

HEADWAY



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Desgroseilliers Wins RTD Bus Rodeo



Rodeo Champ Desgroseilliers from Division 15 points out his driving triumph. Good luck at Hollywood Park in the Internationals, Roger.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, every driver you will see compete today is the cream of the RTD crop," said Division 9 Manager Jim Cenderelli as he opened the Tenth Annual RTD Bus Rodeo on June 22 at the Santa Anita Racetrack parking lot.

Out of the thirty-two finalists competing, Division 15's Roger Desgroseilliers showed himself to be the creme de la creme, by scoring a record 606 points to take first place.

Desgroseilliers has competed in at least six other Rodeos, usually placing in the top ten. This year he surprised himself by winning the Rodeo title that proves him to be the best among the District's 4,238 full-time bus operators. "The best I ever did in the past was to place third. Last year I placed twenty-sixth. So, coming in number one this year was a shock! All

the guys I competed with this year were so good that I was convinced that anyone of them could have taken it," said Desgroseilliers.

Desgroseilliers won the top prize of \$750 and is assured a seat at the International Rodeo to be held at Hollywood Park in October.

"I practiced a lot for this Rodeo, but I still think my winning was a combination of the practice and luck, a lot of luck," said Desgroseilliers.

Director of Transportation Ed Nash thinks luck has very little to do with it. "Any driver who made it to the finals is one of the most superb drivers in the U.S. We're proud to have Roger represent us in the international competition," he said.

Contestants in the Rodeo were judged by RTD, DMV, and law

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Transit Police and LAPD Nab Bus Pass Forgers

RTD Transit Police and LAPD Bunco-Forgery officers arrested three men and confiscated forged monthly passes with a street value of \$209,000.

The three were arrested and passes confiscated, along with printing materials, at two locations in Los Angeles on June 28. Arrested on forgery charges and conspiracy to sell and distribute counterfeit bus passes were: Constantine Kolakowski, 33, 317 Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles; Jess Alfaro, 35, Monterey Park, and his brother Gustavo, 38, of El Monte.

Kolakowski was held on \$100,000 bail following his arrest at his home where the bulk of forged passes and paper stock, printing plates and special polarized plastic similar to the kind used by the RTD were confiscated. Additional printing plates were recovered at G & J printing, 3865 Brooklyn Avenue, Los Angeles, a print shop owned and operated by the Alfaros.

Annual Picnic Set for August

Be sure and put the annual Employee Picnic on your calendar — Sunday, August 18 at the Santa Fe Regional Dam, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Bus service will be available from all divisions. There will be plenty of barbeque and picnic fix-ins. Lots of fun has already been planned with supervised softball and volleyball, carnival rides, game booths, and clowns who paint boots and blow up balloons. And such a deal for the whole family, only \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children 2 to 11. Fun times are open to all employees, retirees, their spouses and dependent children. See you there!

RTD Transit Police Chief Jim Burgess said the trio's arrest culminated a two-month long investigation which began following an anonymous tip linking the men to the counterfeit operation. Burgess said the passes were being sold primarily to members of the Hispanic community at reduced prices. RTD bus operators have confiscated several hundred of the bogus passes since October.

Ten Cities Offer Discount Bus Passes

A total of ten cities in Los Angeles County had chosen to subsidize monthly passes for senior citizens and disabled residents of their communities at the time July passes were sold. Those cities have invested local Proposition A transit tax funds to subsidize RTD bus passes. In addition, four supervisory districts (2, 3, 4, and 5) now subsidize passes for residents of unincorporated areas.

"Each of these communities has recognized that there are many local riders dependent on mass transit, especially the elderly and disabled, who need extra assistance," said RTD Board President Nick Patsouras.

Communities will continue to receive Proposition A funding for local transit improvements. That amounts to 25 percent of the revenue collected and is distributed proportionately based upon local population.

Those cities that subsidize fares for their various RTD rider groups include Los Angeles, Bell, La Puente, Huntington Park, Pico Rivera, Agoura Hills, Alhambra, Glendale, Inglewood, and West Hollywood.

Cover Story

Fair Gives Health a Wholesome Name

Over 500 employees attended the District's first Health Awareness Fair held June 23 at Division 10.

The event got off to a running start with the Transit Police-sponsored 2.7 mile Walk-Run. One hundred thirty contestants signed up for the walk-run that began at Division 1 with its finish line at Division 10. Walkers and runners of all ages took the course down 6th Street to Alameda then on to Mission. By 1:30 p.m., the 114th and last contestant crossed the finish line. Marco Pedemonte, Mechanic B of Division 10 was the first runner to cross the finish line in 13 minutes, 13 seconds.

Thirty-three different booths, rooms, and tents were used to house the health agencies and services inside and outside the transportation building.

Inside the train room of Division 10, red and white crepe banners dressed up the variety of different health attractions. Outside, red and white tents housed

seventeen different health agencies offering services and information. Ongoing stage shows featured Office Aerobic Services aerobic performances; a NIKE/Apparel Warehouse Fashion Show; Mark Sadoff, the magician; and LAPD's Officer Mike Simonson and Officer Byrd, his affectionate, well-trained parrot. Two red-headed clowns roamed the grounds giving away free balloons and creating general mischief. The Los Angeles City Fire Department brought a fire engine and a paramedic wagon for display.



Office Aerobic Services aerobics instructors demonstrate the moves guaranteed to make life longer and healthier.

Fair participants strolled outside down Division 10's Health Midway and pocketed information available on women's health services from Women's Hospital; healthy back, wellness, CPR and aerobics from Office Aerobic Services; dental care from the Navy Dental Program, and counseling services from the RTD's Employee Assistance Program. The Ludwig Gym Equipment Company brought a rowing machine, weights, and a

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Transportation Superintendent Leilia Bailey-Johnson brightens up as she nears the 2.7 Walk-Run finish line.

Division 2 To Sign Out in September



Division 2 will go out of service in September

On the evening of September 7, Division 2 will end its service as an operating division in the District network.

The move to shut down Division 2 was one forced by economy said Operations Staff Superintendent Dan Miller. The loss of Prop A funding required the District to remove 200 buses from service. "To realize any savings you can't take buses out of service without affecting an overall plan. We had to attack the problem to get maximum savings on overhead cost. Thus the decision was made to eliminate one division. Division 2 was chosen mainly because it is an antiquated division and its physical condition was deteriorated," said Miller.

Historically, the District has maintained three divisions to serve the downtown area. During the Olympics, the need was critical for an additional division. "With the opening of new Division 10 and the end of the Olympics, the past demand for such division support is no longer necessary," said Miller.

In addition to the capital cost savings offered by the closing of Division 2, the vacated property is intended to offer a temporary home for Division 1 while extensive reconstruction is being done at that division. Allan Styffe, Administrative Service Officer, said, "We believe that by temporarily transferring Division 1 to the Division 2 site, the reconstruction needed at the Division 1 site can be speeded up. Along with all of this, the Transit Police Department will be changing its operating base from the administration building to Division 1, which will be known as Location 51. They will be temporarily housed at Location 51 during this same year," said Styffe.

After the year-long renovation of Division 1 all buses and personnel will be relocated back to the original Division 1 site. The Transit Police Department will then occupy Division 2, which will become Location 52, as its headquarters. "Location 52 will house the Cash Counting Room," said Styffe, "and it will also be used as a storage yard for buses. This will help to eliminate the need to rent peripheral daytime bus storage space."

On September 8, all personnel from Division 2 will have been reassigned to other divisions. "The receiving divisions in the move are

Divisions 1, 3, 5, 10 and 18," said Styffe.

Division 1 will receive Lines 14, 66 and 462; Division 3, Line 200; Division 5, Lines 48 and 204; Division 10, Lines 20, 45, and 576; and Division 18, Line 51. Line 602 is expected to be discontinued in the fall. The Division 2 operators selected their new assignments during the summer's shakeup.

The planners of the move expect it to go smoothly. "Operations does its planning very systematically," said Styffe. "Moving a division is probably more easily done than moving a personal household. We have specific departments to take care of specific activities. For example, the Facilities Maintenance Department will work with Transportation, Maintenance, and the Transit Police to have telephone lines adjusted and to ensure that the necessary furnishings in the facilities are in place and are adequate to meet needs," said Styffe.

On the night of September 7, all Division 2 buses pulling in from service will pull in to their new operating divisions for sign-outs. The Transportation Department has arranged a shuttle service for operators to be returned to their cars at Division 2.

By the morning of September 8, Division 2 will become known as "old" Division 2 and will be history.

District to Award for Special Service

In an effort to underscore the District's commitment to improve accessible service, the Transportation Department, in cooperation with the Customer Relations Department and Operations, has inaugurated an Accessible Service Operator Recognition Program.

