

High Adventure

A ROYAL RANGERS MAGAZINE FOR BOYS

WINTER 1974-75



CAMPORAMA
SKIING IN THE ROCKIES

IN THIS ISSUE

CAMPORAMA

A report of the historic first national Camporama attended by more than 1,100 Rangers at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado.

SKIING IN THE ROCKIES

By John Yates

"Fantastic" is the way Outpost 33 of Dallas, Texas, describes their trip to the ski slopes of Colorado.

CAVES

By John Eller

This article describes the various kinds of caves, and the plant and animal life found in them.

THE MAGIC STICK

By Silas Gaither

This anecdote vividly illustrates how God has placed within us the sense of right and wrong.

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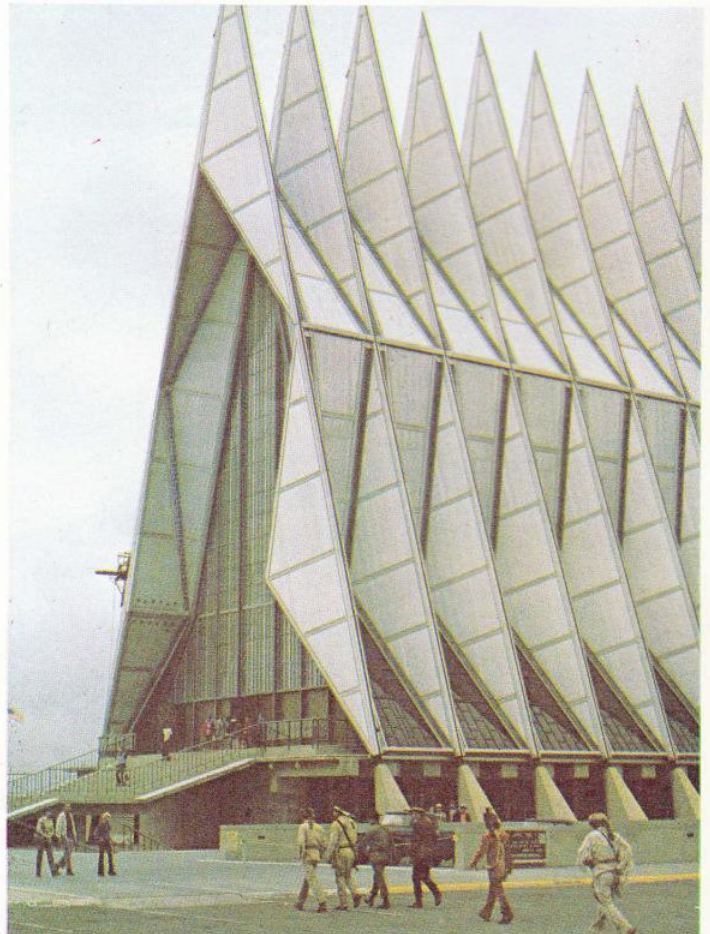
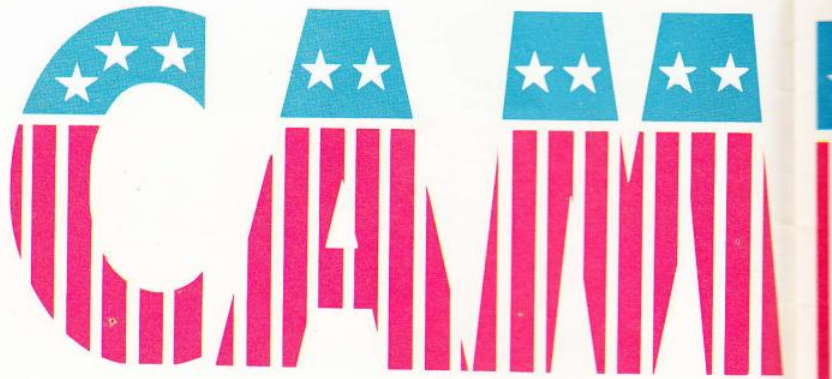
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On August 20-24, 1974, Royal Rangers from across the nation gathered for the first national Camporama at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado.

This historic event drew more than 1,100 participants. In buses, autos, and planes they came expecting an unforgettable experience—and they were not disappointed!

The Camporama officially opened on Wednesday morning, August 21, with an impressive opening ceremony. The USAF Academy Band began the program by playing rousing, marching music. At the sound of the music, an army of Royal Rangers began marching over the hill for the assembly. Even the most unemotional among us



HIGH ADVENTURE

felt goose pimples as the group with their banner waving high marched in cadence to their position around the flag pole. This was followed by a timely devotional by Camporama Chaplain Silas Gaither.

Lt. Colonel Ben Pollard, representing the USAF Academy was the first speaker. During his speech he stated, "Training such as you are receiving is what kept me going as a POW in Vietnam."

Ted Strickland, Lt. Governor of Colorado brought the main address and challenged the group on the need of letting their Christian testimony shine in all areas of their lives. These inspiring moments set the stage for the rest of the Camporama.

During the rest of the day, and each day thereafter, the excited delegates enjoyed such activities as:

Twenty-five Skillarama events, covering all phases of Royal Ranger campcraft.

A bus tour of the USAF Academy.

A special hike to famous Cathedral Rock.

Ten (10) Here's How demonstrations covering such subjects as survival food, survival shelters, signal tower, bridge building, rappelling, archery, cycling, geology, nature crafts, and astronomy.

Ten (10) interesting and eye-catching displays including subjects such as knot boards, camp gear, solar still, aviation, canoeing, and backpacking.

(cont. on page 4)

CAMPORAMA



DAVID HOWARD

The FCF encampment, styled after a plains Indian village, where Twenty FCF members in authentic frontiersmen costumes manned the village.

(In conjunction with the village, there were demonstrations on how to load and fire a flint-lock rifle, how to throw a tomahawk, frontier style cooking, how to make leather items, how to start a fire with flint and steel, and other skills of our early forefathers.)

A Royal Rangers encampment featuring the latest techniques in camping.

And the Camporama Swap Tent, where delegates from all over the United States "swapped" items with other Royal Rangers.

The Wednesday evening rally got under way with spontaneous singing, yells, stunts, and humor from the various district delega-

tions. *Special music was provided by the Brown family.*

After seeing a color movie of Apollo 13 mission, Colonel Jim Irwin was introduced in person to the group. He climaxed his superb message by stating, "The greatest experience of my life was not walking on the moon, but was the day several years ago when as a young man I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour."

