



**Working together  
for Gulf States**

**Quality Concern  
at River Bend**

**Jambalaya Capital  
of the World**

**PLAIN TALKS**

September  
1984

# MAIL BOX

## THE COVER

Highlighting GSUers on the job shows the diversity of the many people and work that make up our company. Brad Soileau, a helper in the Baton Rouge T&D, is one of the many employees pictured in this issue. Soileau was photographed by Dana Norman, while other pictures taken by *Plain Talks* correspondents begin on page 12.

Gulf States Utilities  
Baton Rouge, La.

Gentlemen,

On Friday, June 29th at about 10:00 a.m. we experienced a power outage and you dispatched a young man by the name of Dwayne Breaux to our property to correct the problem.

This is to commend him for the speed with which he restored the power, his courtesy and thoughtfulness.

Please let him know how very much we appreciated his services. Very truly yours,  
James H. Boyce Sr.

**Editor's Note:** Dwayne Breaux works as a serviceman-1st class in Baton Rouge.

Victor Norvell  
Gulf States Utilities  
Conroe, Texas

Dear Vic,

Thank you very much for inviting five Bearkats to view the River Bend project.

I thoroughly enjoyed the trip and it is considered by me to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Please count me as an advocate of the project and the "tea kettle" method of utilizing atomic energy for fuel.

The hospitality, informative discussions, well-planned guided

tour and delightful lunch made for a truly **great** experience.

Gulf States Utilities is genuinely appreciated.  
Sincerely,  
Jack C. Parker, CPA  
Vice President for Finance  
Sam Houston State University

Joe Domino  
Sabine Station  
Bridge City, Texas

Dear Mr. Domino,

I wish to address this letter to the entire staff and personnel of the Sabine Station.

As most of you are now aware an accident occurred near your No. 3 transformer on the morning of Friday, July 13, 1984.

I would like to express my most sincere thank you to each and every one of you involved directly and indirectly with the suppression of the fire, the aid given the injured man and the assistance given in the cleanup.

Having had ten years' experience with the fire service and working at many different locations across the nation with this company, I have *never* experienced the cooperation and the warmth shown by you people.

The willingness to become involved in this type of a situation is very rare in these times. The speed with which the Fire Brigade and the medical team arrived is still incomprehensible. I applaud the manner in which you performed your jobs.

Many of my attitudes of Texans have been reinforced since the accident. I pray that God keeps you and yours safe and healthy. Thank you very much,  
Ray Hunchuck  
SUNOHIO

**Editor's Note:** An employee of Sunohio was critically injured at Sabine Station on July 13, and the Fire Brigade and Emergency Rescue team at Sabine responded to the situation.

## PLAIN TALKS

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September 1984

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Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-change forms (GSU0012-00-81) and return them to the mailroom in the Edison Plaza. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.

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# NEWS BRIEFS



SAY (Self Acting Youth) and their advisors: (from left) Ronnie Hale, advisor; Schronda Hadnot, Terrell White, Tom Molina, Laura Miller, Bill Alt, advisor; Laurence Jackson, Ronnie Mickles and Dennis Dawsey, advisor.

## Advisors, company win top awards

GSU employees who volunteered their time to be advisors for SAY, the Beaumont Division-sponsored Junior Achievement company, led their group to the company of the year award. The advisors were named top JA advisor team in their district at the 17th annual Golden Triangle JA awards ceremony.

Employees who served as advisors were Bill Alt, design engineer; Dennis Dawsey, industrial engineer; Ronnie Hale, supervisor-consumer services; Myra Merriman, staff accountant 1; and John Tarver, economic development specialist.

The JA company, which manufactured and sold electric meter lamps and cookbooks, ended the year with over \$4,000 in sales. Individual and company awards presented at the banquet included best sales presentation, outstanding business woman of the year and blue chip company for all four quarters.

## River Bend employee dies June 9th

George T. "Tom" Sund, 46, of St. Francisville died June 9 in Wilmington, North Carolina. A native of Covington, Kentucky, Sund was a performance supervisor at River Bend site.

Sund was a U.S. Navy veteran. He had been with GSU since August 1979.

Services were held June 14 at St. John Catholic Church in Covington, Kentucky. Burial was in St. John Cemetery, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.

Survivors include his wife, Rita Moellers Sund of St. Francisville; his father, George "Butch" Sund of Fort Wright, Kentucky; his mother, Marie Sund of Cincinnati, Ohio; two sons, Thomas and Robert Sund, both of St. Francisville; two daughters, Anna Marie and Erica Sund, both of St. Francisville; one brother, Gene Sund of Pasadena, California and one sister, Judy Pohlgeers of Park Hills, Kentucky.

## Street selected for Toastmasters honor

Jill Street, formerly of Baton Rouge, was selected Outstanding Area Governor in District 68 of Toastmasters International at their spring conference held in Beaumont. Competing with 11 area governors who represent that district, Street received the honor based on her outstanding service and exceptional leadership. Her name will now be placed in the Toastmasters International Hall of Fame.

District 68 includes southeastern Texas, all of Louisiana except for two parishes and southwestern Mississippi. For the past five years the district has been named a President's Distinguished District, one of the top six Toastmasters districts in the world.

Street was elected the charter president of the Baton Rouge Gulf States Utilities chapter in June 1982 and while serving a second term, was appointed Assistant Area 3 Governor. In June 1983, she was named Area 12 Governor with the responsibility for four Baton Rouge area Toastmasters clubs: the GSU club; the Toastmasters Unlimited club, which represents the Baton Rouge U.S. Post Office; the Dow Chemical Toastmasters club; and the ZacBak Silvertongue Toastmasters club, representing the cities of Zachary and Baker, Louisiana.



Jill Street

# Readin' and ridin'

Text and Photos by Mike Rodgers

Clint Lilley grabs a small stack of cards, jumps out of his GSU pickup truck, walks to an electric meter, writes some numbers on a card, heads back to his truck and pulls out for his next stop. This is all part of the daily routine for Lilley, who reads about 400 meters a day in and around Cleveland, Texas.

Lilley, a meter reader for three years, likes his job because he travels a different route each day and meets people. "I know most of my customers by name and they know me," he says. He believes meter readers serve as public relations people for Gulf States. "For some folks, especially the elderly, the meter reader is the only GSU employee they ever see," he points out, "and they ask lots of questions about how their meters work and about the company in general."

Most meter readers point to unfriendly dogs as the biggest difficulty they face, and Lilley is no different. Although he's never been bitten, he's had some close calls. During his first week reading meters, a large German shepherd broke its chain and came snarling toward him. Just as Lilley dived into the safety of his truck, the dog ripped out a chunk of his pants leg. "Never turn your back on a dog," he advises. Perhaps surprisingly, Lilley views geese as a bigger nuisance than dogs. "They won't bite, but they will peck at your legs the whole time you walk to and from the meter," he says.

Reading 3,000 meters a month is both a part of the job and a challenge for Lilley. His personal goal is to read all 3,000 without a single error. So far, his best record is three mistakes.



*William Brewer (left), Cleveland, talks with Clint Lilley about Gulf States and his monthly bill.*



*Lilley takes his truck through some rough territory to read meters.*

Lilley grins when you ask him his most embarrassing experience while on the job for GSU. He was reading a meter at a ranch when a 2,000 pound bull stood blocking his exit, daring him to move. Lilley says: "I knew I'd never make it 400 yards back to the truck, so I stayed by the meter and waited him out. Finally, he got bored and walked away."



*Checking over a meter card to make sure it is filled out properly.*



*Ruth Adams, Vessie Webb and Imogene Jenkins catch up on the latest news about each other.*



*Melba McGee (left) and Bonnie Westbrook of Beaumont visit with GSU President Norman Lee.*



*J.J. and Myrtle Boutte of Port Arthur shake hands with Norman Lee.*

# Mayor welcomes retirees

Text and Photos by T. J. Reyes

Mayor Paul A. Savoie welcomed nearly 200 GSU retirees and their guests when the group held their annual meeting in the Lake Charles Civic Center on August 1.

A variety of entertainment, including dancers, singers and guest speakers, was part of the day-long gathering. One special guest was GSU President Norman Lee, who updated the retirees on company activities.

Many retirees and their spouses took a tour, on buses provided by the mayor's office, of Nelson Coal power plant. For many, it was their first opportunity to visit the coal plant.

In addition to all of the planned activities, there was plenty of time for visiting and renewing old acquaintances, which most of the retirees considered the highlight of the day.



Cyril Dominguez and Shirley Guerin of Baton Rouge board one of the buses to tour Nelson Coal.



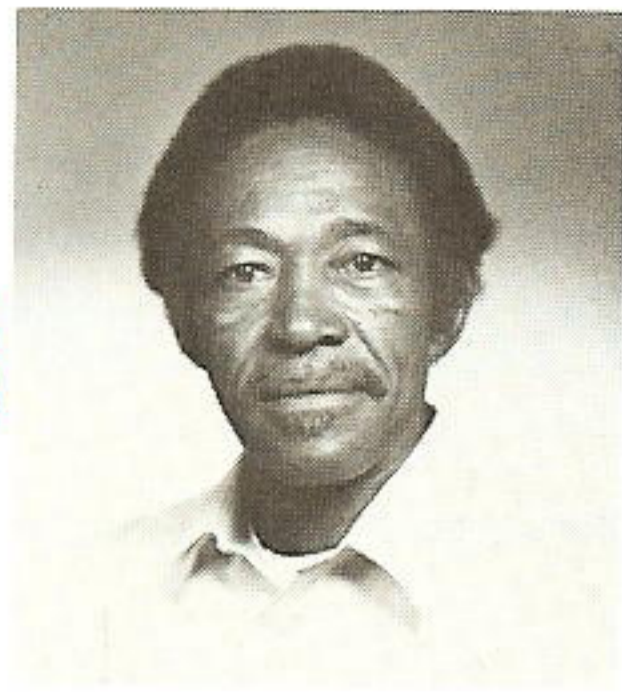
Thomas and Dorothy Kelly of Lake Charles await the next bus to visit Nelson Coal.



Jim Minner and Carl Beaumont of Port Arthur eye the crowd at the system-wide retirees' meeting.

