



HEADWAY

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September 1979

Downes repeats as RTD Roadeo champ, heads for national finals in New York



NUMBER ONE — Division 2 operator John Downes (center) is hoisted atop the shoulders of fellow operators after winning his second consecutive RTD Roadeo championship. General Superintendent of Transportation Jack Walsh offers congratulations and a handshake.

When John Downes steps aboard a jet plane bound for the Big Apple later this month he will be embarking upon a real busman's holiday. For the second consecutive year the 34-year-old Division 2 operator will be representing the RTD and its more than 4,500 operators at the International Bus Roadeo sponsored by the American Public Transit Association (APTA).

Downes earned the right to compete against the top operators from 60 of the nation's transit agencies at the Fourth Annual competition, set for September 24-25 in New York City, by emerging atop all scorers in the RTD Roadeo Finals held Sunday, August 5, at Santa Anita Race Track.

An eight-year employee of the District, Downes scored 652 out of a possible 700 points to barely nip Division 12's Howard Brenchley, who tallied 650 points. The finish mirrored last year's finale when Brenchley also finished second to Downes, who represented the District in Toronto. Brenchley was the 1977 RTD Roadeo winner.

Third place honors were captured by Ignacio Gonzalez of Division 9, who scored 633 points.

For their efforts, the winners received cash awards. Downes, in addition to the trip to New York, (Please turn to page 7)

EASIER PUBLIC IDENTIFICATION

Firm developing 'new look' for District

A new look is in the offing at the Southern California Rapid Transit District with work now underway to

develop new graphic designs for RTD buses, bus stop signs and the familiar RTD logo.



DISCUSSION — George McDonald (right), Manager of Planning and Marketing, and design consultant Saul Bass discuss proposed new graphic designs for District buses, bus stop signs and public symbols.

The Board of Directors recently awarded a contract to the Los Angeles firm of Saul Bass/Herb Yager and Associates for design consultant services to assist the District in the program.

The Visual Identification Program is presently in the research and analysis phase. Soon the Bass/Yager organization will present its initial findings and recommendations to the board and, then, development of new graphics (including an updated version of the RTD symbol) will get underway.

The first major use of the identification system is planned for the 230 Advance Design Buses to be delivered in early 1980.

"We are making major changes at the RTD and the time is right to evaluate our visible graphics," said board president Marvin Holen. "We are looking toward new and improved designs for identifying the RTD."

Holen noted that in addition to the 1,200 new buses the District is in the process of acquiring, a program has been initiated to develop new bus stop information signs to be installed at the 30,000 passenger boarding sites in the District's 2,200-square-mile service area.

Acting on the recommendation of the Bass/Yager organization, the District will use an interim design on the 3,500 bus information signs to be installed at all stops in the San Fernando Valley beginning in October.

The new signs, made of fiber-reinforced polyester, will be attached to the bus stop sign pole in a cube configuration. The signs will contain information about the times, destinations and routes of lines serving the stop.

"Thousands of people, many of them unfamiliar with public transit, have turned to the RTD during these times of increasing gasoline costs and scarcity," said General Manager Jack Gilstrap. "An improved identification and communication program will help solve some of the problems that developed during the May gasoline shortages."

Major improvements in services affecting nearly half the lines operated by the District also are planned in 1980. Gilstrap pointed out that completion of the Visual Identification Program will help the District make these changes more efficiently and effectively.

FACET OF CONTINGENCY PLAN

District survey finds flex time increasing

Seeds planted when the RTD Board of Directors approved an energy shortage contingency plan in May are beginning to bear fruit.

One of the major facets of the plan was the voluntary staggering

of work hours — particularly in the Regional Core surrounding Wilshire Boulevard — to enable District buses that were already operating at or near capacity to accommodate more riders.

Since the gasoline crunch struck in May, the use of flexible working hours has become a popular practice in Southern California. Staggered work hours allow more people to ride District buses during the early morning and late evening rush hours, the periods when 50 per cent of all passengers use RTD buses.

A recent survey of 42 major Southland employers, conducted by RTD Manager of Market Research Jackie Matosian, showed that 18 used one form of flex time or another, while five employed a short work week.

In general, the employers contacted used a variety of flex time schedules, with one firm permitting employees to arrive for work between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m., and another permitting its employees to arrange their work schedules between 6:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Employers using flex time have noted many side benefits, including reduced employee tardiness and sick leave, and increased productivity, the survey revealed. Flexible work hours also have enabled employees to adjust their work hours to fit bus or carpool schedules, thus producing more ride sharing and cutting down on the consumption of gasoline.

"We have only so many buses in the fleet," said board president Marvin Holen in praising those companies who have implemented flex time schedules. "We obviously can carry more people under less crowded conditions if the traditional morning and evening commuter rush hour periods are expanded."

In other crunch-related items, the *Los Angeles Times* has initiated a program of offering RTD monthly bus passes at half price to its employees.

"This represents a most significant step taken by a major employer in downtown Los Angeles to encourage the use of public transportation," said General Manager Jack Gilstrap. "The Times is setting an example for large em-

ployers which we hope others will follow."

Under the program, Times employees can purchase RTD passes through payroll deduction at work, with the newspaper paying for 50 per cent of the cost of each employee's pass. RTD timetables and free literature have been placed on display in the Employee's Center of the Times Mirror Square building downtown.

Elsewhere, in an effort to encourage commuting to work by bus, Rockwell officials in Canoga Park held an RTD Bus Week for employees at their Rocketdyne and Energy Systems Group facilities.

The District was invited to set up permanent bus information displays emphasizing bus routes in the San Fernando Valley. In addition, RTD Community Relations Representatives were on hand during the three-day affair giving special presentations explaining available District services.

Rockwell highlighted the event by a drawing among the employees at each facility during which two \$50 monthly bus passes were raffled off. The drawing helped to announce the sale of monthly bus passes on a permanent basis at both facilities.

"We are encouraged by the support and foresight of the organizers of Rockwell's RTD Bus Week," commented Ruth Richter, RTD board vice-president who represents the San Fernando Valley region. "We're pleased to see influential companies like Rockwell emphasizing public transportation as a method of solving energy problems."

Finally, two new Customer Service Centers opened their doors for the sale of monthly passes and the dispensing of free timetables and information. The new centers, the eighth and ninth operated by the District, are located in Redondo Beach, for the South Bay Area, and at Division 5, for South Central Los Angeles.

Commendations

(Editor's note: Quoted below are excerpts from just a few of the letters praising District operators which are received daily by Customer Relations. All commendation letters are reported to the operator by his division manager and a copy is placed in the operator's personnel file).

Melvin E. Braxton, Division 6: "He averted an accident by his quick thinking and composure. A car ran through a red light headed north. The bus was already in the intersection but seeing the way the car was headed directly toward the bus, this alert driver quickly swerved the bus into an adjacent street. His quick thinking and alertness saved a thankful group of passengers. His only comment was, 'It's all in my day's work'."

C.M. Williams, Division 5: "I wish to commend your operator for his conduct in handling a problem with a passenger who boarded the bus and presented an invalid transfer. When the driver informed him that his transfer was no good, the passenger proceeded to the rear of the bus, talking loudly and abusively, using foul language. His friends followed him to the rear of the bus. The driver, although small in stature, stood his ground and told them the bus would not continue on until the passenger who would not pay his fare left the bus. The incident could have erupted into violence, but (your driver) was their match. He is an asset to your company."

Arthur D. Fleming, Division 9: "I am not a frequent rider of the RTD, having resumed riding the bus during the recent gas shortage, but I have never seen a more courteous driver. He greets each passenger and thanks them for the fare they deposit. He wishes each one well as they depart. He waits for passengers to get to the bus stop so they will not miss their bus, and he is throughout cheerful and helpful. He gives directions to passengers inquiring about other lines and shows remarkable patience."

Harvey I. Stafford, Division 5: This past Sunday I enjoyed a very pleasant ride. (The driver) was exceptionally kind, courteous and considerate. Unlike others, he called out every street name, made sure that the handicapped were properly seated, he relieved their anxiety by informing that he will get them off at their destination, and he did not jerk his bus while the passengers were still walking down the aisle to find seats. I am sure all the passengers on his bus are touched by his thoughtfulness."

