

News Digest

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More than 3,500 gather at Ozarks campground

Royal Rangers hold first International Camporama



Photo by Paul Wharton

Thousands of Royal Rangers and leaders attend the opening ceremony.

Hundreds of young people from around the world committed their lives to Christ during the first International Royal Rangers Camporama, June 26-30.

The camping event was held at the National Royal Rangers Training Center near Eagle Rock, Mo. More than 3,500 attended.

The normally subdued atmosphere of the Ozark Mountains came alive during each of the four evening ser-

vices. During the first evening approximately 400 young people responded to the call to salvation.

Wednesday evening some 400 young people came forward to seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The altar service began around 10:15 p.m. and ended about 2:30 a.m. Foreign and U.S. Royal Rangers were embracing one another and praising God.

Thursday evening more than 200 young people came for-

ward to rededicate their lives to Christ. Friday evening more than 100 young people came forward to commit to the ministry, while nearly 300 others sought God.

This outpouring of God's Spirit followed months of planning and uncountable volunteer man-hours. Royal Rangers leaders even paid their own entry fees so they could work at the Camporama and help lead boys to Christ. Many of the foreign delegates saved

for months and/or raised funds through their local churches. Boys undertook church fundraising projects and chores.

Setting up camp

The beginning of the International Camporama was held up for more than an hour Tuesday morning because of a threatening thunderstorm. Finally busloads of eager campers entered the NRRTC to begin setting up camp. Both boys and leaders scurried about to pitch their tents and to erect their foreign or district archways, banners, displays, and standards—which would later be judged for awards.

Of the more than 3,500 people who attended, 125 were foreign delegates representing 16 nations: Australia, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Singapore, Switzerland, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom, and West Germany. Two U.S. missionaries represented Haiti.

This was also the first U.S. Royal Rangers event in which females participated. (Girls are accepted as Royal Rangers in some foreign countries.)

Opening events

Official activities began with the Tuesday evening service. Groups marched into the amphitheater by district or foreign delegation as they shouted their group cheers. Royal Rangers from the Ohio District marched to the tune of their musical instruments.

U.S. National Commander Ken Hunt opened the evening service. During special presentations Hans-Peter Schock of West Germany gave Hunt a portion of the Berlin Wall.

"One of the most significant events during the Camporama was when Hans-Peter made his presentation," said Hunt. "To me the gift symbolized that kingdoms of this world are crumbling and that God is using the Royal Rangers ministry to go into all the world with the gospel, reaching young



Above: Rangers seek God at the altar. Above right: Walking the low ropes

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