# SERVICE AWARDS

30  
years



**Leroy F. Collins**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



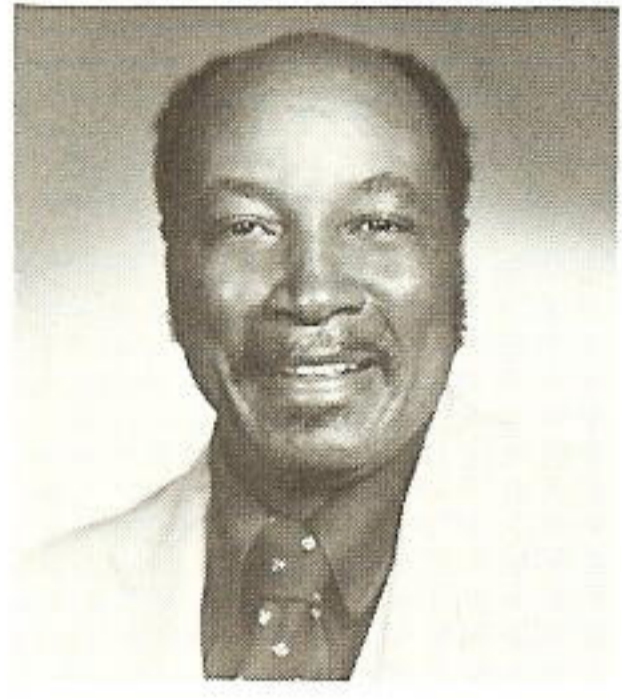
**Nolan P. Daigle**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



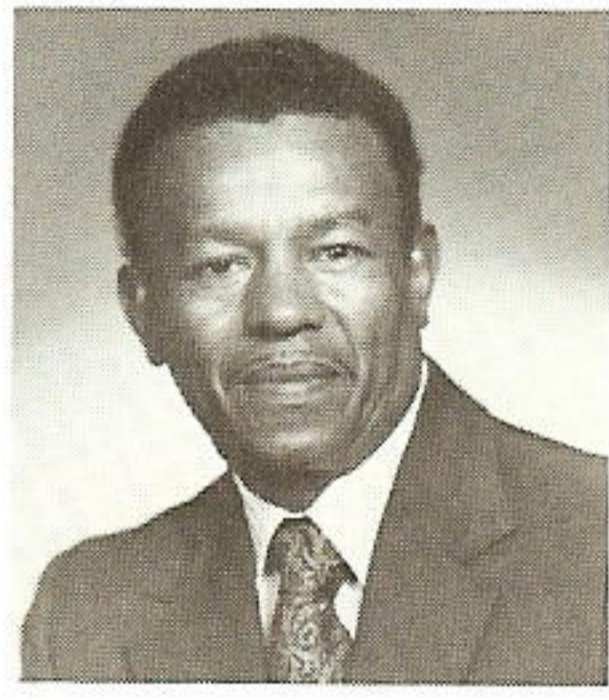
**Melvin M. Feagin**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**Christopher C. Kador**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge

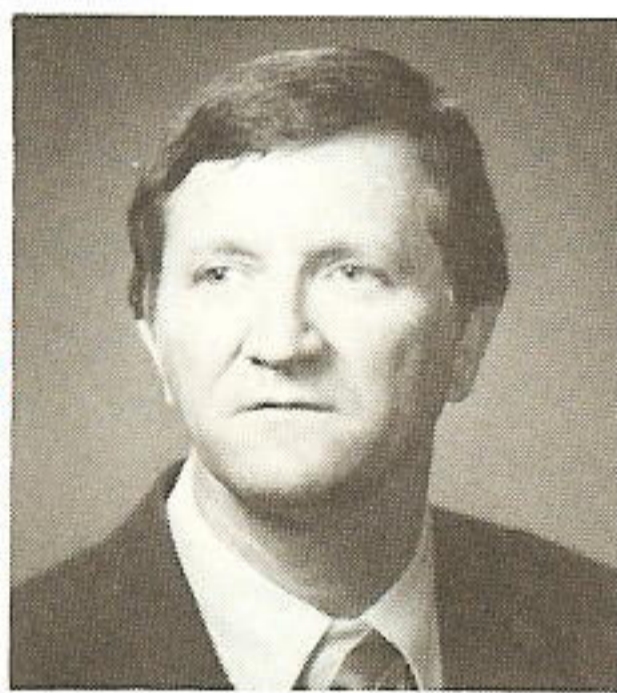


**Felton L. Kelly**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Clarence Patin**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge

20  
years

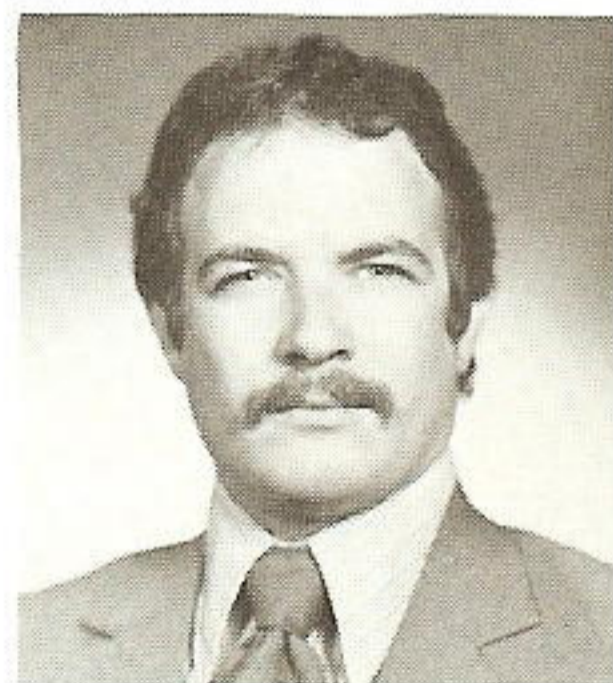


**Myrle S. Johnson Jr.**  
Division Operations  
Anahuac

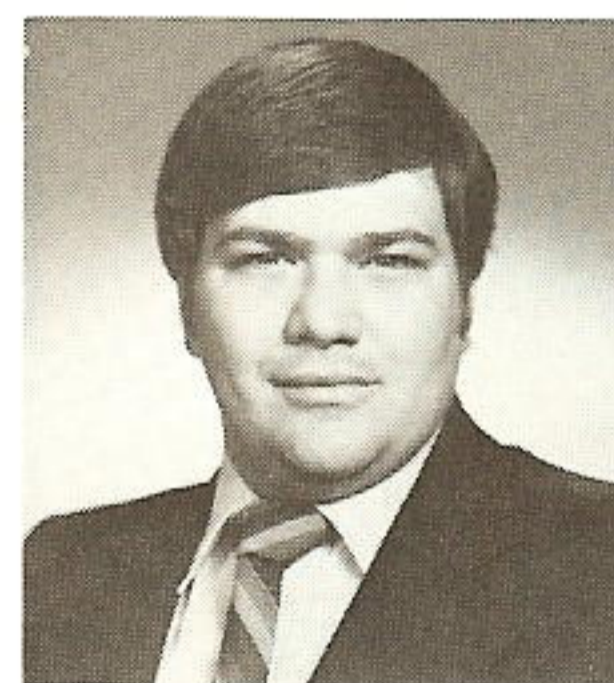
10  
years



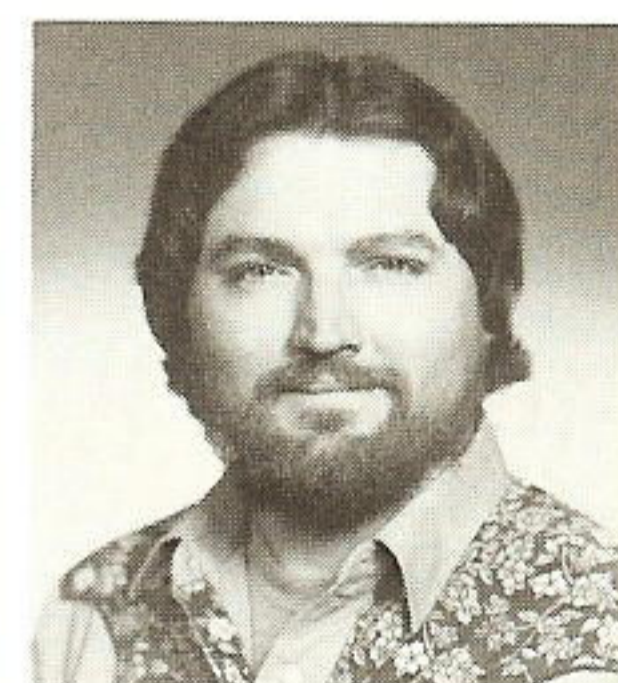
**Bettie L. Bibb**  
Sys. Eng. Design  
Beaumont



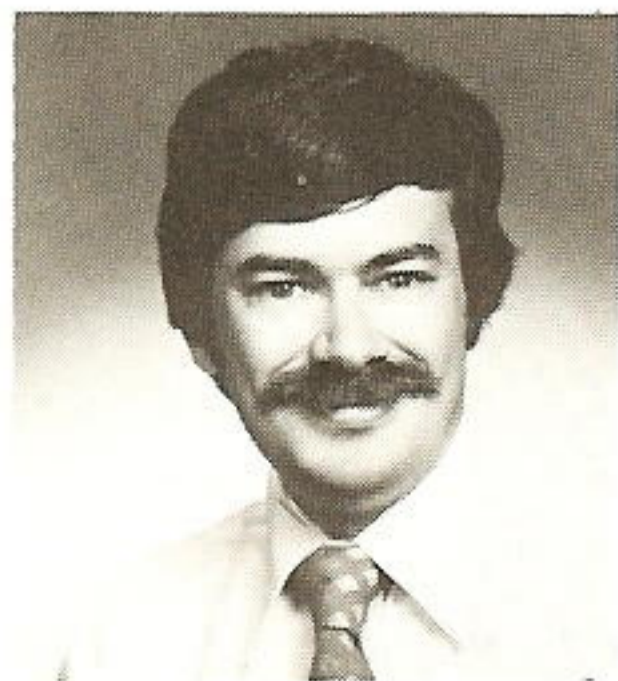
**Marvin E. Depoy**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station



**Vincent Donellan**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station



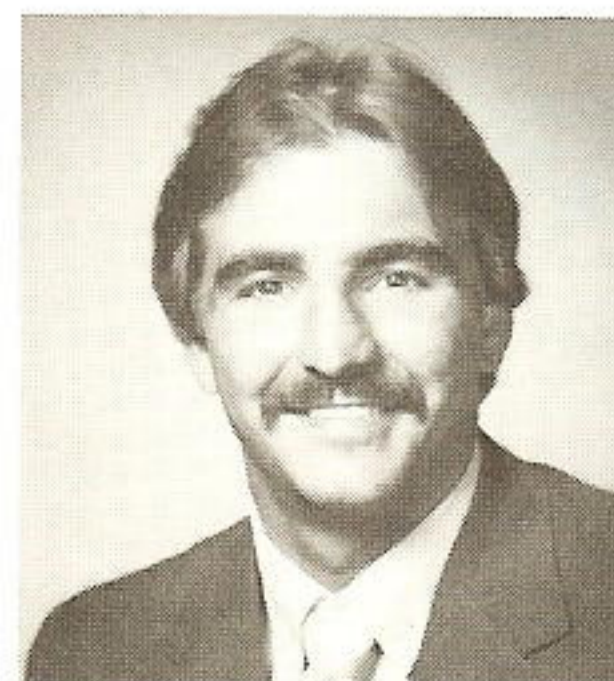
**Jesse Marchesseault**  
Electric T&D  
Denham Springs



**Bobby D. McCarley**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station



**Katie A. McNabb**  
Div. Accounting  
Baton Rouge



**Steven D. Recla**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont



**Carolyn Sumrall**  
Div. Accounting  
Baton Rouge



# Quality Concern: GSU's extra effort



by Susan Gilley

Since safety and quality control are critical factors when building a nuclear generating plant, GSU has initiated an "extra effort" program dubbed Quality Concern.