Clarence Andres, Division 12: "He seems to be extremely knowledgeable of the L.A. area freeway systems as well as surface streets, so as to provide prompt delivery of all his passengers to their destinations regardless of the traffic conditions. He is always helpful and greets his customers with a smile, which I know must be difficult at the end of a long, traffic-filled day."

Frank K. Lilley, Division 5: "I have been riding the 877 three times a week for about 18 months. My destination is the Culver City Senior Center. We all have noticed and appreciate the fine gentleman who is the driver of the bus. He is always helpful to all, patient with seniors and disabled passengers, pleasant, courteous and has a smile for everyone. The ride is smooth and always on time."

Mary Collins, Division 6: "I really enjoyed myself on the bus the other day and the reason was the driver. She was great! She called out the approaching streets as well as the bus lines' numbers. In the back of the bus some young people were arguing and yelling at each other. She handled the situation with a cool head, competently carrying out her driving (which was excellent) and her concern for her passengers."

Ernest R. Edwards, Division 5: "The consideration and courtesy shown us by your driver was outstanding. He is an excellent driver, watches for the safety of his passengers as well as being very adept at handling people."

Mervin M. Taylor, Division 18: "Very consistent in his manner, he is always polite, on schedule, patient and responsive to all riders in spite of provocations."

Classified

- Brand new 20 piece "waterless" cookware set by Queen. 3-ply, 18-8 Stainless Steel. Regular price is \$329.50. For sale \$199. Call Carmelita after 6:30 p.m. at (714) 598-8245.

- 1961 Rambler American, six cylinder, stick shift, good gas mileage, good shape, four-door. \$500. Days or evenings, (213) 268-4779.

- Dining table and four chairs. Bought in 1919 from Barker Brothers. Like new. \$160. Evenings call, (213) 657-0714.

- 1979 Harley Davidson 1000 c.c., custom paint, mag wheels, king and queen seat with sissy bar and chrome accessories. \$3,400 (worth over \$4,000). Call anytime (213) 843-2033.



INFORMATION — Rockwell Energy Systems Group employees visit the RTD Bus Week display to find out how to commute to work by bus. RTD Community Relations Representative Mary Lou Echter-nach (second from right) was on hand to answer questions.

EX-AIR FORCE COLONEL

Davis chosen for top maintenance position

Rich Davis, a retired Air Force Colonel, has been appointed General Superintendent of Maintenance and Equipment for the District, under the administrative direction of Manager of Operations Sam Black.

Davis is a native Californian, born and raised in the Santa Cruz-Paso Robles area. He did his undergraduate study at the University of California, Berkley, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mining and Civil Engineering. He has a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma.

During his 23-year tenure with the Air Force Davis, 45, dealt with all aspects of the hardware business, including acquisition, testing, maintenance and flight operations. He is a former test pilot and was the personal pilot for the United States Ambassador in Vietnam.

His military career included a seven-year tour of duty in Europe where he says he, "became a firm believer in mass transit, especially the type of integrated system where bus and rail lines complement each other."

When he was transferred to California two years ago he decided this was where he wanted to stay.

"It took me 21 years to get back to California and I decided I didn't want to leave again," he recalls. "When I heard about the General Superintendent's job I elected to retire from the Air Force."

Davis thinks the experience he gained in the military will serve him well with the District.

"The principles and problems are similar," he explained. "We do all the same things but by different names— training people, adapting to new technologies, keeping up with public demands for more while trying to get a longer service life from your equipment."



NEW MAN — Rich Davis, a retired Air Force Colonel, has been named General Superintendent of Maintenance and Equipment. He will be headquartered at Maintenance General at Division 2.

The age of the District's fleet (which averages 12 years old) is nothing new to Davis. He says one of the facts most people in America do not realize is that the planes defending this country are 17 years old on the average.

Davis says his primary goal will be to provide quality equipment that is clean and reliable.

His duties will include planning, organizing and directing the daily operation of the maintenance divi-

sions, shops and facility maintenance sections; administering the daily servicing, inspecting and repair of District vehicles and developing and implementing departmental policies and procedures.

Davis is married and he and wife Anne will make their home in Huntington Beach. He has five children: Valerie, 22 (a recent graduate of UCLA); Deirdre, 21; Andrea, 18; and twin sons, Kyle and Colin, 11.

Jay B. Price elected to third term on District's Board of Directors

Director Jay B. Price has been elected to his third consecutive term on the Southern California Rapid Transit District Board of Directors by the Southeast Corridor City Selection Committee.

Price, a Bell City Councilman, will serve on the board for a four-year term.

First elected to the board in September, 1971, Price's involvement with the RTD is only one facet of a long career in public service.

A resident of Bell for more than three decades, Price held the post of Mayor of that city in 1958, 1962, 1968 and 1974.

He was a United States Treasury Officer for 35 years before retiring. He has served as president, vice-president and secretary of the Southeast Mosquito Abatement District. He now is a director of County Sanitation Districts 1 and 2 and is a member of the Advisory Council to the Los Angeles County Library System, Fourth Region.

During World War II, Price served as a medical officer with the United States Maritime Service.

As Director from the Southeast Corridor, also known as Corridor A, Price represents the cities of Artesia, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cerritos, Commerce, Compton, Cudahy, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Huntington Park, La Mirada, Lakewood, Long Beach, Lynwood, Maywood, Montebello, Norwalk, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, South Gate, Vernon and Whittier.

Price is also a member of the First Christian Church of Bell, where he serves as a Deacon and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The only person on the 11-member RTD Board of

Directors with more seniority than Price is Director Thomas Neusom, who was appointed by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn in May, 1969.



JAY B. PRICE

Super Sundays continue

RTD patrons will continue to enjoy Super Sundays until the end of January next year as a result of actions taken by the District's Board of Directors at a recent meeting.

Sale of the \$1 Super Sunday tickets, which allows unlimited riding throughout Los Angeles County, has been extended six months through January 1980.

As of Sunday, July 1, more than 172,000 of the special discount fare tickets had been sold.

Approved by the Board on December 19, 1978, the Super Sunday program was put into effect on February 4, 1979, for the three-fold purpose of increasing Sunday patronage, of attracting new riders to the system by demonstrating the convenience and economy offered by the District and of increasing the public's awareness of RTD's extensive service area and the use of RTD for recreational and sightseeing trips on weekends.

Manager of Planning and Marketing George McDonald said the program received a big boost from the tight gasoline situation that developed in May, resulting in ticket sales more than doubling over the 5,000 sold when the program began.

It is also interesting to note that several other transit properties around the country are offering similar programs as inducements to increase weekend patronage.



Singer puts it all together for RTD

After eight years in the entertainment business as half of the Beverly and Charlie Foxx Revue and despite several successful recording efforts, Beverly Witherspoon decided to look for something different to do.

She found it.

Beverly can be found just about any working day at the South Park Shops, in the Body Shop, generally in the back of a bus, its floor boards torn up, standing amidst air hoses, wires, and girders, torch in hand, welding back together what age or an accident has torn asunder.

Now known as Beverly Witherspoon-Tucker since her July 8 marriage, she is a bus frame welder and, by all accounts, a very good one. She has traded the glare of the spotlight for the glare of an arc welder. The sexy outfits from her entertainment days have been replaced by the mechanic's baggy, white overalls, asbestos gloves and a welder's mask.

This native of Alabama was a little surprised when she discovered that she was the District's first female mechanic to last through the probationary period. Where she comes from, female welders are commonplace.

It's a long road from singing professionally to welding bus frames, but Beverly still looks like she could step out of her overalls and onto a stage without missing a beat. Singing was something she had always wanted to do, following the example set by her mother.

She enjoyed moderate success at her craft, including a hit single, "Mockingbird," which still gets occasional air play. Beverly says she is still under contract to a local company, Soul Town Records, but that mainly involves recording studio work as a back-up vocalist.

When she decided to change careers, she again looked to her family for guidance. Several relatives were working at ship-building companies in nearby Pascagoula, Mississippi, so she entered a training program at the Ingle Ship Building Company and became a frame welder. She spent the next five years working on warships.

About four years ago, seeking another change of scenery, Beverly moved to Southern California

and managed a small store. She was hired by RTD last November as a utility.

