



Working Girls

While some girls at the Vocational Center took more traditional courses, a few took advantage of their equal rights and stepped into what was once a "man's world." These girls, like everyone else at the Vocational Center spent half of their day learning a trade. The trade classes were taught to the extent that the student was job-ready when the course was completed.

Seniors Angie Reed and Renee Jones were the only girls enrolled in the machine shop course, taught by Mr. Chris Horsley. Angie and Renee both agreed there was plenty of work involved and they were treated no differently from the guys in the class. The two of them liked the idea of doing something different and planned to have successful careers in this line of work, hopefully at Bosch Company in Charleston.

Angie said, "You have to know lots of math and you have to like working with your hands." Renee added that the two of them enjoyed the competition from the guys in the class and knowing that they could do just as well or even better.

Aside from machining, the students learned a new word and a new country and its capital every day. All this contributed to growth of the students before entering the work force. Many students from the Vocational Center were employed in Colleton County under the trade they had learned.

— Steve Carroll

Renee Jones works on a project in the machine shop. She was one of the few females enrolled in male-dominated courses.

An active member of the machining class, Angie Reed takes a break from her work in the shop. Students were also given lessons about vocabulary and geography.

