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Tiebreaker a Heartbreaker for Metro Mechanics at Regional Roadeo

(Sept. 22, 2004) The tiebreaker was a heartbreaker for Metro mechanics participating in last weekend's Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo - they were bested in the maintenance competition by the OCTA team.

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Carson Division 18 mechanics Luke Logan, Javier Soria and Mina Ros racked up 1,070 points to tie with the OCTA mechanics for the top slot. But, in the tiebreaker event, the OCTA team managed to start their bus engine 49 seconds earlier than the Metro team.

Despite the regional disappointment, Logan, Soria and Ros will represent Metro in October at the APTA International Bus Roadeo in Atlanta. In 1997, a Gateway Division 10 won the international maintenance competition.

Operator Castro placed 8th

Accompanying the mechanics to Atlanta will be San Gabriel Valley Division 9 Operator Luduvico Castro, who won Metro's Bus Roadeo in August,

Division 18 mechanics Luke Logan, Javier Soria

Manager Dana Coffey, were only 49 seconds

from winning the SoCal Regional Bus Roadeo.

and Mina Ros, shown here with General

Below, Division 9 Operator Luduvico will

represent Metro at the APTA international

competition in Atlanta.

but placed eighth in the Southern California competition.

"Our team is excellent," said Steve Mullaly, maintenance committee coordinator. "We're looking forward to the competition in Atlanta."

Taking the top five positions in the regional maintenance event, hosted in Hemet by the Riverside Transit Authority, were OCTA, 1,070 points; Metro, 1,070; Santa Monica Big Blue Bus, 790; Golden Empire Transit, 765; and Foothill Transit, 755 points.

Bus operators scoring in the top five were Ron Dickey, Riverside Transit, 638 points; Michael Mayo, Omnitrans, 613; Felix Teston, Golden Empire Transit, 605; Robert Lugo, Montebello Bus Lines, 591; and Alonzo Valenzuela, OCTA, 590. Metro's Castro scored 554 points

to take eighth place.

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