"I didn't even know the District had welders until I saw the notice on the job board one day," she recalled. She bid for the welder's position and was promoted in late April.

"It's not at all unusual to find women welders in the shipyards," she said. "In fact, at Ingle's the women actually outnumbered the men when I was there. I was very glad to get back to it (welding) and like the work here."

Beverly admits she was something of a curiosity for the other South Park maintenance employees when she first started work as a production welder. Body Shop Supervisor Ted Desy recalled, "I could usually tell where Beverly was working because there would be a half-dozen guys around watching her."

Desy remembers that his first thought, upon being told by South Parks Shops Superintendent Bob Falvey that a woman welder was on the way, was "this could mean trouble."

"To tell you the truth, I was hoping she would be fat and ugly so she would not create a distraction. Well, she's not fat and ugly, but I haven't regretted her coming from day one. We're all very glad to have her aboard. She's a very hard worker, she learns fast and Bev is always willing to help out on any job that needs to be done," Desy said.

Beverly said that she felt very rusty when she first returned to welding since she had been away from it for nearly four years, but adds that people at the shop have been very helpful. "She's improving all the time," said Desy.

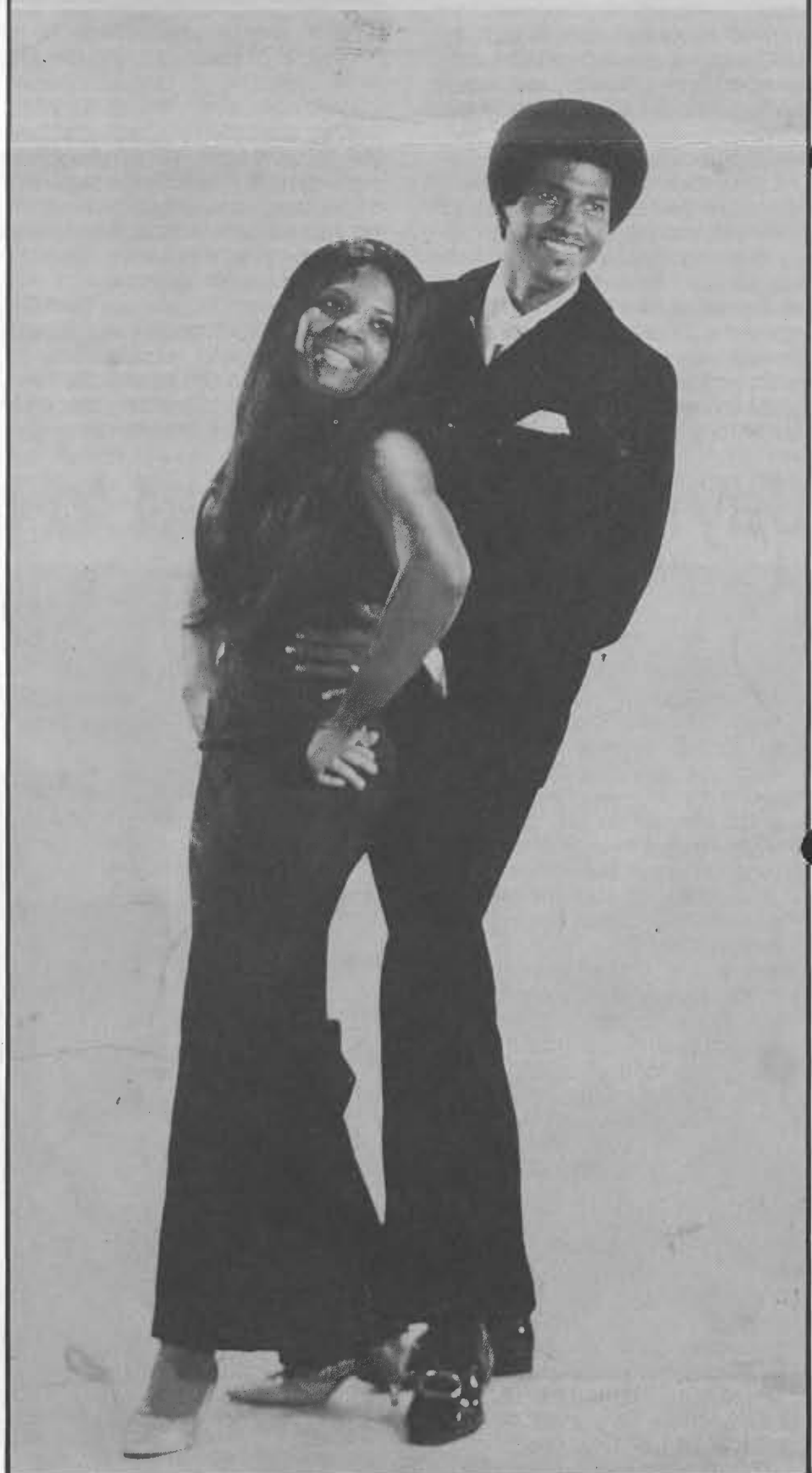
A firm believer in always moving forward and always attempting to better herself, Beverly says that she does not plan to return to the entertainment business. In fact, she likes her job with the District so much that she has no plans at the moment other than to keep doing what she's doing.

But, if at some point in the future she should decide to change jobs or careers, you can bet that whatever she does will be different.



The way we were

It's a long road from the stagelights of the East Coast to the South Park Shops but Beverly Witherspoon-Tucker (above, left) has made the trip. Before becoming a Mechanic B Welder for the District, Beverly was half of the Beverly and Charlie Foxx Revue (below).



Softball playoffs top recreation calendar

The Summer Softball League's playoff season is in full swing at the moment with the top teams battling for the title of best in the RTD while a consolation championship also is being decided. The playoffs will culminate on Sunday, September 23, with the consolation title decider slated for 9 a.m. and the championship slugfest set for 11 a.m. Both games will be contested at Van Ness Park, immediately behind Division 5. Everyone is encouraged to come out and participate in this event.

Summer may be waning, but the outdoor concert season is not over yet. On Saturday, September 22, the "Divine Miss M," Bette Midler, will bring her unique style of showmanship to the Greek Theatre. \$17.50 tickets are available for \$17. Showtime is 8:30 p.m.

Nothing is quite as beautiful as a ballet, especially when it is performed by the world-famous Bolshoi Ballet Company. The Recreation Department is offering two of their great performances at discount prices to RTD employees, retirees and their immediate family. Swan Lake on Wednesday, September 12, and Romeo and Juliet on Saturday, September 15. Each performance, which features the full corps de ballet with symphony orchestra, offers \$22 orchestra seats for \$20.

Sunday, September 16, from 4

p.m. to midnight is your last chance to visit Disneyland this summer for the special discount price of \$5 for RTD employees and \$5.75 for guests. Disneyland is putting together a special surprise attraction for this event.

If you are feeling lucky you might want to take a chance on the Las Vegas Weekend trip set for October 12. \$50 is the price that includes bus transportation, lodging at the Rainbow Vegas Hotel and funbooks for the downtown area.

If you ever wanted to visit a real cattle ranch, participate in a Rodeo and go on an old-fashioned hay ride after enjoying a delicious Bar-b-que steak dinner, now's your chance. On Saturday, November 10, the District will saddle up and head out to the Quarter Moon Ranch in the Chihuahua Valley for a visit to the old West. For \$22.50 adults, \$18.50 children (4-10) you can be bused from El Monte Station to a day at a cattle ranch. Act now. The reservation deadline is October 5.

Making a comeback to Los Angeles is "A Chorus Line," at the Pantages Theatre. Your chance to go at a discount price is Sunday, October 28, at 7:30 p.m. \$17 orchestra tickets are available for \$16. Act now as seating is limited.

For more information on any of these events, call extension 6580.

Employee Picnic Info

WHO: All RTD employees, retirees and their immediate family. Single employees may bring a guest. Sorry, no friends or relatives allowed.

WHAT: Third Annual RTD Employee Picnic.

WHEN: Sunday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: Soledad Sands Park, off Highway 14 near Acton.

WHY: For the fun of it. And, you could win a door prize. A raffle will be held for Los Angeles Rams' tickets, tickets to RTD Day at Magic Mountain and Experience Dining Ticket Books.

