

The Fletcher Spirit

The Voice of Fletcher Academy, Inc.

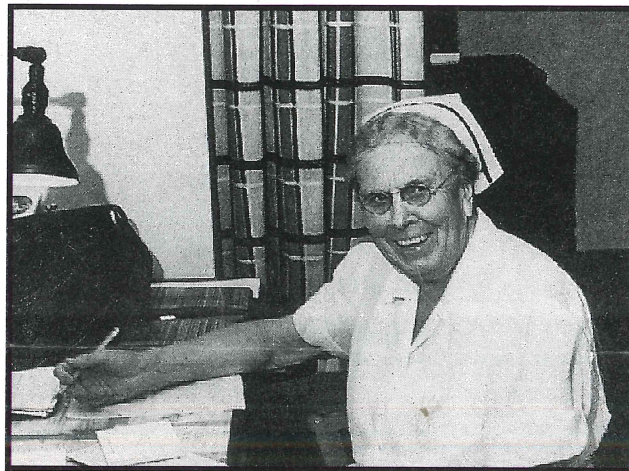
March - April 1999

Activity Center Dedicated to the Memory of the "White Angel"

Back before there was Fletcher Hospital, before there was a nursing school and long before there was the idea of constructing an Activity Center at the intersection of Naples and Howard Gap road, there was Lelia Patterson, the White Angel, making her way over the bumpy dirt roads of Henderson County in a Model T Ford on her way to oversee a birth or otherwise help someone in need.

It didn't matter who they were or where they came from. It didn't matter if they were rich or poor, black or white. If someone needed help, Lelia Patterson would be there, that you could count on.

Miss Patterson arrived in Asheville in 1919 from the Hinsdale Sanitarium in Chicago, Illinois where she'd received her nursing degree. She started the Vegetarian Cafeteria on Patton Avenue, dedicated to the principles learned in Hinsdale. Later she combined the restaurant with a treatment room and it became known as the Good Health Place. In 1920 Dr. John Brownsberger invited her to merge the Good Health Place with the Mountain Sanitarium and 42 years of service to the Fletcher/



Miss Patterson's devotion to the area earned her the name "The White Angel."

Hendersonville area began.

"When you thought of the Mountain Sanitarium you thought of Lelia Patterson," Former Fletcher Academy professor and Fletcher Academy historian Carlton Hunt said. "Essentially she started the sanitarium."

Miss Patterson's service to the area is legendary. She personally delivered over 300 babies. And at a time when doctors were scarce in the area, Miss Patterson was often the best hope for medical attention.

Joyce Marquis, who served as a nurse with Miss Patterson, remembers the impact the White Angel made on the area residents.

"People would come into the hospital and we'd ask who their doctor is. And they would say Miss Patterson. The people loved her and trusted her tremendously around here."

"She loved the mountain folk and they loved her," Genella Hunt, who served with Miss Patterson, studied under her at the nursing school and knew her from childhood said, "She loved children too. I remember as a child she was always giving us things."

Philanthropy went hand in hand with Miss Patterson's services as nurse and mid-wife.

"If a family was hungry, she would take them a big bag of groceries," Mrs. Hunt said.

"She loved gardening," Mrs. Marquis said, "She was always helping people start gardens, giving them seeds and such."

But Lelia Patterson knew that she could only do so much. There was still a great need for medical service that was accessible to the people of the area. In 1927 she began campaigning to bring attention to the need for a full fledged hospital in Fletcher. Her efforts led to the creation of the Fletcher Hospital and

Continued on page 3

Academy Students Travel to Cuba in the next Spirit...

Patterson Center Campaign Climbing Towards Its Goal

The finance campaign for the Lelia Patterson Activity Center is now in the home stretch thanks to the gracious support of individuals and organizations committed to the center's mission of spiritual and physical well-being.

Last January, the Fletcher Seventh-day Adventist Church entered a pledge of \$336,000 for the aquatic facilities of the center. Construction of the swimming facilities are expected to begin in the spring.

With the Fletcher SDA donation, two-thirds of the \$2 million needed for construction and initial maintenance of the Patterson Center has been secured.

Robert Hansen, of Hansen, Johnson and Associates, and the Finance Campaign Chairman of the Patterson center, says that this donation along with all recent donations has provided a significant boost for the Patterson Center campaign.