The program offers another avenue for early detection of possible problems, explains J. Harvey McQuirter, quality assurance engineer.

A 24-hour hotline number (504/381-4607) is available for River Bend employees to report any concerns they may have about construction activities. Use of the number is encouraged for on- and off-site personnel who feel that normal working relationships or channels of communication are not adequate for dealing with a possible problem.

McQuirter emphasizes that the program enhances what is already an extensive quality control system. For instance, Stone and Webster Engineering Corp. (SWEC), the architect and constructor for River Bend, employs more than 300 field quality control inspectors who perform thousands of inspections and hundreds of surveillances each month on construction activities.

SWEC also employs several other groups who work in quality full time.

Tom Crouse, manager of quality assurance, points out that, "End-of-job allegations are inevitable, but, if they're handled properly, they can become yet another measure to further improve the quality of River Bend. Our goal is to investigate and resolve quality concerns reported to us within five weeks of receipt."

River Bend employees have learned about the program through posters, management meetings and paycheck inserts. They have been encouraged to take advantage of it through mail-back forms and exit interviews.

Dr. Ken Hodges, supervisor-quality systems, believes the program, which has operated since early this year, is working. As proof, he explains, "On the average, we are processing about 53 interviews per month, although 91 were processed in June alone. Since February of this year, we have followed up on 19 expressed concerns, 14 of which were valid concerns requiring some type of action."

McQuirter adds, "Quality Concern is not intended to replace normal working relationships or channels of communication. It is to be used when such channels seem ineffective or have ended, such as when an employee leaves

the job site." He continues, "The program does not infringe on an employee's right to contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission about safety or quality."

According to McQuirter, employees are asked to go through their supervisors to immediately identify any safety or quality problems, so that corrective action may be promptly provided. However, if the employee is not satisfied with the action that is taken, then that person may approach Stone and Webster's Quality Control, GSU's Quality Control/Quality Assurance or GSU's higher management without fear of reprisal.

Regardless of the avenue followed, GSU is obligated to investigate safety and quality concerns and must record on tracking documents all actions taken when there really is a deficiency. If the employee desires, he or she will be notified of the results of his expression of concern.

McQuirter notes that while employees may remain anonymous, most who have participated have identified themselves. "To me, that shows these employees are expressing sincere concerns that River Bend be built right."

# Thanks

by T. J. Reyes

To many people who have toured Edison Plaza, Don Pumphrey is a special person. Or to quote one young visitor, he's "a real cool dude."

Pumphrey, a communications representative in Public Affairs, acts as tour guide for groups who visit the 17-story corporate headquarters of GSU. Although the majority of the tours are comprised of grade school students, the groups range from second graders on a class field trip to senior citizens who may have worked for GSU "way back when."

For some, it is the first time they have ever been in a building more than two or three stories high. They are the ones likely to shy away from the windows. For others, it's their first time to ride in an elevator. Pumphrey has had to instruct more than one visitor with a queasy stomach to ride the elevator seated on the floor.

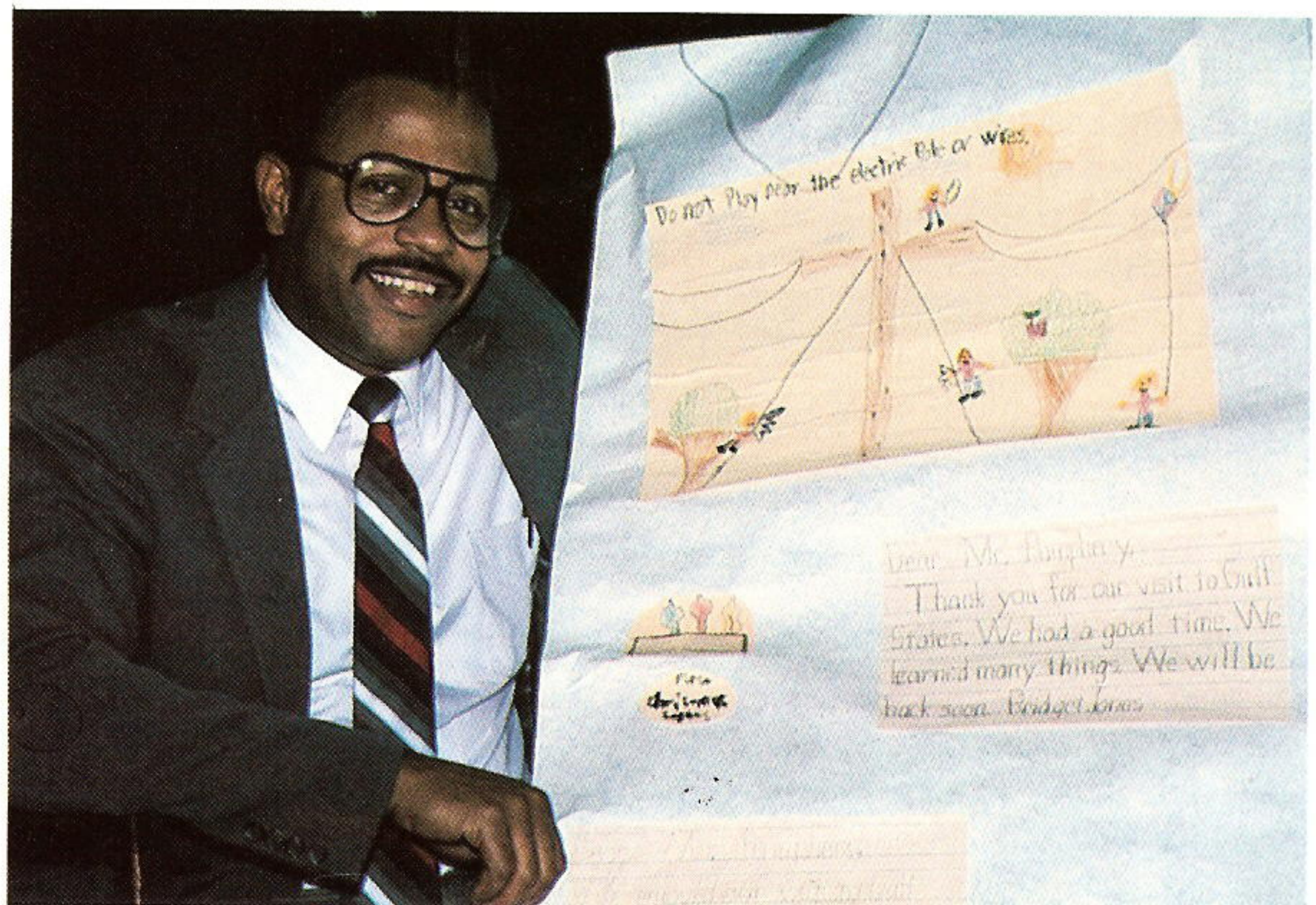
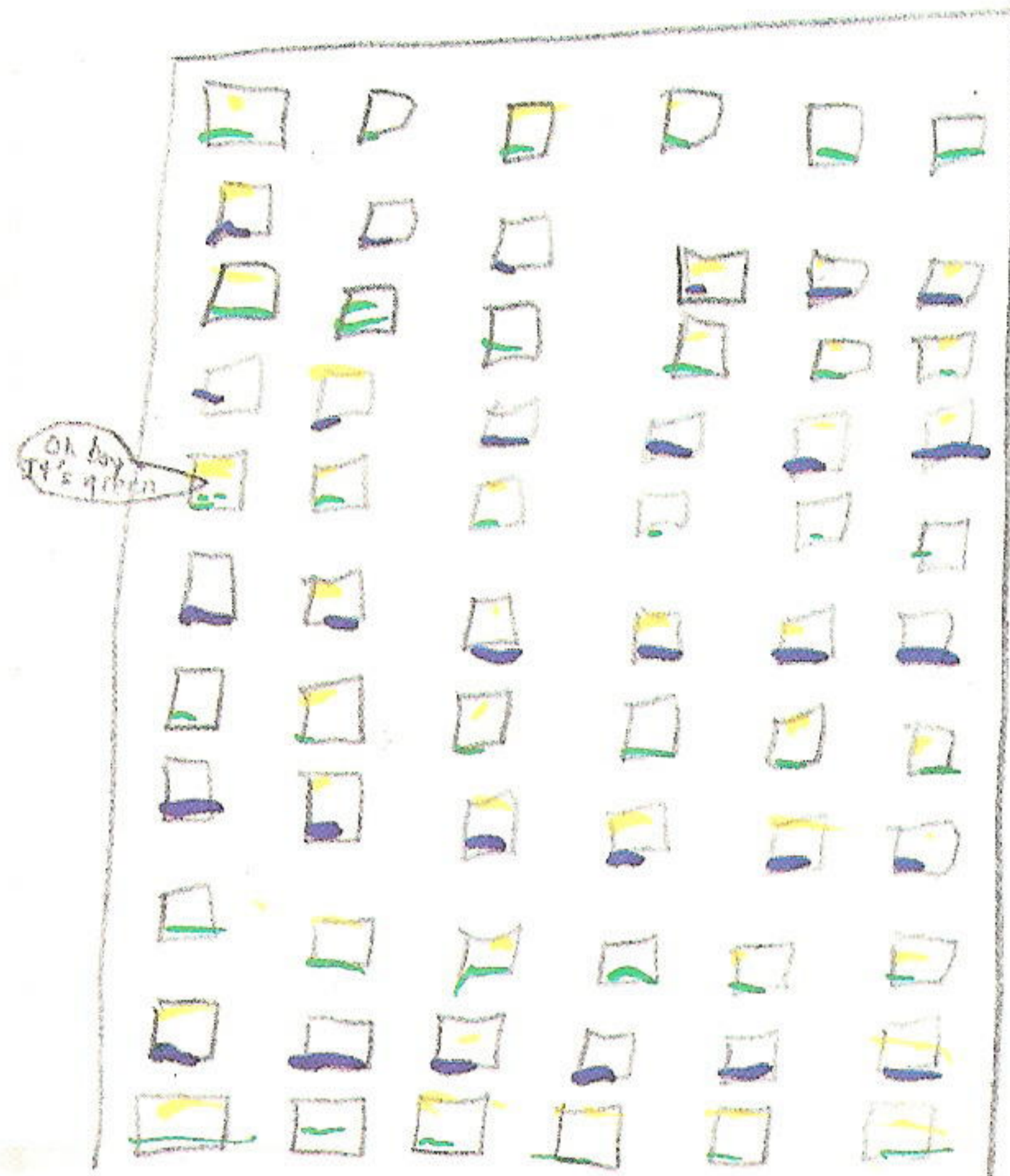
But for all of them, the tour is an opportunity to learn about energy conservation and basic economics. Each tour is generally accompanied by a visit to the Edison Museum where Joe DeJean explains the history of electricity and students get the opportunity to view some of the first electrical appliances.

