

Jenkins honored as principal of the year 7/1/98

By **TERRANCE THOMAS**

Staff Writer

Fairfield Intermediate School principal Jennifer Jenkins has done everything at a school.

Maybe that's why she has been successful. She's been a janitor, a secretary, a teacher's assistant, a teacher, a secretary, an assistant principal and an associate principal.

That's one of the reasons why Jenkins was named 1998 "Elementary Principal of the Year" by the South Carolina Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals.

"I was elated and very pleased," she said. "I didn't get the award, the children did. Teachers, parents, students, and the Fairfield County community are the ones really recognized with this award. It belongs to all of us. It's the first time anyone from Fairfield County won. I owe it to the Fairfield Intermediate family."

Jenkins, who's from the

Blackjack Community, makes it her business to understand the needs of students who attend her school.

So she started a parenting program, began help for at-risk students, created numerous extracurricular activities and started a Life Skills program.

Her ideas at F.I.S. have been copied county-wide.

"Her plans were unheard of at the time, but was just what Fairfield County needed," said William Gray Jr., computer coordinator at Fairfield Intermediate. "These programs keep the kids occupied and off the street during the summer while learning and enhancing their skills."



Jennifer Jenkins