Junior College staffer to have story published

An educational article authored by Lovie L. Borchardt, assistant professor of education at Floyd Junior College, has been accepted for publication in "Improving College and University Teaching."

An international quarterly journal published by Oregon State University, the educational publication has a circulation that includes the 50 United States, 40 foreign countries and all provinces in Canada.

Entitled "Meeting a Challenge," Mrs. Borchardt's article relates her teaching experiences within the past academic year at Floyd Junior College. A teacher of reading, she describes her relationship with her students, her methods of teaching the reading course, the students' overall reaction and their educational progression in the course.

A native of Rome, Mrs. Borchardt joined the PJJC faculty in September, 1972 after having lived and taught in Brunswick for several years. While a resident of that city, she served as president of the Glynn County Teachers Assn. and was selected as a finalist in the 1964 Mrs. Georgia Contest.

She holds an A.B. degree in elementary education from Shorter College and M. Ed. and Ed.S. degrees in reading and education from the University of Georgia.

Floyd Junior College editors named

Editors of three Floyd Junior College student publications were selected recently by the college publications committee. Chosen to head the publications during the 1973-74 academic year were Jennifer Fowler, editor of "Elysium," the college yearbook; Lois Edmonds Candler, editor of the school literary magazine, "The Old Red Kimono," and Sandi Hurt, editor of "The Six Mile Post," the college newspaper.

Miss Fowler and Mrs. Edmonds are from Rome; Miss Hurt is from Rockmart.

The yearbook, an annual publication, is distributed in the spring of the school year, while the newspaper and literary magazine are distributed weekly and quarterly, respectively.

RNT 8/12/73
New Floyd College Major: Medical Lab Technology

Special to The Atlanta Journal

ROME, Ga.—Beginning in the fall quarter, Floyd Junior College will offer a major in medical laboratory technology under the college's existing associate degree program. June Blankenship, a former teaching supervisor at Floyd Hospital, will be the program coordinator, according to Dr. Robert Farrell, acting chairman of the FJC division of natural sciences and mathematics.

Dr. Farrell, the new director of the Floyd Junior College MTI program, feels that the program is being insti-tuted at a time when there is a need for laboratory workers. "Lab technology has advanced so rapidly since World War II," Farrell explained, "that the need for medical lab technicians is terrific at this time. It's a field that, since the early 40s, has more or less created itself. Before lab tech came into being, physicians had to take the time to do many of the things lab technicians now do."

THOSE WHO successfully complete the graduation requirements of FJC's lab tech program will be able to work in the labs of area hospitals and physicians' offices. Additionally, those holding an associate degree in MLT will be able to transfer some of the credits they earn to other college or universities to work toward their baccalaureate degree.

Dr. Farrell said that those now holding lab jobs in hospitals and physicians' offices will soon be required by the state to upgrade their formal training and to obtain a certificate in their field in order to maintain their present positions. According to June Blankenship, those lab workers will be able to accomplish this with FJC's new program.

"The college curriculum will be flexible to the point that those who now have lab jobs will be able to hold their positions and attend classes at FJC." Mrs. Blankenship commented. "Those seeking the associate degree should be able to adjust their working and class schedules without too much difficulty."

In addition to the academic and technical courses, MLT students will pursue at Floyd Junior, actual laboratory or practical work will be required for the attainment of a degree. Floyd and Redmond Park hospitals will be utilized for this practicum work during the program's first year and, in the future, other area hospitals and clinics will possibly be bases for field work by FJC students.

In discussing the program, Dr. Farrell observed that the lab tech area is wide open for men as well as women, although men are less inclined to enter the field than are women. According to Farrell, the opportunities in lab tech are equally good for both sexes.

Some of the technical courses that will be required of enrollees of the MLT program are clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, serology and other related courses. Also required for the completion of the program are academic courses such as English, mathematics and courses in social sciences.

MRS. BLANKENSHIP added that certain first-year courses may be challenging to prospective MLT students. If a student is able to pass a particular course in the initial phase of the program, he will be exempt from the course and will receive credit toward his associate degree.
SYMPOSIUM ON DYING...

Floyd Junior College slates community services programs

"Interest is the only admission requirement," says the Floyd Junior College Office of Public Information in reference to its fall, 1973, Community Services Program. With the school beginning its fourth year of classes, the community services program will offer to residents of Rome and Floyd County several new classes as well as some repeats of classes held in previous programs.

There will be courses ranging from preparation for professional secretaries and real estate manager to self-defense for women and art classes for pre-schoolers, grade school children and adults, and course charges range from free admission to $75 for the six-month secretarial course.

The certified professional secretary review course is designed as a "preparatory course for the Certified Professional Secretary Examination," according to program information. This course will be taught in six units including sessions on management, mathematics and office procedures and may be taken as one entity including all segments or one particular subject may be attended with each subject lasting approximately one month.

Also new for real estate students in a 30-hour course to assist the participant in preparing for the Georgia Real Estate License Examination. The course has a dual purpose, combining also provision of information in the field of real estate pertinent to every individual.

"A Symposium on Death and Dying," will be sponsored by the school, free of charge and in cooperation with Berry College, Floyd Hospital, Redmond Park Hospital, Tri-County Medical Assn., Cosa Valley Health District, Floyd County Baptist Ministerial Assn. and the Gerontology Section of the University.

A five-week course to be held at the Krammert Center on the Berry College campus, the course will include discussions on "Can We Allow Them To Die In Peace," "Counselling the Terminally Ill and His Family" and "The Legal Aspects on Death and Dying," with instructors from Grady Hospital in Atlanta, Hamilton Memorial Hospital in Dalton, and Emory University in Atlanta.

A two-year study for life insurance agents with at least one year of experience in the field, the course will include such topics as "Better Homes and Gardens," "Cabin'd, Cribb'd, Confined" and a developmental program for "Volunteers in Social Services," and "The Legal Aspects on Death and Dying," with instructors from Grady Hospital in Atlanta, Hamilton Memorial Hospital in Dalton, and Emory University in Atlanta.

A free program on women's status and potential in northwest Georgia, "Cabin'd, Cribb'd, Confined" and a developmental program for "Volunteers in Social Services," and "The Legal Aspects on Death and Dying," with instructors from Grady Hospital in Atlanta, Hamilton Memorial Hospital in Dalton, and Emory University in Atlanta.

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Sixteen join FJC staff this autumn

Fourteen full-time faculty members and two administrative staff members have joined the Floyd Junior College staff for fall quarter.