"We believe our program will convey positive emphasis and will realize improved performance by operators transporting our elderly and disabled," said Director of Transportation Ed Nash.

The program's coordinator, Senior Transportation Staff Assistant Dave Dhillon, has found that District operators have been most cooperative in providing accessible service. "It now appears prudent for management to recognize those outstanding operators who consistently provide that extra care to accessible riders," said Dhillon.

Recognition for the special care shown to these bus patrons will include a certificate of appreciation signed by the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on Accessible Transportation, RTD Board Director John Day; General Manager John A. Dyer; Director of Transportation Ed Nash; and the

appropriate division manager. These certificates will be presented during the scheduled meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee. *Headway* photos and an accompanying article will address each recipient's contribution.

The criteria for an Accessible Service Award requires an operator to comply with the following during the quarter for which the award is made:

- Documented commendation by an elderly and/or disabled person and the recommendation by his or her division manager.
- Accumulation of no more than three instances of sick time, missouts, and unexcused absences, not to exceed a combined total of seven.
- No suspensions.
- No chargeable accidents.
- No chargeable passenger complaints.
- No rule violations.
- No indefinite leave.

The first Accessible Service award will be presented at the Ad Hoc Committee meeting in November.

Operators Recognized in May

The May awards for the Operator Recognition program were announced in June. The presentations include the Manager's Award and the Sweepstakes Award.

The purpose of this program is to recognize and reward the many bus operators who consistently perform in an outstanding manner.

The theme of the program is "In Pursuit of Excellence." Those excelling in their pursuit are listed below.

MANAGER'S AWARD

Division	Recipient
3201	Hoyt A. Brown
3202	Leon Harrison
3203	Steve O. Allen
3205	Lawrence C. Galloway
3206	John H. Davies
3207	Earl H. Wright
3208	Cheryl C. Crockett
3209	Jose S. Arizmendi

3210	Hector L. Hernandez
3212	Milo Starks
3215	Ursula M. Johnson
3216	Robert A. Descombes
3218	Budd E. Shade

SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

Division	Winner
3201	Randolph Jackson
3202	Jimmy Render Randolph Wallick
3203	Ludovico M. Castro
3205	Juanita L. Coleman Tyrone R. Hooks
3206	Eva M. Guillory
3207	Kenya J. Robinson Savannah M. Bowers
3208	William L. Migal
3209	Victor O. Ortiz Policarpio Villarreal
3210	Fred Thompson
3212	William A. Riley
3215	Eusebio Martinez Roger K. Washington
3216	Angel A. Alvarez
3218	Arthur L. Antwine

Stubbs Retires After 19 Years



Assistant General Manager for Administration Jack Stubbs bids farewell to District well-wishers at his retirement party.

Assistant General Manager for Administration Jack Stubbs retired June 20 after 19 years with the District.

Under his direction, a staff of over 300 persons was involved in liaison work with local, state, and federal governments, grant applications for federal funding, planning, and marketing.

Prior to coming to the District, Stubbs was an administrative assistant for the California Assembly.

At his retirement party held in the Administration Building cafeteria, Stubbs thanked his well-wishers. "My heart will be with you all the time, except for the next three weeks. During that time I'll be in Ireland. Thank you all for this wonderful turnout. You are good friends and I'll always think of you."

Desgroseilliers Wins RTD Bus Rodeo



The KTRD video team of Jess Diaz and Andy Soto capture the Rodeo highlights. Film at 11.

Continued from page 1

enforcement officials as they maneuvered their buses through eleven simulated road problems in seven minutes or less. The thirty-two operators demonstrated their driving skills on a grueling obstacle course designed to test their driving ability, judgment, and knowledge of safety regulations.

To qualify for the Rodeo, an operator must measure up to rigid standards that take into account his or her past driving records and personal appearance. In addition to successfully completing a written safety test, the operator — for a period of one year prior to the competition — must have worked full

time as an operator for the District, must have no chargeable accidents, must have had no more than three unavoidable accidents, must have had no more than three miss-outs, and must have had no suspensions.

The actual competition includes a pre-trip bus inspection, a personal appearance rating, and 11 simulated road problems designed to test a driver's ability in negotiating left and right turns, reversing-in turns, passenger stops, reaction time, and judgment.

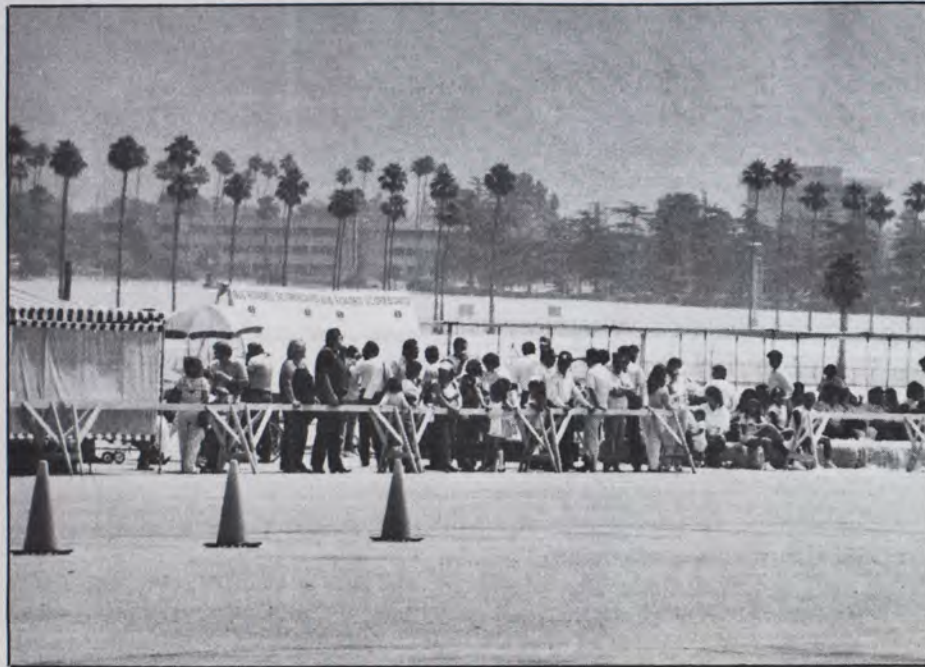
During the driving test, a judge rides with each operator,

scoring for smoothness of operation and safety habits.

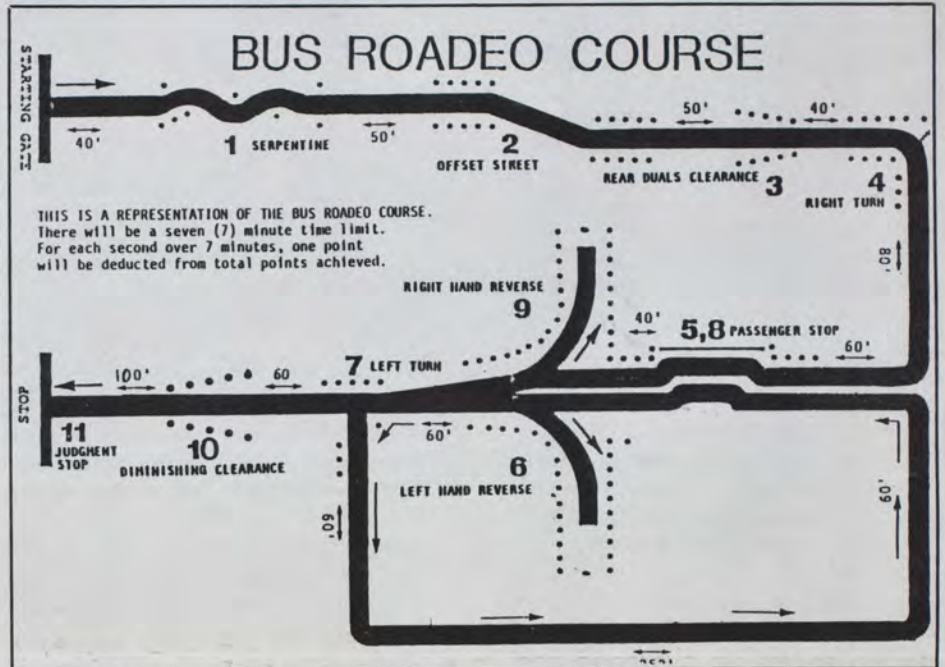
Desgroseilliers has driven for the District for 11½ years. When not driving, he plays softball with a Burbank team composed mostly of bus operators. His other interests include bowling, fishing, and working around his house.

Desgroseilliers resides with his wife Janie and their three children, Debbie, 20, Keri, 18, and Jeffrey, 10, in North Hollywood.

"What I liked about this Rodeo was the group I competed against," said Desgroseilliers. "They had to be the nicest bunch of guys, always ready to help."



