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**THE MAKING OF A
'DON'T MESS' COMMERCIAL**
STORY, PICTURES ON PAGES 6-7

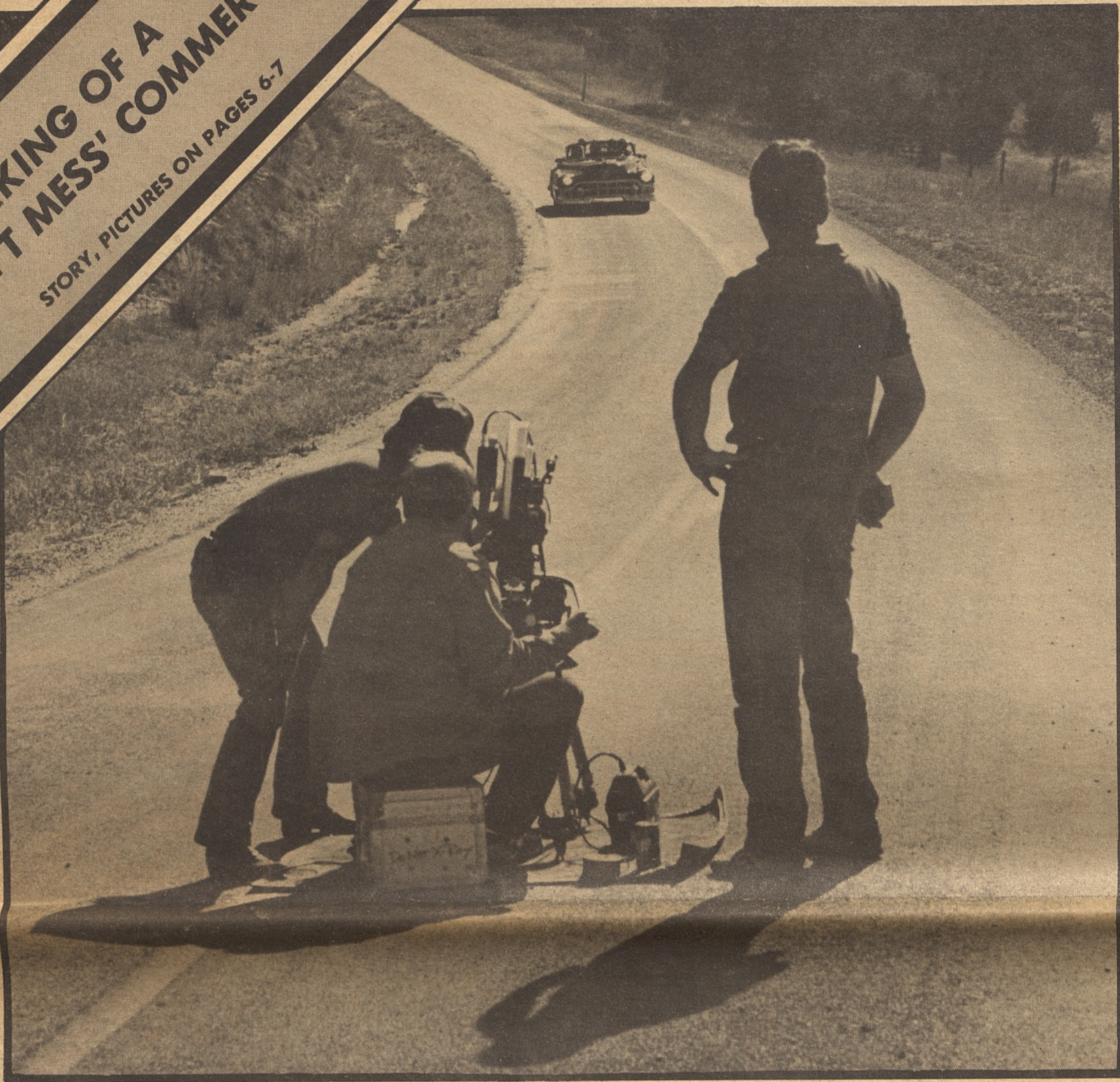


Photo by Geoff Appold

TRANSPORTATION news

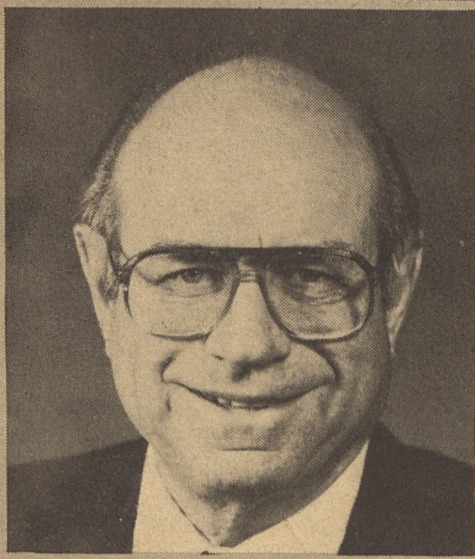


Lady Bird Award winners p. 3

November 1986

December payday will be different p. 5

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The month of October was filled with honors for many employees of the department.

There were the Lady Bird Johnson Awards for beautification. Then there were the Greer, Gilchrist, and DeBerry Awards at the Short Course, and the ceremony there recognizing those who received the Extra Mile Award during the past year.

In the course of attending and participating in these events, it struck me once again that the real greatness of this department is the kind of people who are attracted to careers with it.

It's hard to explain. Certainly our tasks are not easy. It takes hard work to get the 15,000 jobs in the department done. It takes skill. It takes dedication. Sometimes the work can be dangerous. Often, it takes courage, such as those bad weather nights when our people are out keeping traffic moving when most of their neighbors are home in bed, warm and dry.

Each time I see or hear good things about people who work in this department — accounts of their high levels of professionalism, of their technical skill, of their devotion, dedication, loyalty, courage and concern for their fellow human beings — I feel good.

It must be true that quality attracts quality, for we have outstanding employees in every phase of our work, and that tradition goes back for a long, long time.

I hope you are as proud as I am to say, "I work for the highway department."

Raymond Stotzer



DeBerry Award winner Gossett, Greer Award winner Gamble, Gilchrist Award winner Lockhart.

Gamble, Lockhart receive Greer, Gilchrist Awards

Highway department engineers from Austin and San Antonio won top awards Oct. 21 for engineering and managerial excellence at the 60th annual short course.

