

HEADWAY

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LB — LA Light Rail Update

Health Fair Draws Hundreds

June Graduates



3rd Annual Health Fair & 5K Walk/Run

RTD Breaks Ground for New Parking Structure at El Monte Station

Ground was broken June 24 for a three-level parking structure at RTD's El Monte Busway station that will add 563 parking spaces for commuters.

The \$3 million structure is scheduled to be ready for use by late January, 1988. It will result in

groundbreaking and continued for about four weeks. Construction on the main structure began in the latter part of July. Existing lots also will be re-striped in order to provide additional parking spaces.

About 300 existing

484); 10727 Valley Blvd. (line 490); 1024 Valley Mall (line 484); and Santa Anita and Broadway (lines 491-492).

RTD, the City of El Monte, Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC), and the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) all contributed funds to this project.

The principal contrac-

tor is Morley Construction Company of Los Angeles.

The El Monte Busway, traveled by about 22,000 commuters daily, is an 11-mile lane running along the San Bernardino Freeway between downtown and El Monte that offers unimpeded passage for buses and carpools. An extension that will reach to Union Station is under construction, and is expected to be completed by January, 1989.



Local officials join the RTD in the groundbreaking ceremony for the El Monte Bus Station Parking Structure held June 24. From left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer, El Monte Mayor Don McMillen, RTD Director Charles Storing, RTD Board President Jan Hall, and Chief Deputy to Supervisor Peter Schabarum, Michael Lewis.

a total of 2,147 spaces for bus riders to park their cars.

"This new parking structure represents another step in the continued efforts of RTD to cut down on L.A.'s worsening traffic," said General Manager John A. Dyer. "Instead of driving downtown to work, we will encourage the public to park at the new structure and take an express bus."

The structure will be built in two phases. Phase one, grading and excavation, began with the

spaces will be unavailable during construction, but arrangements were made with the City of El Monte for commuters who regularly use the busway to park in five nearby city parking lots.

Patrons may choose either to walk to the busway station or take existing RTD service from the lots to the station.

Following is a list of available parking areas and RTD lines serving them:

Pioneer Park (lines 491-492); City Hall (line

Division 6 Wins Second Quarter in a Row

Once again Division 6 was named Division of the Quarter for demonstrating the greatest overall percentage of improvement among the other competing operating Maintenance divisions. Division 6 first won the award for the fall quarter of 1986 and now has captured the title for the win-

ter quarter of 1987.

Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis met with the first shift of Division 6 on June 16 to present the traveling trophy and permanent plaque to Division Manager Michael Singer. Davis said it was especially noteworthy that the

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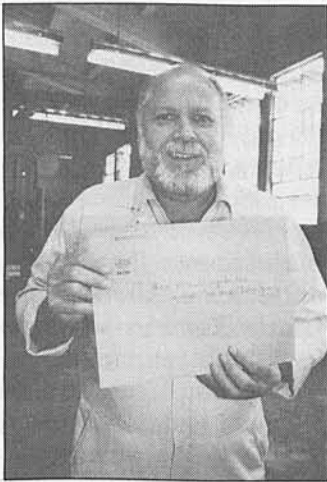
Division 6 Manager Michael Singer accepts the Division of the Quarter awards, again, from Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis.

...Division 6

...Continued from page 2

division had won twice in a row. "You all need to take great pride in yourselves. The yard is clean, the buses are clean, your miles between roadcalls are good — I think you are outstanding!" he said.

Singer thanked all his employees. "I appreciate you all working so hard. I want to thank the office folks, too," he said.



A happy mechanic wins the raffle prize of a trip worth \$300 for two to Las Vegas, San Diego, or Palm Springs.

The division's performance during the quarter was judged against baseline indicators in the following areas: absenteeism, miles between road calls, repeat road calls, cleanliness of buses and work locations, occupational injuries, preventive maintenance, late pull-outs, cancellations, wheelchair lifts, and VMS log on/off.

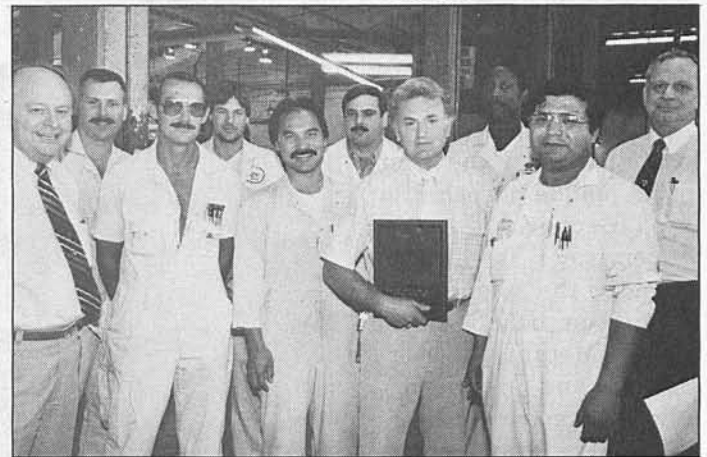
Following the award of the trophy, those employees whose attendance was perfect, had no chargeable occupational injuries, had no charge-



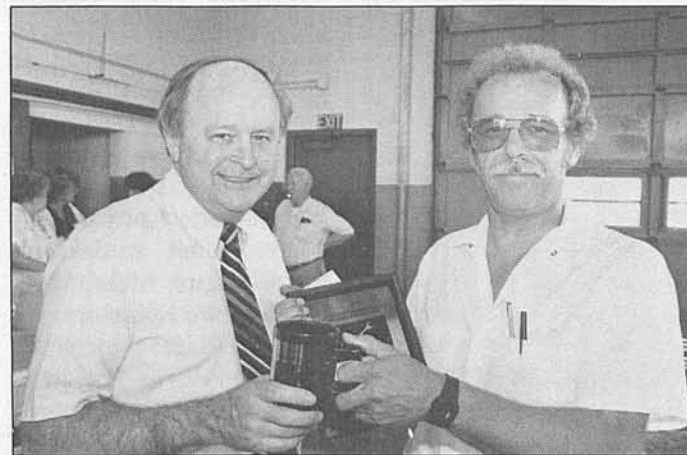
Supervisor I Jim Reynolds and his Electrical Section won first-place recognition for the first quarter of 1987.

able vehicular accidents, and no disciplinary action reported were eligible to participate in the raffle which offered prizes of weekend trips for two, sporting events, concerts, and dinners for two at a nice restaurant.

Division Manager Michael Singer received an incentive bonus check for \$250, Supervisor II Alex Dinuzzo received \$150, and Supervisors I James Pilon and Garland Davis received \$100.



Supervisor Abe Barron and his crew from the Machine/Heads/Injectors Section received third-place honors in the winter quarter of 1987.



Mechanic A leader David Biehn, named Employee of the Quarter at Division 4, receives his plaque and mug from Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis.

Prizes were awarded to the following Division 6

employees eligible for the raffle:

- \$300 trip for two: (choice of Las Vegas, Palm Springs, San Diego) Ronald Epps
- \$80 Employee Activities Tickets (Show/Concert/Sporting Event): Woodrow John, Lech Gazinski
- \$50 Charley Brown's Restaurant: Joe Medrano
- \$50 Velvet Turtle Restaurant: Joe Williams
- \$25 Stuart Anderson's Black Angus: Perez Mondragon, Thanh Phung, Zbigniew Zarakowski, Michael Jones, Tommy Labaya.

Because South Park's Automotive Shop took the Shop of the Quarter honor three quarters running, Maintenance General thought it might be more equitable if shop sections competed against each other instead of shops against shops. From the 13 sections in South Park competing, the Electrical Section took first place, the Sheet Metal/Upholstery Section received second place, and the Machine/Heads/Injectors Section won third place. Major emphasis was placed on attendance and

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Equipment Engineering's Employee of the Quarter was Mechanic A Steve Mullaly. Here he receives his plaque and mug from Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis.

occupational injury in the final selection.

Supervisor I Jim Reynolds accepted the first-place plaque on behalf of the Electrical Section, Supervisor I Steve Stairs accepted the second-place plaque on behalf of the Sheet Metal/Upholstery Section, and Supervisor I Abe Barron received the third-place plaque on behalf of the Machine Sec-



Clerk-Typist Gloria Ramirez was chosen Maintenance General's Employee of the Quarter for Winter 1987.



Maintenance Supervisors receive plaques designated for the second- and third-place winners for the winter quarter of 1987. From left to right: CMF Superintendent Ken Miller, Supervisor I Steve Stairs receiving the second-place plaque on behalf of the Sheet Metal/Upholstery Section, Supervisor I Abe Barron with the third-place plaque on behalf of the Machine Section, and Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis.

tion. Each of the supervisors received an incentive bonus check of \$100.

Of those eligible for the drawing based on performance and attendance, raffle prizes were won by the following employees: (First Place)

- \$300 trip for two (choice of Las Vegas, Palm Springs, or San Diego): Warren Baria
- \$80 Employee Activities Tickets (Show/Concert/Sporting Event): William Lee
- \$50 Velvet Turtle Rest-

Restaurant: Salvani Hirschi, Manuel Torres •\$25 Stuart Anderson's Black Angus: Dane Sheldon, Wilfred Young.

Maintenance General and Equipment Engineering jointly recognized their employees of the quarter at a ceremony held at the new Central

**"I appreciate
you all
working
so hard ..."**

—Michael Singer

Maintenance Facility on June 17. Clerk-Typist Gloria Ramirez was chosen Maintenance General's Employee of the Quarter and Mechanic A Steve Mullaly was selected Equipment Engineering's Employee of the Quarter. In a separate presentation at Division 4, Mechanic A Leader David Biehn was named Employee of the Quarter. Each employee received a check for \$150 and a plaque in recognition of their efforts.

In the raffle held, the following employees won prizes:

- \$50 Charley Brown's Restaurant: Kunpil Song
- \$25 Stuart Anderson's Black Angus: Melvin Levine, Rodolfo Rojas (Second Place)
- \$80 Employee Activities Tickets (Show/Concert/Sporting Event): Albert Lopez
- \$50 Velvet Turtle: Arturo Conoza
- \$25 Stuart Anderson's Black Angus: Jose Mercado (Third Place)
- \$50 Charley Brown's

- \$50 Velvet Turtle Restaurant: Mike Olivas, Nikola Bakajin
- \$50 Charley Brown's Restaurant: Rozlyn Townsend, Manuel Rodriguez
- \$25 Stuart Anderson's Black Angus: Elvira Valdez, Wilson Chu, Helen Miller, Dwight Duperon, Fred Cendejas, Gilbert Bailey.

Transit Police Apprehend Armed Drug Dealer

While on morning rush-hour duty May 10 Transit Police Officers George Thompson and Russ Rentschler observed a man with a gun, an Uzi submachine gun, to be exact, on the corner of Broadway and Olympic Boulevard.

What started as a minor traffic accident escalated into a major confrontation involving LAPD's SWAT team and drawing approximately 30 LAPD officers to the scene. Apparently, a motorist driving a pick-up truck east on Olympic Boulevard was struck on the rear fender by a van coming out of a parking lot at Broadway. The damage was estimated at \$300.

The owner of the pick-up truck left his vehicle to exchange information with the van driver, at which point the van driver tried to drive away. The truck owner grabbed the van owner's keys, preventing a getaway yet prompting a loud argument in the street.

Then the van driver grabbed a jacket and a flight bag from his front seat and attempted to drive away again. When the truck owner tried to stop him, the van owner pulled an Uzi out of his flight bag and fired off two shots. One of the bullets hit the truck and the other a passerby's car. The truck driver wrested the weapon from the van driver who began running west on Olympic. The truck driver chased his

assailant until they reached South Olive Street. Officers Thompson and Rentschler pursued the men, catching up with them in the 800 block of Olive. The Transit Police officers apprehended both men and brought them back to the scene of the accident where LAPD officers were arriving.

Police officers discovered \$34,280 in cash and 53 grams of cocaine in the van driver's flight bag and another \$3,731 in his pocket. He was taken into custody and booked for investigation of two counts of attempted murder.