A preservice feature on Thursday evening was the appearance of Jasper Weaver and his championship quarter horse. Reverend Weaver who has won many championships gave the boys points on the raising and training of show horses.

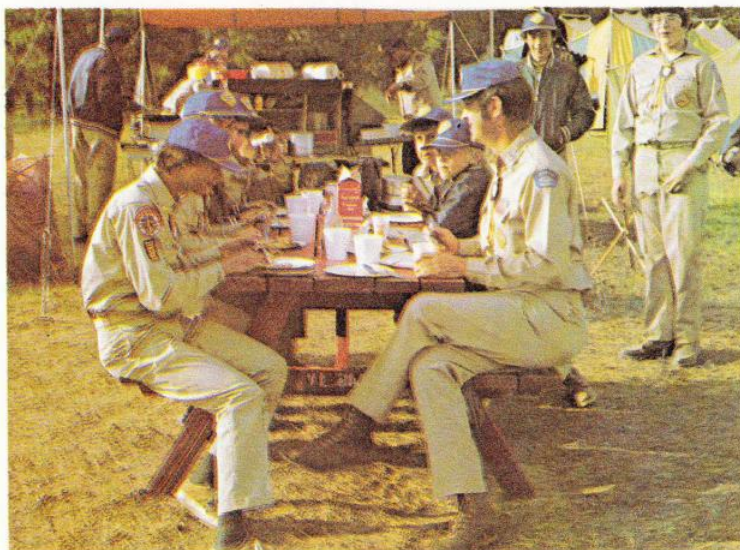
During the Thursday evening rally, highlights included three singing groups, "The Lifesavers," "The Whites & Chris Smith," and

