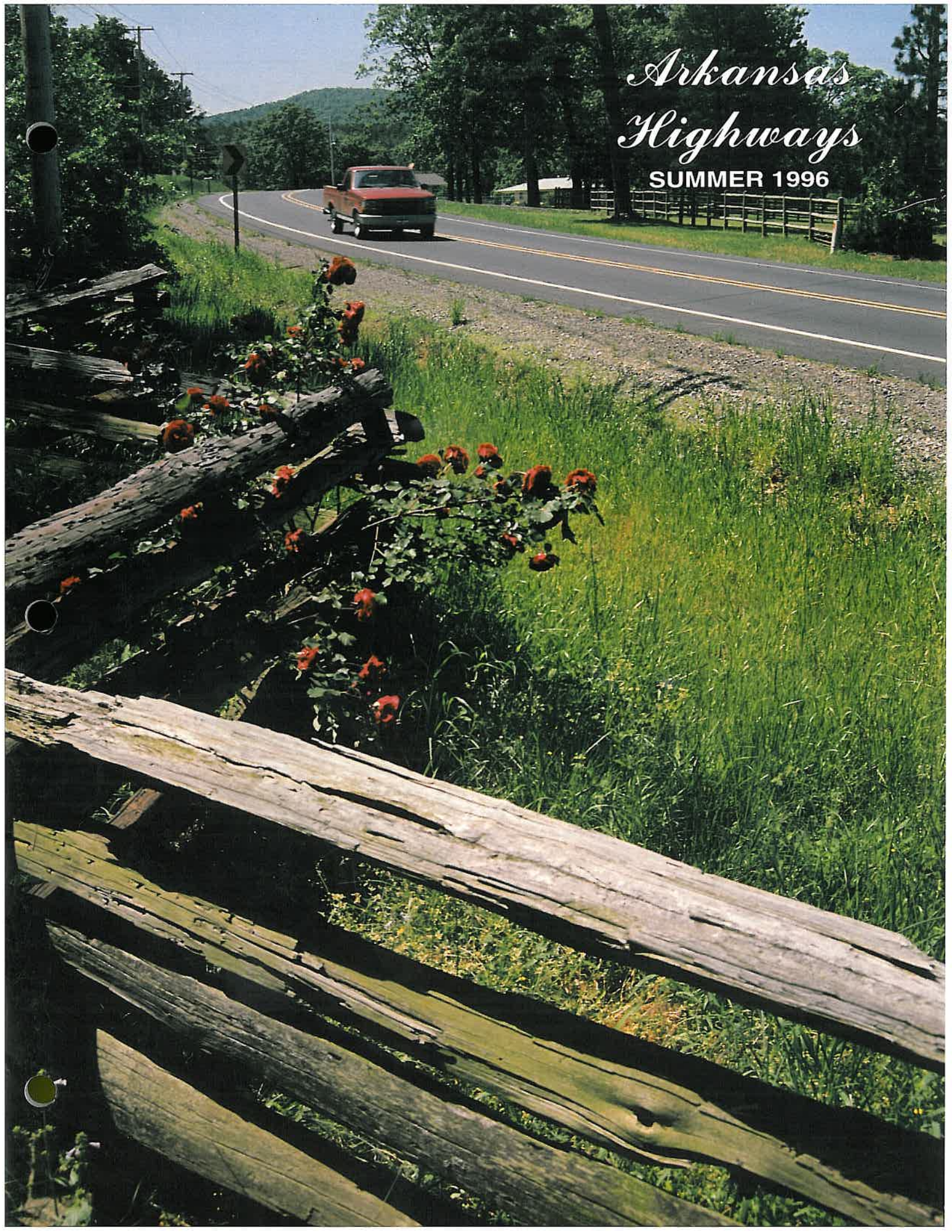


*Arkansas  
Highways*

SUMMER 1996



# Director's Message

## Interstate Highway System

This summer marks the 40th anniversary of America's Interstate Highway System. On June 29, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law the Federal-Aid Highway Act which set into motion construction of the Interstate Highway System as we know it today.

Actually, the idea of an interconnected system of roads crisscrossing the nation north to south and east to west was first discussed as far back as 1919. But it was in the early 1940's, during World War II, that then-General Eisenhower became interested in high speed land travel. Eisenhower was supreme commander of the allied forces in Europe at that time. He was amazed at the speed and ease with which German forces and equipment moved across that country.

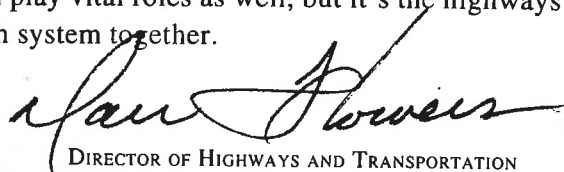
In 1944, Congress called for the designation of a National System of Interstate Highways to include up to 40,000 miles of roadway. However, no funding for construction was included in this legislation.

It wasn't until 1956, during Eisenhower's presidency, that funding was provided for actual construction. The 1956 Act also set standards for design of the System, established a method for apportioning funds among the States, changed the name to the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, and set the federal government's share of the project cost at 90 percent.

Construction began in Arkansas slightly before the 1956 legislation. In the early 1950's construction started on what would become I-30 between Little Rock and Benton, and also on I-40 in West Memphis. Consequently, Arkansas became the first state in the country to complete its original allotment of Interstate highway miles.

Next time you are traveling on one of Arkansas' 542 miles of Interstate highway, or on one of the nation's 45,500 miles, try to imagine what your journey would be like without them. It's almost impossible to do. We are too accustomed to the ease they bring to our lives.

Will the next 40 years be as exciting as the last? No one knows for sure, but one thing is for certain: Highways will continue to provide the critical link in the movement of goods, services and people from one place to another. Other modes of transportation play vital roles as well, but it's the highways that tie our entire transportation system together.



DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION



# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

SUMMER 1996

## ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



L.W. "BILL" CLARK  
CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER  
VICE CHAIRMAN



HERBY BRANSCUM, JR.  
MEMBER



JOHN "M" LIPTON  
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY" BENFIELD  
MEMBER

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS is published quarterly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information. Correspondence and material should be directed to ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs, P.O. Box 2261, Room 1004, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261. ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS is distributed free to the public upon request and to all Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department employees.

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# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department  
P.O. Box 2261 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

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**COVER PHOTO:** State Highway 300 in western Pulaski County  
**BACK COVER PHOTO:** State Highway 58, Guion Ferry Road, in Stone County  
Photographs by John Jackson

## AHTD and AGC Sign Partnering Agreement to “Celebrate Construction Week In Arkansas”

In an effort to build customer satisfaction, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department and the Associated General Contractors of America, Arkansas Chapter, have signed a Partnering Agreement.

The agreement was signed on May 9 at the “Celebrate Construction Week in Arkansas” banquet held at the Riverfront Hilton in North Little Rock. Rodney E. Slater, Federal Highway Administrator, was keynote speaker at the banquet and noted the significance of the understanding between the two organizations.

Highway and Transportation Department Director Dan Flowers called the Partnering Agreement a red letter day for the Arkansas Construction industry. “One of the key



Left to right: Highway Commission Chairman L.W. “Bill” Clark, AGC Arkansas Chapter President David McClinton, AHTD Director Dan Flowers and AGC Arkansas Chapter Highway Committee Chairman Bill Johnston with the oversized Partnering Agreement



Barbara and AHC Chairman L.W. “Bill” Clark; Arkansas Department of Labor Director James Salkeld; AGC Arkansas Chapter Executive Vice President Tommy Fish



Cashion Company President Benson Cashion and Highway Commissioner John “M” Lipton

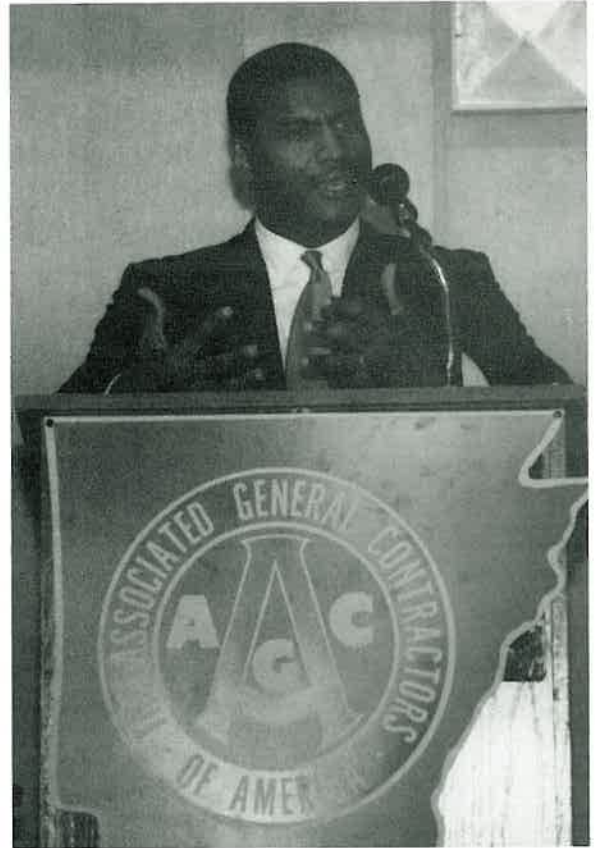
elements of Partnering is having the commitment from top management,” Flowers said. “Tonight demonstrates the commitment of the Highway Department, the Highway Commission, and the construction industry in general. I think this agreement encourages us all to work together to do the best job possible for our customers, which are the people of Arkansas.”

The document outlines several points that are designed to promote working together and providing complete customer satisfaction.

Points outlined in the agreement include:

- Promote harmonious relationships throughout the industry, fostered in the concept of mutual trust and respect.
- Foster an inclusionary industry that ensures full and open opportunity for all to participate and for responsible businesses to compete in an open, competitive bid environment.
- Promote quality through continuous improvement at all stages of the design and construction process.
- Cooperatively promote and encourage the use of new products, technology and processes that provide a demonstrated level of improved quality.
- Promote prompt and fair dispute resolution by opening communications through the use of partnering.
- Deliver surface transportation facilities in a manner that is environmentally responsible in both design and construction.
- Ensure that the safety of the public and employees will be a prime concern in delivering transportation facilities.

