CTA launched a new Sunday and holiday transportation link to Chicago's great cultural attractions over the Memorial Day weekend.

The service was instituted in conjunction with the Regional Transportation Authority and the Chicago Council on Fine Arts.

The RTA/CTA Culture Buses carried large numbers of riders over a new loop from the Art Institute to the Jackson Park–University of Chicago area and back—covering the seven museums shown in the map at right.

Driving the three special buses, which will operate every Sunday through Labor Day—and on both Labor Day and the Fourth of July—were David Eggersdorf, Robert Williams, and Donald McKinley.

Many of the holiday passengers were out-of-town visitors to Chicago, some from foreign countries. CTA was praised by many of these tourists for making museum-going so convenient, comfortable, and economical.

The fare for the Culture Bus is the CTA Super Transferpass which permits unlimited riding.

The Culture Buses also give CTA employes and families a new opportunity to enjoy an entire afternoon of Chicago's cultural attractions, including the King Tut exhibit, on one easy-riding circuit.

In addressing an announcement press conference in the North Garden of the Art Institute, Miss Heather Morgan, executive director of the Fine Arts Council, emphasized the importance of CTA's new service in making Chicago's rich culture opportunities so easy for the average person to enjoy.

George Krambles, CTA general manager, described the new route.
CTA Scholars
Get Degrees

Seven CTA employees are earning college degrees this year with the help of the CTA's Tuition Aid Plan. More than 150 other employees are receiving tuition aid for studies in a variety of fields.

CLAUDE R. STEVENS Jr., motorman, North Section, is getting a bachelor's degree in psychology from Chicago State University. Stevens, who operates a night run on the Howard-Jackson Park route, has been a CTA employe for 11 years. He plans to go on to graduate school for a degree in industrial relations.

SUSAN THIEME, management development coordinator, Personnel Development, has earned a master's degree in education from the National College of Education's downtown branch. A CTA employe since 1974, Sue now hopes to start work on a master's degree in business administration.

PAUL WALLACE, sergeant in the Patrol Section, Security, is the recipient of a master's degree in the administration of criminal justice from the University of Illinois Chicago Circle campus. Wallace, a 14-year CTA veteran, selected urban mass transit security for his area of concentration. During 10 years of part-time study, he has also received degrees in political science and criminal justice.

PETER RAGO, ticket agent, North Section, has been awarded a bachelor of science degree in physics from DePaul University. Rago, who works at both Fullerton and Jarvis avenue stations, started as a CTA employe in 1968, and has been using much of his leisure time since to pursue a college degree.

FRED RIDLEY, clerk in the Library, is receiving a master's degree in occupational education from Chicago State University. Ridley, who has been with CTA since 1974, says his degree requirements included the study of accounting systems, marketing organization and behavioral theory.

ROBERT J. CASSIDY, material handling specialist, Materials Management, has received an associate's degree in material management from William Rainey Harper College in Palatine, Cassidy, a CTA employe for two years, has been attending school the last seven years. Two of his children are also in college. He is working toward a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Others Can Do It, Too

The Tuition Aid Plan was established in 1964 to give CTA employes the opportunity to further their education and self-development at minimum cost. All full-time employees with at least three months of service are eligible to apply for tuition aid, which provides reimbursement at different levels, depending on the category of courses taken.

Level I courses are those directly related to the employee's present position. These qualify for the highest level of reimbursement according to a formula that also considers grade averages.

Level II courses are those that, while not related to the employee's current position, are required for an associate's, bachelor's or master's degree program related to some phase of CTA operations.

Level III includes academic or technical courses taken for self-improvement, but which are related to the employe's career objectives.

The employee's supervisor will assist in determining the category of courses selected for Tuition Aid Plan reimbursement.

Verification of enrollment is necessary at the time the employe puts in an application for aid for Level II courses. The statement from the school must be written on the institution's stationery and must indicate the degree or course of studies involved.

For further information on the Tuition Aid Plan and Chicago-area schools, call Norine Stratton in the Personnel Development Section, Merchandise Mart, Room 752, Extension 1283, or consult a copy of the employe brochure entitled CTA Tuition Aid Plan. This is available through your supervisor.
CTA Buses Carry Messages
For Nation, City
All Over Town

CTA buses are serving as billboards-on-wheels for important public education objectives of the nation and the city this month. In line with the President's energy conservation program, buses are telling riders (and prospective riders) "Thanks for taking the bus--and saving energy: Jimmy Carter". There are 200 large displays such as the one shown at right as it was previewed on CTA's inspection bus which was part of the RTA exhibit on Richard J. Daley Plaza for National Transportation Week. In addition, each of CTA's 2,500 buses is carrying a car card bearing the same thank-you message from the White House. At the June 1 "Pitch In For Chicago" summer rally also on Daley Plaza, the CTA introduced the specially-painted green and white bus below. In cooperation with the city government's year-round effort which has won Chicago a reputation as one of the cleanest cities in the country, the Pitch In bus is running in regular service on the Lake street route into the Loop all summer long, reminding thousands of viewers of their responsibility to keep Chicago clean and litter free.
Mitchell Promoted To Training Chief

Edward Mitchell, superintendent, Methods/Standards, Support Services, since 1974, has been named area superintendent, instruction, with responsibility for instruction of all operating personnel. Mitchell, 45, joined CTA in 1959 and served as conductor, motorman, towerman and operator before becoming an instructor in 1967. He later was appointed line supervisor, superintendent, Agents and Janitors, relief and assistant station superintendent, Transportation training coordinator and special assistant to the manager, Transportation. Mitchell was the first motorman to drive the Skokie Swift. He has been very active in the CTA sports program. He and his wife, Sandra, have a home on the far South Side.

