

# Window washing ingenuity pays for van trip

By JUDITH BERNE

Go west, young man.

The lure of the west still beckons today's youth, although they reckon with gas shortages instead of Indian attacks. They travel by van instead of covered wagon. And in the case of two area teens, scouts will be replaced by a CB radio.

Ron Miller of West Bloomfield and Dave Liebetrau of Bloomfield Township set out this week in a red, white and blue van equipped with CB radio and stereo — today's apparent necessities. The boys, both 17, bought the van and will pay for their trip with money earned washing windows over the past few weeks.

They collected as much as \$160 a day going door-to-door in Southfield, Troy, West Bloomfield and Farmington scaring up dirty windows.

But their savings will only carry them so far. Then they will start washing windows again whether it be a small town in North Dakota or an exclusive Denver suburb.

"There are a lot of people who are too lazy to do it themselves," Miller laughs.

THE GAS crisis may actually have prompted their trip. "We'll consider gas cheap right now at this time next year," Miller predicts. "We'll say 'remember when gas was only 90 cents a gallon last year.'"

He is convinced gas will be "way over a dollar next year."

"We understand even with the odd-even system, out-of-staters can get it when they want," Miller says.

"We'll just play it as it goes," Liebetrau adds. "If we can't get gas, we'll just camp out for a day."

Although many parents would consider the two 17-

year-olds too young to make the summer-long trip, they have the full support of Ron's mother, Bunny Miller. Mrs. Miller is a psychiatric social worker who specializes in the problems of adolescents from her Birmingham office. "She's a good mother. Write that down," interjects Miller. "I'm concerned about the gas problem," she acknowledges. "I worry if they do get sick, can they get services. But both boys are extremely responsible."

"I think it's a maturing experience. Parents have to withstand the anxiety. It's like the first time your 2-year-old goes down the slide by himself."

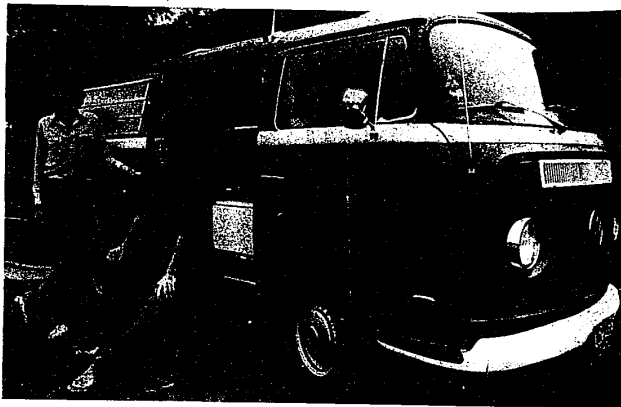
Mrs. Miller says the issue of parent and child separation is predominant among the teens she counsels. "Parents try to hold on and not allow their children to grow up," she says. The issue, she believes, is caring too much. Many of the depressed, underachieving adolescents she sees are suffering from "suffocating, overbearing, controlling parents."

"As a parent I have to allow them to mature and to separate," she states.

THE BOYS have no planned route except to leave via the Upper Peninsula and travel the northern states, coming back along a more southerly path.

Liebetrau will return for his senior year at Birmingham's Groves High School. Miller has racked up enough credits to graduate in three years from West Bloomfield High. Instead, he will work the year and graduate with his class with an eye toward pre-law studies at Michigan State University.

The boys, who have been friends for years, aren't worried about getting along with one another for such a long time in such close quarters. "They're a good combination," Mrs. Miller reports. "Ron is assertive. Dave is very easy going. Together they make one perfect person."



Two local teens will head west by van this week despite the threat of gas shortages. "If we can't get gas, we'll just camp out an extra day," say Ron Miller and Dave Liebetrau. (Staff photo by Charlie Kidd)

## Bible College lists its June graduates

Detroit Bible College, 35700 West Twelve Mile in Farmington Hills conducted its 1979 commencement ceremony, recently.

Bachelor of religious education degrees were given to: Roger Adams, of South Lyon; Gary Berry of Troy; Kathleen Bower Bradley, a cum laude graduate from Walled Lake; Jerry Collins, of Rockwood; Rick Cox of Waterford; Leslie Hyde, a summa cum laude graduate from Clarkston; Benjamin Johnson of Bloomfield Hills; James Lake of Bloomfield Hills; John LaRue of West Bloomfield; Arthur LaVigne of Trenton; John Link of Berkley and David

Wasson of Romulus.

Bachelor of Music degrees were awarded to: Richard Bradley of Portland, Ore.; Brenda Fuson, a summa cum laude graduate from Walled Lake and Marcia Randi, of Royal Oak.

Bachelor of Theology degrees were awarded to: John Grimes of Tawas City; Dismenene E. Noelliste, a cum laude graduate from Port-Au-Prince, Haiti.

Certificates in basic biblical studies were awarded to: Robert Bowman of Marysville; Mary Mayhew of St. Clair; Cindy Morgan of Warren; Heather Richier of Madison Heights and Astrid

Shortt of Northville.

CHRISTIAN WORKERS certificates were given to: Mark Clivon, Daniel Oliver, Jr., and Priscilla Oliver all of Milford and to Frank Raines, Jr., of Detroit.

Jerry Collins, a graduate with a degree in religious education was awarded the Gary Severin Memorial Award for Outstanding Christian Service. He was pastor of the Newport Community Church for two years while a full time student at the school.

Leslie Hyde, of Waterford was awarded the Viola Mayhew Bible The-

ology Award for excellence in the area of Bible and theology during the past school year. She was given the Delta Epsilon Chi Award from the National Honor Society of American Association of Bible Colleges for outstanding scholarship and Christian character.

The Herbert Dunzy Scholarship was given to Mrs. Wanda Evans of Detroit for achievement in academics and faithfulness in Christian service.

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