Thompson and Rentschler were given commendations by the LAPD Station Commander and by Assistant Transit Police Chief Harry Budds. Officer Rentschler, following the incident modestly said, "We just responded."

Officer Thompson, the senior partner of the team said, "Both of us did what we were trained to do. We observed a life-threatening situation. We got out of the car and chased them."

Under the assets seizure law in California arresting authorities can recover a portion of the illegal money seized during an arrest. The RTD Transit Police along with the LAPD have filed a request in court to receive some of the funds recovered May 10 once they are released by the court. The RTD Transit Police will receive approximately \$5800. Commenting on the re-



Transit Police Officers George Thompson (left) and Russ Rentschler apprehended a suspected drug dealer and recovered some cash for the District at the same time.

sults of the incident Transit Police Chief James Burgess said, "This was an excellent outcome to one of the many situations our officers get involved in simply because they are

out there. These officers took the appropriate action, were able to effect a good arrest and recover some of the money. We are proud of them."

Akk Recognized by Schools' Liability Fund

Director of Risk Management Barbara Y. Akk was recognized for her outstanding service as a member of the founding Board of Directors of the Schools' Excess Liability Fund by the organization on June 5.

Prior to joining RTD in April 1986, Akk was involved in the formation of the first statewide excess liability fund for school districts. This organization was establishing liability coverage for \$9 million excess for every \$1 million individual school protection level. Other

schools' joint powers authorities, as well as individual school districts, were able to join as of March 1986.

Over 50 percent of all of the eligible school districts and community colleges (represented by the number of average daily attendance) have joined the Schools' Excess Liability Fund. Akk was recognized as one of the founding members who developed the by-laws, insuring agreements, analyzed the organizational structure, and the implementation plan for the fund.

Divisions 15 and 1 Win Safe Performance Award for 1987 First Quarter

At the June 11 Board of Directors' Meeting, the Director of the Risk Management Department Barbara Y. Akk recognized Divisions 1 and 15 as the divisions with the most outstanding safety records both in fleet and occupational injuries for the first quarter of 1987.

Division 15 Transportation Manager Ron Reedy and Division 1 Maintenance Manager John Adams accepted the awards on behalf of their employees.

The operators at Division 15 recorded an award-winning performance by showing reductions in all three categories — traffic, passenger, and lost-time injury accidents.

During the first quarter the operators at Division 15 reduced their traffic accident rate to 4.2 accidents per 100,000 miles. This is under the District goal of 4.4. The operators also reduced their accident rate by over 50 percent from 7.5 accidents per 100,000 hours worked to 3.5 for each 100,000 hours worked. This is well below the District goal of 9.5.

Division 15 also received two awards from the National Safety Council for 1986 in the fleet and business industry categories.

Representing the winning Maintenance Divi-

sion 1, Manager John Adams accepted the award for the third time since 1984.

Division 1 Maintenance employees were rec-



Safe performance awards for the first quarter were presented to Division 1 and Division 15 at the June 11 Board of Directors' Meeting by Director of Risk Management Barbara Y. Akk. First row, from left to right: Barbara Y. Akk, Division 1 Maintenance Manager John Adams, and Division 15 Transportation Manager Ron Reedy. Back row, from left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer and RTD Board President Jan Hall.

ognized for reducing their lost time injury rate from 21.2 accidents for each 100,000 hours worked in the fourth quarter of 1986 to 4.4 for the last quarter, a decrease of 79 percent. This rate is well below the District rate of 9.0. Division 1 also received an award from the National Safety Council for 1986 in the business and industry categories.

Interesting to note is that both these managers

have won this safety award many times in the past. In an interview with the *Headway* both managers agreed that safe performance is no accident.

Division 1 Manager John Adams attributes his success to taking a no-nonsense approach to safety. He initiates a safety blitz of information for his employees on a daily basis. He walks the yard every morning to see if everything is in place. "I

think it's basically just good housekeeping," said Adams. "We want our employees to think safety all the time. We have strong safety monitors who put the emphasis on enforcement," he said.

In addition to observing rules of safety, Adams takes a personal interest in his employees. "The only way to make improvements in safety or any area is when all hands are working together. If an

accident occurs, I meet with the employee and we discuss whether or not it was preventable. We use progressive discipline if needed. I encourage employees to report anything they see that's unsafe." Adams believes his Navy training (he is a veteran of 21 years) made him very conscious of safety. "I believe in the division being ship-shape," he said.

Division 15 Transportation Manager Ron Reedy posts notices about absenteeism around his division and continues to make his operators aware of the constant political bombardment the District is under. "In our weekly rap sessions, I express the need for a team effort to hold down absenteeism. One way is to pay attention to safety issues. I think it is necessary to communicate with employees rather than keep-

"... both managers agreed that safe performance is no accident."

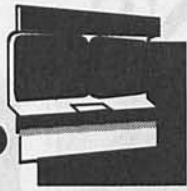
ing them in the dark," said Reedy. He stresses a team effort among his employees, asking them to report any unsafe bus or condition in the division immediately. "I let them know that this will prevent harm to them and others."

Reedy conducts personal interviews with employees who file workers' compensation claims. "I am concerned about their welfare. I ask them if

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TOP OPERATORS

For August



The awards for the Operator Recognition program for the month of May were announced in the latter part of June. The presentations include the Manager's Award which is accompanied by a \$35 check and the Sweepstakes Award which offers

"In Pursuit of Excellence"

a windfall of \$100. 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 Robert Zeldon
- 3203 Robert L. Galindo
- 3205 Doris E. Harris
- 3206 Reginald Ables
- 3207 Alton Williams
- 3208 Cesar S. De Guzman
- 3209 Enrique Serrano
- 3210 Robert A. Chasco
- 3212 Jose Aguirre, Jr.
- 3215 Patrick D. Byrne
- 3216 Raul Sanchez
- 3218 Anna Simpson

Sweepstakes Award

- 3201 The division's move to a new location preempted

the drawing. Those results will appear in the next issue.

- 3203 Evangelina Rojo
- Johnny Smith
- Daniel Sullivan
- Earl Franklin
- 3205 Dora McAfee
- Jerry Jenkins
- Tommie Johnson
- LeRoy Baucom
- 3206 Ira Camp
- Lameach Jackson
- Willis Caffery
- 3207 Francisco
- Raphael
- Walter Johnson
- Nick Sifuentes
- Jerome Watkins
- 3208 Gordon Stevenson
- Richard Butler
- Willie Gibson
- 3209 Al Alvidrez
- William Ballard
- Frank Flores
- Richard Miller
- 3210 Edward Morri-field
- John Botley
- Darnell Williams
- Mario Miranda
- 3212 Michael Priesont
- Danny Trujillo
- Narciso Polanco
- 3215 Jon T. Rossiter
- Elston T. Freeman
- Johnny P. Gonzales
- Bobby L. Hall
- 3216 Miciaiah Pegues
- T. R. Long
- Randall Moore
- 3218 Alton Harrell
- Alfred Sapp
- John Dawson
- Modesto Pinto

New Concept — Prescriptions by Mail

Interested RTD employees and retirees and their families will be offered a new plan for purchasing long-term medications. This plan is a prescription-by-mail service offered by Baxter-Travenol, a major medical supplier to hospitals and clinics.

Each interested employee will be able to pick up a free mail-order kit either at the worksite or by calling Luanna Urie at extension 6450 or Elia Hager at extension 6333. There are several advantages to using this plan offered by Baxter-Travenol; these are listed below.

1. Employees can order a 90-day supply of medication at one time and save themselves three trips to the pharmacist or drug store and the usual waiting in line.

2. The payment will be for wholesale prices rather than retail, and for generics rather than by brand name (with the physician's approval). Baxter-Travenol will call the employee's physician for approval.

3. Employees already having a program where their insurance company reimburses them for medication costs will pay less money for the medication; will have fewer receipts to keep track of; and will still be reimbursed just as always, but will be out less money.

4. Employees will receive a partial catalog of medications and their

prices.

5. There is a toll-free information number, so if a particular medication is not listed, an employee can call and find out if his or her medication is on the list.

6. Baxter-Travenol will cross-check prescriptions to be certain a person's prescription will not interact and cause problem side effects.

The only drawback to this plan is that it is not for short-term crisis medications, i.e., antibiotics for a flu. But for any long-term prescription, this service is a time, energy, and money saver. Soon, Sears employees in five states will be using this plan.

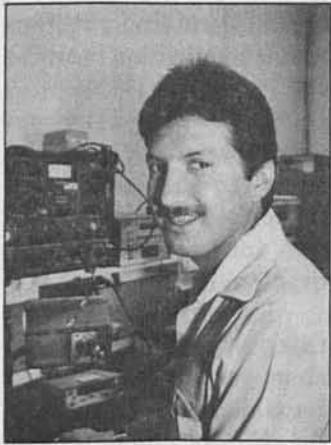
Safe Performance...

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the accident could have been prevented by being more safety-conscious." Reedy believes there is no substitute for personal contact. He lets his employees know that they will be missed if they aren't around because of an injury. "I mean it sincerely. I am concerned and I use a positive approach rather than a punitive one," he said. He reports that his employees have been very cooperative with him.

Both managers, Adams and Reedy, were presented with plaques and an added safety bonus of \$100 each for their personal efforts in attaining safety excellence.

COMMENDATIONS



Division 9 Radio Shop Electronic Communications Technician Leader Dan Tabares was named the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for May. Tabares' selection was based on his fine attitude displayed on the swing shift. He has also been commended by his supervisors for his support of the CMF activation effort. Tabares has been with the District for five years.



The RTD/Los Angeles Raiders poster earned a top public service award for the District from the Los Angeles Advertising Women. The prestigious statue was presented to Marketing and Communications Department Director Anthony Fortunato, right, and Ad Manager Connie Ward. The poster featuring players Todd Christensen and Howie Long, was part of an RTD anti-vandalism program.



Mechanic A Rodolfo Rojas was selected the April Maintenance Employee of the Month at South Park Shops. His supervisors consider him one of their finest employees. He pays very close attention to details and will find a way to solve problems that come up in his section. He is one of South Parks' mainstays when it comes to troubleshooting. He possesses a near-perfect attendance record. Rojas has been with the District for 11 years.



District Secretary Helen Bolen receives her 20-year service pin from RTD Board President at the June 11 Board of Directors' Meeting. Helen joined the District on November 8, 1966.



RTD Retirees were recognized at the June 11 Board of Directors' Meeting and were presented with plaques by RTD Vice-President Carmen Estrada. Front row, from left to right: General Accounting Manager Josie Nicasio, Accounts Payable Specialist Lois Athay, Division 3 Operator Kenneth G. Baker, Division 12 Operator Russell C. Oja, and Division 9 Operator Charles J. Weidner. Back row, from left to right: Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach, Vice-President Estrada, Director of Finance Michael Butler, and General Manager John A. Dyer.

The Pension Plans and The Future

By Edward Paull, Pension and Benefits Manager

Recently, I've had calls from some employees saying that they're going to retire now so no bureaucrat can take away their benefits. With the recent legislation proposing to bring the RTD under LACTC, many employees are fearful about their future, and the benefits that they've earned. Hopefully, I can alleviate some of these fears.

I do not have a crystal ball and cannot predict the future (if I had a crystal ball, I would not be working here, but be at the race track or in Las Vegas where I could make some real money!). What I can do is give you the facts as I see them, and why any fears about losing the benefits you already have are groundless.

Let's start off by putting things in perspective. The papers keep talking about LACTC "swallowing" the RTD. LACTC has 99 employees, while we have around 9,000 employees. It's a case of Bambi meets Godzilla. This difference in size presents a strong possibility that our pension system could continue indefinitely as it is right now, if for nothing else than administrative considerations.

Next, the pension plans were set up exclusively for the benefit of the

members, and the law protects this right. The money that is in the plan can not now or in the future be used for anything except to provide you with benefits. Plan expenses may be paid out of plan assets, but these administrative costs do not affect your benefits. In the last actuarial evaluation of the pension plans, the actuary indicated that the plans are 130 percent funded. That means that there is more than enough money in the pension plans to pay off each and every member of the plan today; clearly enough to cover the administrative costs. In fact, our funding ratio ranks in the top percentage when compared with most governmental plans or private industry.