The agreement was signed by Flowers, Highway Commission Chairman L.W. “Bill” Clark, AGC Arkansas President David McClinton and AGC Highway Committee Chairman Bill Johnston.



Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater presents the keynote address.



Retired AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Calvin Peevy and Highway Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr.



FHWA Assistant Division Administrator Sandy Hayes; AHTD Chief of Administration and Public Affairs Jane Wilson; and Tracy Duke of the 3M Corporation

40 near Forrest City. The demonstration showed the recorder sending real-time information by a modem dispensed on a large screen for the presentation. The recorders also provide speed information, but this information is not used in enforcing speed limits. "They can let us know where high speed areas are located, but we have found on average, most vehicles are staying close to the speed limit," Bennett explained.

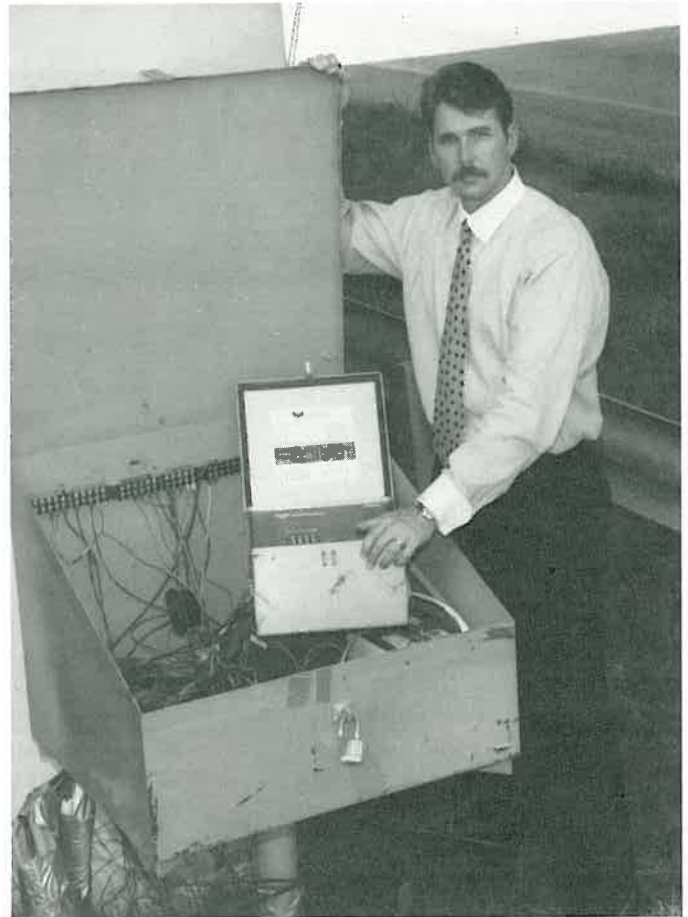
Although the traffic recorders do similar work as weigh stations, they will not replace the human factor involved in checking permits and weights. "These monitors help us provide more accurate information as we design roads for the future. With this information we are able to project how many vehicles are using the road and design the road to fit that amount of traffic," Bennett added.

"Traffic weights let us know how thick the pavement needs to be when we're designing the road," Bennett said. Design procedures become "a lot more accurate" using this data in planning for highways intended to last 20 or more years, Bennett said.

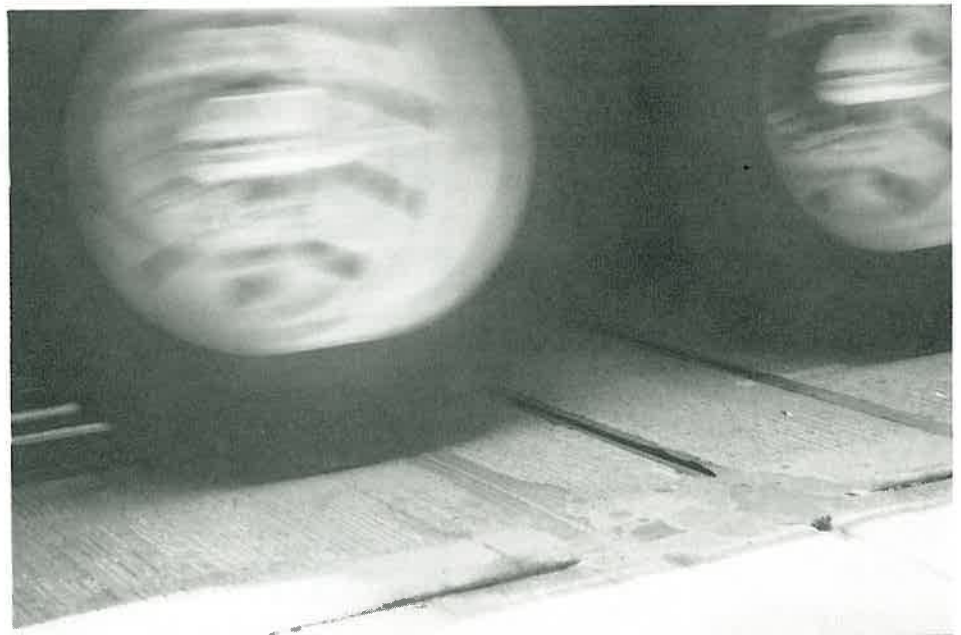
There are 27 such devices in use throughout the state, with plans to have 65 total, Bennett said. The state first used the devices in 1990 as a demonstration project. All types of roads, not just interstates, are monitored, Bennett said.

A printout of the data shows which lane the vehicle travels, its gross weight, speed, number of axles and weight distribution by axles. The spacing between axles identifies the type of vehicle.

The statistics on vehicles from any location are stored and can be retrieved at any time, so the monitoring runs 24 hours a day all year.



Bennett displays the equipment along the highway which records the weigh-in-motion information from sensors and transmits it to the Central Office.



Sensors, level with the pavement, send information to the recorders.

## Bruce Smith and Ken Jordan

### Participate in Festivities of Summer Olympics

Two Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department employees will be part of the 1996 Summer Olympics.

Bruce Smith, Resident Office Technician in Searcy, and Corporal Ken Jordan of the Arkansas Highway Police have both been selected to be a part of the worldwide athletic pageantry that will begin in Atlanta, Georgia July 19.

Smith was picked to carry the Olympic Torch through Little Rock on May 26, while Jordan will be a part of the Security Team Program during the Games.

A once in a lifetime opportunity was how Smith described his thoughts surrounding this event. "It's a great honor to be chosen and I'm just lucky to be a part of this," he said.

Smith was nominated by the Park Avenue Baptist Church in Searcy. "I think they looked at my community commitments and involvement in the church," he added.

An avid runner, Smith said he shouldn't have a problem with the one kilometer run. "I run an average of 30-35 miles per week," he explained. "I've been in the National Guard for 26 years and have to stay in shape," Smith said. Now a Lieutenant Colonel in the National Guard, Smith is with the First Battalion, 153rd Infantry located in Malvern.



Bruce Smith, right, accepted the Olympic Flame from NFL star Keith Jackson as the Flame passed through Little Rock.

Cpl. Ken Jordan, along with more than 2,000 law enforcement personnel from all over the world, will volunteer his experience and expertise to anchor the XXVI Olympiad security effort.



Cpl. Ken Jordan

The Security Team Program (STP) participants will be housed in a "village" where they will be able to interact with police professionals of all nationalities and backgrounds.

The opening ceremonies for the Olympics will be held July 19 and the closing ceremonies will be August 4. More than 16,500 athletes, coaches and team officials are expected to participate in the games which feature 26 events.

With the potential of two million visitors present in the Atlanta area, Cpl. Jordan and the other members of the STP will play an extremely important role in monitoring the safety of all involved in this monumental event.

It will be the showcase for law enforcement officers from around the world to display their professionalism since there will not only be 11 million tickets sold, but an estimated television audience of 16 billion people as well. "It will take everyone's commitment to make this the most memorable Olympic Games ever, and with the assistance of those in the law enforcement community, we are sure to succeed," a spokesperson said.

Jordan is assigned as officer-in-charge of a Highway Police patrol unit located in North Little Rock.

## Section of Highway 67 Nominated for NQI Award

An 8.7-mile stretch of Highway 67 has been recognized in competition for the National Quality Initiative (NQI) Achievement Award.

Although the highway did not win the top honor, the Arkansas State Highway Commission and the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, along with the contractor, Illinois Valley Paving Company, were given certificates of merit for their high quality of work on the highway.

FHWA Division Administrator William D. Richardson was on hand April 25 to present both the Commission and Department with plaques recognizing the project.

Since this project has been completed, the Department's specifications for surface evenness testing have been changed to require the contractor to obtain a maximum profile index of seven inches per mile on the finished pavement surface. Follow-up profilograph readings for the section of highway were taken by the Department's Research Section during July 1995. The readings average 1.67 inches per mile. The



AHC Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, left, and AHTD Director Dan Flowers, right, accept certificates on behalf of the Department from FHWA Division Administrator Bill Richardson.

stretch of highway is located just south of Newport and was completed in 1990.

Still in excellent condition, the highway is part of a projected multi-lane interstate type facility from Little Rock to the Missouri state line, eventually connecting to St. Louis.

The award was formed by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), various indus-

try associations, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). It focuses attention on continuous quality improvement within the highway industry. The award is part of the NQI process to ensure that quality of highways remains a focal point in all aspects of the highway program, and is part of a long-range plan that will provide direction, focus, and continuous emphasis for the NQI.

## AHTD Joins Summer Transportation Institute

Seeking to increase the pool of students pursuing transportation related careers is the goal of a new partnership. The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has joined the Federal Highway Administration and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff to

expose select students to a variety of academic experiences designated to motivate them to consider professions in transportation.

The project is geared toward students with an interest in science and math while also opening lines of communication and developing

scholarships, fellowship grants and employment opportunities.