HOW: Simply fill out the ticket order form on this page and mail it in. No tickets will be sold at the park and you cannot get in without a ticket!

RTD EMPLOYEE PICNIC TICKET ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Work Location: _____

Badge: _____

Ext.: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

I plan to ride a bus from Division _____

Please send me:

_____ Adult tickets @\$3.50 each. Total \$ _____

_____ Childs tickets @\$2 each. Total \$ _____

Enclosed Total \$ _____

DO NOT SEND CASH! Make check or money order payable to RTD. Send to Recreation Department, Location 32, via company mail or to Diane Delaney, 425 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, 90013. Tickets are also available directly from Betty Sconce in the Employee Relations Department, 6th Floor of headquarters building.

RTD Softball League

Final season standings
(As of August 12, 1979)

	W L T
1. Division 9-operators	8-1-0
2. Headquarters*	6-1-1
Division 6*	6-1-1
4. Division 2	6-3-0
5. Division 5	5-2-2
6. Division 12	4-5-0
7. Division 18+	3-6-0
Division 7+	3-6-0
9. Division 9-mechanics	1-8-0
10. Division 1	0-9-0

* Tied for second (had one game postponed)

+ Tied for seventh

Playoffs began August 26.

Week 1

9-ops def. HQ, 13-5

6 def. 9-mechs, 14-0

5 def. 7, 13-8

12 def. 18, 11-9

Week 2

9-ops def. 12, 7-0

6 def. 2, 9-2

5 def. 1, 11-9

HQ def. 7, 11-1

18 def. 9-mechs, 11-2

Week 3

9-ops def. 5, 7-5

6 def. 1, nsa

HQ def. 18, 6-5

2 def. 7, 6-4

12 def. 9-mechs, 20-1

Week 4

9-ops def. 2, 4-1

6 def. 18, 8-6

HQ def. 12, 6-5

5 def. 9-mechs, forfeit

7 def. 1, 12-5

Week 5

9-ops def. 1, 12-2

5 def. 18, 10-2

12 def. 7, 12-8

2 def. 9-mechs 11-0

HQ vs. 6, postponed

Week 6

7 def. 9-ops, 6-3

HQ tied 5, 9-9

2 def. 18, 4-3

6 def. 12, nsa

9-mechs def. 1, 8-5

Week 7

9-ops def. 9-mechs, 17-5

5 def. 12, 6-5

HQ def. 2, 10-7

18 def. 1, nsa

6 def. 7, 7-4

Week 8

9-ops def. 18, 7-4

HQ def. 1, 4-3

2 def. 12, nsa

7 def. 9-mechs, 16-7

6 tied 5, nsa

Week 9

9-ops def. 6, 6-3

HQ def. 9-mechs, 9-0

2 def. 5, 6-2

18 def. 7, forfeit

12 def. 1, forfeit

nsa = no score available



RTD FAMILY DAYS

SATURDAY OR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 OR 21, 1979

10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

- A full day of rides and entertainment for the whole family.
- Unlimited use of more than 100 exciting rides and attractions (excluding games and food).

Open Park/Mix In

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Note: Tickets must be purchased in advance. This discount is not available at the gate.

FOR TICKETS & INFORMATION CALL:

BETTY ext. 6580

Make all checks payable to RTD

Send checks and ticket orders by company mail to Location 32.

Limited quantity of tickets available
No refunds or exchanges

\$4.50*

PER PERSON

*EMPLOYEES
FOR YOUR GUESTS: \$5.50

REGULARLY \$8.95 ADULTS AND
\$7.95 CHILDREN (3-11). CHILDREN
UNDER THREE ARE FREE.



The way it was

The safest, most skillful drivers from throughout the District came together on the Santa Anita Race Track parking lot to determine who was the best. The photos on this page chronicles that event. Clockwise from the top, after negotiating a serpentine obstacle, operators had to move through a simulated offset street. Division 3 Transportation Manager Wes McCarns monitored the Rear Duals Clearance test which caused several operators grief. Another event simulated a passenger stop where contestants were tested for closeness to the curb and then their pullout with a make believe car obstacle in front of the stop. One of the final tests called for the operators to reach a speed of at least 25 miles per hour through a set of diminishing cones and then stop as close as possible to the finish line without crossing it. Al Altig of the Instruction Department monitored a radar gun to verify the speeds. One of the most difficult obstacles was the right and left backing turns, with operators required to back the bus safely into a confined space and stop as close as possible to a rear cone. Measurements were then taken and points deducted for distance from the cone and number of cones hit.





And behind the scenes at the 4th annual competition, things were not exactly moving slow. Clockwise from below, Vickie Varga, a Secretary III in the Transportation Department, covered more miles than most of the contestants as she skated about the course gathering score sheets from the judges. All eyes were on Superintendent of Divisions Jack Greasby as he posted final scores. A good-sized crowd turned out to cheer for their particular favorites. The Roadeo was capped by the annual Awards Banquet, with General Manager Jack Gilstrap handing out plaques and congratulations to the 14 finalists.



Operators ride high in Roadeo

(Continued from page 1)
 received a \$500 first place prize. Brenchley won \$250, while Gonzalez won \$100. The remainder of the 14 finalists received \$50 awards.

In this year's closely-contested event, Downes lost minor points on seven of the 15 judging categories for a total of 48 points marked off. Brenchley received perfect marks in every category except one — the Rear Duals Clearance test which required the operator to maneuver the bus through a row of tennis balls spaced just slightly wider than the rear dual tires. Unfortunately, Brenchley touched all the balls and lost the maximum 50 points for that category.

The remainder of the 14 finalists, the best from among the 60 District operators who participated in the semi-final competition on July 14, included: Carlos Baez, Division 9; William Lasdon, Division 6; Daniel Feil, Division 15; Joe

Swift, Division 3; Robert Apodaca, Division 1; tied with Gilbert Moncivais, Division 2; Juventino Hernandez, Division 1; Ward Gilley, Division 8; Thurmon Green, Division 5; Charles Wilkerson, Division 18 and Jimmie Shorters, Division 7. Only 92 points separated first from 14th place.

All of the Roadeo participants were honored at an awards banquet held August 10 at Luminaria's Restaurant in Monterey Park.

The Bus Roadeo is designed to be a competitive test and measure of a bus driver's skill behind the wheel, his knowledge of safety regulations and bus equipment and as a measure of his professionalism. The Driver's past record and personal appearance are considered, also.

Qualification for the Roadeo is rigid. In addition to successfully completing a written safety quiz, the operator (for a period one year prior to the competition) must have worked fulltime as an operator, had no preventable accidents, had no more than three non-preventable accidents, had no more than three missouts and had no suspensions.

The actual competition began with a pre-trip bus inspection with the operator required to identify five planted mechanical defects

such as broken lights, missing fire extinguisher, flat tire, malfunctioning farebox and the like.

The driver was then rated on his personal appearance before taking the driving test, which consisted of 11 problems designed to test a driver's ability in negotiating left and right turns, left and right backing turns, passenger stops and judgement problems.

While the driving test was in progress, a judge rode with the participant and scored him for safety habits and smoothness of operation.

Judging was done by representatives from West Covina Department of Motor Vehicles, Los Angeles Police Department, Alhambra Police Department, L.A. County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, Los Angeles Board of Education and the Compton Department of Motor Vehicles.

Assisting in the successful operation of this year's Roadeo were the Transportation Managers and their assistants, virtually everyone from the transportation department and members of the Property Maintenance Department.