Also, the amount of the pension benefit you will receive when you retire will never be less than what you could get today. Once you have earned the benefit, it can never be taken away (however, some of the current Pension Options do get smaller with a change in your age or the age of your spouse).

I hear you saying, "So the money I already have in the plan is safe, and can't be lost in any reorganization that may happen in the near future, but what happens if we go into PERS (Public Employees Retirement System, managed by the State of California) or the Los Angeles County Pension System?"

Once again, the crystal ball is cloudy. I seriously doubt that the pension plans will be trans-

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General Accounting Holds Breakfast for Perfect Attenders



The General Accounting Section celebrates its Breakfast for Champions who include (going around the table clockwise): Typist-Clerk Donna Murphy, Accountant Tito Noval, Accounts Payable Specialist Lois Athay, Accounts Clerk Shila Azbi, Supervising Accounts Clerk Rose Garcia, General Accounting Assistant Manager Dave Wakeling, General Accounting Manager Josie Nicasio, Accountant Tom Formoso, Accountant Rene Decena, and Accountant Rick Hilario.

On June 8 the General Accounting Section held their second breakfast in a newly inaugurated program to recognize and reward a month's worth of perfect attendance on the part of the section's staff.

General Accounting Manager Josie Nicasio said the requirements for perfect attendance were quite stringent — a tardy of one minute past the start of worktime disqualifies any employee from the running.

The idea for an attendance program was suggested by a BRAC employee in the department. Since implementing the

program, Ms. Nicasio said the breakfast has also served as an opportunity to discuss departmental goals and objectives. "We are trying to get the employees to become more objectives-oriented," she said.

Since the attendance program began six months ago, of 29 employees in the section, only three employees have not had at least one month of perfect attendance. "We think peer pressure is helping to make it work," said Ms. Nicasio. Assistant Manager Dave Wakeling has been coordinating the recognition program.



C PUBLIC COMMENDATIONS

Gentlemen:

I would like to put in a recommendation for Ignatius Arellano, driver on the Imperial line going toward Brea Mall in Orange County. Mr. Arellano is from Division 18.

On May 26, 1987, as we were going down Imperial, Mr. Arellano stopped his bus, jumped off the bus and grabbed the hand of this little child; he was only about 2 years old, no parents in sight. This child was heading for a very busy street. Mr. Arellano walked back toward some buildings on Imperial and a man came out and took the boy from Arellano.

Now, no one on our bus even noticed the little boy walking down the street alone, but our driver was alert and quick enough to prevent the child from running into the busy street.

Also, while I'm at it I would like to say thanks to this RTD driver, which in my book means ReaTerrific Driver, for being so nice and never refusing to pick up the wheelchair people on his run.

All I can say is when the bidding comes around in June, me and my fellow passengers hope that Mr. Arellano will continue to be our driver on our run down Imperial.

I have been a passenger since I was 15 and I am now 56, so I know what I

say when I see a good driver. It is not as easy as it looks to be a driver and put up with the public. I do appreciate the RTD service and the nice drivers no one seems to mention.

Thank you,
Mrs. Maria R. Gebauer
A Satisfied Passenger

Mr. Tom Horne
RTD Customer Relations
425 S. Main St.
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear Mr. Horne:

On May 14, 1987, at approximately 1300 hours, I had the pleasure of riding aboard one of your buses driven by an exceptional operator. This young lady [Donna Murdock] displayed an excellent manner in dealing with the public. She possessed a vast amount of knowledge about Los Angeles and its public transportation system, as she answered the myriad of questions put forth to her by the riding public. She was firm, yet courteous, in carrying out the duties of her position. She was always in control of her bus and its passengers. She was neat in appearance and well groomed, and her uniform was neatly pressed. But, what stood out this day as exceptional, was her handling and treatment of an elderly gentleman.

An elderly gentleman at approximately 7th and

Main Streets, asked a transportation question while the bus was at its designated stop. He barely could walk and his voice was just above a whisper. The operator, painstakingly made several attempts to understand his question. Finally, she asked him to come onboard. She leaned over in an attempt to understand him. His whispers were barely audible, yet she diligently, with caring, kept on trying to understand him. Eureka! He wanted to go to the Union Station. Her patience paid off! Her forbearance and uncomplainingness, and just a "caring heart" — elevated this operator above the ordinary. She truly made a lasting impression upon me. Note: the bus did not move "one inch" while this gentleman was standing and while he searched his pocket for change to pay his fare, which felt like it took a million years to find.

This exceptional bus operator should be commended and given a "job well done" salute. You should have more like her.

May you convey this letter to her appropriate division.

Respectfully
submitted,
Eduardo Gaytan
Orientation and
Mobility Specialist

P.S. I train many of my blind and visually impaired students to use your buses. May they be fortunate enough to ride with this operator.

Thanks for a Job Well Done!

Employees who have received commendations from the public:

Division 1

Amerson, Horace
Andrews, Derald L.
Bassett, Henry H.
Folie, Emilie
Godfrey, Jo
Greene, Jimi
Jackson, Amuel
Johnson, Donnie A.
Konior, Gary J.
Legier, Vernon R.
Lozano, Jorge G.
Mauliola, Francis
McDowell, John
Moseley, Alfred
Perez, Jose L.
Schlumpf, R. W.
Scott, Larry L.
Segura, Pete
Surko, Thomas
Taino, Caesar
Wall, Jeff E.

Division 3

Granado, Richard C.
Limon, Gabino S.
Mercer, Scott D.
Smith, Jerome

Division 5

Butler, Johnny A.
Gadson, Jimmie W.
Harris, Doris E.
Lopez, Victor
Pope, Charles I.
Samuel, Xavier P.
Sharp, Theresa B.
Taylor, Alfred C.
Turnipseed, Kathanette
Weathersby, B.

Division 6

Block, Herbert S.
Camp, Ira G.
Harris, Andrew
Hawkins, Raymond H.
Jones, John L.

Division 7

Jackson, Edwin C.
Morgan, Gilbert S.
Oliver, Joe F.
Perez, Arthur C.
Reyes, Rosendo

Trevino, Alfonso D.
 Washburn, Dennis
Division 8
 Gwin, Richard
 Lawson, James S.
 Maynez, Alejandro H.
 Migal, William L.
 Pumphrey, Gregory A.
 Robinson, William H.
 Sandoval, George A.
 Stevenson, Gordon L.

Division 9
 Collins, Adolph B.
 Gentry, Gary M.
 Gibson, Darrell R.
 Hailey, Woodie D.
 Hill, Billy L.

Sena, Laurence P.
 Ziegler, Edwin D.
Division 10
 Blackstone, James
 Murdock, Donna N.
 Padilla, William
 Patterson, Richard C.
 Randolph, Reese
 Shorters, Jimmie
 Troy, Albert E.

Division 12
 Cook, John R.
 Miller, John
 Muckelroy, Joe A.
 Powley, Joy-Day
 Serrano, Jose R.

Division 15
 Cantrell, Mercer R.
 Duplessis, Albert B.
 Dye, La Verne
 Lyons, Victor
 Raphael, Granville
 Rousseve, Errol J.
 Seraile, Joseph C.
 Steele, Glen A.
 Wake, Arthur S.

Division 16
 Baker, Edgar E.

Division 18
 Arellano, Ignatius
 Ball, Deborah
 Berry, Ralph
 Brown, Willie J.
 Craig, James W.
 Feldra, Larry F.
 Hampton, Carnell
 Johnson, Ronald H.
 Malone, Rita J.
 Simmons, John W.

Retiree Still Running a Winner's Race

Retired RTD Mechanic Larry Banuelos of Pico Rivera was recently featured in *City Sports* magazine because of his amazing running record. On April 18, he won his age division at the Tustin Run for Sobriety 10K and later in the same day he won in his division at the evening San Gabriel River Bike Trail 5K.

"He won first place in his age group of 60 and older."

According to *City Sports*, Banuelos has one of sports history's great win-loss records. Since he turned 60 in 1984, he has won 255 road races and lost only three. At one point, he had won 197 races straight. Running in the June 14 Run for Gay Pride 5K, against 400 runners, Banuelos finished 22nd overall with a time of 19 minutes, 32 seconds. He won first place in his age group of 60 and older.

Sic Transit. . .

by Carl Motley



Pension Plans

...continued from page 9
 ferred into PERS or the Los Angeles County Pension System, but if that should happen, any and all contributions and credited service you have with the RTD pension plans should be transferred to the new system. You would not lose anything that you

currently have in the pension plans!

Things might be uncertain for the District itself at the moment, but, as you can see, your pension contributions are safe. The state legislation and the new Board of Directors can't take it away.

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 (213) 681-1196
 FLEET PRICES TO RTD EMPLOYEES

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 Fleet Coordinator

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 Compton, CA 90221
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RTD Holds Open House at Division 3

General Manager John A. Dyer and Assemblyman Richard Polanco cut the ceremonial ribbon at Division 3 clearing the way to its first Community Day held June 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



General Manager John A. Dyer and Assemblyman Richard Polanco cut the ribbon at Division 3's Community Day.

The event allowed the public to visit the division and get acquainted with RTD employees, the scope of work and personnel needed to get the buses rolling, and the facilities, both Transportation and Maintenance.

Informational handouts, refreshments, tours of the facilities, and souvenirs, were provided to the public. Parents gratefully discovered they could deposit their children in the Instruction Room to view a continuous cartoon show while they got the opportunity to tour the facility and meet RTD personnel.

General Manager

John A. Dyer sees the open house as one method to help the area residents better understand what the RTD does. "It's our way of inviting the public to visit one of our facilities and get acquainted with the people who provide public transit in Los Angeles," he said.

On-site attractions providing some hands-on opportunities included the Neoplan suburban commuter bus, the Mann articulated, an accessible lift demonstration, a Metro Rail exhibit, Transit Police officers with their car to explain crime deterrent programs, and a computer terminal demonstration of

nal demonstration of



Instructor George Dixon takes visiting residents and answers their questions during a bus ride of the Division 3 yard.



TOS Tony Sandoval leads a tour of the Division 3 facilities.



Equipment Maintenance Supervisor I John Freeman shows Division 3's guests on Community Day how the VMS system is used to facilitate Maintenance functions.

RTD's high-tech system coordinating bus routes and functions.

Division 3 Transportation and Maintenance personnel along with the Local Government and Community Affairs, Marketing and Communications, and Instruction Departments pitched in their collective talents and made themselves available as hosts and tour

guides answering questions on RTD services, routes, and training procedures to over 500 area residents who attended the event.

Reaction from community residents appeared to be extremely positive. It may be safe to say, based on the many children in attendance and their wonderment and delight with the open house experience, that the RTD has made many friends among Cypress Park's future bus riders.

Correction

Headway erroneously reported Division 5 Operator Doris Harris as the first female operator to be awarded the Operator of the Month title in the July issue. In 1979, Division 15 Operator Marie Thompson was chosen Operator of the Month and was eventually selected as the 1979 Operator of the Year.

We regret this mistake and any upset it may have caused our readers.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

For over a year it seems like the only kind of coverage the RTD can get in the media is negative. I know management is trying to do something about the absenteeism problem, but they never ask us what we need to achieve better attendance. I like the RTD. I have benefitted a lot through my employment of 10 years and for that reason I would like to give something back.

I have a few suggestions: 1) The RTD needs to establish or locate and identify child care centers for employees. All will benefit from this, especially operators and me-

chanics who work odd hours. I know from experience that it is next to impossible to get a baby-sitter at 2 a.m. There are many outside organizations that could provide a service to the RTD with centers that are centrally located to all the different divisions. This one service would cut down on absenteeism dramatically. Operators and mechanics would be more attentive to their work and not distracted with worry about where their children might be.

2) The District should eliminate unnecessary write-ups. The system is used to report petty and

*"I think it is
time to educate
the public about
how to ride
the bus.
For years it has
been a free
play for
the public."*

inconsequential situations. All it does is create a lot of paperwork for managers and puts more

pressure on the operator who already has all he or she can handle with the public.