Transit families and fans line up to watch their favorites compete on the course.



The obstacle course.



This obstacle has got to be the hair- and toe-curling event of the whole course. Here the contestant must negotiate the rear dual tires of the bus through two rows of tennis balls that measure 26 inches at its narrowest and 29 inches at its widest.



Moving toward the end of the course, operators maneuver through the dramatic obstacle of diminishing clearance. Operators must speedily drive through these rows of progressively narrowing barrels without upsetting them.



The District winner and runners-up.

BUS ROADEO SCOREBOARD												BUS ROADEO SCOREBOARD											
1	ROGER D. 606	8	WILKERSON 576	15	MUNOZ 566	22	CARRAJAL 545	29	WARRIETHA 451	36		1	ROGER D. 606	8	WILKERSON 576	15	MUNOZ 566	22	CARRAJAL 545	29	WARRIETHA 451	36	
2	GONZALEZ 604	9	MOORE 576	16	HART 566	23	LONDONO 535	30	JACKSON 456	37		2	GONZALEZ 604	9	MOORE 576	16	HART 566	23	LONDONO 535	30	JACKSON 456	37	
3	ARIZMENDI 598	10	SWIFT 572	17	GUSKOS 565	24	MONCIVALS 522	31		38		3	ARIZMENDI 598	10	SWIFT 572	17	GUSKOS 565	24	MONCIVALS 522	31		38	
4	GUTIERREZ 593	11	RODRIGUEZ 571	18	HOLLAND 563	25	PITTS 521	32		39		4	GUTIERREZ 593	11	RODRIGUEZ 571	18	HOLLAND 563	25	PITTS 521	32		39	
5	JACKSON 590	12	ROJAS 568	19	PETERSON 555	26	KING 509	33		40		5	JACKSON 590	12	ROJAS 568	19	PETERSON 555	26	KING 509	33		40	
6	CASTRO 584	13	GUTIERREZ 568	20	ESCOBEDO 548	27	WEIHERT 486	34		41		6	CASTRO 584	13	GUTIERREZ 568	20	ESCOBEDO 548	27	WEIHERT 486	34		41	
7	CHACON 580	14	KEMP 566	21	WELCH 546	28	CONCIARDO 477	35		42		7	CHACON 580	14	KEMP 566	21	WELCH 546	28	CONCIARDO 477	35		42	

And it's final! Here's how the contestants stacked up against each other.

Fair Gives Health a Wholesome Name

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small universal gym to avail everyone of hands-on experience. The YMCA monitored step tests to measure participants' physical fitness. Other agencies providing participants with fitness tests included Blue Cross, with their Longevity Game, a fun way to see how health habits increase or decrease longevity. Memorial Hospital of Glendale demonstrated the use of a biofeedback machine that helps diminish stress. Office Aerobic Services offered body composition testing (a computer that reports one's percentage of body fat to muscle), blood pressure testing, and blood sugar levels testing for diabetes. Alpha Counseling Center had participants blow into a vital lung capacity device to detect any evidence of lung disease.

Only the healthiest snacks and drinks were available at the Fair. Fruta de Sol vendors offered a wide choice of mixed fruit juices. Alta-Dena Dairies fed the crowd cheeses and yogurt. Office Aerobic Services offered granola and fruit. Chef's Annex provided a wide assortment of low-calorie and sugarless desserts that looked as scrumptious as they tasted. The Personnel Department brought trail mixes and banana chips. You had to look real hard to find a Twinkie on the property.

Inside Division 10, the activity continued simultaneously under the Big Top with participants lining up for a stroke detection test sponsored by Life Diagnostics, or a visual acuity test by Dr. Seymour Besem. Visitors had the opportunity to speak with representatives from the Sickle-Cell Anemia Foundation, the RTD Safety Department, Alcohol Council of Central Los Angeles, Bronson's Pharmaceuticals, and Nautilus Plus. La Cameo Cosmetics International displayed cosmetics made from natural ingredients and applied facials on volunteers. Other agencies assisting included the American Cancer Association, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, Planned Parenthood, and the National Cancer Institute.

The Health Awareness Fair was co-sponsored by the Personnel Department and Office Aerobic Services and with the assistance of twenty-five participating health agencies. By the looks of the crowd, everyone had an enjoyable as well as healthful time.



No sweat says Transit Police Chief Jim Burgess as he strides into the last mile of the walk-run.



The eyesight of a District employee's child is checked at the Health Awareness Fair.



Chef's Annex serves up their low-calorie goodies to the many willing takers.



Nautilus Plus' Lifecycle was a popular attraction. Some participants just couldn't wait their turn.



Two runaways from Ringling, Barnum and Bailey dropped by to dispense balloons to fair participants.



"Tell me my blood pressure is nice and low and you'll make my day."

To Your Health

The cornerstone of good health is the practice of preventive medicine, which can be defined as the science of preventing the loss of good health and avoiding disease. This practice includes eating — *good nutrition*.

To practice preventive medicine, first you need to see your physician and dentist. You need to know if your body is functioning as well as you think it is *and* should be. Second, you need to practice good nutrition. Third, you need to exercise on a regular basis, and finally, you need to practice stress reduction techniques.

Our choices of food are governed by cultural/racial and personal preference in food. If you were raised in a meat and potatoes environment with starchy desserts after the main meal, it may follow that you aren't used to eating fresh vegetables. You might not like them now but with careful retraining and a desire for proper nutrition you can cultivate a taste for the different foods that will balance your diet. The balancing of your daily diet is important to your sense of well-being because proper nutrition sharpens your senses. This proper nutrition will consist of foods which are fresh and unprocessed. It means cooking the fresh vegetables properly, so as to retain the vitamins, color, and texture that is found in fresh food. Steaming your vegetables for a short period of time is preferred rather than drowning them in cups of water that leech the vitamins and minerals from the vegetables and make them mushy.

A recommendation for a well-balanced proper diet is one that I follow myself:

Two (2) servings of milk or dairy products. This can include yogurt or cheese: Jack, Swiss, or Cheddar. This *does not* include ice cream or frozen yogurt which are both high in fat and sugar.

Four (4) servings of 100 percent whole grain or cereal products. This can include corn tortillas, freshly popped corn, Miller's bran, and whole wheat bread. This *does not* include sugared cereals, white bread, flour tortillas, crackers, and cookies.

Four (4) servings of fresh fruit and/or vegetables. This can include a small amount of fresh fruit juices but not fruit drinks or canned sweetened fruit. One (1) serving should be a leafy green vegetable. This can include broccoli, romaine lettuce, spinach,



by Elia Hager
Visiting Nurse

kale, collards, mustard, etc.

Two (2) servings of legumes (pinto beans, soy bean, etc.) meat, preferably chicken, turkey, or fish. This does not include luncheon meats, hot dogs, bacon, sausage, or ham because of their high fat and salt content.

To accommodate the needs of children, you would add two (2) more servings of milk or milk products. For pregnant and nursing mothers, you would add three (3) for a total of five (5) servings of milk or milk products.

Become aware of what you eat and what you purchase for your family. Read the ingredients listed on each package. This way, you can make a judgment as to the nutritional value of the food. If the product says vitamin enriched, that means that the original food has been altered and actually may have a lower total nutritional value than the original. In processing foods, chemicals are added to the foods to stabilize color, flavor, and texture of the foods. A final note, most processed foods are higher in calories than their natural counterpart due to the added sugar and fats.

This then is the first step to the practice of good health: examine what you are eating and practice good nutrition for you and your family. See how you can improve your daily diet and how you can return to a better and less processed way of eating.

Send all inquiries regarding nutrition to the Personnel Department to my attention.



Make-up artists from La Cameo Cosmetics, International, remake fair participants with their supply of natural cosmetics.



Marie-Louise Reyna puffs and puffs into a device that will register her vital lung capacity and indicate any evidence of lung disease.

RTD Has Its Own June Graduates

After two years of intensive study at UCLA Extension, the students participating in the Transit Operations Management Certificate Program had their chance to test the wits of District assistant-general managers.

On June 11, Assistant General Manager-Management John Richeson and Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach were invited to participate as panelists at the class *Management Principles and Practices*. All the students in the class were part of the two-year training program at UCLA Extension and are currently or formerly RTD employees from the Transportation and Equipment Maintenance Departments.

The panel moderator, class instructor Jack Blum, opened the discussion with general transit issues including privatization of bus lines, automation, managerial skills, light rail, and future transit trends. Students also asked their own questions during this informal setting.

The first issue, concerning privatization, was addressed to Assistant General Manager-Management John Richeson. Richeson's perception of privatization is that the term is used to describe a variety of efforts by public bodies to have public services performed by private contractors, as opposed to having those services performed by employees on the public payroll.

