



**F O R I M M E D I A T E  
R E L E A S E**

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## **ROADEO WINNER HEADED TO UTAH**

TUCSON, Arizona - Mike Hardy, a twelve-year veteran coach operator of Sun Tran, claimed victory over 24 other competitors in the 25th Annual Sun Tran Bus Rodeo. The competition was held at the Davis Monthan Air Force Base on Sunday, June 29. For the second consecutive year, Hardy will represent Sun Tran at the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) International Bus Rodeo competition in Salt Lake City, to be held September 24 - 28.

Along with an expense-paid trip to the competition in Salt Lake City, Hardy received a \$200 cash award, Stetson cowboy hat, and trophy during an awards luncheon. This year marks Hardy's third win in local competition, taking top honors in Sun Tran's 1998 Sun Tran Bus Rodeo. Coach operator Jeff Miller, also a twelve-year veteran, received a \$100 cash award and trophy for his second place finish. Martha Yates' third place finish reaped a \$50 cash prize and trophy. Yates, who has been driving for Sun Tran almost three years, was also recognized as being the first woman in 17 years to finish among the top three.

The local and national competitions are designed to test a coach operator's driving skills, knowledge of safety regulations, and bus equipment. Each operator had to maneuver a 40' bus through a series of eleven obstacles.

Sun Tran is operated by the City of Tucson and managed by Professional Transit Management, Ltd. (PTM).