Roland E. Gamble, assistant district engineer at Austin, received the Dewitt C. Greer Award, and Richard D. Lockhart, assistant district engineer in San Antonio, received the Gibb Gilchrist Award.

The awards were presented at the opening of the annual transportation short course at Texas A&M University, jointly sponsored by the department and the university.

Gamble is a native of Manor and a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin. He joined the department in 1959 in the Highway Design Division and transferred to the district office a year later.

He was recognized for handling many environmentally and politically sensitive projects, including work in the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone, in the Barton Creek watershed, and the restoration of the Congress Avenue Bridge.

Lockhart is a native of San Antonio and a graduate of Texas A&M University. He first worked for the department as a summer employee, joining full time in 1955 after service in the U.S. Army.

He handled construction of the central section of San Antonio's North

Expressway, now known as the McAllister Freeway. At the time, this was the largest single contract ever let by the department.

Later, he was supervising resident engineer for southern Bexar County, handling additional large projects, including other work on the McAllister Freeway and the rehabilitation of downtown freeway sections in San Antonio.

The awards are the result of an endowment established in 1967 by the late John Redditt of Lufkin, a former chairman of the highway commission. The prizes consist of a plaque and a \$1,000 cash award.

The awards are named in honor of two former chief administrative officers of the department, Dewitt C. Greer of Austin and the late Gibb Gilchrist.

The DeBerry Award, established by former Commission Chairman Reagan Houston of San Antonio, went this year to Lt. Col. Leo Gossett, assistant director of the Department of Public Safety.

Houston's instructions in setting up the prize, specified that for the first five years, department employees alone would be eligible. After that, employees in any transportation-related agency in Texas would be considered for the prize.

Gossett is the first non-department employee to receive the DeBerry Award. □

Canton's Billy Rushing wins Lady Bird Award

Runner-up Donald Wilson copes with tough urban conditions

Enhancing nature and adding color to roadways do not go unnoticed in Texas. Lady Bird Johnson sees to that.

The former first lady presented Billy Rushing, maintenance supervisor for Van Zandt County (District 10), with a plaque and \$1,000 in cash for his beautification of roadsides. Innovative use of spare time and spare parts landed the Canton native the 17th annual Lady Bird Johnson Award.

During his 37 years with the department, Rushing at times carried a hand sickle and a plastic bag with him to maintain wild flowers. The tedious and time-consuming job led to the invention of a modified bagging lawn mower to harvest seed more efficiently.

"Some of my crew laughed about it. They didn't think it would work," Rushing said of his invention. But now, everyone is all smiles because Rushing said he intends to spend part of his prize money to "throw a little party" for his crew.

Runner-up for the award is Donald W. Wilson, maintenance supervisor in northwestern Harris County. Wilson received a \$500 cash award for his beautification program that added vivid-colored flowers and shrubs to highway interchanges in Houston.

Other finalists in the competition



Corpus Christi's Harold Zuhlke receives a special salute for eradicating a killer weed.



Blossman, Daily, Erwin, Mrs. Johnson, Gowens, Rushing, Wilson.

were: Donnell Gowens of Floydada in the Lubbock district; Bobby J. Erwin of Brazos County in the Bryan district; Wallace B. Daily of Woodville in the Beaumont district; and Jack Blossman of San Saba County in the Brownwood district.

The finalists and their spouses visited with Mrs. Johnson in her Stonewall home prior to the awards ceremony. Engineer-Director Raymond Stotzer addressed the group of several hundred gathered for the announcement of this year's winners.

Liz Carpenter and Cactus Pryor offered a bit of Texas horseplay at the event with a comedy routine featuring Cactus as a 150-year-old Texas highway engineer named Senor Mucho Pancho. The "engineer" described his journey to the ceremony on his favorite burro via "El Camino Real" -- a trip that took



Odessa's Marshall Huffman receives a special award for an active wild flower program.



Sam Cox receives the scenic enhancement award for the Pharr District.

more than 150 years to accomplish.

Several other winners also were recognized at the event. Pharr district employees (District 21) won the Scenic Preservation Award. Donald H. Smart, maintenance construction supervisor in Gatesville (District 9), was recognized for preserving and propagating colorful fall foliage in the area just west of Waco.

Odessa district (District 6) employees were recognized for coping with drought while maintaining an active wild flower program.

Employees of the Corpus Christi highway district were honored for eradicating Branched Broomrape, a parasitic, killer weed that threatened area crops and the department's roadside beautification program. Department maintenance crews in Karnes County joined forces with local community officials, area landowners and the federal and state agriculture departments to establish procedures to control the weed. □ JULIANA FERNANDEZ.



Donald H. Smart of Gatesville receives the fall foliage award.

TRANSPORTATION news

Volume 12

Number 2

A newsletter published monthly by the Travel and Information Division of the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation at 11th and Brazos Sts., Austin, Texas 78701-2483.

Manuscripts, photos, news tips invited. Telephone the editor, Hilton Hagan, at (512) 463-8610, or Tex-An 255-8610

'Extra Mile' recipients honored

Last February 13, Marine Captains Jose Avitia and Jose Flores and Marine Technician John Covington Jr. prevented a potential tragedy when an automobile caught fire on the Port Aransas ferry "Janey Briscoe."

Working together quickly, they managed to fight the fire, rescue a passenger who was overcome by smoke and direct other vehicles off the vessel.

Their actions put them among the 10 recipients of the Extra Mile Award for 1986. Although they could not be present, they and the others were honored at ceremonies during the 60th annual short course by Engineer-Director Raymond Stotzer and Deputy Engineer-Director Byron Blaschke.

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Henry Geigenmiller and Fred Jimenez were on sign maintenance duty when they discovered a man in the grass alongside the roadway. The victim of a motorcycle accident, the man had been beside the road, obscured by high grass, for two days.

Geigenmiller and Jimenez summoned medical assistance, using the radio in their truck, and did their best to control shock and make the victim as comfortable as possible. Later, their actions were credited by the medical staff at the hospital with saving the man's life.

Geigenmiller is a senior sign man. Jimenez is now retired after 37 years with the department. He worked in almost every job in maintenance during that time.

Bob Lanier honored

Chairman Bob Lanier was named "Houston's Proud Partner" by Clean Houston, a volunteer antilitter and beautification organization.

Lanier was honored for spearheading the department's "Don't Mess With Texas" campaign.

He and his wife, Elyse, also were cited for donating 400 red and white rose bushes to beautify Sweeney Clock Plaza, a traffic island at Rusk and Bagby in downtown Houston. []



From left, Hoskins, Deputy Engineer-Director Byron Blaschke, Lester, Geigenmiller, Barnes, Jimenez, Burge, Engineer-Director Raymond Stotzer, and Thornton.

