

Johnson, Thorpe Named West's Top Senior Athletes

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

Phillip Johnson and Christy Thorpe were named West Brunswick High School senior athletes of the year Monday night, highlighting the winter-spring sports awards program. During his athletic career at West, Johnson helped lead the Trojans to state football championships in 1992 and 1993. He also was a key member of the track team and was named most valuable field performer this year.

Thorpe performed well both in the classroom and on the playing field at West Brunswick. She won All-Waccamaw Conference honors in track this spring while also receiving the team's most valuable track performer award. Thorpe also was recognized as a scholar athlete by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

Also receiving NCHSAA Scholar Athlete Awards Monday were Rebecca Hughes and Kelly Tripp, volleyball; Gabe Cooper and Jeremie Varnam, soccer; Jacque Moll, girls basketball; and Chris Jackson, wrestling.

The awards are presented to students who maintain a grade point average of at least 3.5 during the semester in which they compete in a school sport.

West Brunswick's 1993 softball team also was recognized Monday night for receiving an NCHSAA Team Scholar Award for maintaining at least a 3.2 grade point average throughout the season.

Other awards presented Monday included the following:

Varsity Baseball: Eric Johnson won the baseball team's batting championship award given by head coach Mike Alderson.

The junior pitcher/outfielder boasted a team-leading .460 average, while teammates Wayne Branch and Mike Johnson also were honored Monday for hitting over .400.

Mike Johnson received the Golden Glove Award, and Heath Inman took the Coaches Award and Most Improved Player Award.

Mike Johnson, Eric Johnson and Branch were all named to the all-Waccamaw Conference team.

Softball: Kerry Loomis and Jacque Moll won the softball team's Coaches Awards. Michelle Long was named Most Improved Player, while also being named to the all-region team selected by The Sun News of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

JV Baseball: Coach Art Clesuras presented junior varsity baseball awards to Brian McDowell (Coaches Award) and Juan Perez (Most Improved Player).

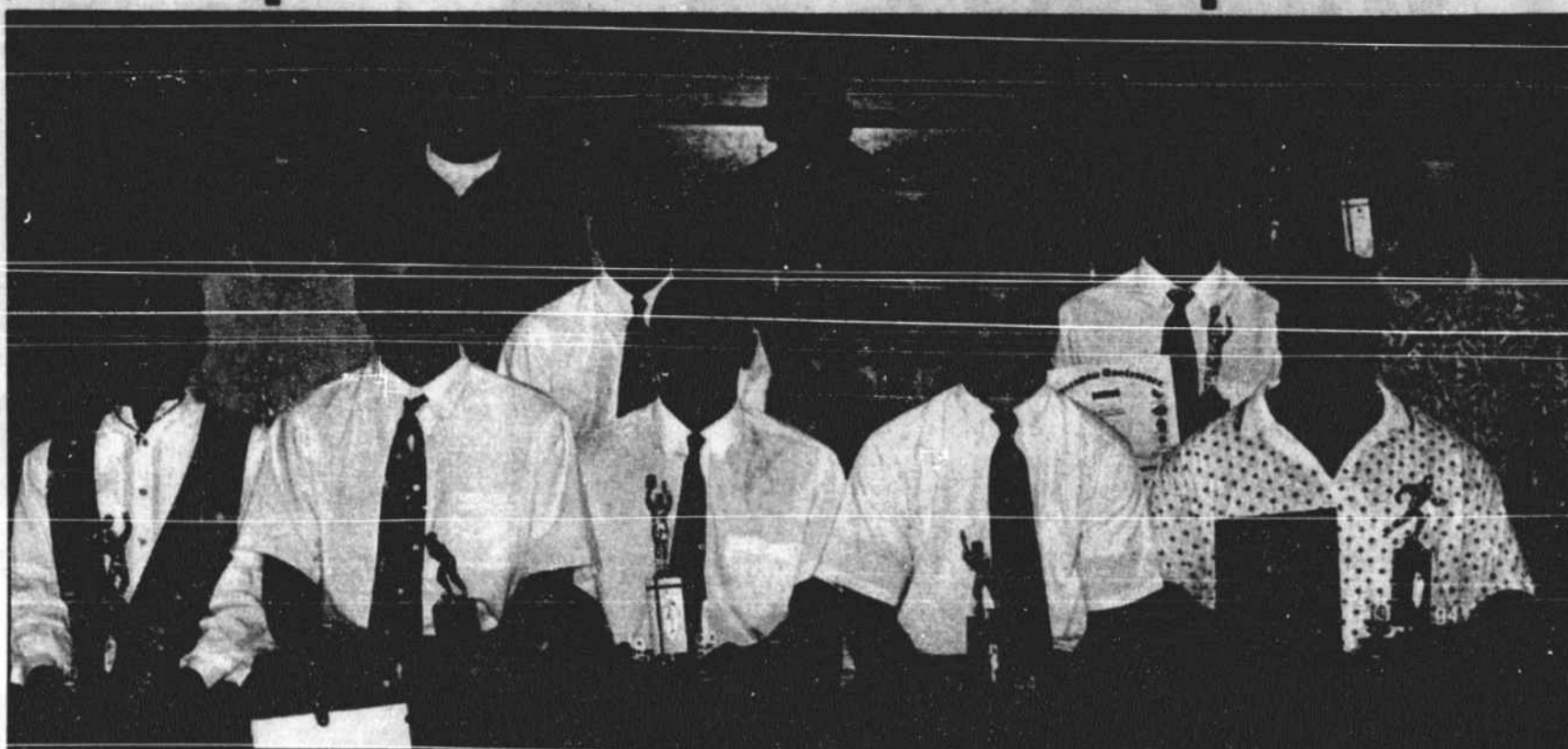
Boys Track: Coach Wes Shoemaker presented boys track awards to William Stanley (most valuable, track) and Timmy Vaught (most improved).