"I gear what I say to something that particular group can understand," explains Pumphrey. "For instance, kids can relate to business basics more easily if I explain investments and profits for a lemonade stand or selling Michael Jackson buttons."

The tours are a big hit with young students who show their appreciation to their tour guide in thank-you notes which come by the dozens. Some of them are reproduced here ...

# Mr. Pumphrey!

I hope your on  
a blue floor



Don Pumphrey, communications representative.

Dear Mr. Pumphrey,  
I loved the G.S.U. building.  
I called the Customer Service  
# and learned how to read  
my meter.

Sincerely,  
Brian

Dear Mr. Pumphrey,

I liked the tour of the Gulf States  
Utilities building. I thought you were a pretty  
cool dude. I would love to have a house  
like that building. If it wouldn't be too  
much, I'd like all the free information about  
conserving energy as possible. My parents  
are conservative people. I liked your  
office completely neat, no mess office. You really  
are a Mr. Neat.



Yours truly,  
Wally Shaw



Dear Mr. Pumphrey,  
Thank you for the tour of  
the Gulf States Utilities building. It sure  
is a big building. The elevator ride was fun  
but it sure felt funny. I also liked  
the computers that you have. Your  
desk is neater than mine too.

Sincerely,  
Eric R. Miller

Dear Mr. Pumphrey,  
Remember me? I'm the one who had  
the baked potato and French fries.  
I had a very nice time. I liked  
the museum a lot, especially the  
phonograph. I may visit it again.

Thanks,  
John



Photo by Carol Payne

Frank Galassi, lineman-3rd class, Huntsville.



Photo by Myra Castello

Joe Hantz, laboratory assistant, Nelson Coal Station.

# Working together for GSU

A recent request for photographs showing co-workers on the job prompted *Plain Talks* correspondents to take out their cameras and snap away. These two pages reveal the results of their efforts.



Photo by Myra Ponthier

Debbie McAdams, customer contact clerk, Zachary.



Photo by Bonnie Duval

Robert "Reb" Smith, electrician-3rd class, left, and Amos Chambers Jr., repairman-2nd class, Sabine Station.



Photo by David Thornhill

Jesse Jones, mechanic helper, Louisiana Station.



Photo by Carol Payne

Barner Hooks, lineman-1st class, Huntsville.

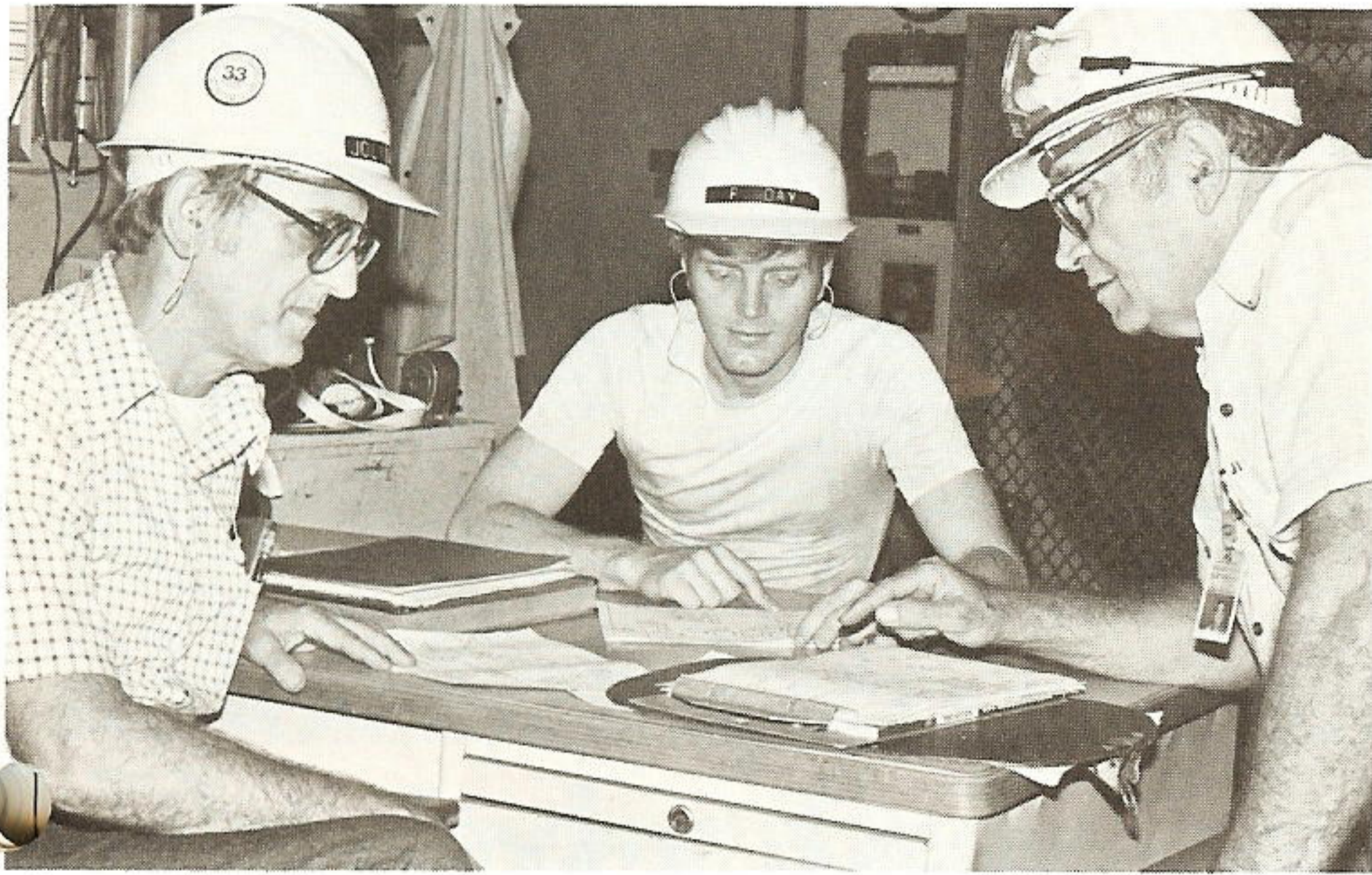


Photo by David Thornhill

George Jolissaint, head fireman; Floyd Day, turbine engineer; and Eddie Kopp, planning supervisor, Louisiana Station.



Photo by Myra Ponthier

Carlton Parker, serviceman-1st class, Zachary.



Photo by Bonnie Duval

Harvey Powell, repairman-2nd class, Sabine Station.



Photo by Kitty Prouse

Audrey McDonald, PBX operator, Orange.

# ON THE MOVE

## B

**Benson, Michael A.**, formerly of Beaumont Transmission Construction, to design engineer, Beaumont System Engineering.

## C

**Carroll, Karen P.**, formerly of Baton Rouge Division Marketing and Consumer Services, to employment interviewer, Baton Rouge Human Resources.

## D

**Dawson, Quentin J.**, Willow Glen, to production engineer, Plant Production.

**Dell, George E.**, Baton Rouge, to utility foreman, T&D line.

**Dixon, Douglas L.**, Beaumont, to lead mechanical engineer, Technical Services.

**Dufrene, Kathryn J.**, formerly of Lake Charles Division Marketing and Consumer Services, to coordinator-educational services, Beaumont System Marketing and Consumer Services.

## G

**Gerac, Lyle P.**, formerly of Beaumont Administrative Services, to director-contracts, procurement and accounting, Beaumont River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Gottschalck, John H.**, Baton Rouge, to inspector-contract crews, T&D Line.

**Granier, Michael J.**, Willow Glen, to mechanical maintenance foreman, Plant Production.

**Grant, Kim S.**, Beaumont, to regulatory analyst-EDP, Rates and Regulatory Affairs.

## H

**Hale, Ronald D.**, formerly of Beaumont Division Marketing and Consumer Services, to superintendent-Vidor, Vidor Division Operations.

## J

**Jones, Patricia R.**, Beaumont, to staff accountant 1, Accounting Services.

## S

**Shah, Ramesh J.**, River Bend, to quality assurance engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## T

**Taufique, Altaf H.**, Beaumont, to senior economist, Corporate Planning.

**Thomason, Melinda S.**, Beaumont, to accountant, Rates and Regulatory Affairs.

## W

**Wright, Stanley G.**, Willow Glen, to storekeeper, Plant Production.

## Z

**Zammit, Joseph E.**, Willow Glen, to superintendent, Plant Production.



*Mike Russell, repairman-1st class.*

## Safety shield saves sight

by Susan Gilley

**M**ike Russell, repairman-1st class at Sabine Station, always remembers to wear eye protection on the job.

That's because Russell vividly remembers a close call about three or four years ago when he could have lost both eyes in a mishap involving a hand grinder.

"I was operating a hand grinder at about 20,000 to 25,000 revolutions per minute when the wheel disintegrated," recalls Russell. "It was like a 16-pound maul hitting you."

Russell, who required some medical attention, speculates that he would have lost both eyes if he had not been wearing his welding hood.

For his particular job, Russell, a six-year GSU veteran, is especially mindful of the need for wearing eye protection.

By protecting his eyes, Russell feels that he is doing something nice for his family, too. His wife, Mary, and two daughters, 4-year-old Alison and 2-year-old Ashly, look forward to seeing a safe, healthy Russell returning from his work shifts.



Port Arthur Division Vice President Ron McKenzie (center) observes as dignitaries wield giant-sized scissors to begin the energy fair.

# Energy fair termed success

by Susan Gilley

The Port Arthur Division and Central Mall recently teamed together to showcase energy-saving techniques and goods during a three-day energy fair at the mall.

According to Jim Fernandez, supervisor-consumer information services, the July 26-28 event featured 28 merchants and 33 booths.

