Umstead Launders Special Loads For Operation Toy Box

By Keith Acree

BUTNER - Correction Enterprises employees and inmates at Umstead Laundry wash, dry, press and fold about 70,000 pounds of laundry a week — mostly inmate clothing from state prisons and linens from hospitals and mental health facilities. But a few loads washed each week at Umstead are special — they’re teddy bears, cartoon characters and other stuffed animals that will be given away to children affected by disasters.

The laundry washes the stuffed animals for Operation Toy Box, a non-profit group based just outside Raleigh. The organization provides toys to children affected by disasters and teaches volunteerism to young people. Thousands of toys are donated each year by children across the United States, then volunteers from local scout troops and youth groups help prepare the toys and stuffed animals for distribution to children who have been affected by disasters.

(Ron Young, Umstead laundry manager, inspects a load of freshly washed stuffed animals.)

Tracy Little Named Deputy Secretary

By Pamela Walker

RALEIGH – Secretary Theodis Beck has named Tracy A. Little as deputy secretary for the Department, effective May 1.

“Ms. Little has done an outstanding job as director of public information and has proven herself a consummate professional,” said Secretary Beck. “Her knowledge of the Department of Correction, her work ethic and extensive experience in state government will be invaluable in this role.”

Little joined the Department in 1994 as public information officer for the N.C. Parole Commission. Four years later she became director of the Department’s Office of Citizen Services. She became the Department’s public information director in January 2000.

Little’s background also includes experience in the non-profit sector, having worked with the State Employees Association of North Carolina from 1990 to 1994. She began her career as a journalist with the New Bern Sun-Journal and also spent one year as a broadcast journalist working in radio.

“I am humbled and honored to be selected for this position,” said Little. “In this Department we have the most dedicated and hardworking group of people with whom I have ever been associated. I look forward to this opportunity and the challenges that lie ahead.”

A Goldsboro native, Little holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a May 2001 graduate from N.C. State University with a master’s

(Edmundson Blends Love Of Sports With Psychology Continued on page 7)

Edmundson Blends Love Of Sports With Psychology

By Leon Morrow

Dorsey Edmundson, psychological program manager at Caledonia Correctional Institution, has quite a resume when it comes to working with sports athletes. Edmundson has provided psychological training and assistance for Wesley Walls, the well-known Carolina Panthers receiver. He was also the sports psychologist for the 1994 US Olympics Team. Very few people have such opportunities, and Edmundson says he knows that he is blessed.

Edmundson has always enjoyed sports, and played college basketball at UNC-Wilmington before entering the graduate program at the University of Mississippi. He particularly liked the opportunity to receive training in sports psychology and clinical psychology. Sports psychology is a field conflicted by the perspectives of

(Edmundson Continued on page 7)
Mountain View Receives Employment Award

RALEIGH- Mountain View Correctional Institution was honored with a 2000 Employment Security Commission (ESC) Employer Award on March 28 during an evening reception at the North Carolina Museum of History.

“As superintendent, it is a pleasure to accept this award on behalf of the many dedicated Mountain View Correctional Institution staff,” said Supt. David Mitchell. “Receiving the Employer of the Year award is not only an honor for me, but to the many departmental staff who made the transition from private to state operations successful.”

ESC Chairman Raymond W. Goodman Jr. presented the award to Mitchell, who was one of 81 employers to receive the award for exceptional contribution to the North Carolina economy through new business, business expansion and partnership with ESC.

“The businesses recognized with this award reflect some of the best and brightest in North Carolina,” Goodman said. “Each of them share in our goal of keeping workers productive and shaping our state’s economic success through expansion and an effective partnership with government.”

The ESC Employer Awards, first given in 1987, are sponsored by the ESC and the State Job Service Employer Committee (JSEC), one of North Carolina’s largest employer associations.

Porter Wins National Award

By Pamela Walker

The International Food Service Manufacturers Association (IFMA) will present the Silver Plate Award to Nancy Porter, food services director for the Division of Prisons, at a ceremony May 21 in Chicago.

The IFMA presents the annual Silver Plate Award to the industry’s most accomplished and outstanding food service operators. Winners are selected in nine categories and Porter is the recipient in Specialty Foodservices. In a press release, the IFMA described Porter as a leader and innovator in the areas of concept and new product development.