3) I think it is time to educate the public about how to ride the bus. For years it has been a free play for the public. Many get on the bus and do things that they would not do any place else. People get on the bus and they fight, gamble, sell drugs, and send their kids to stop the bus (which I think qualifies as child endangerment). And, we operators get the blame for the public's unruly behavior. Now I ask you, how can we control our passengers and drive, and watch traffic at the same time. I believe that passengers who commit such acts on the bus should be heavily fined. But the public should first be educated. If they persist in this anti-social behavior, then fine them.

4) I believe everyone who gets on a bus should pay a fare. We should eliminate the provision that allows two children in a family to ride free. This will clear up a lot of confusion and hassle for the operator.

I believe that if the RTD would implement these suggestions they would see a marked improvement in attendance as well as attitude.

Pat Evans
Line Instructor
Division 3207

RTD Mechanic Puts Words to Action

Mechanic A Rigoberto Banuelos believes in the saying, "There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving."

Four years ago, while visiting his hometown Apozol, Mexico, Banuelos saw the opportunity to help the needy in positive ways. He organized a group called Club Apozol, which is totally non-profit and gives aid to the elderly and those without social security, especially during the holiday season. This is not done without help, Rigoberto and his entire family are involved along with other generous fami-

lies.

Rigoberto and his family attend a gathering at a park in Van Nuys the

*"...gives aid to
the elderly ..."*

third Sunday of every month. Other families come and contribute \$5. Before Rigoberto visits Apozol, he purchases food, blankets, and other supplies paid with the collection money.

When they first started, the club members

raised enough money to aid 15 families. Last year Club Apozol helped 50 families. The original idea for the club was to support the people who suffered because of severe inflation in the Mexican economy.

Rigoberto's goal is to reach as many as possible in Apozol and provide a basis for hope to those who are not as fortunate. "I want to help them to understand the meaning of the words, 'There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving.'" Those interested in helping may contact Rigoberto at (818) 284-6177.

Major Construction Shapes Up

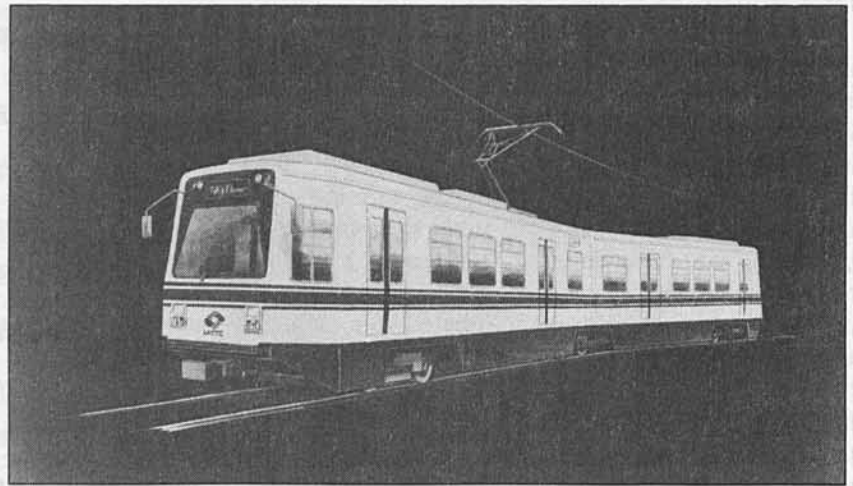
"It's not a streetcar system, it's not the Red Cars, it's not like anything that's been here before. It's modern light rail transit. It comes closest to the rail operation they have in Calgary," said Rail Operations Superintendent Ed Vandeventer about the 21.5-mile Long Beach - Los Angeles Light Rail Transit Project which broke ground in October 1985.

Recently, RTD Rail Superintendents Ed Vandeventer (Transportation), Richard Morton (Equipment Maintenance), Art Peterson (Facilities Maintenance), and Facilities Maintenance Supervisor George Cowley took *Headway* on a tour of the facilities under construction in the North Long Beach area. The latest progress includes the near completion of the new rail bridge across the Los Angeles River; and, the appearance of the platform foundation at one of the 21 stations (Wardlow Road) on the graded right of way.

This system is an electrically powered medium-capacity rail line that runs largely on secured right of way but has some street-running track. "Sixteen miles of the line is private right of way while six miles is street-running track," said Vandeventer about the project that began major construction activity this year. The light rail project, being constructed under the super-

vision of the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission for a cost of \$770 million and funded entirely by Proposition A revenues, will be operated by the RTD.

The rail cars will travel on a two-track system and be powered by overhead electrical wires. The 90-foot long, articulated cars will be coupled into two-car trains during peak ridership hours. The Sumitomo/Nippon Sharyo Company of Japan will build and assemble the first 54 light rail cars for the Long Beach - Los Angeles and Century lines said Equipment Maintenance Rail Superintendent Richard Morton. "Each car has a capacity for 237 seated and standing passengers," said Morton. "An empty car weighs approximately 94,000 lbs., and a fully loaded car will weigh approximately 135,000 lbs.," he said. The main yard and shops, to be known as Division 11, located along the Long Beach Freeway, Carson Street, and the right-of-way of the Long Beach-Los Angeles line is under construction and will be completed ahead of most of the major construction on the line said Morton. "It has to



One of 54 light rail cars to be used on the route between Long Beach and Los Angeles, it is 90-feet long and built by the Sumitomo/Nippon Sharyo Company of Japan.



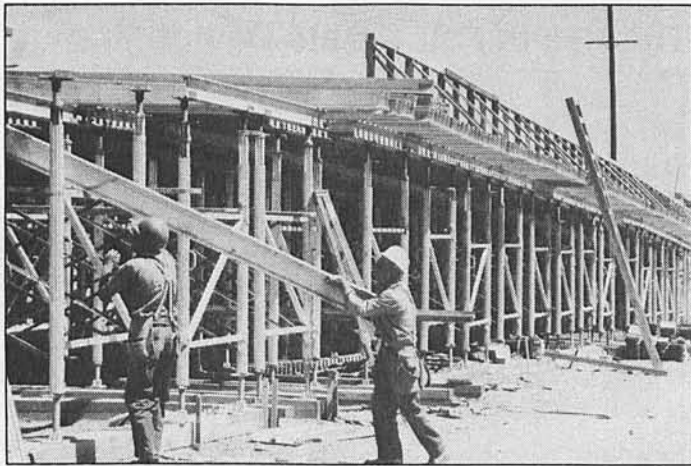
At the future site of Wardlow Station, Richard Morton, George Cowley, Art Peterson, and Ed Vandeventer examine the foundation for the station platform.

be operative sooner because this is where we will be reassembling the cars after their arrival from Japan. They will also be inspected and maintained here while undergoing acceptance testing on the adjacent test track," he said.

The primary physical features of the system in-

clude open-air stations with platforms level with the vehicle floor ensuring quick loading and easy accessibility for riders in wheelchairs. Self-service, "barrier-free" (no turnstiles) fare machines will be located in all stations. The presence of fare inspectors, riding on the vehicles, will ensure pas-

On LB-LA Light Rail Project



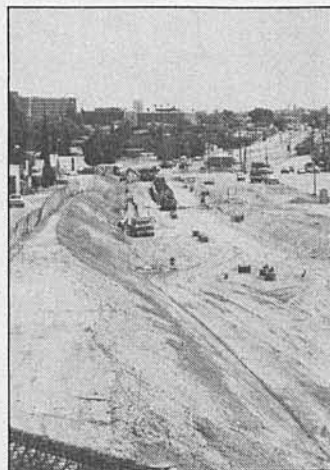
The falsework and formwork is put in place for the access road bridge going into the Division 11 Maintenance yard. Division 11 will be the site of the test track for the new light rail vehicles.

sengers have paid their fares and will deter fare evaders.

The trains will operate around the clock traveling at speeds of up to 55 miles an hour on exclusive rights of way. The best news for the commuter beginning in Long Beach is the travel time to downtown Los Angeles—only 52 minutes.

With the conveniences of light rail come more sophisticated equipment to operate it. The complex system will require the RTD to add many new functions to the Facilities Maintenance Department. These include property maintenance of the stations, signals, track, traction, power, and the overhead electrical equipment. Rail Facilities Maintenance Superintendent Art Peterson said the District will institute the Transit Radio System

(TRS) with the advent of light rail. TRS will also be used for bus dispatching and will be housed side by side with the Transit Police Dispatch Center in a



From the 405 Freeway overpass this view is seen of the future Wardlow Station.

new control facility at Willowbrook Avenue and Imperial Highway. "The TRS will include location

equipment throughout the District's service area. Those along the light rail line will track the progress of trains which is displayed on a projection television system in the control center. Fiber optic cables, which run all along the railway, monitor facility functions and send alarm/status messages to the control facility," said Peterson.

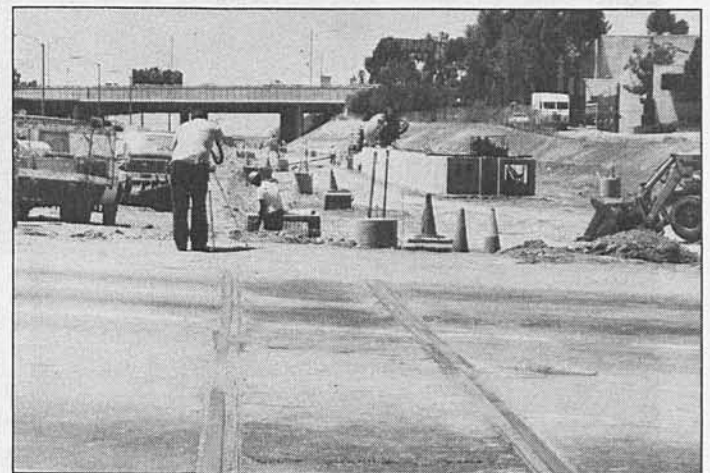
When the light rail system is in operation (scheduled for July 1990) its opening will mark the first operating link in a 150-mile rail network. It will connect with Metro Rail in downtown Los Angeles at 7th and Flower Streets, as well as with an east-west line running down the center of the Century Freeway, now under construction. During its first year of revenue service, ridership is expected to total 35,000 per day. By the year 2000,



A view of the falsework and forms used to cast the concrete foundation of the new rail bridge spanning the Los Angeles River for the Long Beach - Los Angeles Transit Project.

ridership is expected to hit 54,000.

Headway will keep readers informed on the progress of the Long Beach-Los Angeles Light Rail System in future issues.



Facing north, this view shows the grade crossing at Wardlow Station. In the foreground is the old Red Car right of way. In the background is the shell of the future station.

Third Annual Health Fair Plays at Division 5

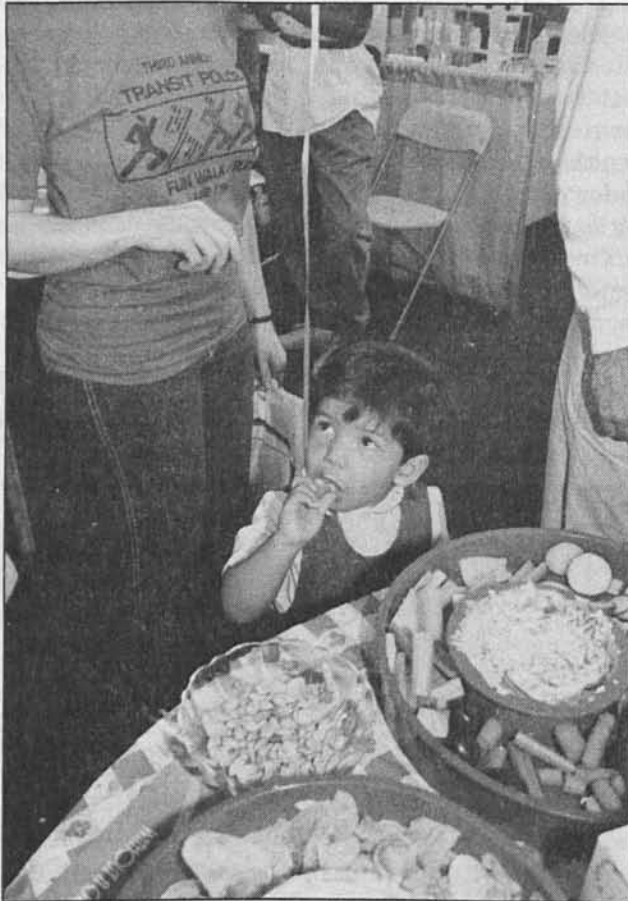
Just for the health of it more than 600 RTD employees came out to take advantage of the medical screenings, information, and entertainment available to them at the Third Annual Health Fair sponsored by the Personnel Department and held at Division 5 on June 7.

