

HEADWAY



Budget Talk

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UMTA Hearings

Legal Eagles

CAR POOL

Rodeo Banquet

Black Belted Operators

Double-Decker Comeback



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World's Fastest Woman Visits Division

Division 6 Operator Weldon Pitts had a chance to show off his famous sister, Florence Griffith-Joyner, who after the Olympic trials this past summer in Indianapolis earned the distinction of being called the world's fastest woman.

Ms. Griffith-Joyner broke both world and American records in the 100-meter competition with a time of 10.49 seconds and for the 200-meter race, 21.77. At press time, FloJo had won the gold for the 100 meters with a time of 10.54. She also had the chance to take the gold for the 200 meters and the 400 meter relay team.

Weldon, the proud brother, said watching Florence on television made him feel great. "I am her No. 1 fan. She is a very special sister." Weldon is the second to the oldest in the



Florence Griffith-Joyner, world's fastest woman and Al Joyner, world-class triple jumper and her husband, (left) visit with her brother Weldon Pitts, an operator at Division 6.

family while Florence follows in seventh place out of 11 children. "She's been quick since infancy. I had to take care of my brothers and sisters and it could be hectic at times, especially with someone like Florence who could outrun me."

Florence Griffith-Joyner is married to world-class triple jumper Al Joyner who is also her coach.

Visiting Division 6 in August, Florence spoke about the upcoming September games with calm determination. "My toughest competition is myself. I don't worry about anyone else," she said.

While in the southland, Florence trained from 2 to 6 hours a day at Birmingham High School and at UC Irvine. Her daily regimen consisted of running and lifting weights, and a diet limited to fruits, vegetables, complex carbohydrates, and juices; sorry, no red meat or sweets. She recognizes that the mental aspect of training is equally as important. "You have to want to do it. I do a lot of praying."

For those youngsters who are thinking about competing Florence encourages them to act on it. "Follow a dream, hold on to it. Don't let anyone take it away from you. Don't let them tell you you can't achieve it no matter how long it takes."

UMTA Hears Testimony on Drug Testing

The Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) head Alfred Dellibovi recently convened a public hearing on UMTA's proposed federal drug regulation that would require mandatory, random drug testing for all drivers, mechanics, and other personnel in "safety-sensitive" positions in the transportation industry.

Representatives from transit properties around the country testified at the notice-of-proposed-rulemaking hearing held August 31 at the California State Office Building. Most of those testifying raised practical objections to the plan which includes the requirement that a program must be put in place within 180 days after the regulation is enacted.

RTD Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford and L. A. Kimball from

the Metropolitan Suburban Bus Authority spoke on behalf of the American Public Transit Association (APTA) which represents 100 bus and rail properties. APTA objected to the plan on the basis of its constitutionality and questioned UMTA's statutory authority for executing such a scheme. The association pointed out that 75 percent or better of the nation's transit properties already have a policy in place; and, recommended that UMTA would do better to draft broad guidelines for the industry and only include random testing as a local option. Finally, APTA questioned the omission of alcohol abuse in UMTA's proposal as there is a strong feeling among members of the association that at some systems alcohol is a far bigger problem than drugs.

General Counsel Suzanne Gifford, represent-



UMTA Administrator Alfred Dellibovi listens to the public comment.

ing the District, asked the UMTA panel how much they were willing to pay to "ensure safety," calling their attention to the cost for implementing such a plan in an era where public funding to put service on the street is dwindling. "The cost implications of random testing alone are prohibitive," she said. UMTA is not proposing the provision of additional funding to pay for the requirement of random testing.

Ms. Gifford outlined the District's progress with its own drug and alcohol policy, pointing out that in 1985, 21 percent of District employees tested had drugs in their system.

"Much controversy remains around the issue of random testing," Ms. Gifford said. "This issue has not been resolved by the courts. UMTA expects that random testing will be the primary deterrent in the anti-drug

program. Our experience shows that education may well be the most powerful deterrent. When it was communicated to our employees that they would be fired in most cases, not rehabilitated, for violation of the drug and alcohol policy, voluntary enrollment in our EAP program more than doubled during the first few months as employees sought help for their dependency problems," she said.

The policy was made stricter in 1986 by including mandatory tests for accidents resulting in \$1,000 damage, for aberrant behavior, and during pre-employment and biennial medical exams. The percentage for employees testing positive has now been reduced to 2 percent.

Sen. Pete Wilson was the first speaker to address the UMTA panel at the hearing. Wilson endorsed UMTA's proposal saying random testing is the only way to ensure public safety. He stated that a program such as the one UMTA is proposing could have made the difference in preventing last year's Conrail accident when Engineer Ricky Gates while stoned on marijuana and alcohol operated the train that killed 16 people when it ran into an Amtrak train.

UMTA held a series of hearings to gather public comment, but it has not set a date to hand down the finalized regulation.



L.A. Kimball of the Metropolitan Suburban Bus Authority and Gayel Pitchford of RTD testify at a public hearing on UMTA's proposed anti-drug program held August 3.

BADs Begin for Metro

The RTD Board of Directors initiated creation of benefit assessment districts for the second segment of the Metro Rail Project at their regular meeting on August 11 by

private sector in helping pay for something they will profit from in the future.”

The District will hold a series of public meetings to involve the community



instructing General Manager Alan Pegg to form a community task force.

The task force will bring its recommendation for assessments and district boundaries to the Board. Additional input will be received from community meetings, held along the 13.3 mile subway line. Many of the task force members will represent firms or constituents who themselves will be located near Metro Rail and could be subject to the assessments.

“Businesses located near Metro Rail stations stand to gain a great deal by the construction of Metro Rail,” said RTD Board President Gordana Swanson. “Property values near subway stations built in other cities have risen dramatically. The benefit assessment process involves the

before the assessment district is created or the rates are set, Swanson said. The assessments are expected to generate about \$70 to \$80 million, or 4 to 5 percent of the total funds needed toward the cost of construction of the second phase.

The Los Angeles City Council also will have public hearings on the proposed districts and will ratify RTD plans for any assessments.

The assessments for the first 4.4-mile segment of Metro Rail, to be implemented when construction is complete, will raise \$130.3 million for construction from local property owners by the year 2008. When the system reaches North Hollywood and mid-Wilshire, a total of 17.7 miles of subway will operate through one of the densest corridors in the nation.

Flxibles and Double-Deck Freeway Flyers Begin Service

The first shipment of 150 new advance design buses purchased by the District from the Flxible Corporation arrived in Los Angeles and were placed in service in September on Line 204, Vermont Avenue and Line 115, Manchester Avenue.

Designed for urban and heavy local service, the Flxibles feature a new seat design. There are three rows of seats—two along one side of the bus, and a single row down the other side—and more room for a standing load. There is one less seat than in other RTD models, but room for at least eight additional standees to ride comfortably.

The new buses also are equipped with large-platform wheelchair lifts at the front door area, air conditioning, large, easy-to-

read headsigns, and a vandalism-resistant interior. The purchase price for the 150 buses was \$27 million. Federal funding covered 80 percent of the purchase price while the remainder was paid through local commitment.

The balance of the buses are scheduled to be in service by November 9.

Toward the end of September, 18 double-deck buses manufactured by Neoplan of Stuttgart, West Germany will make their comeback on the byways of Los Angeles. Intended for express routes and longer freeway lines, the buses underwent a complete refurbishing of their electrical systems and have improved air-conditioning units.

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New Flxibles and the refurbished Neoplan double-deckers made their debut on the streets of LA this fall.

...Flexibles

...continued from page 4

"These buses signal another step toward our commitment to improved service," said RTD General Manager Alan Pegg. "We're especially fortunate to have these two models in our fleet. The Flexible can comfortably carry an average of eight more passengers than some other buses. The double-decks can carry almost twice as many."

Pegg met with members of the press on September 5 to unveil models of the new and refurbished buses. Most enthusiastic among the viewers were Pegg's young sons, Alexander, 4, and Christopher, 2, who explored the buses with a great sense of adventure, enlivening an otherwise routine press conference.

The first double-deckers were put into service on Line 495, the Diamond Bar-Rowland Heights Park and Ride. The total cost of refurbishing the coaches was \$661,717.

On the Cover:

The month's cover photo features the Pegg family at the unveiling of the newly refurbished double-decker Neoplans put back into express service at the end of September. General Manager Alan Pegg begins the tour along with his sons Alexander, 4, and Christopher, 2.

Rebecca Barrantes Heads Federal and State Liaison Department

Rebecca Barrantes, 33, was appointed RTD director of federal and state liaison and assumed her position on August 29.

Ms. Barrantes will develop and implement the District's legislative program at the federal, state, and local level. This includes liaison activities with the Congress, federal government agencies, the state legislature, California Transportation Commission, the county board of supervisors, Los Angeles County Transportation Commission, and the city of Los Angeles. She directs a staff of five, and reports to Assistant General Manager, Planning and Communications Albert Perdon.

The new director sees as her primary task that of laying a fertile political groundwork to ensure RTD's service objectives to the public are met. "Specifically, this means we work to secure the funding for bus operations and rail construc-

tion," said Ms. Barrantes. "Also, we will work to improve our image through liaison activities, and closely monitor reorganization plans between the RTD and the LACTC," she said.

Prior to her appointment to the District, Ms. Barrantes served the Los Angeles City Council as principal staff member to the Transportation and Traffic Committee. Her major assignments included analyzing and recommending route alignments for Metro Rail and the expenditure of Proposition A funds. Previous to her assignment with the city, Ms. Barrantes was director of a grant-funded program sponsored by the USC School of Medicine which had as its purpose to recruit minorities into the health professions and, subsequently, to return them as practicing professionals to medically underserved areas.

"I am really enthusiastic about coming to the RTD.



Director of Federal and State Liaison Rebecca Barrantes.

I look forward to working with everyone," said Ms. Barrantes. "Over the years I have had a very good working relationship [with RTD staff]."

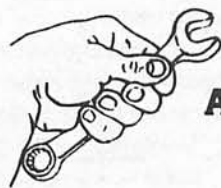
She earned her undergraduate degree in social work from Cal State Long Beach and received a master of public administration degree from USC.

Ms. Barrantes is married and has one daughter, Diana, 7. She and her family reside in Whittier.

Advertisement

To All RTD Employees:

The new association group—"Salary Protector"—is now available from Mutual of Omaha. This program protects your income during a disability. For information call Chuck McCracken at (213) 391-8226.



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BUDGET TALK FOR FISCAL YEAR 1988-89, PART II

Another way to look at the budget is by department or organization unit. The table by organization unit divides up the \$503,350,000 operating budget by organizational divisions within RTD.

The largest department is Transportation. All the divisions, plus instruction, road supervision, dispatch, and department administration, have 4729.0 full-time equivalent personnel and a budget of \$165 million. Since 15 percent of the operators are part-time, the actual number of people employed in Transportation is closer to 5,000. There are 3,981 full-time operators and 600 part-time operators.