Beginning this year, the Summer Transportation Institute Advisory Board will select 20 students to enter the inaugural program, according to Valera McDaniel of AHTD's Personnel Section, who serves on



the board. "We will begin this summer's schedule with 20 students and hope to increase that number to 40 as this program grows," McDaniel said. The Board is relying heavily on high school guidance counselors to recommend students to become involved in this curriculum.

The four-week Summer Transportation Institute provides a tuition-free opportunity for young people to get firsthand college experience by living in dormitories and studying in a college environment.

Students are exposed to new frontiers and adventures in transportation such as highway design, the transportation of people and cargo, intermodalism, laws, regulations, safety and environmental protection. The selected students will also practice study time management, review self-discipline topics and study for the SAT college entrance exam.

During the four-week program, students will be visiting a number of transportation-related businesses including a truck terminal at J.B. Hunt, Union Pacific Railroad, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pine Bluff Port, Train Museum, Vision 2010, Little Rock Airport and IMAX Theater. The Department will welcome the students to the Sign Shop, Highway Police Division, Mapping and Graphics, Photogrammetry, Computer Services, Materials, Environmental, selected bridge sites and the Bunyard Tunnel construction site on Highway 71 in Northwest Arkansas.

The Federal Highway Administration is assuming the \$40,000 cost of the project. In future years, the



Members of the Summer Transportation Institute Advisory Board are left to right Sandy Hayes, FHWA; Valera McDaniel, AHTD; Dorothy Rhodes, AHTD; Felton Lamb, UAPB; Oscar Dean, Dunbar Junior High School and Chuck Brown, AGC.

Advisory Board will try to attract more funding from outside sources in an attempt to help the program grow.

The first group of students to attend classes will have classroom and field experiences, according to McDaniel. "Ideally they will be in class on Mondays and Fridays and in the field Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays," she said. Mondays and Fridays and some evenings will

be spent working on projects including building a dragster, solar-powered car, rocket and bridge.

The Department is providing a significant amount of time and manpower, as well as transportation for the students. "We will take them to the sites where they will get firsthand experiences as well as providing tours and speakers," McDaniel added.

### Selection Criteria for the Summer Transportation Institute includes:

- must be in the 9th or 10th grade for 1996-1997 high school year;
- must have completed or be enrolled in pre-algebra;
- must have a minimum GPA of 3.00;
- have an interest in engineering, science, transportation or technology;
- have three letters of recommendation;
- must have completed the Stanford Test or SAT;
- must have an official transcript from high school.

For more information contact Valera McDaniel in the AHTD Human Resources Division or your local high school guidance counselor.

## DEDICATIONS:

### First Section of Pine Bluff Bypass Opens

A portion of the Pine Bluff Bypass was officially opened in early May with a dedication ceremony held at the intersection with Highway 65.

Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark was the featured speaker at the dedication and told the crowd the project would help Pine Bluff grow and prosper. "I had numerous conversations with city officials and others about this project. As a result of those efforts, we are standing here today enjoying a facility that will make Pine Bluff a better place to live, work and visit," Clark said.

The first 4.8-mile section of the bypass, from Highway 65 south



State highway and Pine Bluff officials cut the ribbon to open the first section of the bypass. to Highway 79, cost slightly more than \$27 million to complete. Work on the bypass began nearly eight years ago and is expected to be complete by 2000 at a cost of nearly \$90 million.

### First ISTEA Enhancement Project Completed

A unified effort by the people of Lawrence County, along with funding through AHTD, has brought the restoration of the Iron Mountain Depot in Walnut Ridge to completion.

"We are pleased to have played a role in helping the city with this important project through our Transportation Enhancement Program," said Highway Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield at the April 12 dedication.

"This was one of the first enhancement projects approved by the Commission in 1993. It is one of ten train depot restoration projects around the state, but it is



Standing in front of the newly refurbished Iron Mountain Depot are (left to right): David Coker, Depot Committee Chairman; Senator Mike Todd; Ann Pulliam, Depot Committee; Highway Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield; J.R. Rogers, Walnut Ridge Mayor; Representative Tom Baker and Tim Taylor, Walnut Ridge Chamber of Commerce President.

the first one to be completed," Benafield added.

The Highway Commission authorized \$266,000 in federal enhancement funds to cover 80 percent of the cost of the project. The local depot committee utilized a unique idea for fund-raising as a way to match the ISTEA funds, according to Tim Taylor of the Walnut Ridge Area Chamber of

Commerce. "We needed \$66,000 in local matching funds to complete the project," Taylor said. As part of the fund-raising plan, the committee agreed to provide individuals with the opportunity to place their name, a relative's name or family name on slabs of granite to be placed at the depot for \$125.

"By July, the committee had

reached its goal and was well on the way to more," Taylor added.

Benafield said the unified effort of federal, state and local governments working together was "an outstanding example" of what can be accomplished. "By working as partners, we were able to fund this project and preserve a piece of history," he said.

## Highway 15 Bridge Dedicated

Jim Young never got to see the bridge over the Saline River named in his honor, but according to Commissioner John "M" Lipton he was a driving force behind improvements to south Arkansas' highway system.

Lipton made his remarks during dedication ceremonies at the Saline River Bridge near the Bradley-Cleveland County line on Monday, May 13. Young, who died about 20 years ago, lived in the Rye community just north of the bridge in Cleveland County.

"Even though the Highway Commission has a policy of not naming its facilities, I'm glad you have decided to reach back in history and honor a man like Jim Young," Lipton told the crowd of about 200 people.

A resolution by Bradley and Cleveland Counties read during the ceremonies said that Young, "during his lifetime, was a rigor-

ous supporter" of Highway 15 and was active in his support of Arkansas highway projects.



Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton

## New Telephone System Installed at Department

A new look along with a new sound greeted employees at the AHTD Central Office on May 20 as a new telephone system went online.

Dating back to the late 1970's, the previous phone system relied

on analog technology that has been outdated by newer digital technology. Analog technology does not meet the requirements of the new North American Numbering Plan (NANP).

Prior to 1995, all area codes

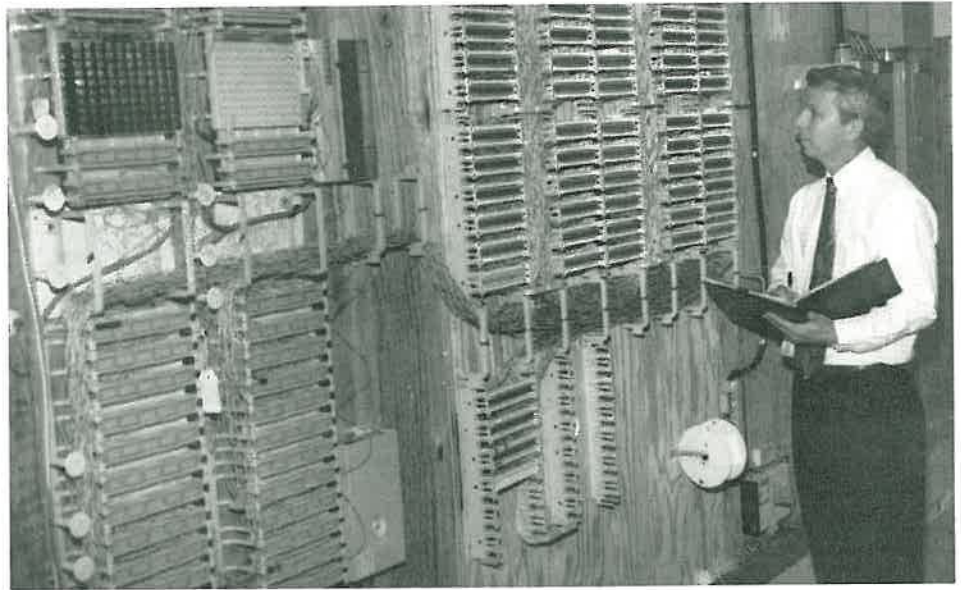
under the NANP had either a "0" or "1" as the middle digit. Now the middle digit in area codes can be assigned "2" through "9." Due to this change, the older equipment had to be replaced or updated. Without the newer technol-

ogy the Department's system would have been virtually useless, according to Bryan Stewart of Computer Services, who is the acting Telephone System Administrator. "Failure to upgrade would have eventually meant that millions of new telephone numbers would simply have not existed for our phone system," Stewart said.

Replacement parts for the old system were becoming increasingly difficult for the vendor to provide; therefore, it was just a matter of time before telephone communication would begin to suffer. Some equipment had already stopped working.

Telephone usage has greatly increased since installation of the original PBX system and the accounting/auditing features could not be upgraded to handle the present call volume.

Because the Department upgrading its phone system, Southwestern Bell had to upgrade its equipment as well to digital tech-



Bryan Stewart, acting Telephone System Administrator, can make any changes needed to the new system from this huge communications board.

nology in order to handle the new system.

New digital technology will allow the AHTD to effectively reduce costs associated with long distance, WATS and other telecommunication services.

Significant cost savings will accrue from having a Customer Administration Unit as part of the

new system allowing the Department's Telephone System Administrator to make changes to the system, and provide new employees line access within the system rather than having to place a service call to the vendor.

The new system includes a backup battery system that will keep the unit operational even during power failures. The backup battery system is also supported by the Department's power generator.

The new system is monitored by a computer that will automatically call the vendor's service center should a part fail, enabling service technicians to repair problems before they become noticeable.

The new telephone system leaves the Department well-positioned to provide future telecommunications services as they evolve and become economically feasible.



Renee Hill, Central Office Switchboard Operator, at the console of the new telephone system

# “Road Work” Not For Everyone

Editor’s note: The following story was originally printed in the October 15, 1995 issue of the *Searcy Daily Citizen* and has been reprinted with permission.

The hot sun beats down on the highway department workers. While the asphalt still steams, the workers step in, raking and shoveling off the hot excess. Surveying the completed work, the crew leader calls to her crew and they move on to the next site.

A job that has always been portrayed as a male job, is one finding more and more females. Although the majority of highway workers are male, there is an increasing number of females.