-0-

Hazel Burge is a lab technician in Beaumont. Last March 19, she was arriving at a job site to test some cores, when she came upon a contractor's truck which had overturned.

Fuel was spilling out of a ruptured tank. In his haste to get out of the cab, the driver had cut his arm on broken glass, severing an artery.

The driver, rapidly losing blood, lay in the middle of a puddle of spilled fuel. Hazel moved in, applied a pressure bandage to the cut and, with the aid of a contractor's employee, applied a tourniquet. She gave instructions on handling the bandage and tourniquet, and went to her vehicle to radio for help.

There wasn't an ambulance available, so she helped load the victim into another vehicle for a fast trip to the doctor. She repeated instructions on loosening the tourniquet to sustain a sufficient blood supply to the man's lower arm. Her quick work is credited with saving the man's life.

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Clifford H. Barnes, Maintenance Technician III, was working with a crew on a Houston freeway last January 13 when equipment on one of their trucks contacted a high voltage wire. Two of

his fellow workers were fatally shocked.

Barnes quickly pulled another worker, Charles Simmons, away from the truck after Simmons had touched the still-charged and burning vehicle. Barnes himself suffered electrical shock and burns when he touched Simmons.

Still, he went to each of the dead men and smothered flames on their bodies. Meanwhile, two passersby had stopped to assist. Together, they and Barnes were able to move the bodies of the dead men away from the burning truck.

Not through yet, Barnes got behind the wheel of another truck and moved it away from the burning vehicle to prevent it from catching fire as well.

-0-

Jeffrey Lester, Robert Thornton Jr., and Carl O. Hoskins of the Alvin Maintenance Section of the Houston district were returning to the yard after working as a patch crew at the end of a cold, wet day, December 15, 1985.

They had just crossed the Dickinson Bayou Relief Bridge on FM 517, when Hoskins heard a crash and looked back in his rear-view mirror.

A pickup truck had slammed into the bridge railing and was on fire. Hoskins and the rest of the crew turned around to return to the accident scene.

As they climbed out of their trucks, the driver of the pickup, his clothes on fire, came running across the road.

Lester pulled off his rain coat and pursued the man, throwing the coat over him and rolling him down the slope into the water, putting out the fire.

Hoskins and Thornton, meanwhile, began carefully routing traffic around the scene. Thornton joined Lester and, together, they brought the injured driver back to safety.

Hoskins found a motorist with a mobile phone, and a call for help was put in, bringing emergency units to the scene. The quick and positive reaction by these three employees to the emergency is credited with saving the life of the burned driver. []



10TH ANNIVERSARY

TAKE A DAY OFF...

... from smoking. Join the 10th Annual Great American Smokeout on Thursday, November 20. Millions of Americans across the country will make a fresh start and try not to smoke for 24 hours. How about you? Or, if you don't smoke, adopt a smoker for the day and promise to help that friend get through the 24 hours without a cigarette!

AMERICAN
CANCER
SOCIETY®

A few "quit tips"

Hide all ashtrays, matches, etc.

Lay in a supply of sugarless gum, carrot sticks, etc.

Drink lots of liquids, but pass up coffee & alcohol.

Tell everyone you're quitting for the day.

When the urge to smoke hits, take a deep breath, hold it for 10 seconds, & release it slowly.

Exercise to relieve the tension.

Try the "buddy system," and ask a friend to quit too.

End-of-year payday will be different

Payday will be different come the end of December.

House Bill 62 of the second special legislative session changed payday for state employees from the last working day of the month to the first working day following the end of the month.

The change in paydays is one of the bookkeeping measures enacted by the Legislature to battle the state budget deficit.

What it means to you is that you will be paid on January 2, 1987 for work in December. Formerly, you would have been paid for the last pay period on December 31, 1986.

Your actual pay won't be affected, but you will get it three days later than usual.

From then on, the first working day of the month will be payday for salaried employees and one of the two paydays a month for hourly employees. The mid-month payday for hourly employees will not change.

The change also means that the pay

you receive on January 2, 1987 will not be reported on your W-2 form for 1986. It will be reported a year later as part of your income for 1987. Therefore, the total income you report to IRS for 1986 will be less than originally expected.

This change may have an impact on your tax situation when you file your income return next spring, but remember, not only will you have less gross income to report, you also will have less money withheld to be applied to your tax bill.

Because the 1986 year will be one pay period shorter, adjustments will have to be made for FICA levelers (for those employees who chose to receive the state's share of FICA contributions evenly over the 12-month period).

The adjustments will begin with the October 1-15 period for hourly employees and the October 1-31 payroll for monthly employees.

The adjustments will be handled automatically by the Finance Division and no action by individual employees is required. []

Rains in the plains prompt first uses of sandbag levees

Heavy rains this fall have waterlogged parts of the Lubbock District and for the first time in memory, the department has resorted to sandbagging to keep a major highway on the high plains from flooding.

Perhaps no area has been as hard-hit as Dawson County, where more roads have closed because of highway water than anytime in the recent past.

"We have people who have worked here 25 years and they say they have never seen anything like the rain we have had this year," said Boyd Johnson, maintenance supervisor in Lamesa.

The average rainfall for the county is about 19 inches a year, but local people have measured up to 40 inches since January and it's still raining, or it was into early in November.

During July, August and September, Johnson estimated that all the highways under his control were open only about a third of the time.

"Some of the roads that closed I don't think had ever flooded," he said.

One section of US 87, threatened to go under late in October, but 2,000 sandbags placed strategically took care of the problem -- temporarily. Then it rained again, and 5,000 more sandbags were placed.

"One thing about it," said District Public Affairs Officer Randall Dillard, "In this country, there is no shortage of sand to fill them." []

Stotzer receives service to people award from ASCE

Engineer-Director Raymond E. Stotzer Jr. has received the Service to People Award of the Texas section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The award recognizes civil engineers who bring credit to the profession in community activities that are visible to the public.

The Texas section is the largest in the national organization. []

Chop your own tree; here's where and how

A brochure from the Texas Department of Agriculture provides the location of farms throughout Texas where one can cut his own Christmas tree.

Kerry Bullock says the brochure gives complete directions to the farms, listed by counties.