The second largest department is Equipment Maintenance. All divisions, plus central maintenance and department administration, total 1,761.0 personnel and a budget of \$121 million. Besides salaries, this department carries the bulk of the materials and supplies cost (\$55 million) for bus operations. This includes fuel, lubricant, tires, and parts.

The remainder of the departments or activities, either directly support operations or provide general support. Operations support functions include Transit Police, Scheduling, Facilities Maintenance, Telephone Information, Stores, Accounting, Bus Facilities Engineering, Data Processing, and Risk

Management. There are over 1,200 employees in these support functions. Cost for this support is \$58 million, or 12 percent of the operating budget.

All other functions provide general support (such as Legal, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Inspector General, Personnel, Marketing, Equal Opportunity, and Planning, Training, Employee Relations, Government Affairs, plus the General Manager, Board of Directors, and the District Secretary). There are 204

personnel performing a variety of functions. Costs for this support is over \$13.5 million, or 27 percent of the budget.

In addition to the departmental budgets, there are \$144 million, or 28.6 percent of the budget, which are not charged to individual departments. Non-departmental expenses include utility and lease costs, taxes, interest, and insurance. Fringe benefit costs amounting to an average additional 35 percent over wage and salary costs are included as

non-departmental costs rather than be included in the departmental budgets. Because of its large cost, workers' compensation is shown as a separate expense, representing 6.0 percent of all operating costs.

As a final comment on the number of personnel; capital projects fund 259 personnel. Most of these positions support the Metro Rail project.

Cost Estimates for New Services

The new competitive environment in which the District is now operating, provides certain opportunities for the District to bid on new services that are funded by the cities and counties within the District's service area. To be the successful bidder and be awarded the contract for these services means the District must both demonstrate it will operate a high quality of service, as specified in the request for proposals (RFPs), and be cost competitive.

Assistant General Manager—Equipment and Facilities John Richeson points out, "When we sharpen our pencils and determine our costs from the ground up for specific RFPs there are instances

Table 3

OPERATING BUDGET BY ORGANIZATION UNIT				
GROUP	\$	%	PERSONNEL	%
Transportation	\$165,371,000	32.7%	4,638.5	59.2%
Equip. Maint.	121,175,000	24.0%	1,732.5	22.1%
Operations				
Support	58,079,000	11.0%	1,255.5	16.1%
General				
Support	13,517,000	2.8%	204.0	2.6%
Non-departmental				
Expense	81,009,000	16.1%	0	0
Workers				
Compensation/ Casualty and Liability	62,956,000	12.5%	0	0
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	\$503,350,000	100%	7,830.5	100%
			+ 259.0 Capital	
			=====	
			8,089.5 Total	
			Employees	

continued on page 7...

...Budget

...continued from page 6

where we can compete against private operators and expand District services by being selected by the funding agency to operate new services." A portion of the District operating costs remain unchanged when the District adds or cancels a small amount of service. When these relatively fixed operating costs are deducted from the full operating costs, the District in some instances will be equal to or lower than competing

With these cost saving measures the District can be competitive.

companies. As John Richeson notes, "I believe District employees will be interested to know that the District has just submitted a bid, in competition against seven private companies, to operate the DASH service in downtown Los Angeles. A key element in making it more likely that the District will be successful in obtaining the DASH contract with the City of Los Angeles, is the ability of the District to use the provisions of the labor contracts pertaining to the Business Development Divisions. With these cost savings measures, the District can be competitive with private companies and dispose of the myth that 35 - 50 percent can be saved by bidding out District services to private carriers."

Transit Vandals Will Be Cited

Governor George Deukmejian has signed into law new legislation that will enable law enforcement officials to issue citations to individuals committing acts of graffiti on RTD buses.

Transit vandalism is a major problem for transit systems throughout the state. This year the RTD alone expects to spend nearly \$5 million on graffiti removal from District vehicles and facilities.

Senate Bill 2412, authored by Senator Quentin Kopp, chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, and sponsored by the California Transit Association, amends Section 640 of the penal code. It adds language enabling police to cite persons committing acts of graffiti. Fines up to \$250 will be applied to those receiving citations.

"Under current law, police have to arrest and book individuals committing graffiti acts," said General Manager Alan Pegg. "For each arrest, police spend anywhere from two to three hours performing activities associated with an arrest, and not apprehending and citing other offenders."

The new law takes effect January 1, 1989, and is anticipated to increase the productivity of law enforcement officers, allowing them to spend more time on patrol.

Pool Party Makes Big Splash



Southland traffic reporters help kickoff the California Pool Party held October 3-7. From left to right: Mike Nolan, KFI/KOST; Dona Dower, KNX; Officer Jill Angel, California Highway Patrol; Rhonda Kramer, LA Traffic Network; Paul Johnson, Metro Traffic; Bill Keene, KNX; and Chuck Street, KIIS AM/FM.

To kick off the "California Pool Party" held during the week of October 3 through 7, a luncheon and briefing were held at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club in Burbank in August.

The party week was thrown on a statewide level to encourage commuters to

The massive program asked drivers to give up their single-driver automobile commuting for one day.

give up solitary driving and discover a different way to get to work—bus, carpool,

vanpool, walking, biking, or modem.

The main speakers included Mayor Tom Bradley (via video tape), Dr. James Lents, executive officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, and the radio traffic reporters who cover the southland commuting routes each day.

RTD, as the largest public transit agency in Southern California, played a prominent role in this program. Following the luncheon, the traffic reporters were invited for a tour of an RTD bus. Patterned after the Great American Smokeout, the massive program asked drivers to give up their single-driver automobile commuting for one day.

Moving Back to the Building

Following the October 1, 1987 earthquake many departments in the Headquarters Building on Main Street were relocated to different locations in Los Angeles because of the structural damage the building sustained.

In the year that has passed the building's owners have performed structural and non-structural repairs based on a set of criteria jointly developed by the owner and the District's consultant. Cracks in the building walls were repaired by epoxy injection.

The repairs now completed...

The repairs now completed allow those dispersed employees to move back. The moves are scheduled to begin the second week of October and should be completed by mid-February of 1989.



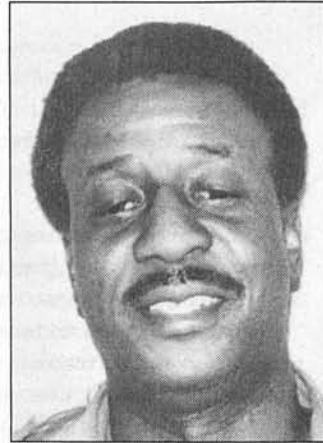
RTD Supervising Engineer Warren Fu inspects repairs of a concrete wall. Core samples were taken to ensure quality control.

District Mourns Passing of Bobby Hall

Funeral services were held August 29 for Division 12 Operator Bobby Hall who was killed after a tire flew off a car and crashed through the windshield of his bus on August 22.

Hall, 52, was driving the 444 line southbound on the Harbor Freeway and was fatally injured when a tire from a passing Toyota came crashing through the window as the bus neared the Redondo Beach Boulevard exit. One of the passengers was able to steer the bus off to the shoulder, thus averting any injury to the 20 passengers on the bus.

Division 12 Manager Eugene Hamilton described



Operator Bobby Hall

Hall as "one of the best." Hall started with the District in 1983 after having served in the U.S. Army for 26 years. He is survived by

his wife, Marjorie, a son; Delbert, 26, and a daughter, Cheryl, 24.

RTD operators from Division 12 and 18 acted as honorary pall bearers at the funeral held at the Double Rock Baptist Church in Compton; they included: Lee Hunter, Norman Garner, Arnold Evans, Carl Corde, Willie Pickens, Theodore Alexander, Henry Santifer, Dallas Pelcher, Linda Brooks, and Ernest Tolbert.

The RTD Board of Directors adjourned their August 25 meeting in memory of Hall. Director Jay Price proposed establishing a perpetual plaque for those employees killed in service.

Payback To Benefit Employee Activities

Coinservco, a vending machine company, recently contracted with the District for space at the El Monte Busway terminal to set up operating machines for the public. The shiny new machines were unveiled for use in August.

What makes these machines so special is that Coinservco has agreed to pay a commission, a percentage of the gross sales, to the RTD Employee Activities Department to benefit all divisions and departments. Coinservco General Manager Tom Spiegel

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Receiving a commission check from the Coinservco Company, operators of the vending concession at the El Monte Busway, are the RTD representatives, from left to right: Margaret Merhoff, Rick Carron, and Diane Delaney-Talton; Glen Shepard, Coinservco account manager; and Tom Spiegel, Coinservco general manager.

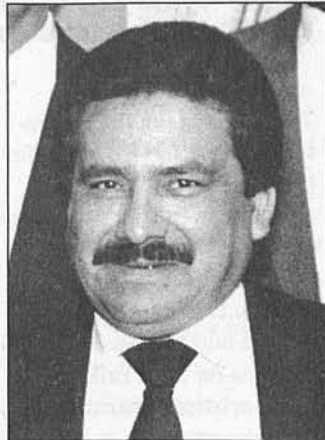
Chacon Chosen Operator of the Month

Division 12 Operator Rogelio G. Chacon was named Operator of the Month for June.

The nine-year RTD veteran received a certificate of merit from the Board of Directors on July 28.

Chacon has received the maximum number of merits awarded to an operator with an outstanding performance and safety record as well as numerous letters of commendation from his division manager and the public.

"Rogelio Chacon is a model employee," said General Manager Alan Pegg. "He sets a standard of excellence for all our operators to follow. Not only has he achieved this honor, but he has finished among the top RTD operators in the last roadeo too, acquir-



Operator Rogelio Chacon chosen June's Operator of the Month.

ing a reputation as one of the District's most skillful operators."

Chacon has missed only

**Chacon has
received the
maximum number
of merits**

two days of work due to illness since he joined the District in September, 1978. Currently, he is working with management as a line instructor and is a member of the labor/management committee.

He and his wife, Lourdes, have three children. The family resides in Pico Rivera. Chacon is an avid baseball fan and enjoys playing classical guitar.

...Payback

...continued from page 8

estimates the proceeds at \$50,000 a year. Negotiations and settlement of the arrangement are to the credit of the Contracts, Procurement & Materiel and Personnel Departments; specifically, Contract Administration Manager Rick Carron, Contract Administrator Margaret Merhoff, and Employee Activities Coordinator Diane Delaney-Talton.

C PUBLIC COMMENDATIONS

Thanks for a Job Well Done!

Division 1

Talamantes, Jennie L.
Walsh, Harriet M.

Division 3

Swayne, Timothy

Division 5

Eiland, Joe F.
Pope, Charles I.

