

Inter View with Dave Bleau
Tuesday December 8,1998
Interviewed by Jim Bleau

Me: This is Jim Bleau interviewing Dave Bleau in his living room on December 5, 1998.

Me: What is your full name.

Dave: David James Bleau

Me: What kind of books did you like to read when you were younger.

Dave: Sports magazines about sports out door type of thing.

Me: Did you Have any nick names when you were younger.

Dave: No I didn't have any nicknames when I was younger.

Me: Did you and your friends have any special hang out when you were a teen-ager.

Dave: That was when down town Ishpeming was big with congress I spent a lot of nights down there.

Me: How did you get to school.

Dave: I only took the bus during the worst weather and I walked a lot of the time.

Me: What were your favorite sports.

Dave: Foot ball and Wrestling. I liked all sports in general.

Me: Were you named after any body.

Dave: Not my first name but my middle name was after my uncle jimmy.

Me: Where they're any fads when you were younger.

Dave: When I grew up there was a lot of fads bell bottom jeans big collars on shirts and a lot of big hair.

Me: How old were you when you started dating.

Dave: I was in high school I guess.

Me: What do you do for exercise.

Dave: We take our dog out in the woods a lot hunting walking fishing I am coaching a junior wrestling team.

Me: Would you consider yourself creative.

Dave: Some times I guess I am. At my work I have to be somewhat creative Half to have new ideas to get things done.

Me: How would describe your sense of humor.

Dave: I would describe my sense of humor as unusual unique pathetic. ha ha ha

Me: Describe some of the funny practical jokes you have played on people.

Dave: Oh we do goofy things around the house and stuff like that. One time we were out hunting with the boys and the wife came along. There was a bridge up ahead and I came to a stop and then I floored it and I said hold on Hun we rely half to go fast over this bridge we might not make it. she almost jumped out of the car she was pale after we got across the bridge.

Me: What activities have you enjoyed as an adult.

Dave: I have enjoyed a number of activities as an adult. Getting involved with a number of a different thing government wise and through the township and the Road commotion. We have been involved in a number of things with the kids over the years that have been very enjoyable with sports and stuff wrestling.

Me: What are your hobbies like fishing hunting things like that.

Dave: That's about it. I have got a number of hobbies I guess coaching is a bit of a hobby. Other hobbies have to do with sports like hunting and fishing.

Me: What's your favorite style of music.

Dave: Country and Western

Me: What holiday do you like the most.

Dave: I like the Fourth of July a lot because the weather is usually good. I also like Thanksgiving because it is a family gathering you get to meet all the relatives. I also like Christmas to because it is that way. Those are my favorite holidays.

Me: What is your favorite T.V. program.

Dave: I don't watch a lot of T.V. so I guess I cant pick a Favorite television program.

Jim; What is your favorite restaurant.

Dave: My favorite restaurant is the Villa Capree. things I like to drink are like pop and coffee milk and juice.

Me: When did you start the job you are working now.

Dave: November 19th 1990 and I started at the road commotion.

Me: How has the work life changed for your work life when you first started compared to now.

Dave: A number of technological changes took place when I first started here at the road commotion in that short time there was very little Technology we had one computer and mostly meant for the accounting payroll functions and things like that. Then we have come a long way on computer risation we do most of our work on computers. We just used to do a lot of hand calculations with calculators and typewriters. We had to do a lot of that type of stuff out we now do that stuff on word processing highly technologically advanced at this point. We have come a long way in the last few years we use Microsoft word Ms. office 97, word, and access.

Me: How do you determine whether or not it is a good choice to build a road or not in a certain place.

Dave: There are a number of things that play to mind weather to build or rebuild in a certain place. It really has to do with I think with traffic levels and population of course the desire to the local people to have a road placed in a certain place.

Me: I understand that there is a tool to day that you us in building a better road and what is the tool and how is it used.

Dave: The tool is a nuclear density gage and it is used to measure a density of a road underneath to the sub grade underneath the a portion of the road. You check the compactness of the materials of the road with the nuclear density gage and it aids in telling you whether you have a quality road because it gives you the testing ability with just reusing the gage to measure the compaction of the road in a uniform way. Then this is also a way of improvement because it is really simple to use and a cost affective and it tacks up a lot less time.

Me: What would you say your favorite piece of road equipment would be.

Dave: I think that the most interesting piece of equipment would be the new big trucks that we have got in for the first time this year they are very multifaceted they have what I call a under body scrapper and the a sander box on it. That is way bigger than we have had in the past. We used to have 10 and 12 yard sander now this one is a 16 yard sander. They can go greater distances with out having to reload so it should heighten the saftey of

the people that are traveling on the road way because we can stay on the road ways longer and get more done. This particular piece of equipment also has a front plow and a winged plow. Witch is something new in our fleet and it also features a five hundred horse power engine it is a great big horse of a truck and a it should get a lot of work done.

Me: When you first went to collage was this the job you first had in mind.

Dave: No a I guess I didn't know what I was going to do at that point. my back round is in accounting and management. So that could lead you in very many directions but I wound up doing what I am doing what I am doing but I enjoy it.

Me: Do you enjoy your work.

Dave: Yes I enjoy my work. It is a very interesting place to work there is always a lot of different things going on. So it isn't to repetitive in nature lot of new things going on all the time so there are new and interesting challenging things happening all the time.

Me: What are the down sides to you work.

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Me: Is your equipment reliable or does it break down all the time.

Dave: Heavy equipotent of that nature will break down especially in the wintertime. The weather conditions are very bad and it is very demanding on the equipment and we have twenty four hour coverage in snow conditions and the equipment will work around the clock, and that's very demanding on a piece of equipment. So we do have frequent breakdowns so we try to invest in are fleet every year we try to invest in our fleet every year with prevented of maintenance and new equipment all the time so we a have few as plisible break downs and down times of the equipment.

Me: Has any one ever worked on the road commission before you.

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Child hood - ~~green~~ yellow
teenager years - ~~late pink~~ 
Present work life. - ~~black~~ orange