RICHARD J. GROSS has been appointed assistant superintendent, Service, District B; he had been general planning supervisor, Support Services, Transportation. HELMUT L. SCHWEITZER has moved to supervisor, Signal Design, in Engineering from junior signal design engineer. In Claims Law and Real Estate, ALAN E. NEUMANN has been reassigned to supervisor, Research and Education, from claims law education coordinator.

Five management-professional interns have been named by the Transportation Department. They are JAMES MARSHALL and HAYWARD BORDERS, both former bus service supervisors; ALFRED T. THOMAS, former rail service supervisor; CLARK CARTER, former station clerk, Archer, and JAMES PAYNE, former driver, 69th St. Also in Transportation, CAROL BOWMAN, former ticket agent, West Section, has been appointed manpower planning-budget analyst.

Four Datacenter employes have been named senior systems designers: MICHAEL FARINA, former systems designer; RICHARD TURGEON and GERALD GRIFFIN, both former senior applications designers, and GARY GUMBINER, former applications analyst. In other Datacenter changes, former applications designers ELLYN M. BRAGLIA and ALTHEA DRISCOLL have become senior applications designers.

New as bus and truck mechanic apprentices in Maintenance are RICHARD MURRAY, former bus serviceman, 77th St.; WILLIAM KOCLANIS, former ticket agent, North Section, and former bus repairers AARON W. MORRIS (77th St.), WILBERT SUTTON and DENNIS MURPHY (both 52nd St.). JAMES P. RILEY Jr., former bus repairer, Limits, has been appointed machinist apprentice, and SCOTT R. STONE, former combination clerk, South Shops, has become carpenter apprentice.

In other South Shops changes, RICHARD J. McCREA, former laborer, is now steamfitter helper, and ATLAS J. HORR has moved from sheet metal worker helper to sheet metal worker. RICHARD McCALLISTER, former motorman, West Section, and LOUIS J. BUBAN, former electrical worker apprentice, South Shops, have been named helpers. Reassigned as laborers are DELMAR MORTON, former bus driver, 77th St.; NA-THANIEL THOMAS, former bus serviceman, 77th St., and LEONIDES RIOS, former janitor.

In Accounting, MARY G. PACYNA, formerly in Personnel Administration, has been named accounts payable clerk, and LOIS LITTLETON, former ticket agent, South Section, has become payroll clerk. DEBRA A. BUSSIE, former clerk-typist, Datacenter, has been reassigned as utility clerk, Claims Law and Real Estate. FRANCES CALPIN, former typist, General Administration, is now call directory operator, Personnel Administration.

New stock clerks in Materials Management include JOSEPH JAMISON, former bus driver, Kedzie; LESTER SPEIGHTS, former laborer, Stores, and OTHA BARNES Jr., former clerk, Stores. Reassigned to Security as secretarial stenographer is CATHERINE SPEER, former clerk-stenographer, Claims Law and Real Estate, and as clerk, MARGARET A. POKATILOFF, former typist, Stores.

Plant Maintenance Promotions

W. F. Gaedtke

Walter F. Gaedtke, superintendent, Track and Structures since 1974, has been named superintendent, Buildings and Grounds Maintenance. Gaedtke, 39, has a degree in civil engineering from Purdue University. A CTA employee since 1960, he started out as a graduate trainee and later held positions as assistant engineer, draftsman, track design engineer and superintendent, Structures.

Ronald O. Swindell, superintendent, Electrical Maintenance for the past three years, is the new superintendent, Power and Way. (Continued on page 12)
Who Put The Orchids On Bill Nichols' Desk?

Bill Did!

The materials coordinator at the South Shops keeps fresh orchids on his desk every day.

He grows orchids as a hobby.

William Nichols is nurturing 500 orchid plants in a 12 by 20 foot greenhouse behind his home on the southwest side.

"Orchids are surprisingly hardy plants, if you treat them right," Nichols remarked as he showed off his greenhouse where the temperature is kept at a humid 90-plus degrees, utilizing a gas heater and a humidifier.

The greenhouse was aglow in petals of white, red, blue, green, orange, yellow, pink and combinations -- up to four different colors on some blossoms.

"These plants constantly produce new blooms," Nichols said.

He took a multi-colored blossom in his hands and gently pressed open its interior petals to show how the blossoms are self-pollinating.

"As long as the environment is kept warm and moist, with a gentle movement of air, they respond beautifully," he said.

Besides dry or cold air, orchids have another unseen enemy -- viruses.