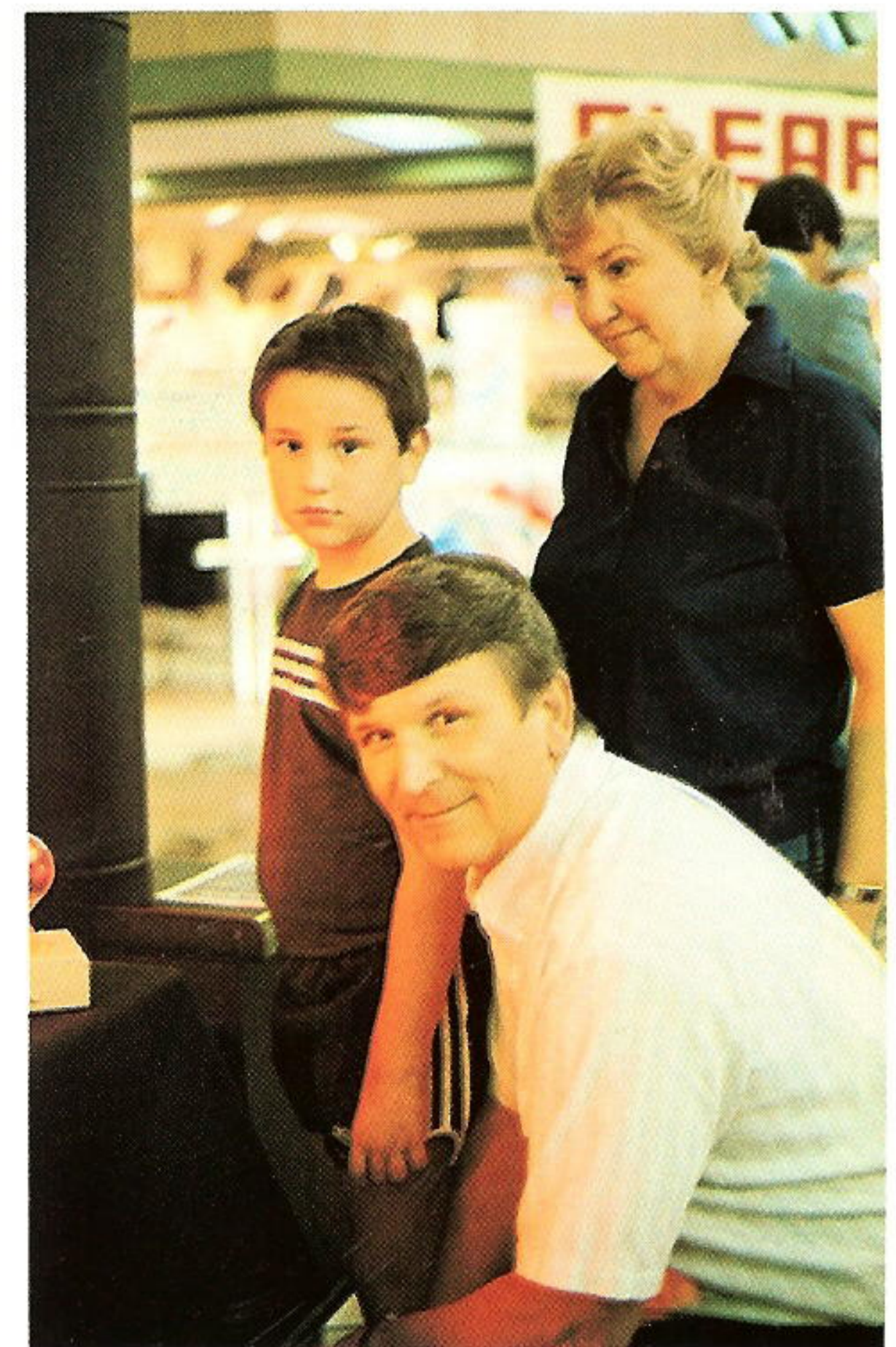
Fernandez says emphasis was placed on the whole realm of energy and conservation. The fair gave GSU an opportunity to promote heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, ceiling fans, storm windows, weatherizing items and other energy-related goods.

GSU's booth featured an energy simulator that demonstrated the dollar savings resulting from the customer's application of energy-saving techniques.

Fernandez termed the fair "a tremendous success," noting that customers, the mall and Gulf States gained from the event. Back-to-school shoppers dropped by the fair, while those who came primarily to view the fair visited mall shops, too.

GSU's booth was staffed by several employees from the division's Customer Accounting and Marketing and Consumer Services departments. In addition to all the other benefits resulting from the fair, participating employees gained valuable cross-training experience, division officials added.

In a display of community cooperation, Division Vice President Ron McKenzie, Port Arthur Mayor Malcolm Clark and several area Chamber of Commerce officials took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



One display caught the interest of an entire Lake Charles family — Robert and Mary Ward, and their 9-year-old son, Robby.



## Pint-sized Dolly steals show

A miniature "Dolly Parton" stole the show during the Jack and Jill Bingham Hill School's Kiddie Rodeo in Navasota May 5.

According to Betty Dickschat, *Plain Talks'* correspondent, 6-year-old Tiffany Rachal disguised herself as the country music star during the event.

Tiffany is the daughter of Michael and Jane Rachal of Navasota. A lineman-1st class, Rachal has been with GSU about 12 years.



*Belle of Navasota pageant winners included Shirlene Sandidge, far right, winner of the Miss Congeniality award.*

## Sandidge wins congeniality award

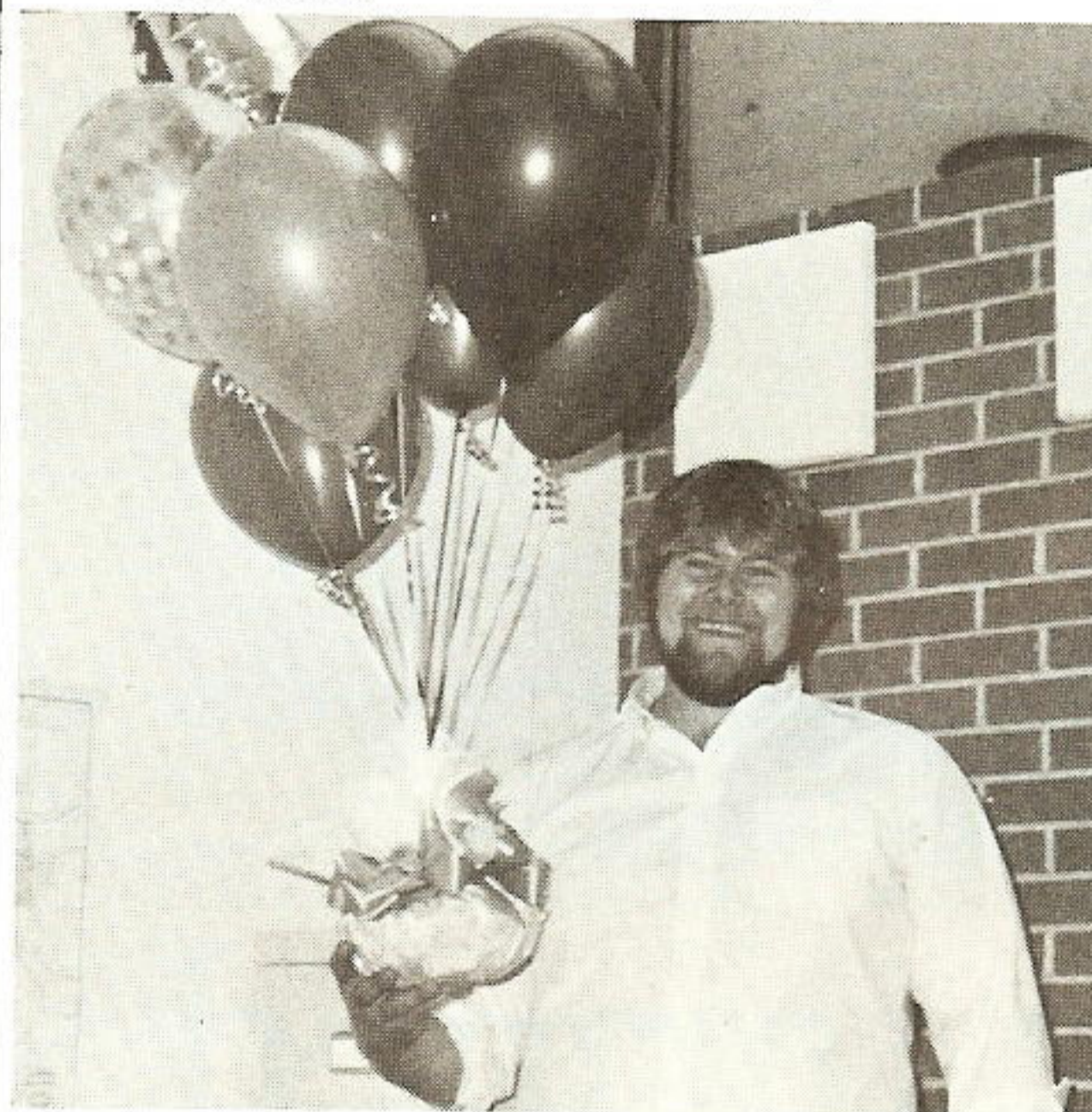
Shirlene Sandidge was named Miss Congeniality at the 3rd annual Belle of Navasota pageant held last May.

Shirlene, daughter of Louis Sandidge, was sponsored by the

Navasota Kiwanis Club. Her father is district superintendent of the Navasota office. She will be a senior at Navasota High School this fall.

## Trahan surprised by balloon bouquet

Johnny A. Trahan, energy auditor in Orange, was the surprised recipient of a balloon bouquet recently. His wife, Becky, sent them for what she says was "just being his jolly sweet self."