The day began early for those who wanted to participate in the Transit Police 5K Walk/Run. The runners and walkers gathered to register at 8 a.m. for the 9 a.m. race held at Centinela Park. All participants were bused over

to the park and later returned to the division to enjoy the fair. (See the Walk/Run story on page 21.)

Meanwhile back at the division, the brunch bunch gathered in time to enjoy the ballads performed by Mel Holt's Country and Western Band at Van Ness Park adjacent to Division 5. By late morning, former Baltimore Colts' tight end and NFL President John Mackey addressed the employees assembled in the park. Mackey spoke on the

continued on page 17...

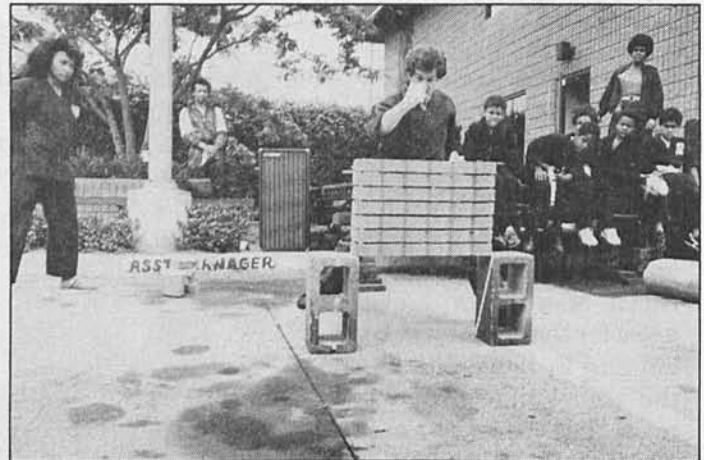


Healthy snacks can even taste good!

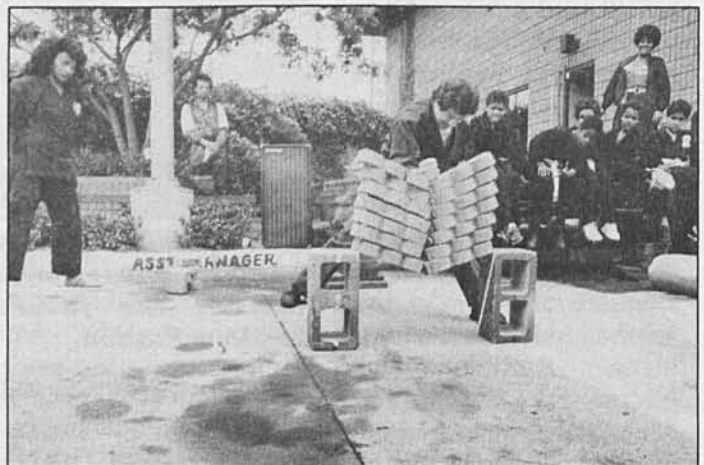
The Health Fair Karate Demonstration



The master in deep concentration



He is ready to take the challenge. Everyone is asked to be very quiet.



Aaaaaaiiiiiiyyya!!!



Phillipa Matthews operated the fingerprint booth at the Health Fair. Here she takes the prints of a young karate student who will present them to her parents.



Safety Analyst Frank Larson gets encouragement from an aerobics instructor at the Health Fair.



Youngsters try out the cycling equipment at the Whittier Bike Shop tent.

...continued from page 16
power of positive thinking, recounting his childhood dream to own a red football uniform just like his friend Bubba's. "That's all I wanted then. I realized early that you are what you think and there is no

middle ground about that. If you aren't happy with your life, change your way of thinking," said Mackey. He said this attitude worked for the Colts. He felt they were a good team because they went into
continued on page 18...



Staff Aide Esther Cabison and her family enjoy the healthy snacks given away at the Health Fair.

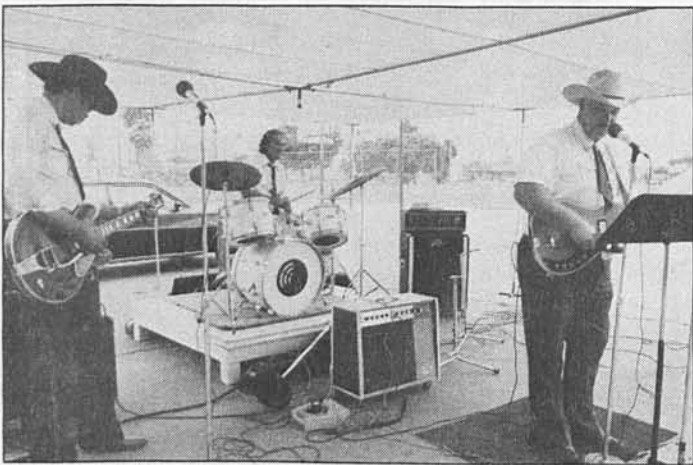


Dr. Leroy Perry and the former NFL President John Mackey wear their feelings about RTD employees on their t-shirts, and, to press the point, they get their RTD audience to join them in expressing that "Number 1" feeling.

...The Health Fair



A female karate instructor with a black belt shows her skills following a self-defense demonstration.



Mel Holt's Country & Western band entertained the crowds at the Third Annual Health Fair held at Division 5.



Fashion models in Shelley's Apparel Warehouse Show included Janet Wentz, Percita Whitlock, Janet's daughter Nicole, and Charla Davis

...continued from page 17
each game believing they could win every game they played.

Mackey outlined his own program for success in life. He emphasized that one has to get serious about what they want to accomplish, but at the same time remain aware of how they are changing in pursuit of the goal. "First you have got to have a dream. You have to get serious about the dream. You have got to think that you can become your dream.."

Mackey told the employees: "I think about the RTD as being Number 1. But, you've got to think that you are." He explained the reason the RTD is on the bench is because we are thinking we are Number 2. "Think like you are Number 1 and you will be," he challenged the employees.

Mackey told his audience that in the next month every time he saw an RTD bus on the road he was going to honk his horn and hold up his hand in a Number 1 gesture. "I want you to hold up your hand to me. And let's get serious about your dreams."

The former NFL president concluded his remarks and introduced Dr. Leroy Perry, a chiropractor and founder of the International Sports-medicine Institute. Mackey, who recovered from a serious back injury under the care of Perry, presented him as one of the most "positive forces" in his life.

Perry returned the compliment to Mackey by saying that the former

football star was an inspiration. "Here's someone who was sidelined by a bad injury. He recovered, he is taking the action to correct the situation, and now he is sharing that information with others," said Perry.

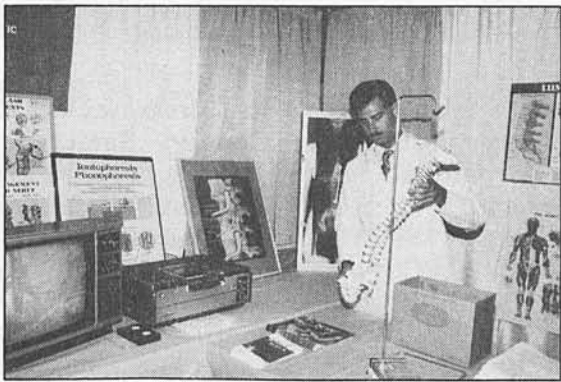
To Perry, correcting the situation means learning correct body biomechanics, that is, how to sit, walk, run, or stand with the least impact or damage to the back, or other vulnerable areas. Perry gave a demonstration of the correct movements. The chiropractor was himself injured in 1966 when a four-ton hoist fell and smashed his leg.

*"Perry believes
that there is a genius
and a competitor
in all of us."*

As a result he was physically handicapped for 6 years. Confined to a wheelchair, he was told he would never walk again let alone compete athletically. After falling into and recovering from a suicidal depression, Perry took it one step at a time. "My first goal was to get out of my wheelchair. I did that, then it took me years to get rid of the canes I used for walking," said Perry.

Two years ago he ran in his first marathon. Today, he regularly competes in 10Ks and keeps up a tough workout regimen. "Sure, it hurts sometimes,
continued on page 19...

...The Health Fair



A chiropractor shows the impact various activities have on the spine.

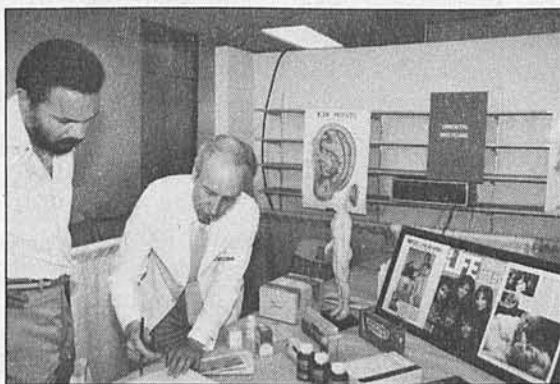
...continued from page 18 but I am able to do whatever I want and that's with one leg shorter than the other," he said.

Perry believes that there is a genius and a competitor in all of us. "You just need the love and support to bring it out. The RTD has gotten a real bad rap from the press. I think RTD stands for 'Righteous Tough Drivers'," he said to the delight of the audience, many of them operators. At that point both Perry and Mackey opened their jackets to reveal t-shirts screened with the mottoes: "Righteous Tough Drivers" and "Respect-Terrific-

Determined." To press the point, Perry reminded the employees to respect themselves, know that they are terrific, and never forget that they do possess the determination to do anything.

"My message today is," said Perry, "be Number 1. Think Number 1. You are terrific, you deserve respect, and you've got to be determined." Perry was rewarded with a standing ovation from his RTD audience.

In addition to treating John Mackey, Perry has administered to the sports injuries of Jane Fonda, Jack Nicholson, Sylvester Stallone, Liz Taylor, and



Director of Local Government and Community Affairs Lou Collier listens to the approach of Oriental Medicine physician Dr. Michael Murray.

Warren Beatty.

Returning to the division yard and train room, employees were greeted by 40 booths offering medical screening, information, or free samples. Dr. Perry's Sportsmedicine Institute sponsored seven of this year's entries in the upstairs portion of the division. These booths included the Olympic booth hosted by Kate Schmidt, two-time Olympic bronze medalist and world record-holder for the javelin. Schmidt demonstrated exercise programs, weight training, home exercise devices, and the benefits of working out in water. Other booths included podiatrists, chiropractors, cardio-vascular and stress management, and safe sports devices. Among the more unusual exhibits was the Alternative Healthbooth. Dr. Michael D. Murray trained at the Peking College of Medicine explained the principles of acupuncture, the benefits of shiatsu and massage therapy, and the many beneficial uses of Chinese herbs to treat illnesses.

Downstairs, participants helped themselves to medical screenings for cholesterol count, diabetes, blood pressure, body fat composition to determine fitness and ideal weight, EKGs, and audio/visual tests among others offered by the Crenshaw Center Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, the UCLA School of Medicine, and the King Drew Medical Center.

Free information and brochures were dispensed at the booths sponsored by

the American Cancer Society, AIDS Project-Los Angeles, the American Lung Association, the American Red Cross, the Bioherbs Company, the Care Unit Hospital of Los Angeles, Dental Health Services of Long Beach, the Employee Support Systems Company, and the RTD Personnel and Risk Management Departments.