The crew leader, Irma Collins, has been working with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department for ten years and sees more women in the field. One of her co-workers, JoAnn McWilliams, has been working for the Department for one year.



Collins and McWilliams



District 5 Searcy Maintenance Crew Leader Irma Collins and Single Axle Truck Driver JoAnn McWilliams complete an asphalt repair.

The women enjoy their work, but point that the work is not for any woman. They are required to work with paint, asphalt, and heavy equipment most of the time. As Highway Department workers, they are responsible for fixing potholes, painting, mowing and erecting signs.

“You can’t be ‘squeemy’ in this job,” said McWilliams. “I don’t come out here for a beauty pageant.”

Although there are down sides to the job and it is manual labor, these women enjoy the work. Collins used to work as a factory worker until she was laid off. “I needed a job and a friend suggested I try the Highway Department. I’ve been here nearly ten years and I still enjoy the work.”

McWilliams worked as a secretary for a while, but found the work conditions unacceptable to her. “While I was in the office, I would look out the window and wish that I was outside - especially on the nice days. I really like this job,” McWilliams continued. “I like being outdoors and I really enjoy working in the weather.”

The two women agreed that while they enjoy the work, it is challenging. Everyone is expected to do the same work. Just because they are women does not mean that they can work less. “Everyone does the same work. Out here workers must prove themselves. Sometimes the competition is high, but whoever is best gets the job whether man or woman,” stated Collins.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

### **Highway 265 Discussed at Fayetteville**

A wider State Highway 265 in Fayetteville was the topic of an open forum public hearing held April 23.

About 150 citizens were on hand for the hearing that brought out a wide array of opinions concerning the design of the highway.

The 2.4-mile project will widen Highway 265 from Highway 16 north to Highway 45. Proposed improvements include the widen-

ing of the road to five lanes, including a continuous center turn lane with curb and gutter. The existing roadway consists of two ten-foot travel lanes with four-foot gravel shoulders.

The public sentiment was split between the Department's proposed five-lane and a boulevard-type four-lane road. The majority of those responding verbally or in writing agreed that widening the

road, in whatever configuration, was needed to alleviate congestion and make the road safer.

Most of the concerns surrounded property values and the growth of commercial businesses along the widened state highway.

Department employees guided citizens along a map of the route, explaining right of way, cuts and fills, driveway locations and other details.

### **Upgrading Highway 71 at Texarkana**

Improving and providing a safe road from Texarkana to the Louisiana border along the western limit of Arkansas was the subject of a public hearing held February 29 in Texarkana.

More than 300 people attended the open forum public hearing on the design of Highway 71 south of Texarkana.

The proposed design calls for construction of a four-lane, divided facility built to interstate standards with full access control. The public hearing addressed specific design features, including the locations of interchanges, right-of-way and other features.

Participants were asked for input on the design while Depart-

ment personnel were on hand to explain the proposed design, answer questions and take written and verbal comments.

Most of the responses received were in favor of the interstate-type roadway. "This project is going to be a wonderful opportunity for Texarkana and the surrounding communities," one citizen said.

### **Public Hearing on Application of Federal Funds**

Applying for federal funds to assist the transit systems in the urbanized areas of Fayetteville/Springdale, Fort Smith and Pine Bluff was the content of a public hearing held Wednesday, April 10 in the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's Central Office Auditorium.

Approximately 25 interested individuals were on hand for the

hearing to discuss the apportionment process of the federal funds. Funds are received from the Federal Transit Authority and administered by AHTD.

Transit systems that will receive the federal funding include the University of Arkansas/Razorback Transit, Ozark Regional Transit, City of Fort Smith and Pine Bluff Transit.

The hearing, requested by Pine Bluff Mayor Jerry Taylor, was attended by several Pine Bluff officials including Alderman J.C. Jefferies, State Representative Pat Pappas, Brett Ball of the Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce, Pine Bluff Transit Manager Larry Reynolds and Jeff Hawkins, Director of the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission.

## Arkansas' Technology Transfer (T<sup>2</sup>) Program

The Planning and Research Division's Technology Transfer Section (T<sup>2</sup>) is as unique as its unusual designation. Through this program, Arkansas' cities and counties are assisted in using transportation related technology. Exchanging information produces safer, more efficient and economical road and street programs.

In 1995, the T<sup>2</sup> Program presented 110 seminars to 3,848 city and county personnel. This included 85 Commercial Drivers License (CDL) drug and alcohol testing compliance seminars to 3,150 drivers, supervisors and administrators. This accomplishment is one of the best of the 54 T<sup>2</sup> centers nationwide.

The CDL training effort exemplifies how the T<sup>2</sup> Program works. In 1994, the Association of Arkansas Counties and the Arkansas Municipal League asked the T<sup>2</sup> Program for training and materials to assist their members in preparing to comply with federally mandated CDL drug and alcohol testing regulations.

Using materials developed by AHTD, and the city of North Little Rock, and Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the T<sup>2</sup> Program prepared a model personnel policy. The AHTD, requesting organizations, and FHWA's Office of Motor Carriers reviewed this policy which was adopted by Arkansas' cities and counties. Department personnel Calvin Gibson, Staff Attorney; Wes Wimberly, Training and Safety



Earl Kirkpatrick, center, AHTD Technology Transfer Engineer, accepts on behalf of the T<sup>2</sup> Program, a plaque for leadership and service in CDL Substance Training from David Lange, right, Greene County Judge and President of the Arkansas County Judges Association and David Morris, left, Administrative Assistant for the Association of Arkansas Counties.

Section Head and AHP Cpl. Ken Jordan prepared five T<sup>2</sup> instructors to conduct the three-hour training presentations. The 85 seminars have assured that Arkansas cities and counties will be in compliance with federal regulations in 1996.

Earl Kirkpatrick, program engineer, administers Arkansas' T<sup>2</sup> Program. University professors, contract seminar presenters, and FHWA and AHTD personnel cover the wide range of subjects shared with local officials from the 75 counties and 491 cities.

The T<sup>2</sup> Program manages Arkansas' Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), which is a cooperative effort between the FHWA, AHTD, and the Universities of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and Fayetteville. The objective is to assist cities and counties with trans-

portation-related technology implementation, through training seminars, videos, literature, site visits, demonstrations. Subject matter ranges from basic construction and maintenance seminars to safety, computer programs and administrative training. When requested, trouble shooting visits are made to solve problems regarding drainage, paving techniques, bridge maintenance.

Quarterly newsletters publicize T<sup>2</sup> and AHTD services, present new technology and solicit input from users. The T<sup>2</sup> Program is guided by an advisory committee represented by the Association of Arkansas Counties, Arkansas Municipal League, Arkansas County Judges Association, American Public Works Association, AHTD and FHWA, along with participating universities.

## **AHTD PERSONNEL CHANGES**

### **Melba Shepard Promoted To Division Head of Human Resources**

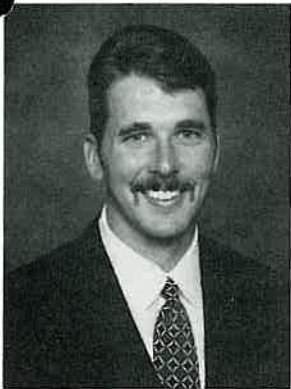
Melba Shepard, Personnel Officer of the Human Resources Division, was named Division Head of Human Resources May 9.

She began her career with the Department in 1970 in the Procurement Division. In 1974 she was promoted to the Equal Employment Opportunity Section where she served as Internal EEO Coordinator. She transferred to the Human Resources Division and was promoted to Personnel Officer in 1987.

Melba and her husband Paul reside in Saline County.



### **Scott Bennett Named Assistant Division Head of Planning and Research**



Scott Bennett, Section Head of Technical Services, was promoted to Planning and Research Assistant Division Head March 28.

He is a 1989 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. He began his career with the Department in 1985 as a summer engineering intern in District Ten. In August 1989 he began full-time employment in the Planning and Research Division. He was selected to participate in the Department's Transportation Research Assistantship Program in 1993. As part of the program, he received a master's degree in civil engineering with emphasis on transportation from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He is a registered professional engineer.

Bennett and his wife Heather reside in Little Rock.

### **Keith Stephens Joins Public Affairs Office**

Keith Stephens has joined the Public Affairs staff as an Administrative Assistant II. He is a 1993 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock with a bachelor's degree in journalism. He previously worked as a research assistant for Richard A. Stephens and Associates in Little Rock. He has an extensive newspaper background spanning 10 years including stints at the *Newport Daily Independent* (Newport, Arkansas); *Chicot County Spectator* (Lake Village, Arkansas); *Sac Sun-Star* (Sac City, Iowa); *Donaldsonville Chief* (Donaldsonville, Louisiana); *Ulysses News* (Ulysses, Kansas) and *Siloam Springs Herald-Democrat* (Siloam Springs, Arkansas).

Keith is single and a native of North Little Rock.





# Celebrate With The Graduate

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department proudly presents the 1996 high school and college graduates who are seasonal employees or children of employees.



Denise Nicole Allman  
Bismark High School  
Mike Allman - District 6



Angie Arledge  
Hope High School  
LaVeme Arledge - District 3



Alicia Ballou  
Mills High School  
COE Student - Environmental



Towney Barclay  
Sheridan High School  
Debbie Barclay - Progs. & Conts.



Joshua Barkhimer  
Harmony Grove High School  
Harvey Barkhimer - District 7



Matthew Barnett  
Ridgecrest High School  
Joe Barnett - District 10



Rebekah Barnett  
Waldron High School  
Randall Barnett - District 4



Amber Besancon  
Bryant High School  
Margaret Besancon - Equip. & Proc.