“I was overwhelmed when I heard I had won,” said Porter. “The award should be given to the Department because it has been the administration that has allowed me to do my job and my staff has worked with me on implementing my ideas.”

Porter joined the Department in 1992 as the western region dietitian. A few months later she was promoted to director of food services. A dietitian for more than 40 years, Porter has also worked at Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh, in nursing homes and has owned her own restaurant.

A native of New York, Porter attended Syracuse University as an undergraduate. She received a bachelor’s of science in foods and nutrition from Russell Sage College. Porter lives in Raleigh with her husband Harry. They have three children and five grandchildren.

South Central Region Gets New Director

By Keith Acree

RALEIGH - Secretary Theodis Beck has named Patricia Chavis as the new South Central region director for the Division of Prisons, effective April 1. In her new position, Chavis oversees operations at 14 state prisons in a 12-county area between Charlotte and Wilmington.

“Pat Chavis is an excellent leader, motivator and administrator,” said Secretary Beck. “She has served this department well over the years and I know she will do an outstanding job leading the prisons in our South Central region.”

Chavis is a 27-year veteran of the Department of Correction. She started her career as a program supervisor at the old Richmond Advancement Center in Richmond County. She went on to work in the South Central Diagnostic Center at McCain and was the director of the Robeson Treatment Facility for Women. For 12 years, she served as a program director in South Central Area prison administration. In October 1990, she became the first Native American female to lead a state prison when she was named superintendent at Bladen Correctional Center. In 1994, Chavis supervised the opening of Lumberton Correctional Institution and served as its superintendent through March 2001.

Chavis is a lifelong resident of Robeson County. She received her bachelor’s degree in sociology and master’s degree in educational administration from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. At one (Chavis Continued on page 9)
Secretary Taps Smith To Lead Caswell

By Pamela Walker

YANCEYVILLE- Secretary Theodis Beck has named Raymond Smith as the new superintendent at Caswell Correctional Center, effective May 1.

“Raymond Smith’s extensive experience and knowledge will no doubt benefit the Caswell community and the operations of the facility,” said Beck. “He’s a proven leader and I am confident he is up to the challenge.”

Smith started his career in corrections in 1979 as a program assistant at Guilford Correctional Center. He has also served as program supervisor at several facilities, MAPP coordinator and program director in what was the North Piedmont Region Office, assistant superintendent and most recently as superintendent at Randolph Correctional Center.

“I am looking forward to seeing how Caswell operates,” said Smith. “My first priority is to address the high vacancy rate for staff.”

A Greensboro native, Smith graduated from Ben L. Smith High School. He went on to East Carolina University where he graduated with a bachelor of science degree in correctional services. Smith is married and they have one daughter. In his spare time, he enjoys the beach, saltwater fishing, water-skiing and snowskiing.

Smith replaces J Haynes who was promoted to superintendent of Warren Correctional Institution.

Law Enforcement Get Special Recognition

SMITHFIELD- Nearly 300 people ate steak and received special recognition at the Sixth Annual Law Enforcement Dinner March 29 at the First Baptist Church in Smithfield.

Eight churches pitched in to serve up the steak dinners to say thank you to anyone who works or has worked in Johnston County law enforcement. Chaplain Dade Sherman of Johnston Correctional Institution was chairman of the event. Officers and staff from Johnston Correctional Institution, Johnston County Community Corrections, the Johnston County Sheriff’s Office, police agencies and the N.C. Highway Patrol attended the dinner.

Former Community Corrections officer Mel Chilton was the guest speaker. Her mother, Jenette Fish was killed in 1975 by an inmate at Triangle Correctional Center where she worked as a dental technician. Chilton is now a Greensboro native, Smith graduated from Ben L. Smith High School. He went on to East Carolina University where he graduated with a bachelor of science degree in correctional services. Smith is married and they have one daughter. In his spare time, he enjoys the beach, saltwater fishing, water-skiing and snowskiing.

Smith replaces J Haynes who was promoted to superintendent of Warren Correctional Institution.

Probation/parole Officer David Boyce talks with Johnston CI Supt. Loomis Woodard at an appreciation dinner for Johnston County law enforcement.

(Please see page 1)
By Keith Acree

The 84 people who make up the Management Information Services department work behind the scenes every day to create and maintain the computer networks and programs that help everyone in the Department of Correction do their jobs. From installing the PC on a desk to writing the programs that calculate inmate sentences, the folks in MIS do it all.