"We are now two-thirds of the way there," Hansen said, "This is very encouraging for all involved. Everyone who believes in what this center is for and who have worked to make this dream a reality is very upbeat. And yet, we are still one-third of the way from where we need to be. It is now time for us all to come together and do what it takes to reach our goal."

Hansen says that one of the most significant results of the campaign, aside from the raising of funds, has been that of solidifying the focus of the center.

"We've had to go through some metamorphosis to get to the image of the center that we have today," Hansen says, "That has been very significant in presenting our vision both to fellow Adventists and non Adventists in the community. To show that this will be a place for everyone."

To that end, the dedication of the center to the memory of Lelia Patterson, who is remembered throughout the area for her selfless dedication as a nurse and midwife serves as a beacon to the community that the cause of physical and spiritual well-being crosses all lines and reaches all hearts.

Hansen says that he is in contact with several community leaders who have pledged their support to the cause of the center.

"We are actively working to get some corporate gifts and we are looking into some modest sized grants. But

we are continuing to ask for individual donations. It is the individual donations that are the heart of this endeavor."

Now with the light shining brightly at the end of the tunnel, Hansen says that it is just a matter of allowing the purpose of the center, it's mission and what it can mean for the entire community to sink in.

"We've got the organization process well-done," Hansen says, "Now we're moving along with our belief in this center and inviting those who share that belief to join us."

You are encouraged to help make the Lelia Patterson Activity Center a reality. Please send your charitable contribution to:

**The Lelia Patterson Activity
Center
Fletcher Academy, Inc.
PO Box 5440
Fletcher, NC 28732**

**Memorial gifts and gifts of honor
may be arranged by contacting
Linda McIntyre at 828-687-5125.**

The Fletcher Spirit

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Activity Center Dedicated to the Memory of the "White Angel"

the Fletcher School of nursing in 1929.

"She was the wheel, she was the one who ran the place," Carlton Hunt said of Miss Patterson's role as nursing supervisor at the hospital for the next thirty years.

Edna Justus, who studied under Miss Patterson at the nursing school in the mid 1940s, remembers Miss Patterson as a stern looking woman with a dear heart.

"She was stern looking in a way," Miss Justus said, "But she was very patient and very compassionate."

Miss Patterson could be a spirited woman, and her firm beliefs in doing the right things were not lost in her compassion.

"I remember there was this couple that came in," Mrs. Marquis said, "And the woman was about to deliver her second child. She asked the father if the couple was married and he said no, that they could not afford to get a marriage license. Well, after the woman had her child and recuperated, Miss Patterson drove them to the court house, paid the fee and the couple was married. She be-



"When you thought of the Mountain San, you thought of Miss Patterson."

lieved strongly in living right."

Miss Patterson made her last house call in 1947, Miss. Justus went along with her to a house where a woman was expecting triplets. One of the two sets of triplets born in the area at that time. Miss Patterson delivered both sets.

After giving up the house calls, Miss Patterson continued as superintendent of the nursing school and later served

as administrator. She retired in 1962. In 1971 she was honored for her service by the City of Hendersonville. In 1975, at the age of 92, Lelia Patterson passed away.

Now, 116 years after her birth, and 80 years after her arrival in the area, Fletcher Academy, Inc. is celebrating the memory of Lelia Patterson by dedicating the soon to be constructed activity center in her name.

The Lelia Patterson Activity Center will carry on the mission of Miss Patterson's dedication to healthy living. It will embody her spirit of compassion and devotion to all. And it will serve as a lasting monument to an extraordinary and courageous woman, who gave so much of herself for the people of the area.

"Miss Patterson was a very humble lady. She could not stand the limelight" Mrs. Hunt said, "If she knew that the activity center was being named for her she would probably roll over in her grave. But no one deserves it more. She made this place what it is today."

FPI Tour Success Inspires Continuation

Four tours of Fletcher Park Inn were offered during the month of January. These tours attracted over sixty people and directly resulted in the filling of two apartments.

Based on the immense interest that surrounded these tours, Fletcher Park Inn will be offering on-going tours every Wednesday at 3 pm beginning May 5 and private tours can be arranged at any time as well.

