

# FLASHBACK



1986 - 1990



## Georgia Department of Human Resources

*In December, we launched our first of series of communications entitled Flashback. These series will help us to celebrate the history of DHR and recognize its stages of progression. The previous issue highlighted the founding fathers and conception of DHR. In this issue, we will turn another page in DHR's story as we transition towards the new Department of Human Services. Join with me as we recapture moments from our past. Some information will refresh your memory; some will leave you speechless.*

### Remember the 80's?

REMEMBER

THESE



Shutter-style sunglasses



Jelly's



Hammer Pants



Prom Dress

As we visit the mid-80's in this issue of the Flashback, we're taking you back to some of the top fashions of this era. Additionally, two DHR employees are highlighted who have persevered with DHR over more than two decades.

#### Hazel Reed - Child Support Services



Pictured Left: Hazel Reed, Connie Sanders, Cassandra D'Antignac

Hazel Reed was hired in 1989 with the Child Support Recovery Unit as a Child Support Agent. During this time the Augusta office transitioned from a county to a state run office. Mrs. Reed and each of the 9 other child support agents established, collected, and

enforced child support by using the offices one phone and one computer. "We had to use a sign-up sheet and take turns using the computer terminal."

#### Ellen Addlesee - Division of Aging Services

"The biggest change I have seen since my employment with DHR began ... has been the computer," stated Ellen Addlesee. "At the time I started my employment, I used a small green IBM Selectric typewriter to transcribe massive amounts of information. Around the middle 1980's, I received another IBM typewriter which had just enough memory to type one form letter. By 1995, I was presented with a word processor, whose monitor looked like a small TV screen, but could hold more memory than I thought possible."



Pictured Top: IBM Selectric Typewriter, Pictured Bottom: Typewriter elements

continued...

# Flashback

## DHR Timeline:

- 1986** - DHR developed a video training program aimed at helping day-care personnel prevent child abuse. The video used a mixture of technology, information, and professional training to license 1,500 public and private day-care centers in the state.
- 1987** - DHR made a plea for additional AIDS treatment centers in Macon, Savannah, Augusta, Albany, and Columbus to manage the states' rising AIDS cases. Due to the influx of the AIDS virus, DHR projected that the number of AIDS cases were expected to rise 600 percent by 1991.
- 1987** - Jerry Townsend, Director of the state Department of Human Resources' Office of Child Support Recovery pleaded with courts to enforce visitation and child support equally. One issue deals with the emotional visitation and the other concerns a monetary sum.

In the late 1980's to early 1990's, there were two newspapers responsible for reporting on government agencies: the Atlanta Constitution and The Journal. DHR related issues were highlighted with news stories and photographic depictions on multiple occasions.

## Public Perception of DHR:



The following is a photographic depiction by Clifford Baldowski (April, 1982) with the Atlanta Constitution. This drawing speaks to the general public perception of DHR from March, 1982 (left).

The Clifford "Baldy" Baldowski cartoon depicts a family in an old car filled with junk labeled "Social Programs" that is halfway buried in the snow. Even more snow is continuing to fall.

The caption reads: "Turn on the radio and find out what the weather is!" .... It implies that Social Programs are being left out in the cold.

Clifford H. "Baldy" Baldowski Editorial Cartoons. Courtesy of the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies, The University of Georgia Libraries.

"We take matters regarding children seriously and investigate thoroughly." ledbetter (1986)



# Flashback

## DHR Timeline (continued)

- 1987** – Georgia participated in its first National Red Ribbon Week in honor of Federal Drug Enforcement Agent, Enrique “Kiki” Camarena, who was killed in the line of duty. People across the country wear red satin badges in honor of his service.
- 1988** – Superior Court Judge Osgood O. Williams upheld DHR’s decision to close the Children’s Services International Adoption Agency. DHR denied the renewal of their license due to their violation of state rules.
- 1988** – The Cobb County Office of Child Support Services earned a \$30,832 performance bonus. The monetary performance award was distributed by the federal government and state Department of Human Resources.
- 1989** – The Atlanta Journal Constitution filed suit against DHR over the refusal to turn over records for 51 abused and neglected children who died in 1988 under state protection.
- 1990** – The Senate approves a bill to create a Department of Youth Services for children who break the law. The new agency would mean pulling the Youth Services Division from the Department of Human Resources. The agency later became the Dept. of Juvenile Justice.

