

DAN DEAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

The problems of the past are resolved — or at least under control — said Matthew M. Wirgau, SMART board chairman from Oakland County. It's a new Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART), and Oakland residents would do well to take another look at the system that provides service to more than 500,000 commuters monthly.

Wirgau and SMART were so upbeat, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers decided to accept the invitation.

Check out SMART

They arrived at Woodward and Maple in Birmingham about 9:52 a.m.

The goal was to check out SMART.

Can riders rely on the system? What about cost? What about getting back? What's it like on the SMART buses?

The effort was by no means a scientific study. But neither was it a set-up. There were no advanced notice to the public relations office. The marketing department knew the O&E might be riding SMART, but they didn't know where or when.

■ Buses are punctual — almost too punctual. Riders can be on time, but still miss the bus because drivers adhere closely to schedule. They are instructed to look for riders, but if they don't see any, it's off they go.

The buses from the Cross Winds Mall in West Bloomfield and the intersection of Rochester and Hamlin roads in Rochester Hills left slightly ahead of the scheduled departure times, 6:48 a.m. and 7:15 a.m., respectively.

As a result of being punctual, the buses arrived at their destinations on time, if not a moment or two ahead of schedule.

That's usually the case, according to Yuchi Chang, 19, who said she rides SMART to Wayne State University twice a week to study English. Chang said she came to the United States earlier this year from Taiwan and lives with an uncle in Rochester Hills.

When asked about SMART's punctuality, at least six other riders said the buses are "usually" or "always" on time.

See SMART, 11A

An Annual Election will be held in the Farmington Public School District on the 14th day of June 1993:

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the last day upon which unregistered persons may register in order to be able to vote at said election is:
Monday, May 17, 1993

up to 5:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Savings Time
Applications for registration should be made to the clerk of the city or township in which the elector resides. Registration will be received during regular office hours Monday through Friday of each week. Farmington City residents may register at City Hall, 23600 Liberty Street. Farmington Hills residents may register at the Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile Road. West Bloomfield Township residents may register at the West Bloomfield Township Hall, 4550 Walnut Lake Road. Registrations will also be received at the branches of the Michigan Secretary of State.

Person already registered upon the registration books of such city or township need not re-register.

Absentee ballot applications will be available at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32500 Shiawassee, during the weekdays beginning Tuesday, May 25, 1993 through Friday, June 11, 1993. The Administrative Center will also be open for absentee voting on Saturday, June 12, 1993 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

JOSEPH SVOKEY
Secretary, Board of Education

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to section 4 of the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, the undersigned will sell at public auction sale by competitive bidding. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale are storage units for which rent and fees are past due.

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 17300 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154, (313) 381-4606, on MAY 22, 1993 at 12:00 P.M.

The personal property described below,
is the matter of:
RANDALL MOCLORY, SPACE #214, MI-
CROWAVE, BOXES, BED AND CHAIRS

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 34456 Nine Mile Road, Farmington, MI 48324, (313) 473-4839, on MAY 22, 1993 at 1:00 P.M.

In the matter of:
 BRIAN CARLSON, SPACE C944, CHAIR, BOX
 EX, FISH POLICE
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 EX, BAGS
 RONALD DUNLAP, SPACE H171, SOFA
 EX, BAGS

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BY GARY H. FORD