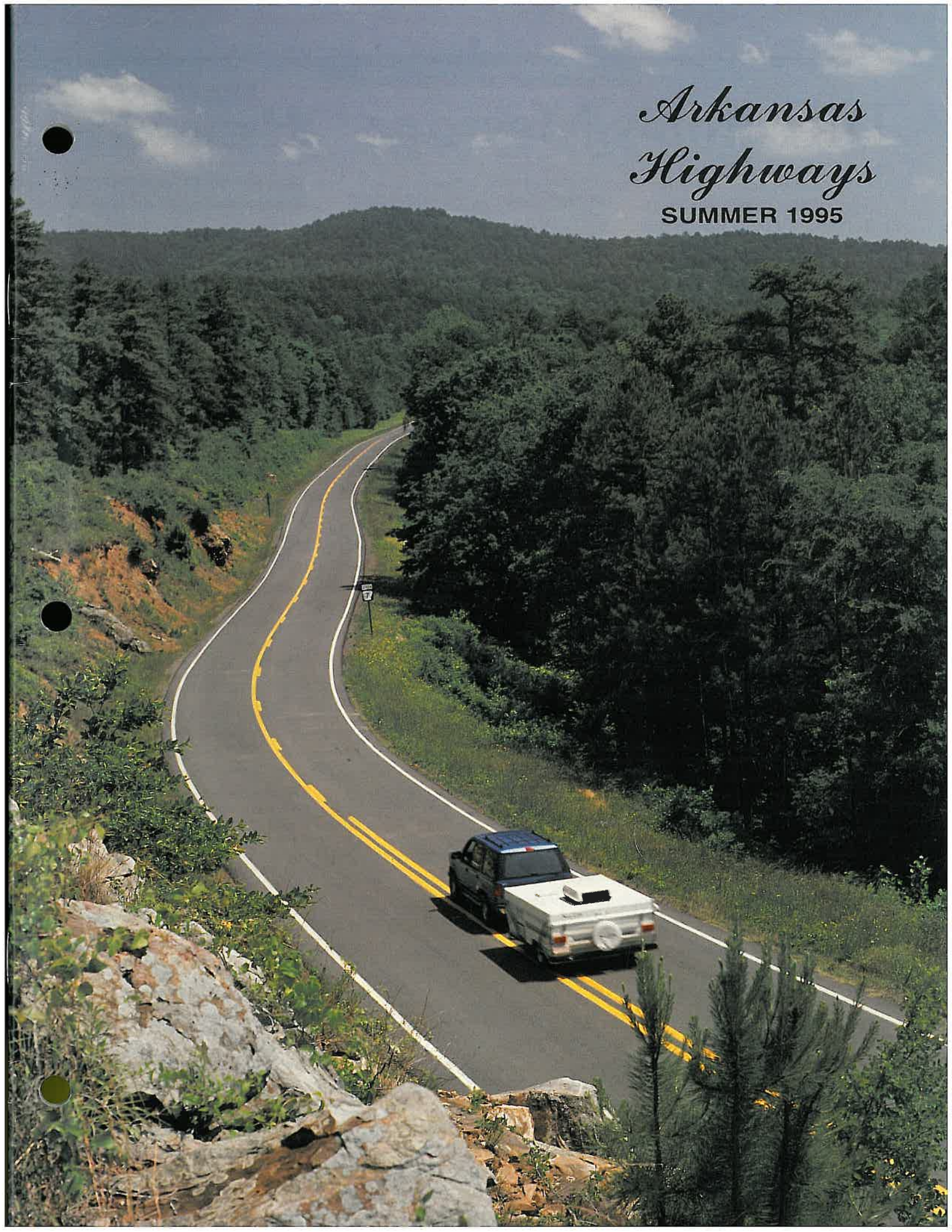


*Arkansas
Highways*
SUMMER 1995



Director's Message

It's been an eventful year thus far for the Highway and Transportation Department. The General Assembly enacted the 1995 Highway Bond and Local Road Improvement Program which the people will have a chance to vote on later. In addition, Act 893 was passed by the legislature to help make highway work zones safer. Also Operation Safe Speed, a joint law enforcement effort, has increased awareness of the speeding problem on our roadways and had an impact on the speed of vehicles traveling on our highways.



The highway bond program drew most of the attention during the session, and this program is covered in more detail later in this magazine.

Act 893 is designed to enhance safety for motorists and workers in highway work zones. This law doubles the fine for a motorist who commits a moving violation in a work zone. The intent of this legislation is to cut down on the number of accidents and injuries that occur in highway work zones. Once motorists become aware of the law, we hope to see significant decreases in these numbers.

Operation Safe Speed and Act 893 are designed to improve safety on our roadways. The increased awareness of vehicle speed and safety laws will prove to be very beneficial to our maintenance workers and our highway construction crews as travel continues to increase.

These initiatives represent a cooperative effort between the Department, the Legislature, and the law enforcement community to enhance safety and improve the quality of travel for the motoring public.


DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION.

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

SUMMER 1995

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



L.W. "BILL" CLARK
CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER
VICE CHAIRMAN



HERRY BRANSCUM, JR.
MEMBER



JOHN "M" LIPTON
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MEMBER

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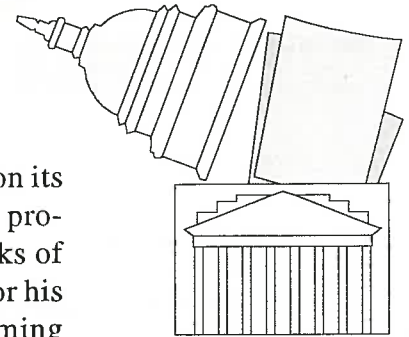
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COVER PHOTO: State Highway 7 in Perry County.

BACK COVER: The Spring Bank Ferry as it crosses the Red River from Miller to Lafayette County.
Photographs by John Jackson

THE 1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: One for the History Books



The highway bond construction program encountered a few roadblocks on its way to approval by the Arkansas General Assembly. Some in the media pronounced it "dead on arrival" and there was vocal opposition. But after weeks of discussion and close scrutiny, legislators sent the program to the Governor for his signature. Voters will have an opportunity to approve the program in an upcoming special election.

Newspaper accounts followed the course of the highway bond package through the legislature. A sample of headlines taken from papers around the state during the session gives one an idea of the twists and turns the legislation encountered:

- "Highways Top Legislative Agenda"*
- "Support Given for Highways"*
- "Road Program Holding"*
- "Highway Plan Hits Bumps"*
- "Highway Program Not Likely In Session"*
- "Highway Bill A Deserving Loser"*
- "Highway Plan Seen as Road Kill"*
- "Road Plan Rides Out Another Jolt"*
- "Plan Winds Its Way Through Committee"*
- "Senate Gives OK to Highway Plan"*
- "Highway Plan Gets A Lift, Rolls Into Final Day"*
- "House Passes Highway Bills"*
- "Tucker Turned Seeming Defeat Into Triumph"*

The highway construction bond proposal is made up of four components. Act 1007 authorizes the Highway Commission to issue up to \$3.5 billion in bonds to finance highway construction in the state. The other three acts provide the funding necessary to repay the bonds once they are issued. They are:

Act 1005, which levies a 6.5%

excise tax on gasoline at the wholesale level;

Act 1006, which increases the diesel tax rate by 5¢ per gallon; and,

Act 1008, which increases the general sales tax by one-half of one percent.

More information about each of these acts and the benefits that the program might provide can be

found on pages 4 and 5 of this magazine.

Though the legislature approved the proposal, the voters of Arkansas will have the last word. According to the Arkansas Constitution, no bonds can be issued without the approval of the public in a general or special election. In this case, Governor Tucker will likely call for a special election to

It was held in early 1996. At that time, the people will decide whether to approve bond program.

"We have a big task ahead of us to educate the public about this program in the coming months," said Highway Commission Chairman L. W. "Bill" Clark. "I want to commend the members of the General Assembly for their careful study of this issue and for referring it to the people. The people are the ones who have expressed a desire for building roads faster. They now have the opportunity to implement such a program."

If the proposal is approved by the public and bonds are issued, it will be the first time in more than four decades that bonds have been issued by the State for a road program. Act 5 of 1949 authorized the Commission to issue bonds to finance Governor Sid McMath's road program. The last of those bonds were issued in 1951 and were retired in 1960. The State has been free of any bonded indebtedness for highways since 1973 when the last of the Helena Bridge Construction bonds were paid off.