"Each time I cut a blossom or do some surgery on a plant, I use a sterilized razor blade to avoid spreading a virus from one plant to another. I never use the same blade on different plants. That could be fatal," he explained.

Nichols said he also periodically sprays each plant and the greenhouse with various chemicals to ward off viruses.

Orchids are planted in pots filled with redwood bark chips and get their nourishment from special plant foods Nichols uses. While the blooms are stunning in their beauty, the plants themselves leave something to be desired.

The ungainly leaves and pods of the plants are stiff and feel waxy; the roots, resembling gnarled macaroni, entwine the wood chips to support the plant and snake over the sides of the pots.

Although Nichols in only 54, he already has his second career planned after he retires.

"I'm going to move back to my hometown of Mauston, Wisconsin, near the Wisconsin Dells, and become a commercial orchid grower," he said.

The hobby came to him by way of a gift from a friend.

"At the time, I didn't think much about orchids. I had 125 rose bushes in my back yard to constantly care for. They were the pride of the neighborhood. People used to line my back fence to admire them. But roses take more time and trouble than orchids, I discovered. Besides, roses only bloom in the summer!"

Nichols has won awards in shows held in the Lincoln Park conservatory by the Illinois and the American Orchid Societies. He is a member of both organizations.

Although he brings orchids to work nearly every day, he never takes them back home. Many of the South Shops' women employees know about Nichols' orchids. They take them home. (CTA Photos by Rich Stanton)
Ken Blocker Turns Junk Into Art

By Don Yabush

One of the most admired CTA new cars of the year was a model of 'L' car No. 4271 of the 4000 series built to be presented to Evan E. Olmstead, former manager of Maintenance, at his retirement party.

Blocker started his CTA career 16 years ago as a bus driver. In his off-duty time, he began working with metal sculpting at home.

"I learned to work with metals in high school and was an aviation structural mechanic during my four years in the Marine Corps," he says.

Among Blocker's works is a bronze-colored flower (about 15 inches high and 8 inches across) made from lathe shavings taken from rapid transit car wheels.

He silver-soldered the shavings together to form the blossom, stem and leaves of the stylized flower.

He spray painted the flower with bronze paint and mounted it on a framed velvet covered board.

"It takes me about five days and 75 welds to make such a flower," he says. It is one of 12 flowers he has made from scrap material and has given away.

Discarded nuts, bolts, ball bearings, screws and washers proved a ready source for Blocker's ingenuity—he turned them into a chess set.

Blocker completed the set this past March 3 in time to play his first challenger. Blocker won handily in nine deft moves.

From the contents of the scrap box Blocker also fashioned one of his most innovative efforts—a skin diver.

The figure's facemask is made from a spark plug; its body is a spring; its streaming hair, oversized hands and flippers were formed from welding rods. The skin diver carries a dart gun made from a nail.

One of Blocker's most popular items, which he has made and given away by the score, is what he calls "balancing dolls"—two-inch-high figures balanced on one foot atop a miniature bottle while holding a curved balance rod with an inch-thick ball bearing on each end. A slight push on one of the ball bearings sends the figures whirling around.

"I've made about 100 of these from scrap for friends at the shop," Blocker says. "The figures only take a couple of hours to make in my workshop and it gives people a kick to see them twirling around."

He has made a couple of ball point pen desk sets featuring his balancing doll for the Skokie Shop.
As It Was -  
Architectural Gem Can Be Revisited

(Photographs: Courtesy of The Art Institute of Chicago)

Art and architecture converge at the Art Institute's newest permanent exhibit.
This unique work of art is an entire room, skillfully moved from the original Stock Exchange building at LaSalle and Washington and restored inside the new east wing of the Art Institute on Columbus Drive. It was originally the Trading Room, which for 15 years echoed with the excited shouts of traders before it was converted, first for the Foreman Bros. Bank (1908), later for Bell Savings and Loan (1940), and finally for the wartime United Service Organizations to serve as a social center for military personnel.

Its distinction flows from its creators—Louis Sullivan and Dankmar Adler, who were among the greatest of American architects, and are recognized worldwide as leaders of the Chicago school. While some of their landmark efforts have fallen before the wrecking ball, others have been rallying points for Chicagoans with a strong sense of history and preservation.

The Auditorium building on Congress is such a structure, as is the Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co., State Street store. The Charnley House on Astor is another Sullivan-Adler landmark.

When the picturesque Stock Exchange building had to be sacrificed to expansion of Loop office space in 1972, the Art Institute was given first choice of selecting artifacts from the building.

Rather than pick out bits and pieces, the Institute chose to recreate and relocate the second floor Trading Room in its entirety. The work was undertaken by the architectural firm of Vinci-Kenney, and underwritten by a major contribution, reportedly of $1 million, by the Walter E. Heller Fund.

It required exacting research. Some sections of the room had to be reproduced from photographs. Others, such as the red oak floor, were the result of deduction, since no records existed of the original material.

The craftsmanship of the room is just as exacting as the planning. One can scarcely distinguish the original from restored sections of the room.