The appointments of Larry G. Johnson as director of admissions and records and Timothy J. Hill as director of accounting services became effective this past July. A native of Carrollton, Johnson was educated at West Georgia College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Present, Johnson is a candidate for an M.A. degree in psychology at West Georgia. Hill is a graduate of Kent State University, the University of Albuquerque and Georgia State University.

June Blankenship, educational coordinator of FJC’s newly implemented medical laboratory technology program, is originally from Atlanta. Before coming to FJC, she was teaching supervisor at Floyd Hospital. Mrs. Blankenship received her M. Ed. degree in technology education from the University of Florida.

A native of Pennsylvania, Michael D. Riley will join the FJC faculty as assistant professor of English. He was awarded his B.A. degree in English from the University of Scranton and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in English from Ohio University. Dr. Riley is presently working on a dissertation on the novels of Jane Austen.

Sarah C. Southwell, a Sumter, South Carolina native, comes to FJC as instructor of education in staff training for the Appalachian Child Care Project. She graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan with a B.S. degree in hospital recreation and from Georgia State with a M.Ed. degree in early childhood education.

Formerly a part-time instructor last year at FJC, Betty J. Franklin is now a full-time instructor in education and psychology. Born in Lynchburg, Virginia, she has a B.S. degree in home economics from Berry College. Mrs. Franklin earned her M.A. degree in elementary education from the University of Alabama.

Named FJC’s audio-visual librarian, Mike Saunders is a St. Petersburg, Florida native and a graduate of Florida State University. He holds a B.A. and an M.A. degree in history and social science, respectively, and an M.L.S. degree from that institution.

Roman Joselyn E. Parks will serve as a laboratory assistant in the division of natural science and mathematics. She holds a B.S. degree in biology from Morris Brown College and has done study at Georgia State University and Benedict College.

Pauline R. Campbell of Clinton, Tennessee has joined the college nursing faculty as associate professor of nursing. She received her M.S.N. degree from the Medical College of Georgia and her B.S.N. degree from Baylor University.

Also joining the nursing faculty is Diane Muschick, a native of Long Beach, California. Assistant Professor of nursing education at FJC, she earned a B.S. degree in nursing from Salve Regina College, Newport, R.I., and a M.S.N. degree in nursing education from the Medical College of Georgia.

Brenda J. McAvoy, instructor of nursing, holds a B.S.N. degree from the Medical College of Georgia and is presently doing graduate work at Georgia State University. She is a native of Atlanta.

Originally from North Carolina, Catherine H. Evans is a clinical nursing assistant at FJC. She attended the Parkview School of Nursing in Rocky Mount, North Carolina and Berry College.

Sondra L. Teague, coming to Floyd Junior as a clinical assistant, holds an R.N. diploma from St. Joseph’s Infirmary School of Nursing in Atlanta. Mrs. Teague was born in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Born in Arizona and reared in Gordon, Georgia, Anthony Dennard holds B.S. Ed., M.Ed. and Ed.S. degrees in physical education.
FLOYD JUNIOR COLLEGE Lakeside Players in rehearsal for their first play, THE APOLLO OF BELLAG, to be presented Tuesday, May 28. Cast members from left are Helen Millican, Andy Smith, Dan Groce, Calvin Thomas and Joel Cordle, with director Ken Anderson at right. The play will be performed at 8:30 p.m. in the FJC student center.

FJC Players open first play Tuesday

THE APOLLO OF BELLAG by Jean Girandoux will be presented at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28 in the Floyd Junior College student center by the FJC Players. The play marks the first performance open to the public by the newly formed drama group.

The play's plot hints at a women's liberation theme, employing a female-versus-male-in-the-big-bad-world strain. Yet, taking a second look at the light drama, the viewer realizes that the fem lib motif is disguised by the author's hyperbolic portrayal of the successful professional woman as one who uses her feminine wiles and charm to gain stature in a man's world. Obliquely, the play's feminine protagonist is a hungered, hungry for a prosperous future and willing to play the role of the saccharine, submissive kitten who, ideally, always gets from men what she's really after.

Carrying leading roles are FJC students Helen Millican, Calvin Thomas and James Howard. Other players include Andy Smith, Joel Cordle, Cindy McKeevy, Sari McCorl, Jerome Jaggers, Dennis McEntire, Dan Groce, Dan Groce and Carl Rice.

Ken Anderson, FJC assistant professor of English, and Lakeside Players' adviser, is director of the play. Decision Chubbs, and FJC sophomore from Lindale, is producer.
Floyd Junior beauties prepare for open house

These pretty Floyd Junior College students will be among those on hand today to act as tour guides for the college's spring open house. FJC's open house is one of 30 being held in April and May throughout the state by University System of Georgia institutions. Pictured amidst FJC's construction are (left to right) Jane Hoeltzer, Floyd County Junior Miss and first runner-up in Georgia Junior Miss; Celia Jones, Miss Coosa Valley Fair, 1973, and Fairest of the Fair, 1973; and Vickie Brown, Miss Floyd Junior College, 1974.
Pair appointed to FJC faculty

Byron D. Cantrell and Daniel A. Withrow have been appointed to the Floyd Junior College faculty for the 1974-75 academic year.

Coordinator of the college’s deaf education program, Cantrell holds a B.A. degree in mathematics from Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C., and an M.Ed. degree from Georgia State University. He has done additional work in the field of deaf education at California State University at Northridge.

The Carrollton native is a member of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, the National Association of the Deaf, Kappa Gamma Fraternity and other organizations. He taught at Georgia School for the Deaf from 1972 to 1974. He and his wife Kathleen and their young daughter, Kristine, live in Cave Spring. Withrow, a native of Miami, Fla., comes to Floyd Junior College as an instructor in biology. He received his A.B. and M.S. degrees in biology from West Georgia College.

While studying there, he served as a patrolman with the Carrollton Police Department. He served in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1972. He holds membership in the American Institute of Biological Sciences and the Association for Humanistic Psychology. He resides in Carrollton.

Whitetail deer and mule deer often eat mushrooms.

Junior College names new faculty members

Jo S. Mims and Margaret Beylouny have been named to the Floyd Junior College nursing faculty, according to FJC nursing director Belen Nora. Both new staffers are assistant professors of nursing.

A native of Beaumont, Texas, Mrs. Mims holds a B.A. degree in English and history from Florence State University and a M.S.N. degree in adult nursing instruction from the Medical College of Georgia. She also received a diploma in nursing from Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.