There are still apartments available at this time, though it is anticipated that they will fill soon. For further information about independent living at Fletcher Park Inn contact Linda McIntyre or Sandra Spencer at: 828-684-2882, toll free at 1-800-249-2882. And be sure to tour our web-site at www.sdamall.com/fletcherparkinn. E-mail us at: fpiret@juno.com.

**You are invited to
Tour the New Wing of
Fletcher Park Inn**

**An Open House
on**

Sunday, April 25, 1999

Between the Hours of

1:30 pm and 4:30 pm

**Refreshments, Tours,
Information**

Cupid's Handiwork on Display at Fletcher Park Inn

Instead of just celebrating Valentine's Day at Fletcher Park Inn this year, residents and friends were treated to an all out testament to the power of love and the wondrous ability it has to transcend all boundaries and expectations.

For four hours on the bright and sunny Sunday of the 14th of February, the dining room of FPI was transformed into a showcase for some of Cupid's finest handiwork, as FPI residents, well wishers and friends came together to pay tribute to Neil and Samantha Litchfield, newlyweds in their eighth decade.

A banquet dinner, cakes, music and testimonials by family and friends highlighted the reception for the marriage of the Litchfields which took place last December 2.

After their honeymoon and the tidying up of details at Neil's home in Florida, the couple moved into Fletcher Park Inn late last year, where Sammy had been residing since 1991.

With everything squared away, the couple was finally ready to have a full fledged reception. But a mere three months had done nothing to dim the glow of these newlyweds, who blushed and laughed their way through the reception, evidently continuing to ride the high arc of Cupid's arrow. A shot which had been first released last September at the 50th reunion of the Young Married Couple's Organization, sponsored by the Michigan Conference at Camp Au Sable.

Fifty years ago, Sammy and Neil had met at the inaugural conference, Sammy was participant and Neil, was a speaker. To mark the anniversary, the conference invited back its original participants as honored guests.



Neil and Sammy Litchfield (facing camera second and third from left) celebrate their union with family and friends at FPI.

Area residents, close friends and heretofore confidants of the Litchfields, Clarence and June Omans, took center stage at the reception for the purpose of making the details of the courtship a matter of public record.

The Omans themselves participants of the inaugural YMCO conference and return guests by special invitation recounted their first hand experience of Sammy and Neil's reunion on the banks of the Au Sable.

"We arrived and there seemed to be no one at the camp," June said, "Just a man standing down by the river. Clarence and I got out of the car and Sammy stayed in the backseat. The man started walking towards us and he looked into the car and said, 'Is that Sammy Howard?'"

It had been 50 years, but from the moment of recognition the years seemingly melted away. Soon Sammy and Neil started talking and according to June, they have not stopped talking since.

"Anyone who has been around them knows that they are always talking and laughing, they never stop."

Red faced and constantly looking to one another, Sammy and Neil sat at the head table, exchanging laughs or irrepressible head shakes as the Omans pressed on detailing a courtship that included a would-be canoe ride, "Neil asked me if he should invite Sammy on a canoe ride that next morning," June said, "I told him that he should slow down. Later Sammy was devastated, she said she would've definitely gone. I almost blew it." Early morning nature walks, "They never heard a

word the guide said," June said, "they were too busy studying human nature." (And an otherwise uninterrupted dialogue.)

"They sat together at meals, worshipped together and spent all of their free time together. Soon it got around the camp that these two were inseparable," June said.

But soon the time came for the two to part. And yet, a romance ignited under such perfect conditions could not be extinguished with a little thing like separation. The phone calls were many and several times the Omans were called upon for advice and asked to play the role of intermediary. And then one day, June called Sammy and Sammy asked if she would stand with her the next day as she and Neil exchanged vows.

And now three months later, surrounded by their children and grandchildren, close friends, new friends and new family, the Litchfields listened to the story of their journey together to this point in time. (To hear the words of their new family congratulate them and welcome them into a new life). (A new life that promises to be full of days as happy and joyous as this particular Valentine's day).

Nifty Nineties



Lisa Metcalf (left) and Linda McIntyre wait on members of the Nifty Nineties club at their luncheon social.

Fletcher Park Inn honored its elite Nifty Nineties Club last month at a luncheon social in the 3rd floor assembly room of FPI. This celebrated bunch was treated to a meal specially prepared by FPI Activities director Lisa Metcalf.