At 64 by 81 feet, with a 30 foot ceiling, the room demonstrates Sullivan's dictum that "form follows function." The room had no intermediate supports, leaving an unobstructed space for stock trading, but had a steel framing system to support 11 floors above. The weight of these floors is carried by just four columns in the room. These are ornately decorated and adorned at the top by tiny carbon filament light bulbs.

Almost 75 per cent of the original colored glass skylights and 90 per cent of the cast-iron mullions holding them in place have been retained.

The room contains the slate blackboards that were used to list daily market quotations. The paneled walls are Honduras mahogany. A visitor's gallery overlooks the room.

Outside, the Art Institute has also reinstalled the original entrance to the Stock Exchange building, an elegant terra cotta archway, which was a gift from the City of Chicago.

Adler's construction assured that even a whisper could be heard distinctly in the room. And Sullivan, famous for his ornamentation, designed 52-color stencils which were reproduced on canvas for the interior faces of the four main trusses.

In its day, the Trading Room was hailed as "unexcelled in the magnificence of its appointments and decoration by any room used for like purpose in the country." It still is.

And, if this room whets your appetite for Sullivan and Adler architecture, you can take a convenient tour of their landmark works, all within reach by CTA. Roosevelt University, for instance, has restored the Auditorium Theatre and has a special display set up in the Michigan Avenue lobby which explains how the Auditorium building was constructed.

This view of the reconstructed Chicago Stock Exchange Trading Room only begins to indicate the ornamentation of the ceiling and walls.

How it was back in 1894 when it was the daily scene of stock trading.

Things to do in the Chicago area
with Anita Leppiks

JUNE, 1977
Would knowing the probabilities of probability help you at the tables in Las Vegas? Probably, according to DENISE McLANE, the 14-year-old daughter of assistant station superintendent and Mrs. JAMES McLANE (South Section). Denise, an 8th grade student at Enrico Fermi Elementary School on Chicago's south side, is well acquainted with the odds thanks to her prize-winning science project entitled—what else?—"Probabilities of Probability." Denise, pictured above with her project, demonstrated the probabilities of chance as it relates to known incidence, such as life insurance tables, actuarial and mortality tables, and the gambling tables of Vegas. She used dice, pennies, cards, marbles and various gadgets to represent the many factors affecting probability. Denise won first place in her district, and placed third in the city-wide science fair at the Museum of Science and Industry in the math category. Denise received an additional "prize"—she met author Alex Haley and Operation PUSH director Jesse Jackson. Post Script: Denise is also on the honor roll—naturally! Congratulations! A proud grandfather is MARYN B. HILDBOLD and a proud grandmother is PATRICIA HILDBOLD, rail traffic supervisor, North District, shown here with his new grandson, GARY W. HILDBOLD Jr. Gary, the son of GARY and PATRICIA HILDBOLD, was born on Feb. 4, weighing in at 7 pounds 14 ounces. Congratulations to all! .. Sitting pretty on her mother's lap for her first-candle day March 5 is little LUCIANA HUDSON, the daughter of MAY and GEORGE HUDSON Jr. Luciana has a lot of company at home: ANNETTE, 17; ALISHA, 14; and IRVING, 10. George, who works out of Kedzie, has been with the CTA for 12 years. Our sincere condolences are extended to Pensioner WILLIAM J. FABAY in the recent loss of his beloved wife, CATHERINE. Mr. and Mrs. Fabay had been married for 55 wonderful years. Mr. Fabay started with the Chicago Surface Lines in 1922 as a conductor out of the Archer and Rockwell barn. He had 37 years of service before his retirement in 1959... Because ZAVIE ARTIS, former trackman II, couldn't come to the coffee and rolls, they came to him, along with his retirement packet and friends from the track and roadway group at West Shops. Mr. Artis, who went on disability pension Jan. 1 of this year, is currently receiving physical therapy and is in good spirits. He has already told one of his visitors he plans to have a foot race with him in the near future—so everyone, take heed. Mr. Artis and his wife, CORNELIA, who live at 7749 S. Green in Chicago (60629), would appreciate hearing from former co-workers; everyone is welcome to stop by and see them. Shown in picture is Zavie (seated), and Track Section Foreman JIMMIE STANFORD at his left. In back row are, left to right: BOB STAVINA, supervisor, track and roadway; HERMAN JOHNSON, trackman II-assistant foreman; CHARLIE DUNKINS, unit supervisor, track maintenance; ED SHAW, track construction gang foreman, and JIM SMITH, trackman II.

Elizabeth Hallahan

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
ANNAPOlis, MARYLAND 21402

Ms. Elizabeth Hallahan
302 S. Sycamore St.
Genoa, IL 60135

Dear Ms. Hallahan,

... the letter said it all. ELIZABETH HALLAHAN is a proud new midshipman appointed to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. Elizabeth, known to family and friends as Lisa, is the ninth child of Mr. and Mrs. PAT HALLAHAN, area superintendent, far north. She has eight sisters and seven brothers. Four of her brothers also served in the Navy. Lisa was graduated from Genoa-Kingston High School this June where she was a straight "A" student and on the Dean's List. The 18-year-old is very athletic, too. She participated in volleyball, basketball, baseball, track, and was on the gymnastics team. Lisa was appointed to the Academy by Sen. Charles H. Percy three months ago and received her official letter of acceptance from the Academy on May 10. She will be a member of the class of 1981 and will be sworn in on July 6. Congratulations and best of luck to you, Lisa!
Pioneer Portraits

CTA Photos by Mike Hoffert

Mike Hoffert of CTA Photo was on hand when the CTA Pioneers honored mothers of all ages at their May meeting at the Golden Flame, 6417 W. Higgins road. Here are a few of the participants who might be remembered by CTA employees and retirees. Luncheon meetings will be held at the same restaurant right through the summer on the second Tuesday of each month, according to Maynard "Pinky" Moran, who heads up arrangements. Lunch is $3. Reservations may be made by calling Moran at RO 3-6379.