The department is divided into four sections, each assigned a different area of operations. Cindy Cousins leads the team of programmers in Application Development. Dale Burleson leads the Quality Assurance Team, Ray Hale heads up Technical Services and Dale Anderson is in charge of Network Services. In addition there is also a staff of 12 employees in four regional offices around the state to handle local installation, maintenance and training.

Chief Information Officer Bob Brinson, seated, and MIS Director Bill Kurdys, right, lead the Management Information Systems department. Charlene Manshack, left, assists Brinson.

The Technical Services team maintains the OPUS database and acts as a liaison with the State Information Technology Services division. From left, Don Keller, Gail Pritchard, Gloria Watts, Glenn Burgess and Crystal Leigh, seated.

The people in Quality Assurance are the “test pilots” at MIS. They rigorously examine and test new applications once the programmers write them to make sure everything works correctly before an application goes into service. Correction was one of the first state departments to establish its own quality assurance team. From left, Latasha Andrews, Lynwood Crocker, Ila Dean, Dale Burleson, manager, and Lavern Dunn.

The Applications Architecture team is a small, but important unit, that oversees the critical inmate sentence calculations done by OPUS. From left, Barbara Heffner, Norm Voller and Janis Hendrick.
The Network Services LAN team is responsible for engineering and maintaining the huge electronic network that links computers and servers at more than 400 DOC locations around the state. Standing from left, Ron Alston, Pete Kreps, Wrenn Patterson, Yvonne Lloyd, William Mann and Teresa Bell. Seated is Dale Anderson, manager, and Kim Weller.

When your desktop computer conks out or it’s time to install a new one, the Network Services PC team is there to help. From left, Jerry Mason, Paul Spyrison, Marie Bode, Jerry Overton, Robert Neilson, Joe Smith and Leon Dunn.

The Network Services Voice Communications team helps keep your phone ringing by maintaining the department’s telephone and voice mail systems. From left, Lena Webb, Tywan Ellis, Jeff Price and Dan Kaminski.

When you call the Network Helpdesk for assistance with your e-mail, software or connectivity problems, Matt McGuigan and Teressa Jackson and are the helpful folks on the other end of the line.

The buck stops here, with the programmers on the Application Development - Fiscal Team. They design and program the systems to track and manage departmental accounting and billing including inmate banking, work release and laundry. They also program the SAFRS directory system. Standing from left, Gary Cox, Patsy Proctor, John Scarantino, Criss Swaim, Barbara Moore, Beverly Mayo, Dawn Capps, Terri Malone. Seated are David White and Bruce Smith.
Housekeeping Supervisor Hailed A Hero

McCAIN- Some co-workers of James McBryde, housekeeping supervisor at McCain Correctional Hospital, say he deserves hero status.

McBryde was leaving a local restaurant March 30 when he heard gunfire and then saw a car being chased by law enforcement swerve into the parking lot. He said he saw the men in the car shooting at the officers. He turned and grabbed Stephanie Miller, processing assistant, and several other people who were coming out of the restaurant and pushed them back inside.

“I never thought about what I was doing,” said McBryde. “I have never been that scared in my life.” He added that they all started looking for a place to hide because they didn’t know if the gunmen were going to come inside.

McBryde doesn’t think of himself as a hero, but just somebody who did something good for other people.

Surveillance Officer Called ‘Man of Honor’

MONROE- Rodney Smith, a surveillance officer in Union County, recently received commendation from a citizen for what he called Smith’s “honesty and professionalism.”

Smith found a man’s wallet containing a large sum of money at a local car wash Feb. 2. He contacted 90-year old Farrel Tucker who stated he was amazed that anyone would return a wallet with that much money in it. Tucker said he had been saving the money for a long time and that the Department of Correction should be very proud of Officer Smith.

A letter to Smith from Roselyn Powell, Division III chief, and Robert Little, assistant division chief, stated in part, “Please accept our profound gratitude for exemplifying what a Community Corrections officer is all about.” Judicial District Manager Nebraska Massey also wrote a letter to Smith calling him, “A Man of Honor.”

Probation/Parole Officer Takes Elected Position In State Law Enforcement Association

STATESVILLE- Charles Bullings, intensive probation/parole officer in Iredell County, has been elected secretary/treasurer of the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association (NCLEOA).

