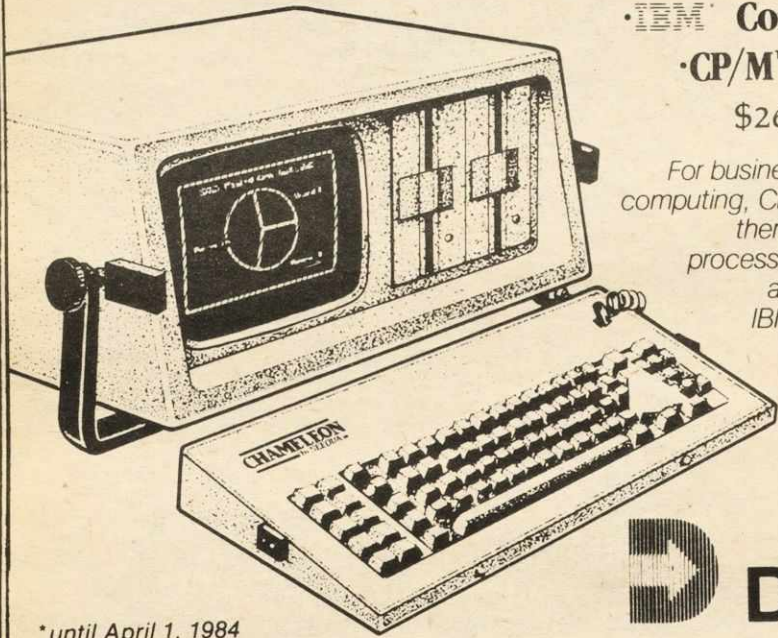


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McNeil says wages are the big issue. People are working there for years and only earning \$4.00-4.50/hr. where other nursing home employees are earning \$6.00-7.40/hr. The Glades strikers want parallel pay or "damn close to it," said McNeil. Other issues are job security, union recognition, maternity-leave and sick days—which were non-existent before the union. "We don't intend to back down. We'll stick together until we win," he stated.

"The strike has brought us closer together," said Eastman. She said they're like a big family now. "We're proud that we're standing fighting," she added.

Rita Eastman, who worked at the nursing home for almost three years as a cleaner before the strike started, said everything was smooth until the workers unionized in July of 1982. Trouble started when four out of five members of the executive were fired. Because she was the fifth, Eastman was put under pressure by Keddy to quit; for example, she was assigned extra work.

The other four executives were eventually re-hired after they

went to the labour board to complain.


When the workers began to strike, they figured that one or two months would be the maximum it would last. They never counted on Keddy to react the way he did, said Eastman. And when Sid and Gloria Hussaine bought the nursing home they again expected the strike to come to an end, but the Hussaines preferred to not get involved.

Eastman, McNeil and Lutley all state that they're willing to picket as long as they have to, or "longer even". Eastman said, "Each day makes me stronger and stronger. Those are our jobs and we're going to get them back." She claims that the only time she felt like throwing in the towel was when she was under pressure to quit.

They feel their demands aren't unreasonable. There are people who've been working for sixteen to eighteen years without a paid sick-day.

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