Schedule changes

Moving Up

Name	Div./Dept.	Classification	Date
Ahadzadeh, Akbar	3308	Mechanic C to Mechanic B	7-01-79
Anderson, Taylor	3150	Print Shop Clk. to Printer	6-28-79
Aranda, David	4499	Customer Info. Rep to Asst. Sup. Sta. & Agnc.	6-01-79
Asuncion, Milagros	4600	Key punch Opr. to Data Technician	7-10-79
Bard Jr., Cecil F.	3314	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	7-01-79
Berry, Clyde L.	3205	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5-20-79
Bluemke, Patricia	2100	Secretary III to Asst. Bd. Scty.	7-01-79
Bolen, Helen	2100	Asst. Bd. Scty. to Dist. Scty. (Act)	7-01-79
Bowman, Joann	6300	Dir. of Trng to Act. Admin of EETD	7-30-79
Barrows, Martin A.	3297	Instr. Ex. Rad. Disp. to Instr. of V.O.	7-08-79
Bradley, Nellie	4600	Info. Clk. to Data Technician	7-08-79
Buncom, Walter O.	3305	Operator to Mechanic "C"	6-03-79
Carbo, Alma N.	3303	Key punch Opr. to Stk. Shop Clk.	7-08-79
Coffey, David	5050	Info. Clk/Ex. Sup. to Supv. Tel. Info.	5-27-79
Coleman, Carrie	7100	Accounts Clk. to Jr. Inv. Acct. Clk.	6-29-79
Davis, Donald R.	3203	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5-20-79
Davis, Robert L.	3302	Elect. Comm. Tech. to Elec. Comm. Tech. Lead.	6-11-79
DeCrow, Daryl	3308	Mechanic C to Mechanic B	7-17-79
DeLaCruz, A. R.	9100	Prin. Analyst to Dir. Admin. Dept.	6-01-79
Dooley, William F.	3203	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5-20-79
Dorsey, William E.	3318	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	7-01-79
Dzierlatka, Verana	4445	Ticket Clerk to Tkt. Ofc. & Rpts. Clk.	6-27-79
Fisher, John L.	3306	Mechanic A to Eq. Maint. Sup I	6-24-79
Forrest, Mike	3307	Mechanic A to Mechanic A Ldmn.	6-29-79
Gainey, Arnold T.	6200	Typist Clk. to Sr. Interview (temp)	6-05-79
Goens, Patsy L.	3202	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5-20-79
Goins Jr., Wiley	3334	Laborer A to Prop. Maint. B	7-08-79
Grimes, A. D.	7200	Key punch Opr. to Supv. KP Opr.	6-04-79
Hairston, Bobbie	3307	Utility A to Utility A Leadman	6-03-79
Hanna, Andre	6200	Typist Clk to Pension/Insur. Clerk	7-16-79
Hawthorne, Paul H.	7100	Janitor to Cash Clk. Temp.	6-21-79
Hearn, Steve	3305	Mechanic C to Mechanic B	7-01-79
Hiranrat, Sa-Ngiem	3314	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	6-10-79
Hoccom, Larry D.	9300	Engineering Tech. to Contract Insp.	6-01-79
Holland, Robert A.	4600	Asst. Sup. Sched. to Sr. Sched. Pln.	6-01-79
Holmes, Scott T.	4200	Supv. Tel. Info. to Planning Analyst	5-20-79
Howard, Elisha	3303	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	6-10-79
Hughes, Ora L.	3205	Operator Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5-20-79
Ivory, Wilbert	3296	Op. Ex. Sup. V.O. to Supv. of V.O.	7-01-79
Jarvis, Fannie A.	6200	Personnel Tech. to Position/Control Coord.	6-01-79
Johnson, Richard	3306	Mechanic C to Mechanic B	6-17-79
Kang, Robert	3314	Mechanic B to Sht. Metal Wkr.	6-04-79
Knatcal, Ray V.	3307	Mechanic B to Eq. Maint. Sup. I	6-24-79
Krumme, James L.	7300	Mopper-Waxer to Tr. Dr. Clk.	6-16-79
Larochelle, Ray F.	3307	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	7-01-79
Lasdon, William R.	3206	Operator to Op. Ex. Supv. V.O.	7-01-79
Leahy, Arthur T.	9100	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst to Supv. Mgmt. Anal.	6-01-79
Lee, Pauline	9100	Staff Asst. I to Admin. Analyst	6-01-79
Lee, William	3314	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	6-10-79
Lewis, Vernell A.	3318	Utility A to Mechanic C	7-01-79
Lucas, Thomas D.	3305	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	7-01-79
Lynum, Franklin D.	3309	Utility A to Equip. Serv. Supr.	4-22-79
Martinez, Rudolph R.	7100	Mopper-Waxer to Cash Clk. Temp.	6-21-79
Mathis, Billy E.	3308	Mechanic A to Mechanic A Ldmn.	6-03-79
Mays, Alexander	3318	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	6-10-79
McCullough, J.	4600	Typist Clk. to Sched. Typist	6-24-79
Medina, Daniel C.	3110	Mopper-Waxer to Mop-Wax/Msgr. Clk. Rel.	4-29-79
Mitchell, C.	3307	Mechanic B to Mechanic B Ldmn.	6-02-79
Moore, Marie T.	3399	Secretary III to Temp Chief Clk.	6-11-79
Morrell, Art	3308	Mechanic C to Mechanic B	7-01-79
Mott, Adrian A.	3215	Operator to Op. Ex. Sup. V.O.	7-01-79
Mugford, Scott	5010	Info. Clk. to Sr. Pass. Serv. Rep.	5-27-79
Munoz, Cynthia Y.	4200	Sched. Typist to Secretary II	6-04-79
Olivas, Ruben	3314	Mech. A to Mech. A Ldmn.	5-21-79
Opoku, Sampson K.	4600	Operator to Data Technician	7-08-79
Paz, James	3307	Mechanic B to Mechanic B Ldmn.	6-03-79
Pearson, Napoleon	3314	Mechanic C to Mechanic B	6-10-79
Post, Patti	3099	Assoc. Pln. to Staff Analyst	7-09-79
Pratt, Marie E.	3205	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5-20-79
Rambo, Napoleon	3318	Utility A to Utility A Ldmn.	4-22-79
Reason, William A.	4410	Aud. Vis. Coord. to Comm. Rep.	6-01-79
Reynoso, Salvador	3302	Mopper-Waxer Rel. to Vault Tr. Driver	7-07-79
Richardson, Daniel	3314	Utility A to Mechanic B (Glazier)	4-23-79
Ruiz, Daniel M.	4499	Asst. Pass. Agt. to Staff Ast. I	6-01-79
Saylor, Elaine L.	4410	Secretary II to Secretary III	5-21-79
Scarboro, Walter	3303	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	6-17-79
Scarboro, Walter	3303	Mechanic A to Mechanic A Ldmn.	7-01-79
Shelter, Howard	3314	Eq. Maint. Sup. I to E.M.S. II	6-24-79
Solomon, Oscar	7100	Operator to Asst. Sup. Ce. Ca. Co. Off. (Temp)	6-17-79
Staley, Michael S.	3315	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	6-10-79
Stovall, Steven	4600	Info. Clk. to Data Technician	7-08-79
Sullivan, Daniel J.	3203	Operator to Op. Ex. Sup. V.O.	7-01-79
Swaim, Jerry D.	3301	Mechanic A to Eq. Maint. Sup. I.	6-24-79
Tellis, Brenda	3303	Svc. Attendant to Svc. Attendant Ldmn.	6-03-79
Threat, Daniel	3110	Mopper-Waxer to Msgr. Clk/Mail Car. Rel.	4-29-79
Turpin, Raymond	91p0	Grants Asst. to Admin. Analyst	6-01-79
Vandeventer, Gale	4600	Prin. Planner to Systems Eng.	6-01-79
Vergara, Johnny	3301	Mechanic B to Mechanic B Ldmn.	6-03-79
Victoria, Ermilo	3318	Mechanic A to Eq. Maint. Sup. I.	6-24-79
Watts, Russell D.	3309	Mechanic A to Eq. Maint. Sup. I.	6-24-79
Wielandt, Max	3302	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	7-01-79
Wielandt, Henry J.	7300	Mop-Wax Rel. to Jr. Stk. Clk.	5-24-79
Wigley, Everett	3305	Mechanic B to Mechanic A	7-01-79
Willoughby, Clyde	3308	Mechanic A to Mechanic A Ldmn.	6-02-79
York, Michael J.	3315	Svc. Attendant to Svc. Attendant Ldmn.	6-03-79
Yost, Robert	3302	Mechanic A to Mechanic A Ldmn.	2-29-79

Shifting Gears

Name	Dept./Div.	Classification	Hired	Retired
Beezley, Elbert N.	3212	Operator	4-9-47	7-9-79
Click, Norse Charles	3314	Mechanic A Ldmn.	10-1-58	6-29-79
Grant, Leon Granger	3201	Operator	6-23-47	7-2-79
Jefferson, Sanford D.	3314	Mechanic A	10-12-55	7-12-79
Joy, Robert Lee	3212	Operator	6-23-58	7-12-79
Naughton, Harold A.	3212	Operator	3-13-56	6-29-79
Pokorski, Joseph R.F3302	3212	Supervisor	5-31-46	7-21-79
Shackell, Leonard B.	3212	Operator	12-9-54	6-29-79
Sutton, Buddy	3110	Mail Carrier	10-23-45	7-24-79

In Memoriam

Name	Div./Dept.	Classification	Deceased
Milinkovich, Paul	3299	Former Schedule Checker Retired 2-10-72	7-08-79
Smith Jr., Martin H.	3202	Former Operator Retired 6-1-69	6-29-79
Sommer, Neal A.	3202	Former Operator Retired 12-1-67	6-24-79

Bowman, Davis, Watts earn kudos for jobs well done

"One of the most pleasant duties I am called upon to perform as a member of this board is the recognition of our outstanding employees," said RTD board president Marvin Holen in honoring June Employees of the Month Veda Bowman, Howard Davis and Marvin Watts.