Write to Kerry at the Texas Department of Agriculture, Promotional Marketing, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, TX 78711, or call (512) 463-7624. []



Leona Morgan thanks Jim Pierson for his quick thinking and action. Recently, Leona, secretary of the Wichita Falls district warehouse, was choking on a piece of hard candy. Jim, the assistant warehouse supervisor, heard her and ran into her office. Jim applied the Heimlich maneuver, dislodging the candy, allowing Leona to breathe again.

Photo by Dale Terry



"Don't you dare mess with Texas," warns Kim Wilson.



Photos by Geoff Appold

Making of a 'Don't Mess' commercial not that easy

It's a situation that many men dream of: to be cruising along a beautiful Hill Country road in a classic old convertible, dressed in a fine leather jacket, with five gorgeous, outrageously dressed blondes as co-pilots.

So begins the latest in a series of commercials for the department's antilitter campaign. Call it male chauvinism, but this commercial is bound to grab the attention of the state's primary litterers -- 18- to 34-year-old males.

As the commercial begins, we see the car maneuvering through an S-turn. The radio is blasting with the opening guitar sounds of "Tuff Enuff," a Top-40 hit.

The flashy car passes in front of the camera, and there alongside the road, singing the song they made famous on record and film are the Fabulous Thunderbirds, the group that made the song famous. In fact, the T-birds publicist said that he had submitted the tune to the Guinness Book of Records as the only song to be used in three movies in the same year ("Naked Cage," "Gung Ho," and now the Burt Lancaster/Kirk Douglas movie, "Tough Guys.")

The group includes singer-

harmonica-player Kim Wilson and lead guitarist Jimmy Vaughan, who co-authored the song; bass player Preston Hubbard, and drummer Fran Christina. Vaughan's brother, incidentally, is Stevie Ray Vaughan, the blues guitarist who was featured on the first "Don't Mess with Texas" television commercial.

For those who are unfamiliar with the group, the Fabulous Thunderbirds is an Austin-based band with an international following. Last year they toured Australia and the Far East, and as you read this, they're on tour in Europe. They've been featured in People Magazine, Newsweek, Rolling Stone, and several other magazines, and have appeared on the Johnny Carson, David Letterman, Good Morning America, and Today shows.

Regarding the commercial itself: Videotaping took one, very long day. The location shots were made about 10 miles west of Wimberley on Farm-to-Market Road 2325. Setup for the shooting began at seven in the morning, and the production wasn't completed until after eight that night.

In addition to hauling to the site the usual sound and video equipment, several items had to be made on location -- like a support that would hold both the cameramen and the band as the car was being towed on a trailer. And another device that allowed a camera to be mounted in front of the car and shoot footage while the vehicle was in motion.

Such complicated shots required hours to film, but once the whole production is put together, the final commercial will be something to get a lot more people talkin' trash. □ JOHN CAGLE



Outrageous co-pilots help convey message to young males.



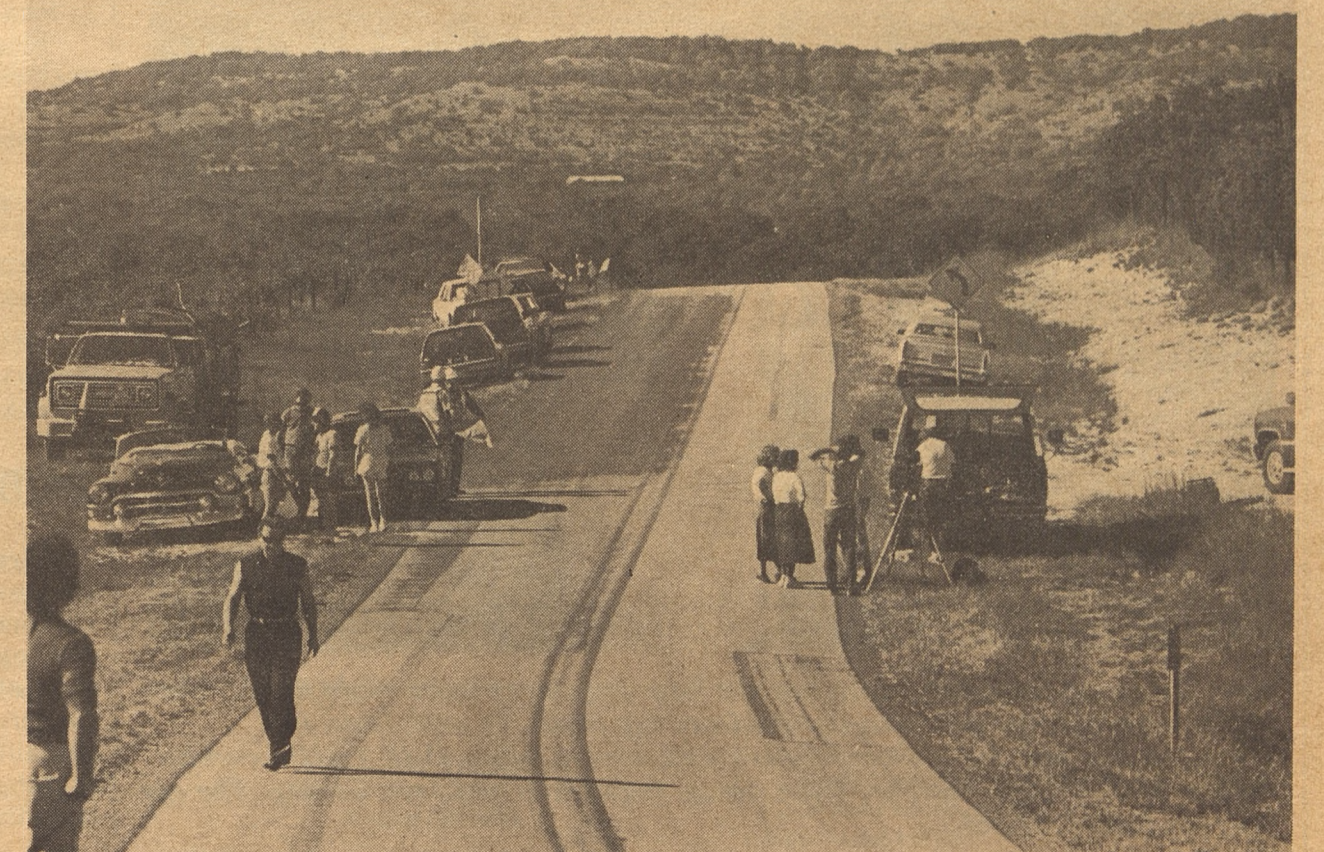
Department truck applies water to road surfaces for visual effect.