Everyone's favorites were those booths offering freebies such as Bronson Vitamins; Stroh Food Company's sparkling Sundance fruit beverages; the Personnel Department's snack samplings of trail mixes and banana chips; Central Industrial Medical Clinic, Inc.'s Nurse Judy La Patka whose array of salt-free, no-sugar, no-cholesterol chips, dips, and cheeses caused a traffic jam at the fair with all the kids trying to get seconds on her delicious sour cream spinach dip. They

"Everyone's favorites

were those booths

offering freebies ...

meanwhile out in

the yard ongoing

stage events

were presented..."

loved it! Word of the mouth-watering treats spread fast which kept Judy chopping and mixing up her recipes all afternoon. Noevir Cosmetics offered facials and makeovers with their cosmetics made from natural bases
continued on page 20...

Fast Finishers in 3rd Annual Health Fair Walk/Run

by Stephanie Keyes

The old adage, "The third time's a charmer" held true once again as the very well organized Transit Police 5K Walk/Run went rather well on Sunday, June 7. Despite Laker/Celtic play-off action, par-

participated in this event for the past two years (walking that is) I knew that we were in for quite an impressive and competitive race when I learned that the runners and walkers would participate separately. I later discovered that there were other reasons for conducting two separate events.

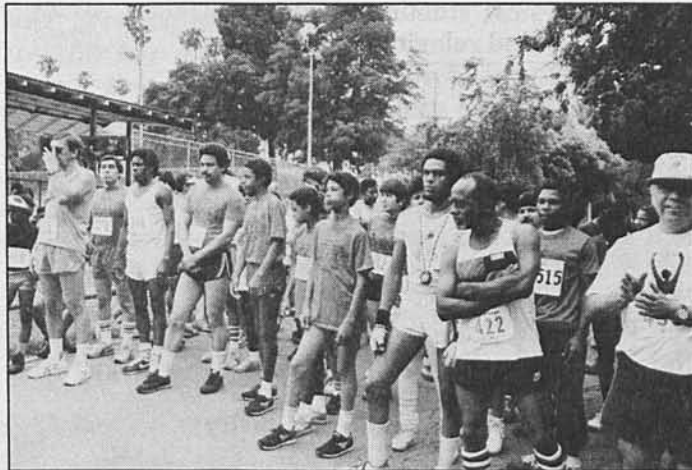


Retiree Larry Banuelos and Lawrence Mead (left) congratulate each other on winning first- and third-place, respectively, in the 5K Walk/Run in the division for 60 years and older.

ticipation was good. Over 100 (98 runners and 22 walkers) District employees, friends and relatives participated.

Having observed and

According to Walk/Run organizer Sergeant Sharon Papa of the Transit Police Department, Centinela Park (the location of the run) wasn't



Eager runners at the starting line for the Transit Police 5K Walk/Run at Centinela Park.

quite large enough to accommodate a course for walkers and runners without causing risk of injury to the participants.

The size of the park made it necessary for the course to go up-hill which may have caused difficulty primarily to the walkers. Many of the runners were veterans of the L.A. Marathon. Some of them even completed the run then turned right around and joined in the walk. Talk about energy.

Running conditions couldn't have been better. In fact, quite ideal for a brisk morning walk, jog, or run. The morning was overcast, temperatures in the low 70's, and absolutely no sign of rain.

Race organizers Sharon Papa and committee were extremely pleased with the day's events and the success of the race. "I didn't know what to expect. I thought this was going to be the

biggest nightmare, but I felt that it went real well" said Papa. Although she is not a runner and this was her first time pulling together such an event, Papa did say that she is definitely planning on participating next year. She also credited the right-hand assistance of seasoned runners and Transit Police personnel Le Roy Crawford, Everett Rodriguez, and Michelle Berry.

Participants in the run were competing based upon male and female in the following age groups: 12 years and under, 13-15 years of age, 16-18 years of age, 19-29 years of age, 30-39 years of age, 40-49 years of age, 50-59 years of age, and 60 years and over.

Cheering fans and support groups helped spark that last burst of power which aided many of the runners across that much awaited finish line.

continued on page 22...

...5K Walk/Run

...continued from page 19

I am always amazed at the way these athletes can make such hard work and intense physical stamina look so easy and relaxing. This 'ease' was further evidenced by the times turned in by the top finishers. Leading all finishers with a time of 16 minutes and 52 seconds was James Moore in the 16-18 year old age bracket.

The first three race finishers in each of the male and female age groups listed were presented with medals during the award ceremony held in conjunction with the Health Fair. On this page is a list of the top three race finishers in the female and

male categories and their respective race times as captured by the race officials.

Age: 12 & under

Mary Walmsley 25:09
Yvette Elisaldez 27:22
Sonja Pena 27:26

Matthew Walmsley 24:07
Richard Pena 27:23
Michael Pena 27:36

Age: 13-15

Veronica Villanueva 22:32
Claire Cardoza 24:21
Melissa Walmsley 27:32

Barry Walmsley 19:34
Jermaine Walmsley 20:00
David Martinez III 23:12



Jeanette Sprowls from Customer Relations won the gold medal in her division at the Transit Police 5K Walk/Run.



Jose Arizmendi makes it across the finish line. How sweet it was.

Age: 16-18

Luisa Villanueva 21:27
Armida Ornelas 33:02

James Moore 16:52
Jesse Clayton 21:52
Sammy Pena 22:49

Age: 19-29

Maria Zamudio 19:53
Teresa Gonzales 27:21
Nancy Enriquez 27:58

Marco Pedemonte 18:31
Gus Ornelas 18:52
Caesar Cuevas 18:58

Age: 30-39

Gloria Martinez 22:15
Mary Reyna 26:04
Olivia Lopez 30:25

James Wilson 18:41
Victor Villanueva 19:11
Jesus Perez 19:35

Age: 40-49

Billie Martin 25:50
Ceci Melanson 27:59
Carol Butler 28:34

Alfonso Villanueva 19:27
Ben Urban 19:32
Jose Arizmendi 20:16

Age: 50-59

Jeannette Sprowls 44:45

Elree Saines 22:46
Joel Woodhull 23:27
Jaime Martinez 24:30

Age: 60+

Larry Banuelos 19:58
Cue White 24:36
Lawrence Mead 32:28

Congratulations to all and we'll see you next year!



Sonja Pena and Richard Pena won third- and second-place, respectively, in their division of age 12 and under.



Operators follow instructors over the obstacle course of the Rodeo. The preliminaries were held June 17-20 at the Santa Anita Race Track. The finals were held July 25.

IN MEMORIAM

Collier, J.C., began with the District on July 11, 1982, passed away on May 31, 1987.

Cordell, Edward L., began with the District on December 1, 1971, passed away on June 8, 1987.

Donovan, John A., began with the District on November 16, 1954, passed away on May 24, 1987.

Emanuel, Bruce W., began with the District on October 1, 1958, passed away on May 11, 1987.

Foote, John H., began with the District on January 1, 1918, passed away on May 12, 1987.

Gazeley, Gordon, began with the District on July 26, 1929, passed away on May 23, 1987.

Gee, Sandy E., began with the District on November 2, 1942, passed away on January 31, 1987.

Giles, Oscar W., began with the District on March

7, 1941, passed away on May 14, 1987.

Hodges, John J., began with the District on December 31, 1952, passed away on April 29, 1987.

Johnson, Raymond, began with the District on July 11, 1982, passed away on March 22, 1987.

Maryland, Henry, began with the District on December 24, 1946, passed away on May 14, 1987.

Nilsen, Ludvig A., began with the District on November 4, 1942, passed away on May 15, 1987.

Olufson, Oscar, began with the District on January 14, 1944, passed away on May 9, 1987.

Powell, Charles F., began with the District on September 9, 1967, passed away on June 17, 1987.

Stewart, Ralph W., began with the District on January 29, 1966, passed away on May 23, 1987.

Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey observes operators performing at the Rodeo. Behind her are Assistant Transportation Director Leo Bevon, Assistant Transportation Division Manager William Brinkley, and Inspector General Ernie Fuentes.



The Rodeo



Rodeo Coordinator Vickie Vargas enjoys the preliminaries with Maintenance Superintendent Sam Singer.

For Sale

1979 Triumph Spitfire convertible. Extra clean, RUNS GREAT! \$2450. Call Ike Levy at extension 6731.

Motorcycle jacket, size 40, genuine leather, black, 100 percent lamb's wool interior. Like new. \$300 value \$100 takes. Pipe smoker's dream, 1 dozen assorted pipes, all shapes, excellent condition, \$10 each or \$100 all, \$25 each value. Cigar smoker's dream, 1 dozen assorted cigar holders, all shapes and sizes. \$5 to \$10 values, will sell for \$3.50 each. Call Bob for all these values at (818) 810-0842 and leave your phone number.

1979 Mazda GLC. 4-speed, alarm, low miles, extra clean, RUNS GREAT! \$1,400. Call Jose Molano at (213) 413-0814.

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. 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.

SCHEDULE CHANGES



Abeyta, Arnold A., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Acosta, Norma, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Ahumada, Luz M., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Alvarez, Dora M., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Aragon, Max, from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Aragon, Philip E., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Bahmanshir, Saeed, from Cash Clerk to Cash Clerk/Relief Vault Truck Driver.

Bailey, Leilia M., from Acting Director of Transportation to Director of Transportation.

Barberic, Shari V., from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Bingham, Gerald, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Bora, Dan C., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Caldwell, Anthony K., from Ticket Clerk to Ticket Officer and Reports Clerk.

Castillo, Nicanor S., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Chandler, Mark E., from Records Clerk to Cash Clerk.

Chapman, Paul J., from

Acting Systems Project Manager to Systems Project Manager.

Chriss, Marie A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Clark, Leonard W., from Stock Clerk to Truck Driver Clerk.

Conliffe, Keith R., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Conte, Deborah A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Cowan, Thomas R., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Cruz, Helen I., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Dryden, Daniel B., from Transit Operations Supervisor to Assistant Division Transportation Manager.

Drummond, Carolyn M., from Senior Secretary to Acting Assistant Administrative Analyst.

Ehrich, Michael E., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Estrada, Manuel E., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Fassbender, Eric J., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Freeman, John G., from Mechanic A to Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Gailliard, James, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Gifford, Suzanne B., from Assistant General Counsel to Acting General Counsel.

Gifford, Suzanne B.

Gomez, Efrain R., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Harrison, Collis R., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Haynes, Larry S., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Henderson Geraldine L., from Utility A to Utility A Leader.

Holland, Robert A., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Humphries, Leroy, from Relief Stock Clerk to Equipment Records Specialist.

James, Theresa G., from Word Processor Operator I to Schedule Clerk.

Jaramillo, Edward J., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Jarrett, Winston L., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Jones, Kenneth M., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Khalil, Abdul K., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Koenig, Frank J., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Lam, A., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Lapatka, Thomas M., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Lara, Gloria, from

Operator Trainee to Operator.

Lee, Robert, from Stock Clerk to Truck Driver Clerk.

Lobban, Kirk W., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

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

Lopez, Louise M., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

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

Martinez, Ivan J., from Extra Schedule Checker to Schedule Checker.

Martinez, Mario C., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

McBride, Terrance A., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

McBryan, John E., from Acting Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor to Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Mena-Munoz, Marcos, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Mladinich, Phillip C., from Operator to Schedule Checker.

Munoz, Alejandra, from Typist Clerk to Kardex Clerk.

Nelsen, Paul A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Patterson, Tommy L., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Pedroza, Raul G., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Pinela, Joaquin D., from Property Maintainer A to Property Maintainer A

Leader.

SHIFTING GEARs



Plasencia, Estelle D., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Quijas, Johnny, from Transit Police Officer-Trainee to Transit Police Officer.

Rentschler, Russell B., from Transit Police Officer-Trainee to Transit Police Officer.

Rigos, Panagiotis, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Rodriguez, Lillian D., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Sandoval, George A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Sandoval, Francisco N., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Saucedo, Luis C., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Semadeni, Alberto A., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Shay, Robert S., from Extra Schedule Checker to Schedule Checker.

Simpson, Maurice, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Sinegal, Brenda L., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Smith, Virgie M., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Smithee, Duncan M., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

St. Cyr, John A., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Stark, Steven, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Thompson, Lynne E., from Assistant Counsel to Acting Associate Counsel.

