

PHOTOS BY BILL HEARD

A Golden Moment for Metro Gold Line Volunteers

(July 23, 2003) It was a golden moment for the 350-plus MTA employees who have volunteered to staff the Metro Gold Line's opening festivities this weekend.

Packed into the Board room, Wednesday morning, enthusiasm was running high among volunteers as Metro Rail General Manager Gerald Francis and a bevy of high school cheerleaders – pom-poms flashing – led the group in the wave.

G!! O!! L!! D!! – they shouted. Each section of the room trying to out-yell the other.

"I can feel the excitement in the air," CEO Roger Snoble told the volunteers. "The whole community feels it. We have an opportunity to open a new service and to do it really well. This is hugely important to the MTA."

Located around the room were placards bearing the names of the seven rail stations where activities are scheduled Saturday and Sunday.

"The Metro Gold Line is a piece of a puzzle – a piece of a system that's being developed to move people throughout this county," said Deputy CEO John Catoe. "It's taken a lot of work by many people. You all have a great deal to be proud of."

Opening weekend volunteers will be recognizable by their yellow T-shirts and khaki caps. The theme: Discover Gold!

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GO TEAM - Cheered on by CEO Roger Snoble, Deputy CEO John Catoe and Metro Rail General Manager Gerald Francis, Benjamin Franklin High School cheerleaders make the point: Gold is the word for the weekend.



Records Clerk Barbara Trigg has staffed all but one Metro Rail opening in the last 13 years.



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