Elaborate shot set-up wasn't actually used in the commercial.



The Fabulous Thunderbirds practicing what they preach.



Normally placid RM 2325 goes Hollywood with cast and crew members.

The Road to A Highway Department

More bills introduced, but none saw success

The 29th Legislature, meeting in 1905, saw two attempts at creating a state highway agency. The action, or lack of it, shifting to the House, after the failure in 1903 of a similar measure in the Senate.

The first bill of 1905 was introduced by Rep. O. P. Bowser of Dallas. Bowser was a veteran legislator and previously had been a state senator. He was a strong advocate of good roads and was the president of the Texas Goods Road Association at the time.

Bowser's bill, House Bill 8, was introduced, read and referred to the Committee on Roads Bridges and Ferries on January 13. It was described as an act for "the more perfect" construction and maintenance of roads and bridges in the state.

It called for the appointment by the governor of an "expert engineer" who would have the title of State Road and Highway Engineer. The bill proposed a yearly salary of \$2,500, plus \$500 for travel and expenses.

But on January 25, less than two weeks after it was introduced, the bill emerged from the committee with a "don't pass" resolution to the House. This was a more forceful display of disinterest, even, than in 1903 when an earlier bill died in committee without any action.

The problems with the bill were many. There was no provision for funding; no provision was made for

staff other than the engineer himself; and, probably the most significant flaw, the engineer would be answerable to the governor alone.

But Rep. Bowser wasn't through for the session. He introduced another bill, House Bill 605, on March 20.

The second bill was described as an act for "the more perfect supervision" of construction and maintenance.

The bill was peculiar in that the professor of civil engineering at Texas A&M University was to be the "State Expert Engineer and State Superintendent of Public Highways." His duties were to include:

(1) Compiling statistics relating to public roads and streets of local jurisdictions, making such investigations as were deemed expedient;

(2) Being available at all reasonable times for consultation with officers of local jurisdictions and advising the, either in person or in writing, relative to the construction, repair, alteration, and maintenance of public roads and streets -- but with the stipulation that such advice was not to impair the legal duties and obligations of local jurisdictions;

(3) Investigating all public roads and preparing maps and sketches there of, and where practical, giving names, particularly for through highways;

(4) Collecting and collating information on proper building material

This, of course, has been Texas' Sesquicentennial, the 150th anniversary of independence. Next year, another anniversary will be marked, the 70th year of service to the people of Texas by this department. Ralph Banks, an engineer in the Bridge Division and a history buff, will look back on the events leading up to the birth of the department in a series of articles for TRANSPORTATION NEWS. ★

and furnishing this information, together with its location, to the local jurisdiction;

(5) Preparing estimates for the construction of bridges, along with information on the best methods of bridge construction and maintenance;

(6) Furnishing estimates of the cost for the construction of the best class of public roads;

(7) Suggesting the general plans for administration of public roads for the local jurisdiction.

All these duties were to be accomplished in addition to the professor's academic duties. Amazingly, he was to receive no further additional pay, except such fees as might be agreed on between himself and local officials.

However, he was to receive reimbursement for actual travel expenses in going to and from his office (in Austin), and to points to which he might be called. There was to be \$500 a year allocated to cover office expenses. Any office expenses or staff salaries beyond that, presumably, would have to come from fees collected from local jurisdictions.

Local road officials were duty-bound to furnish the state engineer with any information concerning roads, bridges and streets within their jurisdictions, perhaps another reason the bill was not met with much enthusiasm.

Also, the bill made no provision for any state funding for construction or maintenance, leaving that responsibility to local jurisdictions.

Finally, the bill left the expert engineer answerable to the governor alone, with no intervening board or commission to provide policy direction.

It took the committee only four days to report this bill out, marked "don't pass." It expired with the adjournment of the Legislature without further action.

NEXT: A proposed Office of State Highway Commissioner. [] RALPH K. BANKS

PCB risk on video

Director Quinner Williams of the Insurance Division says D-20 now has a 12-minute videotape in VHS format developed by the Environmental Protection Agency to explain the dangers of handling heat transfer oils containing PCBs. Call Karen Marshall or Abby Poston at TexAn 886-7560 to book the tape. []



Dian Naumann has a hen which laid the huge egg shown in her right hand. When it was open, there was another, normal-size egg inside. A week later, her Araucana hen laid another one. Shown with her are fellow D-18 Traffic workers Henry Wickes, Gaye Murphy, Rene Garza, Inga Davis and Jack Gerling. The egg was 3 1/4 inches around.

comings...and goings

TOMMIE PINKARD, former managing editor of TEXAS HIGHWAYS magazine, becomes director of Information Services, replacing DON CLARK who now heads D-16. JACK LOWRY, who was associate editor, now wears the managing editor's eyeshade. ROSEMARY WILLIAMS, whose name has been a frequent byline in this publication, moves to the travel magazine staff in Jack's old position.

-tn-

TOM OHLENDORF, formerly engineer of maintenance at D-18, becomes district maintenance engineer at District 14, replacing JACK WILDER, who retired.

-tn-

LEONARD VINCIC, formerly district design engineer, becomes

assistant district engineer in the Houston District. JAMES A. NITSCH becomes district design engineer in the Houston District, replacing Vincik. Nitsch has been assistant district design engineer.

-tn-

JOE GRAFF, Tyler district traffic engineer, becomes engineer of maintenance in D-18 on November 1. A graduate of A&M, Graff, 31, joined the department in 1978. JOHN M. GRANT moves into the Tyler District traffic engineer's office, replacing Graff.

-tn-

EVERETT KEESEE, who has been the top man in D-10's Road Inventory Section, retired in the middle of October, ending a DHT career that began in 1954. JAMES W. COPELAND

takes over Road Inventory.

-tn-

THOMAS BANDA is the new maintenance supervisor for DeWitt County in the Yoakum District, replacing ALBERT HOLIK, who retired. Banda started with DHT in 1953 in Cuero. An asphalt paving specialist, he's been in maintenance at Victoria for the last 12 years.

-tn-

BOBBY G. HODGE becomes administrator of the Traffic Safety Section in D-18, replacing AL LUEDECKE, who became head of D-10 September 1. Hodge, a department employee since 1958, has been district traffic engineer in Fort Worth. WALLACE E. EWELL, who's been with DHT since 1980, takes over Hodge's old desk in Fort Worth.

