

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

THE SEVENTY

47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84143

July, 1999

Dear Varsity Scout:

Congratulations on reaching the top! If you haven't already, take the opportunity to look around you and see part of the beautiful creation Heavenly Father has placed on earth for us to enjoy! It is meant to be beautiful and inspiring to each of us in his own way. The beauty of the scene or view such as the one you are seeing today helps us to realize that nothing so beautiful, so awe-inspiring, or so breathtaking could have happened *by accident*. God planned it carefully, gave directions about how it should be created, and received reports from those he trusted to do the work. It was no accident.

In much the same way, your climb today and your great sense of accomplishment did not happen by accident. You planned carefully; probably long in advance. You climbed purposefully and under the care and guidance of someone who has helped you along the way. And now, having achieved this great success, you are happy to report it to other by flashing signals from mountaintop to mountaintop. Others who have climbed their own mountain flash back their reports to you. It's a wonderful feeling to have someone to tell about your achievement, isn't it?

What you have done today represents a pattern of life. Just as you realize there's more to standing where you now stand than packing your backpack, so is life full of careful planning, hard work, dedication to the task, and then enjoying the sweet success of achievement and sharing your happiness with someone else.

I hope you will long remember this day. Remember that it was probably not easy. Remember that it was hot and there were obstacles. Remember that you had to use your head and most of your muscles to achieve the goal and reach the top. Life is like that, too. When you are discouraged or think a task is too hard or think about giving up, remember this day and all that it took for you to achieve what you have done. Hardly anything worth having does not require careful planning, hard work, and seeing it through to the end. I'm very proud of you and what you have accomplished today. Keep up the good work! You can succeed in life just as you have succeeded today—but it's no accident! God bless you always.

Sincerely,



Elder Robert K. Dellenbach
Young Men General President