

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1000

July 19, 2003

Dear Friends:

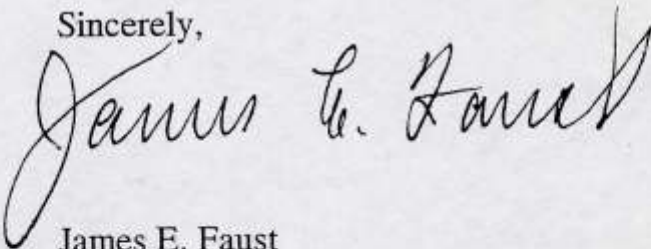
On this special occasion, I extend to you my heartfelt commendation as you join hundreds of others in standing atop a beautiful mountain to participate in the National Varsity Scout Operation: On Target. In your journey to this summit, you have achieved many other worthwhile goals along the way, and your lives will be forever enriched and blessed because of your dedication and determination. I salute each of you!

I also extend my congratulations to your noble leaders, many of whom are here present today. They have given their time and expertise so freely to help you attain the important qualities of honor, respect, duty, and, above all, to set you on the path of service. As you blend these important character-building qualities into your daily lives, your influence for good will be far reaching, and you will lead productive and fulfilling lives.

As you look down from the mountain top, resolve to incorporate into your lives the lessons you have learned today. The signals you have transmitted are symbolic of the fact that much can be accomplished through teamwork, communication, and vision. I remind you that your most important source of communication is in daily prayer with Heavenly Father. If you will apply these and other valuable skills you have learned in Scouting, you will have a most promising future in the years ahead.

May God bless you as you journey through mortality, always remembering your divine potential and your most important goal of attaining eternal life.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James E. Faust". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

James E. Faust

JEF:ssk