

The Montreal College Student Voice W H E T S T O N E

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Students Scale Grandfather Mountain in its First Field Studies Course

-Press Release

On September 24-25, fourteen students participated in a field studies course focusing on the Grandfather Mountain Biosphere Reserve. The group camped at McCrae meadows and spent the days learning about the flora, fauna, habitats, geology, soils, ecology, prevailing weather patterns, and cultural history of the highest peak in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The course also considered the impact of acid deposition, the balsam wooly adelgid, and other environmental factors affecting this unique mountain ecosystem. Learning occurred at a variety of places including the nature museum, the animal habitats, and

the Black Rock Nature trail. On Saturday, the group traversed the Grandfather Ridge trail.

Montreat College field courses are designed to give students immersion experiences in unique ecosystems.

This was the first course offered at Grandfather Mountain. For more information on these courses, please visit our website www.montreat.edu.

For more information on the Environmental Studies and Biology majors at Montreat College, contact Dr. Brad Daniel, Department Chair, at 828-669-8012, ext. 3307, or e-mail: bdaniel@montreat.edu.



From left to right: Brackin Kirkland, Adam Thomas, Tiffany Stoddart, Nicole Rabon, Erin Maguire, Katie Stammler, Laura Berrier, Grant Metcalf, Tripp Bowling, Libby Batzel, Andrew Honeycutt, Skyler Hill, Jon Beam, and Michelle Convey. The students sit on top of McCrae Peak on Grandfather Mountain studying a map of the watershed system of the surrounding region.

Catacombs Penetrates Asheville

by Mandi Fields

On October 7, Catacombs, a coffeehouse-style worship ministry, "took it to the streets" of downtown Asheville.

A group of students carried instruments to the park in front of the Wachovia Building off of Patton Avenue and witnessed through music and praise. They also brought sandwiches to feed the homeless in the city. Spectators looked on as Catacombs played worship songs and prayed.

"The truth is, they are drawn

to the Spirit," said Catacombs leader, Zach Blew. Catacombs is planning future street ministries, but there have been no dates set yet.

The concept of Catacombs originated in Spring 2003 when students wanted a break from classes, assignments, sports, and other stresses of college life.

Junior Jeb Berkeley explains, "It's a great time in the middle of the week to stop and focus your life on Jesus, along with fellow

brothers and sisters."

The candle-lit, close-knit worship service offers refreshments and begins with acoustic-led music. Other activities include, students sharing Scripture or thoughts with one another and drawing pastel artwork.

"There's a lot of creative expression. And people are free to worship the way they want in an environment where people aren't going to judge them," says

sophomore Christi Mahan.

"Anybody can go to Catacombs, even if they're not a hippy, and express their inner hippy-ness," jokes Berkeley.

Catacombs meetings are open to everyone. "It's a peaceful haven for us all," describes Freshman Helen Green.

Meetings are held on Wednesday nights at 8:30pm in the Gaither Fellowship Hall. For more information about Catacombs or "Taking it to the Streets," contact Zach Blew, Paige Sealy, or Erin Jones.

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"Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshipped beyond the river and in Egypt, and serve the LORD."

- Joshua 24:14 NIV

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What's Inside
Remembering Homecoming