Division 6

Collins, Mary
Cook, Barry A.

Division 7

Davis, Jackie L.
McCall, Joe C.

Oliver, Joe F.

Sharp, Anthony D.

Washburn, Dennis

Division 8

Jackson, Donald
Nehrbass, John

Piche, Richard M.

Ronge, Daniel H.

Division 9

Alvarez, Ramon
Buterbaugh, Paul R.

Hunt, Mervin N.

Powell, Thomas L.

Madrigal, Louie J.

Division 10

Shorters, Jimmie

Division 12

Dennis, Bertha L.

Hooten, Paul

Division 15

Brambila, Miguel A.

Campos, Luis-Roberto

Jackson, George L.

Mironas, Victor J.

Van Dyke, Donald E.

Division 16

Lucas, K. M.

Division 18

Bonville, Gwendolyn H.

Land, Jimmie

Saunders, Leon I.

Department 3296

Olivo, Rene

Solomon, Mark

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to commend one of your drivers and to bring his actions to your attention. At 6:10 p.m. today on the westbound Santa Monica Freeway near the intersection of the southbound Harbor Freeway, I was three cars behind RTD bus number 9016.

The bus and I were in the far right lane going into the westbound Santa Monica freeway. Suddenly, the bus swerved to the left, moving over one lane. Because the rest of us could not see, but also because the bus was so large and the change of lanes obvious, this movement allowed the rest of us the necessary split seconds to follow his move and also change lanes rapidly, without knowing why.

It turned out that a car in the far right lane had suddenly come to almost a complete stop and was turning left in front of the

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...Public Commendations

...continued from page 9

bus because the driver wanted to go onto the Harbor Freeway south, rather than the westbound Santa Monica. The driver proceeded across four lanes of traffic, causing other cars to screech to a halt. Amazingly, there was no accident. Part of the reason for this, I am convinced, was due to your driver's rapid actions, allowing the rest of us reaction time because we could see the bus. Had the car turned into the lanes of traffic with only cars in the way, I doubt that any of us could have reacted defensively in time to avoid a collision.

I would like to personally thank Joe McCall for saving my life and those of others.

Sincerely,
Donna L. Olmsted

Gentlemen and Ladies:

It was indeed a pleasure to board southbound bus 207 at Sunset Boulevard at about 1:45 p.m.

First of all, he called each stop clearly and loud (not too loud) enough for all to hear. Second, he greeted every passenger who boarded and had a nice word to say when each left. He is Line Instructor Jimmie Land. He is #1 in my estimation.

If all trainees were to pattern after him, the whole system would be beautiful.

Yours very truly,
Mrs. Hazel Legere

Two RTD employees were commended by patrons recently. TOS David Young helped a distraught passenger locate his pouch. Said the passenger: "Mr. Young and all the RTD employees we were in contact with were most kind and helpful. We wanted you to know so you could give them an extra pat on the back."

Appearing in the Los Angeles Times, August 12, 1988 Metro Digest: Partially

When she got to
her next stop,
she found the
watch and took
it to the El Monte
station.

blind passenger, Michael Churchill, 22, attends Rio Hondo College and rides line 470 from downtown Los Angeles to his Whittier neighborhood.

One afternoon he happened to misplace his talking watch. There was no computerized voice to tell him the time. He telephoned RTD and was connected with dispatcher Doug Cale, who radioed bus operator Alice McDonald as she drove down the freeway. When she got to her next stop, she found the watch and took it to the El Monte station. From there, it was delivered to Churchill's home by Road Supervisor Antonio Reyes. Churchill thought that was nice.

TOP OPERATORS

for July

The Awards for the Operator Recognition Program for the month of July were announced in the latter part of August.

The presentations include the Manager's Award and the Sweepstakes Awards for both full-time and part-time operators. The program has as its purpose 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 operators excelling in their pursuit are listed below.

Manager's Award

- 3201 Louise Burnes
- 3203 Rudolph Lagunas
- 3205 Chauncy Tipton
- 3207 Michael Q. Walden
- 3208 Walter J. Tice
- 3209 John E. Steyn
- 3210 Herbert D. Orange, Jr.
- 3212 Eugene Rollins
- 3215 Rae S. Reed
- 3216 Allen L. Harders
- 3218 Leon Harrison

Sweepstakes Award Full-Time Operators

- 3201 Claudio Solis
- R. W. Schlumpf
- Curtis Williams
- Jorge Brett
- Leonard Burton
- Roger Hicks
- Manuel Guzman
- Brenda O'Neal

- John Thomas
- Herbert Erno
- George Garrison
- 3203 Kenneth Willis
- Sarah Nichols
- Jesus Espinoza
- Jesus Arteaga
- Bruce Driver
- Andres Mejia
- Nick Sifuentes
- Jorge Galvan
- Vernon Simmons
- Carlos Bonilla
- Frederick
- Darlington
- 3205 Willie Williams
- Billy Ferguson
- Phyllis Smith
- Esther Ford
- Patrick Lewis
- Tommie Brooks
- Diana Fisher-Nelson
- Charles Jenkins
- Bruce Hall
- Raul Ramirez
- Linda Trahan
- 3207 Carlos Iglesias
- Louis Arthur
- Garland Claybourne
- Manuel Nacianceno
- Sanford Kelsey
- Charles Hall
- Eddie Razo
- Herbert Walker
- Jerome Watkins
- Theodore Wilkins
- Jackie Davis
- 3208 Ernesto Trinidad
- Valery Griffin
- Edmond White
- Hector Valdez
- Manuel Estrada
- Victor Pantoya
- Kenneth Whitney

continued on page 11...

...Top Operators

...continued from page 4

- 3209 Stephan Rizkallah
Joseph Randazzo
H. Alvarez
Larry Jessie
John Angeski
Larry Ashmore
Adolph Collins
Larry Craig
Jose Serrano
Paul Stephens
Donna Williams
- 3210 Maudell Rayford
Richard Flores
Elroy Johnson
Wardell Mitchell
Charles Anderson
William Shade
Dennis Enser
Fred England
Annette Logan
Pete Leyva
Aurelio Robles
- 3212 Oscar Solomon
Herbert Block
Harold Kenneybrew
Melvin Llewellyn
Alan Pitchard
Florin Borcea
Jeffrey Wolfson
Hector Moreno
Zachary Schuster
Robert Bushong
John Miller
- 3215 Russell Modell
Lothan Raphael
David Hemion
John Halyak
Patricia Mayes
Jesse Sanders
Donald Cullom
Earl Jones
Roy Rembert
Delores McConago
Jessie Wilson
- 3216 Lester Albert
Shirley Thomas
Herman Koenekamp
Joseph Bailey
Julio Endara
Herman Hall
Rudy Alvarez
- 3218 William Jordan
Beverly Rosser
Cassell Scott

James Dancy
Felton Moore
Milton Wilson
William Reddick
Modesto Pinto
Donna Humphrey
Sam Brown
Henry Woods

*The program has as
its purpose to
recognize and reward
the many bus
operators
who consistently
perform
in an outstanding
manner.*

Part-Time Operators

- 3201 William Mas
Raymond Wright
- 3203 Manote Kongthong
Mary Villagomez
- 3205 Humberto Moreno
Jose Portillo
- 3207 Albert Navarro
Wayne Coleman
- 3208 Barbara Cordes
Ronald Davenport
- 3209 Ronaldo Dytuco
Jesus Perez
- 3210 Enrique Grijalva
Leonardo Araneta
- 3212 Ernest Holguin
James McGranor
- 3215 Alfred Chacon
Robert Macklin
- 3216 Angela Hale
Debbie Everett
- 3218 David Imaye
Bersilio Canate

SHIFTING GEARS



Brett, Jerry, began with the District on April 17, 1965, retired as an Operator on August 21, 1988.

Group, Hugh, began with the District on July 17, 1965, retired as an Operator on August 18, 1988.

Hoffman, Eldon, began with the District on March 7, 1974, retired as an Operator on August 11, 1988.

Madden, James, began with the District on June 13, 1964, retired as an Operator on August 10, 1988.

Marshall, Ernest, began with the District on November 23, 1963, retired as an

Operator on July 20, 1988.

McRiley, Orville, began with the District on August 3, 1963, retired as an Operator on August 4, 1988.

Muckelroy, Joe A., began with the District on February 15, 1964, retired as an Operator on August 21, 1988.

Singer, Samuel, began with the District on June 5, 1946, retired as a Superintendent on July 30, 1988.

Shumake, Wilmer, began with the District on August 10, 1959, retired as an Operator on August 20, 1988.

IN MEMORIAM

Anderson, Francis, began with the District on December 8, 1958, passed away on July 25, 1988.

Bihl, John, began with the District on July 21, 1983 as Materiels Management System Supply Analyst, passed away on August 12, 1988.

Beardsley, Howard, began with the District on October 16, 1938, passed away on July 12, 1988.

Figuroa, Richard, began with the District on March 19, 1984 as a Mechanic, passed away on August 19, 1988.

Hall, Bobby, began with the District on November 20, 1983 as an Operator, passed away on August 22, 1988.

Holcomb, Jim began with the District on July 9, 1975, passed away on July 14, 1988.

Marshall, Ashley, began with the District on July 8, 1931, passed away on July 21, 1988.

Ophus, Emmett T., began with the District on December 19, 1924, passed away on July 23, 1988.

Patton, Otha, began with the District on August 22, 1945, passed away on July 19, 1988.

Scott, Carol, began with the District on January 11, 1979, passed away on August 12, 1988.

Webking, Charles, began with the District on May 10, 1943, passed away on June 15, 1988.

COMMENDATIONS



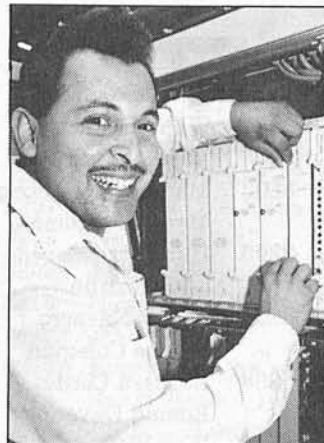
Certificates of Merit were presented to the July Employees of the Month at the August 25 Board of Directors' Meeting by Director Joseph Dunning. Those employees included Mechanic A Orville Steenbock, Telephone Information Operator Alicia Vasquez, Division 18 Operator Carl Winston, and Division 12 Operator Rogelio Chacon. Back row, from left to right: Director Dunning, General Manager Alan Pegg, Division 3218 Manager B.J. Harris, Division 3310 Manager Mike Stange, Director of Customer Relations Robert Williams, and Division 3212 Eugene Hamilton.



Division 5 Operator Wilmer Shumake and his wife receive congratulations on his retirement from Assistant Director of Transportation Ralph Wilson. Shumake served the District for 29 years.