"These are some very dear and special people to us here at Fletcher Park Inn," Metcalf said slicing into the chocolate cake she baked for the Nifty Nineties, "And it's very important for us to show them just how much we appreciate them."

The February Nifty Nineties Club is;

Florence Beadle	Esther Kootsey
Charlie Boykin	Mable Nash
Harry Clough	Mildred Nelson
Ethel Dunburg	William Nelson
Gertrude Green	Marion Simmons
Allene Hallock	Myrtle Slate
Ray Hanna	Clara Thompson
Fern Kearns	Gloira Wheeler

Intra- Marital Bidding War Shakes up Valentine's Auction



Trevor and Marie Davidson made waves at the recent FPI Valentine's Auction.

Fletcher Park Inn's annual Valentine's Auction turned into a regular family feud this year as Marie and Trevor Davidson found themselves twice in a bidding contest with each other.

"I wasn't sure if they were doing it on purpose or by accident," FPI staff member and resident auctioneer Linda McIntyre said, "But they sure got things going for a while there."

The auction, which raised over \$430 to assist one or more Academy students who work at the Inn, is for "blind gifts" purchased and wrapped by FPI residents. For many, it's the mystery of what's in the box that gets them bidding, and soon the excitement of a good ole bidding war takes over.

But rarely does a bidding war occur between a married couple. But that's just what happened many times during this auction.

"I guess you could say it was a combination of devilment and error," Marie Davidson said of the intra-couple contest, "On one hand my husband tends not to hear so well when there is a lot of excitement going on, and on the other hand, we were just trying to shake the timbers a little."

At any rate the drama created quite a show for the audience at the auction.

"People were getting a real kick out of watching them go," Linda said.

Another thing that got things going was Linda's prowess as an auctioneer.

"She's a fantastic auctioneer," Marie said, "If she wanted, she could go into it as a career."

Bible Camp Weekends Have Prof



Academy students load up after the weekend at Nosoca



History Professor Julie George holds court over Kristi Weis, Ashleigh Brown and Matthew Reece at Camp Kulaqua.

Within two weeks, Fletcher Students participated in two bible camps, one at NOSOCA Pines in South Carolina and the other at Camp Kulaqua in Florida, and there's only one word that Academy Chaplain J.P Cardo could think of to sum up the experience, awesome.

In all 32 students attended the NOSOCA campout and 13 came out for the Kulaqua weekend. And from the reactions of the students who went, the experiences were ones that they would not soon forget.

Former Academy Chaplain Jackie James was the featured speaker at the NOSOCA conference. This reunion with his fellow Fletcherites must have served as an inspi-

ration for Jackie, because according to Academy senior Sara Yingling, his words made a profound impact.

"He emphasized the importance of knowing God personally by studying the word of God," Sara later wrote in a reaction to the weekend, "His message encouraged me to dig deeper into my personal devotions."

To dig deeper in the spiritual devotions and convictions and to better see our place in Jesus' plan, that's what these weekends strive to instill in the students. And Cardo said that each of them succeeded in very real ways.

"At Kulaqua, there is a youth to youth mentality," Cardo said, "Students ministering to one another. And let me tell

Students Attending the NOSOCA Campout Jan. 22-24, 199

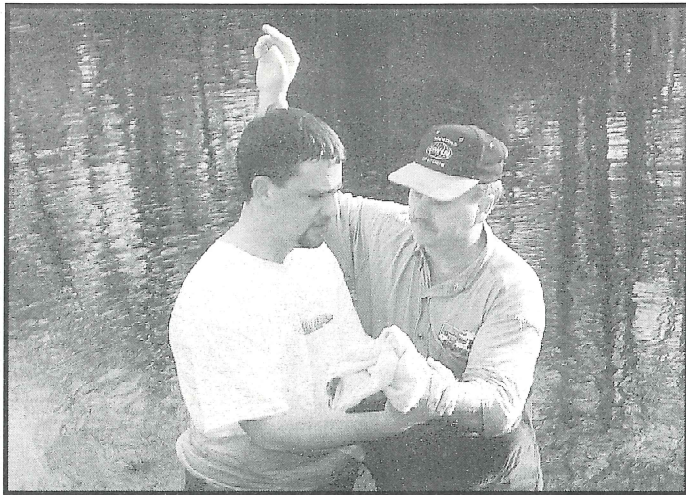
Guys

Tim Ashlock
Paul Carlton
Gregory Harding
Nate Hetzer
David Hughes
Rob Jones
David Kendall
Jesse McClung
Nate Moretz
Cody Sifers
Nathan Sweigart