"This is a pivotal moment for the Highway Department and for the State," said AHTD Director Dan Flowers. "If this proposal is approved by the public, it will mean more miles of construction in a shorter period of time than has ever been undertaken before. It will be a tremendous challenge and opportunity for the Department's employees, and it will give the people of Arkansas the highway system they deserve in the the time frame they desire."



Governor Jim Guy Tucker signs the highway construction bond program into law April 7 as Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, left, AHTD Director Dan Flowers and Representative John Miller look on.

Historic Legislation Signed Into Law

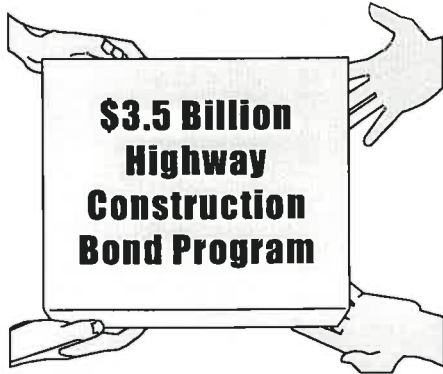
With all the debate and discussion of the legislative session behind, the four bills making up the highway bond construction program were signed into law by Governor Jim Guy Tucker at a ceremony Friday, April 7 in the Governor's Conference Room. Highway Commissioners and other AHTD officials joined Governor Tucker and legislative sponsors and supporters for the event.

The Governor referred to the struggle to get the legislation passed as he inked his signature in place. "These bills were dead on arrival," he quipped. "I want to sign this legislation with a flourish and a smile."

State Senator Wayne Dowd of Texarkana sponsored the four bills and ushered them through the Senate. Representative John Miller of Melbourne handled the bills during debate in the House.

"This was a team effort," said Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark. "I want to thank the Governor for his initiative and foresight, and all the Senators and Representatives who supported this legislation. I especially want to thank Senator Dowd and Representative Miller for the extra effort they put forth."

FACTS: 1995 HIGHWAY BOND PROGRAM



Act 1007 (Senate Bill 662)

Authorizes the Highway Commission to issue up to \$3.5 Billion in Bonds for Highway Construction

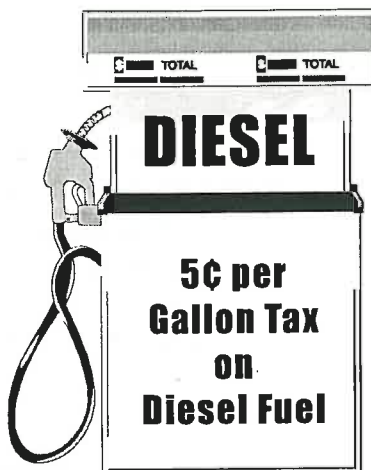
- Must be approved by voters in a general or special election;
- General obligation bonds backed by the full faith and credit of the State;
- Routes to be improved will be generally identified prior to bond election;
- Specific construction to be identified before each series of bonds are issued.

Act 1005 (Senate Bill 660)

Levies a 6.5% Excise Tax on Gasoline at the Wholesale Level

- Tax will be levied only if bond proposal and diesel tax are approved by voters;
- Calculation to be based on wholesale price plus federal tax of 18.4 cents;
- Tax increase roughly equal to five cents per gallon at a taxable price of 73.4 cents (wholesale price of 55 cents plus federal tax of 18.4 cents);
- Collections to be divided with cities and counties (70/15/15);
- Tax will terminate once associated bonds are retired;
- Estimated to generate \$44 million annually for the 1995 highway program and \$9.5 million each for the cities and counties.

**6.5% Excise Tax
on
Gasoline
at
Wholesale Level**



Act 1006 (Senate Bill 661)

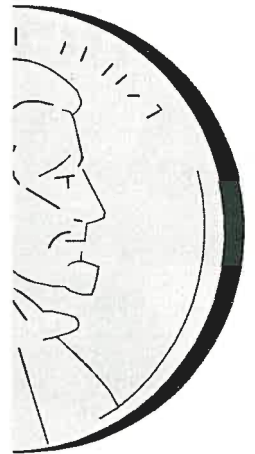
Levies an Additional Five Cents per Gallon Tax on Diesel Fuel

- Must be approved by voters separate from the bond proposal in the same election;
- Tax will be levied only if bond proposal is approved by voters;
- Collections to be divided with cities and counties (70/15/15);
- Tax will terminate once all associated bonds are retired;
- Estimated to generate \$15 million annually for the 1995 highway program and \$3.5 million each for the cities and counties.

Act 1008 (Senate Bill 762)
**Increases the General Sales Tax
 by One-half of One Percent**

- Tax will be levied only if bond proposal and diesel tax are approved by voters;
- All proceeds dedicated to highway program;
- Tax will terminate once all associated bonds are retired;
- Estimated to initially generate approximately \$150 million per year for the 1995 highway program;
- Cities and counties will not share in this revenue.

**General
 Sales
 Tax
 Increase
 1/2 of 1%**



Program Benefits

✓ **P**rogram will provide an interconnecting system of four-lane highways to tie the state together and provide the potential for increasing economic growth, safety, and convenience.

✓ **A**ll projects included in the bond program will be let to contract in seven years and completed in nine years;

✓ **P**rogram will create over 190,000 new jobs (based on 40 jobs created for every \$1 million spent on highway construction);

✓ **P**rogram will create \$11 billion in economic activity (based on \$2.32 million generated for every \$1 million spent on highway construction). This activity includes the purchase of construction materials and salaries to workers. A multiplier effect then takes place as these workers buy food, household items, etc.

✓ **A**dditional economic activity over the \$11 billion previously mentioned occurs as new construction investment takes place. This may come in the form of businesses, etc. that locate along the new highways.

✓ **O**ver 1,300 miles of two-lane highways will be improved under the bond program. Many of these routes will be improved to four-lane highways which are considerably safer. Based on statewide historical accident data, it is estimated that upgrading two-lane rural highways identified in the bond program to various types of four-lane roadways will lower the accident rate from 1.45 to 0.85 accidents per one million vehicle miles traveled, a 170% decrease. For the fatal accident rate, it is projected that the proposed improvements would lower the rate from 3.18 to 1.07 fatal accidents per one hundred million vehicle miles traveled, a 300% decrease.

Officials Tour New US Highway 71



Rodney E. Slater, Federal Highway Administrator and former Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman



(L-R) Row 1: U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, AHC Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark. Row 2: AHC Members Herby Branscum, Jr., J.W. "Buddy" Benafield and John "M" Lipton.



Governor Jim Guy Tucker addresses the crowd on the importance of Highway 71.

Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater returned to Arkansas March 19 to see firsthand the progress on new Highway 71 north of Alma. Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, and Commissioners Herby Branscum, Jr., and John "M" Lipton along with AHTD Director Dan Flowers showed the new construction north of Alma to Slater, U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers, U.S. Representative Tim Hutchinson, and other officials.

After the morning tour, the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce hosted an outdoor event to demonstrate support for the Highway 71 project.

Slater applauded the project as a way to connect Arkansas to the world. "For a long time we believed we could build a wall around Arkansas and survive... we need to connect ourselves to the nation and the world so that everyone can benefit from what we hold dear."

Bumpers mentioned the \$350 million cost of the project from Alma to Fayetteville. "That's a lot of money, but you can't really put a price tag on it. The highway will have an enormous economic benefit. It will be one of the most magnificent scenic drives in America."

Most important, he added, is safety. "It's worth all \$350 million to the parents whose children drive that highway to the University of Arkansas," he said. He reminded the crowd that his parents were killed in an accident on Highway 64 between Fort Smith and Sallisaw, Oklahoma, before the construction of Interstate 40. "A drunk driver came over the hill on their side. There was no shoulder, nowhere to go...If we'd have had the interstate, my brother and sister and I could have enjoyed our parents for another 30 years."



AHTD Director Dan Flowers

Tucker urged the crowd to support the proposed highway bond program in order to deliver more quickly on projects such as the new Highway 71 from Interstate 40 south to Louisiana.

“If the people are given the chance to decide their own future, given the opportunity to provide new jobs for their children, they will seize the opportunity,” he said.

Clark called attention to a recent agreement that delivers more federal money for the project.

“We just recently concluded a successful effort with Senator Bumpers and Administrator Slater to secure a \$24.2 million advance on funds earmarked for Highway 71,” Clark told the crowd. “Rather than waiting on that money, we put it to work right away to meet our goal of completing this project in 1999.”



National, state and local officials take a closeup view of the construction progress of Highway 71.