Gina Black  
Malvern High School  
Lt. David Quast - Highway Police



Marsha Briggs  
Bryant High School  
Keith Briggs - Maintenance



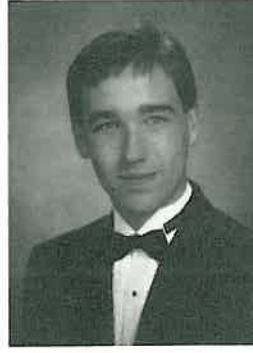
Jennifer Bryant  
Malvern High School  
Louis Bryant - Materials



LaToya Tennille Bryant  
Palestine/Wheatley High School  
Eddie Bryant - District 1



Peggy Sue Bryant  
Bryant High School  
Linda Bryant - Maintenance



Michael Jason Crafton  
Batesville High School  
Carolyn Crafton - District 5



Gina Cutchall  
Genoa Central High School  
Cpl. Terry Cutchall - Highway Police



Kim Dickerson  
Arkansas Baptist High School  
Larry Dickerson - Fiscal Services



Jill Earnheart  
University of Arkansas School of Law  
Jo Earnheart - District 5



Karen Ernst  
J.A. Fair High School  
COE Student - Progs. & Conts.



John Falwell  
Bald Knob High School  
Mike Falwell - District 5



Robert Lynn Faulkenberry  
Batesville High School  
Linda Faulkenberry - District 10



Kerri Fletcher  
Benton High School  
Sheryl Fletcher - Right of Way



Matthew Flowers  
Central Arkansas Christian  
Dan Flowers - Director



Joe Ford  
Benton High School  
Kim Ford - Materials



Michael Gaither  
Bryant High School  
James Gaither - Right of Way



Mitchell Gaither  
Bryant High School  
James Gaither - Right of Way



Foshanta Garth  
Howard University/Washington D.C.  
Valerie Garth-Brown - Right of Way



Joshua Brandon Gates  
Hermitage High School  
Randy Gates - District 7



Melissa Gayle Glenn  
Wynne High School  
Danny Glenn - District 1



Lavon Green  
Harmony Grove High School  
Debra Green - District 7



Bruce Hamilton  
Wynne High School  
Wayne Hamilton - District 1

# Congratulations, Graduate



Danica Michelle Hamilton  
Bryant High School  
COE Student - Environmental



Lucehia Harrell  
Benton High School  
Ann Harrell - Construction



Michelle Harrod  
Hendrix College  
Bill Harrod - Maintenance



Debra Bonds Henderson  
University of Central Arkansas  
J.L. Bonds - District 4



Kristie Heritage  
Newark High School  
Paul Baty - Maintenance



Brandon Hoggard  
River Valley High School  
Paul Hoggard - District 5



Donnie Holland  
Des Arc High School  
Leon Holland - Surveys



Timothy House  
University of Arkansas  
James House - District 5



Laura Huett  
Viola High School  
Phillip Huett - District 5



Casey Ingram  
Camden/Fairview High School  
Nina Ingram - District 7



Brooke James  
Flippin High School  
John James - District 9



Kelsey Ann Jones  
Cushman High School  
Tommy Jones - District 5



Jodie Marie Jordan  
Ozark High School  
Anita Jordan - District 4



Julie Marie Jordan  
Ozark High School  
Anita Jordan - District 4



Brad Keene  
Benton High School  
Diane Keene - Human Resources



Lance Thomas Kling  
Monticello High School  
Marie Claunch - Right of Way



Tonya Knight  
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville  
Norman Cobb - Materials



Janda Launius  
Camden/Fairview High School  
Dannie Launius - District 7



Jenny Leggett  
Batesville High School  
Jim Leggett - District 5



Clint Martin  
Hope High School  
Susan Monroe - District 3



Jerald Clifford McKinney II  
Catholic High School  
Cliff McKinney - Plan. & Research



Michelle Morrow  
Springhill High School  
Steve Morrow - District 3



Ronald Parks  
Blevins High School  
John Parks - District 3



Allen Phillips III  
McClellan High School  
Allen Phillips - Construction



Chris Powell  
Springhill High School  
Doyle Powell - District 3



Sarah Beth Raines  
White Hall High School  
Earl Raines - Materials



Missy Reed  
Batesville High School  
Winfred Reed - District 5



Sara Richardson  
Bryant High School  
Bill Richardson - Environmental



Alexia Satterwhite  
Cave City High School  
Ronald Satterwhite - District 5



Leslie Simpson  
Newport High School  
Rick Simpson - District 1



Brandi Slaughter  
J.A. Fair High School  
COE Student - Progs. & Conts.



Brian Slayden  
River Valley High School  
Randall Slayden - District 5



David Bryan Smith  
Harding Academy  
Bruce Smith - District 5



Shirley Darlene Stafford  
Bryant High School  
Carole Stafford - Fiscal Services



Jerroll Wayne Taylor, Jr.  
Prescott High School  
Jerroll W. Taylor, Sr. - District 3



Adam Terrell  
Mena High School  
Dean Terrell - District 4



Marla Thompson  
Parkview Arts & Science Magnet High School  
Felix & Janette Thompson  
Right of Way/Human Resources



Laura Thornton  
Hermitage High School  
J.C. Thornton - District 7



Jennifer Tribo  
Mount St. Mary's Academy  
Jim Tribo - Bridge



Jennifer S. Trost  
United States Air Force Academy  
Jim Trost - Construction



Kristen J. Tyler  
University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
Bob Tyler - Right of Way



Aaron Walters  
Central Arkansas Christian  
Bob Walters  
Assistant Chief Engineer/Design



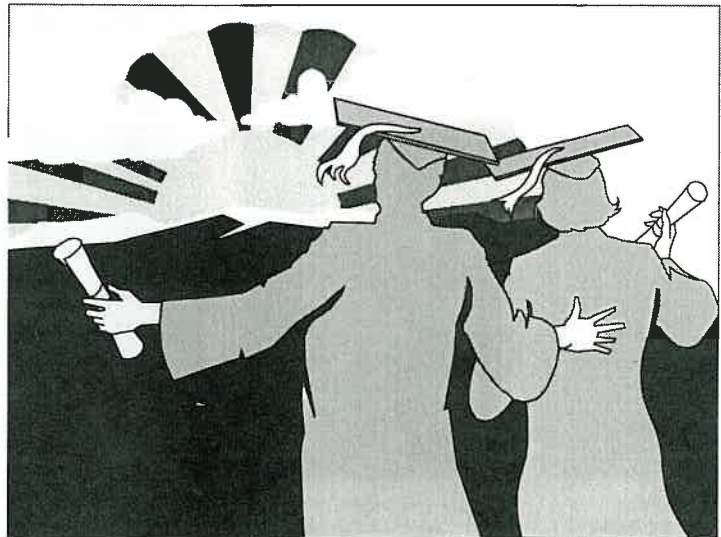
Amy Walters  
Harding University  
Bob Walters  
Assistant Chief Engineer/Design



Tanya Welsh  
University of Arkansas  
for Medical Sciences  
James House - District 5



Davonne Whitfield  
Augusta High School  
Ray Whitfield - Maintenance





Janette Thompson, Office Administrative Assistant I for the Personnel Section, looks away as a Southwest Hospital nurse draws blood for a cholesterol check at the health fair April 4.



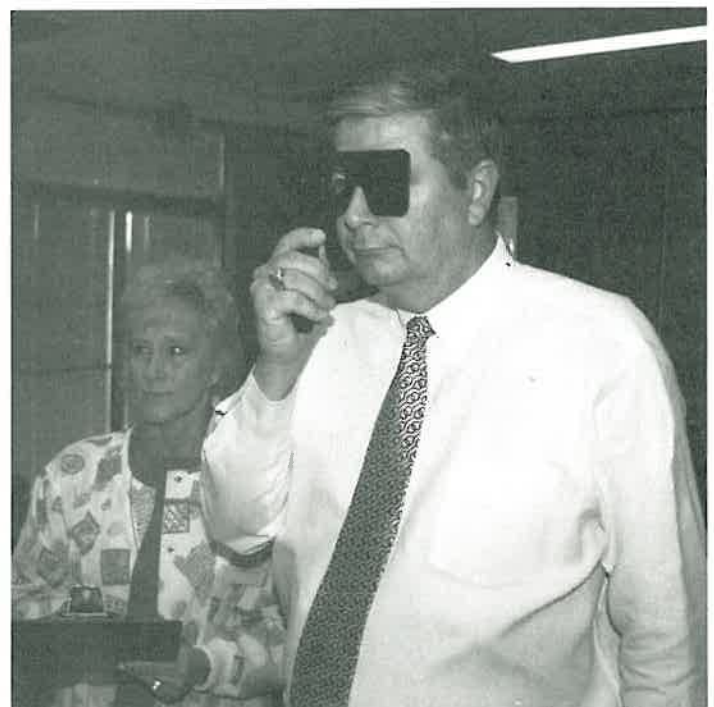
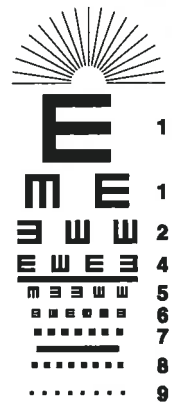
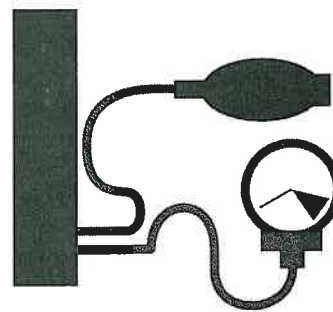
Anna Bailey, seasonal employee in the Human Resources Division, observes her pulse on a monitor during the health fair.



LaTonya Clay, Office Administrative Assistant I in the Human Resources Division, watches apprehensively as a hospital employee takes her blood pressure.



## Southwest Hospital Hosts Department Health Fair



Wes Wimberly, Section Head for Training and Safety, tries his luck with the eye exam during the health fair.



# *Comments to the Department*

TO: Dan Flowers  
Director of Highways and Transportation

You and your department are to be commended for your tremendous service to Arkansans in Fort Smith and Van Buren. You have been there for these citizens in their time of need to help them all begin the process of healing and rebuilding their lives after the April 21 tornado.

As of last week, about nine hundred loads had been taken to the dump. Of these, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department had taken eight hundred twenty.

Please accept my deepest appreciation and warmest congratulations on a job well done.