Prior to coming to Floyd Junior, Mrs. Mims was director of patient care at the nursing home annex of Eugene Talmadge Memorial Hospital.

She is a member of the American Nurses Association and Phi Kappa Phi. An article she authored in 1974, “An Antebellum Drug Store,” was published in “The Journal of Muscle Shoals History.”

Mrs. Mims has four children, Linda, Sandra, Keny and Eddie.

Mrs. Beylouny comes to Floyd Junior from her hometown, Pittsfield, Mass., in which she served as an assistant professor of nursing education at Berkshire Community College. She received her B.S. degree in nursing from Skidmore College and her M.N. degree in nursing from the University of Washington.

Formerly a captain in the nurses corps of the U.S. Air Force, Mrs. Beylouny authored an article that was published in the Air Force’s “Service Digest” in November, 1971.

Mrs. Beylouny holds memberships in Sigma Theta Tau, a national nursing honorary society and the American Nurses Association.

She and her husband George live in Kennesaw.
NEW LIBRARY OPENED

FJC expects quarter of 'progress'

If the way Floyd Junior College began the new year and its new quarter is indicative of the pace the young college will set for 1975, the yearly forecast for progress is an auspicious one.

The opening of its newly completed annex and library, approved plans for the construction of a health sciences building and a record-breaking surprise enrollment of 1300 students are highlights of '75's bright beginnings for FJC.

Commenting on the enrollment for winter quarter, admissions director Herman L. Bradshaw said, "When you expect a ten percent enrollment decrease from fall to winter quarters, and instead you experience a substantial increase, you feel tremendously encouraged. And you hope the trend is going to continue."

Even though the recently opened wing includes additional classrooms, faculty offices, a bookstore, recreation room and an addition adjacent to the existing student center, space is still at a premium at the growing institution. If the college maintains its present enrollment into spring quarter without adding students, classroom scheduling for spring could still be a slight problem.

Hopefully, the health sciences building, which will house the college's nursing, medical laboratory technology and mental health technology programs, will alleviate the space crunch.

An imposing building occupying part of the once-unexplored portion of the campus, the new library is reputedly among the most complete educational resource centers in Northwest Georgia.

According to FJC librarian Hubert Whitlow, the new library, complete with study rooms, film loops, film strips, phonographs and videocassettes, is designed for students to put the AV materials to their most effective use. Cartridge tapes that can be checked out from the library can be viewed on one of six small television sets installed in the study carrel. The study and material reinforcement aids for the student, many of these tapes are produced in FJC's studio by the library's AV staff.

Most of the tapes are classroom lectures and laboratory demonstrations.

Considering such factors as the nation's troubled economy and an apparent trend indicating that fewer high school graduates are going directly into college, FJC seems to be holding its own in a time in which some other colleges are experiencing heavy enrollment decrease.

College president Dan McCorkle has ideas about why FJC is not only maintaining its status quo but growing as well. "I would refrain from saying that FJC is experiencing future growth at the rate it has grown in the past couple of years," he explained. "Such things are difficult -- if not impossible -- to predict at this point. I can say that specific reasons for the college's overall expansion are perhaps its status as a commuter college in a thriving area of our state, coupled with our offering 36 transfer and ten career programs to our students."

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The Floyd Junior College that opened its doors in September 1971 to 54 students in Rome's Metro Building bears a jumentary spartan institution that boasts a sizable student population and a picturesque campus that are far cry from its first.

The fall semester 1975 count of 1300 students enrolled for regular academic courses, another 400 come to sign up for more than twenty-two public service courses and construction in connection with the building. Not having just been completed on the expanding campus, FJC does not appear to have reached its apex — growth-wise or academically.

FJC president David B. McClure, commenting on the college's enrollment, is recalled with a smile at a high-speed reputation in 1970 that the college could not possibly enroll more than 500 students in its second year of operation. "We enrolled 445," McClure succinctly, and continued, "Another conjecture was that FJC would not enroll more than 750 to 800 students. In our third year of operation, more than a thousand students come to FJC. We think this surprised a lot of people.

Why, then, has one of the youngest institutions in the thirty-unit University System of Georgia fared so well in a time in which even larger, better established institutions are recruiting more fiercely than ever before? In a milieu made tense by a shaky economy and a country in the midst of a nebulous transition, the fact that FJC is doing as well as it is comparatively economical are basic reasons for its consistently climbing enrollment.

Serving students who drive weekly from nine Northwest Georgia counties and Northeast Alabama to that still-pastoral spot across one of Floyd County's R-rated drive-in theaters, FJC is now creditably established as a commuter school. Few commuters live more than thirty minutes that is accessible to students from the counties of Floyd, Polk, Chattooga, Bartow, Haralson, Gordon, Paulding and in limited cases, Walker and Carroll. Of the 1300 students who enrolled all quarter, 840 live in Floyd County.

Thus, the institution's commuter status, plus its offering a full program of evening classes, make getting an education a feasible, complicated and relatively economical process. FJC attracts single mothers, waitresses, housewives and business people who hold full-time day jobs — and its success that 750 students who work before and after classes, thus increasing the likelihood of FJC's one day becoming a four-year institution complete with dormitory facilities. In reply, President McClure said, "This is something that would have to be decided by the community and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. Right now, our sole concern is to continue to offer our students the quality education on a year-round college level."

The proximity of the young college to so many present and prospective students in Northwest Georgia is one of the primary reasons for FJC's healthy enrollment. However, those involved with the day-to-day administrative and educational processes in the operation of the college favor the idea of basic academic excellence as the major reason for FJC's continuing growth.

"Junior college doesn't mean that the FJC student is expected to only a "junior" or less than a college education," offered Dr. Wesley C. Hutton, dean of faculty. "Our transfer program, we feel that have an obligation to prepare a student to perform well academically in his chosen major when he goes on to a four-year institution. The quality of our faculty, their methods of presenting educational materials and the educational aids provided by the college to supplement the classroom teacher are certainly much better than average."

Another example of the career program's direct relationship to the community is FJC's nursing program, showing the largest enrollment of the college's 13 programs. According to the program's assistant director, Belen Nora, many women and men enrolled in nursing will go directly into the job field after graduation, work in hospitals, clinics, doctors' offices and nursing homes in Floyd and surrounding counties.

In addition to nursing and deaf education, other career programs in health care, medical laboratory technology, mental health technology, textile management, florist and nursery management, recreation leadership, mechanical technology, electronic technology, computer sciences in conjunction with Coosa Valley Tech.

