

Division 1 Transportation Department celebrates two "How You Doin'?" awards.



PHOTO BY VERONICA TORREJÓN

Division 1 Party Recognizes 'How You Doin'?' Awards

By VERONICA TORREJÓN

(Dec. 22, 2003) Between the rapidly approaching holiday season, the end of the strike, and two "How You Doin'?" awards, bus operators at Division 1 had much to celebrate Friday.

The festivities kicked off early with an award ceremony led by General Manager Rich Rogers, who presented two awards for Outstanding Transportation Division to Transportation Manager Sonja Owens.

The celebration continued with the annual holiday party complete with food, a raffle and music courtesy of DJ Jamie Figueroa, who works as a bus operator at the division.

DJ Jamie Figueroa is the hit of the party as he poses with Bus Operator Ed Pendleton.



"We're celebrating everything – Christmas, being back to work, the awards," said Owens. "It's good to be alive."

Trophy and a check

The first award, for the month of September, was marked with a trophy. The next was a quarterly award that earned the Division a \$500 check.

Both awards are in recognition of the tremendous improvement Division 1 has shown over the past two years, Rogers said. The division earned the award seven out of nine months this year and three out of 12 months last year.

"This division is going beyond where the bar has already been raised," Rogers said. "This is a huge accomplishment."

On a roll

Operators were on a role when the quarterly award was earned just before the start of the strike, Owens said. "The family atmosphere here has pulled us together and helped a lot. It's brought us all closer together."

Owens is proud of the people in her division who have continued to

work hard despite difficult times that have been compounded by the supermarket strike that has left many operators with family members walking the picket lines.

"With everything else going on we have been able to maintain a high standard of efficiency," Owens said.

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