Jim Guy Tucker  
Governor, State of Arkansas

TO: Herby Branscum, Jr.  
Highway Commissioner

Thank you for your letter April 19 and the photographs taken at the Melbourne (John Miller Field) Airport dedication. I too enjoyed meeting you and sharing the day with all of you.

As Director of Aeronautics, I, along with our staff and Commission, greatly appreciate the working relationship we have with Dan and the Highway Commission. We have a good Airport System Plan in place and work on a daily basis to keep it current for users of the system.

We commend you all for the planning and work you do with the highway system. Very few people using the system realize the monumental task of maintaining thousands of miles of highways!

Again, it was my pleasure to meet you and visit with you all at Melbourne.

Sincerely,  
John K. Knight  
Director, Arkansas  
Department of Aeronautics



Rep. John Miller, center with papers. Second row: Herby Branscum, Jr., Highway Commissioner; Senator Nick Wilson; John Knight, Arkansas Department of Aeronautics. Back row: Paul Miller, Chairman of Melbourne Airport Commission; Shannon Womack, former Melbourne Mayor; Dan Flowers, AHTD Director, and Mike Cone, Melbourne Mayor

TO: Dan Flowers  
Director

Thank you very much for playing such an important role in the Leadership Fort Smith session on state government. The participants gave the day excellent ratings, and they indicated that they particularly enjoyed this segment as you shared your expertise with them.

We appreciate the work you do as well as your willingness to take time out of a busy schedule to talk with us. We hope you will be willing to join with us again in the future. Thank you again.

Sincerely,  
Sandi Sanders, Ed.D  
Executive Director  
Leadership Fort Smith

TO: Roger Almond  
Deputy Director and Chief Engineer

Thanks for listening to our Highway 90 concerns. Hopefully something can be worked out. If I can ever be of any help to you let me know. Take care.

Richard Simmons  
State Representative  
Rector, Arkansas

TO: William Tyler  
District 3 Engineer, Hope, Arkansas

This letter is to commend James Owens for his kindness shown to our courier Mr. Starnes on March 13. Mr. Starnes was transporting a truck to Cabot for our company when he was forced to stop to fix a flat tire. Mr. Owens showed good Arkansas hospitality by stopping and rendering assistance. We appreciate his help in assisting Mr. Starnes and allowing him to complete his trip in a timely fashion.

Yours truly,  
Doug Seay, Sales Manager  
Terry Gregory Ford-Mercury, Inc.  
Ennis, Texas



James Owens  
Miller County Area Maintenance Supervisor



TO: Arkansas Highway Department

I am writing to offer my appreciation for the fine helping hands two of your employees offered my daughter and her friend on Friday afternoon, March 8, 1996.

At approximately 1:15 that afternoon, the girls were proceeding north on I-55 in a red 1993 Dodge Shadow convertible on their way home from the University of Mississippi, when my daughter had a blowout. She pulled off onto an exit ramp at Burdette and called me on her car phone asking for advice on what to do to seek help. I told her I would call her stepfather and return her call shortly.

I called her back within fifteen minutes and in that short period of time she had already been offered assistance by two of your fine employees who happened to come along in their truck. Not only did they change the tire for my daughter, they also followed her to a Goodyear Tire Store in Blytheville and went into the store with her to be sure she got proper service.

As a parent, that kind of help is the ultimate! We have four children in schools in various parts of the United States, and we are always concerned as they make their drives to and from their respective schools. Our daughter's experience in Arkansas on Friday certainly was an outstanding example of highway department service and courtesy. Your employees definitely deserve to be commended.

Unfortunately our daughter failed to get the names of the fine gentlemen who provided her assistance. We hope with the time, date, and locations I have provided that someone in your department will be able to track down the names of the individuals who would have been in that location, and then pass along our sincere appreciation to them. To our daughter and her friend, they were definitely knights in shining armor!

Again we offer our most sincere appreciation to the State of Arkansas!

Sincerely,  
Jacquelyn Flint  
Edelstein, Illinois

TO: Kit Core  
District 9 Carroll County Area Maintenance Supervisor

You are truly a lifesaver. I had the pleasure of testing rural mail delivery at RR 1 Box 150M, along Highway 412 and thanks to your crew's efforts, we can safely deliver the mail to that mailbox and the additional ten boxes that Mr. Mays intends to erect.

Thank you very much for the work and resources required to eliminate an extremely hazardous mail delivery. The carrier is very appreciative and Mr. Mays will hopefully never complain about Arkansas road taxes.

Sincerely,  
Pat Evans, Postmaster  
Alpena, Arkansas



Dale Mason and David Darkins  
Construction Aides II, Osceola Residency, District 10

TO: AHTD Human Resources Division

I want to commend to you one of your employees — John Cia, Safety Officer. I had a tire blow out a short distance out of Malvern on Interstate 30 west. And that is indeed a helpless feeling!

Mr. Cia was traveling east on I-30 and saw my plight. He found a place to cross and came to my rescue. He took off the damaged tire, put on that little tire for emergencies, and then followed me back to Malvern where I could get a new tire.

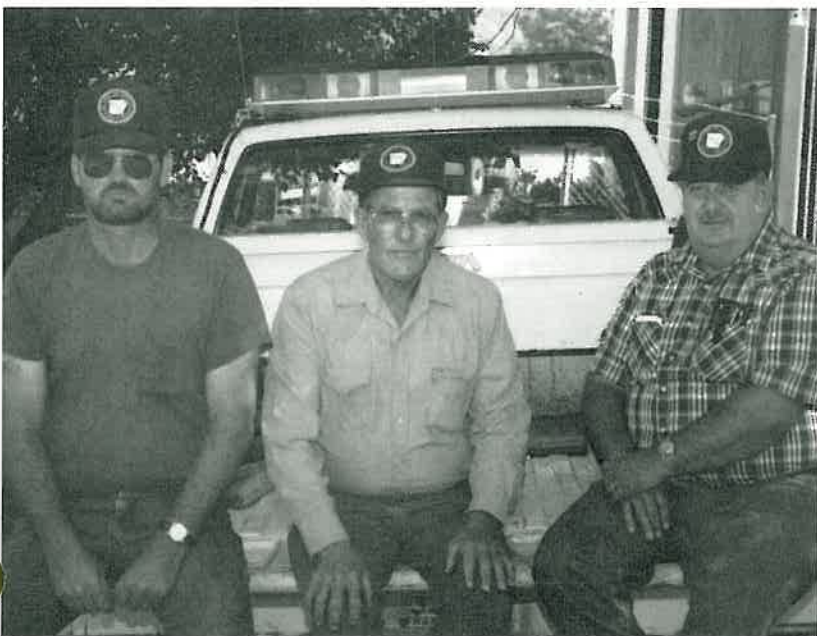
He was most gracious and kind, and your department has much to be proud of. In a time when we are prone to turn our heads and not get involved, Mr. Cia certainly is a good example of the good samaritan, and of the good neighbor.

I thank you for your gentleman employees, and appreciate what your department does for our state.

Yours very truly,  
Joy McGill  
Malvern, Arkansas



John Cia, Safety Inspection Officer  
Training and Safety Section, Human Resources Division



Scott Lawrence and James Porterfield, Single Axle Truck Drivers and Danny Garwood, Izard County Area Maintenance Supervisor

TO: *The Melbourne Times*

To all who assisted with the car accident near Mt. Pleasant on January 5, we would like to show our appreciation for your assistance.

Highway and Transportation Department employees helped us out of the car and to a warm place to wait for the ambulance. Roy Bookout was helpful in calming everyone and making sure everyone was okay. The EMS team was excellent in stabilizing and getting us to Walnut Ridge Medical Center as comfortably and quickly as possible. Thank you all – you do a great job!

Sincerely,  
Michele Gillihan,  
Terry Ungerank and  
Jeannie Ward

TO: Ralph Fulton  
District 9 Engineer

I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to you, Mr. Junior Young, and the Newton County Highway Department crew for the fine work they did on February 1, 1996, which was the day of our father's funeral.

Although the weather was extremely cold and snow was falling, the funeral procession was able to travel south on Highway 7 from Jasper to Deer with absolutely no problems at all. We do not believe this would have been possible had Mr. Young and his crew not performed their work in such a professional, timely manner.

Our sincere thanks to you, Mr. Young and a splendid crew.



The District 9 Newton County area maintenance crew

The Boyd Davis family  
Ida Davis, Larry Davis, and Lavita Richard

## IN MEMORY

### EMPLOYEES

Ralph Buchanan  
District 5 Area  
Maintenance Supervisor  
died March 7, 1996

Patrick M. Raspberry  
District 10 Area  
Headquarters Attendant  
died April 12, 1996

### RETIREES

Samuel L. Bumgarner  
District 3  
died October 26, 1995

Thomas W. Noljn  
District 1  
died November 4, 1995

Ozriel K. Sanders  
Traffic  
died November 5, 1995

Arthur R. Pickett  
District 10  
died November 28, 1995

Rufus Purnell  
District 1  
died November 29, 1995

Charles E. Boothe  
District 3  
died November 30, 1995

Glen A. Hamilton  
Buildings & Grounds  
died January 7, 1996

John F. Summitt  
District 4  
died January 10, 1996

Jeffie Burnett  
District 2  
January 12, 1996

Jess H. Bown  
Buildings & Grounds  
died January 15, 1996

Luther Ross  
District 1  
died January 28, 1996

Epps Price  
District 5  
February 2, 1996

Eldredge W. Lee  
District 3  
died February 3, 1996

Ferol F. Jones  
Public Affairs  
died February 12, 1996

Clarence Hodge  
District 7  
died February 20, 1996

Ervin O. Nelms  
Traffic Services  
died February 21, 1996

Clovis G. Tittle  
District 3  
died March 2, 1996

Luther G. Crawford  
District 3  
died March 3, 1996

Howard G. Campbell  
District 9  
died March 28, 1996

# AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

## BRIDGE

Congratulations to Rick, Bridge Design Engineer, and Cheryl Ellis on the birth of a son, Charles Anthony, April 2.