RTD Retirees were recognized at the August 11 Board of Directors' Meeting and were presented with plaques by RTD Board Director Carmen Estrada. Front row, from left to right: Property Maintainer A Leader Aaron H. Rummage, Division 8 Operator Joseph Eskiewicz, Division 18 Operator Earl L. Nelson, and Division 15 Operator Willy B. Seitz. Back row, from left to right: Director Estrada, General Manager Alan Pegg, and Assistant Director of Transportation Ralph Wilson.



CMF System Electronic Communication Technician Roger Largaespada was selected as the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for July. Largaespada is praised by his supervisor for his job attitude, ability, and dependable performance. Not only is he proficient at repairing electronic equipment at the CMF but, also in assisting the property maintainers to repair other machinery throughout the area. In the period cited, Largaespada accomplished a significant amount of work performed efficiently and professionally. Additionally, he maintains an excellent attendance record.



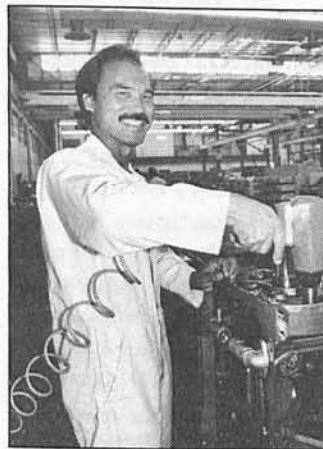
The RTD recognized professional performers who participated in the "Clean Team" presentations at various Los Angeles high schools and RTD events this year. Each was given a certificate of appreciation by Board Director Jan Hall. The performers include, from left to right: Alitzah Weiner, star of "My Two Dads;" Elisabeth Howard, director of the Hollywood Hot Shots; and Aaron Lohr, star of "Bustin' Loose." Back row: Director Hall and General Manager Alan Pegg.



Mechanic A George Young was selected the CMF Employee of the Month for May. Young is one of the many conscientious workers in the Body Shop completing heavy body repairs with the use of the new power post pulling system. His expertise in this area and his willingness to share his knowledge with his fellow employees has gained him the respect of his peers, leaders, and supervisors. He also maintains a perfect attendance record along with the superb performance standard he has set.



Frank Harris, Jr., was named Employee of the Quarter for the Control Accounting/Cashier/Treasurer Sections of the Accounting & Fiscal Department for outstanding performance during the second quarter 1988. In addition to his regular responsibilities as records clerk, Frank undertook the ambitious project of updating and reorganizing the Accounting Department's records room, which was no small undertaking. Frank's hard work and initiative make him an extremely valuable asset to the District. Congratulations, Frank! Harris appears with Assistant Payroll Manager Bill Hesser on the left and Payroll Manager Howard Crawford on the right.



Mechanic A Mas Takata was named CMF Employee of the Month for June. Takata has been employed on the Engine Line since 1980. In that time he has gathered great expertise in the engine field. He is regarded by his peers as a pleasant asset to the shop. His supervisors appreciate his willingness and rest assured that each task assigned is completed with high quality. In his tenure with the District, Takata has shown great initiative and talent in performance of his duties.

... Commendations

... continued from page 13



Youth participating in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) were presented to the RTD Board at the August 28 meeting. This marks the fifth year the District has taken part in the community-sponsored, nine-week summer work program. Sponsored by the City of Los Angeles, SYEP is designed to provide youth from low-income families with meaningful work experience. The participants worked five hours a day, 25 hours a week at minimum wage paid by the City of Los Angeles. Employee Activities Coordinator Diane Delaney-Talton administered the program. The students working at the District headquarters included, front row from left to right: Arlean Bush, Timiza Williams, Martha Cadena, Maria Celis, Angela Martinez, Kan P. Ha, Guadalupe Arroya, Eric Reed, and Alma Cabrera. Second row, from left to right: Danny Estrada, Gerardo Sandoval, Kit Vong, Phienol Ly, Moneque Wiltz, Helen Celis, and Melinda Lopez. Third row, from left to right: Manual McCoy, RTD Board President Gordana Swanson, General Manager Alan Pegg, and Hugo Trujillo. Participants not shown include: Leonore Camacho, Lida Chan, Kiu Phu Ng, Tung A Quacn, Irma Rodrate, Alejandro Sandoval, and Norma Vargas.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Aceves, Anthony, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Anderson, Robert B., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Araujo, Armando, from Janitor to Mopper Waxer.

Araujo, Jorge A., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Baggan, John R., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Ballard, George H., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Balolong, A. D., from Schedule Checker to Schedule Maker I.

Barnes, Michael K., from News Bureau Representative to Acting Publications Manager.

Bayless, Harry O., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Bennett, Billy R., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Boudreau, Brian J., from Senior Program Control Analyst to Acting Supervisor Program Control Analyst.

Bowman, Gigi T., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Brito, Fausto, from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Burnes, Louise C., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Cabison, Esther G., from Staff Aide to Acting Administrative Analyst.

Cadena, Raymond, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Carroll, Daniel E., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Carter, Susan M., from Information Clerk to Acting Supervisor of Telephone Information.

Cervantes, Georgina C., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Chavira, Anthony P., from Maintenance Superintendent to Assistant Director of Equipment Maintenance.

Chism, Rose M., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Chmielewski, Norman, from Storekeeper to Acting MMSS Analyst.

Cole, Mary A., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Crudup, Faith, from Schedule Clerk to Acting Secretary.

Dass, Dolores V., from Secretary to Senior Secretary.

Decena, Renato M., from Acting Accounting Systems Coordinator to Accounting Systems Coordinator.

Delgadillo, Lupe V., from Typist Clerk to Secretary.

Dickerson, Demetri Y., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Ducker, Julia D., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Durkee, William E., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Figuroa, Jamie, from Operator Trainee Part-time

continued on page 15...

...continued from page 14

to Operator Part-time.

Flournoy, Clayton, from Senior Transportation Operations Supervisor to Acting Assistant Vehicle Operations Manager.

Fordham, Tyrone M., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Garcia, Daniel, from Stock Clerk to Truck Driver Clerk.

Garcia, Ronald P., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Gay, Joseph L., from Schedule Supervisor to Acting Schedule Planner.

Gillison, Mary J., from Part-Time Operator Trainee to Part-Time Operator.

Gillison, William T., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Grazziani, Edgar E., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Guajardo, Felipe R., from Mopper Waxer to Temporary Mail Carrier.

Hampton, James A., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Harper, Kathi S., from Acting Senior Human Resources Analyst to Senior Human Resources Analyst.

Harrott, Sandra, from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Hartpence, Henry G., from Assistant Director OCPM to Acting Director OCPM.

Henderson, Curtis, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Hodge, Harris J., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Holmes, Helen, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Hooks, Deborah A., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Horta, Bonifacio J., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Hovell, James A., from Acting Data Center Manager to Data Center Manager.

Ikehara, Ronald S., from Programmer Assistant to Programmer.

Jackson, Kathryn M., from Programmer Assistant to Programmer.

James, Theresa G., from Schedule Clerk to Acting Secretary.

Kimbrough, Nita J., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

King, Marguerite, from Data Control Specialist to Acting Computer Operations Analyst.

Kuehnl, Steven A., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Larios, Jose L., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Leong, Bing B., from General Clerk/Marketing to Ticket Office Reports Clerk.

Lim, Isaac S., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Livingston, Annie L., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Lopez, Maria R., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Luevano, Rudy O., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Lussier, Richard H., from Assistant Division Transportation Manager to Acting Division Transportation Manager.

Malignaggi, Joyce J., from Programmer Assistant to Programmer.

Mancera, Raymond, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Marshall, Velma C., from Assistant Director of Real Estate & Development to Acting Director of Real Estate & Development.

Mayfield, Brent R., from

Programmer Assistant to Programmer.

Medrano, Juan A. from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Mendoza, Donald R., from Storekeeper to Acting MMSS Analyst.

Milesel, Guadalupe, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Montero, Michael B., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Moore, Melma Jean, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Morton, Billy C., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Navarrete, Andrew, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Navarrette, Hernan J., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Nguyen, Luu P., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Oppong, James, from Division Stenographer to Secretary.

Padilla, Patricia K., from Human Resources Analyst to Senior Human Resources Analyst.

Parchman, Jacquelyn, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Parker, Pamela E., from Part-time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Pegg, Alan F., from Interim General Manager to General Manager.

Peralta, Armando A., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Pittman, Milton, from Property Maintainer B to Building & Grounds Maintenance Supervisor I.

Portillo, Jose D., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Pouliot, Thomas P., from Part-Time Operator to

Operator Trainee.

Puckett, Stephen R., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Razo, Mario P., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Reyes, Romulo S., from Programmer to Programmer Analyst.

Ricafort, Manuel A., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Rodriguez, Daniel N., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Rodriguez, Everett J., from Transit Police Officer to Acting Transit Police Investigator.

Rodriguez, Marcos, from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Rodriguez, Pedro G., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Rogers, Adrienne Y., from Secretary to Acting Administrative Analyst.

Sandfrey, Dale J., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Santee, Raymond L., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Sanchez, Victor M., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Sanders, Jacob L., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Seelig, David W., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Seiler, Walter, from Acting EDP Scheduling Supervisor to Acting Scheduling Application Supervisor.

Sells, Regina L., from Training Assistant to Staff Assistant.

Sepulveda, Gustavo A., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Shelburne, Bruce E., from Schedule Maker II to Acting Schedule Supervisor.

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Banquet Salutes Competitors

Thirty-six of RTD's finest operators were honored at the 13th Annual Rodeo Banquet held August 19 at the Almansor Court in Alhambra.

Assistant Director for Transportation Ralph Wilson emceed the event which commenced at 7:30 p.m.

General Manager Alan Pegg greeted the operators

and their wives and told them of his first impressions of the Rodeo. "When I watched the competitors I was very impressed with their dedication and skill. Anyone who can exhibit that kind of ability deserves a vote of confidence..., these are the people who will take us competently into the next century," Pegg said.

Following the dinner,



Jose Arizmendi receives the District champion award from General Manager Alan Pegg at the Rodeo Banquet. From left to right: Assistant Director of Transportation Leo Bevon, Pegg, Arizmendi, UTU Local 1608 Chairman Antonio Guskos, and Barbara Akk

Director of Risk Management Barbara Akk presented awards for the Safety Competition. Out of the 237 operators who participated in the pre-pullout inspection, 4 operators discovered all 10 defects planted. These operators included Victor Garcia, Paul Caronna, Reginald Ables, and Francisco Perez.