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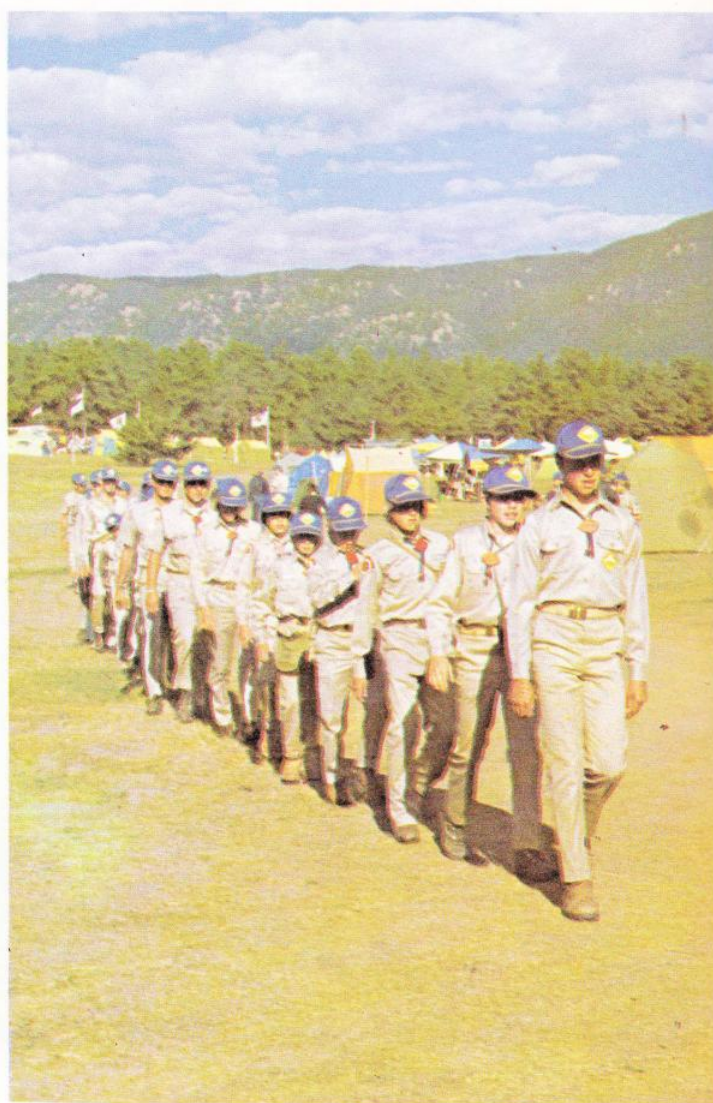
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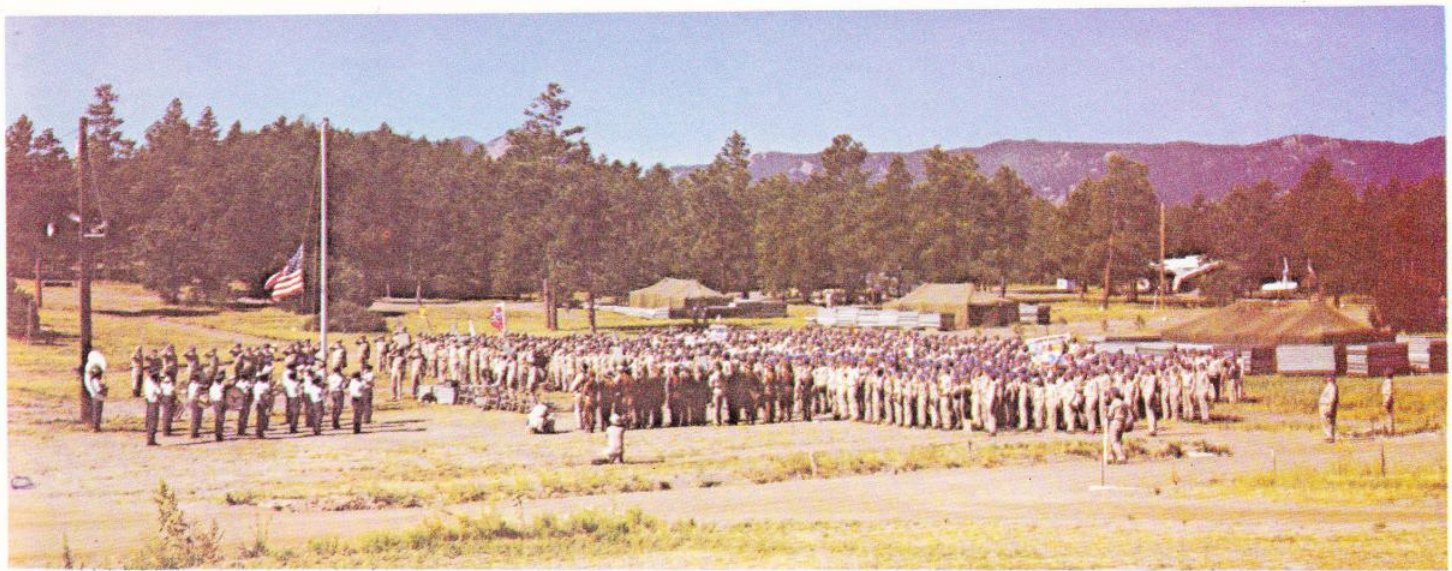
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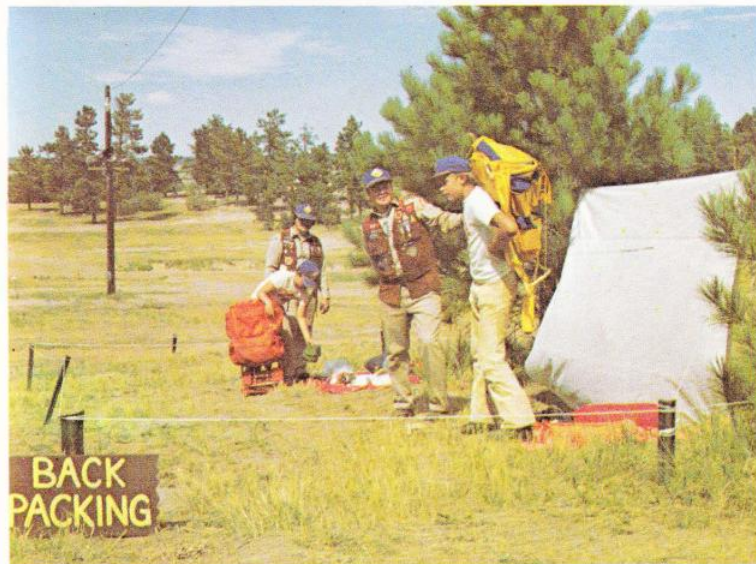
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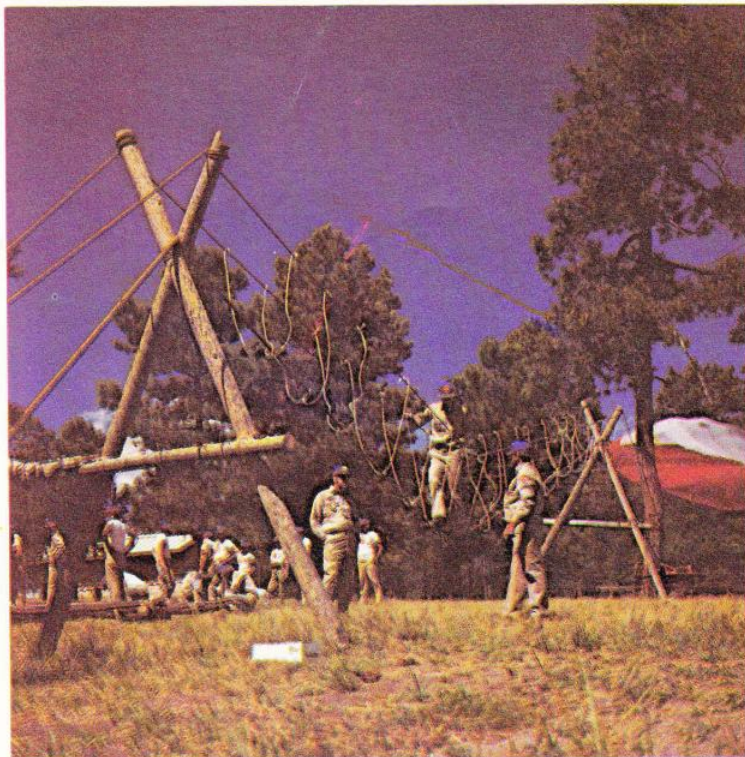
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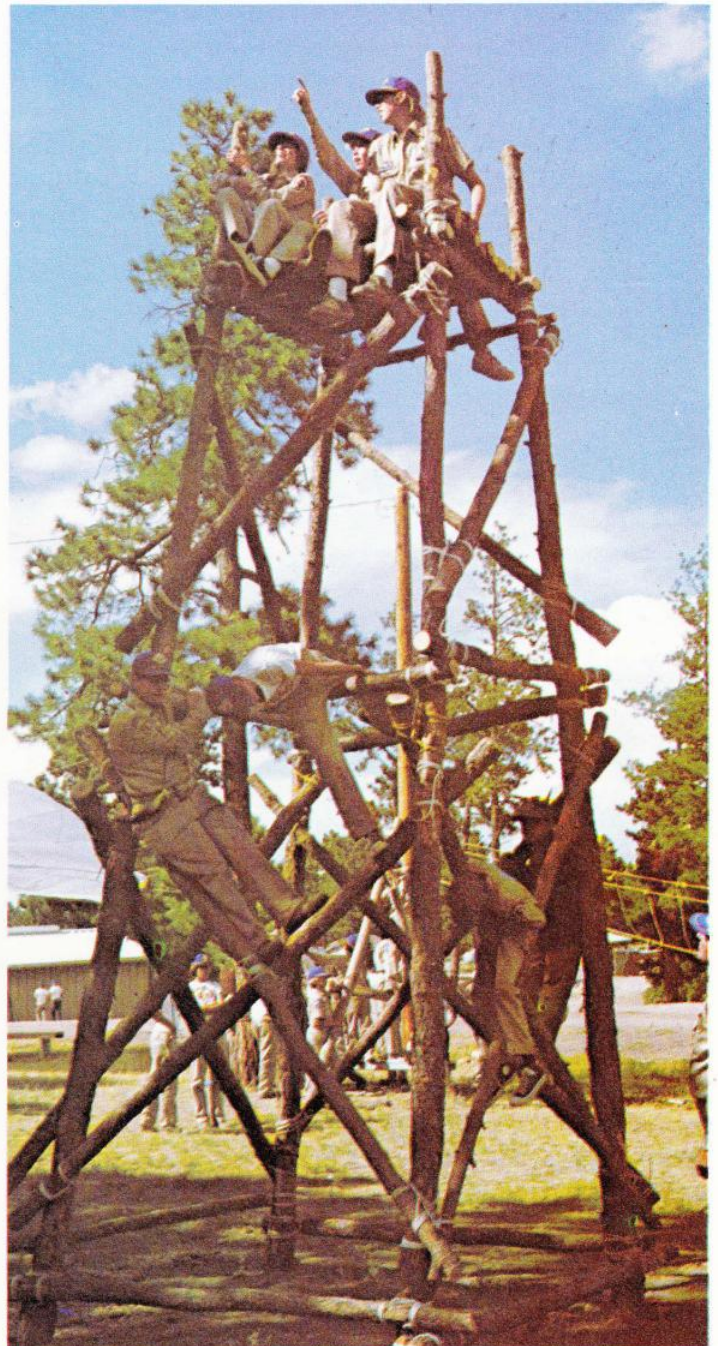
David Mauser



Don Bixler



David Mauser



David Howard

the Camporama barbershop quartet. A special tribute was given to National Commander Barnes by John Eller. The group responded by standing and applauding for several minutes. Royce Gray concluded the tribute by singing one of Commander Barnes' favorite songs, "To Dream the Impossible Dream."

