



RECEIVING TROPHIES for the seventh and eighth grade were (from left) Amanda DeStefano, Sarah Brown, Chrissy Hewett, Diana Anderson and Tonia Jackson, and in the background, Jenny Trest.

AT SHALLOTTE MIDDLE

Young Authors Honored For Writing Skills

BY SUSAN USHER

Shallotte Middle School's Young Authors celebrated their achievements in writing Wednesday with readings of their work and presentation of trophies and ribbons.

A letter to President Bill Clinton supporting the sending of troops to Somalia, a poem reflecting a girl's awareness of her growing up and inevitable separation from her parents, a short story in which a tragedy reunites a family—all were outstanding entries that won trophies for their young authors.

More than 345 students in fifth through eighth grade participated in this year's program, said Janice Gore, a participating teacher, and more than 200 students earned trophies or honorable mention ribbons for their poems, stories, letters, or essays.

The aim of the special, county-wide program is to recognize and encourage effort and excellence in writing, said Gore.

Students who participate develop a portfolio of their work which must include a poem, a short story, an essay, a letter to a public official and one item of the writer's choice. At least one of entry must be persuasive and another must give the writer's point of view on an issue.

All represent a great deal of effort.

"It's not luck," said Sarah Brown, an eighth grade student who was recognized for having the best overall portfolio of her class. "All of us work hard for those trophies. Everybody who participates in Young Authors is a winner whether they get a trophy or not."

All portfolio entries are works that reflect a great deal of work. Each has been polished through "process writing," which requires students to plan, write and proofread their own work for mechanics and edit for content, have it edited by a peer and their teacher, then rewrite it.

The students who "want to write" go farthest in the program, said Diana Anderson, another trophy winner, "because they don't have to be made to write."

She and Brown are among those students who write for the pleasure of it, bringing in new poems or stories to share with and inspire class-



FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADE trophy recipients were (from left) Kacey Long, Tara Holden, Lucas Wagenseil, Alyson White, Cortney Sloane and Erin Holden.

mates. "It's a way of telling people what you have to say, without just telling them flat out," Brown said of her poetry.

Chrissy Hewett always writes stories and poems that tell a story and are "happy." Jenny Trest likes to write humorous pieces. Tonia Jackson writes more serious, thoughtful pieces, "problems of the world and solutions to them." One of her poems, for example, deals with abortion from the baby's point of view.

All have found writing to be a way to clarify their thoughts and feelings, and to express them to others.

"Writing it on paper is sometimes more powerful," said Trest. Added Jackson, "It lets them know you are serious about it, that you've thought about it."

Most important, said Hewett, for writing to be effective, it must be honest in expressing the writer's emotions.

They were among the students who received trophies for their portfolio entries:

■Grade 5: Cortney Sloane, poetry;

Alyson White, short story; and Erin Holden, total portfolio excellence; ■Grade 6: Tara Holden, poetry; Kacey Long, short story; and Lucas Wagenseil, total portfolio excellence; ■Grade 7: Chrissy Hewett, poetry;

Tonia Jackson, short story; and Jenny Trest, total portfolio excellence; and ■Grade 8: Diana Anderson, poetry; Amanda DeStefano, short story; and Sarah Brown, total portfolio excellence.

Calabash Rescue Answers 61 Calls

The Calabash Volunteer Emergency Medical Service answered 61 calls in March, Chief Mark Christy reported at the organization's April 22 board meeting.

The squad worked 197 man hours and traveled 1,958 miles. Thirty-five calls were in Calabash; nine were in Sunset Beach and 17, elsewhere.

The board discussed continuing poor reception from the 911 center in the Calabash area and has asked the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners to respond.

The Calabash EMS annual meeting for the general membership will be at the squad building June 1 at 7 p.m.

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Accident Injuries All Minor

Only minor injuries were reported in four single-car accidents across Brunswick County Saturday, though property damage was considerable, reports the N.C. Highway Patrol office in Wilmington.

A driver and his three passengers complained of slight injuries following a 5:15 a.m. accident on U.S. 17 3.7 miles north of Sunset Beach, but none required treatment.

Daniel Robert Oestreich, 24, of St. Cloud, Minn., was traveling east on U.S. 17 when his 1990 Daihatsu ran off the road on the right side, came back on the highway, ran off the road on the left, struck a ditch bank and overturned, reported Trooper Roy Murray.

No charges were filed. Damage to the driver's car was estimated at \$4,500.

Oestreich's passengers were David McGinnis, 22, of New River, and Paul Adams, 21, and Keith Gordon, 22, both of Jacksonville.

James David Pait II, 23, of Shallotte was transported to The Brunswick Hospital with complaints of injury following a 12:15 p.m. Saturday accident that occurred on Duck Pond Road (S.R. 1154) three miles east of Shallotte.

Pait was driving a 1971 Chevrolet west on Duck Pond Road when the vehicle ran off the right side of the roadway, came back on the road, traveled left of center then off the left side of the road, reported Trooper J.H. Kerr. The car struck a ditchbank, hit a telephone box and then overturned, coming to rest upright in the ditch on the right hand side of the road.

Pait was charged with exceeding a safe speed. Damages to the Chevrolet were estimated at \$3,000.

Following another one-car accident Saturday, a driver and her passenger were transported to The Brunswick Hospital, also with complaints of injuries.

The accident happened at 4:30 p.m., nine miles west of Sunset Beach on Etheridge Road (S.R. 1308), reported Trooper J.H. Kerr.

Vickie Lee Herrin, 16, of Supply, was southbound on Etheridge Road when the 1991 Ford she was driving ran off the right shoulder of the road

into a yard, struck a tree and overturned.

She and passenger Jered Smith of Ash were taken to the hospital.

Damage was estimated at \$7,000 to the Ford. No charges were filed.

The driver was charged, however, in another single-vehicle accident that happened Saturday at 8:45 p.m. less than a mile west of Varnamtown on Stone Chimney Road (S.R. 1115).

Lauren Williams, 16, of Holden Beach was charged with driving while impaired. She and a passenger, Keira Williams, also of Holden Beach, were transported to The Brunswick Hospital with complaints of injury.

According to Trooper W.H. Thompson's report, Lauren Williams was driving a 1988 Isuzu east on Stone Chimney Road. The vehicle ran off the road on the right and struck a ditch, coming to rest in the ditch on the east side of the road, facing west.

Williams said she swerved to avoid hitting a deer.

Damage to the Isuzu was estimated at \$3,000.

A pedestrian was struck in a hit-and-run accident that happened last Thurs., April 22, at about 9:20 p.m.

Wendy Ivey Duffy, 24, of Southport, was walking along N.C. 211 facing traffic about 1.8 miles west of Southport when she was struck by an unidentified eastbound vehicle, reported Trooper D.B. Harvell.

The vehicle left the scene after impact. No charges have been filed.

Duffy was transported to Doshier Memorial Hospital in Southport for treatment of serious, but non-incapacitating, injuries.

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