“By being an officer in a state organization, you are made aware of the trends in law enforcement and how they will affect the Department of Correction,” Bullings said. “I believe that anything that benefits law enforcement will benefit probation officers in the near future.”

Bullings has been a probation officer since 1987. Prior to working with the Division of Community Corrections, he was a Rowan County deputy sheriff, and a police officer with the Winston-Salem Police Department. He is also a member of other criminal justice organizations, including the NCPPA (North Carolina Probation/Parole Officers Association).

Membership in the NCLEOA is open to all personnel in the criminal justice community.

Franklin Correctional Center Holds Charity Car Wash

- Staff from Franklin Correctional Center raised more than $600 for North Carolina Special Olympics from a car wash held in the facility parking lot March 23. Supt. Selma Townes, several correctional officers and staff pitched in to wash 63 vehicles.

Community Corrections Staff Raise Money For March of Dimes

WILSON- Several staff from Wilson County’s Community Corrections office hit the street March 24 in the annual Walk America to raise money for the March of Dimes.

The staff walked five miles and raised $600. Probation Officer Christie Noble coordinated their efforts. Probation Officer Tonya Kaylor raised the most money.

Wellness Committee Cooks Dinner For Homeless

WADESBORO- Members of the Wellness Committee of the Anson and Richmond County Community Corrections offices cooked dinner March 7 at the Samaritan Inn homeless shelter.

“It made me feel good to know I was helping someone less fortunate,” said Glenda Meacham, office assistant.

The dinner was part of the committee’s community outreach program. They made fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, string beans, rolls and cake.

Secretary Speaks To Black Affairs Banquet Attendees

DURHAM- Secretary Theodis Beck and several other Department employees attended the Third Annual Black Affairs Banquet Feb. 23 at Durham Hilton Hotel. The Federal Correctional Complex at Butner sponsored the banquet.

Secretary Beck delivered the (Briefs Continued on page 7)
Correction Enterprises Issues Golf Challenge- Jim Godwin. Correction Enterprises director, practices his golf swing while, from left, Al Hare, quality control specialist; Randy Lee, industrial engineering tech; and Andy Artola, assistant director of operations, get a few pointers. The Correction Enterprises golf tournament, which benefits North Carolina Special Olympics, will be held June 8 at River Golf & Country Club in Bunn. Contact Jerry Carlyle or Al Hare at (919) 496-3095 for more information.

Program Matches Churches, Inmates For Support

By Tracy Little

Like other inmates leaving prison, Daniel Cunningham knows he’ll face many obstacles when he’s released in June. But with the help of a new program sponsored by the Department of Correction, Cunningham and many others may have a better chance of staying crime-free once they walk through prison gates.

Called Transition Aftercare Network or TAN, the program aims to match inmates with faith-based organizations in their home community. TAN organizers hope to recruit churches in every North Carolina county to provide aftercare and support services to released inmates.

“There is a great need for support for individuals once they are released,” said James Prince, director of chaplaincy services for the Division of Prisons and lead TAN organizer. “We have strong ministry programs inside our prisons, and this appeared to be a natural extension of that work.”

Cunningham, who’s serving a burglary sentence at Western Youth Institution, has been matched with Turning Point Ministry, whose volunteers include Mable W. Manning of Gastonia. “I think this is a wonderful idea,” said Manning, who’s been involved with prison ministries since 1984. “Through the years I’ve seen how incarceration affects so many homes and families and the hurt and pain it brings,” she said.

Although the Department of Correction is sponsoring the network, it will be volunteers across the state who will drive its activities. The network already has grown from 20 people at its first meeting in September to more than 200, with representatives from 37 counties. A steering committee comprised of volunteers is developing inmate application forms, recruitment and training materials for churches and standards for services. In addition, five regional volunteer coordinators will be responsible for working with chaplains at prison units to link inmates with participating churches. The network will first target inmates participating in JobStart and re-entry programs and then expand to other facilities.

ACA Seeks New Members

The American Correctional Association (ACA) is seeking new members. ACA is one of the largest associations representing criminal justice professionals.

Some of the services provided to members include training resources, national workshops, technical assistance and grants. Members also receive Corrections Today magazine, an online newsletter, conference and publication discounts and accidental death/dismemberment insurance.