Finalists Robert Jackson, Howard Brenchley, and Rogelio Chacon received special recognition, but the standing ovation was reserved for the Rodeo winner, Division 9 Operator Jose Arizmendi. Arizmendi, his wife, Raquel, and their children sat with the general manager and his wife, Betsy, at their table during the banquet.

Division 9, in addition to being home to this year's Rodeo champ, also can boast that it had the highest number of operators compete in the event.



Coordinator Vicki Varga received a plaque in appreciation of her outstanding efforts to the 1988 Rodeo events from Ralph Wilson.

Senior Instructors Frank Cecere and Rick Flores were recognized for their efforts in marking the course and preparing the operators for the competition.

The evening concluded when Wilson presented Rodeo Coordinator Vicki Varga with a plaque recognizing her dedication toward pulling together another successful Rodeo.

...Schedule Changes

...continued from page 15

Shen, Gloria Siu Yin, from Programmer Assistant to Programmer.

Shoemaker, Dennis A., from Assistant Systems Engineer to Schedule Systems Superintendent.

Sidhu, Inderjit S., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Soto, Brian A., from Mail Services Superintendant to General Services Superintendant.

Taghdiri, Hamid, from Acting Senior Programmer Analyst to Senior Programmer Analyst.

Touchstone, Calvin, from Materials Management Systems Supply Analyst to Materiel Superintendent.

Traber, Arthur, from Acting Transit Police Investigator to Transit Police Investigator.

Triche, Nadine E., from Supervisor of Telephone Information to Acting Assistant Telephone Information Systems Coordinator.

Ullrich, David W., from Information Clerk to Acting Supervisor of Telephone Information.

Vartanian, Vazgen B., from Acting Senior Programmer Analyst to Senior Programmer Analyst.

Vasquez, Tadeo R., from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

Vigil, Gloria, from Information Clerk to Ticket Clerk.

Wallin, Glenn A., from Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Wang, Alfred S., from Acting Senior Programmer Analyst to Senior Programmer Analyst.

Wells, Harold W., from Truck Driver Clerk to Storekeeper.

Westerline, Paul A., from Acting Systems Project Leader to Systems Project Leader.

Williams, Cordelia, from Secretary to Staff Aide.

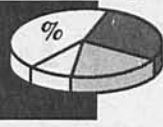
Wilson, Mary A., from Stock Clerk to Acting MMSS Analyst.

Wong, Bing D., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Wong, Donald S., from Program Control Analyst to Senior Program Control Analyst.

Yu, Philip, from Part-Time Operator to Operator Trainee.

MARKETING NEWS



The RTD Marketing Department's Corporate Pass Program is accelerating its activities with Southern California employers as they work to meet current AQMD Regulation XV and proposed City of Los Angeles requirements for reducing air pollution and traffic congestion.

Some of these activities include creating a hotline for employers with questions on compliance. The

*The RTD...
Corporate Pass
Program is
accelerating its
activities...*

hotline will be staffed by Customer Relations as part of the Telephone Information System. A newsletter for employer members will be developed to update them on regulation compliance and related policy and legislation.

Central business district employers with 200 or more employees to whom they provide subsidized parking will be covered by a proposed city ordinance requiring them to subsidize bus passes and tickets as well. Because parking in

downtown Los Angeles can cost as much as \$150 a month, employees may soon realize the difference between parking fees and bus fare adds up to quite a savings.

"The AQMD has determined there are up to 8,000 businesses who are affected by Regulation XV," said Director of Marketing Tony Fortuno. "The potential client base for the Corporate Pass Program is large and we're committed to serving the needs of these employers."

"RTD has a primary role to play as a transit provider and public agency in the expansion of the Southern California region's corporate centers," said Assistant General Manager-Planning and Marketing Al Perdon. "The Corporate Pass Program will help the

*The potential
client base for the
Corporate Pass
Program is large...*

District become a major resource through the improvement of air quality and the efficient use of urban energy systems."

McRiley—First TPO To Make 30 Years



Transit Police Sergeant Gene McRiley.

Transit Police Sergeant Gene McRiley on August 28 became the District's first transit police officer to accumulate 30 years of service. McRiley is now the first active transit police officer eligible to retire under the existing plan.

McRiley, 57, started with the Pasadena City Lines in 1958 as a bus operator and continued with them until RTD emerged as the regional transit carrier in 1964. He left driving in 1971 to join the District's special agents force (forerunners of the transit police) and served with them until 1979 when the Transit Police Department was formed.

In 1980 he graduated from the Rio Hondo Police Academy and within a year attained the rank of sergeant with the Transit Police. In his tenure with the department, McRiley has worked as a field sergeant, watch commander, vehicle coordinator, and was instrumental in putting in service the first fully equipped police car fleet for the District. Currently, he is the department's training sergeant

and acts as the liaison officer with the Rio Hondo Police Academy. "My tenure with the RTD has afforded me the opportunity to further my education and raise my family. Through the years I've seen rapid growth and foresee further growth with light rail and Metro Rail. Through it all I have enjoyed working with my subordinates, peers, and supervisors," said McRiley.

Concurrent with his service to the RTD, he has participated as a reserve deputy sheriff for the last 13 years. McRiley's service record also includes enlistment with the U.S. Army from which he retired in 1958 with the rank of master sergeant. He has competed in the California Police Olympics and won 2 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronze medals in power-lifting and track and field events.

He resides in Arcadia with his son and acknowledges that he can never quite escape the RTD even at home; his older brother is an operator out of Division 10 and his oldest daughter's husband is also a bus operator.

RTD'S LEGAL EAGLES



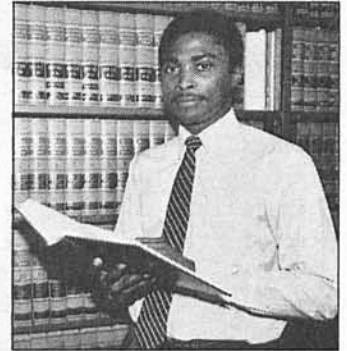
General Counsel Suzanne Gifford

carry out the duties of a transit agency. The external task includes defending the RTD in lawsuits at the superior court or federal court level up to the State Supreme Court, filing suits against others, and reviewing and approving contracts as to form.

As general counsel, Ms. Gifford, who has been with the district since 1972, serves the District in a dual capacity. She represents the RTD as an organization and at the same time represents the RTD board of directors. She keeps the board up to date on areas of law that affect them, ensures that board reports reflect current law, and advises the board through the general process they follow as District policymakers.

For the Legal Department, as a whole, while a generous portion of their workload consists of the contract formation and review that the Metro Rail Project generates, the bulk of their caseloads are comprised of employment-related litigation. "I see this as a trend of the times," said Ms. Gifford. "You see new causes of action being created from time to time from emerging areas of the law. For instance, after the enactment of Labor Code Section 132a we saw an increase in litigation involving discrimination in workers' compensation."

Since its inception in 1971, shortly after the RTD was chartered, Legal, as it is referred to in shorthand,



Assistant Counsel Marvin Parker

has made its presence known in the legal digests with some cases of significance. Notably among them are: *Lopez v. RTD* which determined that as a common carrier, the District is required to deliver passengers with the highest degree of care; and most recently, *ATU/UTU v. RTD/LACTC* which preliminarily enjoined, or prohibited the RTD from turning over lines 495 and 498 to the San Gabriel Valley Transportation Zone and their operator Foothill Transit.

Despite the number of cases which the District has generated that are of historical consequence, Ms. Gifford argues emphatically that the work of RTD's Legal is nothing like the television program *LA Law*. "It's a very accurate program, but it doesn't show how hard people work. It doesn't depict how many hours are put in. Everybody's in court, it's all very glamorous, it doesn't show

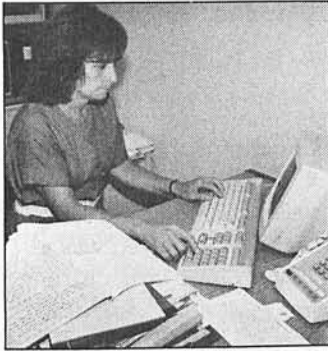
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Any business person knows that you can't run a business today without good legal advice. What with the hurdles introduced by government regulations further complicated by the hoop-jumping required by federal and state statutes you need a good lawyer to get you through the obstacle course so that you can begin to take care of business. The RTD's Legal Department provides the District with that good lawyer, in fact, seven of them.

The legal staff, led by General Counsel Suzanne Gifford, is composed of Assistant General Counsel Jeffrey Lyon, Senior Associate Counsel Benjamin Sterling, Assistant Counsel Charles M. Safer, Assistant Counsel Sharon A. Sanders, Assistant Counsel Ronald

W. Stamm, and Assistant Counsel Marvin Parker; and supported by Staff Assistant Gwen Keene and Legal Secretaries Olivia Ford and Peggy Claiborne.

Generally, the department serves the District both internally and externally. The internal function involves anything from questions raised informally in the hallways of the headquarters building to writing formal legal opinions which analyze a fact situation and apply a given law to that situation. The internal aspect is also the preventive nature of their legal work. By answering the staff's questions about contemplated actions or writing the formal legal opinions, the District is able to avoid legal problems and take advantage of legal authority to

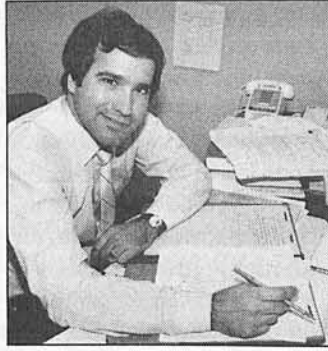


Assistant Counsel Sharon Sanders

the drudgery it can be," said Ms. Gifford. She was quick to point out, however, that a practice at the RTD is not like the toil of many private firms.

"There is a richness and variety at the RTD, for us it is a constant intellectual challenge. I suspect it is far more routine in private firms," she said. Legal's tasks range from reviewing construction specifications and contracts; to analyzing zoning, hazardous waste issues, contract disputes, unemployment issues, workers' compensation claims, and reviewing personal injury settlements. "At the District you really get the opportunity to know your clients better. That's a big plus here for job satisfaction. We get to participate in the daily life of the District."

Frequently, the popular media run stories about the dissatisfaction lawyers suffer with their profession caused by the stress of the long hours required and the poor image they hold in communities. Ms. Gifford



Assistant Counsel Charles M. Safer

and members of her staff do not share the sentiment of so many of their colleagues. "This job is rich and rewarding. We do work more than 8 hours a day and I, like others, feel the frustration of not getting things done. There are always so many things that you haven't gotten around to doing...I never get caught up," she said.

At her computer completing a deposition summary in preparation for trial when *Headway* interrupted her, Assistant Counsel Sharon Sanders agreed with Ms. Gifford's assessment of the workload. "The hours are long, but the variety offered makes it very challenging." Ms. Sanders formerly taught school before she began her second career as an attorney. Prior to her service with the RTD she was in private practice in Ventura and, previous to that, she worked as a Ventura County deputy district attorney.