-tn-

BOB NEELY, special assistant to the chairman of the commission, becomes executive director of the Texas Turnpike Authority, effective December 1. RICHARD CHRISTIE, now public affairs officer in the Houston district, takes over as Chairman Lanier's aide.

-tn-

THOMAS R. SCHLEGAL becomes top man in the Odessa residency, filling the vacancy left when BILL BURNETT went to Abilene as DE. An Aggie, Class of '75, Schlegal started work for the department as a co-op student in 1972.

-tn-

BILL HARRINGTON, assistant district engineer in San Angelo, is honored as "Executive of the Year" by the San Angelo chapter of Professional Secretaries International.

-tn-

MAL STEINBERG, who has been public affairs officer and supervising planning engineer in San Antonio, becomes district design engineer in El Paso, taking over the post Bridge Engineer LUIS YBANEZ vacated.

-tn-

DOROTHY MOUNCE, wife of D-6's JOHN MOUNCE, is honored as the 1986 "Employee of the Year" by the Texas Commission for the Blind. Dorothy is a case worker for the agency in Austin. []



NOVEMBER		FEBRUARY	
11	Holiday, Veteran's Day	16	Holiday, Washington's Birthday
12-14	Highway Construction Lettings, Austin, D-6	23-26	Basics of Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M
13	Central Permit Conference, Austin, D-18P	23-27	Interactive Graphics Roadway Design System Training, Austin, D-19M
17-21	Urban Arterial Planning and Operations Course, Austin, D-18T	MARCH	
18-19	Vegetation Management Seminar, Austin, D-18L	2	Holiday, Texas Independence Day
24	Commission Public Hearings, Austin	9-12	Basics of Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M
25	Commission Meeting, Austin	9-13	Interactive Graphics Roadway Design System, Austin, D-19
27-28	Holidays, Thanksgiving	16-20	Interactive Graphics Roadway Design System, Austin, D-19
DECEMBER		23-27	Interactive Graphics Roadway Design System, Austin, D-19
3-5	VAX Alphanumeric Terminal Operator Training, Dist. 2, 3, 17, 19, 25, Austin, D-19	25-26	District Laboratory-Engineering Personnel Meeting, Beaumont, D-9
8-12	Highway Capacity and Operations Course, Austin, D-18T	APRIL	
10-12	Highway Construction Lettings, Austin, D-6	7-8	1987 Maintenance Conference, Austin, D-18M
24-26	Holidays, Christmas	21	Holiday, San Jacinto Day
29	Commission Meeting, Austin	MAY	
JANUARY 1987		19-22	Fifteenth Annual Texas Public Transportation Conference, Lubbock, D-10P
1	Holiday, New Year's Day	25	Holiday, Memorial Day
5-8	Basics of Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M	JUNE-SEPTEMBER	
19	Holiday, Confederate Heroes Day	Nothing Scheduled	
26-29	Basics of Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M		

HAVE A
BIG TIME IN
TEXAS.

CALENDAR EXPANDS

As you can see, the DHT Events Calendar has become bigger and better—it's been expanded to cover a 12-month period.

The T-News calendar will list meetings formerly shown on the quarterly DHT Calendar of Scheduled Conferences, Workshops and Seminars, which has been discontinued.

Clip the calendar each month, and you'll have an up-to-date roster of department events.

AWARDS

Service Awards

(November 1986)

Bridge

Wesley G. Pair, 30 years; Larry D. Smith, 20 years.

Construction

William T. Nelson Jr., 20 years.

Equipment and Procurement

Anna L. Michalenko, 25 years; Katie H. Glass, 20 years; James E. Auchey, five years.

Highway Design

Mary S. Neidig, 20 years.

Motor Vehicle

Iva G. Schneider, 40 years; Velma D. Crawford, 20 years; Hortencia Gonzalez, Priscilla G. Tijerina, 10 years; Terry Peveto, five years.

Right of Way

John E. Fritz, 20 years.

Safety and Maintenance Operations

Jenny G. Shumake, 15 years.

Transportation Planning

Carolyn W. Blackmon, Nancy D. Lann, Jon P. Underwood, 20 years.

Travel and Information

Edith W. Reaves, 25 years.

District 1

Betty T. Landers, 25 years; Clifford R. Crafton Sr., Dexter E. McCurry, 20 years.

District 2

Windle O. Turney, 30 years; Lester W. Colvin, 25 years; William E. Glenn, Glenn B. Liles, 20 years; Juan L. Hall, Charles R. Lake, five years.

District 3

Roy C. Brawner, Randle J. Lemon, Glenn T. Payton, 20 years.

District 4

Cecil D. Blevins, Travis G. Luttrell, Jimmie D. Simmons, Harold W. Smalley, 20 years; Randal L. Patterson, 15 years; Karan B. Fry, 10 years; Kenneth R. Petr, five years.

District 5

Sam H. Bullion, 30 years; Gordon N. Hambright, 20 years; Herbert E. Whalin, 15 years; James E. Wright, five years.

District 6

Manuel M. Riojaz, 35 years; Gregorio H. Lozano, 30 years; Gary L. Nation, Jimmy Quiroz, Venita B. Roach, five years.

District 7

William L. Chenault, 30 years; Charles F. Gifford, 25 years; Charles O. Hall, 10 years; Carla S. Baze, five years.

District 8

Billy J. Price, 40 years; Hanford M. Long, 30 years; Jerry D. Black, Elliott M. Perryman, 20 years; Roland C. Porter, five years.

District 9

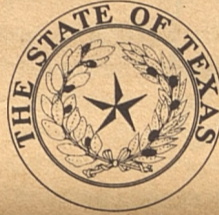
Migelo Galindo, Sharon L. Rejcek, five years.

District 10

Hubert R. Gore, Alice C. Russell, 25 years; Averil D. Douthitt, 20 years; Nolan L. Ball Jr., Thomas C. Hammerstone, five years.

District 11

Jack E. Bush, Willie R. Horne, 30 years; James F. Jackson, 10 years; Timothy S. Nicholes, Clark R. Slacum, five years.



District 12

Alvis G. Schmidt, 30 years; Wilbur L. Larsen, 25 years; Wilfred Engeling, Karl F. Kiencke Jr., 20 years; Charles S. Burks, Jack F. Cloninger, Alfonzo Denson Jr., Billie T. Dickson, Billy R. Hodges, Joseph A. Murello III, 15 years; James C. Blankenship, Lawrence R. Darlin II, Shirley H. Wagner, Clifford Walker, five years.

District 13

Dalton D. Gould, 30 years; Leroy R. Wittig, 20 years; Delores V. Bittner, 15 years; Roy J. Buenger, five years.

