



BLACK, WHITE AND GREEN: Scott Couch and Daniel Finch with the panda bamboo they are growing at Valley View Secondary School for the Adelaide Zoo pandas. Picture: Neale Winter HF430412

Shoot! It's zoo food

By **TIM WILLIAMS**

VALLEY View Secondary students are using green technology to help feed some black and white friends.

A Year 11 electrotechnology class is trialling a permeable paving system, with the water collected used to grow bamboo for pandas **Wang Wang** and **Funi**, which are set to arrive in Adelaide next month. Rain seeps through

the paving and is filtered into a 4000-litre underground tank, where a moisture probe triggers a solar pump to water 15 clumping bamboo plants.

Teacher **Tony Clough**, a friend of Adelaide Zoo's bamboo co-ordinator **Jason Copeland**, says he hopes to expand the project next year to grow more bamboo, as well as hibiscus for orangutans and grapes and pumpkins for apes.

"Hopefully next year we can extend it and make it at least five times as big," he says.

"What I want to do is not only grow bamboo but propagate it too."

Student **Scott Couch**, 16, helped install the solar pump and is looking forward to visiting the pandas.

"It's good helping out the environment and wildlife as well," he says.