Technically on the perimeter of strict academic but intrinsically a part of the extensive educational programs, the community service program served more than 4000 persons last year alone.

The overall program's overwhelming success is a combination of finite offices, workshops that the community wants and even requests — and the ways in which they are presented. Invariably, the educational value are intrinsically related to its contents.

Tom Berry, FJC's energetic public service director, views the community's response to his office's program in this way. "We attempt to serve every segment of our community through our programs. We operate on the principle that the lifting of the interior design are just as significant to some constituents of the community as small business and art classes are to other constituents."

To provide a supplementary basis for the educational experience, FJC's ever-growing library now has nearly 9000 volumes and subscriptions to 500 periodicals. Also offered are tape recorders, record players, records, video tapes, slides and films.

Perhaps the greatest source of pride to the library is the college's audio-visual lab. Cartridge tapes that are prepared to FJC's study, make-shift at the present but written into the plans of the new library building — are kept on file at the library loan desk. These tapes may be checked out, just as a student would check out a book, and viewed via one of the ten televisions sets housed in the library. The tapes have proved to be of great help not only to students who missed class lectures but also to those seeking reinforcement of class material they have previously understood.

Student life at FJC is another realm that constantly takes on new dimensions and broadens with a creative and enriching force. Offering students numerous opportunities to become more socially aware, to test their capabilities, to become involved in student interaction, the student activities program is well-developed, a totally structured aspect of FJC's being.

More than 650 of the college's 1300 students are participants in extracurricular activities: intramural sports, clubs and organizations, the student government, the college publications and a variety of other activities.

In an attempt to reach all types of students, the student activities program includes Campus Awareness Union, Student Services Association, Beta Lambda Alpha, Lambda Chi Alpha, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Phi Sigma Pi, Sigma Alpha, Total McCartney, "The Old Red Kimono," the literary magazine, and the college newspaper, "The Student Post."

With at least 30 percent of FJC's students participating in the intramural program, the opportunities for on-campus competition and participation in sports are plentiful for the college's students. Tennis, soccer, flag football, golf, ping-pong, basketball, volleyball and lacrosse are all offered as part of the ever-expanding intramural program for men and women enrolled at FJC.

Student body president, Richard Hunt of Summerville, "expressed his approval of the growing student activities program. "Every year we are expanding the program and working toward providing more different kinds of activities. Working with students through the SGA is a gratifying experience for me."
Three added to staff at FJC

The addition of three faculty members to the Floyd Junior College nursing department has been announced by Beth Ford, director of nursing at FJC. The appointments of Cherry DeGrange, Marjorie A. Head and Elaine Barham were recently approved by the Board of Regents in the University System of Georgia.

Serving as assistant professor of nursing at FJC, Mrs. Head, a Georgia native, holds a B.S.N. degree in nursing from Medical College of Georgia and a M.S. N. degree in the nursing of children from Emory University.

Mrs. Head and her husband, John, have two children, Mary Margaret and Brendan.

An instructor in nursing at FJC, Mrs. DeGrange earned a diploma from Fuchs School of Business, Portland, Ore., a B.A. degree in psychology from Pennsylvania State University and a B.S. degree in nursing from Floyd Junior. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and the Georgia Nurses Association. Originally from Pennsylvania, she is married to Dennis DeGrange. They have one child, Gwendolyn.

Mrs. Barham, a native of Alabama, also serves as instructor of nursing holding a B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a member of the Georgia Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association and is listed for inclusion in "Who's Who Among Prominent American Colleges and Universities." She is married to Sam Barham.
'Mind-boggling' growth at Floyd Junior College

A young Floyd Junior College student completing the first quarter of his freshman year at the six-year-old institution looked with interest and some amazement at the college's first official catalog, published in late 1970. "I was only 12 when FJC began," he said. "This place certainly has grown since then."

It's a mind-boggling thought to kick around, but since 1975 the school has represented one-third of that student's life, for Floyd Junior College, it's not just the beginning. With the 1976-77 catalog coming off the press, the college's continued growth in academics, student population, and physical plant—only the surface of the college's real accomplishments are even touched upon.

Impressive are the figures when comparing 1970 to 1976: a 40 per cent increase in students, a 76 per cent growth in academic offerings and nearly a 100 per cent increase in physical plant. However, according to FJC president Dr. David B. McCorkle, the true test of success comes when the person reading a page-long section in the catalog titled "The Story of the College" reads the words put forth in those words.

"If we've been fulfilling the words on that page to the best of our abilities, and we continue to do so, we'll maintain our status as an above-average educational institution. As a direct result of that, we'll continue to grow." Dr. McCorkle.

Summarily, the purpose set down was "to provide opportunities for the physical, intellectual and cultural development of the community, it serves" through its primary programs: transfer, career, special studies and public service. For the past six years, that's what is FJC has been about.

In the nation's Bicentennial year, the young college has had a few milestones of its own to celebrate. For starters, the college's largest enrollment to date, recognized among record-setters within the University System of Georgia, came in winter quarter 1978. Students at that time numbered 1,754, a total that included 1,230 Floyd Countians. While the enrollment later declined slightly due largely to an upturn in the nation's economic outlook, the college's growth has maintained an impressive momentum that attracts students and warrants community regard for its academic programs. Taking a closer look at the college's strides toward the fulfillment of its purpose, it added appreciably to its academic offerings. Four transfer programs—pre-optometry, pre-medicine, pre-physical therapy, pre-physical education—were instituted under the auspices of FJC's natural science and mathematics division, bringing the total number of transfer programs offered to 41.

Career programs implemented during the year were fire science technology, offering the associate degree to firefighters and to others involved in fire science who wish to complete their program, and dietician technology, designed to prepare enrollees to become dietican technicians. FJC now has four career programs.

The college further expanded student services by the implementation of a cooperative education program. Under the direction of Charles O. Smith, assistant professor of business administration at FJC, the plan made it possible for FJC students to enroll in college courses and, at the same time, hold jobs related to their major fields. Commenting on the program, Smith explained, "It is an excellent opportunity for both employers and our students. Employers have the chance to work with and train students who, upon graduation, might conceivably accept a full-time position with his co-op employer."

Smith added that the co-op plan allows students to receive job experience first hand in their major fields. The program has been approved for G.I. benefits by the State Department of Veterans Services.