"The theory is that the private competitive marketplace will benefit taxpayers by keeping the cost of public services low," said Richeson.

"In theory, if one contractor does not do the job well enough, you fire them and hire a new one. Unfortunately, the theory creates a dilemma between having the option to fire a contractor who is not performing, and private contractors' necessity for sufficiently long contracts to amortize the capital investments necessary to deliver the service," he said.



Students participating in the Transit Operations Management Certificate Program question District managers at a guest panel held at UCLA Extension. Far left: Management Intern Ira Trachter, Assistant General Manager-Management John Richeson, and Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach.

"Other cities have used privatization for commuter and shuttle service, or for dial-a-ride purposes and the Board has expressed an interest in testing such services at the RTD."

Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach sees privatization as an issue with many unanswered questions. "Private companies are required to pay the same wages we offer. And besides the money, we offer transit police protection and information services. I don't know how many private companies can offer that."

Several students questioned Richeson on the issue of automation. He responded that the District had made strides in this area. "Eighty-five percent of all District personnel are employed in Operations and 85 percent of District lines transport 50 percent of the patron population. But, the fact remains that as a bus system our front lines are serviced by a 40-foot bus driven by an operator. Despite innovations in automation, there is no machinery that can get around that."

One member of the class questioned the managers about the type and quality of manager the District needs. On management skills necessary for transit operation, Korach said he was looking for

people with a personal interest in the business. "I'm interested in people who will argue the issues with me, not someone who will yes me. But, basically, as a manager you have to know your subject, be educated, and like to work with people."

Richeson said, "We look for successful managers, and success is keeping your eye open for good opportunities and taking advantage of them."

On the advent of start up for the LA/Long Beach light rail line, many students were interested in knowing what sort of organizational structure would manage and maintain it. Korach sees three departments at the District maintaining its day to day operations. "To operate a light rail system you need the integrative support of a transportation department, an equipment maintenance department, and a power plant department. We will need to get people from the outside to head up light rail in each of these three areas. In my younger days we moved everyone from the streetcars into the bus business. Now we've got to do it the other way around."

Students representing the Equipment Maintenance Department were especially concerned about the direction the District will

choose regarding the various technological innovations in buses. Korach said he favors and looks forward to buses that are delivered on time and don't have to be put through the warranty or retrofit process. "I would prefer we get nothing but Fixibles and RTS IIs. These are your standard buses that can take the wear and tear on our lines. Grumman is in the aircraft business. They may produce so-called state-of-the-art buses but I don't believe we need space-age technology out on the Pico-Rimpau loop or on Vermont Avenue. We need buses that run with minimal road calls. Some of the problems we've encountered are caused by the equipment itself."

The Transit Operations Management Certificate Program consisted of seven 12-week, university-level evening classes that students attended on their own time. The course outline included classes in communication skills, managerial principles, operations management, data processing, budgeting and finance, and employee relations.

The purpose of the program was to provide participants with the background and practical skills required for division and departmental management. Successful completion of the program does not guarantee promotion; however, those who did receive a certificate of completion are well qualified for promotional consideration. The program was coordinated by the Employee Development Department.

The program participants completed their course of study on June 25. Those participants included: M. Vandegeugten, Ira Trachter, Norma Velez, Dorrace Adams, Mart Brower, Sedric Bradshaw, Sophie Bryant, Chris Coleman, Dan Dryden, Diane Frazier, Tom Jasmin, Julie Gray, Ellis Kyle, Chuck Lerud, Don Little, John McBryan, Cindi Munoz, Alvin Parker, Linda Leone, Franklin Quan, Sammie Sanders, P.G. Smith, Beverly Rosser, and Harold Torres.

District Paychecks Take On a New Look!

The capabilities of the District's TRANSMIS II Payroll/Personnel system coupled with the diligent efforts of the payroll staff have led the District into new advanced payroll applications.

Those applications include: upgraded government reporting capabilities, automatic check deposits, more accurate and detailed information regarding vacation, sick days, holidays, and breakdown of deductions.

One of the most recent refinements was evident on your July pay checks. You may have noticed a whole new look. The stub has been redesigned to provide mechanics and operators with a daily recap of their time as it did in the past. The information included on the new check format is basically the same as on the old format, only the design in which it is presented has changed. This check stub will still serve to keep you informed as to

ID NUMBER NAME		LOC/DEPT		PAY PERIOD ENDING		CHECK NO	
1		2		3		4	
SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT		SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT		SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT		TOTAL	
5		6		7		8	
PAY TYPES		HOURS		GROSS AMT		GROSS PAY	
9		10		11		12	
TAXES		TAX CODES		TOTAL DEDUCTIONS		TOTAL TAXES	
13		14		15		16	
YEAR TO DATE		VACATION		SICK		FLIGHT HRS	
17		18		19		20	
NET PAY		SCRTD STATEMENT OF EARNINGS		21		22	

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
 425 SOUTH MAIN STREET
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90013

PAYROLL ACCOUNT

DATE 2

PAY TO THE ORDER OF: 1

AMOUNT 3

HEADQUARTERS CORPORATE OFFICE
 LLOYD BANK CALIFORNIA
 901 S. FLOWER, LOS ANGELES, CA 90017

⑆ 2200 35 16 ⑆ 0494 ⑆ 14 304 ⑆ 78

EMPLOYEE STATEMENT OF EARNINGS - NEW CHECK FORMAT

- Employee badge number and name
- Location for check distribution
- Pay period ending date
- Check number
- Hours paid listed by date submitted
REG is regular time hours
OT is overtime hours
DF is deferred hours
- Total hours paid (equal to hours in #7)
- Hours and gross dollars paid listed by earnings type
- Total gross paid for payroll period
- Pay reductions (i.e., Deferred Compensation, Thrift Plan, etc.)
- Status per W-4 for tax calculation
- Current payroll period's tax deductions:
FICA (Social Security)
Federal income tax
State income tax
SDI (State Disability)
- Current deductions other than taxes and taxes deducted
- Vacation, sick time, and holiday balances available
- Total pay reductions
- Total taxes deducted on this check
- Total non-tax deductions on this check
- Net amount of check
- The message of the day

PAYROLL CHECK - NEW FORMAT

- Employee's name, number and department
- Date on which check is issued
- Net amount of check

Paychecks have a new look and help you keep track of year-to-date totals.

your accrued sick leave and vacation balances as well as various year-to-date totals or miscellaneous deductions you may need at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Hence, the Deferred Compensation year-to-date total will again be included in your check in the near future. Additionally, you will now find balances for your

floating and moveable holidays (see diagram for details). The Payroll Department is continually striving to use the system for the benefit of all employees.

South Park Brings Back the 50's



At noon the BBQ bell rings and the crowd appears for the food with a reputation worth standing in line for.



Under the canopy, South Park servers offer BBQ chicken and ribs, chili, potato salad, and homemade carrot cake.



South Park Fourth Annual BBQ Committee — Front row from the left: Clint Fisher, Dan Richardson, Richard Famighetti, Neal Vredevelt, Candace Courreges, Jose Mijangos, and Phillip Rodriguez. Middle row from the left: Jessie Lira, Lee Kennon, Ron "dino" Controneo, Bob Falvey, Mike Bujosa, Essie Washington, Larry Lenihan and Harold Torres. Back row from the left: Sam Saucedo, "Fast" Eddie Carroll, Henry Wielandt, Flood Washington, Lawrence Dupre, Dane Sheldon, Charlene Robertson, Freddy Steger, Ralph Fletcher, and Earnest Gerado.



Car Show Winners — Front row from left: Freddy Steger, Mike Scaiola. Back row from left: Lawrence Abrams, Leo Duell, Wes Freeman, John Ramos, Manuel Guerra, and Larry Lenihan holds the Gumbly Award for Worst Entry won by Candace Courreges.

Joanie primped the curls of her new Toni permanent while Shirley smoothed out the wrinkles in her poodle skirt. Across the table from them, Squiggy chewed on his pork ribs till the grease running down his chin glistened as brightly as the brilliantine in his hair. In the distance, Laverne and Lenny slow danced to the strains of *Blue Moon*. Back at the table, Joanie sighed and softly sang along, "Blue Moon, You saw me standing alone, Without a dream in my heart, Without a love of my own." But when the juke began playing *Rock Around the Clock*, the whole joint started jumping!

This scene is not to be confused with American Bandstand when it was still in Philadelphia, or the sets of *Grease*, *Happy Days*, or *Laverne & Shirley*. No, this was South Park's Fourth Annual Employee Barbecue. The theme was 'Bringing back the 50's'. Women sported pony tails, long skirts, saddle oxfords, and bobby sox; men rolled up their white T-shirt sleeves; blue-jean pant legs were rolled up too, to reveal white socks and penny loafers. Music selected by DJ Sam Saucedo included all the 50's oldies but goodies — *My Ding-a-Ling*, *Blue Suede Shoes*, *Blueberry Hill*, *Rock Around the Clock*, *Leader of the Pack*, etc.