For more information on becoming a member call (800) 222-5646, extension 1920.

(Briefs Continued from page 6) keynote speech and discussed the history of minorities. He also talked about the many pioneers in the Department and in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Beck encouraged attendees to build coalitions with all people to help make the criminal justice system better for all.

(Edmundson Continued from page 1) those who approach it from a health physical education/recreation perspective and those who enter the arena as clinical psychologists. Edmundson had the foresight, ability, and University support to write and obtain a grant funded by the NCAA that paid him to work with athletes at Ole Miss; this helped pay for his education and provided valuable experience.

Partially as a result of this experience he was selected from a very competitive applicant pool to work with the U.S. Olympic Team in Colorado Springs from the fall of 1993 to the fall of 1994. Working with the nation’s greatest athletes was an incredibly positive experience for him. He had contact with athletes across almost every field that has a national governing body, including all the shooting teams, judo, swimming and inline skating.

Edmundson obtained a Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi in 1995. During his time in school he had worked with a forensic board in West Tennessee and found it fascinating.

After an internship in New Orleans and several months’ post-doctoral work in child psychology, he saw an ad in the APA Monitor for a psychology job in North Carolina. He remembered how much he enjoyed the forensic work and, after a positive meeting with Al Harrop, he decided to take the job at Caledonia as the mental health program manager.

One of the football players he helped while on the NCAA grant was Wesley Walls. Even when Walls played for San Francisco and New Orleans the two stayed in touch with each other. After being traded to the Panthers, Walls was instrumental in putting Edmundson in contact with team management, which has given him an opportunity to consult with the team occasionally as a sports psychologist. The opportunity to work with a professional football team has been a thrill for him, he said. Edmundson said he would like for others to see a reflection of God in the things he does and in the way he lives his life.
Personnel Corner

Changes Likely In Health Insurance

By Cathrine Garner

Faced with a significant budget crisis, several changes to the State Health Plan have been proposed and are under consideration by the General Assembly. It is expected that the State Health Plan will have no funds available at some point between July 1 and Sept. 1. The current legislative session is being challenged to address these issues and at close of session many changes are anticipated that will affect employees’ health insurance coverage. According to Jack Walker, Ph.D., executive administrator of the State Health Plan, possible changes/items currently under consideration this legislative session are:

• Increase deductible from $250 to $400
• Increase maximum out of pocket expenses from $1,000 to $1,500
• Increase drug co-payments from $10/15/20/25 to $10/25/30/40
• Reduce 34-day refill supply to 30 days
• Require employees to pay a portion of the monthly premium. Currently, employees do not pay for their own coverage. A $10 per month payment would generate $50 million.

Any one or more of the above options may be implemented. Additionally, it is anticipated by the State Health Plan that no fully insured HMOs will be available for the next enrollment.

Efforts being made to address the funding shortage facing the State Health Plan are:

Fee Negotiations

Historically the State Health Plan has not negotiated for any additional reduction in hospital and physician reimbursements. Last year the Legislature lowered prescription dispensing fee from $6 to $4 and gave the executive administrator authority to contract with a pharmacy benefit manager to further reduce drug claims costs.

This year efforts are being made by the State Health Plan to negotiate lower reimbursement levels to hospitals and physicians for outpatient services. The State Health Plan currently pays more than some other commercial insurance carriers. The State Health Plan will be negotiating reimbursement levels to achieve discounts similar to those of other commercial carriers.

This could generate savings of $130 to $160 million.

New Proposal

Senate Bill 822, introduced by Sen. Tony Rand, calls for a Self-Funded Health Care Plan. The State Health Plan would design the plan and while copays would be significant, employees would be able to “pay as they go” and would have no deductibles. This plan could be available in up to 92 of the 100 counties.

Please keep in mind that these are only proposals currently under consideration by the General Assembly and are subject to change. However, it is important that employees are kept abreast of the possible changes to health insurance coverage, and be prepared for what could happen. Because of the anticipated changes to health insurance coverage, employees are urged to update their mailing addresses with their benefit representative to ensure that they receive the health insurance information distributed by the State Health Plan during annual enrollment.

Finally, the State Health Plan is still in the process of litigation with the Wellpath Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) regarding the letters it sent out to employees notifying them that they were dropping coverage in 13 counties. Until a final decision is made regarding Wellpath’s legal obligations under its contract, Wellpath must provide coverage in the 13 counties.

