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Lemonade Stand Turns Up Sweet Profit for Winthrop's Macfeat School

Winthrop University

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Lemonade Stand Turns Up Sweet Profit for Winthrop's Macfeat School

Quick Facts

- The two ran a lemonade stand on Sept. 11 and had such a good response from Winthrop folks they decided to donate part of the profits to the university.
- The pair stopped by on Friday to hand-deliver their donation to President Dan Mahony.



ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — A Sunday afternoon lemonade stand turned into a sweet deal for Winthrop University, thanks to two generous local fourth graders.

Nathan Hamel, son of **Macfeat Early Childhood Laboratory School Director Erin Hamel**, and his friend **Guy Echols**, both students at Richmond Drive Elementary School, did what many young people do on hot days: set up a lemonade stand. The difference? Instead of pocketing the proceeds, the boys have decided to donate 30 percent of their profits to the Winthrop Foundation to benefit Macfeat.

"We just wanted to give back," said Hamel, with Echols nodding in agreement.

The two friends arrived at Winthrop on Friday, Sept. 16, to personally deliver their donation. They were greeted by several development staff members and **President Dan Mahony**, who shook their hands and accepted their donation.

"Nathan and Guy show the true spirit of philanthropy," said **Chrissy Catoe '02, '04, associate director of development**. "They are all you could ever ask for in a donor, and to be so young and already willing to help others, is priceless. We wanted to celebrate them and show our appreciation of their gift."

The boys were given Winthrop



Nathan Hamel, left, and Guy Echols

pennants and an eagle pin, which Mahony pointed out matched his own eagle pin.

Erin Hamel said the response to the boys' lemonade stand impressed

her and made her grateful for the sense of community at Winthrop. That's because within an hour of opening for business, the stand had at least 25 customers, several of whom had Winthrop connections:

***Winthrop Baseball's Nate Pawelczyk**, pitcher, pulled up for some lemonade and popcorn and invited the boys to the baseball games. (Nate Hamel rarely misses a game.)

*Former Winthrop students couldn't resist stopping by for a treat and some catch-up time with Hamel.

*E.J. Murdock, husband of Associate Professor Diana Murdock, pulled over with his daughter and delightfully accepted their goodies through the car window.

***Winthrop Close-Up** staff stopped for an interview.

"The fact that all of these people, current students, alumni and professors would take the time to buy a simple cup of lemonade from a couple of very grateful children speaks to the sense of caring and connectedness we have at Winthrop," Erin Hamel said.

Inspired by the boys' willingness to give? Consider your own gift to Winthrop:
<http://www.winthrop.edu/give>.

For more information, contact **Nicole Chisari**, communications coordinator, at 803/323-2236 or chisarin@winthrop.edu.

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