Thompson, Jolinda L., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Thompson, Jeffrey F., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Trinidad, Ernesto A., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Varga, Gary W., from Extra Schedule Checker to Schedule Checker.

Vazquez, Horacio, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Vu, Johnny H., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Whitney, Kenneth A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Young, Laureen, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Zisner, Benjamin S., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Bailey, Harry E., began with the District on August 10, 1959, retired as an Operator on June 4, 1987.

Calorino, Salvatore, began with the District on May 10, 1956, retired as a Schedule Planner on May 30, 1987.

Johannes, Julian M., began with the District on November 28, 1964, retired as an Operator on May 31, 1987.

McCullough, Jack, began with the District on June 21, 1971, retired as a Property Maintainer on May 26, 1987.

McMahon, S.A., began with the District on May 26, 1962, retired as an Operator on May 31, 1987.

Morris, James W., began with the District on October 3, 1957, retired as an Operator on June 4, 1987.

Nieman, Glenn H., began with the District on August 21, 1954, retired as a Schedule Supervisor on May 30, 1987.

Powers, Richard T., began with the District on May 10, 1971, retired as General Counsel on May 31, 1987.

Servin, Jose, began with the District on December 27, 1969, retired as an Operator on March 18, 1987.

Weaver, James, began with the District on May 19, 1962, retired as a Traffic Loader on May 27, 1987.

Health and Nutrition Short Subjects

What is a Workout?

A workout is 25 percent perspiration and 75 percent determination. Stated another way, it is one part physical exertion and three parts self-discipline. Doing it is easy once you get started.

A workout makes you better today than you were yesterday. It strengthens the body, relaxes the mind, and toughens the spirit. When you work out regularly, your problems diminish and your confi-

dence grows.

A workout is a personal triumph over laziness and procrastination. It is the badge of a winner — the mark of an organized, goal-oriented person who has taken charge of his or her destiny.

A workout is a wise use of time and an investment in excellence. It is a way to prepare for life's challenges and prove to yourself that you have what it takes to do what is necessary.

A workout is a form of rebirth. When you finish a good workout, you don't simply feel better — YOU FEEL BETTER ABOUT YOURSELF.

Back to the Future

The doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will interest his patient in the care of the human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease.

— Thomas A. Edison (1847-1931)

How To Drive Yourself Crazy

Articles and books on a variety of self-help topics are widely available. There are suggestions on how to cope, reduce stress, and in general make your life better, and more satisfying.

However, some people prefer to make themselves miserable. If you are a person who hasn't quite got the hang of how to do this, here are some tips on how to make yourself REALLY crazy!

*Save your major worries until about midnight, then start heavy thinking. Suggested topics include your old age, losing your job, the mistake you made at work last week which they haven't discovered yet, that suspicious wart you've had for five years, or radon in your garage. You can work up a good panic by 1 a.m.

*Keep an inventory of your faults. Ignore strengths. Focus only on your bad points. Try to select friends who will remind you of how awful you are. If you don't have friends like this, you probably have some relative who can be counted on to point out your weaknesses.

*Set unreasonable goals. No matter how much money you're earning, remember there are others doing better. Try to name three of them, preferably younger (and better looking) than you

TO HYOUR HEALTH

HMOs

If you are a member of Kaiser, Cigna, or Maxicare you are a subscriber to a health maintenance organization commonly called an HMO.

The goal of each of these organizations is to provide prudent and cost-effective health care with an emphasis on preventive medicine to their members. With a little bit of energy you can find out if your plan has a nutritionist, sports medicine professional, or a mental health worker on staff. Counseling may be available in weight control or eating disorders, birthing classes, smoking cessation seminars as well as other types of health improvement and maintenance programs.

The variety of services as well as alternatives are usually yours for the asking. That's right! Yours, if you learn how to ask for

are. Think how others could do a better job than you do.

*When your children make mistakes, don't accept it as part of growing up. View each situation as the first sign of impending moral decay, delinquency, and a wasted life. Imagine your offspring as shiftless bums at age 30, scroung-



Elia Hager, Visiting Nurse

whatever you need. Call your health plan and find out if they have brochures outlining the programs they offer.

Belonging to an HMO requires that the member (you) become proactive in seeking good and satisfactory health care. When belonging to an HMO, the member (you) can change physicians if you wish and you don't have to worry about continuity of health care.

Your file always follows you from clinic to clinic within the facility, physician to physician, and as long as you stay in the same HMO, your file remains as current as your last visit. If, say, you move from one area of the county to another, don't automatically transfer your file to another location.

ing off you.

*Put off everything until the last minute. In this way you can create a sense of frenzy and chronic stress no matter how much time you had in the first place.

*Aid and abet the creation of stress. Sleep as little as possible. Eat junk food. Drink a lot of coffee.

Get to know the "new" clinic, or maybe consider staying where you have had good and satisfactory care. You can customize your health care services by requesting services that are both appropriate and available within the HMO to which you belong.

If you have any questions regarding your HMO, call your Benefits Administrator or your union's Health and Welfare Trust Fund or better, call your HMO and get the scoop from:

Kaiser — Membership services at the closest hospital.

Cigna — Customer service representative at any facility.

Healthnet — (818) 719-6966, ask for Louise.

Health Group International — (818) 821-4205 - Member Relations. (800) 904-0800 - General information.

Maxicare — Information given to members by their primary care physician.

Never exercise if you can help it.

*Never let others know how you feel or what you want. You shouldn't have to tell them; they should be able to read your mind. If you assume this, you stand a good chance of feeling really deprived.

*Never trust anyone. Struggle with problems

continued on next page

Get Down, Keep It Down BP Program Thanks Participants

We would like to thank all the 2,069 employees who voluntarily participated in the initial screening of the blood pressure program. As some of you are aware, the United Way has provided a grant to the American Heart Association to conduct a blood pressure study at the RTD. The American Heart Association and the Drew Medical Center coordinators were very impressed with the cooperation of RTD's staff.

The results of the preliminary mass screening, however, were somewhat alarming. Four hundred and seventy-three employees had elevated blood pressure. This is actually one-quarter of all that were tested. Our goal is to control the blood pressure of all employees that wish to continue in the program. It is time now to begin our short-term follow-up program.

The American Heart Association, the Drew Medical Center, with the help of the North East Valley Health Care Corporation, and others will be contacting all 473 employ-



Operators participating in the Get Down, Keep it Down Blood Pressure Program which is being funded by the United Way and coordinated by the American Heart Association and the Drew Medical Center.

ees whose tests showed an elevated level to ask them if they followed through by visiting their doctor and if they did, what their doctor told them. All employees participating in this program are promised strict confidentiality and this will not be violated. Any information received from the employees contacted will be made a part of the program's study and only figures will be released to the District representa-

tion.

After the short-term follow-up is completed, a long-term follow-up will begin in the fall. We expect to monitor 200 employees throughout the duration of the program. These concerned employees will be counseled on diet, exercise, possible medications, and other things they can do to decrease their blood pres-

sure. Remember, high blood pressure is considered a quiet killer because most people have no symptoms. RTD wants to protect the health of its employees and fully supports this program.

As a participant in the program, you will be eligible to receive prizes when you are successful in lowering your blood pressure. We already had a drawing for lottery tickets at the District office and at the division for those who participated in the mass screening. All winners received 25 lottery tickets. The winners were: C.B. Phillips, C. Hernandez, F. E. Sanders, David Dukes, John B. Hill, Ronald Johnson, Shirley Coleman, Vester Grayson, Larry Remata, Louis Lutz, Dave Santillanez, Michael James, Eldon Takahara, Shelton Griffin, and Lawrence Dupre.

Maybe next time the prize winner will be you. If you are contacted by the aforementioned groups, your cooperation will be appreciated.

— Hope Powell

...Crazy

If you feel the urge to confide in someone who seems to care, remind yourself that people are basically no good and are out only for themselves.

*Never take a vacation break. It's a luxury you can't afford, especially if you're working up to a really good state of ex-

haustion.

*Above all, never, seek help. No matter how serious the problem, convince yourself that asking for help is a sign of weakness and that you can tough it out alone.

If you follow this program, you have a good chance of feeling really rotten in no time at all. Good luck!

The New Headway

This issue marks more than just a face lift. Editor Mary Reyna's computer can now "talk" directly to our computer at our Pasadena office. Mary's computer accesses the local phone lines by a modem and sends the stories as bits of data. We convert them back into text and then electronically lay-out

the pages. When it all comes together we have on screen all the elements of each *Headway* page. Mary can now not only proof the type, but also the position of stories, photos and headlines. This new method, called desktop publishing, is both faster and less expensive.

— Nancy Niebrugge

The Sparks Fly Again



Division 5 "Sparks"—First row: Roland Haywood, Derwin Harris, Aaron Montgomery, and Carnell Boyd. Second row: Cardell Stewart, Chris Harris, Tony Taylor, and Brian Flowers. Third row, from left to right: Eddie Harris - coach, Clyde Jackson, and Bruce Hens.



Roland Haywood jumps for joy after defeating the Division 6 team.



Division 6 Basketball Team—First row, from left to right: Richard Wright - coach, Lorenzo Morrison, Clyde Brawley, Wayne Scott, and Ronnie Scott. Second row, from left to right: Bill Jones, Bob McCain, Glenn Rougeau, Darryl Henderson, and Reese Randolph.



The faithful basketball commissioners and scorekeepers Robert Williams and William Beal. Behind them are officials Michael Barnes and Robert Mozee.



Division 3 Basketball Team — First row, from left to right: Earl Cobbs - coach, Willie Kelly, Lance McGee, and Antony Washington. Second row, from left to right: Ludy Castro, Thomas Oshmael, and Lonnie Carlyle.



Headquarters Basketball Team—First row, from left to right: John Davis - coach, Lewis Baskin, Jim Bennett, Bill Satterfield, James Brass, and Beverly McWorter. Back Row, from left to right: Rudy Ellis, Mike Brewer, Carlos Valdez, and Landry Washington.

After four months of regular season play, it came down to the final four. The RTD Basketball League Championship play-offs were recently held at Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles.

The top four of the eight teams that started the season battled in a double elimination tournament that left last year's defending champi-

ons, the Sparks from Division 5, victorious again.

The team standings at the end of the regular season were first — Sparks, Division 5, second — Division 6, third — Division 3, fourth — Headquarters Building, followed by Division 18, Laccandones Division 5, Division 7, and Division 1.

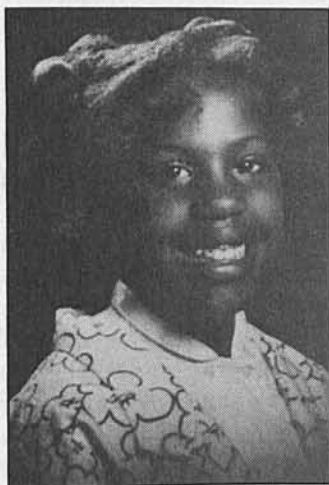
The championship game was played between Division 6 and the Sparks. The game was very close. At half time Division 6 led 27-20. In the second half the score was tied three times before the Sparks pulled ahead and nudged the lead to their favor. Final score was 49-48, Sparks.

Leading scorers for the Sparks were Chris Harris with 19 and Derwin Harris with 12. For Division 6 the high point men were Glenn Rougeau, 24 points, and Jean Freeman with 8.

June Graduates

The *Headway* proudly presents several of our employees' children who were June graduates. The photos and information were supplied by the proud RTD parents.

Shawana Michelle McBride, age 12, graduated from the Worthington Elementary School in Inglewood. Shawana has been a gifted student since kindergarten. She has

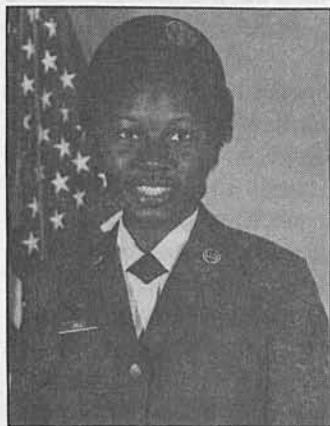


**Shawana Michelle
McBride**

won numerous academic awards, including trophies for the Martin Luther King, Jr., speech contest and the school district spelling bee which she won three times. She is a cheerleader, safety monitor, and a tutor since the fourth grade. Her father is Division 18 Operator Roger McBride and her mother is Betty Sue McBride. The family resides in Inglewood.