Legal's newest attorney, Marvin Parker, enjoys practicing law. "I look



Assistant General Counsel Jeffrey Lyon

forward to going one-on-one with another person, to try to find the law that supports my position...I enjoy courtroom work." He said he leaves no stone unturned when it comes to anticipating an opponent's argument. "Doing the research, sometimes 10 to 12-hour days are not unusual, but it is taking the time to do that research that validates that feeling you had in your gut about the issue in front of you."

Assistant Counsel Charles M. Safer handles legal matters as they relate to the Metro Rail Project. "Mostly I review contracts as to form to prevent litigation as there is always the potential for litigation." Safer admits that the subject matter of his workload would not attract a viewing audience used to the drama of *LA Law*, but he likes what he does.

Assistant General Counsel Jeffrey Lyon, in addition to supervising the work of the staff attorneys, shares the workload that he doesn't delegate out. For the past two years Lyon served

as director of real estate for Metro Rail. "It's because I like being a lawyer that I came back [to Legal]," he said.

"There is nothing I like least about the profession. I am, however, bothered about the perception the public has of lawyers. For instance, it raises the ire of many people that lawyers defend criminals, but that is a right required by the Constitution. In reality it is absolutely necessary." Lyon is convinced the image problem lies with the legal community not doing a better public relations job in communicating why lawyers do what they do.

"Law is the kind of subject with which you really have to push your abilities as far as they can go. It is not a rote kind of thing—not ever," said Lyon. Assistant Counsel Ronald W. Stamm was unavailable at the time the interviews were conducted. He left word behind that he wanted his absence explained by reason of his appealing a matter before the U.S. Supreme Court, but the fact is he was on his honeymoon.

Benjamin Sterling began with the District on September 12. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Sterling has served as staff attorney with the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Justice, and the Interstate Commerce Commission. Most recently he worked as senior trial attorney with Mavridis & Associates in Glendale. There, the scope of his litigation experience included insurance coverage disputes.

A Letter to the *Headway* (On My Cocaine Addiction)

To: General Manager
From: Jose A. Mordan

Dear Sir:

I am writing concerning my personal reasons for terminating the position which I held as bus operator working out of Division 5. At this time I would like to state and declare that I had a disease that I was not aware of at that time. I was a cocaine user and my ability to perform my duties as a Bus Operator were beginning to deteriorate slowly. I was afraid and ashamed to approach my supervisor about my problem. I kept a good record till I saw signs of unsteadiness all around me. I was on my way to supervisor when my disease took it away from me. I began slowly to pick myself up again. I had been to drug programs and gotten in touch with myself, but it is not an easy road.

I am doing time now for a drug-related sale. I'll be out December 1989, I am serving 1-1/2 years. I am not asking the management to feel sorry for me but to feel proud that I came back and had a story to tell my ex-coworkers on what drug addictions can do to you. I would like for you to print the message in the *Headway*.

[The Message]

The door to my cell has just been shut! Once again I am caged. I am alone with the seemingly empty feeling that against my will flows through me. First of all, it is not the place where I

thought I would be telling anyone what cocaine addiction has caused me.

My problem of drug addiction is not unique. Perhaps someone you know has opened up to you about how it has ruined their life.

My disease starts like anyone else's. I had a great job, a wife, a sweet daughter. Most recently, I have no job, no wife or her daughter whom I love dearly.

I started using cocaine at the age of 17. It got heavier as I got older. It became expensive, so I worked extra to support my addiction. I was addicted to it. I wasn't doing it just at parties anymore or at friends' homes. I now took it to work with me, it was there when I wanted it. My work record was good. I wore my 5 and 10-year safe driving pin with pride. I was proud of what my outside record showed. Inside I was hurting. I needed help, but my pride refused to let me ask for it.

RTD came out with a drug program, but why should I tell anyone my problems? You see...I didn't even give myself a chance to trust someone who was willing to listen and help. All I wanted to do was score for my next hit, nothing else mattered.

I didn't need no help, I said to myself, I can handle it, no problem so far as I was concerned. Believe me I wasn't ready to give up on all those cocaine parties, sexy girls. All you had to have was to have some

cocaine and you were in. What I didn't know was what else came with it. All of a sudden your rent is past due, they are coming for the car, you are spending more time at your manager's desk, the "come-see-me's" are piling up. You owe everybody; and you forgot your lunch money again.

If you haven't slept in hallways, ridden the terror all night of New York's subway, asked for 25 cents on Christmas Eve, been shot up, held up, arrested, re-arrested, locked out of your own mother's house, detoxed twice in the same year, attended in-patient drug programs, and finally ended up in state prison for a 1-1/2 to 3 year's sentence; well, I've done it for you. That's what it has cost me. But, now I have come to realize that there is something mightier than cocaine in life, and that's to have an experience with God and thank him that it is not too late.

Because I care.

Thank you very much for taking your time in reading a passage about my life. I hope that it can be printed as I wrote it, from my heart.

You don't have to use my name, just the message I want to deliver to my ex-coworkers. Grace be unto you and your family and all the personnel at RTD, and Peace from God our father...

Jose A. Mordan
#88A-7436

Hudson Correctional
Facility
Box 576, East Court Street
Hudson, New York 12534

Employee Dies, Causes Double Grief For Family

by Ed Paull,
Benefits Manager

Donald (not his real name) died suddenly, leaving a wife and two young children. This in itself was a tragedy, but with a little foresight and thoughtfulness on Donald's part, he could have eliminated some of the grief that followed.

You see, Donald did not have a current beneficiary designation form on file with the District. At the time Donald was hired, he completed a beneficiary designation form, naming his wife as his beneficiary. Since then, however, he had divorced and remarried, becoming the father of two children by this second marriage. Yet, when the death claim was submitted, the beneficiary designation form on file still named his former wife as the beneficiary!

Normally, when an employee of the District dies, several separate payments are made to the designated beneficiary. The life insurance benefits are paid by the insurance company usually within four weeks of death. In addition to life insurance, the beneficiary receives payment for unused and accrued vacation, sick time, and unpaid payroll hours. These payments are usually made rather quickly.

Did Donald intend to give the proceeds of his

continued on page 21...

...continued from page 20

District employment to his former wife and not to his current wife? Unfortunately, we are not certain as to the answer to this, but one can assume he intended the proceeds to go to his current wife and mother of his children. If the parties involved (the first wife and the current wife) can come to an amicable agreement to split the proceeds, then a settlement can be made on a relatively quick basis. If not, the courts will have to decide the distribution of Donald's property, and it could be several years before any payment will be made to Donald's family, if ever, as the money could easily disappear in lawyers' fees.

This additional grief caused by Donald for not having a current beneficiary designation form on file was totally unnecessary. The Insurance Company and the District will NOT make any payments to anyone if there is more than one claim for the proceeds. Check YOUR beneficiary designation now! Active employees, look at your most recent Annual Employee Benefit Statement, and you will find your current beneficiary is indicated in the Life Insurance Section.

Retirees — It is a good idea for you to periodically check to see if your beneficiary designation is up to date.

Still unsure of your beneficiary? Please call Ruben Juarez on the Life Insurance Desk at (213) 972-6381 or Extension 6381. Ruben will be happy to check this out for you, and if necessary, send you a new beneficiary designation form.

CREDIT UNION NEWS

Important Information on New Check Cashing Requirements

by Debbie Flores-Pollock, Marketing Director

To help make deposited funds more readily available, Congress passed legislation that resulted in the Federal Reserve Board issuing Regulation CC, which deals with, among other items, new standards for endorsing ALL checks, both personal and business.

Beginning September 1, 1988, here's how to endorse YOUR checks, which will enable you to comply with these new requirements and avoid unnecessary delays in processing your deposits. Financial institutions, including the credit union, will not be responsible for unpaid checks that are late because of your endorsement — or if any other information you put on the back of the check obscures the institutions endorsement.

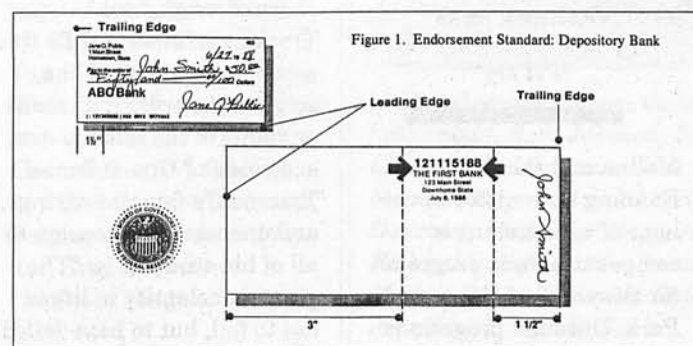
Look at the check front to find the "Trailing Edge". The "Trailing Edge" is the left edge of the check when its facing you. Turn the check over, top to bottom, to

endorse the back of the trailing edge.

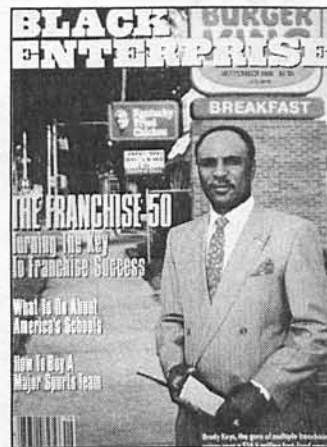
IMPORTANT...Your endorsement cannot extend into the area reserved for the Bank endorsement. Your endorsement must be written in a 1-1/2" area below the trailing edge!

The reason? New Federal Bank check-processing methods have been computerized, and all remaining space is for strictly regulated computerized bank imprints. Second and/or third party endorsements must *all fit* within the 1-1/2" area below the trailing edge. *This includes the credit union endorsement.*

It may take a little practice, but you'll soon be able to endorse your checks within the required area. It has been recommended that persons who have checking accounts or make numerous deposits to their account purchase an endorsement stamp in order to comply with Regulation CC.



Keys' Kid Becomes Franchise King



Brady Keys, Jr., the son of retired RTD employee Brady Keys, Sr., was featured on the September cover of *Black Enterprise* magazine. Keys is perennially featured in the list of top 100 black businesses.

A former Pittsburgh Steeler halfback, Keys was the nation's first black owner of a national franchise. Today, his Detroit-based group, the Keys Group, owns and operates 13 Burger King outlets and 12 Kentucky Fried Chicken franchises. His company's holdings also include real estate investments, a video game company, oil wells, and a mining and brokering company. The company employs more than 1600 employees. Keys, Sr. worked for the District for 21 years both in the transportation and maintenance departments; he retired in 1982.