Information Operator Veda Bowman was selected because she has continually exceeded the standards set for the telephone information clerk's work performance since joining the District. She has displayed a thorough knowledge of all District routes, schedules and fares. She works quickly, which is very important these days, but still is patient and pleasant in determining her caller's needs.

Division 2 operator Howard Davis has been with the District since April, 1961, and has accumulated an impressive record in that time. A man with a very positive outlook on life, Howard has had only six missouts and 10 absences due to illness during his tenure with the District. He has had only two chargeable accidents (both prior to 1963) and has received 13 safety awards. He has the maximum of 60 merits in the bank and has never been charged any demerits. A firm believer in family togetherness, Howard credits the support of his wife with helping him through the rough periods in his life and in helping him to maintain his positive attitude.

Division 15 mechanic Marvin R. Watts is something of an RTD success story. He was hired in April, 1969 as a Mechanic-C and today holds the job of a Mechanic-A Leadman. One of the most capable mechanics at the Sun Valley operating facility, Marvin is able to pin-point some of the most baffling problems on a coach in addition to being able to work quickly and efficiently under pressure. He turns out an incredible amount of work, according to division Maintenance Manager Cliff Lawson. In addition, Marvin sets an excellent example for his co-workers regarding attendance and punctuality.



SUPERLATIVE — Receiving Certificates of Merit from Director Mike Lewis (left) for being chosen the best of the best were Veda Bowman, Howard Davis and Marvin Watts. Looking on are Bob Williams, Manager of Customer Relations; Paul Mahoney, Transportation Manager at Division 2; and Cliff Lawson, Maintenance Manager at Division 15.



*District
honors
retirees*

More than two hundred years of experience was represented by August retirees, honored by the Board of Directors and the District for their years of service. In top photo they are (left to right) Robert D. Richardson, 35 years; Ray Cross, 36 years; James C. Albrizze, 33 years; Earl Cross, 38 years (no relation to Ray); and Leonard Herman, 27 years. Director Thomas Neusom (left, rear) presented each retiree with a commemorative plaque following Acting Manager of Operations Jack Walsh's introductions. A separate celebration was held at the El Monte Station for retiring Service Director John R. Dingey (below, extreme left), who was unable to attend the Board ceremony. Friends stopped by to share cake and punch with John in honor of his 33 years with the District and its predecessor agencies. Lots of good food was served up, also, on the occasion of Mail Carrier Buddy Sutton's retirement after 33 years of service. Buddy and his wife, Ethel, (at left) led friends from General Services through a chow line that included BBQ ribs, chicken, potato salad, cakes and punch.



*'Big Daddy'
Reece
bids farewell
to friends*

Barak W. "Bid Daddy" Reece (above) plays one more hand of Dominos during his retirement celebration at Division 18. Reece, who had 32 years of service on the property, was honored by more than 100 operators from Divisions 18, 12 and 2, men and women that Reece has worked with over the years. They presented him with a signed scroll, a gold Cross pen set and many happy wishes for a long and healthy retirement. Along with these well-wishes, Reece received a miss-out for missing out on his last day of work with the District. The discipline for the miss-out, handed out by a grinning J.J. McCullough, the Transportation Manager at Division 18, was a "Happy Retirement."



Jess Lira turns free time into learning experience

Think of the members of any board of education and you undoubtedly think of lawyers, educators, administrators or political hopefuls. So, what is an RTD diesel mechanic doing serving on the Bassett Unified School District's Board of Education? And where the heck is Bassett?

The answer to the first question is simple. Jess Lira is fulfilling a strong sense of community responsibility and involvement. A Diesel Mechanic-B with the District for the past 4½ years at Division 9

in El Monte, Lira, his wife and two children have lived in the small unincorporated city of Bassett since 1979. Native Angelenos, the Lira clan moved there from East Los Angeles.

Nestled between El Monte and La Puente and virtually surrounded by the City of Industry, Bassett is part of Los Angeles County and has its own school district, governed by a five-member board and consisting of one high school, one continuation school, two junior highs, five elementary schools,

one adult school and an annual budget of some \$12 million.

Lira's involvement in Bassett school affairs began gradually in 1970 and reached its present level when he was appointed to a four-year term on the Board of Education.

In the intervening years he has been involved with the PTA on both the school and district levels, has been a member of the district's Parent Advisory Committee, has served on the BUSD Employment Advisory Committee and represented the school district and the community at conferences from San Francisco to San Bernardino to San Diego.

And, when he is not ferreting out problems with a bus engine or attending one of the twice-monthly Thursday evening meetings of the BUSD Board of Education, Lira is active in the community's youth sports programs.

He is a member of the San Gabriel Youth Boxing Club committee, has served two terms as president of the Bassett Park Recreation Council, has served as chairman of the Bassett Park Concession Stand and has coached both girls and boys teams in softball, football and basketball. He is presently a coach and member of the Executive Board of the Bassett Bobby Sox program.

In his spare time, and he insists he has some, Lira helps to organize such community activities as Cinco de Mayo celebrations, Fourth of July festivities, Easter Egg hunts and Parks and Recreation Day.

His efforts have not gone unheralded.

Lira has been awarded the PTA Honorary Service Award and has been honored three times by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for his unselfish services to the youth of the community.

His family — wife Dolores, 14-year-old Jess Jr., and 12-year-old Laura — call Jess the "Man of the Hour" because he spends every waking hour of every day totally committed to his work, his family and the community in which he lives.

As his son expressed it in an essay written about his father, "Something you may not know about our man Jess is that he loves what he is doing. He is a compassionate man with his family, fellow colleagues and with children. And he is dedicated, loyal and hard-working."

And that about sums it up.



JESS LIRA

What's happening!

What's happening in your corner of the company? Are you or your fellow employees engaged in some activity that would be of interest to others? District employees with an unusual or interesting hobby or skill—whether it is raising snakes or collecting stamps—are invited to fill out the card below and return it to Headway, Location 32, via company mail for possible future feature story coverage.

Name: _____
 Badge No.: _____ Work location: _____
 Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____
 My hobby is: _____

Gimme shelters

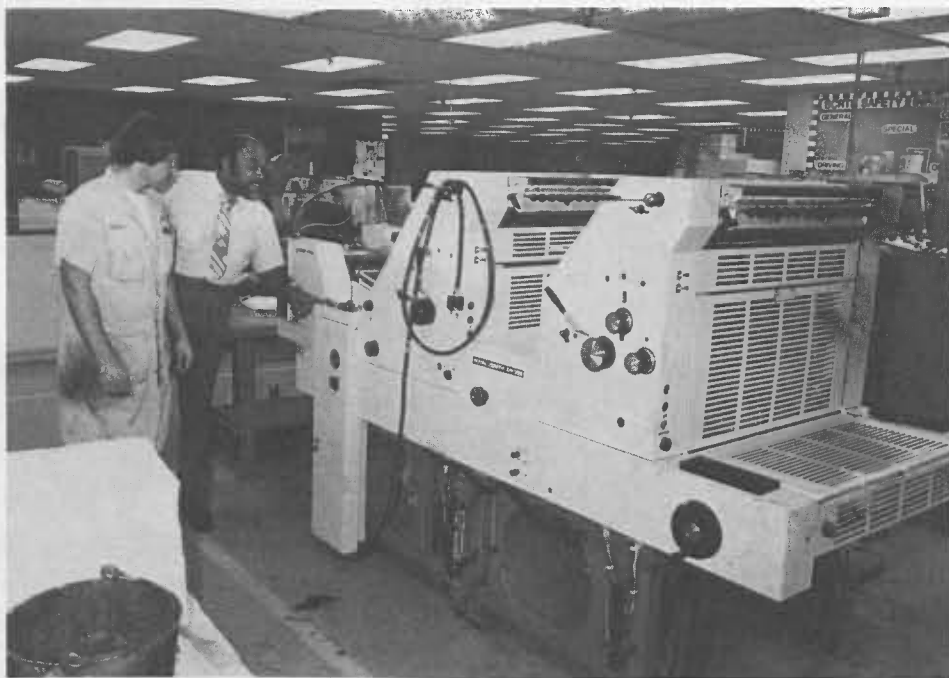
If, in the course of your travels around the District this month, you happen to notice tiny buildings cropping up at passenger boarding sites, do not be alarmed. Squatters are not moving onto the sidewalk.