S.H. 160 Bridge Opened to Traffic Replacing Historic Spring Bank Ferry

State Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, and other dignitaries were on hand March 24 to dedicate a new bridge replacing the historic Spring Bank ferry. The bridge is located on State Highway 160 at the Red River, 15 miles west of Bradley and two miles west of Doddridge.

Those speaking to the crowd of more than 200 included Lipton, Senator Wayne Dowd of Texarkana, Flowers, Lafayette County Judge Frank Scroggins, and Miller County Judge Hubert Easley.

"It's always a bittersweet occasion when a faithful old ferryboat is retired," said Lipton. "On the other hand, the benefits of a bridge are clear. When you cross the new bridge, remember the Spring Bank ferry with fondness — and look forward to the new opportunities the Spring Bank bridge will bring you."

Flowers recalled the heyday of the ferries. "When I first joined the Department,



Blanton family members Mary Ann Duncan, Norma Roberts and Linda Smith, cut the ribbon officially opening the new Highway 160 bridge.



AHTD Director Dan Flowers chats with John Ervin Smith who worked on the Spring Bank ferry from 1967 to 1974 as a deck hand.

we still operated ferries at nearly 20 locations all over the state," Flowers told the audience. "Since then, the Department has replaced nearly all ferry crossings with bridges. When Spring Bank ferry makes its last crossing next month, we will operate only one ferry — at Peel on Bull Shoals Lake north of Yellville."

The Spring Bank ferry, operated continuously since the early 19th century, was retired upon completion of the bridge. Attending the dedication was Norma Blanton Roberts, 89, of Doddridge, the oldest surviving member of the Blanton family. Her family operated the Spring Bank ferry from the mid-1830s to 1964.



The Spring Bank ferry as it crosses the Red River. The new Highway 160 bridge in the background replaced the ferry on March 24.

Spring Bank Ferry's Last Ride

Crew members will miss hard work, good times

It may have looked peaceful, that big orange tug and barge gliding back and forth across the river. But operating the Spring Bank ferry was no vacation. Ferry supervisor Lonnie Hazel and pilot

Rex Barnes talked about their work at Spring Bank shortly before the ferry made its last run Friday morning, April 7.

"I usually start my day around 5:00 a.m. to make sure the land-

ings are in good shape," said Hazel. "I get the time sheets made out, put fuel in the tug, and have it ready to go by 5:30. Usually at 5:20 or 5:25 we'll make the first round."



Spring Bank ferry crew members (L-R): Rex Barnes, Pilot; Tommy McMurray, Deck Hand; Mike Givens, Pilot; Paul Blackman, Deck Hand; Darlene Lumms, Pilot/Deck Hand; Lonnie Hazel, Ferryboat Supervisor and Joe Stone, Pilot.

"A lot of people think there's nothing to being a deckhand," said Barnes, who signed on as a deckhand and later moved up to the pilot's seat. "But you walk a lot of miles back and forth on that thing in the heat and the weather. It's an easier job, being pilot. You've got more responsibility but when the water condition's good, it's good running."

Hazel, Barnes and the rest of the crew never made the exact same run twice. The Red is a restless river, constantly rearranging its bed, moving sandbars here and there.

"The east bank is the shallow side of the river and that's where we usually have our problems," said Hazel. "It might be deep water this afternoon, but tonight or tomorrow morning you'll be looking at a big sandbar. Our landing on the west bank is an asphalt landing, and the landing on the east bank we move according to what the river and the sandbars are doing."

High water was always easier running than low water — except in 1990. Newspapers across the country carried photos of the swollen Red River raging over its floodplain. The east landing was deeply under water; the usual five-minute crossing turned into a white-knuckle 45-minute ride. "We finally tied it up until the river calmed down," he said.

Hazel's crew members were the last in a 170-year line of ferry operators at Spring Bank. The first ferryman in the mid-1820s was "a rugged old pioneer man dressed in

buckskin" piloting a log raft, according to records of the Lafayette County Historical Society.

John Caffery bought the ferry around 1834 and hired a Swedish carpenter to build a new boat of cypress. Slaves performed the hard work of poling the ferry across the Red River. Caffery soon sold the ferry to Colonel William Blanton. Six generations of Blantons operated the ferry until 1964, when the state assumed responsibility for it.

"We're going to miss the ferry, but on the other hand you look forward to going on into another field of the Highway Department."

Lonnie Hazel

The Blantons' ferry attracted the interest of both sides during the Civil War. Federal troops guarded the crossing sometime before 1864 to stop the transport of Confederate supplies from Mississippi to Texas. In 1864 a Texas army division camped at Spring Bank to guard against a possible Federal invasion of Texas.

In more recent times the ferry was an important connection between southern Lafayette and Miller counties. Even so, the ferry never tied the two counties very closely. Hazel and Barnes, both Miller County natives, say they never knew many people on the Lafayette County side.

"I knew more people around Texarkana and Atlanta, Texas, than I did those who lived within five miles of us here... it's strange. We lived right next to those people and never knew them because we were divided by the river."

Barnes said he will miss the ferry. He's made many friends onboard, and has a folder full of postcards to prove it — some from as far away as Spain and Japan. "I'll miss the crew and miss the people who cross here," said Barnes. "A lot of people are late before they leave home. They don't have time to wait on a ferry."

Hazel takes the broad view as well. "We're going to miss the ferry, but on the other hand, you look forward to going on into another field of the Highway Department." Hazel and his crew have been reassigned elsewhere in District Three, most of them to the Miller County maintenance crew.

"It's going to be different from the way we work out here. We're here seven days a week." Hazel paused, then laughed. "Working a five-day workweek, I'm going to have to sign up for a second job. I'll have too much spare time on my hands."

Celebrate Construction Week Observed May 8-12

All eyes focused on the role that the construction industry plays in our everyday lives as the Arkansas Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America sponsored the third annual "Celebrate Construction in Arkansas Week" May 8-12.

The week was kicked off by Governor Jim Guy Tucker's official proclamation of the event. Contractors, suppliers, designers, and legislators joined together throughout the week in saluting the industry and its importance. The celebration culminated on Friday, May 12 with a luncheon featuring AHTD Director Dan Flowers as one of the keynote speakers.

Flowers' remarks centered on the proposed highway bond construction program and the impact it might have on the state and the construction industry. "People are demanding a lot more from the highway system than we can currently provide with pay-as-you-go financing," Flowers said. "Using bonds to finance construction will allow us to do more in a shorter period of time than we are currently able to do."

Arkansas' highway contractors will be directly affected if the bond proposal is approved by voters in a special election early next year, Flowers noted. The Department would award up to four times the

Proposed Bond Program of Major Interest to Contractors



AHTD Director Dan Flowers was a keynote speaker at a luncheon commemorating Construction Week in Arkansas.

amount of contracts that it currently awards if the proposal passes. "I don't think I need to explain further the impact this program would have on your indus-

try, on jobs, and on economic development opportunities that would be created for this state," he concluded.

Operation Safe Speed Takes Aim at Drivers

Unless you have never picked up a newspaper, listened to the radio, or turned on the television in the last several months, you know about Operation Safe Speed. The AHTD, its Arkansas Highway Police Division, and the Arkansas State Police are working together to reduce average speeds on Arkansas highways.

Operation Safe Speed was announced March 13 in a news conference at the Highway Police inspection station just north of Mayflower on Interstate 40. AHTD Director Dan Flowers and High-

way Police Chief Randy Reed were joined by John Bailey, Director of the Arkansas State Police; Jane Wilson, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs; Bill Richardson, Arkansas Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration; Pulaski County Sheriff Randy Johnson; Faulkner County Sheriff Bob Blankenship and several other officials.

By all accounts, the Operation has been a success. Since March 13, Highway Police officers have written 8,266 tickets, averaging



AHTD Director Dan Flowers



(L-R) FHWA Division Administrator Bill Richardson; AHP Chief Randy Reed; ASP Col. John Bailey; Pulaski County Sheriff Randy Johnson; AHTD Director Dan Flowers and Faulkner County Sheriff Bob Blankenship



20 a week. Media outlets around the state have alerted the public to the emphasis on speed enforcement and the need to drive safely — and more slowly.

“We’ve seen a decrease in speed statewide,” said Reed. “The State Police have seen much the same results as we have. We’ve worked several joint operations with them that have proven to be very successful.”

Operation Safe Speed was sparked by a recent AHTD report showing that most motorists are exceeding the posted speed limit on Arkansas highways. As a result, the state is not in compliance with federal regulations concerning speed limits.