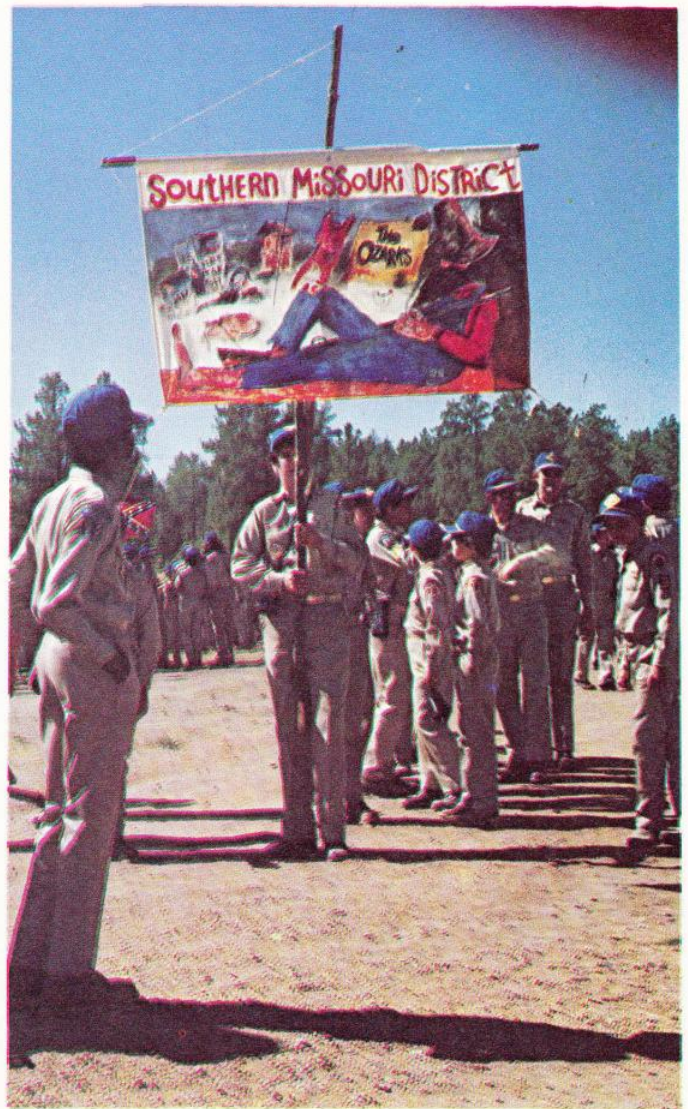
Over 60 young men, in response to the stirring message of the internationally known speaker, C. M. Ward, publically acknowledged for the first time, God's call upon their lives for the full time ministry.

On Friday evening the Lunsford's from Colorado Springs and our own Camporama choir presented special music. Dr. T. F. Zimmerman, one of the leading voices in the Christian world, stated, at the beginning of his challenging message, "Royal Rangers is becoming one of the greatest boys programs in the world." At the conclusion of his message, he led the group in an inspiring time of worship that will never be forgotten.

The success of the Camporama is contributable to the superb location, the capable headquarters staff, Camporama staff, service patrol, FCF and model encampment personnel, and district coordinators. These dedicated individuals performed with par excellence.

All those attending agreed that the first national Camporama was a tremendous success, and they are looking forward to the next one. 🍷

CAMPORAMA



DON BIXLER



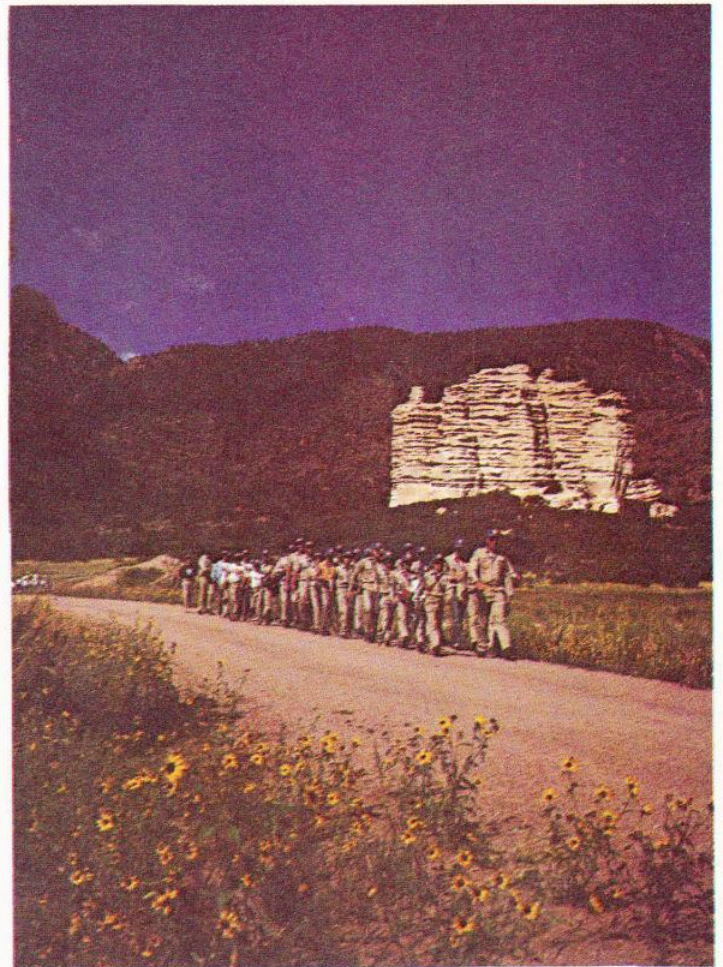
DAVID HOWARD



Don Bixler



David Howard



David Mauser

SKIING in the ROCKIES

by John Yates

Christmas Day, 1973, was more than just "another Christmas" for the Air-Sea-Trail Rangers of Oak Cliff Assembly of God. It was not only a day filled with the celebration of the Lord's birth, Christmas packages, delicious food, and being with friends and relatives.