Frank Laske with Mary Stomner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Barrett with Frank Norton, center.

Mike Kopanowski who serves as club correspondent.

Forest Glen, 61st Street Terminal Safety Award Winners

Holding the public safety contest award won by Forest Glen garage are outstanding drivers Vidal Fuentes (left) and Earl Terry. Also taking part in the presentation ceremony are (left to right) Tom Boyle, manager; Jim Bla, manager, Transportation, and George W. Daubs, superintendent, Forest Glen. Forest Glen has won at least one quarterly contest a year since 1973.

Stanley C. Christ, superintendent, (second from left) accepts the quarterly public safety contest award for rapid transit from Harold H. Geissenheimer, General Operations Manager, on behalf of 61st Street terminal. Chosen outstanding employees for the first quarter of 1977 were Charles Spears, motorman (right) and Samuel Pollack, conductor. Ardis Morris, assistant superintendent, stands second from right.
Here are the proudest pictures of the year identified by name, school, parent and parent’s CTA work location.
As a passenger of a Cottage Grove bus driven by ERNEST C. CARTER (Kedzie garage) signed a letter which refers to him as 'one of your excellent employees,' Gloria Cain, of south Trumbull avenue, writes: 'He waits for passengers rashing to catch his bus. He is alert and cheerful, and yet he does his job well. During the time he has been 'our driver' he has always been on time. We have never seen him angry or belligerent with passengers.'

Six riders of a Kedzie-California bus driven by BARBARA J. GLENN (77th St. garage) come from a daily rider of his Madison street bus, Mrs. Helen Malmquist, of Oak Park, explains: "He is the ideal bus driver, in my estimation, because he is conscientiously trying to do a really good job. He calls all the stops in a clear, intelligible voice. He stops the smokers from a ride with such a driver. It was a joy. She just coasted to each stop and had that 'Big Bertha' under her control at all times. If you had more drivers like her, you would soon have more smiling faces."

Praise for ROBERT E. O'NEAL (Kedzie garage) comes from a daily rider of his Madison Street bus, Mrs. Anna C. Robinson, of south Kolin avenue, says, "In more than 60 years of using public transportation, I have never had a ride with a driver, it was a joy. I just coasted to each stop and had that 'Big Bertha' under her control at all times. If you had more drivers like her, you would soon have more smiling faces."

ISMAIL J. SALEH, recently reassigned from Forest Glen to North Park garage, received a thank-you from 84-year-old Ms. Marie Webb, of Belle Plaine avenue, for helping her board his Irving Park bus. Ms. Webb says: "I was pretty tired and was having a hard time getting on the bus, but your very kind driver held out his hand and helped me. He was very pleasant to me and everybody. It sure made me feel warm inside."

WILLIE ROCHHELLE (69th Street garage) won the admiration of Mrs. Charmaine Ford, of South Paulina street, for "his character and thoughtfulness on a most enjoyable ride" on his Ashland avenue bus. Mrs. Ford says: "It was rewarding to see this young man's concern for his passengers by making sure they were safely inside his vehicle before departing. He made sure a blind passenger reached her transferring bus safely and helped a young student locate her fare that had dropped on the floor."

JOHN W. CRAYTON (West Section) is the conductor of a Lake Dan Ryan train that Lenise E. Brown, of South Kolin avenue, takes to work each morning in the Loop. "Numerous times I have heard this conductor call the stops in such a pleasant manner," says Brown, "He points out the places of interest in the downtown area, which is very helpful to those who are new in the city. He has a pleasant personality, and his voice is very clear and distinct."

ILDA CASTELLANOS (North Park garage), driver of an Outer Drive bus, was thanked by Mrs. Philip Claster, of Pratt boulevard, "for a very enjoyable and safe trip," Mrs. Claster writes: "As I dropped my fare in the box, a bright-looking and well-groomed young lady smiled at me and said 'Hi.' I was pleasantly surprised by her sincerity and gracious welcome. She handled the bus superbly, drove smoothly, and I can honestly say the ride was a delight."

As a passenger of a Cottage Grove bus driven by ERNEST C. CARTER (Kedzie garage), Mrs. Anna C. Robinson, of south LaSalle street, says, "In more than 60 years of using public transportation, I have never had a ride with such a driver. It was a joy. I just coasted to each stop and had that 'Big Bertha' under her control at all times. If you had more drivers like her, you would soon have more smiling faces."