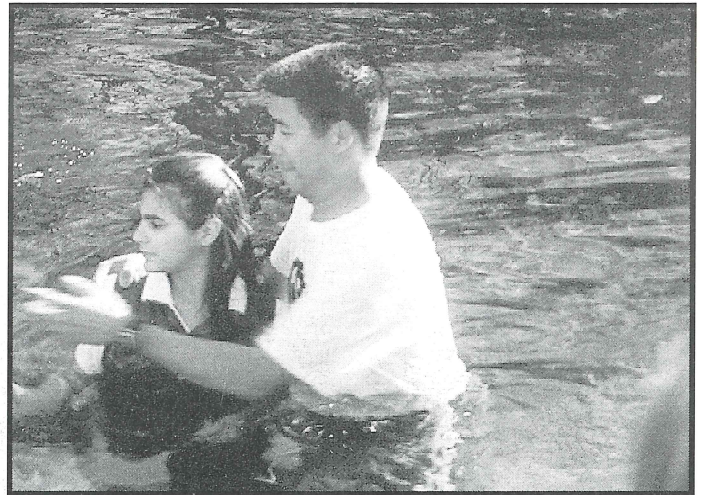
Girls

Betty Ashlock
Valerie Beck
Tiffany Brown
Charel Clark
Kathie Diamond
Stacey Henry
Hannah Kendall
Heather King
Kim Lewis
Natalie Moore
Heather Payne
Kara Schmidt
Ashley Shafer
Sam Shafer
Chantel Solo
Shelli Stevenson
Nicole Todd
Kristin Twing
Kristi Weis
Adrienne Workman

ound Impact on Academy Students



Rob Jones, "I saw it as a chance to start a new life."



June Kimbro takes her turn being reborn into a life devoted to Jesus Christ.

you, when young people minister to one other and pray, powerful things happen."

There was a cohesiveness at Kulaqua that impressed Cardo. Students put their school and geographical designations aside and came together in praise of that most glorious of all destinations, the Heavenly kingdom.

Nine Fletcher students who took part in the Kulaqua conference chose to reaffirm their faith in Jesus Christ as the students plunged one by one into the waters of Lake Kulaqua to be rebaptized. One of those students was Academy Junior Rob Jones.

"At first I just came up to the side of the lake to get a

better look. But something took hold of me. And before I knew it, I was stepping in. It was an incredible thing. I saw it as a chance to start a new life."

In all 67 students from around the conference were rebaptized that day by the presiding minister Leclair Litchfield.

"You could feel the Holy Spirit as it poured into these youngsters," J.P. said, "One after another they were jumping into the water to get baptized. The only way I can describe it was awesome."

Students Attending the Kulaqua Conference Feb. 3-7, 1999

Ashleigh Brown

Ben Cole

Hayley Crouch

Avala Goodin

David Hughes

Rob Jones

June Kimbro

Danylin Maxson

Matthew Reece

Alumita Tuikaba

Loata Tuikaba

Christi Weis

Adrienne Workman

Academy Days Coming in April

Learn here.
Laugh here.
Grow here.



1.800.SOUTHERN • www.southern.edu • Collegedale TN 37315-0370

Students interested in attending Fletcher Academy for the 1999/2000 school year and want to get an up close look at the Academy are encouraged to participate in this year's Academy Days.

Academy Days will be held on Sunday April 18 and Monday April 19. Registration begins at 2:30 on Sunday. Following registration there will be games on the activity field and a dinner. Performances by the Academy gymnastics team and band will highlight the after-dinner program.

Prospective students are invited to stay the night at the Academy dorms to get a feel for campus life.

Monday's agenda will include a tour of the campus, meetings with Academy principal Chuck Workman on the educational attributes of Fletcher and Academy work coordinator Jon Smith, who will give details on the many work programs offered at Fletcher.

Later, visitors will have the opportunity to explore the campus on their own.