The report, which covers the first quarter of Federal fiscal year 1995 (October 1 to December 31, 1994), was submitted recently to the Federal Highway Administration.

Increasing speed leads to increasing safety concerns:

- From 1990 to 1993, there have been 761 speed-related fatalities in Arkansas.

**SPEED
LIMIT
65**

- Some 3,043 Arkansans were injured in 1993 in accidents where speed was a contributing factor.

“Our officers see the aftermath of too many accidents that result from speeding,” said Reed. “It’s vital that drivers pay careful attention to speed limits.”

While excessive speeding is not as significant on rural interstates, average speeds have risen dramatically on urban interstates and rural two-lane highways:

- The average speed on rural two-lane highways is 58 mph, up from 54.5 mph in 1988.
- The average speed on urban interstates is 62 mph, up from 59.5 mph in 1988.

“We’re seeing initial success in lowering highway speeds,” said Flowers. “That translates directly into fewer accidents and fewer fatalities.”

DRIVERS WARNED: *Slow Down!*



Highway Police Cpl. Ross Batson uses a radar gun to detect speeders along the interstate.



(L-R) District 10 Engineer Joe Barnett, Senator Jerry Bookout, Representative Claud Cash, Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, Trumann Mayor Jack Wagner, Representative Jack Critcher, Representative Bobby Wood, and Executive Director of the Trumann Area Chamber of Commerce Bob Allen

New Highways Dedicated at Trumann

State Highway Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, AHTD Director Dan Flowers, District 10 Engineer Joe Barnett, and other officials were on hand May 4 to dedicate two new highways in the Poinsett County town of Trumann.

Trumann's Main Street was taken into the state highway system as State Highway 198, connecting the access road along new Highway 63 with downtown Trumann. New State Highway 214 connects the access road to the industrial park area.

"Many of you may have been present back in October when we dedicated the fine new section of Highway 63," said Benafield. "...But even the best highway is useless without good access. With the dedication of Highway 198 and

Highway 214, the people of Trumann can get to and from Highway 63 more easily. Businesses will see improved traffic flow and easier customer access. Industries will find it easier to drive large trucks across town."

A ribbon cutting for the new highways was followed by a luncheon at Trumann Country Club. Benafield and Flowers explained the benefits of the proposed highway bond program to the audience of 50, including Senator Jerry Bookout and Representative Bobby Wood of Jonesboro, Representative Jack Critcher of Grubbs, area mayors and chamber representatives, and Richard Baughn, contractor on Highway 214.

"The bottom line is, if we want to expand or speed up highway construction in Arkansas, we'll have to find additional revenues," Benafield told the audience. "The answer that the Governor and the Highway Commission have come up with is a highway construction program financed through the sale of bonds."

Benafield added that the traditional 70/15/15 split would be used for revenue from the new motor fuels and sales taxes in the program, giving cities and counties 15 percent each of the new revenue. Poinsett County would receive an additional \$160,000 annually to address needs on county roads, while Trumann would receive more than \$55,000 annually.

Plaque Unveiled on New Highway 41 Bridge

About 100 people gathered May 17 to unveil a bronze plaque at the new Highway 41 bridge on the Red River in honor of longtime legislator Marion Crank. Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton and AHTD Director Dan Flowers were among the officials on hand for the unveiling.

While the Commission does not officially name highways or structures, the Little River Chamber of Commerce and other area leaders chose to honor Crank with a plaque at the bridge. Lipton and Flowers spoke at the ceremony along with Senator Wayne Dowd of Texarkana, Representative Barbara Horn of Foreman, Little River County Judge Clyde Wright, and Ken Cowling, President of the Little River Chamber of Commerce. The honoree's widow, Mary Pauline "Polly" Crank, unveiled the plaque.

"It's a bittersweet day as we gather here to name this new bridge in his honor," said Lipton. "It was just a few months ago when we gathered in Ashdown for Marion Crank Day. I'm glad that we were able to show Marion the plaque bearing his name.

"Governor Tucker also came to salute Marion that day," Lipton continued. "The Governor told him, 'You are a builder, not just of Little River County, but of the whole state.' I could not agree more."

The ceremony was followed by a luncheon at the Marion H.



(L-R) District 3 Engineer William Tyler, Mrs. Polly Crank, Commissioner John "M" Lipton and AHTD Director Dan Flowers

Crank Wildlife Center on the grounds of Ashgrove Cement Company, a major employer that Crank helped bring to Foreman.

Marion Crank's long career of public service included his years in the State House of Representatives from 1951 to 1968. Crank served as Speaker of the House from 1963 to 1965, and majority leader in 1967 and 1968. After losing to Winthrop Rockefeller in the 1968 gubernatorial race, he returned to private business and was instrumental in securing the cement plant for Foreman. He also worked with the Association of Arkansas Counties, the Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District, and the Southwest Arkansas Water District.

Crank died December 19, 1994, the same day the Highway 41 bridge was opened to traffic.

Flowers talked about the benefits of the bridge. "The project will improve safety and convenience on the highway from Foreman to New Boston, Texas. It will keep western Little River County in the flow of commerce," Flowers told the crowd. "It is appropriate that we dedicate this bridge to Marion Crank, who devoted his life to the future of his hometown, his county, and his state."

The new Red River bridge is part of a project which involves replacing two bridges and rehabilitating one bridge in the Red River area. A \$5.3 million contract for the work was awarded in November 1992 to Jensen Construction Company of Des Moines, Iowa. This is a joint project between AHTD and the Texas Department of Transportation, and should be complete by fall.



Arkansas State Highway
and Transportation Department

1995 High School and College Graduates

The Arkansas State Highway and
Transportation Department
congratulates the high school and
college graduates who are
children of employees or student employees.



Katina Adams
Calvary Academy High School
Danny & Rita Adams - District 6



Carl Lee Andrews, Jr.
Wynne High School
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Andrews - District 1



Brad Baine
Marmaduke High School
C.R. & Pat Baine - District 10



Natasha Barkins
McClellan High School
COE Student - Human Resources



Jill Barnett
University of Arkansas
Jim & Jan Barnett - Maintenance



Sarah Beaver
Southside High School
Harold & Elaine Beaver - District 4



Darren De'Shawn Blount
Newport High School
Gladis Blount - District 5



Amber Bogle
Cabot High School
Bill & Delia Bogle - District 6



Garret Bolding
Arkansas State Technical Institute
Charles & Sue Carrouth - District 5



Mary Bolding
Riverview High School
Charles & Sue Carrouth - District 5



Charles Cort Bosley
Catholic High School
Skipper Bosley - Fiscal Services



Josh Sean Bosley
North Little Rock High School
Skipper & Nancy Bosley - Fiscal Services



Julie Brasel
Valley Springs High School
Roy & Sue Brasel - District 9



Juli Brisco
Rogers High School
Jack & Kathi Brisco - District 9



Jennifer Brown
Caddo Hills High School
Patricia Lynn - Right of Way



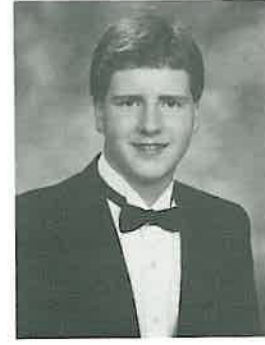
Wendy Carpenter
Lonoke High School
Wayne & Vera Carpenter - District 6



Lameria Colclough
Russellville High School
Regina Colclough - District 8



Daniel Cornish
Catholic High School
Kay & Bob Cornish - Computer Services



Bryan Dickey
Southside High School
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Dickey - District 5



Laura Marie Duvall
Atkins High School
Donnie Duvall - District 8



Jason Lynsey East
Red River Technical College
Capt. Gary East - Highway Police



Amy Evans
Fourche Valley High School
R.L. Evans - District 8



Tony Faulkner
Prairie Grove High School
Glen & Judy Faulkner - District 4



Kimberly Fain
J.A. Fair High School
Ed Fain - Bridge



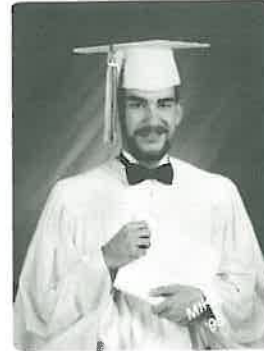
Kristin Fain
University of Central Arkansas
Ed Fain - Bridge



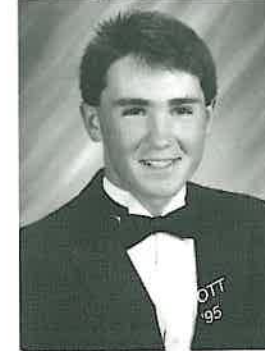
Ron Garner, Jr.
Mississippi
Ronnie & Annette Garner - District 3



Allison Gray
McClellan High School
COE Student - Computer Services



Michael B. Harrell
Hall High School
Carl & Liuta Harrell - Fiscal Services



Clayton Scott Harris
Sheridan High School
Hiltha & David Harris - Plan. & Res.