The "buildings" are part of a two-phase Bus Shelter Program being developed by the City of Los Angeles. The first phase is an eight-month demonstration project involving three bus shelter manufacturers who will install 39 shelters in scattered locations throughout the city chosen by members of the City Council. Tentative schedules called for the installation to begin September 1.

The purpose of the demonstration project, which will end May 1, 1980, is to test the bus shelter concept and select a company to install shelters at other locations. The company selected by the city at the conclusion of the demonstration project will receive permission to install bus shelters in about 3,000 additional locations (approximately one-tenth of the District's stops).

Theoretically, the shelters will pay for themselves out of advertising revenue generated by ads displayed on one side of the shelter. The city will receive some of the advertising revenue and the shelter company will provide for the maintenance of the structure.

According to Director of Bus Planning Paul Taylor, the District has been requested by the city to provide maps and schedules to the vendors and to move any bus stop sign poles that may be in the way of a proposed shelter. But, that is the extent of RTD's involvement in the project.



Timesaver

Printer Mike Benninghoven (left) and Print Shop Supervisor Al Moore admire newly-arrived Royal Zenith Two-Color Perfector press now in service at the basement print shop in the Administration Building. Capable of printing two sides of a sheet of paper in one pass, the new press is expected to double the production of timetables for the shop. The press will also be used to print some brochures and multicolor work for the District's marketing department.

Temper, temper! Lose it and you may find accidents

Published at the request of the Safety Department

Joy, sadness, anger. These are just a few of the perfectly normal emotions that all of us experience. You would be something less than normal if you did not have emotion.

Anyone who does any amount of driving gets involved in daily situations which cause his temper to flare. How about that driver who suddenly pours it on as you are attempting to pass him and makes it tough for you to pull in safely ahead of him? He leaves you out on a limb in the opposing lane. It is only human nature to think how satisfying it would be to pull over sharply and crowd him off the road.

Or, you may be stopped at a light. When it changes to green the jerk behind you starts laying on his horn before you can even start up. You aren't fast enough for him. Wouldn't it be nice to throw it in reverse, step on the gas and ram his horn back at him.

If thoughts like these have crossed your mind from time to time, temper usually takes over and the resulting action may cause an accident.

When you get angry you want to do something to relieve the frustration, you want to do something to get back at that other driver. It may not seem to make sense at the time, but the old saw "Two wrongs don't make a right" surely applies in such a situation.

Controlling temper is something each driver has to do for himself. He's got to give some good

thought — at a time when he is not upset — to how ridiculous it is to let temper take over. If you don't have control of your emotions, you cannot have complete control of your vehicle.

If holding your temper is going somewhat against natural inclinations, so is keeping with the flow of traffic, even though you would like it to be either faster or slower, and also leaving your lights on low beam even though the other guy sticks to his brights. What a temptation it is to stick your high beams in his eyes and glare him out.

It may be against human nature to walk around and check your signal and clearance lights when you know they are all okay, especially if it's raining.

A good many driving habits that make you a "safe driver" are not quite the natural thing to do. They go against normal inclinations. But, when you condition yourself to drive safely, these habits become more natural.

So, it should be easy enough to acquire another good habit and that is to hold your temper and let common sense guide your actions in an anger-provoking situation. It may take a little effort at first, but before long it will become just as natural as the other safe driving habits and attitudes which you have developed.

Don't let your operator's permit be a license to kill. Drive carefully at all times.

MAKING HEADWAY



BEFORE AND AFTER — Friends of Rozlyn Fehr and Wendy Chiou in the Personnel Department managed to kill two birds with one party when they held a combination Wedding and Baby Shower. Rozlyn (center, left) is now Mrs. Sheridan and says she enjoyed her Hawaiian honeymoon. Wendy gave birth to a 6 pound, 14 ounce baby boy since this photo was taken.



GUESS WHO — When Telephone Information Clerks got together recently to hold a baby shower, it could have been for almost any of them. Almost. Five of the seven ladies pictured above are pregnant. However, the most pregnant was Jeri Rogal (third from left) who was the guest of honor. From left to right were Debbie Baird, pregnant; Nancy Chester, Planning Department; Jeri, Brenda Miley, nope; Ruth Edwards, Diane Borjorquez and Linda Huffer, all expecting.



CHEERS — Senior Chief Radio Dispatcher Joe Reeves shares a toast with his new bride, Elaine, at a recent party honoring the newlyweds and thrown by friends in the Dispatch Center. The couple honeymooned in Las Vegas.

In these inflationary times it helps to be able to supplement your income and Edith Goff, a Secretary III in the Employee Development and Training Department, has found she can accomplish this just by "lookin' good."

The 24-year-old Los Angeles resident recently was named Los Angeles Model of the Year at the "Intrigue" fashion show held at the Biltmore Hotel and sponsored by couturier Hal Murray. First prize was a check for \$500.

Born in Belize, British Honduras, Goff, who hopes to work as a model someday, was selected from among 32 finalists, culled from some 273 applicants throughout the Los Angeles area.

Goff, 5-8 and 128 pounds, was sponsored by Neferittit's Mystique, a Beverly Hills beauty salon.

All contestants were judged in four categories: A.M. Competition, creating a look for a day; Fashion Influence, depicting an era that has influenced the model; Photography, demonstrating how fluent they can move from one pose to another; and P.M. Competition, selecting an evening look.

Judges for the event included fashion industry and entertainment professionals.

Everyone is aware of the value of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation training. Major companies, including the RTD, have regular classes to train their employees in these life-saving techniques. And the training does come in handy.

Just ask Lorraine Rodriguez, the 25-year-old daughter of Division 5 Maintenance Manager Raul Rodriguez. While traveling

in the Corona area, Lorraine came upon a motorcycle accident. She applied her CPR training to the victim until an ambulance arrived. For her efforts, Lorraine, who is the manager of a medical group in Pomona, received a special letter of commendation from the California Highway Patrol.

Jessie M. Lynum, a member of the Division 3 maintenance department, and his wife, Mary, are still full of pride over the arrival of their first and second grandsons, Daniel Anthony Goodwin, born June 1, 1978, and Elijah Lynum, born September 14, 1978. The two young men are Jessie and Mary's second and third grandchildren. They also have a granddaughter, Antoinette Daniela Goodwin. Little Daniel Anthony is the son of Jessie's daughter and son-in-law, Mary and Gerald Goodwin. Elijah, who is named after Jessie's late father, was born to Jessie's son Douglas and his wife, Consuello.

Division 9 operator Frank A. Cecere was presented with a 7 pound, 8 ounce baby girl by his wife, Mary Ann. The couple's first child was named Gina Marie. Born at Arcadia Methodist Hospital, she was 20 inches long.

"Beat the Clock" is returning to television and looking for teams to participate in its wacky stunts. The three-member teams can win up to \$20,000. Get together a trio of your co-workers and call 464-4300, extension 462, for an interview to be on television's most famous stunt show. Call between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.



EDITH GOFF

25 YEARS AGO

'New' 91 line buses come to Hollywood

(Editor's note: This is the second in an occasional series of articles looking back at stories of interest from a quarter century ago in the Los Angeles transit industry. Source: Metro Coach News, Volume 1, Number 5).

