

# The Aletheia

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## "Spearhead" to Mexico

By Keith Robinson  
Staff Writer

As one of the nine M-AC students who spent this past summer in Mexico City, I have a vast array of stories and anecdotes that I can relate on a moment's notice. This is probably also true of the other members of our group as well. We went to Mexico with Spearhead, an international program of the Miami, Florida based Latin America Mission, as young missionaries to Mexico. The 1991 group from M-AC consisted of faculty sponsor Dr. Ron Brunson and students Paulette Mixon, Jennifer Estep, Frances Domingues, Bryan Hinkle, Hunter Stevenson, Al Goodman, Dean Peteet, Andrew McCaskill and Keith Robinson. We comprised a part of some one-hundred and twenty-five members of the 1991 Spearhead team in Mexico City.

We set out for Mexico in

one of the College vans (yes, we DROVE to Mexico City) from the cafeteria parking lot on June 3 of this year. Some forty-five driving hours later, we arrived at our destination—the Hotel Estoril in downtown Mexico City. No sooner had

we arrived than we saw our first major demonstration of



Spearhead Missionaries, Paulette Mixon, Frances Domingues, Brian Hinkle, Jennifer Estep, Al Goodman, Andrew McCaskill and Dean Peteet

God's providence. Dr. Brunson left the van to check us into our

hotel and, upon returning to it, found that the engine had died and the brakes failed. Twenty-eight hours from Montreat to the U.S.-Mexican border and fifteen hours through Mexican mountains and desert without so much as a hint of mechanical difficulty and two major things happen in the parking lot of the hotel in Mexico City. If that is not Divine Providence, I don't know what is.

Once in Mexico City, we were there for good. One of the major ideas of the success of Spearhead is that of complete cultural immersion. For this reason, in Mexico we lived with Mexican families and went to Mexican churches on Sundays. So, after three days of orientation, we found ourselves nervously meeting and going home with the generally non-English-speaking families that we would come to know and love over the

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## Observing the Obvious

By Justin P. Ramb  
Editorial Comment

Many of the students here at Montreat have already heard about the wondrous trick played by Mr. Michael Sonnenberg, the biology teacher. But some have not heard about it, so please bear with me as I tell the trick-of-the-year story.

Last Thursday, December 5, all Biology students had a final lab exam. There were many plants, kingdoms, and geology aspects on the test. As you enter the exam it is the type of exam where you walk to each 'station' and answer each question. The stations carried on through-

out the lab room until the end question that was right next to the chalkboard. Written on the chalkboard was a nice phrase by Mr. Sonnenberg himself, it said, "I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year. Ho Ho Ho." (I think I got it right?) It turns out that each letter in this phrase was each letter on the test. For example, the first question the test was asking us if a sample was either poison oak or poison ivy? The answer was poison ivy which in turn was the first letter of Mr. Sonnenberg's phrase, "I".

Needless, to say not one college student taking the exam figured out the Biology Department's little game. But I think it taught us more than it was a cute little joke. Mr. Sonnenberg stressed in the beginning of his class to observe. Don't ever take anything for granted. Observe things, touch things and figure it out by thinking. Many of us did not observe before we answered all the question that we thought we knew (except for Ann Louise, that came oh so close to figuring out the joke.)

This lesson has taught us all something and here is to things that I think we shall all observe at this  
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