James K. Hicks, Jr.
Southern University & A&M College
Employee - Computer Services



Robert S. Hogan
Catholic High School
William Hogan - State Aid



Brian K. Hudson
Barton High School
Mr. & Mrs. Ricky Hudson - District 1



Cory Alan Hunt
Fourche Valley High School
Al Hunt - District 8



Robyn Diane Jackson
J.A. Fair High School
COE Student - Environmental



Venetta Y. Jeffrey
Wynne High School
Mr & Mrs. Charles Jeffrey - District 1



Melissa Johnson
Mayflower High School
Dennis & Julie Johnson - District 6



JoElla Journagan
Lead Hill High School
Ted & Sammy Journagan - District 9



Ashley Dawn Kennedy
Pine Bluff High School
Hellen & David Kennedy - District 2



Melissa Kennedy
Russellville High School
Nancy Kennedy - District 8



Johnny Ray Kimes, Jr.
Mulberry High School
Johnny & Lynnah Kimes - District 4



Laura Lady
Walnut Ridge High School
Harold & Susan Lady - District 10



Angela Rae Law
County Line High School
Rick & Janice Law - District 4



Megan Lee
Greenwood High School
B.G. Lee - District 4



Tina Satterwhite Lewellin
U of A for Medical Sciences
Randy & Yvonne Satterwhite - District 5



Lea A. Mabry
U of A at Little Rock
Shirley & Ernest Barnes - Computer Services



John Gray Major
Parkview Arts/Science Magnet High School
George Gray Major - Roadway Design



Janel M. Markey
University of Central Arkansas
Phyllis Leonard - District 4



Sonya RaeAnn McConnell
Ola High School
James Nail - District 8



Ashley Michelle McLain
Bryant High School
Leroy McLain - Slate Aid



Jacy Michelle Montgomery
Waldron High School
Jerry & Judy Montgomery - District 4



Ashley Moore
Bryant High School
Danny & Cindy Moore - Maintenance



Christine Namey
J.A. Fair High School
Terry & Caron Nanney - Highway Police



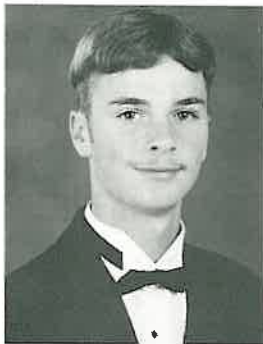
Jodi Phillips
Jasper High School
Bill & Mardel Phillips - District 9



Sharie Phillips
Inglewood High School - California
Calvin & Elizabeth Phillips - District 6



Tammie S.L. Myrick Poyner
Greene County Technical School
Debbie Myrick - District 10



Brad Prince
Magnet Cove High School
Rickey Prince - District 6



Kimberly Ann Rachels
Centenary College of Louisiana
Lois Rachels - Roadway Design



Robin Elaine Rainey
Mount St. Mary's Academy
Rick & Barbara Rainey - Roadway Design



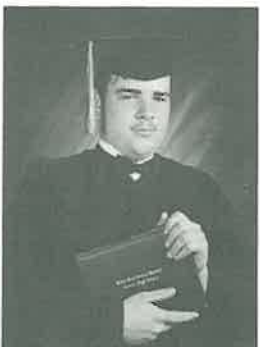
Bratley Richardson
Harrison High School
J.T. Richardson - District 9



Josh Roberts
Mena High School
Gene & Rene' Roberts - District 4



Shairlyn Root
Green Forest High School
Doyle Root - District 9



Matthew Shaw
Central High School
Mike Shaw - Computer Services



Jennifer Sikma
Cedarville High School
Sharon & Denny Sikma - District 4



Shelly Rovon Sumpter
Mulberry High School
Sharon & Art Sumpter - District 4



Connie Lynn Swink
Center Hill High School
Mr. & Mrs. S.L. Swink - District 5



Casey Turner
Hackett High School
Buddy & Rhonda Turner - District 4





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



Scott Venable
Lakeside High School
Jeff & Debbie Venable - District 6



Bridget Watkins
McClellan High School
Stephanie Beverly - Plan. & Res.



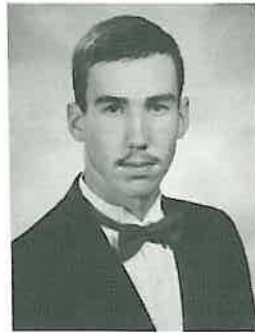
John A. Watson
Emerson High School
James & Carolyn Watson - District 7



Brian Weatherford
Central High School
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Weatherford -
District 1



Kimberly Wilkerson
Bergman High School
Geralt & Renee Wilkerson - District 9



Darin M. Williams
Mansfield High School
Nan & Terry Williams - District 4



Stephanie A. Williams
J.A. Fair High School
Ralph Williams - Right of Way



TOM HARRELL TO HEAD PLANNING & RESEARCH DIVISION

Tom Harrell, Assistant Division Head of the Planning and Research Division, was promoted to Division Head on March 2.

Harrell is a 1973 graduate civil engineer from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and a registered professional engineer. After working at the Department for two summers as an Engineering Intern, he began full-time employment in 1974 in the Planning and Research Division.

In 1977, he transferred to the Roadway Design Division for two

years. From 1979 to 1988, he served as Assistant Section Head of Programming and Scheduling, Programming and Scheduling Coordinator and Staff Program Management Administrator in the Programs and Contracts Division. He was promoted to Assistant Division Head of Planning and Research March 10, 1988.

Harrell is a native of Little Rock graduating from North Little Rock High School in 1969. He and his wife Debra have one son, Dusty, who is fourteen.



Tom Harrell

Letters of "Thanks"

To: Commissioner Bobby Hopper

We had a wonderful drive to Siloam Springs Saturday morning on the newly-opened Arkansas Highway 412. It was a drive through beautiful Arkansas countryside on a smooth, well-built road with no toll!

We are truly appreciative of the work you do for our benefit on the Commission in spite of the many hazards, obstacles and criticisms thrown your way. Please accept our gratitude and pass it on to those who serve with you.

Thanks,
Don and Kay Reynolds
Springdale, Arkansas

To: Commissioner Bobby Hopper

In my 35 years of doing business in Northwest Arkansas, I have tried to make all my projects profitable but also I have taken into consideration needs of the city and its people. I think you are familiar with most of my properties and would probably agree with me.

For the past 10 to 15 years, it has been extremely difficult to work with the demands of the City of Springdale which I believe in some cases are unreasonable. This is the first time in many years a city or state official has helped me get necessary approval for one of my projects in the time frame requested. I cannot express my appreciation to you, the city and state.

My drawings were submitted to the state and within a week approved with only minor changes.

Thank You and Sincerely,
Joe Edwards, Edwards Properties
Springdale, Arkansas

To: Dan Flowers
AHTD Director

This is just a quick note to advise you that your employees in your permit department have always been very cordial and always willing to help in anything I request. I am a farmer and haul my equipment and require wideload permits and your people are always willing to go that extra mile and help me with my permit and any information I request. I have made the statement, living in Tennessee, that I wish our permit department would take some lessons from Arkansas.

Nevertheless, I just wanted to drop a quick note and let you know what a great job your people do for you.

Regards,
Michael F. Clayton
Mike Clayton Farms
Finger, Tennessee

To: Arkansas Highway Department
To Whom It May Concern:

From time to time in our daily travels we meet people that we sometimes have disagreements with, or feel the need to complain about something they've said or done even though they are doing their job. I have had the wonderful opportunity of meeting and talking to one of your officers on March 24, 1995 on my way home to Columbus, Ohio. His kindness and courtesy will be something I will always be grateful for. I was on U.S. 65 in Fairview, Arkansas and had passed through one of your scale houses. The officer was helpful in that my battery was dead on my truck and he got me some help. It was at Station 101 and his name was Myles. I would like to thank him for his time and generosity and let him know that not all truck drivers and DOT officers are bad guys!

Thank you,
Anthony L. Hunt
Driver for C.A. Thomas, Inc.