Angelique M. Vault, daughter of Service Attendant Blanchie Christian,

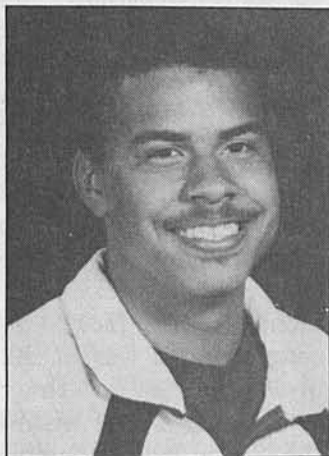
has completed her basic training at the United States Air Force Base in Lackland, Texas. She is



Angelique M. Vault

currently stationed at the Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota where she is a Business Administrative Airwoman.

Steven Dominic Anderson graduated from Mount Vernon Junior High School. He will attend Los Angeles High School in the fall. His goal is a career in the military. He is the son of Division 5 Operator Gail Anderson who has been with the



**Steven Dominic
Anderson**

District for 7 years.

Sheryl Dianne Bagny, the youngest daughter of Division 12 Operator Samuel Bagny, has been accepted to the graduate program at Bryn Mawr College in Philadelphia. Bagny says he and his family are very proud of Sheryl's accomplish-

The Headway
proudly
presents several
of our
employees' children
who were June
graduates

ments. He is also open to any suggestions that will enable him to finance his daughter's education for



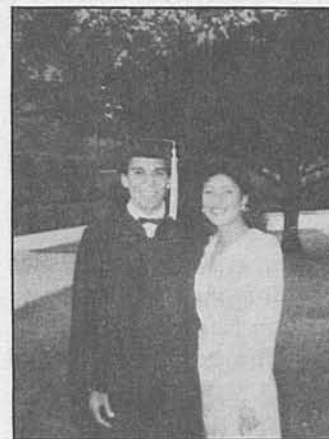
Vivian Mazzone

the next two years. He can be reached at (213) 329-9867.

Jon Thomas, the son of Division 10 Operator John R. Thomas, was graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy

from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Jon has been accepted to the graduate program at the University of California, Riverside, and will begin this fall.

Vivian Mazzone, daughter of Division 1 Operator Waldemar Mazzone and Lily Mazzone,



**Eric and Stephanie
Carrillo**

graduated from St. Matthias High School.

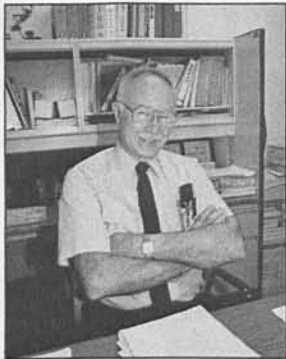
Eric Anthony Carrillo, son of Facilities Maintenance Supervisor I Armando Carrillo, graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. with a B.S. in Speech. His major was Theater Arts. Eric hopes to pursue an acting career.

This June, Carrillo's daughter, Stephanie, 26, was selected from a group of over 350 women to be a Los Angeles Rams cheerleader for the 1987 season. She will be going to London, England, on August 2 for a week when the Rams play their exhibition game there. Armando's birthday and Father's Day are also in June; needless to say this will be a year to remember for him. Eric and Stephanie appear in the picture above.

Three Employees Pass Architectural Board Exam

Three RTD employees recently passed the examination administered by the National Council for Architectural Registration Boards which is the final hurdle for gaining a license to practice the art in the state of California. Those employees included Metro Rail Construction Project Engineer Al Griesbach, Transit Facilities Architect Dennis Mori, and Bus Facilities Engineering Technician Carlos N. Fabro.

The exam is an ordeal



Al Griesbach

for anyone who takes it. It is comprised of nine parts taken over a period of four days. One section of the test takes up to 12 hours to complete. Following the written test, each examinee is given an appraisal interview. Carlos Fabro admitted that for him although the process was very tough his success marked quite a personal achievement. Carlos has been a draftsman at the District in the Bus Facilities Department for five years.

Born in Luzon, Philippines, Carlos emigrated

with his family to the United States in 1976. He studied architecture at the University of Pangasinan and graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1972. "Being educated in the Philippines in this field is very different from the United States. The methods of construction and materials used are not the same. It is more complex here due to the advancements in technology," he said.

When Carlos came to the United States it was



Dennis Mori

difficult for him to find a job because he had no local experience. "We were in a hard position then," he said. "We didn't have much money and my wife was seven months pregnant. So, I enlisted in the U.S. Army and served for three years."

While they were stationed in Monterey, Carlos' wife was lucky and landed a job in Los Angeles. When Carlos mustered out of the service he joined his wife and two weeks later found an architectural firm willing to hire him and teach him

American practices. After he had accumulated enough work experience, Carlos applied to take the examination. Each applicant must have eight years experience, that's school and work experience combined.

Carlos began studying three months before the exam, devoting 26 hours a week excluding the seminars he attended and research on the latest technology he conducted. The exam covers a variety of fields including construction, structural, and civil engineering. The test is also designed to test



Carlos Fabro

knowledge of city planning, regional planning, environmental analysis, the designing of structures, construction management, client relations, office operations, etc.

Carlos said his family is very proud of him. "To me it's a big achievement having graduated from a foreign school. I am so glad it is over. Now, I have to apply this accomplishment," he said. *Headway* congratulates Carlos, Al, and Dennis on their achievements and wishes them good luck in the future.

My Bus-to-Work Friends

by Sylvia Goldman

At 7:00 a.m., there is still a dampness in the air, and although the city seems quiet — there they are, standing on the corner of Pico and Robertson, my bus friends.

It's comforting when I go to work to know I will see some of the same faces each morning, and we say, "Good morning, how are you?" — so sincerely. "My, you look nice today," the middle-aged woman who works in Century City says to me.

One morning, either we were early, or the bus we were waiting for was late — and Kathy and I talked about many things. I learned she was originally from Greece — was raising two sons, both of whom are very smart. One is an attorney, the other still attending school.

The bus arrives...we scramble into an uneven line. "Step right up, move to the rear ..." Those bus drivers, God bless them, sometimes I don't know how they can keep their cool, but it's like they're the captain of a ship, and in charge. Sometimes riders don't realize the responsibilities that they assume. Most of them handle the job magnificently — in charge.

(Sylvia Goldman frequently rides RTD lines 220 and 27. This 71-year-old grandmother of four makes notes of her adventures on the RTD bus and shares them regularly.)

RTD MOVIES GOES TO THE MOVIES

Our Rating System

- ***** - A classic
**** - Excellent; worth standing in line
*** - Average; does what it set out to do, no more
** - Fair; Okay in spots, but decidedly flawed
* - Poor; a waste of time
BOMB - *Reefer Madness*; if you've seen it, you understand

The Untouchables

****-1/2

You can watch this film on two levels. The first is a solid thriller, with plenty of action and violence, and a great story that starts off running and doesn't stop. The second level is an allegory of the struggle between Good (as personified by Jimmy Malone) and Evil (as personified by Al Capone), with Humanity (Elliot Ness) caught in the middle, choosing between the two. The two levels co-exist beautifully in what is, without a doubt, one of the best films of 1987.

For those who remember Robert Stack on the TV series, Kevin Costner is quite a change as Elliot Ness. This Ness is a bit more naive, a bit younger and fresh-faced. He firmly intends to stay within the law in his hunt, but quickly learns that the bad guys don't play by the rules, and it's sometimes necessary to come down to

their level. Costner plays Ness as upright and honest, but never becoming sanctimonious about it.

On the other side of the balance sheet is Robert DeNiro as Al Capone. His Capone has a thin veneer of culture and affability, just so long as the man isn't crossed. When he is, the smile is ripped away to reveal a cruelty and ruthlessness that will stop at nothing to reach its goals. All this points up a sad irony of our justice system when you learn the method by which Al Capone was actually sent to prison.

If Ness is officially the leader of the Untouchables, Jimmy Malone, as played by Sean Connery, is its heart and soul. Malone doesn't want to get involved at first, but Ness manages to wake his sleeping conscience. It's a part that dominates the film, but never overpowers it, giving Connery an opportunity to turn a superb performance. It's great fun to watch the way he brings the other two members of the group, a streetwise cadet (played by Andy Garcia) and a terrified accountant (played by Martin Smith as if he has no idea what he's getting into), into line.

The excellent cast is supported by an intelligent script by Pulitzer Prize-winning author David Mammet, who usually writes for the stage,

and director Brian de Palma, who shows he still knows how to stretch an audience's nerves to the breaking point. Even if the rest of the film is forgotten (a fate it does not deserve), the climatic chase across the rooftop of the Chicago courthouse will be remembered for years to come as a top example of filmmaking.

Dragnet - ****

From the sublime to the ridiculous. *Dragnet* is the second old TV series to be made into a movie this summer, but this one is an affectionate parody that claims to deal with "just the facts, ma'am." Dan Ackroyd is the main perpetrator, helping with the script as well as starring as Sgt. Joe Friday, nephew of the Joe Friday seen in the series.

Following the familiar narrative style, Friday takes us through the investigation of the P.A.G.A.N. robberies that have been plaguing Los Angeles. Plaguing Friday is his new partner Pep Streebeck, who doesn't operate by the rules the way Friday does. Streebeck looks at Friday as if he's from another planet, but the two men gradually grow to respect one another.

Reprising his role from the series, albeit with a promotion, Harry Morgan has a supporting part as Captain Gannon. In his

dialogue with Ackroyd, he proves he hasn't lost the knack for the swift, monotone exchange of information that was a hallmark of the old *Dragnet* series. Morgan provides a link to the past, and helps tie the film firmly to earth, as opposed to Tom Hanks as Streebeck, whose character is a slight twist on the stereotypical undercover cop. Fortunately, the director kept Hanks firmly in control, and doesn't allow him to get too crazy, just crazy enough to provide a foil for Ackroyd.

In other supporting roles are Christopher Plummer as a TV evangelist with a mission, a smarmy, slimy character who knows exactly how to manipulate the masses, and Dabney Coleman as a porn merchant. Coleman's character is a cross between Hugh Hefner and Larry Flynt, combined with a weird lisp. Both parts are essential to the story, and they provide two of my favorite actors a chance to play parts that are not quite what they usually do.

Dan Ackroyd, of course, is the centerpiece of the movie, and this is where things could have easily gone wrong. There's a thin line between parody and caricature, and Ackroyd walks it with finesse.

—Carolyn Kinhead

RECREATIONAL NEWS



August

- 16 Santana—Universal Amphitheatre \$20
- 21 Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr.
Greek Theatre \$40
- 22 Lisa, Lisa, and Cult Jam plus Expos
Universal Amphitheatre \$17.50
- 27 Barbara Mandrell—Greek Theatre \$21
- 29 Dodgers vs. Montreal \$6 Reserved for \$5
Hollywood Stars Night
- 31 Dodgers vs. Phillies \$5, Backpack Night

September

- 4 & 6 Anita Baker—Greek Theatre \$26
- 5 Temptations and O'Jays—Universal Amphitheatre
\$20 tickets for \$16.50

- 6 Dodgers vs. New York
- 12 Dionne Warwick and Burt Bacharach
Greek Theatre \$22.50
- 13 Donna Summer—Universal Amphitheatre \$20.50
- 17 Dodgers vs. Cincinnati Doubleheader \$5
- 18 Dodgers vs. Atlanta \$5, All-Star Ball Card Night
- 20 Dodgers vs. Atlanta \$5, Cap Day

Specials

Wild Rivers Water Park—unlimited use of over 40 water rides and attractions. Adults \$8 (regularly \$12.75), Children, ages 3-11, \$6 (regularly \$9.75). Tickets good any day through September 27.

Magic Mountain Special—August 29-31, September 1-13, 19, 20, 26, 27, \$7.95; (regularly Adults \$16.95, Children \$8.95).

HEADWAY

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