Landen Akers wins Metro Spotlight Award



Cedar Rapids Washington senior Landen Akers is the winner of the Metro Spotlight Award for high school boys this week, the Metro Sports Report announced Sunday.

Akers, a 6-foot-1, 175-pound senior, had a sensational season for the Washington football team this year as a receiver, defensive back and kick return specialist.

He accumulated 1,320 all-purpose yards and scored 11 touchdowns as the Warriors finished 13-1 and reached the championship game of the Class 4A playoffs before losing to Dowling.

Akers scored touchdowns in five different ways with five TD catches, two TDs on kickoff returns, two TDs on interceptions, one TD on a punt return and one TD on a run from scrimmage.

He was a big-play specialist for the Warriors all year, including a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in the state championship game.

Akers also had a 99-yard interception return for a touchdown, a 77-yard punt return for a touchdown, a 73-yard run from scrimmage for a touchdown, a 66-yard interception return for a touchdown, a 65-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, a 45-yard catch for a touchdown and a 34-yard catch for a touchdown. His other TD grabs measured 20, 12 and 10 yards.

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Akers finished the season with 355 yards on 21 catches, 304 yards on 10 kickoff returns, 294 yards on 15 punt returns, 186 yards on four interception returns and 181 yards on nine rushes. He also made 26.5 tackles, including three tackles-for-loss, and recovered a fumble.

Akers had numerous pass break-ups this year as well, including two terrific break-ups against Dowling in the state finals.

Akers is one of the top quarter-milers in the state. He finished third in the 400 meter dash at the Class 4A state track meet last spring in 48.91 seconds.

Akers plans to play football in college and is hoping to play at Iowa State.

The Metro Spotlight Award for girls will resume next week.