In a continuing effort to stay in touch with its community, the college last year offered 80 continuing education short courses, workshops, and seminars that revolved around communication, better living and upgrading of professional persons. Ranging from hatha yoga to fine and commercial art, these classes enrolled more than 5,000 persons in 1978 alone. Twelve special workshops and seminars hosted last year by FJC included topics such as the gamut from time management to pest control, from superior decorating to D.U.I. courses for law enforcement personnel. Additionally, the Region B Literary Meet brought scores of competing high school students representing several area schools to the FJC campus.

The college's cultural activities entailed the presentation of "MacBeth" by the National Shakespeare Company, co-sponsored with Berry and Shorter Colleges; the organization of a faculty album that offered to the public, weekly lectures on various topics; and the presentation of light, creative drama through FJC's puppet theatre, under the sponsorship of humanities.

Throughout the year, art exhibits also emerged, giving the students the opportunity to meet various duties and influence on campus as well as off campus. To students and community members alike, Floyd Junior College strives to remain a symbol of excellence through academic growth, cultural development and community service.

from the time of its inception in 1971.

Faculty members who were approved for promotions by the Board of Regents in 1976 were Dr. Philip Dillard, promoted to the rank of associate professor; Charles G. Smith, James Dawson and Anthony Dennard, promoted to the rank of assistant professor.

As a college so closely related to its community, FJC must ideally perform a myriad of functions and assume almost limitless responsibilities in carrying out the promises of its purpose. Stated simply, in every edition of its catalog, the college must be clearly aware of its duties and influence off campus as well as on campus.

To students and community members alike, Floyd Junior College strives to maintain its status as an above-average educational institution. As a direct result of that, the college will continue to grow.
Floyd Junior construction plans told

Construction on a new 24,025 square foot physical education complex at Floyd Junior College has been granted approval by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, according to an announcement by Dr. David B. McCorkle, president of the college.

"My sincere thanks go out to the Board of Regents, to Regent James D. Maddox, and to all the Rome area legislators for their hard work in getting this facility for our college and community," Dr. McCorkle said.

Construction has been set to begin sometime during the upcoming summer with completion planned for the fall of 1981. The complex will include a gymnasium, a large lobby, classrooms, men's and women's restrooms, an office area, and a concession and ticket room. The facilities will open up expanded capabilities for the college in community service as well as providing an area for its own activities such as intramural sports and graduation.

The gymnasium will include folding bleachers with a seating capacity of approximately 1800 people, a regulation size basketball court, and space for two additional basketball courts running across the regulation court. There will be three classrooms, six faculty offices, a secretarial office, a waiting room, and a small conference room.

The complex will be attached to the existing physical education building and adjacent to the classroom building presently at the college. Covered sidewalks will connect the buildings. A parking lot which will accommodate around 200 automobiles will also be added before construction of the complex begins.

April 17, 1979
Floyd Junior promotes eight faculty members

Eight Floyd Junior College faculty members have received promotions upon recent approval of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The promotions became effective July 1.

Five faculty members were promoted from the rank of associate professor to professor. Those included Dr. Charles David Cook, Dr. James Frederick Cook Jr., Dr. Richard Owen Hays, Dr. William George Pullen, and Jerry W. Shelton. All of the professors have been with Floyd Junior College since it opened nine years ago.

Dr. David Cook serves as chairman of the natural science and mathematics division at the college in addition to his teaching duties as an associate professor of biology. He earned his Ph.D. in zoology at the University of Georgia.

Dr. James Cook, promoted to the rank of professor of history, earned his Ph.D. in physics at Auburn University. Dr. George Pullen received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Georgia and serves as chairman of the social science division at FJC in addition to his duties as an associate professor of history. Jerry Shelton is the director of the department of physical education at the college and has been president of the 1400-member Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation for the last year. He holds an M.A. degree in health and physical education from Middle Tennessee State.

Faculty members promoted from the rank of instructor to assistant professor were Leigh W. Callan, Harold P. Langford, and Barbara P. Smith.

Callan, who has been at FJC for four years, holds an M.S. degree in anatomy from the Medical College of Georgia. She has been promoted to the position of assistant professor of biology. Langford earned his M.B.A. degree from Georgia State University and will serve as an assistant professor of business administration. Smith holds a M.S. degree in nursing from Georgia State University.
Certification standard criticized

Junior college program wins okay from Georgia Board of Nursing

10-2-1979

By MIKE PARE, News-Tribune Staff Writer

Floyd Junior College's nursing program has had a good year, but the Georgia Board of Nursing has given it only "full approval" for the first time.

The director of FJC's nursing program maintains that the method the state uses to measure the quality of a program is more stringent than the one used by Emory University.

"We're not as sophisticated or articulate as Emory. We're competing with their materials and facilities," he said.

Mrs. Dean said that FJC will remain fully approved until Dec. 15, 1981, as the program will be re-evaluated next year.

Statewide, Mrs. Dean said she was satisfied.

She noted that this year there were only three programs in Georgia to have problems. Last year there were 13 and the year before 13.

"We started a lot of programs to meet a shortage of nurses." Some started "helter-skelter," said Mrs. Dean.

Competing against Emory

Even though Mrs. Nora said she was pleased with the full approval status, she was critical of the Board's method of determining the quality of a program.

She said that instead of using the percentage of students who pass all five parts of the state exam, the state should use subject area as its basis.

If 85 percent of the students at a school are failing in one particular subject area of the exam, then it is obvious something is wrong with that part of a school's program, said Mrs. Nora.

She indicated that this year, the number of students who dropped out of the program was greater.

In past years, she said, if a few students were on the borderline, then the college would give them a test to up their grades. These tests have been discontinued, she said.

She said, "We're not as sophisticated or articulate as Emory. We're competing with their materials and facilities."

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"We started a lot of programs to meet a shortage of nurses." Some started "helter-skelter," said Mrs. Dean.
FJC adds business division

Floyd Junior College has established a new major academic division of business, according to Dr. David B. McCorkle, president, following approval by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.

Formerly under the division of social sciences, the new division of business will take on an expanded role as a major academic unit of the college. One of the division's duties will be the meeting of one-year certificate and associate degree program needs of area transfer and career business students.

Dr. Thomas R. Berry, who recently received a PhD degree in education administration from Georgia State University, has been approved as chairman of the division by the Board of Regents. He will also maintain his role as director of Public Service and will assume additional teaching responsibilities as an assistant professor of business.

Due to the expanded role of public service and business, two other faculty members will assume administrative roles in addition to their regular teaching duties and responsibilities.