Permit Section Personnel



2nd Lt. George Myles

Editor's Note: The officer is Second Lieutenant George Myles, supervisor at the Fairview Highway Police Weigh Station, south of Lake Village.

To: Coy Campbell, District Seven Engineer
Camden, Arkansas

The Community Appearance Committee wants to thank you for your contribution to the Great Camden Cleanup Day. Over 600 volunteers participated in this great team effort, making it a tremendous success. Without your help we would not have been able to sponsor this worthwhile annual event. Your crews made a big difference. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,
Nelle Jane Dawson, Chairman
Community Appearance Committee

To: Don McMillen
Planning and Research, Public Transportation

I just wanted to say thank you for your help and support in making it possible for us to get the GMC mini-van. I am already appreciating savings in gas on our long route.

The Highway Department should be highly commended for the services it provides to centers such as ours.

Sincerely,
Sharon Massey, Director
Searcy County Special Services
Marshall, Arkansas



Don McMillen

To: State of Arkansas

Gentlemen:

I would like to recommend for commendation the management and staff of the Mena office of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department for their excellent response to our various road work information requests and related service during the last year.

We have worked and resided on State Highway 88 in Mena since April 1993, were new to Arkansas, and had frankly heard that the roads were not in good shape -- this is not true, from our experience traveling in and around Mena and other areas of the state as well. The recent work on Highway 88 East has been very beneficial, particularly with the heavy tractor-trailer traffic to and from the many nearby agricultural-related businesses.

If there is some award of merit or other suitable recognition available, I strongly recommend the Mena state highway office and workers and will gladly attest for same at any time in the future.

Best Regards,
JG Ulmer, owner of Arkatents USA
Mena, Arkansas

To: Jim Briley
District Two Engineer

We greatly appreciate the work you and the other Highway Department personnel did to develop and extend the right turn lane on Highway 4 at the intersection of U.S. 425. We feel that the extension of the lane will help the overall traffic flow through the intersection and we already know that it does move the University commuter traffic in a faster and more orderly manner. Again, thanks to you and the entire department.

Sincerely,
Harold D. West, Mayor
City of Monticello, Arkansas



Cpls. Buckie Thomas and Randy Peek

To: AHP Cpls. Randy Peek and Buckie Thomas

Thank you for your assistance on January 11, 1995. We were returning to College Station, Texas from a funeral in Southeast Missouri when we had a flat tire on the interstate near Confederate Boulevard.

As it was impossible to change the tire on the interstate, you escorted us to a safe place and referred us to a reputable tire store.

Thank you for the concern of our safety while we were in Little Rock.

Sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. Wally Wronka
College Station, Texas

To: Dan Flowers
AHTD Director

I would like to take this time to commend your highway department, especially one of your employees. Back in the fall, one of our portable hand-held radios came up missing. Mr. Ron Eckhardt, an Electrician in your Facilities Management Section of the Maintenance Division, found the radio in the middle of Highway 11 where it apparently fell from one of our grain trucks in route to the mill at Stuttgart.

The radio was returned to us in good condition and we greatly appreciate the honesty and integrity of this employee. Please relay to Mr. Eckhardt our gratitude.

Sincerely,
Oliver Toll
Toll Farms of DeValls Bluff, Arkansas

To: Donna Gardner
Environmental Specialist

Thank you very much for the excellent material you recently sent us in response to our earlier request for information on the AHTD wildflower program.



Donna Gardner

We appreciate very much your personal efforts in contacting us by phone in order to clarify our needs, and then in digging up and forwarding exactly the information we required. An excellent set of material!

Your help will greatly add to the creditability of our recommendation to the City of Huntsville on the establishment of a citywide wildflower program. You folks are doing a great job with your wildflowers and your well thought out program seems to get a lot of results for the dollars spent.

Again, many thanks.

William C. Snoddy
Member, Wildflower Committee
Huntsville, Alabama

cc: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director - Ms. Gardner is an excellent representative of your department.

To: AHP Lt. Jan Weinberg

Thank you for the tour of the Highway Police. The pictures turned out. Please tell the other officers thanks for showing me their car.

Jared Corn
Seligman, Missouri

A thank you to you and the other officers who took so much time with my son. The extra time you took sure made a difference to him. You all were very courteous and over and beyond to explain things to him. Again, thank you very much.

JoNell Corn
Seligman, Missouri



(L-R) Lt. Jan Weinberg, Ptl. James Thomas, Pfc. Richard Moreau and Glenn McCoy

To: Mr. Kit Core
Carroll County Area Maintenance Supervisor

I am addressing this letter to you because I did not know where else to send it. I would like it to be forwarded to your supervisor or the main Highway Department office.

I am sure that any area of state responsibility receives numerous letters of complaint. We enjoy getting positive letters from people we deal with and I'm sure you do too. This note comes as a thank you to Kit Core and his crew for their prompt, courteous attention to a concern of ours. This is not the first time Kit has represented the Highway Department as we have had reason to need his advice and services on other occasions.

In a rather thankless world we hope that a little gratitude for a job exceptionally done will be noted. We know if we have need of help from the Highway Department it will be cared for and not ignored. We hope the State of Arkansas has many other employees as dedicated as Mr. Core.

Sincerely,
Terry and Diana Deese
The Chalet Inn
Eureka Springs, Arkansas

IN MEMORY

Employees

David L. Wiley
Crittenden County Lead Person
District One - 5 years
died April 2, 1995

Abby W. Hardy, Jr. - District 7
died February 21, 1995

Calvin J. Marlow - District 8
died April 26, 1995

Frankie F. Lovelace - District 10
died March 16, 1995

Charlie B. Mahan - District 9
died April 27, 1995

Otis R. Wells - District 9
died March 19, 1995

Edger A. Mulford - District 9
died April 28, 1995

Retirees

Delbert T. Uchtman - District 9
died January 15, 1995

Haskell B. Matthews - Construction
died March 25, 1995

James L. Wilson - District 3
died May 5, 1995

Jessie D. Nelson - District 4
died January 23, 1995

Lyman C. Gullett - District 10
died March 25, 1995

Roy J. Baker - District 9
died May 6, 1995

Harlon B. Oliver - District 4
died February 18, 1995

Cecil P. Rider - Planning & Research
died March 15, 1995

Carl T. Willis - District 10
died May 11, 1995

Shirley W. Sparrow - Traffic
died February 21, 1995

Hazel McKim - Buildings & Grounds
died April 4, 1995

Jobie R. Ham - District 3
died May 12, 1995

Lloyd D. Harberson - District 4
died February 25, 1995

Howard D. Green - District 4
died April 6, 1995

Fred W. Tacker - District 1
died May 12, 1995

George T. Tabler - District 4
died February 28, 1995

Melvie J. Reding - District 5
died April 25, 1995

T. W. Williams - Traffic
died May 14, 1995

Herschel S. Sloop - District 7
died February 10, 1995

Harry Williams - District 6
died April 25, 1995

Around the Department

COMPUTER SERVICES

This division was saddened by the loss of our friend, Jerry Vaughan, husband of Carlotta Vaughan, Computer Technical Coordinator.



Katie Sarah Brice, the granddaughter of Computer User Coordinator Kay and Bob Cornish, was born November 8, 1994. She is the daughter of Sherri and Mike Brice who live in College Station, Texas.



Sarah Marie King, the daughter of Scott and Lorna King, was born February 12, 1995. Scott is a Programmer II for Computer Services.



On March 25 approximately 450 participants gathered at the Arkansas State Capitol for the annual 10-mile walk to raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis. Pictured are the Central Office Computer Services and Fiscal Services employees who combined their efforts in becoming the "Highway Hoofers" for this event. Left to right are: Mary Green, Data Control Clerk; Brenda Haley, Production Control Manager; Steve Malcolm, Maintenance Inventory Coordinator; Toni Barnes, Payroll Specialist and Carolyn Bobo, Data Control Clerk. Not pictured is Laura Malat, Payroll Specialist. The group extends its thanks to all who sponsored and to Dana Benetz of Computer Services for her creation of the poster.



DeAnna Thresher, 11-year old daughter of Lori Thresher, Computer Operator, played her first year of basketball for the Cutter Morning Star Eagles in Hot Springs.

CONSTRUCTION



Velma Smith, left, Clerk Typist, receives a five-year service certificate and pin from State Construction Engineer Allan Holmes.



Stephanie Morrison, left, General Clerk receives a five-year service certificate and pin from State Construction Engineer Allan Holmes.



Samuel Holmes, grandson of State Construction Engineer Allan Holmes, was born January 9 to Drs. Marlon and Nina Holmes.