### *The Atlanta Hawks Make Playoffs 3 consecutive seasons (1986-1989)*

During the 1986-1987 seasons, the Atlanta Hawks was among the NBA's elite as they won the Central Division holding the teams best record of 57 wins -25 losses. Dominique Wilkins who finished 2nd in scoring with 29 points per game, led the team to the playoffs where the Hawks fell in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of playoffs to the Detroit Pistons. The following year the Atlanta Hawks returned to the playoffs after finishing with a solid 50-32 record. During the 1988-1989 season, the Hawks made it to the playoffs a third time after finishing the season 52-30. (Source: Sports E-cyclopedia [www.sportsecyclopedia.com/](http://www.sportsecyclopedia.com/))

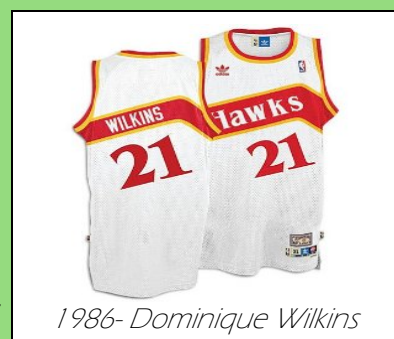
Dominique Wilkins was elected to Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006. In addition to receiving national honors for his

basketball talents, Dominique Wilkins partnered with DHR to address community issues and youth initiatives. On May 6, 2003, Wilkins visited with students at Tilson Elementary School in DeKalb County at an event sponsored by DHR. At the event, he shared stories about his battle with asthma and how he managed the sickness.

*Pictured left: Wilkins poses with students who won the school's World Asthma Day poster contest*



*1972- Pete Maravich*



*1986- Dominique Wilkins*



*Dominique Wilkins with students at Tilson Elementary*

**"Asthma research is a lot better and new medicines... will help young people" Wilkins, 2003**

# Flashback

## Across the country... 1986 At-A-Glance

### DID YOU KNOW ...

The previous pages include factual information regarding DHR in the late 80's to early 90's. To offer a more complete picture of this era, here are some facts of interest as it relates to economic and entertainment industries. During the year of 1986:

1. The average cost of a new house was \$89,430.00.
2. The average income was \$22,400.00 per year.
3. The Chicago Bears beat NE Patriots, 46-10 at Superbowl XX in New Orleans
4. A gallon of gas costs \$0.89 cents
5. Mike Tyson becomes the youngest Heavyweight Champion in history
6. Smoking is banned on all public transportation including trains, planes, busses and coaches
7. The Space Shuttle Challenger dismantles after launch, killing all on board
8. IBM unveils the PC Convertible, the first laptop computer
9. Rock and Roll Hall of Fame launched by inducting its first 10 musicians
10. Popular TV Shows:

*Magnum P.I.*

*Dynasty*

*Falcon Crest*

*Cheers*

*Hill Street Blues*

*The Cosby Show*

*Fame*

*The A-Team*

*Family Ties*

*Remington Steele*

### Until next time...

Thank you for taking this journey into the past. By reflecting upon the early years of DHR, it is our hope that you will have a better understanding of the advances we have made and challenges we continue to face as an agency. A lot has changed, some things haven't.

To the employees who started with DHR between the years of 1986-1990, we salute you for your continued service and dedication. We ask that all employees send your comments, thoughts, and any facts relating to the next era of communications (1991 - 1995) to [dhrlashback@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:dhrlashback@dhr.state.ga.us).

Thank you!

*Sources: Atlanta Constitution Archives; Atlanta-Fulton Central Library; Music Outfitters Online - 1986, Georgia Official and Statistical Register, The People History Online-1986, History Orb Online - 1986, NBA History, Sportsecyclopedia.*

Please join us next month as we take a look back at DHR during 1991 - 1995.