Other Plant Maintenance reassignments include Walter C. Hallford, former supervisor, Escalator Maintenance, who is now supervisor, Electrical/Mechanical Maintenance. Patrick O. McCarthy, former supervisor, Bridges & Structures, has become supervisor, Track and Structures. Warren G. Taylor, civil engineer, has been appointed unit supervisor, Structure Maintenance.

NOTE: Additional graduate pictures will be printed in the July issue of Transit News. Watch for them!
When 'Sure, Coach' Is 'Yes, Ma'am'

By W. B. Wolfan

The way basketball is being played these days in both professional and college circles, it seems that the brutal art of physical mayhem is not alone confined to hockey and football.

Well, it seems that there is a solution to violence on the hardwood court and the bitter battling with officials that has changed the game completely.

Just put a lady coach on the bench. That would calm everybody. Perhaps even the athletes would be halfway civil in responding to a bad call by the referee.

During the recently completed CTA basketball season, there actually was a lady coach on the bench. Her name is Georgetta Griffin, a comely lass from the CTA's Claims Department who served as the head coach of the 52nd Street Flyers of the CTA league.

Make no mistakes about it. Georgetta knows her basketball from A to Z. She was a three-sport athlete herself at Harlan High School and Jones Commercial. She led intramural teams to championships in basketball, softball, and volleyball.

This reporter was curious. How did she happen to become a coach? And thereby hangs an interesting tale.

Miss Griffin says that she was always an avid fan of CTA basketball. One day while waiting for a bus, she was talking to Coach Mike Shelton of the 52nd Street Flyers. She gave him her unbiased opinion of his team, the pluses and minuses. He said to her, "Why don't you come out and help me coach?"

At first she refused but later on she decided to come out to the Washington Park fieldhouse and assist Shelton in his coaching duties. She says: "I didn't attract very much attention at the beginning. I guess they (the players) thought I was a mascot for the team. Later on they began to take me seriously!"

Then during the 1976-77 season, Miss Griffin assumed the duties of head coach after a year of "apprenticeship," as she puts it.

Things suddenly were different. She was now calling the shots on strategy and substitutions from the players' bench. She was in complete charge.

"This past season we had lost most of the players who had put the team into the playoffs the previous year, and we had a shortage of manpower. But the fellows gave it everything they had."

This reporter asked how the players reacted to her guidance. Were there any problems?

"My entire squad was very respectful and highly protective. I talked to them as a member of the team. When I pulled a player out of the game, I would explain why I did it. I tried to communicate on an individual basis, but always emphasizing 'the good of the team' angle. And it seemed to work very well.

"I had no arguments with either players or referees and I don't recall a single technical being called against our bench all season."

Miss Griffin says she doesn't believe in arguing with the referee because "you hurt yourself more than you help your team."

She prides herself on analyzing the weaknesses of an opposing team, much of the information she gained as a spectator. In the big leagues, they call this scouting. She explains: "I'd call time out and tell my players to force the opponents to shoot from the outside by tying up the zone. This came from having studied the opponent's game carefully. If the opposition depended upon an inside shooter, we would tighten the zone and force them outside so we could control the rebounds."

Incidentally, one of the former 52nd Street Flyers players was Miss Griffin's fiance, Reginald Williams, who played forward and guard. Apparently he listened to Georgetta's coaching instructions the same as everyone else did.

For quite awhile, the spectators would gape when they saw a woman sitting on the players' bench. But she never heard a single boo during her two seasons of coaching.

She recalls as her most memorable experience the night one of her players was injured. Out dashed Miss Griffin to administer first aid to his injured leg. She says the large crowd didn't know whether to cheer or remain silent. The sight of a lady to the rescue was a bit too much for the audience.

Miss Griffin describes her coaching stint as a great experience with a fine group of young men, one she will always remember. But she isn't sure she will do it again next year.

She concludes: "I just wish that the men didn't take the sport so seriously. They should get more actual fun out of playing the game."

And perhaps this is why the CTA basketballers at season's end presented the trophy as "Coach of the Year" to Georgetta Griffin, a true sportswoman if there ever was one.
77th Streakerettes Take Volleyball Title

The 77th Street Streakerettes, by taking two out of three games from the 69th Street Raiderettes, became the 1977 volleyball champs of the CTA sports program volleyball league.

In the first game the Streakerettes were easy winners as they beat the Raiderettes 15 to 5. Not to be outdone, the Raiderettes won the second game 15 to 11, only to go down in defeat in the final game 15 to 5.

Members of the champion Streakerettes are: P. Lankin, L. Murry, C. Jones, D. Doyle, V. Austin and J. Joseph.

In the consolation game for third and fourth place, Archer beat Kedzie in two straight, 15 to 6 and 15 to 8.

The One That Didn’t Get Away

When John Seay, South Shops, tells his friends how big a fish he caught, it won't be a tall tale. John has proof since his 13 pound, 1 ounce chinook was chosen as an entry in the Chicago Park District Coho '77 fishing contest.

John landed his prize chinook while fishing for perch off the point at Jackson Park.

The Coho '77 fishing contest was co-sponsored by the Chicago Tribune and Pepsi-Cola General Bottler of Chicago Inc., in cooperation with the Chicago Sports-fishing Association.