Last year, over 50 students attended Academy Days, leading to one of the biggest enrollment increases in recent years.

Anyone interested in attending Fletcher Academy next year and would like more information on Academy Days are asked to call the Academy Office at (828) 687-5100.

Congratulations to all 66 Academy students who achieved a cumulative G.P.A of 3.0 or better during the first semester of the 98/99 school year.

High Honors

4.00-3.75

Charel Clark
Nicholas Cox
Michael Fox
Alberto Harper
Mark Harrington
Loree Henion
Rob Jones
Hannah Kendall
Roseanne Miles
David Norwood
Jana Peterson
Nathan Sweigart
George Wagner

Kristi Weis
Sarah Yingling
Jesse McClung
Jonathan Arroyo
Jennifer Black
Tiffany Brown
Sam Shafer
Shelli Stevenson
Heather Payne
Wesley Peterson

Honors

3.74-3.5

Tiffany Goodin
Ashley Lynes
Melissa Milks

Betty Neascu
Brittany Cherry
Geoffrey Cross
Kathie Diamond
Ashley Shafer
Jessica Danner
Kara Schmidt
Johnathan Wagner

Honorable Mention

3.49-3.0

Stephen Young
Betty Ashlock
Ashleigh Brown
Jeremy Eggert

Lisa Haney
Natalie Moore
James Boyd
Eve Lynes
Melissa Segur
Paul Witt
Stacey Henry
James Owen
Nicole Todd
Paul Carlton
Brandon Freck
Nate Moretz
Jamie Rowe
Rachel Tyson
Adrienne Workman

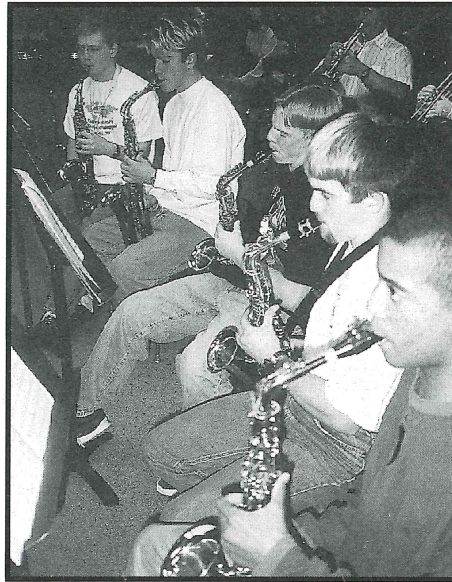
Jennifer Cooper
Milka Soto
Kristal Haus
Meredith
McCutcheon
Renee Salhany
Chantel Sola
Zach Danner
Tim Ashlock
Devin Henson
Kristin Twing
Greg Harding
Nathaniel Hetzer
Robert Merz

Band Plays Its Own Way To Bermudan Concert Tour

Thirty-two members of the Academy Band played their way to a six day concert tour of Bermuda last January with a five hour non-stop Play-A-Thon that helped raise \$20,000 to cover the expenses of the trip.

Band members solicited contributions from family and friends based on the amount of time that they could keep belting out the tunes. In the end, there were tired lips and sore fingers, but the trip to Bermuda was now coming close to being a reality.

According to Academy Band Director Randy Cox, the Academy band along with seven adults will tour the Island of Bermuda from February 24 to March 1. The band will perform five concerts, at public schools, churches, one on the City Hall steps



Academy Band students in the midst of their Play-A-Thon.

of Hamilton and one for a *Students of Bermuda Association* gathering.

"The students worked to make this

happen," Randy said, "They sent out letters to relatives and friends to ask for the donations and then they played." And played and played.

The band will be staying at the St. Massina Camp. They will cook their own meals and yet, the \$20,000 in donations was essential to merely get the students to Bermuda and around the island.

"We are very appreciative for all of the support we received with this trip," Cox said, "This is a very exciting thing for the band to be a part of."

Band members and chaperones will load up busses from Fletcher on the night of the 23rd and drive to Charlotte airport from where they will depart for Bermuda. The flight should take about the same amount of time that band members spent earning their way.

Students Continue to Shine on ACT

Fletcher Academy students continue to out pace the state and nation in the results of standardized testing. The most recent example of this testing excellence came with the results of the ACT which was administered to all Fletcher seniors and some juniors this past December.