But by evening it marked the beginning of a new adventure for Outpost 33 of Dallas, Texas.

Departure time on our chartered bus was midnight; and our destination was Estes Park, Colorado. The lengthy ride of eighteen hours was made more pleasant by having the "Y" group of girls to share our trip. The excitement and anticipation of the coming week made sleep almost an impossibility.

The planning for our trip had begun a year before. Everyone had been saving their money and looking forward to this day. Now, all the preparations had become a reality. Let me assure you, sharing a bus with Rangers, Y's, and sponsors is quite an experience!

Snow, snow, and more snow—many had never seen this much snow. And mountains, mountains were everywhere.

We arrived at the lodge the next day just in time for dinner. This rustic and picturesque lodge clinging to the side of the mountain was to be our home for a week. And was it cold! It was quite a change from our part of Texas.

As luck would have it, it was Colorado's coldest winter in many years.

Because the water pipes had frozen and the only water was cold water, it was never a problem getting everyone to shower in a hurry and get down for breakfast.

Even such minor inconveniences couldn't dampen our spirits—we were "ready" for adventure.



Most of us had never skied, so being fitted for our heavy boots, skis, and poles was an unusual experience. After we finally were properly equipped and able to lift our feet with the weight of the ski boots, we were off to the slopes.

We began with group lessons. Watching one another struggling to keep his balance was the best part of the lessons. In spite of ourselves, we all managed to ski—some of us fairly well, and some of us barely managed to ride the T-bar up the mountain. A couple of Rangers became known as “hot-dog” skiers. Thankfully our only injuries were bruises and sore muscles.

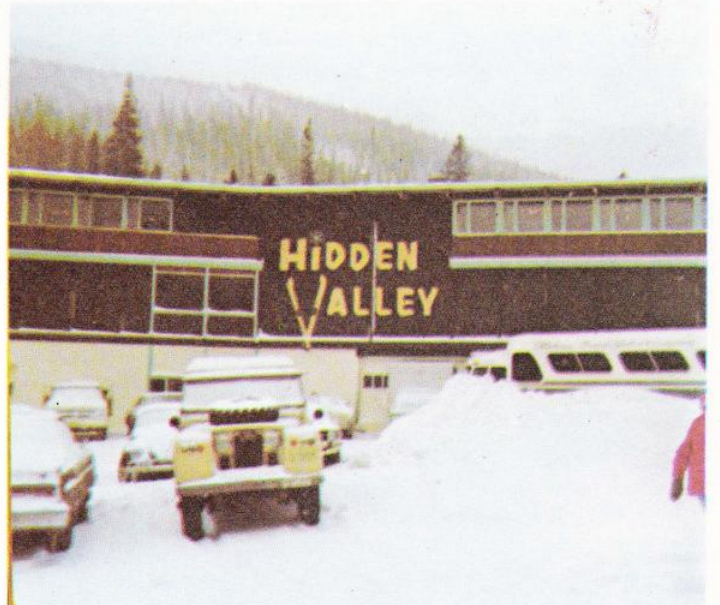
We soon discovered that our “mature Rangers” of Outpost 33 were still “little boys.” Snowball fights and wrestling in the cold, white winterland were part of the daily antics.

During our stay, we had a morning devotional and an evening service with Denny Duron and the Vessels. Teenagers from across the U.S.A. were at the ski camp. We were all drawn close to the Lord, and experienced a depth of Christian love we have never known. There is something about being outdoors in view of God’s creation, you feel close to Him in a new, very exciting way. Many souls were saved in the evening service. Each evening the kids stayed around the altars to pray with one another, many not leaving until the midnight hours.

After five days in Colorado (was it really that long?), we headed home about 7 p.m. Many of the other buses broke down or became snow-bound, but we were lucky, our only major problem was not having heat in the bus for the first part of our journey home.

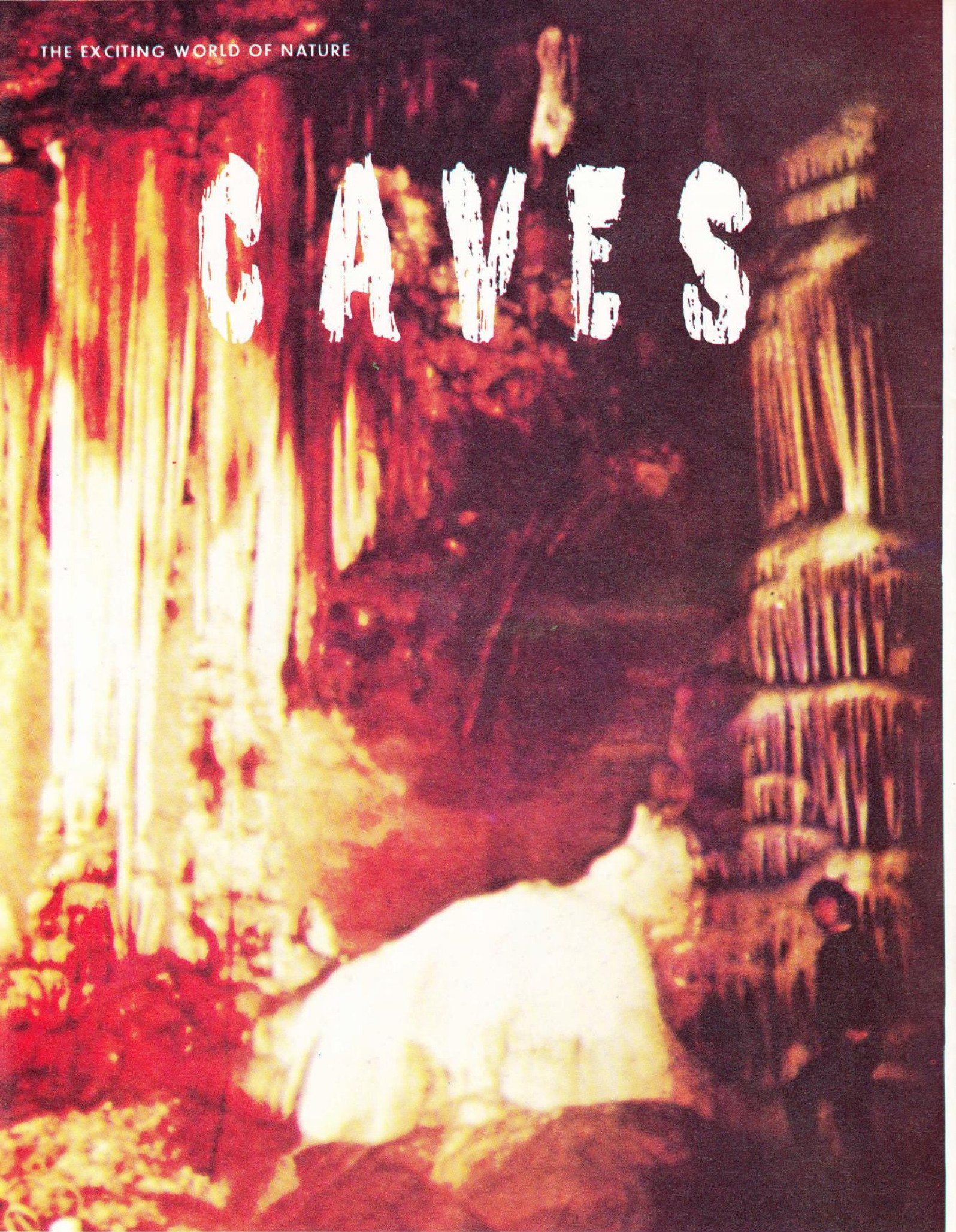
The Rangers one by one testified how God had richly blessed them. The 24-hour trip went by quickly because there was so much to share.