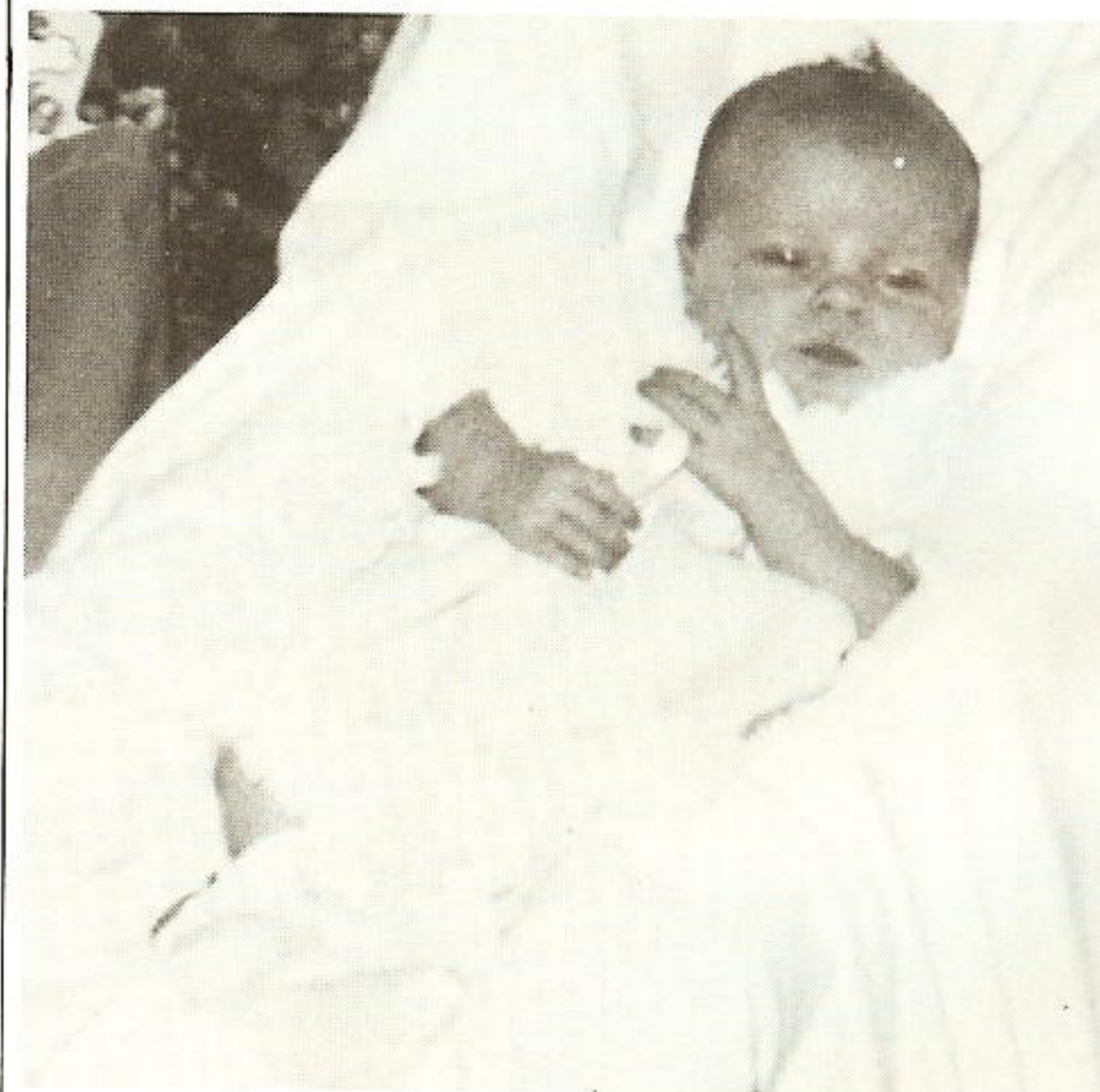


## Norwood "swings" into retirement

W.S. "Sam" Norwood was honored with a retirement party on June 29 by his friends and co-workers. Norwood, who worked at GSU for 38 years, was a control operations foreman at Sabine Station at the time of his retirement.



*Betty and Sam Norwood try out one of his retirement gifts.*



## Family welcomes newest member

Henry and Melissa Welch became the proud parents of Kayla Lanelle, born April 7. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 7 ounces. The couple has one other child, Stuart, age 2½.

The children's father works at R.S. Nelson Gas & Oil power station as a supervisor in the planning department.



*Aboard the "Creole Queen", from left, Mrs. Preston Davis, Mrs. J.L. Terrell, J.L. Terrell, Mrs. S.L. Adams, S.L. Adams, Preston Davis and Clifford Meaux.*

## Beaumont Sideliners visit World's Fair

Over 40 members of the Beaumont Sideliners traveled to the World's Fair in New Orleans last May. According to trip organizer Al Bowen, one highlight of the four-day trip was a buffet breakfast aboard the authentic paddlewheeler *Creole Queen*.

The Sideliners also took in a show at Pete Fountain's night club in New Orleans.





## Shower honors Adelaide Greer

Friends at the Baton Rouge substation honored Adelaide Greer with a baby shower on June 1. For the occasion, co-worker Butch Turnley's wife, Gayla, made a special cake in the shape of a baby buggy.

The previous week employees of GSU's Government Street office gave Mrs. Greer a stroller and a mobile.

The mother-to-be, a former *Plain Talks* correspondent, is married to Charles Greer, a utility foreman in the Baton Rouge substation.

## Banks dies in Baton Rouge

Willie Banks, 67, of Baton Rouge died June 26 in Baton Rouge General Hospital. He retired from Gulf States in 1973 with 34 years of service.

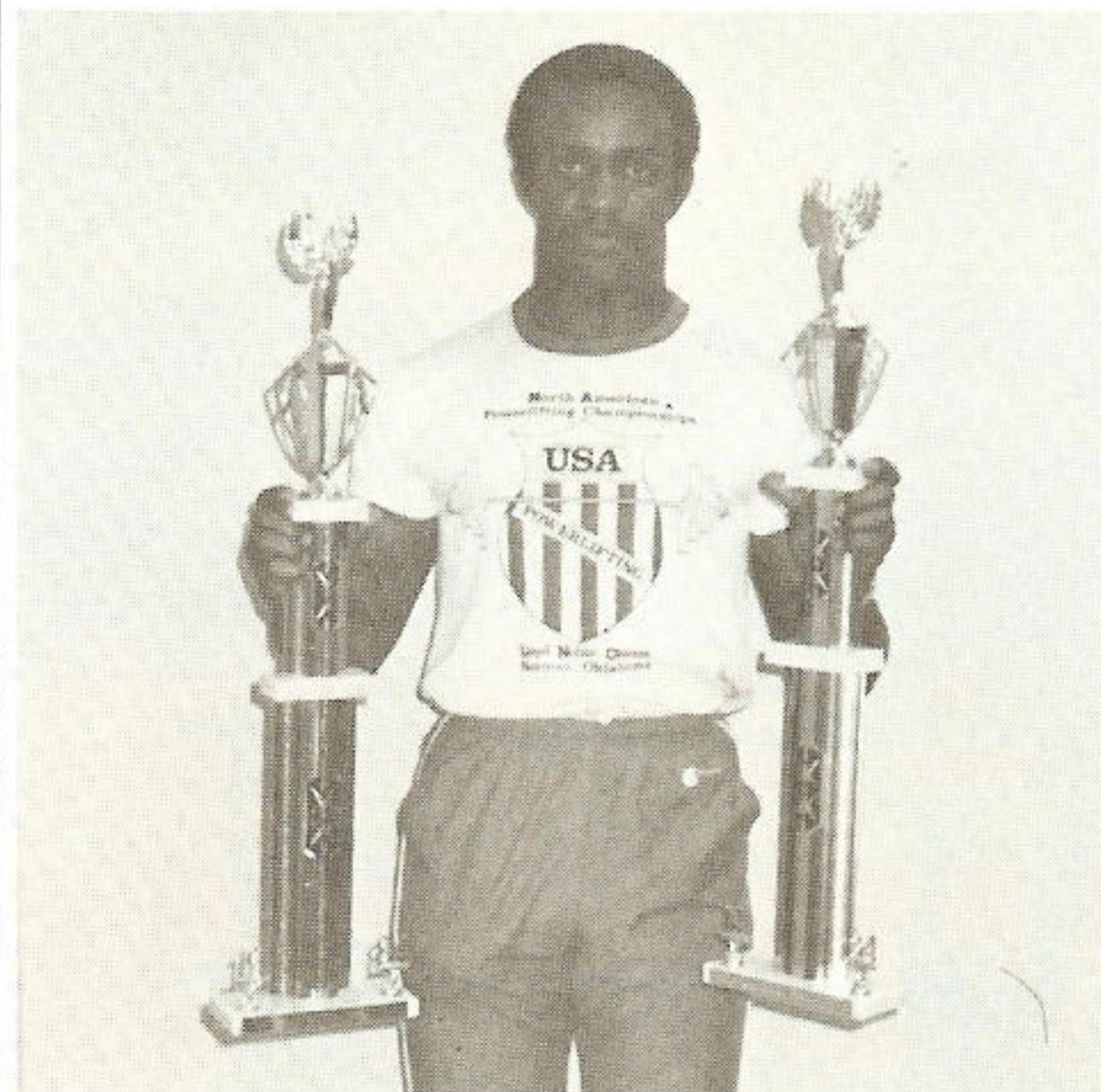
Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Dorothy Martin Banks; five daughters, Leona B. Oliver of San Jose, California, Lillian B. Ealy of Prairieville, Louisiana, Peggy B. Henry of Kansas City, Kansas, Tonie B. Bell and Wanda Faye B. Griffin of Baton Rouge; three sons, George E. Banks, Adrian Lynn Banks and Michael J. Banks, all of Baton Rouge; 22 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

## Cole wins more trophies

Donnie Cole, an apprentice lineman in Port Arthur, won two first place trophies at the North American Championship Power Lifting meet held last April. There were 80 competitors participating in the meet.

Cole set two meet records; one in the squat competition by lifting 633 pounds, and another in deadlift with 628 pounds. He was named outstanding lifter at the meet and awarded a leather belt while also claiming the outstanding lift in both the open and drug-free classes.

In the past two years, Cole has collected eight trophies and plans to attend another meet late this summer. He has been employed at GSU since November 1981.