Academy English professor and administrator of testing, Brent Yingling, said that the vast majority of Academy students who took the test again scored far above the state and national average.

"On the whole, our students easily surpassed the 50th percentile mark," Mr. Yingling said of the test that gauges students aptitude in English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning, "This is a continuing trend for Academy students that underscores the quality of education students receive at Fletcher."

While most students scored above the 50th percentile

on each of the test's four sections, many students placed in the 70th, 80th percentile, with a group of students placing in the upper end of the 90th percentile.

Junior Nathan Sweigart secured himself an \$8000 scholarship to Southern University with a composite score of 33. The highest score allowable on the ACT is a 36.

"I don't remember anybody having scored a 33 or better," Yingling said, "That is just an incredible score."

Nathan placed in the 99th percentile, meaning that he is in the top 1% of all students nationwide who took the test.

A handful of other students scored within striking distance of the 31 necessary for the Southern scholarship.

"We have some students in the high twenties and low thirties," Yingling said, "I expect that when they take the test again that they should get close to reaching the 31 cut off."

The ACT will be administered again in April.

Students Find Practical Experience at Academy Press

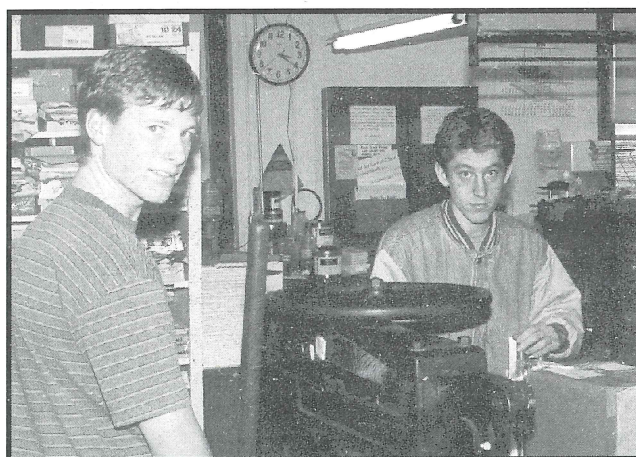
Sixty-seven years ago, Professor L.E. Nestell installed two motorized hand fed presses in a little room under the old bakery and the Academy Press was born. As bread and pastries baked above, Prof Nestell and his student workers churned out forms, stationary and letter head for the hospital and schools and bound and repaired books. The practice of teaching students practical skills was as much a part of a Fletcher education in 1932 as it is today. Students learned the art of printing, carefully setting type and tending to the presses.

Today that tradition of teaching students the value of work and the skills of a trade continues at the Academy Press, which is currently located above the maintenance garage between the administration building and the bakery. And while the principles of student workmanship persists, much has changed for the Academy Press.

Ron Holt, now in his twentieth year at the Academy Press, has seen many of those changes personally. When he became the manager of the Press, the process of printing had changed very little from Prof Nestell's day.

"At that time we didn't have a good system for setting type," Holt said, "We were still doing the paste up on sheets by hand. Print preparation was still a very labor intensive process. A year or so later we received an Alpha Comp typesetter. That made things somewhat easier. But still, if you made any mistakes, then you would have to set that section over again and paste it in."

Holt says that in those first years attracting good students to work at the



Mike Schneider (left) and Tim Mercer put in their time sorting and shipping orders at the Academy Press.

press was kind of tough. Few students were interested, because of the tedious nature of preparing text for printing and the messy process of actually printing.

"We were at the bottom of the list for student job choices at that time," Ron remembers, "work wasn't that exciting here then and most students didn't like working in ink."

But that was all about to change. Prof Nestell's enterprise of the 1930's was about to take a giant leap into the realm of 21st century technology. And with that would come an increase in the Press's popularity.

In 1987, the Academy Press received its first Apple computers to assist with layout. Gone were the days of handset type, gone were the days of one mistake and you do it all over, and gone were the days of the Press's place at the bottom of the list.

Enter a generation of students who grew up with computers, understanding and incorporating them into their lives as naturally as previous generations had taken to the automobile or telephone. And enter a computer savvy

Academy Press that invites students to learn the latest in computer layout and to work directly with these programs.

"Finding good students is a whole lot easier now," Ron says, "They are attracted to the computers and software that we use and they see working here as a valuable resource to their future."