Robert E. Gaylor Jr., assistant professor of criminal justice, will also hold the position of coordinator of public service. Gaylor will supervise one of the largest junior college public service programs in the state.

Assistant professor of business administration, Charles O. Smith, will be the coordinator of business. Smith has been actively involved in business curriculum and program development for years at FJC and is being formally recognized for his expertise.

All new credit business courses and programs will be coordinated through Smith's office.

Anyone interested in further information about credit courses or programs in business may call the business division at FJC at 295-6327.
2-1-1980

FJC gymnasium construction progressing

Construction on Floyd Junior College's 24,925-square-foot physical education complex is in progress and moving along on schedule. Officials who were instrumental in obtaining the gymnasium for the college and the Rome area were on hand recently to discuss the progress and plans of the company. Shown above at the construction site are State Rep. E.M. (Buddy) Childers, Rome Attorney James D. Maddox, and FJC President Dr. David B. McCorkle. Maddox worked on plans for obtaining the gymnasium while serving on the University of Georgia System Board of Regents.
FJC offering Spanish

The Floyd Junior College Public Service Department will be offering "Spanish for Travelers" during the quarter beginning April 8. Muriel Pittaluga, course instructor, is shown sampling some materials with Sarah Burkhalter at the FJC Service Department. Language needed for various activities such as shopping will be covered. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. through May 29. The fee is $30.
VA tribunal finds FJC liable for purported benefits overpayment

By MIKE PARE, News-Tribune Staff Writer

A three-man tribunal of the Veterans Administration (VA) has found Floyd Junior College (FJC) liable for alleged overpayment of veteran's benefits.

State university system officials immediately pledged to appeal the decision.

"Certainly we're going to appeal it," said Dr. Thomas McDonald, a vice-chancellor with the University System of Georgia who had vowed they would not make a reimbursement if determined liable.

The Veterans Administration (VA) has alleged that $25,000 in benefits were overpaid to FJC students, mostly due to school officials' failure to notify the VA when veterans became ineligible for aid between 1974 and 1976, according to reports.

The ruling is considered a landmark by both sides as the hearing before the tribunal of senior VA officials was the first of its kind in Georgia.

Of added significance is the VA charge that some $500,000 in benefits may have been overpaid at 10 other Georgia colleges.

More than $420,000 of suspected overpayments were found at Savannah State College, according to reports.

Dr. David McCorkle, president of FJC, said that there is no fraud or mismanagement on the college's part. "We've got nothing to be ashamed of," he said.

He said the tribunal's decision held that FJC failed to show reasonable care in establishing methods of reporting enrollment changes over the two-year period in question.

There was no evidence in interpretation between the school and the VA over the use of the "withdrawal" or "W" grade, said Dr. McCorkle.

McDonald said he expected to appeal the finding to the VA's Washington, D.C. office where a similar board may hear the case.

After that, court action could follow, reports say.

McDonald has said the university system "feels no responsibility for any mistakes."

He added, "There's no animosity between FJC and the VA or the (state university) regents or the VA. We want to cooperate with them."

An attorney for the VA, Dean Minor, said that Colorado recently took the question of whether the money could be collected to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Minor said the high court upheld the VA.

FJC has said that during the two-year time period, the school dealt with 4,000 veterans and that 28 cases in which the VA found suspected overpayments is "a good batting average that this is a normal and tolerable rate."

Originally, the VA sought $58,000 in alleged overpayments at FJC but meetings between the veteran's group and the university system had narrowed the figure to $25,000.

A VA spokesman said the VA first attempts to collect from the veteran involved and then the school.

The collection effort is in line with recent federal government attempts to tighten repayment of government loans and other money transfers, according to the VA spokesman.
Back to school does not always mean back to the basics. Continuing education courses for adults, aimed at providing them with information about cultural, recreational and personal enrichment skills, have made a hit throughout the country in recent years.

Floyd Junior College is one area institution of higher learning which teaches adults students a variety of skills they can put to use in their daily lives.

Want to learn scuba diving, cake decorating, how to save money at the supermarket? How about wine-tasting or log cabin construction? Canoeing, archery or the principles of first aid? FJC offers courses in all of these areas, along with a full schedule of other do-it-yourself or do-it-better classes that will surely fit an already busy daily schedule.

Here is some of what's offered for the fall quarter:

- **Ballroom Dancing**: Mondays, 7-8 p.m., Oct. 6-27, includes instruction in fox trot, tango, waltz and disco hustle. Fee is $30 per couple or $20 single.

- **Mid Eastern Dance**: Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., Sept. 22-Oct. 20. "Fun and an excellent way to exercise and distribute weight in the proper places." Instruc-
  tor is Imogene Vaughn, fee, $20.

- **Beginning and Advanced Oil Painting**: Tuesdays, the former meets from 6:30-8:30 p.m., the latter from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. Beginning class covers color theory, practical application; latter includes composition, linear and aerial perspective and a variety of painting techniques. Instructor is Ruthie Lawler, fee, $25 per class.

- **Calligraphy I (Creative Lettering) and II (Sign 'poster' lettering) are also offered, as is Figure and Portrait Drawing. Fee is $25 per class.

- **Scuba Diving**: (Cosponsored with Darlington School) will be taught at FJC by Ed Culver. Free diving session and informational meeting concerning schedule is set for 7:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at Darlington. Course includes a three-day trip to Florida, after six weeks of training. All equipment and text provided. Fee is $79.

- **Canoeing and Sailing**: Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the FJC lake. P.E. staff will teach basic skills of white water canoeing, wilderness camping and big lake sailing. Fee, $25.

- **If you want to shape up, try Hatha Yoga**: Mondays, Sept. 24-Oct. 29, from 7-8:30 p.m., or Aerobic Exercise, taught on Thursdays, Sept. 25-Oct. 30, from 7-8:30 p.m. Yoga instructor Dell Willis says it's "a great way to beautify the figure and develop poise, grace and...vigor." Diana Woody, who teaches aerobics, says: "This course is designed to teach fun and healthy exercise routines to popular music. Exercise for different areas of the body but dance while you are working out." Fee is $25 each for yoga and aerobics.

- **Another popular exercise program is Body Conditioning for Women**, taught by Vicki Harris on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 23-Nov. 13, from 7:15-8:45 p.m., fee, $20. A basic body conditioning program, the course will also feature guest lecturers on nutrition and cardiovascular fitness. Pre-registration is requested because the program fills quickly.

