



Scouting - a bridge for brotherhood



scout leaders having a discussion



The artistic camps



Scouts from the Northern Province preparing for the six-a-side cricket match



Scouting is unity

ning all over, taking part in events and having a fun time, full of laughter and unity.

The young scouts were climbing up the bamboos and working hard during the five days, participated at the Colombo Camporee, the name derived from the scout jamboree.

Over 2000 scouts from different parts of the country participated in this year's camporee, the aim of the event was to produce better citizens.

Living in Harmony

For almost three decades Sri Lanka suffered destruction due to the ethnic conflict, different communities being separated from each other with hatred and increasing by the day. Different measures were taken by various authorities to build a bridge between the ethnic communities.

The Scout and the Girl Guides movements are two main organisations that have gone beyond borders of ethnic rivalry and have bridged peace and harmony among youth in both our country and abroad.

The 46th Colombo Scout Camporee, had around 60 scout groups comprising 2500 scouts, who camped out during the four day Camporee along with a further 2000 cub scouts under the theme of "Living in harmony."

For us it was a pleasing sight to see hundreds of scouts gathered in one area, highlighting the importance of peace and harmony in our country.

Truly a place of harmony

It was also world of entertainment, and adventure at Vihara Mahadevi Park, with scouts climbing trees, others were teaching young cub-scouts to summersault and the biggest attraction at the Park was Archery, while, aerial runway and climbing a tower were some of the other activities.

We spoke to a few young scouts who explained to us their experience at the Camporee.

According to 11-year-old, Tharindhu Dhananjaya, the activities, has helped him improve his, self confidence.

"We had the privilege to work as a team, which will help us in years to come. The activities will help us to strengthen our confidence and

endurance levels," he added.
 Dinuka Wickramasinghe's experience was not much different to his friend,. For him the first two days at the camp was very hectic as they had to pitch their camps.
 "It was great fun since we work as a team," he said.

From the A9

The journey for the young lads from of A9 road to Colombo was a joyful one for the scouts. It was after so many years that Scouts and Cub-scouts from the Northern district participated at the Colombo Scout Camporee.

Around 100 scouts and cub-scouts comprising 18 different schools from the Northern Province from Jaffna and Vavuniya participated at the camp. These young lads bagged several trophies at the Colombo Camporee, beating scouts from the other parts of the country.

"It was a great pleasure for us, we won the under 15 championship and the senior scouts won the first place beating students of their age from other towns. The students of Jaffna and Vavuniya this camp gave them immense opportunities to meet and work with students from other parts of the country." Northern Provincial Commissioner, T. N. Bhajan informed us.

Learning to fly- the Air-scouts

The 57th division of the Colombo Scout Movement is the Air-scout movement which was established in 1972. Presently there are around 60 Air-scouts and eight leaders.

The Air-scout classes are conducted in Colombo and Katunayake airbases under the supervision of Sri Lanka Air Force and Colombo Scout Division.

According to Senior Scout leader, H.L.M Piyanamunukula, Air-scouts are trained to in basic glider and air navigation.

Scout is learning different talents

by Aisha Edris
 pix by Nihal Chandrakumara

It is the holiday seasons. Most of the youth eagerly await the long August holidays to visit the beautiful countryside, or to have a vacation abroad with their families, while few others, stay at home enjoying the pleasure of reading a book or playing cricket or any sport with their friends.

There were few other youth who enjoyed their holidays gathering at the 46th Colombo Camporee organized by the Colombo District branch of Sri Lanka Scout Association.

When we visited Vihara Maha Devi Park in Colombo, to witness the Scouting brotherhood, that builds bridges from Far East Asia to the Western world, from Point Pedro in Jaffna to Dondra Head in Matara, we experienced the unity of the universal brotherhood that has spread the message of love and peace among youth and adults.

We enjoyed observing the camp a hive of activity with hundreds of scouts of all ages run-



The artistic camps

learning Archery

Truly an example of brotherhood