



Staff Photos by Richard Sennott

Garrison Keillor marched along with the Harding High School band Monday as the Humboldt High School band led a parade through downtown St. Paul to celebrate the city's four new trolley buses. For 25 cents, riders can go from the State Capitol and the History Center, down to the Civic Center, area hotels, Gallier Plaza, the World Trade Center and back to the Capitol.



St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman, right, and Howard Guthmann, president of Capital City Trolley, waved to people along the parade route during the trolley inauguration.

Hello trolley!

4 new cars on a roll in St. Paul

By Joe Kimhall
Staff Writer

Four new St. Paul trolleys were filled to the brim on their maiden voyages Monday morning. No wonder: Garrison Keillor urged people to hop on, the mayor and other dignitaries were aboard. TV cameras followed the action and the rides were free.

At 10 a.m. the natural-gas-powered trolleys loaded dozens of riders from a kick-off party at Rice Park, then drove down to Mears Park and back. It was a parade rather than public transportation. The Humboldt High School band led the way, the Harding High School band brought up the rear, with Keillor bobbing and swaying with the wind section. Lots of people braved the chill to come downtown for the pioneer ride. Three little girls were packed into a rear seat on the lead trolley.

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A new St. Paul trolley followed its route from the History Center and the Capitol.