- **Interested in saving money? Attend FJC's Haircut for Children course**, taught Mondays, Sept. 29-Oct. 13, 7-9 p.m. by Jimmy Lanham of the London House. For an $18 fee you can learn to trim and maintain your child's hair between stylings. Equipment is provided by the instructor.

A class entitled *Cut Your Grocery Bill 50-75 Percent, (The Coupon Shopping Game)* will be offered three times: Saturday, Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to noon; Tuesday, Oct. 28, from 6-8 p.m.; and Tuesday, Nov. 18, from 6-8 p.m., by instructor Teresa Langston. Fee is $10 (or $7.50 each with a friend). Each participant will receive a free copy of "Refunds Daily" (a refunds magazine) and $10 to $20 in coupons and refund forms.

Feed your pioneering spirit with a course on Log Cabin Building, taught Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 13 and 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Jim Hedges will show you the basics of log cabin construction, and Logcrafters Inc. will tell you the advantages and disadvantages of owning a log cabin. Fee is $10 per person or $15 per couple.

-Wine Tasting is the subject taught by Lewis Davis of Woodlee restaurant Tuesdays, Sept. 23-Oct. 14 from 7-9 p.m. A minimum of 10 students is needed. Fee is $45 per couple, $25 per person, and includes wine tastings and appropriate cheeses at each session.

Besides these classes, FJC will offer instruction on cake decorating, learning how to cut your child's hair, giving style to Erica Smith's hair. Lanham necessary.
Floyd Junior College’s 1979-80 academic year signaled the beginning of the institution’s 10th year of service to the Rome area.

The college saw its largest graduating class ever, 193, receive diplomas at the school’s ninth commencement June 2, 1979 and plans began for FJC’s 10th, or decennial, year.

The Sept. 25 meeting of the Rome-Floyd County Area Chamber of Commerce Rooster Booster Breakfast on campus officially kicked off the college’s decennial year celebration. A large crowd viewed a videotaped program on the history of the college and FJC President Dr. David B. McCorkle emphasized the fact that the college belongs to Rome area citizens and is always open to them.

During the decennial year various activities are planned in hopes of recognizing many of the important facets of Floyd Junior College’s success and the groundwork that has been set to insure even better service for the next ten years.

The move was made to the campus in time to begin winter quarter on Jan. 4, 1971. With enrollment soaring, a period of rapid growth for the young college was about to begin. Enrollment reached the 1,000 mark in the fall of 1972 and has been over that ever since.

In its tenth year Floyd Junior College continues to widen its range of services.

Construction is underway on a sprawling 24,925 square foot physical education complex which will include a gymnasium. The gym will contain folding bleachers with a seating capacity of 1,800 people. The facilities will open up expanded capabilities for the college in community service as well as providing an area for its own activities such as intramural sports and graduation.

A new division of business has been formed at FJC. Formerly under the division of social sciences, the new division has taken on an expanded role as a major academic unit of the college.

Dr. Thomas R. Berry, who received a Ph.D. degree in educational administration during the year from the University of Georgia, is chairman of the division. Berry will also remain director of public services at FJC. Charles O. Smith, assistant professor of business administration, is the coordinator of business. All new credit business courses and programs are coordinated through Smith’s office.

The Beginning

The potential effect of a junior college in Floyd County was something that caught the eye of many Northwest Georgians back in the early 1960’s. Interested citizens saw not only the economical impact such an institution could have but also were faced with the fact that Floyd County ranked near the bottom in the state in its large number of high school dropouts and few college-trained students.

Led by Rome attorney James D. Maddox, Jr., who is currently serving on the University System of Georgia’s Board of Regents, a concentrated effort was launched in 1963 to prove Floyd County was an ideal site for a junior college. After an agreement was reached with the Board of Regents in 1968, a special referendum was called in November asking Floyd Countians if they were willing to provide a campus site and to finance construction of the college to the tune of $3,215,000. The answer was a resounding yes, by a two to one margin.

Construction of facilities began in early 1970. Temporary offices and classrooms were provided in the Rome Area Chamber of Commerce Building, the Metro Building, and the First United Methodist Church of Rome.

It was a fitting way for Floyd Junior College to begin. The Rome community went out of its way to help the college get on its feet by providing classroom and office space. By the same token, FJC hoped to return the favors and do everything it could for the Rome area.
Floyd Junior College eyes new decade

Floyd Junior College celebrated its 10-year anniversary in 1980 with continued growth in numerous areas and several special events on the campus.

An open house celebrating the college's ten years of service was held at the campus April 13. Exhibits from various academic departments and divisions were featured and refreshments were served.

The college's annual recognition banquet was held in May and featured achievement awards to 24 employees for 10 years of service and three employees for five years of continuous service.

James D. Maddox Jr., Rome attorney and former University System of Georgia Regent, was honored for outstanding service to Floyd Junior College. Maddox was instrumental in proving the need for Floyd Junior College in the 1960's and has continued to play a vital role in the concerns of the college.

FJC President Dr. David B. McCorkle was presented with one of the cardboard desks that was used during the college's early days in the Metro Building. The desk top featured signatures of the other 22 original employees.
Regina Abernathy, Tammy Cape and Allison Rogers (left to right) are active campus leaders during the 1980-81 academic year at Floyd Junior College. Tammy is president of the Student Government Association, Allison is vice president and Regina is secretary.

10 years of service

The signal for the beginning of Floyd Junior College came almost 12 years ago when a special referendum was approved by Floyd Countians calling for the purchase of a campus site and construction of the college to the tune of $215,000. The more than two to one margin of passage left no doubt that Floyd County residents realized the potential and the need of Floyd Junior College.

Floyd Junior College's first classes met in the fall of 1970 in the Metro Building and in the educational building of the First United Methodist Church in downtown Rome. The move to the 223-acre campus on U.S. Highway 27 South was made on January 4, 1971. More than 500 students enrolled for the college's first quarter.

By the fall of 1971, the building at Floyd Junior College had expanded 87 percent and enrollment had gone over 1,000 students. The high enrollment has been maintained ever since.

Floyd Junior College offers four basic areas of study — transfer, career, special studies, and public service. The college has 41 transfer programs, 13 career programs, and special studies program providing developmental courses in English, mathematics, and reading, and a public service program that serves over 5,000 persons annually.

The most recent development for the college is the construction of a physical education complex, a sprawling 24,925 square foot facility which will include a gymnasium. The complex is underway and Floyd Junior College looks forward to the benefits of the gym for the students and college staff as well as the entire northwest Georgia area.

