



Fall 9-20-1995

Jared Johnson of Bloomington . Ill.: Illinois Wesleyan Names 12 Freshmen Presidential Scholars

Bob Aaron
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>

Recommended Citation

Aaron, Bob, "Jared Johnson of Bloomington . Ill.: Illinois Wesleyan Names 12 Freshmen Presidential Scholars" (1995). *News and Events*. 6431.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/6431>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Sept. 20, 1995

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

Jared Johnson of Bloomington, Ill.

Illinois Wesleyan Names 12 Freshmen Presidential Scholars

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Jared Johnson of Bloomington, Ill., is among a dozen freshmen honored today (Sept. 20) as Presidential Scholars at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Bloomington
Cent. IL
Locals

Johnson, a National Merit Scholar, graduated second in his class last May from Tri-Valley High School in Downs, Ill.

Among Johnson's academic honors, special awards and offices held in high school were National Honor Society, yearbook editor, yearbook student advisor, Swing Choir, Scholastic Bowl, various music contests and festivals, and seven drama productions, including several major roles in productions such as *West Side Story* and *Brigadoon*.

Johnson has not decided on an academic major. However, his interests in the humanities span literature, ethics, and religion.

The Presidential Scholars' Program, established in 1978, recognizes a group of entering freshmen distinguished for their past achievements and future promise. They are students who have taken on many challenges in and out of the classroom. Selections for the academic honor are based on personal interviews and application materials. Half of this year's dozen Presidential Scholars also are National Merit Scholars.

Johnson received his Presidential Scholar honor at IWU's President's Convocation, a campus-wide gathering marking the start of the academic year. Yoshiro NakaMats, a Japanese inventor who holds the world record for patents with more than 3,000 (three times the number of patents earned by Thomas Edison), addressed the President's Convocation and received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. NakaMats is a pioneer developer of the computer floppy disk, an information storage device which helped launch the computer revolution by making obsolete balky punch cards.

Jared is the son of Stephen and Arlene Johnson, RR #1, Box 181, Bloomington, Ill.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,860 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. The

(more)

Johnson Named IWU Presidential Scholar/2

university's endowment is valued at more than \$100 million. A \$25 million Center for Natural Science Learning and Research opened Aug. 28 and will be dedicated on Oct. 7. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, a respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive (+)" in its latest edition. *101 of the Best Values in America's Colleges and Universities* calls IWU "undoubtedly one of the finest small colleges in the country," adding, "Illinois Wesleyan has surged to national prominence on the basis of its reputation as a school with a rock-solid academic program."