Our ski adventure in the Rockies was FANTASTIC. We’re going back again this year. 🏡



THE EXCITING WORLD OF NATURE

CAVES



by John Eller

Go with us now to the land of darkness as the exciting world of nature takes us to the animal communities found in caves. These sometimes deep and often forbidding regions make interesting study for the stouthearted explorer.

The science of cave exploration is called *speleology*, while the explorer is known as a *spelunker*. Since ancient times, openings in the earth have lured both man and beast inside. Countless animals have been caught in these dark crevices, and many Indians no doubt stumbled to their deaths.

Geologists of today find caves are among nature's most unique workshops. Vast galleries of stalactites and stalagmites, astonishing rock formations attached to ceiling and floor respectively, are in the making. Many such caves have been opened as top tourists attractions.

Biologists also find caves to be interesting wildlife sanctuaries—a retreat for strange forms of life so specialized in structure and habit that they could not endure conditions on the earth's surface. Some leave the cave only at night while others never leave.

Caves are not always horizontal tunnels in hillsides. Some entrances lead to shafts plunging straight down. For this reason, and others, unknown caves should be entered very carefully and with proper equipment.

Even in horizontal caves, there are occasional *domepits*, dangerous vertical shafts carved by seeping water dissolving the limestone. Such an underground abyss requires men of skill and experience to explore properly and safely.

Not all caves are made of limestone, however. Some are the result of molten lava from volcanic activity. Others are caused by earthquakes, a shift in subterranean rock formations, or even man himself.

Most caves divide into zones, with the area near the entrances called *the twilight zone*. This region will support various crawling insects, flies, and worms. Green plants survive only in this particular zone.

Next is the *variable-temperature zone*, where no light reaches from the entrance. Most bats prefer this area, while crickets and other small creatures are found here.

The third and final cave section is the *constant-temperature zone*. Air and water tempera-

tures are stabilized generally at 56 degrees, and the relative humidity is 100 percent. There is no dust found in this zone, only sticky, slimy mud.

Deep caves have no plant life of any kind in the *constant-temperature zone*. Yet, crickets and beetles—white and blind—survive! This is another remarkable feature of the cave habitat.

Cave animals are classified into three groupings. *Trogloxenes* such as little brown bats and green frogs. *Troglophiles* such as certain fish and crayfish. *Troglobites* are animals like crayfish who have adapted to the darkness with their white bodies and no sight.

Other inhabitants of a cave may include salamanders, spiders, isopods, amphipods, bats, and even birds. Understanding of the ecosystem of cave dwellers requires long and tedious research. While much has been learned in this century, more yet remains unknown.

An interesting note on bats is that they "see" in the dark. A difficult animal to trap, the bat emits a steady stream of ultrasonic squeaks. These sound waves form an echolocation system and are evaluated in a split-second via the bat's hearing. Their sonar abilities have fascinated biologists for years.

Caves are important for creatures which hibernate in winter. These range from crickets, moths, and harvestmen (commonly called "granddaddies"), to bats and even bears. These are mostly surface dwellers during the summer.

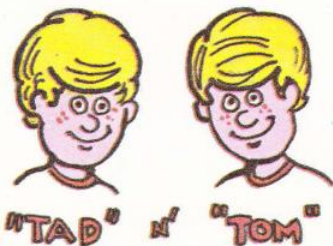
The food pyramid of cave life is also interesting when we consider the producers and the consumers. All consumers ultimately depend on plants for survival. Some are *herbivores*, or plant eating. Others are *carnivores*, feeding on other animals. Still others are *omnivores*, feeding on both plants and animals.

Cave animals are generally sparing and efficient in their use of energy, and hence are able to endure long periods of deprivation. Their reproduction is keyed to times of plenty, and their population is so closely regulated that it does not outstrip the meager food supplies.

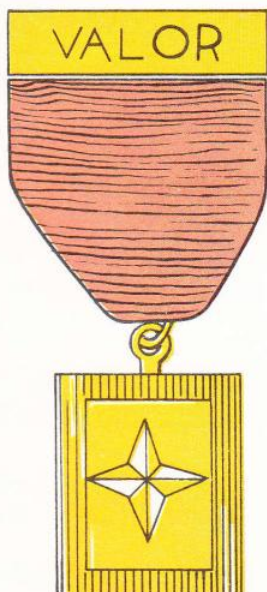
Another remarkable cave creature found in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma is the Ozark blind salamander. This celebrated animal attracted worldwide attention as the first cave-dwelling amphibian found in America. The adults are blind and white, while immature or larval salamanders are both pigmented and sighted!

Time and change are constantly at work in caves. Most of the change in physical features is very slow, and involves long periods of unhurried time. Federal laws prohibit the desecration or "robbing" of cave formations. Some could indeed be attractive museum pieces, but are best left in their natural setting for future explorers to discover.

THE TURNER TWINS



Rangers in Action



On December 12, 1972, Scott Haley, age ten, of Manchester, Missouri, and his younger brother Gregory were hiking along a swollen stream near their home.

Suddenly Gregory slipped on the ice-coated ground and fell into the creek which, by now, was over six feet deep. He was carried several yards downstream before he was able to grasp a root extending from the bank. Unable to pull himself from the water, he clung in desperation to the root.

