

Enjoying Life Outside the Classroom

Garrett Ray

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twelve

other

people

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cool

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to experience an entire course in the outdoors, to scale the highest peak in the Blue Ridge Mountains,

the weekend of October 17-19, led by professor, Dr. Brad Daniel. The group set up camp on a Friday night in McCrae meadows at the foot of the 5964 ft. moun-

ecology, prevailing weather patterns, and cultural history surrounding the only privately owned biosphere reserve, and simply observing the beauty of God's

ship with the crisp

air of autumn? Ask the students who attended the

field studies course to

Grandfather Mountain on

tain and spent their days co-teaching about the flora, habitats, geology, soils,

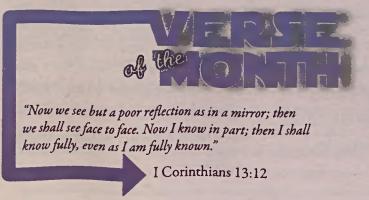
animal habitats, and a number of traversed hiking trails along the way. With

A Final Season as a Lady Cavalier

Heather Hable

Finalizing my last soccer season here at Montreat, I can not honestly say it ended the way I had imagined. I remember wondering throughout the summer who God would bring to coach us for my last

season. The upper classman and I kept a thread on Facebook so that we could share thoughts, hopes, and prayer requests throughout the summer. It was not until July that we finally had a name to go



into the position. We were told our new coach would be Don Maples from Knoxville, TN.

Pre-season was set for the beginning of August and I had not even talked with him. None of us knew what to expect when we arrived. With about as many new girls as there were returning players, the diversity of the individuals was obvious. But the thread that held us all together was the love for the sport of soccer. This

is exactly what I love so much about soccer-you can get a group of people together who love soccer, but maybe do not even speak the same language and throw a black and white ball in the middle of them, creating automatic unity.

The season was full of demanding practices, late nights on the field until we could no longer see in front of us, and dance parties in parking lots. We were picked to have ended

the conference in fourth place but actually ended in sixth. We did so much better than we thought we could against some difficult teams. However, after some foolish mistakes towards the end of the season we had to finish our last few games without some key players.

Through this strange and different season, Coach Maples taught us some of the most difficult life lessons. I will never forget

See Lady Cavalier on pg. 10

creation. The course was filled with a variety of teaching opportunities for the students including the Grandfather Nature

Museum,

the aid of the ever-friendly Grandfather naturalist Jesse Pope, the group was able to observe first hand what happens behind the scenes of the park, as well as scale their way to the top of McCrae Peak, the third highest peak of the mountain, and catch a glimpse of the Charlotte skyline nearly 100 miles away.

Montreat College field courses are uniquely designed immersion experiences for students to learn various ecosystems outside of the classroom. For more information on the Environmental Studies majors at Montreat College, contact Dr. Brad Daniel at bdaniel@montreat.edu, or Dr. Brian Joyce, Department Chair, at bjoyce@



montreat.edu. For more information about Grandfather Mountain, visit www.grandfather.com.