

Verizon never GAVE us a thing.

Lighten up, Dude. This job is way cool. Half the people I graduated high school with would kill for it. Hey, some of their parents would too.

Exactly! And how do you think it got to be that way? You think all those wages and benefits dropped out of the sky? We had to fight tooth and nail.



Every contract - for 40 years - we were ready to fight. Strikes, whatever. We made 'em do it. That's why you're making ends meet while your old high school pals are flipping burgers.

Fighting is sooo old-school.

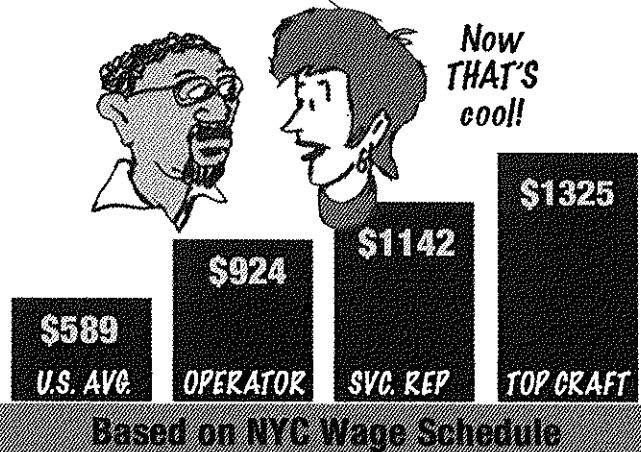


Old school? Back in the day, there were no automatic progression wage increases. No time and a half after 8 hours. No doubletime after 49 hours or on Sundays. No doubletime and a half on holidays. No Saturday differentials.

Was that before Saturday Night Live?



Get real! OUR wages are higher than the average U.S. worker because of the increases we fought for and won in every round of bargaining we fought and won.



Now THAT'S cool!

Yeah, well don't take it for granted. Management can't do the job without us, but they're working on it, trust me. If we're not ready this time, they've got the war chest and the technology to outflank us by redrawing the battle lines.

What are you? The prophet of doom?



Just being real. You hafta learn from history. We don't want to be looking back in five years, wondering where our health care, pensions, overtime, all that other good stuff went.



We fought for it all. And we're gonna have to fight again.

(TO BE CONTINUED)