With the tight coordination of a 24-member committee and the overall supervision of Harold Torres along with Mike Bujosa and Ernest Jurado, on June 14, South Park successfully reverted back to the 1950's. At approximately 3:30 a.m. Head Chef William Frederick stoked up the fires on 13 barbecue pits. Frederick supervised 8 cooks who, at that early hour, began barbecuing 100 pounds of pork ribs, 350 pounds of chicken, 250 pounds of beef ribs, and 130 pounds of Louisiana hot-link sausage. By noon, the food was on and the clock turned back. In addition to barbecue, 140 pounds of potato salad, 50 quarts of Flood Washington's special Louisiana chili beans, 26 cases of soft drinks, and 13 sheets of carrot cake, homemade by Gail Sanders, were served. Committee Treasurer Albert Toussaint must have used a flat-bed truck to lug all that food to South Park. Kitchen members managed to serve 458 people in a record-breaking 18 minutes.

Candace Courreges and Delores Humes, ticket sellers for the event, used their instinctive marketing ability to get out the crowd.

Added attractions included a replica of a 50's movie house exhibiting black-and-white snapshots of South Park employees as they appeared in the 50's. The exhibit was arranged by Mario Miranda. Jose Migangos, theater manager, took all visitors through the movie house asking if they could recognize that person in the baggy Desi Arnaz pants or this James Dean look-alike. The artwork and 50's murals displayed on the exterior of movie house were conceived by Neil Vredevelt. Late afternoon offered a car show, organized by Leo Duell and Ed McCoy, that included an upbeat and un-Fonz-like AMF Motorcycle display along with restored cars from the 30's to the 70's, a U.S. Army troop carrier, and a souped-up belly-mount fuel tank from a WWII P-38 that tracks 225 mph down the highway. First prize for the best overall entry went to, what else, Fred Steger's 1956 yellow and white Chevy. You don't see chrome like that anymore.

After the rush, Committee Chair Dane "Lenny" Sheldon cooled his bobby sox-clad dogs and took a breather. "Lot's of planning goes into this event," said Dane. "There's more going on here than meets the eye. These employees are just models of efficiency. They planned, managed, and marketed the whole event."

It's almost two in the afternoon, the music is fading out, and the clock rolls forward. Time to go back to work. Bye-bye Jimmy Dean, Chuck Berry, Elvis, and Sandra Dee. See you later, alligator.

Time to go, the hop's over.



Neal Vredevelt and Anita Cooper decide it's time to rock around the BBQ.



Invited guests to the BBQ included News Bureau Representative Usha Viswanathan, Equipment Engineering Manager Michael Leahy, and Director of Maintenance Rich Davis.



Mechanic A Michael Roth brought his bike to the car show.



The hop's over and it's time to split like a banana.

RTD Retirees Keep in Touch with Friends



Old friends meet outside the Riverside Retirees Social Club. From the left: Joe La Fond, Steve Stevenson, Dick Kelso, and Bill Hall.



There always seems to be a ready smile of welcome or a pat on the back for new members.

What to do after RTD? For many of the RTD retirees, it has meant the time to travel and do all the things they weren't able to do while they worked full-time. In addition to this, for some of the retirees it has meant a monthly gathering in Ribidoux, a small suburb of Riverside, with the Riverside RTD Retirees Social Club. At a recent meeting, a group of about 50 retirees were gathered for a potluck lunch, to reminisce about old times, and to hear the update about what's going on at the RTD.

The retirees met at the Grange Hall on Riverview Drive. The room was filled with a unique group of people, who joyfully shared stories like, "I remember when I was driving the old street car..." and "Did I ever tell you about that old lady that got on my bus once and said..." Friends were able to get reacquainted and share in each others lives since retirement. Strangers realized how their paths had crossed many times while working for the District, yet they had never met each other before.

Dick Kelso, president of the retiree club explains, "The club gives us a chance to see our old friends, at least once a month, and meet new friends." The club was originally formed in 1940 by over 350 employees of the old Riverside Division. There are four RTD social clubs across the Southland.

The Riverside RTD Retirees Social Club has the following agenda: a great deal of socializing, a delicious potluck lunch, followed by a guest speaker (usually from the RTD), announcement of the door prize winners, and concludes with more socializing.

The people in these meetings have served the District for an average of 35 years. They have also lived through and experienced a tremendous evolution of the transit system. All of them have a story or two to tell. Take for example, Lou Velzy, a retired operator and a legend at the RTD. "I had 45 wonderful years with the RTD. I worked from 1926 to 1971. I started with the Pacific Electric Company. I put my heart in my job, I treated my men like I wanted to be treated."

Bill Hall, former operator/line instructor and treasurer of the club worked for 36 1/2 years from 1936 to 1972, recalled, "I remember driving the old street cars. In those days Pacific Electric refused to put up the money to install windshield wipers on the street cars. So, do

you know what all of us used to do? We would stop at the store at the end of the line and buy a bag of tobacco. We would rub this tobacco all over the windshield so the rain would slick off the windows, that way we would be able to see and it was safer for us to drive. Now, did you know this? The union fought this problem with the Pacific Electric Company and it went all the way up to Sacramento. Later, a law was passed that required all street cars to have windshield wipers if operated on city streets. You know, in the old days, we worked seven days a week with no days off. Those were pretty hard times!"

Dick Kelso, retired chief special agent, said, "I spent most of my life with the District, even met my wife while running a street car. So, when a friend suggested that I get involved with the organization, I attended a meeting and really enjoyed seeing old friends again. Kelso added, "I was not aware that a club like this existed, and most retirees don't know about the club"

Bill Hall said, "I'm involved with this club because so many of my buddies are in it, and I get to see them at the meetings and talk about old times."

Kelso extended an invitation to all retirees. "We want to see our old friends and we hope that all of the RTD retirees both male and female will come and join our club."

For more information about the RTD Retirees Social Club, contact Richard (Dick) Kelso; 5902 S. Redman Avenue, Whittier, CA 90606, (213) 692-4967.



Joe Stevens views the club's collection of memorabilia.



Belva Hall, Club President Dick Kelso, Chuck Bertos, and Club Vice-President Mary Johnson take care of business before socializing.



A delicious homemade lunch prepared by members is served buffet-style to members. No one seemed shy about helping themselves.



Lou Velzy welcomes new retirees to the Riverside Retirees Social Club.



Of course, all good things must come to an end and someone's got to do the dishes; however, these ladies seem happy in their work.

Pitchford Making Music in Pasadena

Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford may have beat Mozart to the keyboard by a year, but, unlike him, her introduction to the world of music at age two began when she pounded out on the family piano the notes of her, then, favorite song — *Jesus Loves Me*.

Today, in addition to her duties at the District, Pitchford is the president of the 75-member Pasadena Community Orchestra as well as one of its violinists.

Her perfect pitch and ability to play by ear has enabled her to learn to play the violin, viola, guitar, piano, and organ. However, growing up in the farm country of Washington's Yakima Valley wasn't the most inspiring place for a young musician. "Isaac Stern never gave a concert there," she said, "but I would listen to classical music for hours on the radio and try to recreate the notes on the piano."

Her formal training began at age four, but lasted only five years because the family could not afford for her to continue. Pitchford did continue taking music classes in public school. However, her music education did not proceed as she had hoped it would. In the eighth grade she got stuck playing the viola. "I hated the viola and yet it was at that time that I wrote a concerto, entitled *Concerto for Viola and Orchestra*. The form was correct even if it wasn't the most impressive concerto."

At seventeen Pitchford took up the guitar. "It helped me sing my way through East Washington State College."

After graduation she found the demands of her career forced



Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford performs with the Pasadena Community Orchestra at their Spring Pops in the Park Concert at Sierra Madre Park.

her to put the instruments back in their cases for a while. "I didn't have a lot of free time for practice. It wasn't until years later when I heard the Arroyo String Quartet perform at a birthday party that the idea of playing came up again."

She happened to mention to the violinist of the quartet that she played the violin. The violinist invited her to join the Pasadena Community College Orchestra as it was called at that time. "I didn't take her seriously. She insisted that if I could count to four I could play in the orchestra."

Eventually, Pitchford followed through on the invitation. "I had

great difficulty playing the music. I remember struggling through that season."

Pitchford persevered and decided to put money as well as time in the pursuit. "I bought a French violin that was made in 1774; it greatly improved my playing. Taking lessons improved my performance dramatically. I got in extra practice by playing duets with another orchestra member."