Allen Phillips, III, son of Allen Phillips, Advanced Estimates Technician, is a junior at McClellan High School and has been instrumental in gaining the Lions a spot in the AAAA State Basketball Tournament, leading his team in scoring and rebounding with an average of 19.4 points and 9.8 rebounds.



Amy Turner, daughter of Karen and James Turner, married Shane Fite March 17. Amy is employed in Fiscal Services while attending Henderson State University, Karen is a Squad Leader in the Contract Estimates Section and James is an Inspector for the Hot Springs Residency in District 6.

ENVIRONMENTAL



James Hart, son of Beautification Coordinator I Julia and Jeff Hart, celebrated his second birthday on April 26.



Antonee Zashcil Graves, son of File Clerk Jennifer Jackson and Tobias Graves, was born August 23, 1994.

EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT



Doug Nielsen, Assistant Division Head, is shown with wife Debbie and daughter Katie at a reception in which Doug received a 25-year service award.

FISCAL SERVICES



William J. Bates, son of Joanne Bates, Administrative Aide I, represented Southwest Christian School as a finalist in the Math Olympiad for all Christian Schools in Arkansas. When he is not studying math, he plays basketball for his school.

HUMAN RESOURCES



Brandy Hartman

Brandy Hartman and Elise Squire are Mail Clerks in the Mail and Supply Section. They both began work in February.



Elise Squires

INTERNAL AUDIT



Robyn Smith, left, Senior Internal Auditor, receives a five-year service certificate and pin and Cindy Harris, right, Senior External Auditor, receives a ten-year service certificate and pin from Chief Auditor Bill McDorman, center.

MAINTENANCE



Charles Latture, left, Traffic Services Specialist, presents Boyd Dickey, Paint Transport Truck Driver, a five-year service certificate.



Ricky Williams, left, Paint Transport Truck Driver, receives a five-year service certificate from Jerry Smith, Striping Superintendent.



Tony Jones, left, Signing Superintendent, presents Joe Caldwell, Sign Erector II, a five-year service certificate and pin.



Keith Pounders, left, Sign Maker I, receives a five-year service certificate and pin from Allan Loring, Sign Shop Supervisor.



Henry Pruitt, left, Sign Maker II, receives a 15-year service certificate from Allan Loring, Sign Shop Supervisor.

MATERIALS

Terry Kirtley, Chemist, married Don Martin March 17.

Terrell Watts, Geotechnical/Soil Section Head and Don Griffin, District 4 Materials Supervisor have returned to work after being off for surgery.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

There are three retirements to announce from this division. Bryan Davis, Division Head, retired in April; Don Finkbeiner, Mapping and Graphics Section Head, retired with 35+ years service, and Pete Escare, Administrative Assistant III in Reproduction, retired in February with 29 years service.



Bryan Davis, Planning & Research Division Head, at his retirement reception in April.



Pete Escarre, Reproduction Administrative Assistant III, at his retirement reception.



Roy Walden, left, Reproduction Section Head, presents Patricia Greenway, Section Secretary, a five-year service certificate.



Danny Chidester, Cartographer I, is a new employee in the Mapping and Graphics Section. He transferred from the Arkansas Soils and Water Conservation Commission and holds a degree in Geography from the University of Central Arkansas.



Christopher Routh is the six-year old grandson of Florence Routh, Planning Contract Specialist.



Kory Douglas Sanders, grandson of Marilyn Boyles, Statistical Analyst, was born July 12, 1994.



Collin Mills Simmons, grandson of Sammye Martinez, Statistical Analyst, was born July 21, 1994.



Natalie Newcomb, daughter of Mickey and Otty Newcomb, won the Junior Cardinal Miss Contest of Harmony Grove. Mickey is the UMTA Grants Officer in the Public Transportation Section.

PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS



June Rain, left, Traffic Analyst, retired December 9, 1994 with 29+ years service. She is shown with husband, Charlie, at a retirement reception on March 22.



Programs & Contracts five-year service awards: (L-R) Charlie Marsh, Safety Program Manager; Gwen Vernon, Accident Coding Clerk II; Steve Rountree, Safety Program Manager; Verletta Robinson, Accident Coding Clerk II; Susan White, Accident Coding Clerk I; Everlena Owens, General Secretary; Ann Jordan, Accident Coding Clerk II and Garren Stewart, Accident Coding Clerk II.



Alex Mundy, daughter of Accident Coding Clerk II Julie and Mark Mundy, was born January 5.

RIGHT OF WAY



Mandi Nicole and Shandi Renae Shelton are the granddaughters of Shirley Holmes, Senior Abstractor. Mandi was born December 21, 1994.

ROADWAY DESIGN



Tyler James Woods, son of Roadway Design Engineer Mark and Margaret Woods, was born February 3. Tyler has an older sister Christine.

STATE AID



Brianna Paige Oldham, granddaughter of Division Secretary Barbara Crosswell, relinquished her title of Little Miss Cover Girl in May.

DISTRICT ONE



Five-Year Service Award: Juanita Fitts, Construction Helper, bridge crew



Ten-Year Service Awards: Charles Aldridge, left, Senior Mechanic and Danny Glenn, Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Repairer



15-Year Service Awards: Robert Simmons, left, Single Axle Truck Driver, Crittenden County and Larry Smith, Distributor Operator, sealing crew



Deborah Faye Andrews, daughter of Carl and Paula Andrews, was born April 6. Carl is Crew Leader on the sign crew. Deborah has two older brothers, Carl, 18, and Stephen, 14.

DISTRICT TWO



District Engineer Jim Briley, left, presents Max Bagwell, Assistant District Engineer, a 35-year service certificate.



Burl Robertson, District Equipment Supervisor, left, presents James Sinks, Senior Mechanic, a 20-year service certificate.



A.D. Ford, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, receives a 20-year service certificate.



Danny Lawson, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, receives a 20-year service certificate.



Bill Lindsey, left, Inspector, receives a 10-year service certificate from Bill Fine, Resident Engineer.



Chicot County Service Awards: Mark Wray, left, Rest Area Attendant, 10 years and J.W. Colbert, Lead Person, 20 years.



David Henning, Advanced Construction Field Engineer for the Pine Bluff Residency, was recently promoted to Specifications Engineer in the Construction Division at the Central Office.

Chip Lagrone, Construction Helper I at the McGehee Residency, announces the birth of a son, Tobias Franklin, born July 27, 1994. His daughter, Anne Bynum, has been selected to attend Arkansas School for Mathematics and Science in Hot Springs.

DISTRICT THREE



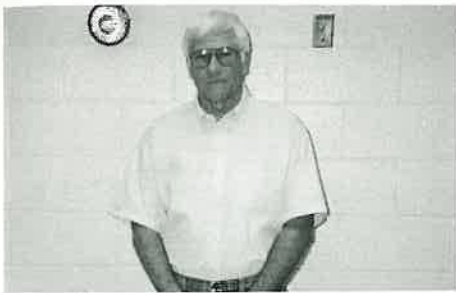
Don Westbrook, left, Inspector, receives a 25-year service certificate from Resident Engineer Ken Harris.



Shannon Pate and Matt Mouser were married March 4, 1995. Shannon is the daughter of District Caretaker Debbie Pate.

Ron Garner, Jr., son of District Maintenance Superintendent Ronnie and Annette Garner, received a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering May 13 from Mississippi State University.

DISTRICT FOUR



Hester Brown, District Station Supervisor, retired February 6 with 30 years service.



District Engineer Harold Beaver, left, presents Mary Bryant, District Secretary, a 15-year service certificate.



Aubrey Bowen, left, Shop Supervisor, presents Robert Kolb, Body Repairer and Painter, a 10-year service certificate.



Harold Beaver, left, District Engineer, presents Harold Anderson, Senior Inspector, with a 30-year service pin.



Mark Williams, left, District Job Superintendent, presents Herman Murphy, Bridge Repairer II, a 15-year service certificate.



District Engineer Harold Beaver, left, presents Nan Williams, Personnel Clerk, a 10-year service certificate.



District Engineer Harold Beaver, left, presents Raymond Lea, District Bridge Inspector, a 20-year service certificate.



John Sharum, left, Resident Engineer, presents Sharon Sikma, Construction Aide II, a 15-year service certificate.