L.D. Finister, Structural Detailing Specialist, has a new grandson, Ryan Walker, born April 8.

Jennifer Tribo, 17-year old daughter of Jim, Senior Bridge Design Engineer, and Kay Tribo, graduated from Mount St. Mary's Academy in May. Her sisters, Mandy, age 20, is completing her second year at Louisiana Tech University and Jamie, age 11, is a goalie for the Riverdale Blue Lightning girl's soccer team.

## CONSTRUCTION



Stan Garver, Contract Estimates Section Head, retired April 12 with 19+ years service.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

On April 22, Earth Day was observed and celebrated for the 25th time. This division expresses a heartfelt thank you to all employees for recycling, reusing and practicing safe and environmentally responsive actions.

Environmental offers its congratulations to three high school seniors. Sara Richardson, daughter of Assistant Division Head Bill and Katy Richardson, graduated from Bryant High School. She plans to attend the University of Central Arkansas at Conway to pursue a degree in biology.

Alicia Ballou, graduated from Mills High School, and Dana Hamilton graduated from Bryant High School. Both are COE student employees.



Larry Long, left, Beautification Section Head, presents Susan Bradley, Beautification Coordinator II, a 20-year service award.



District 9 Madison County backhoe operator Kenny Riley, carefully excavates a geomorphological trench at the Skaggs site, a site being investigated as a result of a bridge replacement of Holman Creek on Highway 412 north of Huntsville. AHTD archeologist, David Williamson (foreground) discusses the site with Jack Stewart, a consultant archeologist from the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Sponsored Research Program.

## EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT

Keith Caddy, Senior Mechanic and Sam Ramsey, Stock Clerk, received 10-year service certificates and pins on April 4.

## HIGHWAY POLICE

Congratulations to Sandra Bivens, Permit Technician. She won \$1,000 from the Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes.

Sandra's daughter, Mackenzie Bullinger, was recently chosen as a 1996-1997 cheerleader at Fuller Junior High. Sandra's father, Ethan Busby, successfully completed the 100th Anniversary of the Boston Marathon. The 64-year old runner finished with a time of 3:45:34.



Mackenzie Bullinger



Ethan Busby and Sandra Bivens

## MAINTENANCE



Allan Loring, left, Sign Shop Supervisor, presents a 5-year service certificate and pin to Tuud Mullins, Sign Maker I.



Wayne England, left, Sign Crew Supervisor, receives a 10-year service certificate and pin from Signing Superintendent Tony Jones.



Brian Bratcher, left, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Bridge Repairer I, receives a 5-year service certificate and pin from Statewide Bridge Inspector Karl Bentz.



Raymond Parker, left, Crew Leader, receives a 10-year service certificate and pin from Heavy Bridge Supervisor Ben Winkler, Jr.



Wes Wimberly, left, Training & Safety Section Head, presents Jim Francis, Facilities Management Section Head, a 3-year safety award.



Facilities Management crew 4-year safety award: Left to right: Glen White, Single Axle Truck Driver; Roger Turner, Crew Leader; Pat Pasteka, Single Axle Truck Driver; Danny Carlton, Lead Person; Chris Munon, Single Axle Truck Driver; Brian Kelley, Single Axle Truck Driver and Donna Martin, Vegetation Controller.



Ron Winkler and Ron Eckhardt, Electricians for Facilities Management, receive 2-year safety awards.



Danny Carlton, left, Lead Person, receives a 10-year service certificate from Roger Turner, Facilities Management Crew Leader.

## MATERIALS

Welcome to Kevin Evans and Kenneth Archer who recently began work for the Department in the geotechnical drill crew. Kevin is from Benton and Kenneth lives in Sulphur Rock.



Brett Daniel Faulkner, son of Geotechnical Party Chief Steve and Regina Faulkner, was born December 28, 1995.



**Katrina Gardner and Bryan Gossett were married March 19, 1996 in Bryant. Bryan is the son of Materials Technician Bob and Becky Gossett.**

**PLANNING & RESEARCH**

Welcome to Tina Davis, Office Administrative Assistant III. She transferred from Roadway Design. Bobby Bradshaw transferred from Statewide Planning to Research as Research Implementation Manager. Chuck Sitton, Research Assistant, resigned April 3 after 13 years with the Department to pursue a career in sales.



**Mark Evans returned to the Department in January as a Civil Engineer I in Technical Services. Mark, a former employee of Mapping and Graphics, left AHTD in May 1992 to pursue a BSCE which he received in December 1995.**

Congratulations to Terry Espar, Engineering Intern in Research. He graduated in May from Philander Smith College with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Terry recently received a \$45,000 Dwight D. Eisenhower fellowship to pursue a master's degree in business administration with an emphasis in transportation and will attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in the fall.

In January, Terry made a presentation at the Transportation Research Board conference on commodity flow studies involving truck freight along Arkansas highways. He also accompanied Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater on his Mid-South tour to Memphis, Dumas and Texarkana in February.



**Terry Espar**



**Technical Services service awards: Peggy Patterson, Highway Data Collector, 10 years; Bruce Elliot, Highway Data Collector, 15 years; Marilyn Boyles, Statistical Analyst, 15 years; Hilda Harris, Data Base Coordinator, 25 years**

**PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS**

Welcome to Margarita Olive, Contract Technician in the Project Development Section. She transferred from Planning and Research.

Welcome also to Felicia Burton, Traffic Safety Fiscal Officer. She transferred from the Department of Pollution Control and Ecology. She and her husband Larry have a six-month old son Marcus.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Treva Meador, Office Administrative IV, retired in April with 10 years service. Replacing her is Kera Crowder who transferred from the Personnel Section of Human Resources.

David Mabury, left the Department for other employment in New York City and Keith Stephens replaced David as Administrative Assistant II.

Crystal Clark was promoted to Administrative Assistant II in the Training & Safety Section of the Human Resources Division. Replacing Crystal is Jimmie Sneed. She transferred from the Criminal Justice Institute.

Working in Public Affairs for the summer is Chip Arnold. He will be a senior at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia.



**Left to right: Chip Arnold, Jimmie Sneed, Kera Crowder, Keith Stephens**

## RIGHT OF WAY

Shown below are the granddaughters of Shirley Butler, Office Administrative Assistant II in the Relocation Section. Both competed in the East End and Gingerbread Pageant in March. Haley Lynnette Garner is six years old and was chosen Most Beautiful, Most Photogenic and First Alternate. Tiffanie Marie Garner is 12 years old and was chosen Queen.



**Haley Lynnette Garner**



**Tiffanie Marie Garner**



**Casey Lewis, age 14, is the son of Randy and Linda Lewis. He attends Central Arkansas Christian Academy. Randy is an Appraiser/Negotiator for the Appraisal Section and Linda is Office Administrative Assistant III for the Engineering Section.**



**Julie Mitchell, daughter of Advanced CADD Technician Don Mitchell, is the 1996 Arkansas State Gymnastics All-Around Champion, Level 6, age 8-9. This was her first year to compete Level 6 and will begin Level 8 in the fall.**

## ROADWAY DESIGN

Advanced Design Engineer Chuck Martin and his wife Andrea recently traveled throughout China visiting with family and friends.



**Andrea and Chuck Martin**



**Katelyn Sue Murphy, the daughter of Senior Hydraulic Technician Julie and Tony Murphy, was born December 20, 1995.**

## SURVEYS

Robert Mize, Staff Surveys Engineer, retired April 18 with 30+ years service.

Congratulations to Survey Party Chief Steve and Kristy Wrigley who were married April 6 at the Hickory Plains Methodist Church.



**Donald Cheatham, left, Survey Party Chief, receives a 20-year service certificate and pin from Staff Surveys Engineer Robert Mize.**

**DISTRICT ONE**

The 1996 blood drive for the American Red Cross was January 29. Shown below are some of District One's participants.



**Roger Cheney, left, Sealing Job Superintendent and Jimmy Smith, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor**



**Robert Mize, left, Staff Surveys Engineer, presents Scott Flippo, Surveys Technician II, a 5-year service certificate and pin.**



**Chester Allwhite, Permit Officer; Frank Gregory, Woodruff County Area Maintenance Supervisor and Bob Draper with the American Red Cross**

**DISTRICT TWO**



**Bonnie Harvill is the new Office Administrative Assistant V in District Two. She transferred from the Right of Way Division in Little Rock.**



**District Two Safety Awards: Paul Griffith, Grant County Area Maintenance Supervisor; Bobby Burns, Arkansas County Area Maintenance Supervisor; Mike Thompson, Monticello Resident Engineer; Joey Waddle, District Office Manager; Rick Wilson, District Bridge Inspector; John Herrington, Bridge Job Superintendent**



**Tony Wooldridge, left, Surveys Aide, receives a 5-year service certificate from Robert Mize, Staff Surveys Engineer.**



**Crystal Henson, General Laborer and Mike McConnell, Senior Mechanic**



**Keith Wells, left, Construction Materials Inspector, receives a 5-year service certificate and pin from Scott Mullis, McGehee Resident Engineer**





Sara Imogene McManus, born November 30, 1995, is the daughter of Mike and Sandra McManus. Sandra is the Office Field Clerk in the Monticello Residency.



Lana Katherine Moren is the grandchild of District 3 Engineer William and Darlene Tyler.



Corey Spencer Still, born February 5, 1996, is the grandson of District Fuel Clerk Sharon and David Still.

### DISTRICT THREE

The Texarkana Residency held a retirement reception for James "Porky" Burt and Dale Fulmer. Porky, Construction Materials Inspector, retired in January and Dale, Senior Inspector retired in March. Each was presented a plaque and gifts from co-workers.



James "Porky" Burt and Dale Fulmer



Don Donaldson, District Construction Engineer, celebrated 25 years service in January.



Grandpa William and Lana at nap time.



Corey, age 4, and Todd Powell are the grandchildren of District Sealing Job Superintendent Doyle and Donnie Powell. Todd was born January 8, 1996.

Other new grandparents in the district include Patti Clowers, Construction Aide III; Karen Clayton, Office Technician; and Larry Myers, Construction Project Supervisor.