After that first season she auditioned for a chair in the orchestra. "Following my performance the conductor came up to me and said, 'Boy, you played a hell of a performance.' And it happened, I was plucked from obscurity to play in the front row."

Trouble fell on the Pasadena Community College Orchestra when the college, cut back on funding, decided to cancel the orchestra. "The orchestra didn't want to quit so we incorporated as the Pasadena Community Orchestra Foundation. We established a board and organized fund raisers. It paid off. We've been on our own for two years and have a yearly operating budget of \$25,000."

As an independent entity, the Pasadena Community Orchestra has made a commercial for Molson's Golden Ale of Canada and has other offers coming in. "We got a contract to perform the *Nutcracker Suite* with the Pasadena Dance Theatre. We have also done the *Sea Symphony* with the Pasadena Chorale and the Long Beach Master Chorale." Along with this special schedule the orchestra performs four regular

concerts a year, Handel's *Messiah* at Christmas, and one pops concert in the park during spring.

"Our new goal is to sponsor a Young Artist's Contest. The winner will receive a music scholarship and will be invited to perform with us in our March concert," she said.

When off the concert tour, Pitchford enjoys listening to jazz. "I've developed a fascination for it. It's like classical music — very complex. The syncopated arrangements are difficult for me. I've had to listen to records to learn the pulse of it."

Despite the fact that Pitchford frequents the *Espresso Bar* restaurant to listen to jazz vets improvise, she admits her favorite kind of music is classical. "I like the Baroque period the best. Heavy metal does nothing for me nor does the Hawaiian steel guitar. Other than that, I like everything else."

"I wouldn't like my life as much if I didn't have music. I'm very involved in it personally. I play music in my head. Without thinking about it I'll play Bach's *Fugue in G Minor* in my mind and catch myself tapping the rhythm with my fingers."

While music is an integral part of her life, Pitchford admits that at times it can be a struggle. "I'm not a perfect performer who gets it right every single performance. I've learned not to force it if it's just not there at that moment. But there are those moments when the notes come out so beautifully and so effortlessly, like water cascading off a waterfall. Those are the times when you can get high playing music."

District Filipinos Form Networking Group

The SCRTD Filipino Employees Association is a multi-purpose organization whose members have more than good social times on their agenda.

The association was formed to promote socio-economic and cultural/educational development. "By that we mean 'networking'," said the organization's press relations officer Joseph Vicente.

"We would like to be more

than just office mates at the RTD. A social setting allows us the opportunity to exchange ideas. You find out that perhaps you and another employee went to the same school or are related or know the same people. Before you know it you have a friendship," said Vicente.

Vicente pointed out another purpose of the organization — promoting Filipino culture. "We are proud to participate in the progress

of the RTD; however, we want to maintain our culture, remember where we came from, and appreciate the blessings and opportunities we have received."

Most members of the association are immigrants that were allowed entrance to the U.S. because of their professional status said Vicente.

"I left the Philippines to try my luck in the U.S. I came here during the peak of the auto industry recession. I had a tough time finding a job in my field, mechanical engineering. I took a job I found available, that of a custodian in a convalescent home. I chose this job over being a welfare recipient."

An abhorrence of welfare is an attitude very common among Filipinos, Vicente said. He also believes the Oriental discipline fostered by his culture enables the association members to contribute much to the District. "We are a people who instill this work ethic in our children. Despite our privileged backgrounds in the Philippines or our professional status, we have the willingness and flexibility to take any job and grow from it."

Vicente has worked for the District for ten years. In that time he learned data processing and is now a Systems Project Leader.

"While our association is primarily social, we do urge each other to develop and upgrade our

skills and thereby contribute more to the District," he said.

The greatest difficulty most immigrants experience is the language. Vicente sees the association as a means to help newcomers overcome this barrier. "We'd like to sponsor training programs. We could advise newcomers of their potential for growth and lead them in the right direction."

The association inducted its first board of officers on June 10 at the Design Center restaurant. The officers were sworn into office by District Assistant General Counsel Suzanne Gifford for two-year terms.

For Sale

1966 Cadillac, Coupe D'Ville. All Power-Automatic & Air Cond. Excellent condition. \$1,195.00. CALL ED ANYTIME (213) 691-6862.

1967 Cougar Restored, all Power. Rebuilt engine & trans. Custom paint job. Air Cond. & Automatic. \$3,195.00. CALL ED ANYTIME (213) 691-6862.

1979 Chevy Luv Pick-up Truck, new paint job, camper shell, wide oval tires & chrome wheels. \$3,195.00 CALL ED ANYTIME (213) 691-6862.



Newly elected officers of the SCRTD Filipino Employees Association — Front row from left: Senior Auditor Emilio F. Estepa, president; Data Processing Documentation Technician Elen Andrian, treasurer; and Accountant Salvador Herras, vice president. Back row from left: Senior Secretary Minardo Tigbayan, assistant secretary; Senior Secretary Carmelita Romero, secretary; Auditor Jon Sotero, auditor; and Staff Aide Rick Banaag, assistant treasurer. Not shown are Systems Project Leader Joseph Vicente, press relations officer, and Senior Schedule Checker Archie Balolong, business manager.

COMMENDATIONS



May Employees of the Month — Front row from left: RTD Director Carmen Estrada, Telephone Information Operator Edith Miller and Division 9 Mechanic A Rudolph S. Gutierrez. Not shown is Division 5's Operator-of-the-Month Willie B. Tibbs. Back row from left: General Manager John A. Dyer, Maintenance Manager Ken Miller, and Customer Relations Manager Robert Williams.



Retirees Honored — Front row from left: Division 9 Mechanic A Leadman Frank J. Provencher, Division 1 Operator Arthur Conley, Division 3 Operator Masaki Sugimoto, Division 9 Operator Thomas J. Allen, Division 8 Operator Robert Copenhaver, and Division 3 Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Robert W. Heller. Back row from the left: Director Charles Storing, Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach, Division 12 Mechanic A Leader Melvin Marshall, Operator Herman Markwell, Traffic Loader/Schedule Checker Pervis L. Ary, and General Manager John A. Dyer.



Employee Suggestion Award Recipients — Front row from the left: Division 15 Storekeeper Carol Farris, \$50, for his idea of ordering needed parts instead of the manufacturer's assembled kits. Security Guard II Alfred Hendricks, \$420, for suggesting the District erect bumpers at the Cash Counting Room to inhibit damage to the doors when the armored cars back up; and Mechanic A Mike Ortega, \$700, for developing a rear door relay for the wiring group. Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford, far right, and General Manager John A. Dyer, stands behind these winners.



The outgoing chairperson and vice chairperson of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation (CACAT) were presented with certificates of appreciation for their past service by the District's Ad Hoc Committee on Accessible Service Chairperson and RTD Director John Day; and General Manager John A. Dyer. From left to right: Director John Day, Helen Goss, past vice chairperson of CACAT and representing the Westside Independent Living Center; Cynthia Moyer, past chairperson of CACAT and representing the Easter Seal Society; and General Manager John A. Dyer.



The First Quarter 1985 Safe Performance Awards were to Transportation Division 10 and Maintenance Division 16. Accepting on behalf of their divisions are (front from left) Transportation Division 10 Manager George Marsala and Division 16 Maintenance Manager Jim Finley. Back row from left: General Manager John A. Dyer, Director Nate Holden, and Safety Department Analyst Frank Larson.



Wyatt Lopez was selected the July Maintenance Employee of the Month from South Park Shops. A Mechanic A in the Body Shop, Lopez has been at South Park since January 28, 1980.



Typist-Clerk Cookie Morris was named Employee of the Quarter by the District's Personnel Department for Spring 1985.

Doctors and Lawyers Drive Buses

Recently, employees may have seen men in business suits and women in summer dresses drive buses around division yards. They may have wondered whether or not they were a new operator class or if the District in an effort to increase revenue had introduced an E-Ticket thrill ride in division yards. Wrong on all counts, folks.

Through the cooperative efforts of the Safety, Insurance, Transportation, and Maintenance Departments, and the District Claims Administrator, L.J. Russo, Inc.; sixteen law firms and twenty-five medical clinics representing the District were invited to visit five divisions during the months of June and July.

The reason for the visits was to familiarize these representatives with the operations of both Maintenance and Transportation; and thereby have a better understanding of the causes of injuries to District employees.

The doctors were invited to specific divisions that are within the area of their offices. The attorneys were allowed to select the division that best fitted their schedules.

The turnout was greater than anticipated, with a total attendance of 44 attorneys and 13 doctors.

The groups were led on two-hour tours of Divisions 7, 9, 10, 15, and 18 facilities guided by Marlene Allen and John Brewer of the Insurance Department and Bob Torres and Frank Larson of the Safety Department. Each tour began with a general briefing session, followed by a walking tour, and culminating with a bus driving demonstration in the division yards.