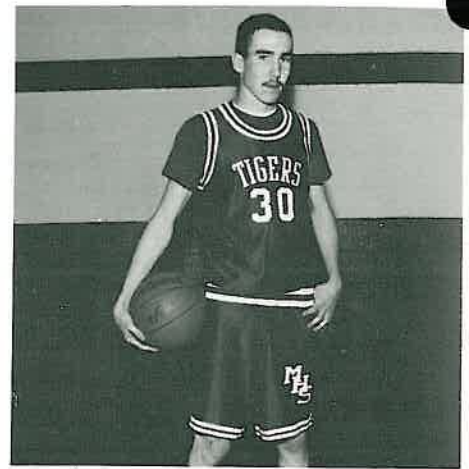
District Four Safety Awards (L-R) Row 1: B.G. Lee and A. Bowden, District Shop; H. Henry, Polk County maintenance crew; B. Turner and R. Lea, District Bridge Inspectors. Row 2: District Engineer Harold Beaver; M. Williams, District bridge crew; Jack Coleman, Van Buren Residency; R. Goodson, District maintenance crew; Dean Nichols, Waldron Residency; Amos Zimmer, Scott County maintenance crew and J. Clemence, District sign crew



Sarah Beaver, daughter of District Engineer Harold and Elaine Beaver, was crowned 1995 Basketball Homecoming Queen at Fort Smith Southside High School. She was also selected to receive a four-year Presidential Scholarship at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield.



Josh Roberts, standing center, and Brandon McMellon, seated right, are the son and nephew of Gene Roberts, Crew Leader at Mena. The team won the State FFA Meats Judging contest and will compete in the National FFA Convention. Josh, a senior at Mena High School, was the high point individual at the state level.



Darin Williams, son of Personnel Clerk Nan and Terry Williams, is a senior at Mansfield High School. He set a school record for most points scored in a basketball season with 526 points. He was chosen Class A all-district and is a member of the Arkansas Baptist Challenger Basketball team and will travel to Maracaibo, Venezuela in July to play tournaments and assist in basketball clinics.

DISTRICT FIVE



District Five Service Awards: (L-R) Wayne Bolding, Senior Inspector, 30 years; Johnie Hyslip, Distributor/Roller Operator, 15 years; Billy Bolding III, Construction Aide I, 15 years; Hulon Rice, Resident Engineer, 15 years; Bryan Anderson, Stock Clerk, five years and James House, Assistant District Engineer, 25 years.



Megan Lee, daughter of Equipment Supervisor George Lee, was crowned 1995 Basketball Homecoming Queen at Greenwood High School.



District Five Safety Awards: (L-R) Lonnie Dickey, Sharp County AMS; Jim Leggett, Resident Engineer; Leroy Swink, Resident Engineer; Paul Hoggard, Bridge Job Superintendent; Hulon Rice, Resident Engineer; Edward Dickey, District Bridge Inspector; Daniel Garwood, IZARD County AMS; Neal McCandlis, Fulton County AMS and James House, Assistant District Engineer.



Aaron and Molly Cantu are the children of Angie Cantu, Construction Aide I at the Searcy Residency.



Katelyn Morgan Goodwin, daughter of Toby Goodwin, was born January 4. Toby is Vegetation Controller on the Sharp County crew.



Tina Satterwhite, daughter of District Maintenance Superintendent Randy Satterwhite, and Larry Lewellin were married August 27, 1994 at Allen Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

DISTRICT SIX



District Six Safety Awards: (L-R) Chuck Tully, Bridge Inspector; Steve Cornett, Bridge Inspector; Pam Westbrook and Don Stovall, District Office; Dub Crowson, shop crew; Carl Erwin, Hot Spring County; Bill Bogle, Lonoke County; Ralph Burge, Saline County and David Carmack, Montgomery County. Not pictured: Calvin Hill, Bridge Inspector



Ronald Johnson, Construction Helper II, receives a five-year service certificate.



Hot Springs Residency employees voted R.T. Henson, left, Construction Helper I "Most Improved Employee of the Year" and Michael Allman, Senior Inspector "Employee of the Year"



Justin Tyler Roush, son of Steve and Tammy Roush, was born December 30, 1994. Steve is Area Headquarters Attendant for Prairie County.



Lindie Wise is the daughter of Joel and Linda Wise. She is a member of the Bauxite Lady Crushers basketball and track teams and the Student Council. Joel is a Motor Patrol Operator for west Pukaski County.

Scott Venable, son of Assistant Resident Engineer Jeff and Debbie Venable, is an honor graduate with a 3.96 grade average from Lakeside High School in Hot Springs. He is planning a trip this summer to Europe with the Lakeside French Club and plans to attend Louisiana Tech University this fall to major in biochemistry and microbiology.

Carole Stafford, District Receptionist, transferred to the Fiscal Services Division March 21.

DISTRICT SEVEN



Joshua Thomas Davidson, grandson of Linda McCaskill, Gurdon Rest Area Attendant, was born November 28, 1994 in Heidelberg, Germany.

DISTRICT EIGHT



Willard Martin, Crew Leader for the Districtwide bridge crew, retired May 8 with 24 years service.



District Eight Service Awards: (L-R) Leroy Ruble, Roller Operator, 15 years; Mary Jane Silvey, Area Headquarters Attendant, 10 years; William Alvey, Area Headquarters Attendant, 10 years; Doris Falconer, District Bookkeeper, 15 years; Leo Heiderscheidt, Vegetation Controller, 10 years; Hank Duvall, Bridge Repairer I, 15 years and Jim Sigler, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 20 years



District Eight Safety Awards: (L-R) C.W. McMillian, Resident Engineer; Joe Phillips, Area Maintenance Supervisor; John Roy, Shop Supervisor; Al Hunt, Office Manager; Steve Sheets, Storeroom Supervisor; Robert Murdoch, Sealing Job Superintendent; Bill Henry, Maintenance Crew Leader; Keven White, Area Maintenance Supervisor and Carroll Lathan, Safety Officer

DISTRICT NINE



Carley Nicole Dodson, granddaughter of Jack Dodson, Lead Person for Newton County, was born December 8, 1994.



Zachary Mark Nichols, grandson of Senior Mechanic Rex and Ruth Holt, was born April 4, 1995.



Cullen Meyer, age 10, son of Office Manager Debbie and Doyle Meyer, recently earned his Arrow of Light Award in Cub Scouts and promoted to Boy Scouts this year.



District Ten Service Awards: (L-R) Mark Pollard, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, five years; Sam Parrish, Rest Area Attendant, five years; Rick Carmack, Area Headquarters Attendant, 10 years; Ronald Rogers, Construction Aide I, 15 years; Andy Tucker, Construction Helper I, five years; Lavoy Sorg, Senior Mechanic, 20 years; John Watkins, Senior Mechanic, 20 years and James McClanahan, Bridge Repairer I, five years

DISTRICT TEN

District Ten graduates this year include Tammie S.L. Myrick Poyner, daughter of Debbie Myrick, Single Axle Truck Driver for Greene County. She will graduated from Greene County Tech in May.

Kimberly R. Darkins, daughter of David Darkins, Jr., Construction Aide II, Osceola Residency, graduated in May from the Univeristy of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Brad Baine, son of C.R. Baine, Construction Aide I, Paragould Residency, graduated in May for Marmaduke High School with a 3.7 grade average. He received a full four-year basketball scholarship to William's Baptist College. He was selected All-State and All-Region for 2 years; All-County, 3 years; All-Conference, 4 years; and Player of the Year for 1995. Brad traveled to Venezuela with the Brotherhoods of America to teach children basketball and while there was selected MVP in the International Tournament. Brad plans to attend college and major in Physical Therapy or Nursing.

Laura Lady, daughter of Lawrence County Area Maintenance Supervisor Harold and Susan Lady, graduated from Walnut Ridge High School in May. She was Valedictorian of her senior class and plans to attend Arkansas State University.



District Ten Service Awards: (L-R) Brad Fultz, Sign Erector II, five years; Tom Rorex, Electrical, Plumbing and Mechanical Repairer, 10 years; Alex James, Mississippi County I Lead Person, 10 years; and Joe Johnson, Mississippi County II Lead Person, 10 years



District Ten Safety Awards: (L-R) Row 1: Brent Watkins, Resident Engineer; Walt Hamm, Randolph County; Harold Lady, Lawrence County; Dick Hayes, Bridge Inspector; Kevin Smith, Bridge Inspector; and Jeff Pillow, Greene County. Row 2: Brad Smithee, Paragould Residency; Bill Currie, Mississippi County; Joe Hester, Roger Specking; Joe Barnett, District Office; Burl Hudson, Osceola Residency; and Dairl Hyde, District Maintenance crew



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