District 14

Thomas R. Bullock, 35 years; Franklin D. Click, 30 years; Jimmie A. Hefner, 25 years; James M. Collins, 20 years; Jefferson D. Logan Jr., 15 years.

District 15

Arven R. Holland, 25 years; William A. Geigenmiller, Ambrose Rymers, 20 years; Peggy R. Greer, 10 years; Emma J. Cantu, James L. Morris, Jacob M. Perez, five years.

District 16

Roger A. Wehman, Carlos L. Willis, 30 years; Dallas G. Comuzzie, 25 years; Adrian Perez, 20 years; Cresenciano D. Falcon Jr., 15 years; Maria A. Trevino, five years.

District 17

Chester R. Price, 30 years; L. H. Becker, 20 years.

District 18

Richard S. Oglesby, 35 years; Donald L. Blansett, Randall M. Jones, 30 years; Miriam O. Grayson, Wayne L. Reckley, 25 years; Connie O. Dickerson, Juan L. Martinez, Louie C. Power, David L. Turner, Morris L. Whittle, 20 years; L. B. Jackson, Robert D. Victory, 15 years; Christopher Speed, 10 years; Christopher A. Anderson, Michael T. Keeton, five years.

District 19

Glynn Morehead, 20 years; B. C. Carroll, John E. Davis, five years.

District 20

Billy Butcher, 30 years; Oliver B. Grissom Jr., 25 years; Michael N. Deitrich, Gilbert E. Gore, Richard H. Hodges, Sheila R. Jordon, five years.

District 21

Adna H. Fairchild, Sabino B. Galvan, Amador F. Quintanilla, 25 years; Jose I. Jackson, Frank Miller Jr., Bonnie P. Robertson, 20 years; Asencion Ramirez, five years.

District 23

Roy E. Davis, 25 years; Jimmy L. Smith, five years.

District 24

Guillermo Herrera Jr., 20 years; Jesus G. Quiroz, 15 years; Patricia A. Farmer, five years.

District 25

Billie M. Peery, 35 years; Delbert G. Bullock, 30 years; John Bennett Jr., five years.

ROADWERKS



MENDENHALL
DIST 2

RETIREMENTS

(August 31, 1986)

Administration

Marquis G. Goode Jr., Engineer-Director.

Materials and Tests

Donald W. Morgan, Administrator of Technical Programs I; George A. Randolph Jr., Administrator of Technical Programs I.

Motor Vehicle

Tommy Kouri, Director of Programs.

Right of Way

Charles E. Henderson, Staff Services Officer I; James R. Quick, Right of Way Agent IV.

Transportation Planning

Phillip L. Wilson, State Transportation Planning Engineer.

Victoria employees Adopt-a-Highway

Department employees in the maintenance section and residency in Victoria may be the first to band together in the Adopt-a-Highway program.

Employees under Supervising Resident Engineer Reuben Petrussek and Maintenance Supervisor Ronald Roecker volunteered to keep a two-mile section of a highway near Victoria clear of litter.

Some of the maintenance people occasionally have to collect litter elsewhere, Yoakum District Administrative Engineer Earl Wyatt said. But picking up litter on the adopted section will be on their own time and without pay.

Wyatt said when district office personnel heard about it, several of them began making plans to adopt a highway section near Yoakum. []

Lorenzo E. Morris, ex-assistant DE at Wichita Falls, dies

Lorenzo E. Morris, who retired in 1973 as assistant district engineer at Wichita Falls, died there August 9 of a heart attack.

A member of the Class of 1938 at Texas A&M University, he worked for the department for 35 years. He was a member of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

Survivors include his wife, two daughters, a son, a sister, and eight grandchildren. []

Travel and Information

Harris Y. Hinson Jr., Groundskeeper III; Tom H. Taylor, Director, Travel and Information.

District 1

William A. Carrell, Maintenance Technician III.

District 2

Harold A. Auvenshine, Engineering Technician V.

District 3

Robert E. Shipley, Engineering Technician III.

District 4

Junior T. Freeman, Maintenance Technician III.

District 5

Robert W. France, Maintenance Technician III; R. V. Long, Maintenance Technician III.

District 7

Eugene L. Motl, Engineering Technician V; Durward R. Watson, District Engineer.

District 9

Elton B. Evans, District Engineer.

District 10

Barney A. Carpenter, Maintenance Technician III; Fred L. Maddux Jr., Draftsman II; Connie M. Monk, Maintenance Construction Superintendent II; James V. Nixon, Maintenance Technician III.

District 12

Omer F. Poorman, District Engineer; Allison M. Stewart, Engineer III; Ray A. Vansickle, Assistant District Engineer.

District 14

William E. Barnard, Engineering Technician V; Jimmie G. Hamilton, Maintenance Technician III; John L. Wilder Jr., Engineer V.

District 15

Guillermo F. Cantu, Maintenance Technician III; Fred F. Katsmorak, Assistant Foreman; Saul Pompa, Engineering Technician V; Jesus Torres, Engineering Technician V.

District 17

Harry D. Lemon, Maintenance Technician III; Bennie A. Threadgill, Maintenance Technician III.

District 18

Henry L. Archibald, Maintenance Technician III; Alvin L. Bell, Maintenance Technician III; Wallace E. MacDonald, Engineering Technician V.

District 20

Alton H. Hughes, Engineering Technician IV; John W. Jones, Management Auditor II; Terrance J. Mercier, Maintenance Technician III.

District 25

Don H. Burchett, Maintenance Technician III.

In Memoriam

Retirees:

Milton Abshier, Vidor, retired from District 20, died September 22, 1986.

Raymond J. Biediger, Dunlay, retired from District 15, died September 16, 1986.

Elijah J. Birkmeyer, Alta Loma, retired from District 12, died September 17, 1986.

Mozelle K. Boswell, Austin, retired from District 17, died October 26, 1986.

Adolph M. Burrier, Junction, retired from District 12, died September 9, 1986.

Jesus C. deLuna, Rosenberg, retired from District 12, died September 9, 1986.

Hubert W. Dyess, Huntsville, retired from District 17, died October 1, 1986.

Victor V. Fikac, Yoakum, retired from District 13, died October 23, 1986.

James F. Harrison, Pineland, retired from District 11, died August 6, 1986.

John B. Hill, Crystal Beach, retired from District 12, died June 26, 1986.

Coran L. Law, Temple, retired from District 9, died September 10, 1986.