Scott, realizing they were too far from the house for his father to hear their cries for help, and fearing that Gregory couldn't hold on to the root long enough to enable him to secure help, Scott determined to rescue Gregory himself.

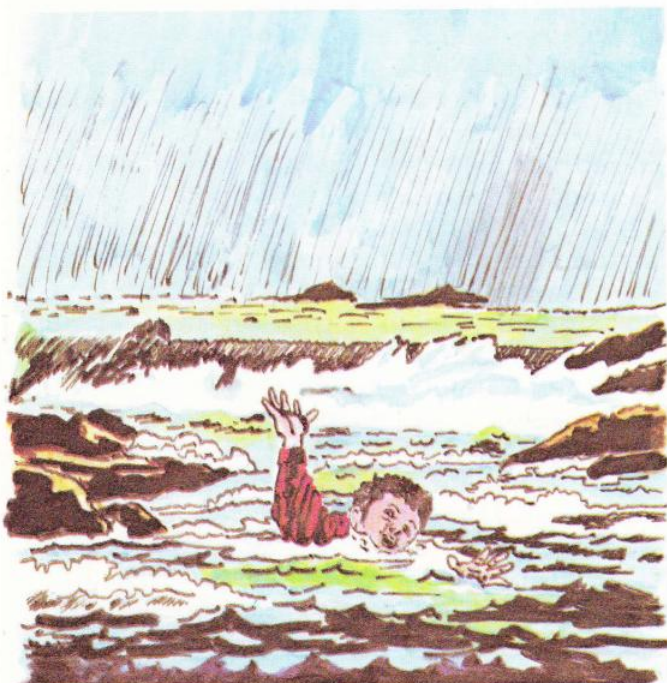
In attempting the rescue, Scott slipped on the icy banks and fell into the cold, swirling water. Several times he tried unsuccessfully to swim for a tree which would stop him from being carried downstream.

By this time the hip boots which Scott had been wearing had been carried off in the current along with one of Scott's socks.

Spying another overhanging tree, Scott grabbed an overhanging limb. This time he was able to secure a firm hold and pull himself up to the trunk of the tree. With his foot and leg, Scott reached out to Gregory. Gregory grabbed hold of Scott and pulled himself from the water. Scott then hauled himself from the icy stream onto the slippery bank.

By this time, they were approximately one-fourth mile from home. Scott then walked barefoot across the ice with his shivering brother to their home.

For his quick and courageous action, Scott Haley was awarded the Medal of Valor by the National Royal Rangers Committee. Scott is a member of outpost 101, Maplewood, Mo.



by Elton Bell

COOL CAMPIN

If you are the leader of an outpost of present-day American kids, just how would you answer this question?

What's happening in our outpost to toughen it up—to develop self-reliance, to help each boy learn self-dependence and resourcefulness?

You probably have some good answers—the kind that are not excuses—but if there is a question in your mind about how good the outpost really is, look over the following ideas and pick some to do with your outpost as soon as the weather is bad enough to make it a true test of ability.

Wherever you are, some of these things will fit your situation. . . . So, let's go for cool campin'.

IMPROVISED EMERGENCY TACTICS

1. If you have a cap without earflaps, tie a neckerchief over your ears and cap.
2. In a wind storm tie a neckerchief over your nose and ears; let the point hang down over your chin.
3. If you have no gloves or mittens, use an extra pair of wool socks as mittens.
4. Use a large wool sock or wool cap as a pull-over nightcap. Your head must be covered for cold-weather sleeping.
5. Fill a canteen with piping hot water and use as bed warmer.
6. Tie your trouser bottoms over the top of your shoes to keep out snow, pebbles, etc.
7. Paper (even newspaper) wrapped around legs, thighs, back, and chest, will keep wind out if clothing is porous.
8. Heated sand will dry out wet shoes quickly.
9. Newspaper, crammed into shoes, helps to dry them out.
10. Dampness in any form is the number-one enemy to body warmth and comfort in cold weather, especially wet feet.

WINTER CAMP AND TRAIL SAFETY RULES

1. Keep group together at all times—no person is to leave camp alone.
2. Travel over any ice-lake or stream with packs off the back and each person carrying a 6- to 10-foot pole or branch. Travel shorelines only.
3. Stay far back from cliff or canyon edges on a slippery trail.
4. Keep off snow-covered ice.
5. Carry group trail first aid kit.

COOL CAMPIN'—KNOW-HOW

Don't let extremities—hands and feet, nose, and ears—get too cold, might result in frostbite.

What to do—Warm by covering with hands. Don't rub. If fingers are frostbitten, place next to chest or armpits.

Keep as dry as possible; even avoid perspiring.

What to do—Loosen clothes when exercising, bundle up when resting. Keep out of wind. Keep feet dry. Wear several layers of clothes.

Don't skimp on food.

What to do—Keep a pot of hot water on the fire. Eat hearty. Drink a cup of soup, chocolate, or bouillion often.

Don't make a sloppy bed. Since one-third of your time is spent in bed, make it soft and warm.

What to do—Pick a smooth level spot. Remove snow and insulate the ground with plastic sheet, poncho—newspapers are good insulation. Pad the ground with straw, hay, leaves, or pine needles (don't cut browse). Must have an excellent sleeping bag (down) or 3 to 4 wool blankets. A wool sleeping cap, flannel pajamas or sweat suit, and heavy wool socks. (Air mattress is OK but generally cold in raw weather.) You need about as much under you as over you in sub-zero weather.

Don't sleep in a breezy shelter.

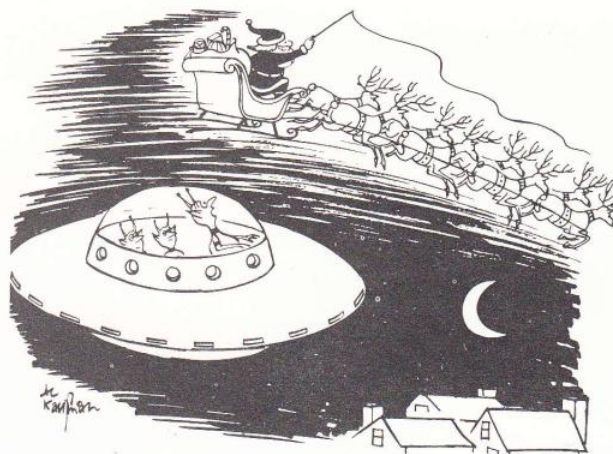
What to do—Pick a sheltered spot, not one on top of a hill. Get into a valley or ravine in winter, look for dead trees or branches overhead. If setting up a tent, keep it low, flat to the ground—it's warmer.