The lawyers and doctors were invited to take a seat behind the wheel and experience driving a bus. For most of the professionals, this was the high point of the tour.

Dr. David B. Landers of Park Place Medical Center in Huntington Park said, "I've always held a secret fantasy about driving a bus. My partner and I were looking forward to this experience."

One may put his or her life in the hands of a doctor in the operating room or a lawyer in the courtroom. However, judging by the looks on their colleagues' faces as the doctors and lawyers took their turns behind the wheel, there was a decided lack of trust or confidence. You could almost hear the collective sigh of relief when the



Attorney Jed L. Kelson of Clopton, Penny and Brenner listens attentively as Senior Instructor Tom Jamin gives him point-by-point instructions on bus operation.

bus stopped and the senior instructor took over. Since no one asked for a second turn at the wheel, it seemed clear that the doctors and lawyers were only too glad to leave the driving to the RTD.

New Farebox Passes Test

Farebox testing which was to begin in April was delayed temporarily because of design problems discovered in the unit.

Cubic Western Data of San Diego, manufacturer of the farebox, has since rectified the design and testing began June 10.

The District tested 100 new fareboxes on buses serving west-side and downtown Los Angeles. The new fareboxes proved effective during the 45-day test. Initially, 900 fareboxes will be installed later this year.

The new farebox counts all denominations of U.S. coins and accepts dollar bills as well as tickets and tokens. It has two apertures for fare collection, one for the insertion of coins and tokens, the other for dollar bills and tickets.

"This new state-of-the-art equipment will permit our riders to use coins and dollar bills, and in the future can be modified to accept magnetic strip passes and transfers," said General Manager John A. Dyer.

The farebox automatically audits the amount dropped inside, and a built-in counter tells the driver how much money has been deposited.

RTD Picks and Pans the Movies



Cocoon — ****-1/2

Most likely the best film to come along this year, *Cocoon* is not a large-screen, blockbuster special effects movie that will dazzle and dazzle. It's a small, intimate story of a retirement community in St. Petersburg, Florida, and how their lives are changed when they come in contact with beings from another planet. This is not *E.T.*, the story of a small child searching for a way home, but of beings who return to Earth to complete a mission begun ten thousand years before. These are friendly beings, who only come in peace to retrieve the cocoons they left on the bottom of the ocean.

Ron Howard, who directed *Night Shift*, and last summer's hit *Splash*, expertly guides the viewer through the story, avoiding the temptation to make this all "larger than life," thereby entrapping us with its simplicity. Only in a few sequences does the film bog down, and then only for a moment or two, but those few moments are fortunately not enough to break the spell that has been woven.

Director Howard, however, cannot take all the credit for himself. He has a well-crafted script to work with, and a cast that includes Don Ameche, Hume Cronin, Jessica Tandy, Maureen Stapleton, Jack Gilford, Gwen Verdon, and a number of other excellent and expert character players, so many that the cast list looks like a "Late Show" TV Guide entry.

This is a film that is difficult to

describe without sounding maudlin, or coming under suspicion of being on the studio's payroll. It is wonderful, sensitive, joyful, sad, funny, and serious all at the same time, a celebration of the preciousness of life and love that will make you laugh and cry. Rated PG-13 for subject matter (dealing with death and dying in a way very young children might not understand), this film should top everyone's "must see" list.

Back to the Future — ****

This is a "teen comedy" that should appeal to all ages. Through the workings of a mad scientist, young Marty McFly is sent back thirty years, to when his parents are just beginning to date. He, however, accidentally changes the course of history, and must set things right before he is "erased" out of existence.

This is a light film, full of froth, that leaves a delightful taste when you leave the theater. As young Marty, Michael J. Fox is wonderful as the kid who's trying to escape from the existence his nerdy parents lead.

Red Sonja — BOMB

If you like well-scripted, well-acted films, stay away. On the other hand, if you, like me, stay up until 2:00 a.m. to watch *The Aztec Mummy vs. the Wrestling Women*, then *Red Sonja* is the film for you.

This is a Turkey with a capital "T", and should be a must for any aficionado of the truly bad. So, all you Grade "Z" movie fans out there, hit the bargain matinee, get discount tickets, or, better yet, wait 'til it comes out on TV. Then set your alarms for 2:00 a.m. and have fun!

COMING ATTRACTIONS

The Man with One Red Shoe

Why does everyone want Tom Hanks? After viewing the preview footage for this film, I have no idea. Nor did I particularly care. Appar-

ently, he plays a man who accidentally wears one red shoe, thereby accidentally signaling two sets of secret agents on opposite sides. The preview was cut together in a frantic manner, and the main joke seems to be that Hanks has no idea why he's being chased or

even who the spies are. Neither did the audience in the theater, whose basic reaction to the trailer was "So?" As previews are usually culled from the best footage available, this looks to be a "maybe, possibly, only if I'm desperate."

— Carolyn Kinkead

Sic Transit...



COMMENDATIONS AND SCHEDULE CHANGES

COMMENDATIONS

Division 1

Ramsey, Gloria
Valdez, Luis
Williams, W.T.

Division 2

Amstone, Connie S.
Congiardo, Eric
Denson, Ernest
Mattocks, Thomas L.
Saavedra, Peter Y.
Troy, Albert E.

Division 3

Pollard, Larry
Trevino, Phillip A.

Division 5

Christian, Eric
Rems, Carl W.
Stockton, Warren
Taylor, Lea

Division 6

Escalante, Tony P.

Division 7

Arredondo, Jesse F.
Audeo, Robert A.
Gardner, Andrea
Johnson, Jr., J.W.
Neggel, Cindy
Raphael, Francisco A.

Division 8

Anderson, James
Andrews, Raymond
Antill, Joyce F.
Bitner, Duane E.
Brollier, William
Crispi, Martin
Keleher, Patrick J.
Lyons, Mark
McKenna, Joseph M.

Division 9

Monday, Robert L.
Smith, George R.

Division 10

Meraz, Gary C.
Parrish, Gilbert L.
Saafir, Abdul

Division 12

Brenchley, Howard B.
Carrasco, Jose J.
Fonseca, Jose
Llewellyn, Melvin
Markovitch, Victor A.

Division 15

Brown, Kimberly
Frisch, Charles
Hall, Bobby L.
Johnson, John
Motherspaw, William C.
Purnell, Joseph
Turner, Michael D.
Williams, Lester

Division 16

Ennis, Danny

Division 18

Adams, Virginia
Alvarez, Socorro
MacMilian, Charles

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Barella, Robert T., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Brown, Leroy, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Cazis, Raymond D., from Operator/Traffic Loader to Operator/Extra Schedule Checker.

Davis, Laverne, from Ticket Clerk to Ticket Office and Report Clerk.

Davis, Ronald, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Douglas, Gerald, from Accounts Payable Clerk to Data Processing Library Clerk.

Famighetti, Richard P., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Hernandez, Robert, from Payroll Clerk to Accounts Payable Clerk.

Huang, Amy S., from Planning Systems Technician (A/N) to Data Technician.

Juarez, Madecadel H., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Lopez, Wyatt W., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Lumbattis, Garrett T., from Messenger Clerk to Cash Clerk.

Morales, David, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Oawster, Daniel J., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Ott, Jesse L., from Systems Programmer to Technical Support Manager.

Rankin, Paul A., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Scipio, Frederick H., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Silva, Ricardo M., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Sloper, Yvonne M., from Payroll Clerk to Accounts Payable Clerk.

Smith, Robert T., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

White, Joseph, from Mechanic A to Equipment Maintenance Supervisor I.

Wong, Alan G., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Young, Christopher L., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

TRIPPERS

BUS DRIVERS

*These are the ones who drive the bus
Trying to stay on time without any fuss
The people get on and pay their fare
Finding a seat without any care
The bus pulls away heading down the street
Dodging cars in the deadest of heat
Up stands a man who rings the bell
Passing his stop as he gives me hell
Once again to the curb I head
Wondering what the woman behind
just said
Again in the traffic the bus I let go
Where the next stop is I like to know
Looking ahead and down the street
To the next stop there stands my relief*

Paul E. Taylor
Traffic Dept.
Division 2

SHIFTING GEARS

Allen, Thomas, an Operator with the District since June 30, 1958, retired May 31, 1985.

Barnhart, Charles, an Operator with the District since June 9, 1962, retired June 16, 1985.

Braun, Arthur, an Operator with the District since June 9, 1958, retired June 17, 1985.

Ciatti, Gino, began with the District May 14, 1975, retired as a Utility A on May 30, 1985.

Fuyok, James, began with the District March 13, 1975, retired as an Extra Division Dispatcher/Operator on June 13, 1985.