Formerly under the division of social science, Floyd Junior College's division of business has now taken on an expanded role as a major academic unit of the college. The division's principle duty is to meet the one-year certificate and associate degree program needs of area transfer and career business students. Dr. Thomas R. Berry, who also is director of public service at FJC, serves as chairman of the business division.

A small business careers office was also created within the division through an ARC grant. Its purpose is to aid existing small businesses and to provide information concerning small business management to students in area schools. Merle King, a long-time resident of the Rome area, was named coordinator of small business careers. King works with prospective students for Coosa Valley Tech as well as Floyd Junior College.

Another new program at the college is the health maintenance recreation program, a model project for northwest Georgia which is providing free professionally planned programs of physical fitness and recreational activities for any men and women aged 60 and over. The program is sponsored by the Coosa Valley Area Planning and Development Commission and Floyd Junior College. Nutrition exercise sites set up for activities in the following communities: Buchanan, Calhoun, Cartersville, Cedartown, Chickamauga, Hiram, LaFayette, Ringgold, Rockmart, Rome, Summerville, Tallapoosa and Trenton.

Hearing Impaired Program

Educational opportunities for the hearing impaired continued to make great progress at Floyd Junior College with the Georgia General Assembly's appropriation of $75,000 for the college's hearing impaired program during the 1980-81 academic year.

With the addition of computer equipment at Floyd Junior College fall quarter of 1980 saw "Business Administration 204-Principles of Computer Programming" offered for the first time. The class was also offered through the public service department for continuing education credit. A one-day "Introduction To Computers" workshop co-sponsored with the FJC Small Business Careers Program was also held. All of the classes have been highly popular.

Floyd Junior College's public service department strives to be as actively involved in community needs as it possibly can. The public service office is always open for new course ideas and interested students and instructors. Over 5,500 persons enrolled in classes offered in the areas of business, cultural enrichment, recreation, real estate, personal enrichment, and homemaking. In addition several public service classes were held at and co-sponsored with the Cedartown Civic Center and Rockmart High School.

A wide variety of workshop and seminars took place during the year including several "CPR" or cardiopulmonary resuscitation workshops, sessions on worker's compensation, time management, forgery, and bad checks and shoplifting.

The Regional Police Academy at Floyd Junior College is among the continuing public service programs.
Put on jogging shoes at

Floyd Junior College has developed a three-quarter-mile trail with 20 “stations”

By DALE McCARTNEY, Style Editor

Take one part beautiful scenery, one part fresh air, mix well with a cushioned cinder track and you have a recipe for physical fitness — the Floyd Junior College way.

“FJC has developed the only “Fitness Trail” of its kind in this area, a three-quarter mile elongated oval situated amid pine trees on a knoll overlooking the college’s lake — and the best part is that it’s open to the public during daytime hours.

The idea is to have a complete physical fitness program outdoors, one that includes the four components necessary: aerobics (cardiovascular exercise), strength, flexibility and muscular endurance. The trail accomplishes this by using the “circuit training concept,” which incorporates 20 “stations,” more or less evenly spaced along the way, which provide exercise equipment and instructions for using them — at either a beginning or advanced level.

The three-quarter-mile scenic trail is designed so that you can either walk, jog or run from beginning to end. “If you’ll notice,” said Ken Weatherman, FJC’s director of student activities and assistant professor of physical education, “the stations at the beginning of the trail ask you to do mostly stretching exercises, the ones at the middle of the trail are a little harder and the ones at the end specify “cooling down” exercises.” Half of the 20 stations are on the right hand side, half are to the left.

To complete the circuit, you circle the trail twice, walking (or jogging) a total of one and a half miles.

The beauty of the whole idea is that exercising can be done in scenic surroundings. There is even a comfort station with restrooms and a water fountain at FJC’s pavilion, situated near the middle of the trail.

There are no sudden rises in terrain; most of the trail is fairly flat, wandering through the tall pine trees that border much of the lakeside. And, locating the trail at that particular site was no accident.

When Weatherman heard about similar fitness trails (at a Southern District physical education conference three years ago), he said the idea for a trail at FJC “became alive among more than one person.” He, FJC President David McCorkle, Harold Boyd, director of student affairs, and Jerry Shelton, physical education director, sat down and began work on the project. “We wrote the companies that made the signs for the exercises and began to think about where to locate a trail here,” said Weatherman.

Weatherman took a measuring wheel and began trekking across the FJC campus, looking for a setting that wasn’t too hilly or too far away from the main campus buildings and, most of all, one that would lend itself to a trail without disrupting the scenic environment. Evidently he hit-on the right spot, because, he noted, the FJC plant operations department, which did the actual construction, “had to cut very few trees, maybe none” during the grading process.

For someone who doesn’t get any other exercise, it would be a good idea to use the trail at least three times a week — five times would be ideal, he noted. For others who are involved in exercise programs, it could be a “weekend kind of thing.”

Using the trail safely involves the person’s “own good judgment,” says Weatherman. “You just don’t go 100 percent if you haven’t been exercising.” The trail’s makeup, by design, offers something for everyone. It allows the exerciser to set his or her own pace, to skip certain exercises if they are too difficult at first, and to walk the whole thing rather than running it as a well-conditioned athlete might want to do.

FJC’s Concepts in Physical Education class is now using the trail as an outside activity. Students keep a record of their daily times, and as they see their times improve, says Weatherman with a grin, they become more enthusiastic about the trail.

Fitness trails are a European import, says Weatherman. They originated in Scandinavia and have become popular on college campuses, resort areas and in city parks in the last two or three years.

Much of the credit for the aesthetics and the condition of the trail’s surface should go the FJC’s plant operations people, says Weatherman. They did the grading and leveling, installed drainage pipes to avoid washing away the cinder surface, and constructed the 20 wooden platforms for the exercise stations, grounding them in concrete and treating the wood against the elements and termites.

The plant operations people went beyond the call of
and run the 'Fitness Trail'

The first few stations on FJC's Fitness Trail incorporate stretching and warm-up exercises. Pictured at station 5 are (from left) Robbie Hutcheson, FJC student, Laura Glover, a former student, Johnnie Stone, student, Ken Weatherman, FJC director of student activities, and Alan McHan, a student.

The group effort to get the trail seems to have paid off handsomely for FJC and will offer the public a beautiful place to tone up and get physically fit. The trail will officially open later in the spring, but the public is welcome to use it now during daylight hours, says Weatherman.

[Image of people standing near a fence with signs]

New-Tribune staff photos by Gary Garland