Currently three students work at the Academy Press, Sophomore Nate Moretz works mornings and Juniors Tim Mercer and Mike Schneider work afternoons.

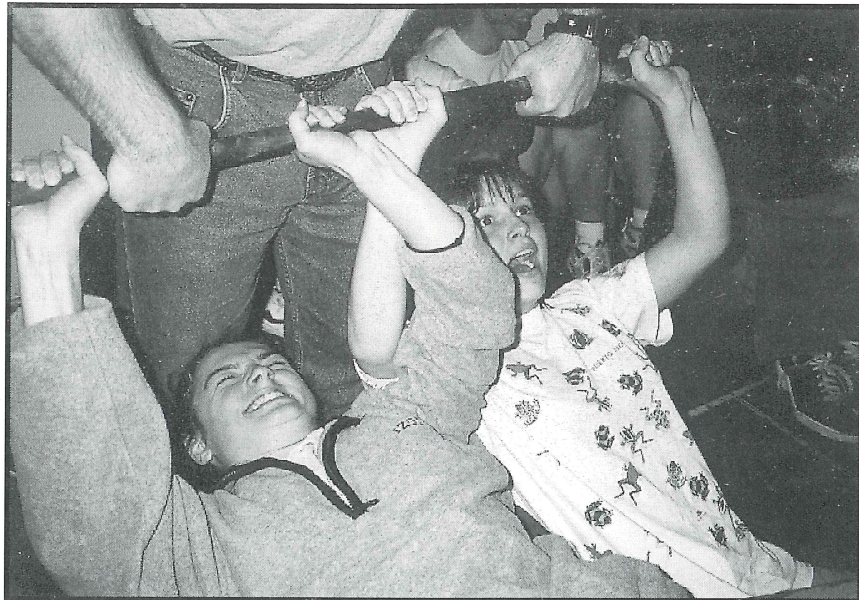
In addition to working on the three Macintosh computers in the front office of the press, the students put in their time folding and binding materials in the back room. In recent years, OSHA regulations have made it difficult for students to learn to operate the presses, so the students are primarily employed to help with the layout and production of the materials on the computers. Which they say, suits them just fine.

"I see computers as being a big part of my future," Mike, who is in his first year at the Press says, "Having the opportunity to learn and use them here is a real help for me."

Tim, who has worked at the press all of his three years at Fletcher says that his employment at the Press has helped him take an interest in computers to a new level.

"Before I started here I enjoyed experimenting with computers," Tim says, "But now I feel like I have a real understanding of them. I've learned a lot in these three years." Tim and Mike both said that as a result of their expe-

So this is what you call heavy!



Betty Neascu and Jamie Rowe show their different reaction to a 260 pound bar bell. The two were attempting to lift what Senior Jesse Justus lifted to win the weight lifting event in the Winter Olympics held recently at Fletcher Academy.

Practical Experience continued from page 10

rience at the Press they plan to study computers or graphic design in college.

Nate, who came to Fletcher from Burlington, NC at the beginning of the year, says that the Academy Press and its use of computers proved one of the deciding factors in his choosing Fletcher.

"I looked at the different academies' work programs and what I saw in Fletcher stood out because it offered so many different choices. No where else did I see the ability to pursue my interest in computers more than at Fletcher."

And yet, just because the Academy Press has entered the computer revolution, does not mean that working at the Academy Press is easy street. The students put in their hours carefully setting up materials and when everything's finished upfront, there's usually a stack of Fletcher Spirits to be folded.

"The students get a good experience here in what they learn," Ron said, "and they work hard. They earn their wages."

City of Hendersonville

I am writing this letter to indicate my wholehearted and enthusiastic support of the planned Activity Center.

Our whole county has become increasingly concerned about our quality of life. Our governing bodies, our civic organizations, and our churches are all taking steps to enhance our physical and spiritual environment.

I salute the Board of Directors of Fletcher Academy, Inc. for their vision and their commitment to this wonderful project. It will provide so many opportunities for our citizens, young and old, to participate in spiritual, physical, and leadership development activities.

Sincerely,

Fred Niehoff, Jr., Mayor
City of Hendersonville

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Gerald Nash, Corporation President

The Fletcher Spirit

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