Stake your tent down well. If ground is too hard for tent pegs, take along spikes (big nails); or, if snow, bury crossed sticks in snow and pack down. Tie to a tree or brush if near enough. A shelter can be dug in a deep snow-drift. Better believe it—a snow hut or enclosure is the warmest winter shelter.

Beware of any flame or oxygen-using heater in a tent; it can use up all the oxygen and leave you dead. Don't do it! A tin can of real hot rocks will keep a low tent warm for a while. Body heat is the best warmer.

If windy weather, set up a windbreak tarp or several ponchos. It is impossible to cook and have fun in severe wind.

the Comedy Corner



"YOU FELLOWS AREN'T GOING TO BELIEVE THIS."

One day a man ran frantically down to the ferry slip, leaped across a strip of water, and landed with a crash on the deck of the boat. "Made it!" he shouted triumphantly as he picked himself up. "What's your hurry?" said a deckhand, "The boat is coming in."

Craig Minor
Longview, WA

Teacher: What is a mountain range?

Johnny: A cooking stove made especially for use at high altitudes.

Warren Bebout
Morro Bay, CA

A rather overweight gentleman was discussing his tennis technique. "My brain barks out a sharp command to my body; 'Run forward quickly! Start right away! Slam the ball gracefully over the net.'"

"And then what happens?" asked the friend.

"And then what happens?" The heavyset fellow replied with a sigh, "My body says 'Who me?'"

Ray Lambert
Middleburg Heights, OH

Bob: What do you get when you cross a porcupine with a gorilla?

Rob: I don't know, what?

Bob: I don't know either, but it sure would get a seat all by itself on the school bus!

Warren Bebout
Morro Bay, CA

A boy was standing on a street corner when he saw a driverless car rolling toward him. He ran to the car, jumped in, applied the floor brakes, then the emergency brakes. As he got out of the car, proud of his effort, a man walked up to him. "There!" said the boy. "I stopped it for you!"

"I know" said the car owner. "I was pushing it."

Steve Nollkamper
Sweeney, TX

Dick: Why didn't the red light turn green?

Jess: I don't know.

Dick: How would you like to change in the middle of the street?

Bradley Monn
Mont Alto, Pa

Gary: I understand your brother's a big gun in industry.

Larry: Yes, they fire him quite often.

Craig Minor
Longview, WA

"I've invented a computer that's almost human," boasted one scientist.

"You mean it can think?"

"No, but when it makes a mistake it can put the blame on some other computer."

Warren Bebout
Morro Bay, CA

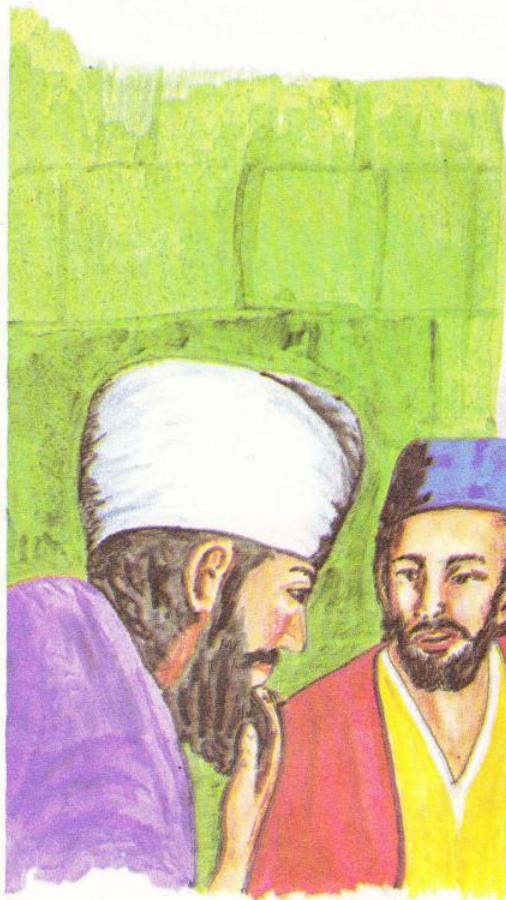
Dan: Why did Snoopy want to quit the comic strip?

Don: He didn't like working for Peanuts.

Bradley Monn
Mont Alto, PA



"Is this all?"



THE MAGIC STICK

By Silas L. Gaither

Once there was a great Indian prince who discovered that someone had stolen a valuable item from his treasure house during the night. He assembled all his wise men together and asked them to find the thief. His servants were interrogated, and each denied taking the treasure.

One wise man said, "I can find the guilty man. At home I have some magic sticks. If one of the sticks is in the company of a thief, it grows longer. It will grow as much as two inches in a single night. If your majesty will lock up all your servants tonight in separate cells, we will place a stick in each cell. In the morning your majesty will know who the guilty man is."

Next morning the sticks were gathered and measured. It was discovered that one of them was two inches shorter than the others. The prince thought that the magic had gone wrong. But the wise man explained. This is just what he expected to happen. He pointed to the man with the short stick and said, "Your majesty, this man is the thief."

The man at once confessed. "I knew," he said, "that if any of the sticks grew longer than the others, it would be mine. And no one can imagine the agony I went through last night. Every few minutes I looked at the stick to see whether it was giving me away. At last I began to imagine that it was growing. Then, I felt certain it was half an inch longer. Then, it was an inch. By early morning, it was two inches longer. So, I cut off two inches to make it the same as the others."

That was just what the wise man had expected to happen. There was nothing magic in the sticks, but he knew about the human conscience.

Conscience! What kind of apparatus is that? Well, conscience is something in our hearts which tells us immediately whether a thought or deed is right or wrong. A little Indian boy once described conscience as "a little three-cornered sharp thing in my heart, when I do wrong it turns around and around and hurts very much. But, if I keep on doing wrong, it will turn and turn 'till all the sharp edges are worn away and then it won't hurt anymore."

If any of you have ever cheated on an examination, or did not tell your parents the whole truth, you will remember that you did not feel exactly right. You probably moped about, all out of sorts with yourself. The trouble was, of course, you knew that you were lying—not simply to the teacher or parents, but to God.

God has placed this sense of right and wrong deep within us, and when we disregard conscience, we are, in a way, disregarding God.

How important, then, that we listen to this voice. For if we do not listen, after a while our conscience can become like the Indian boy stated, "the sharp edges worn away." We then lose our delicate sensitiveness to right and wrong. Therefore, let your conscience be your guide, and keep it sharp and clear that it may be like a bright light in a dark place.