

Weather



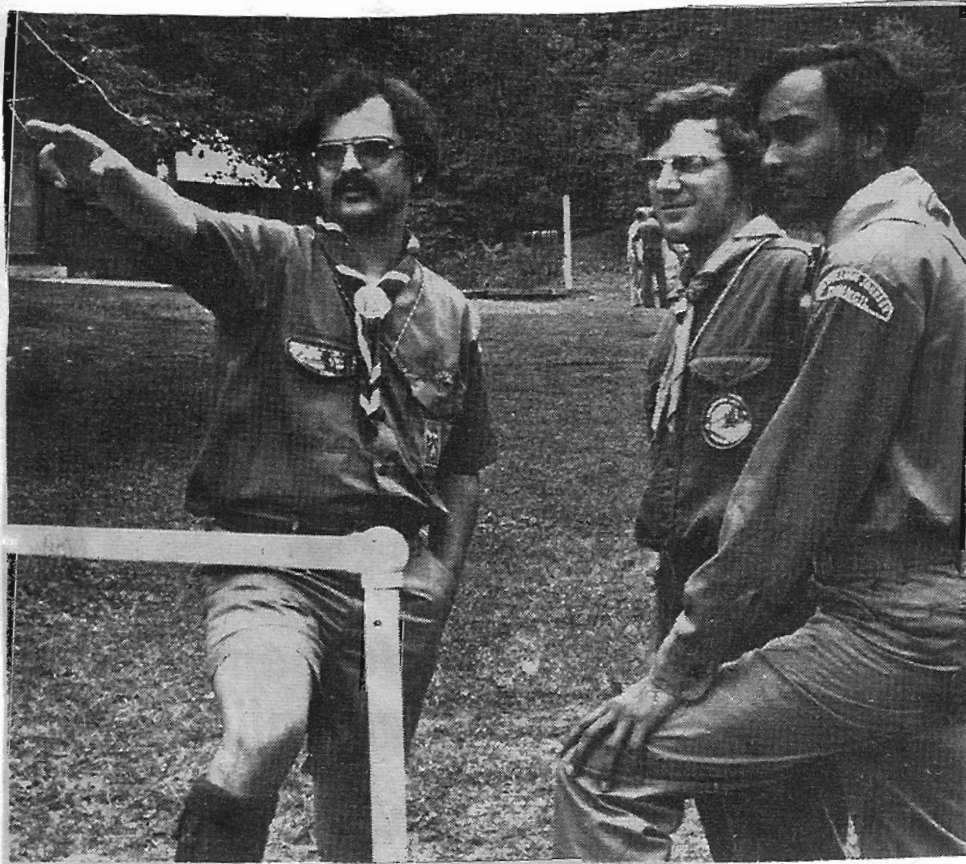
(Roundup on Page 5)

The Leader

VOL. XVIII, NO. 177 — SIXTEEN PAGES

GLOVERSVILLE AND JOHNSTOWN, N.Y., FRIDAY

Working at Woodworth Reservation as Counselors Foreign Scouters Say Program in America Is Easier



ACTIVITIES on Woodworth Lake are pointed out by Dominick Baggett, director of the Sir William Johnson Boy Scout camp, to two foreign scouters serving as co counselors for the summer. The visitors are Frans van Gassel of The Netherlands, center, and Jaswant Doshi of England.

Herald

AUGUST 18, 1972

Single Copy 15c

By DENNIS MICHALSKI

Two young men experienced in scouting methods in Europe and Africa are directing two programs at the Woodworth Lake Boy Scout Reservation this summer, and are finding many differences in American Boy Scouting.

Frans van Gassel, 24, of The Netherlands and Jaswant Doshi, also 24, of England, have both been active in scouting for 10 years.

Gassel recently completed his B.A. equivalency degree at the Netherlands Technical University and is working toward his masters degree in mechanical engineering.

Doshi, a native of Kenya in East Africa, is studying to be a certified public accountant at Kilburn Polytechnic Institute.

At the camp this summer, Gassel is directing the outpost camping activities and Doshi is serving as field sports director.

The one major difference the two scouts find in American scouting compared to other countries is the "country club atmosphere."

Both scouts agreed that in American camps, the scouts don't do "any of the work that is part of scouting."

Gassel said that in his scouting experiences, "We had to cook for ourselves, put up our own shelters, and do everything for ourselves."

He continued in his comparison and said "Over here the tents are already set up for the scouts when they arrive, they have their meals cooked at a central mess hall and attend training sessions."

That's the one thing which the two scouts liked, the training sessions. Both Doshi and Gassels said that the training sessions are essential over here because the scouts immediately put the training into practice, such as the outposts hikes which the local camp has.

Doshi, who was in scouting in a Nairobi, Kenya troop, and Gassels who was in European scouting in The Netherlands, noted the one difference between most American scouts and the programs they have participated in.

"Most of these (American) scouts know their scoutcraft skills cold, but when they come to use it they're not prepared," Doshi said.

Doshi also said that Woodworth Lake was a beautiful camp and good on the outdoor

skills, but it's a "Holiday Inn" compared to the camps he attended in Africa.

Gassels said the "training scout camps" in America could not compare to the Scout camps of Europe because of the difference in operation which he already noted.

The two scouts also compared the advancement program of the United States to those in their scouting programs.

Both Gassels and Doshi said that the two programs run similar in advancement stages, but that instead of calling the top award "Eagle" in Europe and Africa, it's "Queen's Scout."

Gassels noted that the requirements were much stricter in Europe. "If you have earned five merit badges in Europe, then you can call it the equivalent of 15 in this country."

Gassels attained the rank of second class scout, which over in Europe he indicated was a feat.

Doshi was a first class scout in his troop in Nairobi and he was also the troop leader, which is equivalent to the senior patrol leader in American scouting.

The two scouts have a 3-week stay in the U.S. after the camp closes Saturday. When asked what they'd like to do after the

camp closes, Doshi said that he'd like to see Montreal and then Niagara Falls, as it's "one of the wonders of the world."

For Gassels, visiting the Massachusetts Institute of Technology would be very exciting.

But right now, neither one of the scouts is sure of his plans. "We were told," Doshi said, "that it costs a lot to travel around America. We'd like to rent a car but that could be too expensive."

At present these two scouts are enjoying their stay and work in America. "The scouts here are wonderful and friendly," they both said.

And after talking to several scouts at the camp, the scouts think the "counselors are something special, too."