Stanley, Vaught and Phillip Johnson also were honored for their performances in the Eastern 3A Regional track meet earlier this spring.

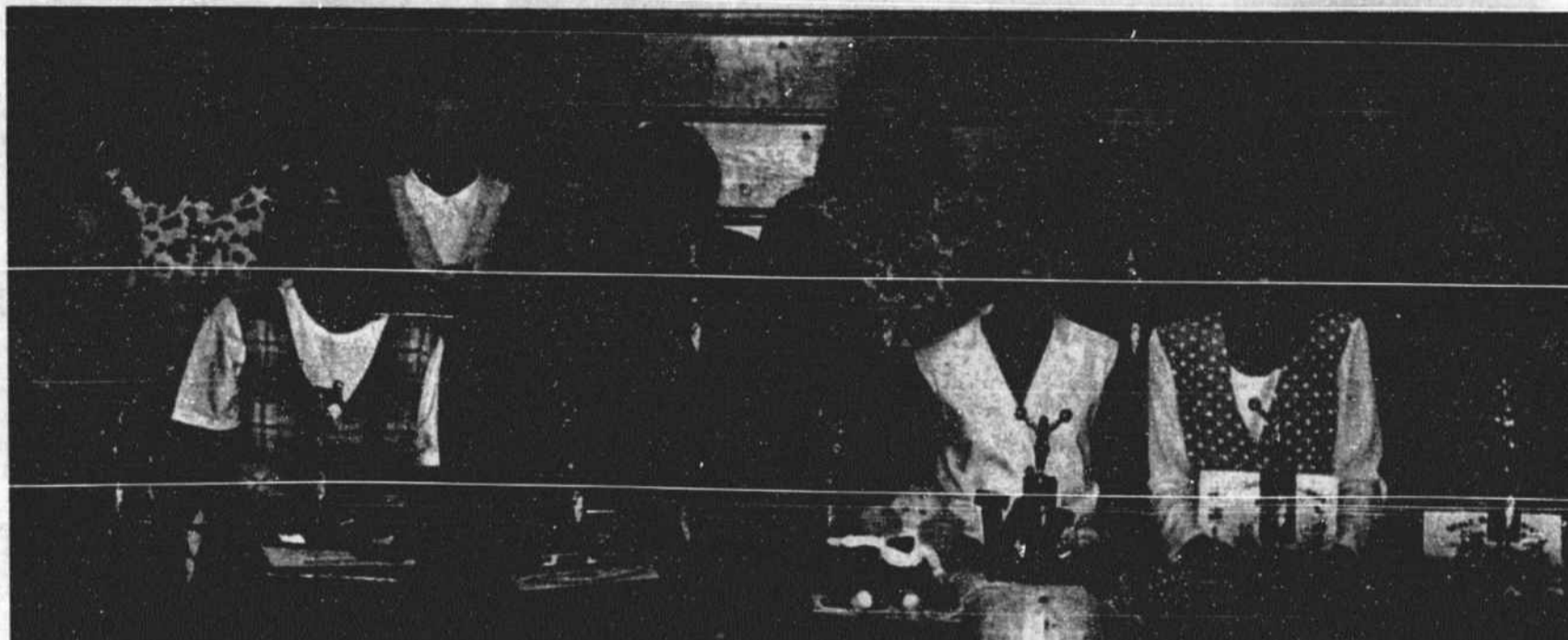
Girls Track: Amanda Destefano received most valuable track honors from Lady Trojan coach Kathy Bryant. Joyce Nelson was named most improved.

