporate campaign, similar in nature to the J.P. Stevens campaign a few years ago." He added, "We don't want a major confrontation with PP&L but if we have to, we'll take them on."

Frank Shurter, secretary of UMW local 1972, which represents the miners at Decker, says the union enjoys tremendous support there. Shurter says ninety percent of the miners have voluntarily signed UMW dues check-off cards; something they are not required to do until after a contract has been reached.

The United Mine Workers of America has 225,000 members throughout twenty different states and two provinces of Canada.

Literacy project lacks space

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W.—Tyrone Hines, director of the North/Northeast Literacy Project, recently indicted the administration of Portland Community College's Cascade campus with failure to provide the necessary institutional support to run a successful literacy program within the community.

"The Cascade Campus originally agreed to give the project space to operate but the space is visible to all. In our first two weeks, I had no desk until finally they gave me one that was falling apart at the seams. After three weeks, I received a telephone, and since February 13th, I have been given five different phone extensions."

Hines said these circumstances have negatively effected his program. "I have to interview people in a 4 x 4 open space. It is a big step when our clients admit they need help. But when they come to me, many will not come back because they are intimidated by the environment."

James VanDyke, Executive Dean of the Cascade campus, admitted the institution had not given Hines adequate space.

"But on May 15th, I promised him additional space which he has now. As soon as the Commercial Arts project is completed, he will move into a private office."

When asked why a program, which demands privacy, like the literacy project, did not have a private office, Van Dyke replied, "It is the nature of this institution that we do not have private offices. The faculty members are in open office areas and Hines has what other people have."

Van Dyke added that he was not aware of Hines' five different telephone extensions, but said the college had been in the process of having its phone system adjusted. "I anticipated him moving to



Literacy Project Director Tyrone Hines (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

private quarters so I could not see spending \$90.00 to move his extension when we would have had to move it again.

Hines said during the last five months he had identified space opening up, but whenever he requested its utilization, he was always denied.

Van Dyke added that Hines was not alone with inadequate space. The entire campus is experiencing a space crunch which will be alleviated once the construction on the new classroom building is completed.

Hines said, "I have no complaints with other programs on campus, but the programs for ethnic minorities' needs are given very little space to operate from. I want the community to become aware of the fact that P.C.C. Cascade is giving lip service to the community by saying they are committed to the community. But they are not backing up their vocal commitment with action."

Currently, Hines is looking for new space to house the Literacy project and is meeting his clients

either at the North Portland Branch Library, at their homes, or in Cascade's cafeteria.

NAACP to hear Clark

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has invited Mayor-Elect Bud Clark to meet with them at the regular Branch Meeting to be held on the third Sunday, June 17th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Avenue. Rev. O.B. Williams is the host pastor. The public is invited.

"Since we are to have a change in our city administration, we thought the sooner we could make the acquaintance of our mayor-to-be the better," Mrs. Hazel G. Hays, Branch President said. "...We wanted him to have the opportunity to meet with our community" Hays continued, especially since general meetings are not held in July and August.

Protestors greet Navy on Bridge

by Robert Lothian

As fireboats sprayed huge fountains of river water and helicopters buzzed overhead, 30 protestors stopped the Rose Festival fleet for an hour Thursday by refusing to move from the Burnside Bridge.

The U.S.S. Leahy, flagship of the fleet, lay dead in the water with a retinue of attending tugboats. The protestors said the Leahy, a 550-foot-long state-of-the-art guided missile cruiser, and other ships in the fleet, were nuclear capable. They said the ships might be carrying nuclear weapons into Portland, putting the city in danger. At least one of the ships, they said, had been part of the fleet sent to Central America in President Reagan's latest round of gunboat diplomacy.

"We've stopped the boat, we've succeeded!" exclaimed one of the bridge blockaders. "No warships in Portland" and "Welcome Sailors But Not Your Nukes," read banners hung from the bridge rail.

Portland police were taken by surprise. They joked and bantered with those on the bridge as they waited for orders and paddy wagons. Seven protestors were arrested and charged with "unlawful use of a bridge by pedestrians," a violation rather than a crime, which carries a maximum penalty of a \$100 fine.

A coalition of groups sponsored the protest, including Alert Latin America, New Clear Vision, No Minor Cause, Northwest Action for Disarmament, and People's Clearinghouse.

"We don't welcome these ships to the City of Portland," said Ada Sanchez, 30, of People's Clearinghouse. "They are not something fun to take kids on. They are not fun ships. They are death ships."



Portland Police officers remove protestor Norman Solomon from the Burnside Bridge as demonstrators gathered, Thursday, in an effort to delay the nuclear fleet's participation in last weekend's Rose Festival. (Photo: Kris Altucher)

"They have no place in the Rose Festival," said Lisa Stein, 23.

Not everyone agreed with the protestors. "I think this is crazy," said Lloyd Clark of Tucson, Ariz., who was visiting for the Rose Festival. "Good going, boys," he said to the police after they made the arrests.

Floyd Thompson of Aloha was on the ship, having participated in an excursion from Astoria sponsored by the Navy League. "We were hoping the fireboats would spray them off the bridge," he said.

Navy Regional Public Affairs Officer Lt. Cmdr. John Marchi, who was also on the ship, said the protest "really wasn't much of a problem," although the sailors anxious for their shore leave were a little disappointed. A senior admiral of the Pacific Fleet, C.A. "Pete" Easterling, was also on board, he said.

"That's why we're in uniform and that's exactly what we do," said Marchi, "is to protect the right of those people on the bridge to do what they do."

Marchi said it was the policy of the Defense Department to neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on Navy ships. According to material furnished by Marchi, the Leahy served as flagship for the New Jersey Battle Group off the coast of Central America in 1983.

The ship is named after Fleet Admiral William Daniel Leahy, who, among other things, was chief of staff in the Nicaraguan Occupation of 1912 and the Haitian Campaign of 1916. The Leahy is armed with surface-to-air missiles, anti-submarine rockets, torpedoes, cruise missiles and the Close-In Weapons System.