Congratulations to Clint Martin, son of District Office Manager Susan Monroe, who graduated from Hope High School in May with a 4.0 GPA and ranked first in his class of 195 students. Clint was awarded an academic scholarship to the University of Central Arkansas where he will be studying sports medicine. His accomplishments include: Who's Who for High School Students, finalist for the Wendy's Heisman Award, All-District in high school football for his junior and senior year, Outstanding Linebacker for his junior year; member of Student Council, National Honor Society, Beta and Key Clubs, Quiz Bowl Team and year-book staff.

Congratulations also to Angie Arledge, daughter of LaVerne Arledge, Field Clerk for the Hope Residency. Angie also graduated from Hope High School and was ranked fourth in the class of 195. She received an academic scholarship to Ouachita Baptist University. She is a member of National Honor Society, FFA, Nike, Beta, and Hero Clubs and is a part-time employee of Brookshires Grocery.

**DISTRICT FOUR**



**Melvin Heath, right, Lead Person for the Polk County maintenance crew, retired April 3 with 16 years service.**



**Sterlin Bramlett, Construction Aide III for the Van Buren Residency, retired in March with 33+ years service.**

**DISTRICT FIVE**



**District Five service awards: Wayne Rush, Izard County Lead Person, 10 years and Leslie Shane, Senior Mechanic, 25 years**



**Derek, age 9, and Stanley Ryne, are the children of Searcy Assistant Resident Engineer Stan and Cara Glover. Ryne was born March 21.**



**Ashlyn Brooke Hoggard is the granddaughter of Bridge Job Superintendent Paul and Paula Hoggard. Ashlyn was born March 4, 1996 to Bryan and Shelly Hoggard.**

District Five has a number of graduates this year. They are Kelsey Jones, David Bryan Smith, Jenny Leggett, Tanya House Welsh and Tim House.

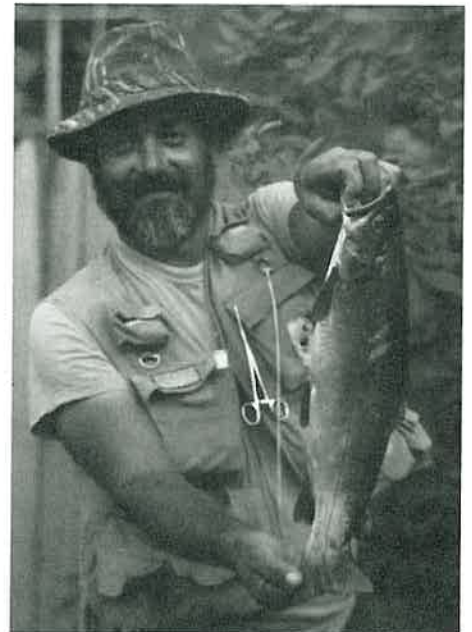
Kelsey is an Arkansas Scholar at Cushman High School and will also graduate from cosmetology school in July. She is the daughter of Batesville Residency Senior Inspector Tommy and Shirley Jones.

David is the son of Searcy Resident Office Technician Bruce and Susan Smith. He graduated from Harding High School and was a member of the tennis team, yearbook staff, TV news team, Beta and Drama Clubs, and Arkansas Close-Up. He plans to attend Harding University. Congratulations also to Bruce was selected as an Olympic torch bearer as it crosses through Arkansas.

Jenny Leggett is an honor graduate of Batesville High School and plans to study environmental science at the University of the Ozarks. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Leggett and the late Mara Leggett. Jim is the Resident Engineer at Batesville.

Tanya House Welsh and Tim House are the children of District Construction Engineer James House. Tim, following in his father's footsteps, received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Tanya received a degree in dental hygiene from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and is one of three dental hygienists to be inducted to the Alpha Eta Society, a national honor society for allied health professionals.

**DISTRICT SIX**



**Alan Hutchinson, Bridge Repairer II, District Bridge crew, was elected president of the Arkansas Fly Fisher Club for the second consecutive year.**

## DISTRICT SEVEN

Welcome to Rhonia Krisell. She is the new District Receptionist.

An awards reception was held February 8 with Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton and District Engineer Coy Campbell making the presentations. The occasion also honored District Maintenance Superintendent John Harvey who retired with 33 years service.



**John Harvey**



Crystal Loomis, daughter of Senior Mechanic Horace and Linda Loomis, was crowned 1996 Miss Southern Arkansas University. She is a sophomore nursing major and will compete in the Miss Arkansas Pageant this summer.



John Wayne Hughes, 11-year old son of Clark County Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator Ray Hughes, Jr., and his steer won the title "Reserve Champion Steer" at the Clark County Fair last September and placed 9th on Market Steer at the Arkansas State Fair in October.



Jacob Wayne Ledbetter was born October 23, 1995. He is the grandson of Harvey Barkhimer, Dozer Operator for the District maintenance crew.



**District Seven service and safety award recipients:** Front row, left to right: Kenneth Bussell, Chuck Vance, Allan Hearnberger, Stan Smith, Bob Myers, Gary Grimes. Second row: Phil Griffis, Phil Benson, Johnnie Risher, Jerry Rowland, Gordon Hite, Randy Gates. Third row: Commissioner Lipton, Paul Howell, Charles Binns, Clarence McCaskill, District Engineer Coy Campbell and Dallas Smith.

District Seven's graduates include Janda Launius, daughter of District Office Manager Dannie and Jan Launius. Janda is a graduate of Camden-Fairview High School and is vice president of the Future Business Leaders of American and a member of the National Honor Society.

Casey Ingram, daughter of Assistant Storeroom Supervisor Nina and Rusty Ingram, is a graduate of Camden-Fairview High School. Her accomplishments include: Who's Who among American High School Students, cheerleader for five years, member of the National Honor Society, Anchor Club, year book staff, concert choir and homecoming royalty. She will attend Southern Arkansas University.

Joshua Barkhimer, son of Dozer Operator Harvey and Vicky Barkhimer, is a graduate of Harmony Grove High School. He has been accepted by the "Honors Program" at the University of Arkansas at Monticello and plans to major in forestry.

Joshua "Brandon" Gates, son of Union County Area Maintenance Supervisor Randy and Debbie Gates, is a graduate of Hermitage High School. He attended Boys State 1995, has been active with FFA and will travel to Fairfield Bay for the State Tennis Championship with the tennis team.



**Billy J. Henry, Crew Leader, retired in March with 30 years service.**



**Jesse J. Henry, Jr., Perry County Crew Leader, retired in February with 19 years service. He is shown with his daughter and wife.**

**DISTRICT EIGHT**



**Resident Engineer Ruben McConnell retired in March with 35 years service.**



**District Eight Service Award Recipients: Tom Kinslow, District Maintenance Supervisor; Jack Cossey, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 20 years; Tom McGuire, District Bridge Job Superintendent and Chip Young, District Construction Engineer, 30 years**



**I.C. "Chip" Young, left, District Construction Engineer, accepts a 30-year service pin from District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher. Chip also retired in March.**



**District Eight Safety Award Recipients: Francis Jones, Sign Crew Supv.; Tom Kinslow, District Maintenance Supt.; Kevin White, Johnson County AMS; Joe Phillips, Perry County AMS; B.S. Bonds, Van Buren County AMS; Robert Murdoch, Sealing Job Supt.; Steve Sheets, Storeroom Supv; Kenneth Crow, Yell County AMS and Carroll L**

## DISTRICT NINE



Hunter Duane Woods, born March 15, 1996, is the grandson of Gary Younger, Vegetation Controller at the Gentry Headquarters in Benton County.



Cierra Robison Gregory, born August 6, 1995, is the daughter of Kevin and Charita Gregory. Charita is a Construction Aide II in the Bentonville Residency.



Amanda Eidson is the daughter of Terry Eidson, Single Axle Truck Driver at the Garfield Headquarters in Benton County.

## DISTRICT TEN



February 22 District Ten Service Award Recipients : Front row, left to right: Robert Jackson, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 5 years; Sammy McDaniel, Bridge Repairer I, 10 years; Margaret Valliant, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10 years. Back row: David Prine, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10 years; Jerry Don Truitt, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; Victor Blevins, Vegetation Controller, 10 years; Anthony Williams, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 years



April 18 District Ten Service Award Recipients: Left to right: Anthony James, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; Donna Moore, Rest Area Attendant, 10 years; Ricky Morris, Senior Mechanic, 5 years; Pamela S. Burke, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; and Larry Toombs, Distributor/Roller Operator, 20 years



**Jerry Cook, Clay County Area Maintenance Supervisor and Sterling White, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish at Sterling's 27-year retirement reception in December.**

District Ten graduates include Matthew Barnett, Robert Faulkenberry and Thomas Greitens.

Matthew is the son of District Engineer Joe and Jackie Barnett. He graduated from Ridgecrest High School and will attend Arkansas State University this fall.

Robert is the son of Bob Faulkenberry and stepson of Linda Faulkenberry, Office Administrative Assistant V. He graduated from Batesville High School and will attend Arkansas State University.

Thomas, son of Poinsett County Area Maintenance Supervisor Jerry Greitens, graduated cum laude from Arkansas State University with a bachelor's degree in zoology. He will be attending medical school in Chicago, Illinois.



**Robert Dean and Jay Thomas Clark are the twin grandsons of Jimmie Cone, District Guard. They were born January 11, 1996.**



**The District Ten Bridge crew earned the "Big Heart Award" with 63% participation in the 1996 Blood Drive. Pictured are: Richard Stuart, District Maintenance Supervisor, presenting the award to Jay Kingston, Bridge Job Superintendent; Joe Hester, Crew Leader; David Hicklin, Bridge Repairer II. Front row: Rick Smelser, Bridge Repairer II and Greig Lynn, Bridge Repairer I**



**Mark McAfee II, born October 12, 1995, is the grandson of Burl Hudson, Osceola Resident Engineer.**



**James Edward Hudson, born November 21, 1995, is the grandson of Burl Hudson, Osceola Resident Engineer.**



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