Christian A. Merz, Fredericksburg, retired from District 14, died September 12, 1986.

Willis R. Monroe, Tyler, retired from District 10, died September 28, 1986.

B.H. Murphy, Dalhart, retired from District 4, died September 22, 1986.

Albert H. Pollard, Austin, retired from Materials and Tests, died May 11, 1986.

Homer L. Ramsey, Thornton, retired from Houston Urban, died September 26, 1986.

Oliver C. Rayner, Denison, retired from District 18, died July 19, 1986.

Huel D. Redman, Ector, retired from District 1, September 7, 1986.

Arthur M. Searcy, Temple, retired from District 9, died October 6, 1986.

Percy A. Smith, Cleburne, retired from District 2, died August 5, 1986.

Charlie D. Wirt, Bedford, retired from District 8, died September 11, 1986.

Thomas J. Young, Cleburne, retired from District 2, died August 17, 1986.

★ Compiled by Bernice Kissman, Human Resources Division.



On September 29, at about 6 p.m., I had a car accident on FM 485 about four miles east of the Highway 77 intersection.

The crew working on 485 was extremely thoughtful and helpful to me after the accident. They even stayed overtime to wait with me until my father came from Waco. They also helped get my car started again so that I could drive it to Temple rather than having to get a tow truck.

I wasn't thinking clearly enough to get anyone's name but I want to thank them for all their help.

Cynthia L. VanRiper
Temple

Ms. VanRiper's helpers were Marvin D. Byrd of the Hearne residency and Glen Barnett of Hearne maintenance.

This Tuesday afternoon about 3 p.m. I was returning from Hearne on Highway 6 to Bryan when my pickup overheated. I pulled over and walked to where some highway construction was going on to see if they could contact someone in town to bring me out some water.

Better than that, they provided me with water and offered some helpful hints as to what the problem was. It turned out to be a bad gasket between water pump and engine. I appreciate the courteous help given to me by Mr. Hubert Smith.

Mitchell McMillan
Bryan

Hubert Smith is the assistant maintenance supervisor for Robertson County.

On August 19, my husband and I were on our way to Austin to attend a meeting with Rep. K. T. Patrick at the Capitol. The meeting was to begin at 5 p.m. On our way to Austin from San Antonio, our car heated up and started making a weird sound.

We were exactly three miles from New Braunfels when we exited from the highway to the access road. Our car was not drivable and we were not near a service station. The temperature on that day had risen to 108 degrees. Many people passed us on the road and never looked back. This was exactly at 3:30 p.m.

I just knew that I would never make the meeting in Austin and we would have to walk miles before we could get to a service station. Just then, a young man passed, looked and turned around. He asked if he could help. He looked at our car and said it would have to be seen by a mechanic. He then offered to take us to a service station.

After he took us to three different stations, we finally found a place in New Braunfels where they could take care of our car, plus rent us a car to finish the trip to Austin.

The young man's name is Lynn Coleman and I believe he is a surveyor for the highway department in New Braunfels. I want to commend Mr. Coleman for being so courteous

and helpful to strangers and for giving his time unselfishly. I felt that you would want to know about one of your employees' good deeds. Lynn Coleman proved there are still caring people in this world.

Please thank Mr. Coleman once again for us. Enclosed is a certificate and a Texas flag for Lynn Coleman from Rep. Patrick for being a caring citizen of Texas.

Vita Mayo
San Antonio

Mrs. Mayo, administrative aide to Rep. Patrick, enclosed a flag which had been flown over the Capitol on August 19.

On September 26, while driving on I-45, I had a blowout on my right rear tire. Terry Newton immediately pulled over and came to my aid. The blowout was quite startling and I was certainly upset. Mr. Newton took care of everything. The state should be proud to have such considerate and helpful employees. I certainly appreciate his prompt action and consideration, and I thought someone else should know about it.

Rose Ann Poff

Terry D. Newton works in the Conroe residency.

I would like to compliment your employees at the rest area on I-20 between Van and Canton, Texas. In mid-August, my neighbor and I became stranded at this rest stop due to car trouble (two women traveling from Atlanta to Dallas).

Instead of this turning into a nightmare, it became a pleasant experience due to your employee, Mr. James Anderson. Mr. Anderson assisted us in locating a mechanic and also in notifying my family in Dallas about our delay. Mr. James Hill, the mechanic from Van, was not only knowledgeable but was honest and practical about his fees. Our five-hour stop was made pleasant and calming by all of your people there and we will be forever grateful to them.

Mrs. Doris Thompson
Lake City, GA

I wish to bring to your attention the courtesy and helpfulness of Mr. Ralph Arredondo on August 19 when we had car trouble on I-10 en route from Kerrville to San Antonio. Through his efforts, he had our car running in short order and had us on the way home to San Antonio.

We are elderly, it was 105 degrees that afternoon and we were not close to any other help. We were trying to decide what to do when Mr. Arredondo stopped to see if he could be of assistance. Mr. Arredondo reflects on your division and, I might add, the Texas Highway Department.

James L. Nichols Jr.,
San Antonio

Mr. Arredondo works out of Kerrville.

The following was received by Freddie W. Lee, Roadway Maintenance Supervisor IV in Rockwall:

In the 33 years that I worked for the department and stopped to help people with car trouble, I never realized how much they really appreciated it, even though they said they did.

I found out how much it was appreciated on July 14 when Erman Woodall, out of your section, stopped to help me on I-30 at Lake Ray Hubbard. My wife and I were on the way to Baylor Hospital where she was to have surgery.

Mr. Woodall took me to Rockwall to get a radiator hose, brought me back, and he actually installed it. Under the circumstances and considering the July temperature, I will remember his act of compassion for years to come.

Glen W. Moore
Sulphur Springs

On Tuesday, 16 October about 1500 hours, Highway 288, southbound, about 8 to 10 miles from Houston, my car stalled. Really, it was out of water and steaming.

The yellow maintenance truck from State Dept. of Highways #12-3512-B, Alvin, Texas, stopped to render assistance. The two gentlemen who rendered the assistance would not give me their names. However, time spent was approximately 20 minutes. I got underway.

I wish to extend my appreciation to you and to these two gentlemen for the aid they rendered. Please compliment each of these gentlemen for me. We need good employees such as these.

Donald E. Brunner, Cdr. USN (ret.)
Freeport

Cdr. Brunner's helpers were Glifford I. Bell and John E. Raby, working out of J. R. Lofland's roadway maintenance section at Alvin.

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

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