

MTA Mechanics, Operator Place in Regional Bus Rodeo

Photos by Ira Camp

(Aug. 27, 2002) MTA's competitors in last weekend's Regional Bus Rodeo at Hollywood Park placed just out of reach of the winners – a fact that may give them extra incentive at the APTA International Bus Rodeo, Sept. 21, in Las Vegas.

South Bay Division 18's team of mechanics Javier Soria, Mina Ros and Luke Logan placed second in the maintenance event, only 103 points behind the Orange County Transit Authority's team.

The MTA mechanics bested teams from OMNI Trans, Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus, Foothill Transit, Golden Empire Transit and Montebello Transit.

North Los Angeles Division 3 Operator Daniel Keosababian, who will carry MTA's banner in Las Vegas, placed fifth in last Saturday's event, coming within 37 points of the winner, Felix Teston of Golden Empire Transit.



Metro Bus Operator Dan Keosababian adjust his mirror before the start of his run in the Regional Bus Rodeo.



MTA maintenance team Javier Soria, Mina Ros and Luke Logan work the brake board during the regional competition.

Dohn Ryder of Riverside Transit was second, Rick Alvarez of OMNI Trans was third and Tim Giroux of Big Blue Bus placed fourth.

Other competitors, in order, were Culver City Bus, OCTA, Torrance Transit, Long Beach Transit, National City Transit, Montebello Bus Lines, Foothill Transit and Norwalk Transit.

Supporting MTA's competitors during the event were sector general managers Jack Gabig and Dana Coffey, Deputy Executive Officer Richard Hunt, Division 18 Maintenance Manager Ken Matsuno, Division 3 Transportation Manager Dan Frawley and Division 18 Acting Transportation Manager Cindy Karpman.

The objective of the Regional Bus Rodeo is to give the operators and maintenance teams who will represent their transit agencies an opportunity to gain experience competing against each other in preparation for the international event.

Additional information about the 2002 Regional Bus Rodeo, including final score tallies is available on the Internet at www.scrbr.com.

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