A new era in transportation came to Hollywood, West Hollywood and Beverly Hills on Sunday, September 26, 1954, when 36 new motor coaches of the 400-class replaced the old rail cars on Hollywood Boulevard.

Operated by Metropolitan Coach Lines, the new bus line was designated as Hollywood Boulevard Motor Coach Line 91 and absorbed the West Hollywood and Beverly Hills portions of the University line, with the Fairfax Avenue line taking over the Hollywoodland leg of the University line and all of the Western-Franklin line.

According to MCL president J. L. Haugh, some transferring would be eliminated and the traffic congestion at Hollywood and Vine would be alleviated by eliminating turnarounds at that point. Other turnarounds were also being eliminated in downtown Los Angeles by combining the Sunset Boulevard and the Wilshire Boulevard lines into a loop operation.

At the same time, express motor coach trips, which cut 10 minutes off the running time between Los Angeles and Van Nuys, began to operate over the Hollywood Freeway in conjunction with the switch from rail to bus.

In other actions, improved motor coach operations in the San Fernando Valley to "meet the travel needs of a rapidly growing area" were proposed by MCL on September 29 during a public hearing before the State Public Utilities Commission. Authorization was

being sought to extend and re-route service on four bus lines in order to serve newly developed residential areas in Canoga Park, Encino, Tarzana, Reseda and San Fernando. More than double the service between Van Nuys and Reseda was proposed. One of the benefits of the increased service would be a reduction in passenger waiting time of 20 minutes with a 60-minute headway proposed for the new service.

In other stories that month, MCL was in the midst of a six-year improvement program involving an expenditure of \$15 million. Of this amount, \$12 million had been ear-marked for new motor coaches and \$3 million for modern maintenance and terminal facilities.

In June of 1954 Metro's \$315,000 terminal at Van Nuys Boulevard and Sherman Way went into operation to serve the San Fernando Valley.

In September, construction was begun for a \$300,000 terminal in El Monte at Hoyt Avenue and Columbia Street. Grading on the 2 1/2-acre site was complicated by the necessity of moving several buildings and trees.

Designed to serve as a division point for MCL's San Gabriel Valley operations, the terminal would have a garage and service area of 215,000 square feet, with a storage area for the 150 buses which served the San Gabriel Valley on six lines. Facilities included quarters for 250 operators and mechanical employees as well as offices for the transportation and maintenance division foremen.

Finally, September 17 marked the beginning of the 1954-55 bowling season for the Pacific Electric-Metro Bowling League with 16 teams of pinbusters from the two transit agencies trying to stay out of the gutters.

30 buses + (x)scientists + tunnel = tests

Okay, folks. Ready for the \$64 question? What were 30 Southern California Rapid Transit District buses and a handful of scientists from the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena doing in the Third Street Tunnel on August 14 and 15 from midnight to four o'clock in the morning?

Would you believe, measuring air flow inside and exiting unventilated tunnels? Well, would you believe, determining if portions of future freeways in central business districts might be placed below ground and covered so space above might be used for public facilities such as parks, schools or streets by designing self-ventilating tunnels to maintain adequate air quality? Would you believe all of the above?

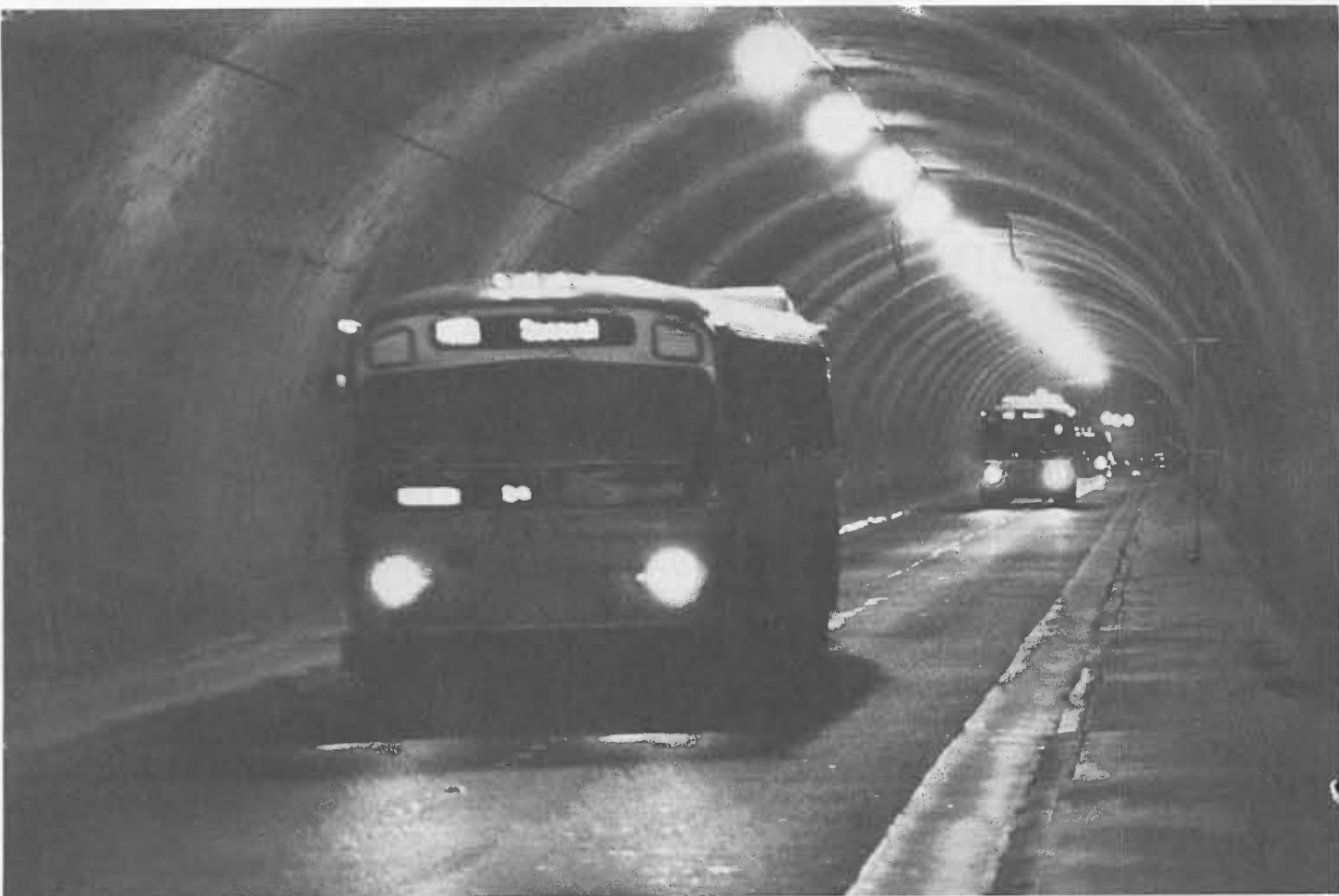
Using a tracer gas and 30 District buses (and drivers) from Divisions 1, 2 and 3, the JPL scientists measured air flow and distribution of gases within and around the Third Street Tunnel, which runs between Hill Street and Flower Street beneath Bunker Hill. By running the buses through the tunnel at regular intervals, the scientists were attempting to verify measurements gathered in scale-model tests.

It may be hard to believe, but no detailed tests of air flow inside and exiting unventilated tunnels have ever been performed. Engineers needed to understand the relation-

ship between scale models and full-size tunnels to continue their research.

JPL picked up the tab for using the RTD buses and drivers participating in the tests, which are being

funded as part of a four-year, \$500,000 Federal Highway Administration study.



COMING THROUGH — District buses were used recently in late night tests in the Third Street Tunnel to study air flow and gas dispersion in unventilated tunnels. Tests were conducted by JPL scientists.

HEADWAY
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Editorial input and suggestions welcome. Deadline for receipt of editorial copy is the 14th of each month. Send black-and-white photographs only, please. Requests for photographic coverage of District events must be preceded by 72 hours notice.
Mailing address: Headway, 6th Floor, 425 South Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. Telephone: 213-972-6680.
David Himmel, Editor

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