Ostrowski, Frederick, an Operator with the District since February 28, 1958, retired June 1, 1985.

Stohr, William, began with the District January 5, 1970, retired as a Mechanic A on May 18, 1985.

Sutton, Terrance, an Operator with the District since March 4, 1958, retired June 18, 1985.

Van Zandt, Lloyd, began with the District July 15, 1966, retired as a Field Equipment Technician June 17, 1985.

Wisser, David, an Operator with the District since May 19, 1958, retired June 16, 1985.

IN MEMORIAM

Sympathy is expressed to the families and friends of employees or retirees who passed away.

Dann, James, began with the District October 23, 1928, retired as an Operator, passed away April 18, 1985.

Hartman, Alexander, began with the District July 6, 1927, retired as an Engineer, passed away May 13, 1985.

Witmer, Gladys, began with the District October 23, 1942, retired as a Cashier, passed away March 14, 1985.

LETTERS

To the Editor:

Being a retired Bus Dispatcher, I wish to share a couple of experiences. But don't let this happen to you, for your superiors may not be as considerate.

This occurred when the RTD offices were located at 12th and Sentious Streets. The coffee room was next to the Dispatcher's Office. I was not aware that George Goehler, the general manager, and Jack Stewart, the manager of transportation were in the coffee room. I said to another dispatcher, the difference between Mr. Goehler and Jack Stewart was that Mr. Goehler did his thinking standing up, and Mr. Stewart did all his thinking sitting down. I looked around, and Mr. Goehler was sitting in a chair by the dispatcher's door, and Mr. Stewart was standing up. If the offices were still there, you would find a hole in the floor. I can thank both of them for letting me dispatch thirteen years longer.

Another experience happened while working alone as a Night Dispatcher. I heard a loud noise downstairs, I opened the outer door to investigate, and the door closed and locked while I was locked outside without a key. I would like to thank Special Agent Kelso for coming to my rescue thirty minutes later, after I had aged twenty years, because the Supervisors' radios and phones were ringing off the walls.

I hope Mr. G.E. Carlson, my Chief Dispatcher, does not read this, for he would hoe up two rows of tomatoes in Hemet just thinking about it. I would like to thank all my superiors and fellow workers for being strict, but wonderful people.

Yours truly,

Ray Bacchus
Retired Dispatcher
1333 Ardilla Avenue
West Covina, California 91790

Ye Old Timer

In every organization, success, in the final analysis, depends upon a particular group of individuals' actual jobs. Within that group is a segment that sets the standards by which the group follows. This segment gives the group its foundation to work on. Attributes such as wisdom, virtue, fortitude, and others are manifested in this segment.

The organization is the Southern California Rapid Transit District; the group is the Bus Operators; and the segment consists of the operators whose service is measured in decades — Ye Old Timers.

Ye Old Timers have a certain character about them. They have a noticeable look of distinction. They are pretty spry and are quite comfortable in their positions.

The patch on the shoulder and the hat on the head are of the old kind. Their seniority is as high as is their dedication to the chosen profession. These are men and women of the old school where the shifting of gears was not automatic; where the steering required power rather than a flick of the wrist; where the mirrors were not bubbled; where the air conditioning was but a fan blowing stagnant air or provided through an open window; where knowledge of the road had been learned not in the classrooms of El Monte, but rather over numerous miles on city streets and rural thoroughfares.

The following is a short dedication to Ye Old Timers from a Part-timer:

Ye Old Timer Possesses Wisdom;
When I see a blocked road,
Ye Old Timer sees an alternate route.

Ye Old Timer Has Fortitude;
When I have a fare dispute,
Ye Old Timer has a fair exchange.

Ye Old Timer has copeability;
When I get upset with passengers, traffic jams, and bad weather,
Ye Old Timer is able to contend with the situation.
They seem impervious to such atrocities. To them it's just another day.

Benjamin D. Land
Division 16

FANTASTIC

RECREATION NEWS

AUGUST

- 17 - Laura Branigan - Universal \$15.00
- 18 - Employee Picnic - Santa Fe Regional Dam Recreation Area
- 30 - Dodgers vs Phillies \$4.00
- 31 - Sept. 8 - Magic Mountain \$7.95
- 31 - Millie Jackson/Dennis Edwards - Universal \$15.50

SEPTEMBER

- 1 - Whispers - Greek \$16.50
- 2 - Dodgers vs Montreal \$4.00
- 7 - Dodgers vs New York \$4.00
- 13-15 - Las Vegas - Sundance Hotel, \$60.00 per person double occ.
- 14 - Maze - Universal Amphitheatre \$16.50
- 14 - Shirley Bassey - Wiltshire Theatre \$27.50
- 19 - Dodgers vs Houston \$4.00
- 16-22 - Raging Waters Week Special - \$7.95 Adults, \$5.95 Children 3-11

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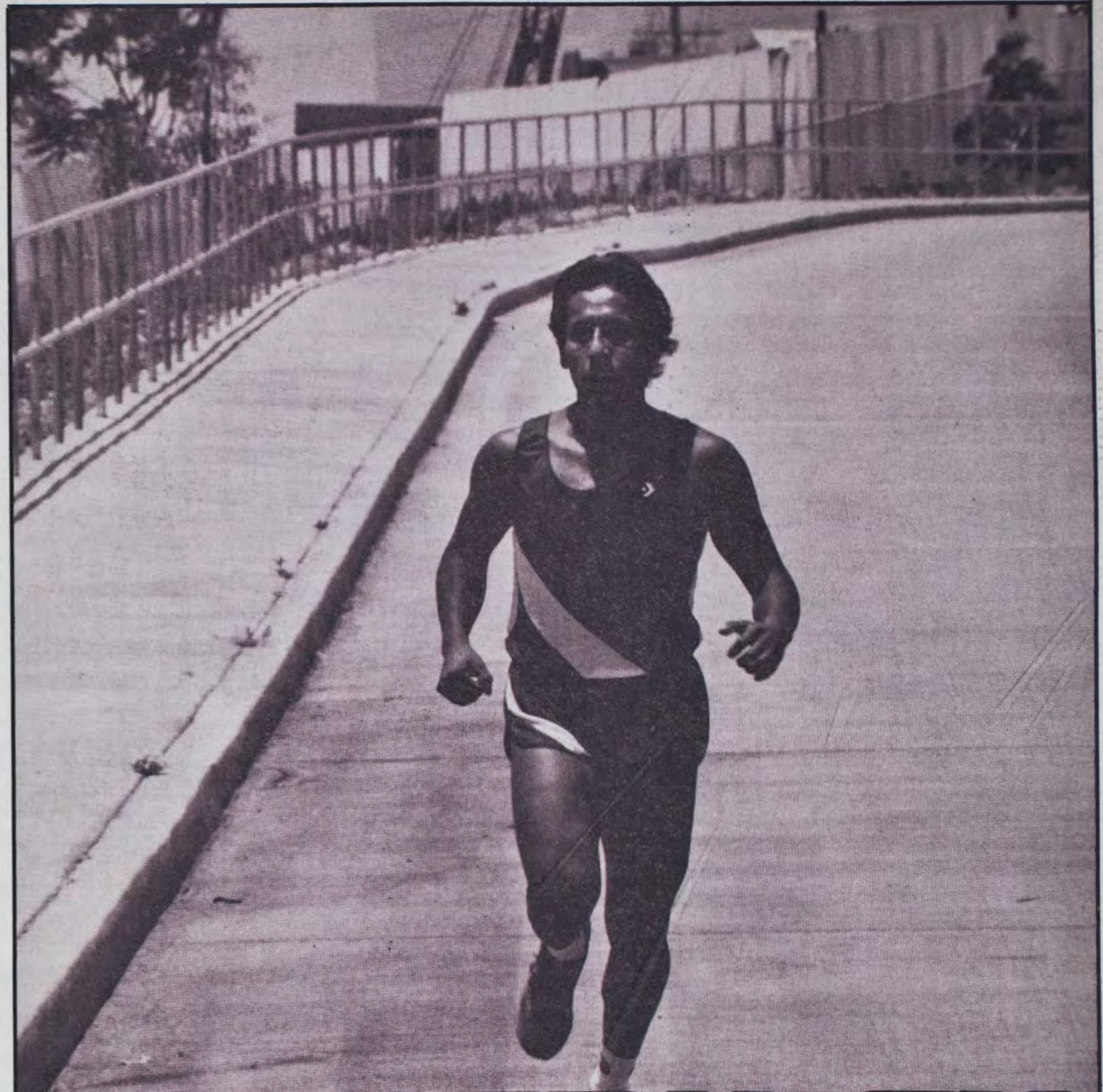
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HEADWAY

*Chariot of Fire --
Marco Pedemonte*