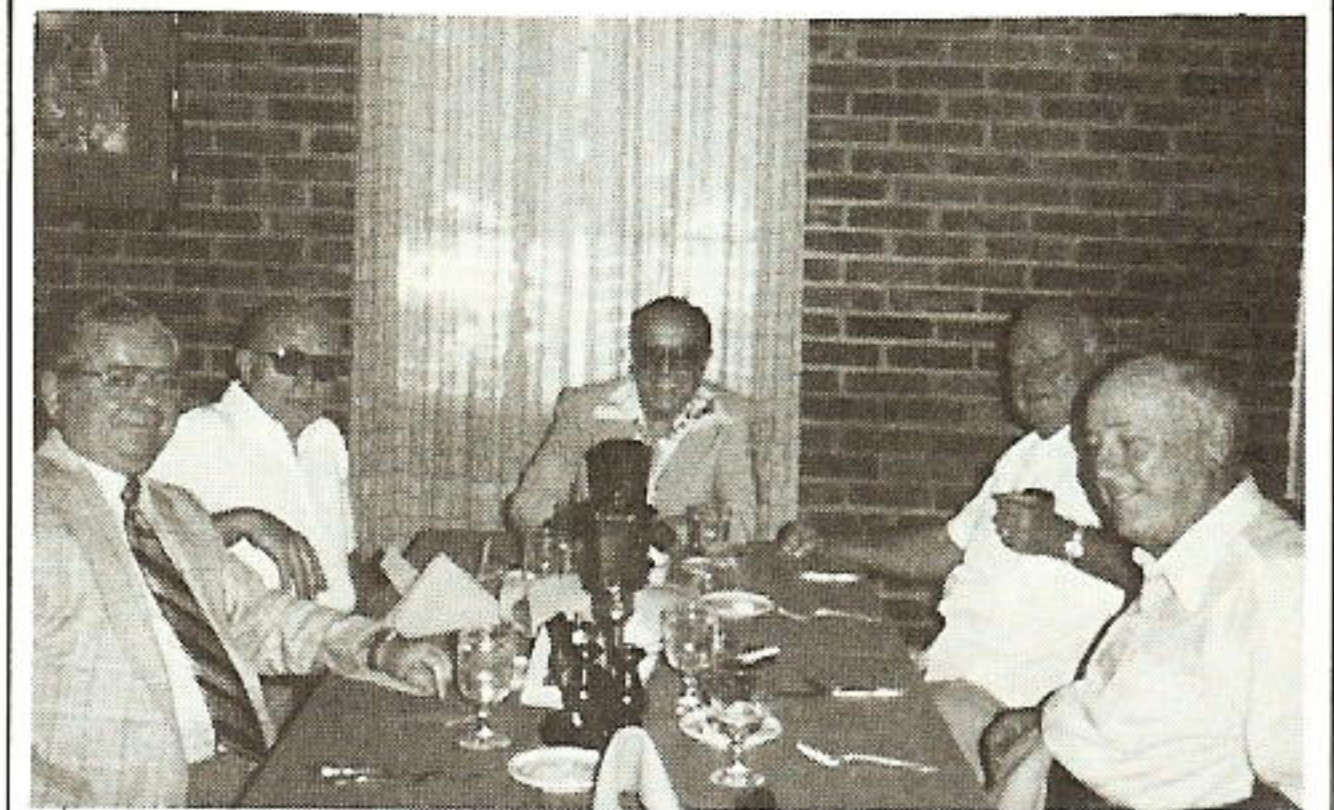


## Spencer dies in San Antonio

N. Curtis Spencer, 79, of San Antonio died March 11.

He was a 43-year employee of Gulf States and held numerous positions in the Engineering and T&D departments. At the time of his retirement in 1969, he was supervisor of engineering design.

Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Adele Spencer of San Antonio; and two daughters, Barbara S. Nicks of San Antonio and Compton S. Sylvest of Dallas.



*Keep In Touch* members, from left, are Max May, Hank Jenkins, Cyril Dominguez, Johnnie Graves and Pat Murphy. Not shown is Calvin Oubre.

## KIT group meets monthly

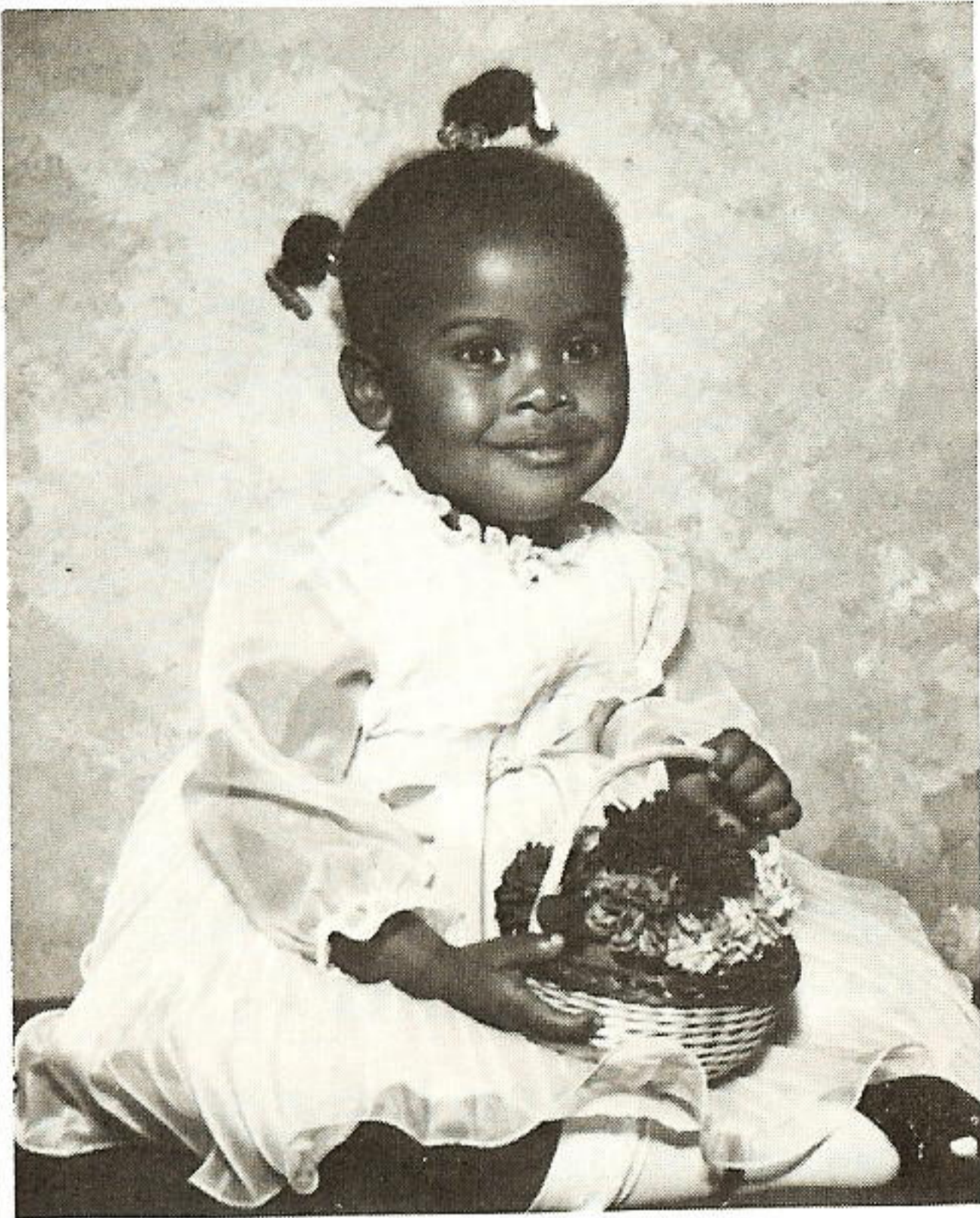
Six GSU retirees hold monthly meetings of their K.I.T. (Keep In Touch) club. On the first Thursday of each month, Max May, Hank Jenkins, Cyril Dominguez, Johnnie Graves, Pat Murphy and Calvin Oubre gather for lunch and two hours of "rehashing and updating" according to *Plain Talks* correspondent Dave Thornhill. Thornhill reports that the six retirees formerly worked together at Louisiana Station power plant.

## Friends give graduation party

Co-workers of Camille Bobbitt, part-time clerical worker in the Port Arthur office, honored her with a party on her graduation from high school. Camille graduated from Nederland High School last May.



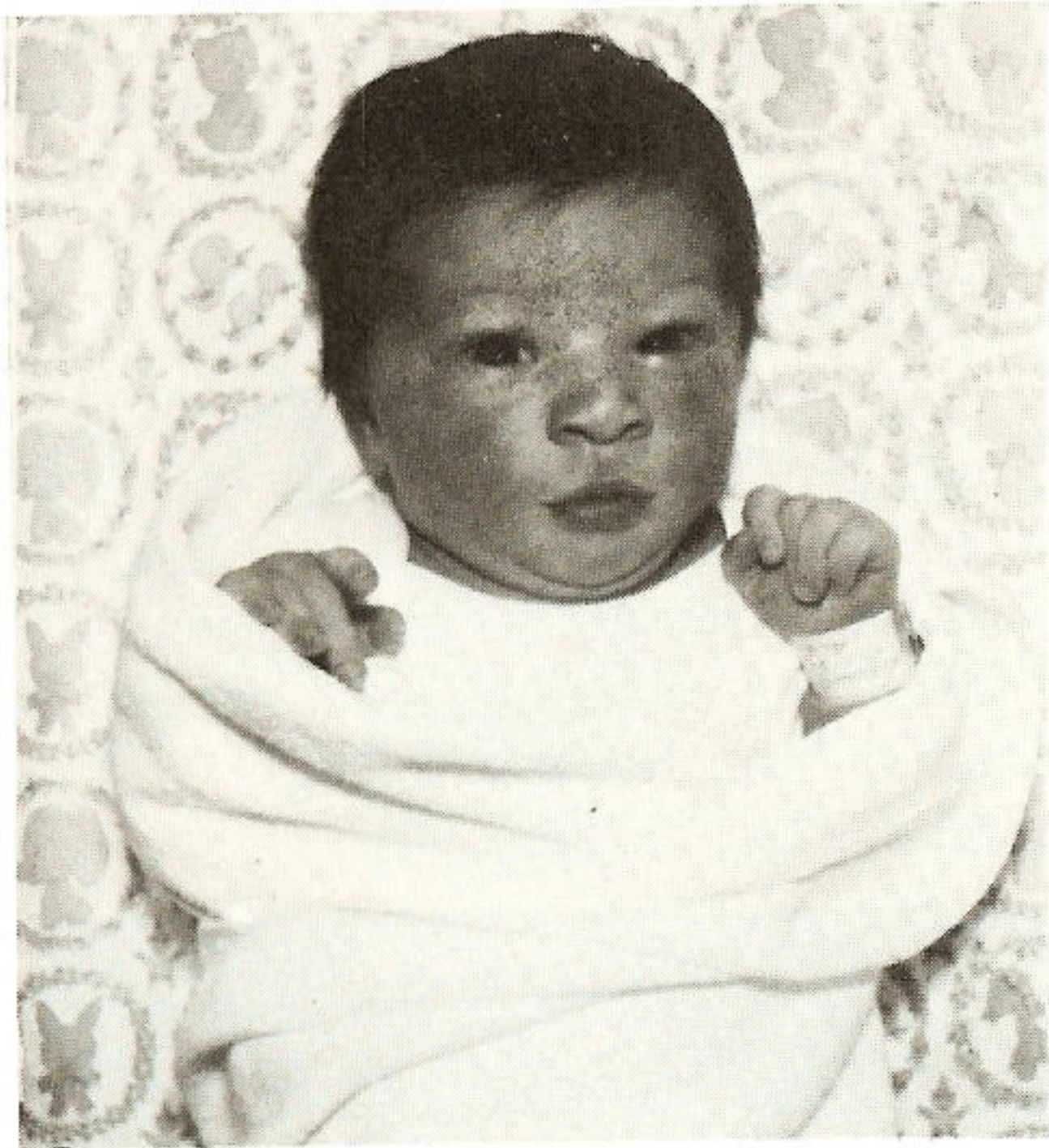
Camille Bobbitt, left, and Regina Cook celebrate Camille's graduation.



## Toddler poses in Easter finery

Laura T'Raysi Harris, 2-year-old daughter of Georgia Harris, posed in her Easter outfit this spring.

Laura's mom, a 3½-year GSU veteran, is an energy auditor in Conroe.