Boys Tennis: Lamarr Hardy, who advanced to the individual state tournament for the third straight year this spring, was named MVP of the boys tennis team.

Coach Rahn Adams presented the Coaches Award to Kelley Wooten, while John Coble was named Most



BOYS AWARD WINNERS were (front row, from left) Lamarr Hardy, Wayne Branch, Eric Johnson, Brian McDowell, Phillip Johnson, (middle row, from left) John Coble, Mike Johnson, Heath Inman, Anthony Moody, Joel Gupton, (back row, from left) Jeremy Grainger, Derek Frink, Jamal Stanley and William Stanley.



GIRLS AWARD WINNERS were (front row, from left) Amanda Destefano, Christy Thorpe, Nicole Norris, Jennifer Johnson, Candice Gray, Jennifer Polomis, Kerry Loomis, (back row, from left) Michelle Long, Joyce Nelson, Kaneka Grissett, Becky Powell, Nikki Jeffries and Jacque Moll.

Improved Player.

Both Hardy and Wooten were named to the all-Waccamaw Conference team. The Trojan netters finished 9-3 this spring, good enough for second place in the conference, and qualified for the state 3A playoffs.

Golf: Jeremy Grainger was named Most Valuable Player on the Trojan golf team. Juana Jaramillo, a foreign exchange student, received the Coaches Award, and Joel Gupton took Most Improved Player honors.

Wrestling: Coach Joe Noble presented Coaches Awards to three senior wrestlers—Dexter Cokeley, William Stanley and Steve Brooks. Both Stanley and Brooks qualified for the state championships last winter.

Chris Jackson won the award for best winning percentage for the second straight year. Jackson finished the 1993-94 season with a 24-3 record.

Freshman Cliff Gore was named rookie of the year.

Boys Basketball: Eric Johnson won Most Valuable Player honors in boys basketball from coach Charlie Stevens.

Derek Frink was named Most Improved Player, and Anthony Moody received the Coaches Award. Both Moody and Johnson were named to the all-conference team.

Girls Basketball: Senior Nicole Norris received Most Outstanding Player honors in girls basketball from coach Brenda Council.

Kaneka Grissett won the Coaches Award, while freshman Donica Moody was honored for best defense.

Both Moody and Norris were named to the all-conference team while helping lead the Lady Trojans to the state playoffs for the fourth straight year.

JV Basketball: Jamal Stanley and Christian Tompkins shared Most Valuable Player honors in junior varsity basketball.

Cheerleading: Varsity cheerleading awards went to Jennifer Auton (most spirited), Candy Craft (coaches award) and Jennifer Johnson (best all around).

Both Johnson and Jennifer Polomis were named to the all-Waccamaw Conference cheering squad.

Becky Powell (most spirited) and Nikki Jeffries (coaches award) received junior varsity cheerleading honors.

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