J. Finger of the Raiderettes swings and misses as D. Martin, left, and V. Martin watch in dismay.

D. Doyle of the Streakerettes reaches high to tip ball back over net as V. Austin moves in to assist.

John Seay, left, holds his prize chinook with the assistance of his fishing partner Charles Carroll.

Division 241 Golf Tournament

Plans have been completed for the eleventh annual Division 241 golf tournament and banquet at the Cog Hill Country Club, Lemont, Ill., Saturday, July 9.

Since the tourney will be held on Saturday, later tee-off times will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Peoria handicap system will be used this year in the awarding of golf prizes.

The cost of the tournament this year will be $17 for golf and banquet; $10 for golf or banquet only.

All golf buffs who are interested in playing can contact Warren Scholl at 341-1733 for reservations and tee-off time.
PLATFORM WORK: The new surface-level station at Cicero on the Douglas rapid transit route is being equipped with a long concrete platform which, for the first time, will accommodate eight-car trains. When completed, the facility will replace two existing stations at Cicero and 50th avenue. A morning rush period entrance will be provided at 47th court.

Forty-Four New Bus Service Supervisors Graduate

CTA Selects First Woman Bus Inspector

The CTA has wooed Ruby Hitchcock away from General Motors and her home town of Pontiac, Michigan, to become our first woman bus inspector, assigned to the Engineering department.

As a group leader in GM's new coach section, Mrs. Hitchcock had been assigned to looking over each of CTA's newest buses (the 9600 series) before it started its delivery journey to Chicago.

Now she is on our team, checking new parts and systems at the delivery end of the line and travelling to GM and other supplier plants to make sure buses and parts are 100 per cent in accord with specifications.

The young-looking grandmother entered the business world after her husband (also a General Motors employee) died, leaving her with seven children to support.

Her first venture was a business of her own—a service shop for automotive generators in the basement of her home.

Working in conjunction with gasoline stations, Mrs. Hitchcock purchased discarded generators from junk yards, rebuilt them, and labeled them by model of car and engine. Gas station attendants would refer customers to her. After changing the customer's generator, Mrs. Hitchcock would keep the old generator, restore it, if at all possible, and label it to replace the one sold.

She next ventured into a larger business known as "Ruby's Car Cleanup."

The major tools used in this business were a tooth brush, bottle brush and percolator brush. With these instruments, she and her two employees completely cleaned automobile upholstery, motors, generators, spark plugs and anything else under the automobile's hood.

Mrs. Hitchcock joined General Motors in Pontiac as an assembler 12 years ago. She took a GM course in welding and learned to use the ultra-sonic machine employed to check the welds.

A resident of Elmwood Park, Mrs. Hitchcock says she is looking forward to a successful and enjoyable tenure at CTA. "I am not a woman's libber," says Mrs. Hitchcock. "I believe in working hard to get ahead and I'm not placing advancement in my job area on the fact that I am a woman."

Farewell, Shirani

Shirani Gunawardane is returning to Sri Lanka (Ceylon) after four years as a dictaphone typist in the CTA's Stenographic section. Reason: her husband, a Fulbright scholar, has completed his graduate work at the University of Chicago and earned his doctorate degree in business administration. He is returning to his teaching position at the University of Ceylon. Shirani, who had completed two years at Ceylon Technical College before coming to the U.S., will go back to school and pursue a degree in law.

The Gunawardanes are taking the long way home—stops in St. Louis, Denver and Los Angeles—a visit to Disneyland for their nursery school aged son—a visit to a brother in Japan whom Shirani has not seen for ten years—and a stay in Singapore.

Shirani will miss us. "My four years at CTA have been very happy," she remarks, "and I am proud that I could work for such a company as this."
IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM BARKER, 52, 60th Street, Emp. 12-08-69, Died 4-25-77
RICHARD R. BARTELS, 65, North Section, Emp. 1-20-15, Died 4-25-77
RICHARD G. BATTLES, 76, Engineering, Emp. 11-24-19, Died 4-09-77
CATHERINE A. BLUDAU, 89, West Section, Emp. 12-10-28, Died 4-30-77
CARL BODENSTEDT, 92, Law, Emp. 9-09-99, Died 3-29-77
GEORGE BOTICA, 91, Way & Structures, Emp. 4-21-34, Died 4-24-77
JOHN W. BURKS, Jr., 54, Beverly, Emp. 2-27-47, Died 5-03-77
FRED J. DIEBOLD, 66, Forest Glen, Emp. 12-15-55, Died 4-24-77
DANIEL FINNEGAN, 77, North Section, Emp. 7-02-27, Died 4-28-77
LULU O. HAMANN, 87, South Section, Emp. 1-29-13, Died 4-25-77
JOHN F. JOYCE, 71, West Section, Emp. 8-01-18, Died 4-17-77
RICHARD G. KROKAR, 82, Way & Structures, Emp. 11-20-23, Died 4-09-77
JOHN J. KISSANE, 92, Limits, Emp. 11-30-43, Died 4-02-77
NICHOL M. REITER, 90, Kedzie, Emp. 9-06-46, Died 3-28-77
EUSTACIO PETRUZZELLI, 76, Engr., Emp. 9-25-45, Died 4-23-77
LEO J. MONKUS, 60, Forest Glen, Emp. 3-06-72, Died 5-11-77
FRED J. DIEBOLD, 66, Forest Glen, Emp. 3-22-17, Died 4-08-77
ROGER W. WARD, 74, Limits, Emp. 2-05-20, Died 4-27-77
THOMAS WIXTED, 33, Forest Glen, Emp. 3-06-72, Died 4-11-77