Bob Beam Loses Battle With Cancer

NEWLAND- Family, friends and former co-workers of Bob Beam attended his funeral April 16 after he lost his battle with cancer. Beam retired in 1994 as Branch B manager in what was the Division of Adult Probation and Parole. He started his career in Correction in 1964 as a probation officer in McDowell County. His wife Margaret said that Bob loved his job, the people with whom he worked and that he was loyal and dedicated to his profession.

Deaths

Jimmy Bullock Sampson CI
Dana Robinson Polk YI
Anthony Taylor Polk YI

Staff Training Honor Students

Michael Barker DCC, Dist. 5
Robert Bryson Haywood CC
Kevin Carroll DCC, Dist. 10
John Craft DCC, Dist. 5
Mary Lou Freeman DCC, Dist. 12
Maichel Gould DCC, Dist. 14
Michael Henrickson Piedmont CI
Sherisse Kelly DCC, Dist. 10
Michael Millard DCC, Dist. 8B
Margaret Norris DCC, Dist. 10
Larry Respass DCC, Dist. 7
Ivey Shearin DCC, Dist. 9B
Christy Vernon DCC, Dist. 9B
Governor’s Awards For Excellence
Nomination Deadline Approaching

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2001 Governor’s Awards for Excellence. The State’s highest honor was created to acknowledge and express appreciation for outstanding accomplishments made by employees.

Nominees must be permanent State employees. The categories for nominations are: outstanding state government service, innovations, public service, safety and heroism and human relations.

Nominations should be submitted no later than Friday, June 22 to Fran Stallings, DOC Administration, 214 West Jones Street, MSC 4201, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4201. To get a copy of the nomination form and rules, contact your superintendent, judicial district manager or division director.

(Chavis Continued from page 3)

Chavis and her husband Kenneth have a daughter in college and a son in high school. She is an active member of Berea Baptist Church in Pembroke. In her spare time, she enjoys fishing and tending the flowers in her yard.

Chavis replaces Bob Lewis who was promoted to support services director for the Division of Prisons. ★
National Medical Laboratory Week Observed

By Karen Kelly

During the observation of National Medical Laboratory Week (NMLW) from April 15 to 21, the Department of Correction recognized its medical laboratory professionals. The week is a time of celebration for the approximately 265,000 medical laboratory professionals and 15,000 board certified pathologists who perform and interpret medical laboratory tests across the country. The theme was “Laboratory Professionals: Solving Today’s Medical Mysteries.”

The Division of Community Corrections, Substance Abuse Screening Program has six substance abuse screening labs across the state with two medical laboratory technicians at each lab. They are: Sharon Hagan and Jovita Rodgers, Greenville; Agnes Morton and Manita Badger, Raleigh; Felicia Jenkins and Lynn Palmieri, Fayetteville; Susie Williams and James Goode, Greensboro; Rosa Covington and Connie Dinh, Charlotte; and Rose Powell and Elaine Nelson, Asheville.

The medical laboratory technicians are responsible for receiving all specimens in the lab, inspecting the specimen and paperwork for accuracy and documented chain of custody, date stamping all forms as received in the lab and properly storing the sample until it is screened. Once the validity of the specimen is verified, the technician must enter data into the lab’s screening database. This database communicates with the screening instrument and is able to generate worklists and screening requests that are sent to the screening instrument. The screening instrument sends back to the database results on drugs screened and other results of tests performed on each specimen. Once the results have been reviewed for accuracy, a report is generated and mailed or faxed to the officer or facility requesting the test. The technicians are responsible for keeping the instrument, as well as the Millipore water system, clean and functional. Other duties include keeping an inventory of reagents, calibrators, and controls, keeping all maintenance/action logs up to date, discarding specimens according to standard procedures, and maintaining all documents for three years from date of receipt.

Recently a bid was awarded for a new drugs of abuse screening instrument to be used by the labs. Community Corrections is in the process of transitioning from the current screening instrument to the new one. Once the transition to the new instrument and database is complete, all screening results will be transmitted to OPUS so that the Division of Community Corrections and the Division of Prisons will have instant access to results, in lieu of hard copy reports. The new instrument will allow greater capability of screening and other functions that will be beneficial not only to the labs but to the agencies for whom screens are performed. ✯