OPERATORS EARN MARTIAL ARTS RANKINGS

Several Division 3 Operators received promotions and belt ranks in the martial arts by the Shoshin Ryu Schools of Jujitsu at an awards banquet held in Fullerton on July 23.

These operators and their family members had enrolled in a self-defense course in Jujitsu at the Cypress Park Recreation Center in January. The course was sponsored by the Shoshin Ryu Schools of Jujitsu, which is affiliated with the Amateur Athletic Union and the U.S. Olympic Funding Committee. The head instructor is Division 3 Operator Lou Trammell, a 3rd-degree black belt in Kodokan Judo, 3rd-degree black belt in Dan Zan Ryu Jujitsu, and a black belt in Shorin Ryu style Karate.

Those operators recognized for their achievements in the art of Jujitsu included Rene Carrera, promoted to green belt; Ken Willis, green belt; Cruz Bobadill, promoted to brown belt; Jorge Lopez, green belt; and Monica Marin, daughter of Division 3 Operator Roberto Marin, to

green belt. The event was attended by over 150 people who included the operators' friends and families, several dignitaries from the Orange County Board of Supervisors, Daniel Su from the U.S. Olympic Committee and Youth Program, and Division 3 Assistant Manager Chuck Lerud.

It was with Lerud's support that Sensei (Japanese for teacher) Trammell decided to make arrangements with the park officials for a special class for District personnel and their families.

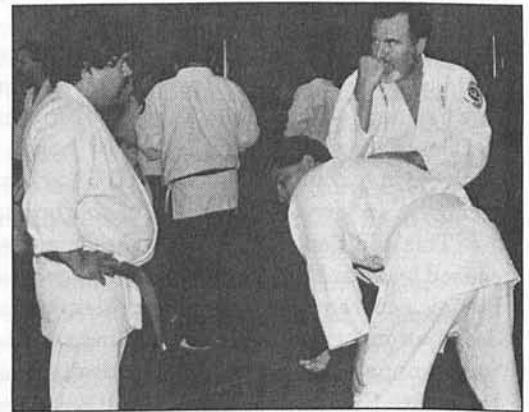
Currently, Sensei Trammell is negotiating with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Gloria

"I can't" is
replaced with
"I'll try"

Molina and the Olympic Funding Committee in the hope of establishing a competitive Judo program for the youth of Cypress Park. Once the program is



Operator Ken Willis goes airborne demonstrating good form for falling on a frontal body.



Sensei Trammell demonstrates self-defense techniques to Division 3 operators Rene Carrera (looking on) and Jorge Lopez (subject).

established, Trammell hopes to convince the District to contribute funds to the program as one way to curb graffiti and vandalism unleashed on District equipment.

"What is lacking in today's young people is a sense of worth," said Trammell. "Judo instills this sense not to mention the spiritual benefits that many students of the martial arts experience." One of Sensei Trammell's favorite sayings, and one which he repeats to all of his students is: "The greatest calamity in life is not to fail, but to have failed

to try!" One word, however, that is never mentioned in his classes is "I can't," it is replaced with the more positive phrase, "I'll try."

The classes are held each Monday evening from 7 till 9 p.m. at the Cypress Park Recreation Center located behind Division 3 on Pepper Street. Those interested in joining may write Operator Lou Trammell through company mail at Division 3203 or call the recreation center at 213/225-0989 between 6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Monday evenings, or you may stop in any time class is in session.

All-Stars Slug It Out

August 7 was a special day for Southern California Rapid Transit District Softball Leagues.

This marked the first annual Softball Allstar Game, between the National League, featuring players from Divisions 3201, 3206, 3207, 3212 and 3318; and

American League, players from Divisions 3203, 3303, 3205, 3310 and 3215.

A large fan turnout saw the American League overcome the adversities of early game jitters to win eleven to nine. Special mention goes to American League player Chris Baez

from the Division Three Tigers. His sparkling defensive play at third base and his superb hitting throughout the game made him a true asset to the

American League victory.

Special acknowledgment to Elton Ford, the Softball League Commissioner who also acted as game announcer.

Hosting Foreign Exchange Students



Participants in the Lions International Youth Exchange Program visit the RTD. Front row, from left to right: Yasutaka Kimura, Tim Coene, Tanya Kuypers, and Terry Yarnall. Back row, from left to right: General Manager Alan Pegg and District Secretary Helen Bolen.

This summer District Secretary Helen Bolen opened her house to participants in the Lions International Youth Exchange Program.

The young people spent six weeks in California; the first three weeks were with host families in the northern part of the state with the remaining period spent in the southland.

Yasutaka Kimura of Osaka, Japan, and Terry Yarnall of Telford, England,

were Ms. Bolen's house guests. These young men and two other participants were presented to the RTD Board of Directors at their regular meeting on August 11. The others included Tanya Kuypers from Bonn, West Germany, who was the guest of Walnut City Councilman Ray Watson and Tim Coene of Brussels, Belgium, the guest of Pam and Greg Bonomo of Hacienda Heights.



American League victors include, beginning from the top row, left to right: Keith Courseault, Carlos Garcia, A. Ponce, J. Olivo, D. Clark, Thomas Isaac, Chris Carter, Ed Hanger, Eddie Harris, Armando Jimenez, Frederick Hines. Raul Villegas, Phil Samuel, Melvin Douglas, Chris Baez, Adrian Mott, Frank Alejandro, and Fidel Hernandez.



National league players include, beginning from the top row, left to right: Sam Johnson, Roy Jones, James Brown, Erwin Meeks, Paul Inocencio, Cruz Alvarado, Reggie Smith, Norman Mayes, Richard Wright, David Bautista, Jose Gonzales, Alexander Mays, Aaron Montgomery, John Barnes, Richard Salido, Ernest Cunningham, Clinton Barker, Larry Morris, Printicen Smith, Ralph Villegas, Herb Musgrove, Jose Zavala, and E. Cobb.

RTD Ski Club Ready To Storm the Slopes

Days are getting shorter, afternoons at the beach are getting cooler, everyone's back in school, and mini-skirts are slowly tapering off. This, to the winter sports enthusiast means only one thing: It's ski time!

The RTD Ski Club reminds all members that it is time to dust off the equipment and get ready to storm the slopes. The club also invites all District employees who enjoy snow to join.

You don't have to be a skier to enjoy Ski Club outings. You can stay at the condos and read a good book by the fireplace. Or, you can catch up with your letter-writing while enjoying a wintery landscape from your window. Or, you can relax in the jacuzzi while snow falls around you. Or, you can go shopping. Or, you can delight in hot chocolate and pastries at Schatt's while

the world goes by. And as a fringe benefit you get apres-ski fun, plus the warmth and camaraderie of a great crowd.

Outings are planned this season to Mammoth Mountain in January, February, and March. At least one local trip to Big Bear on a carpooling-share-expenses basis is planned. Details will be forthcoming soon.

To join, fill the application below and mail it to RTD Ski Club, Dept. 8100. Dues are as follows:

Individual: First year \$15, \$5 yearly thereafter.

Family: First year \$20, \$7.50 yearly thereafter.

You do not have to be a member to participate in club outings, but there is a surcharge for non-members. For more information call Rudi Beuerman at 488-4507, or Dane Sheldon at 237-0048.

Yes! I want to join in the fun!

Name _____

Dept. No. _____

Home address _____

Bus. phone _____

Home phone _____

Mail to:
RTD Ski Club, Dept. 8100, 425 S. Main St., LA, CA 90013

RTD MOVIES GOES TO THE MOVIES

Our Rating System

- ***** - A classic; top of the line
- **** - Excellent; worth seeing
- *** - Average; use discount tickets
- ** - Fair; a good effort, but flawed
- * - Poor; don't waste your time

BOMB - *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, with a cast of thousands, and John Wayne as a Roman Centurion

***The Last Temptation of Christ* — *1/2**

I wonder if I would have even bothered to see this film if there hadn't been such media hoopla. First of all, Martin Scorsese is not one of my favorite directors, and, second, the film is only playing in Los Angeles at the Century Cineplex Odeon. However, I duly dragged my roommate down there, paid four bucks for parking, six apiece to get into the theatre (discount tickets are not available through Employee Activities), and glanced at the price list above the concession counter before taking my seat.

And promptly wasted my entire afternoon.

The plot is pretty much familiar, so I don't need to go over it in detail here. Willem Dafoe, who's hot from *Platoon*, plays Christ, following in the footsteps of

Jeffrey Hunter and Max Von Sydow. Barbara Hershey is Mary Magdalen, the archetypal fallen woman. Both are excellent actors, and display above-average talent in this film. Unfortunately, everything suffers from IMS, or Important Movie Syndrome. This is what happens when the actors and director feel

I wonder if I would have even bothered to see this film if there hadn't been such media hoopla.

they are making an "important movie," and therefore everything must be done with all the style of a third-rate Shakespeare company. Lines are not spoken; they are "delivered." This is good for about five minutes. After that, you start glancing at your watch.

Halfway through the film, my companion nudged me and quietly suggested that we skip out. I dismissed the notion, however, because I wanted to see for myself the controversial "sex scene" between Christ and Mary. This is what so many

continued on page 25...

...continued from page 24

of the preachers on television were denouncing, calling it "depraved." After the plodding plot I'd witnessed so far, I was in the mood for a little depravity; anything to spice this thing up.

Now, I will admit that concept of *The Last Temptation* is rather fascinating. It says that Satan didn't give up after Christ rejected him in the desert. At that

After the plodding plot I'd witnessed I was in the mood for depravity.

moment on the cross when Christ asks, "Father, why hast thou forsaken me?" he goes in for one more try. What he offers Jesus is the chance for life — a life as other normal man. Mary Magdalen is there, ready to marry him (she's always loved him), and they can live together and raise a family. This all seems fine, well and good, until the ghost of Judas shows up, berating Jesus for falling short of fulfilling his destiny, which has already cost Judas his life. Here, Jesus realizes that this is only a hallucination, Satan's last attempt at thwarting God's plans. He rejects it, and finds himself back on the cross; all of this has taken place in the blink of an eye. Now he truly accepts his fate as the sacrifice for man's redemption. Unfortunately, this entire sequence is as flat and overbearing as the rest

of the movie. By the way, Mary and Jesus go to bed after they are married in this vision, and it's rather PG. At that point, the audience just didn't seem to care anymore.

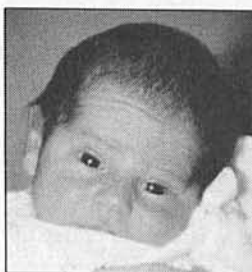
If religious factions hadn't stirred up all this muck, *Last Temptation* probably would have opened and closed in a matter of a few short weeks, pretty much forgotten except for reference books on Scorsese's works. As it is, the people denouncing the film handed Universal more publicity than they could ever possibly hope for, causing the studio to move the release date up a month to take advantage of it. I'm not trying to deal with the religious issues here; personally, I did not find the contents of the film blasphemous. Scorsese obviously believed very deeply in what he was doing, and it shows

Scorsese obviously believed very deeply in what he was doing.