NEW PENSIIONERS

WALTER H. BOT, Operator, Forest Glen, Emp. 10-07-46
SAMUEL HARDY, Operator, Kedzie, Emp. 12-17-53
WILLIAM HOLLAND, Bus & Truck Helper, South Shops, Emp. 12-01-48
ABEL KASPER, Car Serviceman, South Shops, Emp. 8-20-56
EDWARD L. MACHEM, Supervisor, District B., Emp. 11-13-41
VERNE L. MAHR, Operator, 77th Street, Emp. 5-27-57
JULIUS W. MARTIN, Operator, 77th Street, Emp. 8-24-53
EARL McLAUGHLIN, Sales Coordinator, Claims/Law Real Estate, Emp. 2-10-43
HARRY S. MOCAJSI, Operator, North Avenue, Emp. 12-19-48
ISAAC WOODS, Bus & Truck Helper, South Shops, Emp. 1-26-45

DISABILITY RETIREMENTS

THOMAS A. FILIPIAK, Operator, Kedzie, Emp. 11-03-48

Service anniversaries in June

40 years
J. F. O'Brien
Control Center

35 years
J. D. Riordan, Ashland/95th

30 years
P. F. Anderson, Limits
L. W. Craig, 77th Street
H. M. Doherty, Off. Proc. & Budget
J. F. Fabits, Skokie Shop
D. S. Guereca, Skokie Shop
H. J. Halverson, North Park
G. W. Isaac, Central Counting
R. Laskowski, Skokie Shop
L. Malicki, Forest Glen
R. Mosk, Forest Glen
J. L. Nechancki, Archer
M. A. Pfeiffer, Jefferson Park
F. R. Wisniewski, North Avenue

25 years
R. Bruce, Kedzie
A. L. Cooper, Beverly
F. E. Fuque, Ashland/95th
B. A. Kistor, Engineering
W. J. Marsealek, Maintenance
R. Smith, 52nd Street
W. G. Strozewski, Maintenance
L. B. Taylor, Beverly
P. D. Tully, North Park
S. G. Vaughan, Off. Proc. & Budget
M. J. Zlocich, Skokie Shop

WESLEY HAYNES, Jr., Collector,
North Avenue, Emp. 6-26-58
CHARLES E. JOHNSON, Motorman,
Jefferson Park, Emp. 11-03-70
LEON F. JONES, Operator,
Beverly, Emp. 1-10-52
THADDEUS J. KOLMAN, Conductor,
West Section, Emp. 7-25-47
BRUNO J. TRUTTY, Operator,
Archer, Emp. 7-29-46

JUNE, 1977
Senior Prom:

CTA Retiree Style

When the CTA Senior Citizens Retirement Organization held its annual dinner dance meeting in Cicero in May, Bert Cadney of CTA Photo was on hand to make pictures for this album feature. Retirees from around the country may spot a familiar face or two here.

CTA Photos by Bert Cadney

Joe Nolan, manager of the club, was emcee.

At ease: Ed Goettert, Joe Famera, Isabel Goettert, Ann Famera, Mildred and Harold Burda.

Together again: Les Keag, Tom Hildebrant, Ray Dowdle.

Should retirees argue over money? Adeline Shabino, Bill Klecka, Pete Dowdall wincing at table, and Clarence Lind enjoying it all.
Reunion table: John and Bernice Caciato, Art and Blanche Satzke, George Crofoot, Frank Rund, Lorraine Crofoot, Gerry and Roy Egbert.

Relaxing: James Hardy Sr., Carolyn Hardy, Lilly and Ernie Hill, J. Parker Nelson.

Dancing: Herb and Bernice Matthes.

Reunion between Dolores Bero, left, and Dorothy Parker, who broke each other in on their CTA jobs. Dorothy, ticket agent at Belmont and Kennedy, retrained her original trainer, Dolores, when she returned after having a baby.


Linking past-present: Clara and Agis Bray, Bill Platt of Employee Relations, Craig Heatter, superintendent of Pensions, and fiancee Patti-Jo Jacobs, Stenographic.
The large Spanish speaking community is being encouraged to ride CTA and enjoy the many attractions of Chicago in this new travel brochure written by Elda Leal and designed by Robert Ryan, both of the Public Affairs Department. The Spanish brochure contains a schedule of fares; information on how to use the CTA; and directions on how to get to attractions that have proved particularly popular. First line on the brochure salutes the CTA's new Culture Bus. Translation from there on: "Enjoy Chicago--travel by CTA--Spanish language guide. What the passenger must know about public transportation. CTA--People Moving People."