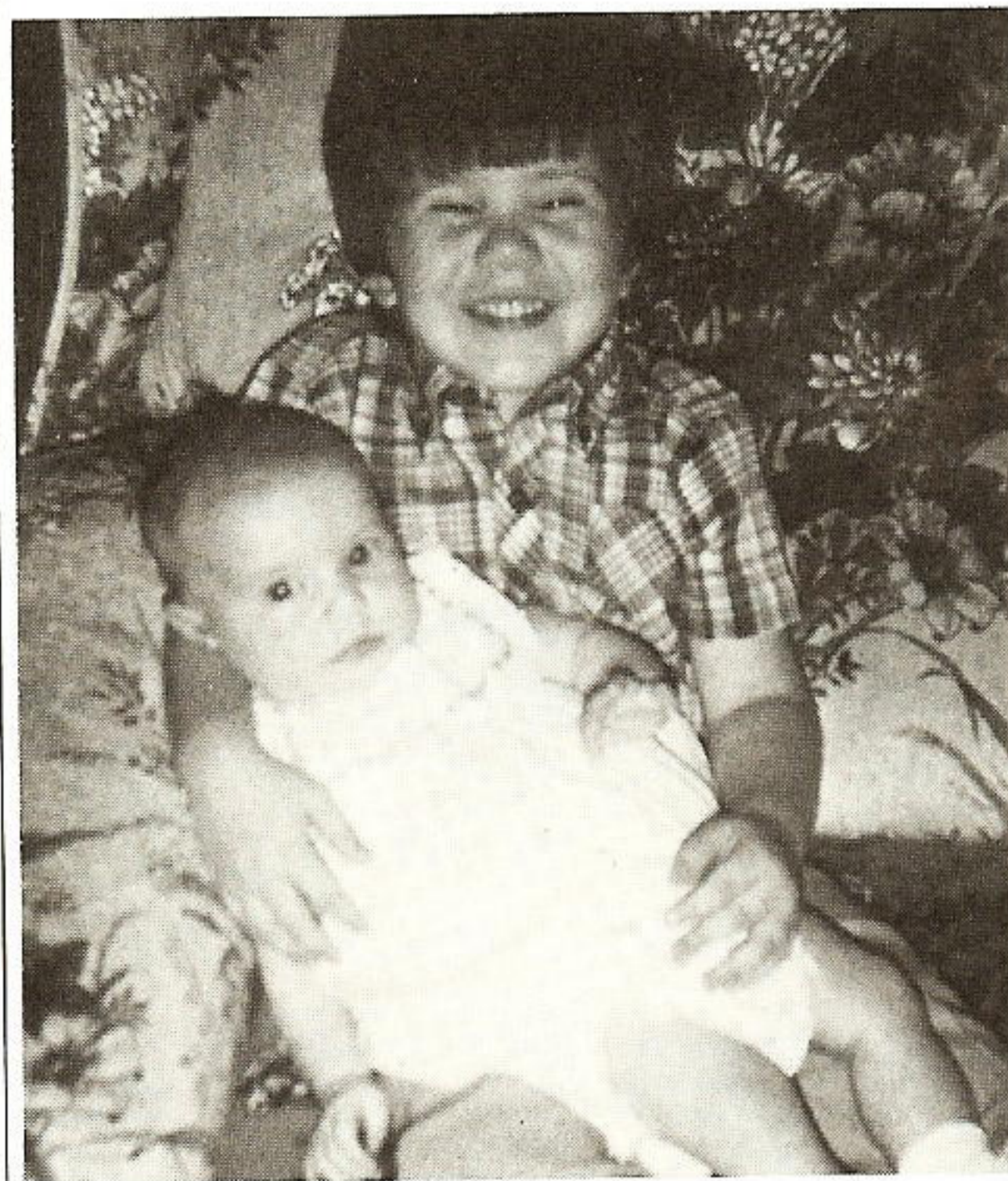


## Bellows announce daughter's birth

Ashley Elizabeth Bellow made her appearance on April 1. She weighed in at 6 pounds, 11 ounces. Ashley is the daughter of Francis and Sandra Bellow. Mrs. Bellow works at R.S. Nelson Gas & Oil power station in the storeroom.

## Loftins welcome Kayla Beth

Kayla Beth Loftin was born April 23 and weighed in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Scott Loftin of Reeves, Louisiana. Her father works at R.S. Nelson Gas & Oil power station in the mechanical maintenance department. The Loftins also have a son, three-year-old Robert Keith.



Robert Keith Loftin and his new sister, Kayla Beth.

## GSUer's daughter wins pageant

Kellye Green, 5-year-old daughter of Judy and Gary Green of Baker, won the Greater Baton Rouge Cinderella Scholarship Pageant earlier this year. The title qualified her to go on to the state competition in Monroe June 26-July 1.

A student of the Sunshine Model Academy in Baker, Kellye has participated in pageants since January 1984. The Baton Rouge competition was on the basis of sportswear, party dress, on-stage interview and close-up appraisal.

Kellye's father is division substation operator in Baton Rouge.



Kellye Green

## Baby celebrates first birthday

Ryan Christopher Pickle, son of Terry and Dorlena Pickle will celebrate his first birthday on September 16. His father is an equipment operator at R.S. Nelson Gas & Oil power station. Proud grandparents Harry and Jeannie O'Quinn also work for GSU in Lake Charles.



# Gonzales hosts cook-off contest

by T. J. Reyes

You can follow your nose to find the place. The aroma of spices and other tasty ingredients simmering in big, black cast-iron pots fills the air. There's enough jambalaya to feed thousands of people. That's what you'll find in Gonzales, Louisiana each year during the Jambalaya Festival.

Cooks from all over the country gather in Gonzales, located about 25 miles southeast of Baton Rouge, to show off their special recipes. And when the smoke clears, one cook is chosen to represent the town proclaimed to be the Jambalaya Capital of the World.

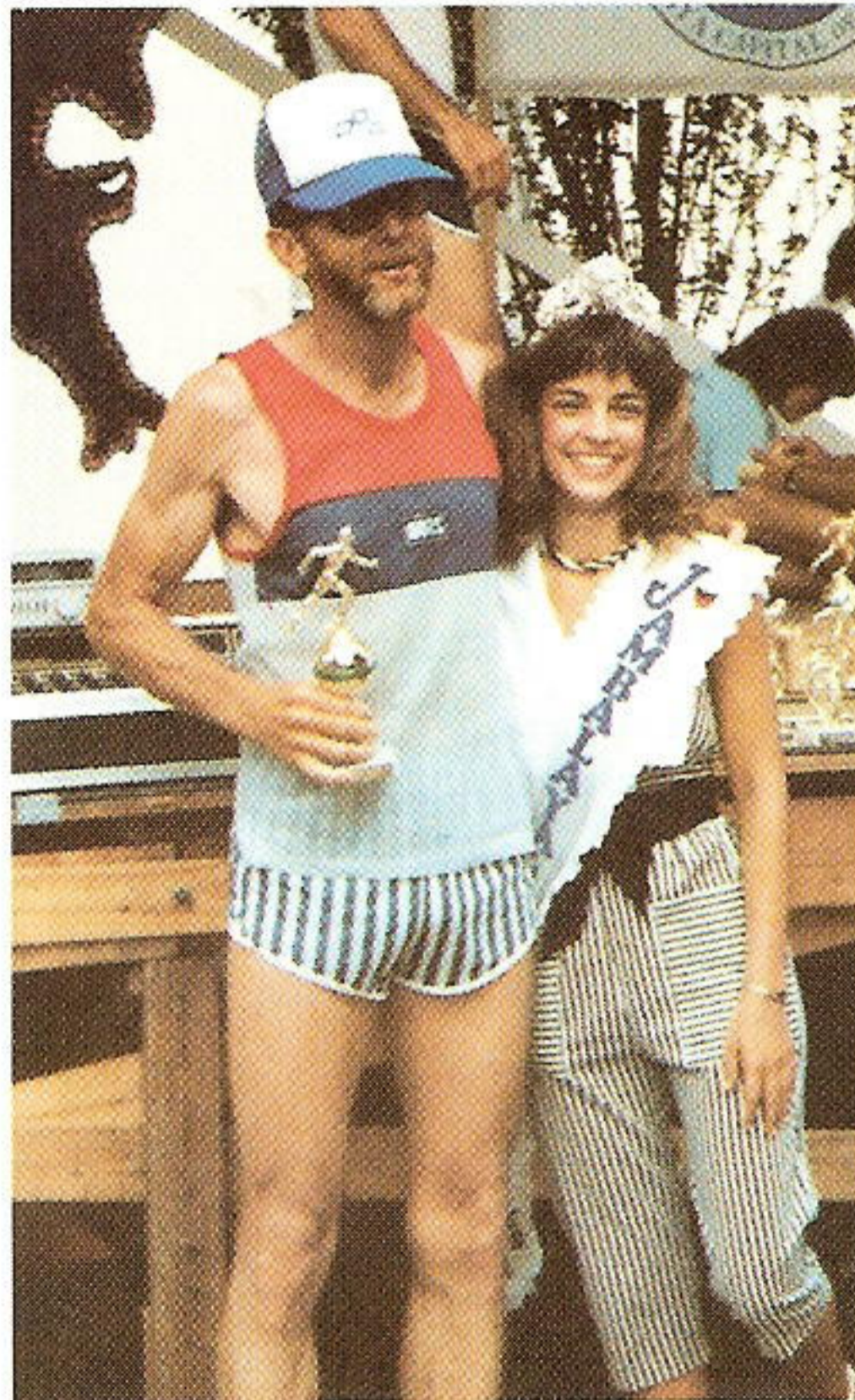
The festival is well-known to many Gulf States employees who participate in some of the activities held during the weekend-long festival: a 5K and one-mile fun run, an arts and crafts show and lots of dancing in the streets to music from bands that play all weekend long.

This year Doty Gautreau, husband of Charlotte, a local office clerk in Gonzales, was one of six finalists in the cook-off contest.

Richard East, a serviceman-1st class in the Baton Rouge Gas Department, won a trophy for finishing first in his age group (41-50 years of age) in the 5K run. He also placed fifth overall with a time of 17:21 for the event.

Another GSUer, Kenny Braud, a lineman-1st class in Gonzales, is a member of Albany, one of the bands that played during the festival.

In the art show Fred Gilbert, a senior security representative in Baton Rouge, took first place



*Richard East, serviceman-1st class-Gas Department, accepts a trophy from Bridget Landry, Miss Jambalaya.*

Photo by Charlotte Gautreau



*Doty and Charlotte Gautreau*

Photo by Patty Gautreau



*Kenny Braud, third from left, and fellow members of the band, Albany, who entertained the Saturday night festival crowd.*


Photo by Charlotte Gautreau

honors in the oil and acrylics category.

You may want to mark your calendar now for next year's festival, which will be held during the second week of June.

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