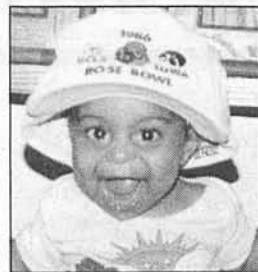
in every frame of the movie — much to its detriment, but it does show. The question is whether or not the movie is worth seeing. My answer to that is no. I found it boring, turgid, and a complete waste of time and money. And, for any movie, therein lies the sacrilege.

Be seeing you
— Carolyn Kinhead

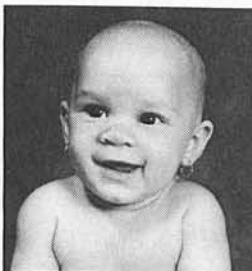
BIRTHS



Born to Pension & Insurance Clerk **Rudy Chairez** and his wife **Gracie**, a son, **Ricardo Julian**, on July 27, 1988 in Fontana at 11:15 a.m. Ricardo weighed 7-1/2 lbs. and was 18-1/2 inches long at birth.



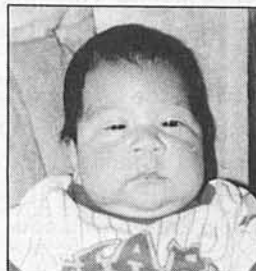
Born to Typist Clerk **Cookie Roberson** and her husband, **Ricky**, a son; **Ryan Dion**, on January 21, 1988 at 6:40 p. m. in Los Angeles. Ryan weighed 8 lbs. and was 21 inches long at birth.



Born to Typist Clerk **Cheryll Breaux** and her husband, **Gary**, a daughter; **Sascha Kristina**, on March 6, 1988 in Los Angeles at 3:13 a.m. Sascha weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz. and was 20-1/2 inches long at birth.



Born to Typist Clerk **Debra Dolly** and her husband, **Robert**, a daughter; **Andrina Victoria**, on April 28, 1988 at 7:59 a.m. in Monterey Park. Andrina was 9 lbs., 11 oz. and 21 inches long at birth.



Born to Division 10 Operator **Ruben Espinoza** and his wife, **Beatriz**, a son; **Bobby Cortez**, on June 25, 1988 at 7:58 a.m. in Los Angeles. Bobby was 8 lbs., 2 oz. at birth.

TO HYOUR HEALTH



by Elia Hager, R.N.

If you are like most people, you arrive at the dentist's office because you have a toothache or it's been 5 years since your last cleaning. Memories of the last appointment were enough to keep you away from everybody's favorite medical professional for as long as possible.

Early Treatment Starts With Early Dental Education

It is suggested that successful dental care is possible with an early introduction to the dentist. The American Dental Association recommends that infants be taken to the dentist as soon as the child begins to erupt his/her teeth. This is for positive conditioning, to avoid associating pain with the dentist. With today's positive attitude concerning health and preventive health, today's youth is having less dental problems than 25 years ago due to good education, preventive checkups, and fluoride in the water and toothpaste. Thanks in large part to fluoridation, tooth decay has fallen by a third in the past decade; more than half of the nine year olds in the United States have no cavities at all. The replacing of large silver amalgam fillings with crowns will be things of the past.

Your Teeth are Fine but Your Gums Gotta Go

Diseases of the gums, gingivitis or periodontal disease, is the chief cause of tooth loss in the United States. Gingivitis is totally preventable by brushing and flossing, brushing and flossing (at least twice daily). The bad news is that periodontal disease affects three out of four adults in

...today's youth are having less dental problems than 25 years ago due to good education, preventive checkups, and fluoride in the water and toothpaste.

the United States. Our enemy is the colorless slime called plaque. This slimy film accumulates on the teeth in the spaces in-between the teeth and below the gumline. As this film ages in the mouth it turns from colorless to white and is now known as plaque. Plaque as it ages in the mouth, and when it is not removed periodically by the dentist or dental hygienist,

turns from white to tan then brown to black! Bacteria thrive in this sticky medium depositing their by-products on the tooth surfaces causing irritations and infection which in turn damage the bone that holds the tooth in place. Bacteria views your mouth as a banquet table, a groaning board rich in food, fun little nooks and crannies to cause fatal damage to your gums and teeth. So much damage can result from dental neglect and gingivitis that eventually the bone erodes away from the tooth causing the tooth to become loose. The tooth will lose its anchor from the jawbone and will be lost forever. Sadly, the tooth was probably healthy and without a cavity or filling. The good news is that this type of tooth loss can be prevented by good oral hygiene; use of a prebrushing mouthwash, flossing, using a soft bristle toothbrush, and seeing your dentist on a regular basis.

So You Think You Know How to Use a Toothbrush

The object of knowledgeable teethcleaning is to remove debris, food particles, and bacteria from all the tooth surfaces. Your teeth require oral hygiene on a daily basis. This includes flossing with non-waxed floss, brushing with a

low abrasive fluoride toothpaste, using a brush with soft, synthetic bristles, and rinsing your mouth with water after eating snacks. Most people are never taught proper brushing techniques, and that a complete cleaning should take at least three and can last more than five minutes.

The Truth of Coming Clean

First, floss your teeth by gently drawing the thread down between each tooth with a sawing motion, pulling the floss forward then back just under the gumline. Continue flossing all teeth then vigorously rinse your mouth with water or a prebrushing mouthwash. Next, load your toothbrush with a low abrasive fluoride toothpaste then holding your soft synthetic bristle brush at approximately a 45 degree angle against the gumline and, while pressing lightly against the gumline wiggle the brush then pull the bristles down the side surfaces of the teeth. Start at the back upper toothline coming across the front and to the other side, then do the bottom teeth reversing the movement of pressing against the gumline and drawing the brush up against the side surfaces of the bottom teeth. Now do the inside tooth surfaces going from back to front and ending at the opposite side. Finish by brushing all the biting surfaces then last, brush your tongue.

Important to Remember!
See Your Dentist Every Six Months and Buy a New Toothbrush Every Four Months

Restaurant Review

by Sue Harvey, Division 15 Assistant Manager

Japanese food has become very popular these days, where once there were only a handful of restaurants and most of those located downtown, now there are Japanese restaurants all over, in almost every shopping mall and strip center in town. But, Japanese food is not the same wherever it is served.

You can get fast-food Japanese which is best left alone. There is all-you-can-

Taka Sushi in Santa Monica is definitely in the class of premium restaurants.

eat Japanese, some of which isn't bad, but the selection of Sushi leaves much to be desired (like freshness), and then there are premium restaurants.

Taka Sushi in Santa Monica is definitely in the class of premium restaurants. The first clue to this

is their California Roll. At most restaurants, a California Roll is rice, seaweed, avocado, cucumber, and Krab. Now Krab is made up of a combination of fish, and very little crab it is. It is imitation crab (a bad imitation). At Taka Sushi, they use real crab in their California Rolls and whole scallops not ground scallops. All the fish used in the Sushi and Sashimi is the freshest. If they can't get fresh salmon or tuna they don't serve it.

All their Sushi and Sashimi is excellent. The salmon is thinly sliced and served with slices of lemon. The contrast between pink and yellow looks as good as it tastes. As for the rest of their menu, the Tempura Shrimp are large and juicy, and the vegetables are crisp. The Teriyaki (Chicken or Beef) is very well done. Some of the best appetizers include Beef Sashimi and a dish called Dynamite which consists of jumbo Clams, Shrimp, and Mushrooms baked with their special sauce.

Taka Sushi is located at 1345 2nd Street in Santa Monica, (213) 394-6540.

Try Again on Bike Ride

The organizers of the LA-San Diego Bike Ride scheduled for September 3 apologize to any participants who were inconvenienced by the cancellation of the trip. The ride was

postponed for reasons beyond their control, principally the unseasonably hot weather. But, a trip is planned in the near future. See upcoming issues of Headway for details.

The Classifieds

Classified ads sent by non-employees are accepted at a cost of \$3.75 per line per month. Display ads are \$20 per inch per month. Please send payment with your camera-ready ad and make checks payable to the RTD. The price for ads is subject to change without notice. Send ads the first week of the month for printing in the following month's issue to Headway, RTD, 425 S. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90013. RTD employees' and retirees' ads will continue to run free.

For Sale

Attention Collectors! Vega, 1974, red, good condition \$1800 or best offer. 21-inch Zenith console TV \$200 or best offer. Kennedy rocking chair \$50 or best offer. Olivetti Portable typewriter \$35 or best offer. 3 pair size 6 sandals \$10 each. Various types of books, coffee table books, \$5 or best offer. Clock radio, \$15 or best offer. Fix-up lamps, \$5 and \$10. Call Earl Gastel at 213/682-1012 for appointment to see.

Wedding



RTD Senior Human Resources Analyst Sue Thorne married William C. D. Edwards on July 30 in Upland, California. Sue had been with the District for seven years as an employee in the Personnel Department. It is the second marriage for both. The couple was attended by their children; she, by her two, Jason and Kristina, and he, by his three, William, Timothy, and Jennifer. Sue was given in marriage by RTD Benefits Manager Ed Paull. Her husband is employed by Boeing Aircraft in Seattle, Washington where the blended family now makes their home.

RECREATION NEWS



October Events

- 15 Kenny G - Universal \$21.50
- 15 Les Miserables 2:30 p.m. \$45.00
- 15 USC/Washington - Band Day \$16.00
- 22 Barbara Mandrell - Greek \$21.00
- 29 UCLA/Washington State \$9.00

November Events:

- 5 USC/California
- 5 The Beach Boys - Postgame concert \$16.00
- 9 Lakers vs Denver \$11.50
- 11 Lakers vs Seattle \$11.50
- 12 Whispers - Universal \$21.50
- 12 UCLA/Stanford \$9.00

- 14 Engelberg Humperdink - Universal \$20.00 tkts for \$15.00
- 18 Lakers/Portland \$11.50
- 19 UCLA/USC \$22.00
- 26 USC/Notre Dame \$22.00

Las Vegas Trip December 9 - 11 includes round trip transportation via air conditioned bus, two nights lodging at the Four Queens Hotel in downtown Las Vegas, taxes and luggage handling, \$70 per person double occupancy, \$55 for triples, \$125 for singles. Reservations and payments due by November 18.

For tickets and information on Recreational events, contact the Employee Activities Department at 972-6680

HEADWAY

Published monthly for the employees and retirees of the Southern California Rapid Transit District.

Editorial input and suggestions are welcome. Deadline for receipt of editorial copy is the first day of each month. Send black-and-white photographs only. Requests for photographic coverage of District events must be preceded by 72 hours notice.

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