

Nelson wins Metro Spotlight Award

Written by Metro Sports Report

Sunday, 22 September 2013 19:17 - Last Updated Sunday, 22 September 2013 19:46



Xavier senior Matt Nelson has been selected as this week's winner of the Metro Spotlight Award for high school boys, the Metro Sports Report announced Sunday.

Nelson, who stands 6-foot-8, 250 pounds, is an all-state defensive end and tight end for the top-ranked Xavier football team. The Saints are 4-0 and have outscored their opponents, 140-7, with three straight shutouts.

Nelson has made 10 tackles this season, with three tackles-for-loss and two sacks for a defensive unit that does not spend much time on the field. The stingy Saints have allowed only 93 yards per game and have collected three straight shutouts. He has caught four passes for 20 yards and a touchdown.

Nelson helped Xavier reach the championship game of the Class 4A playoffs last year. He has committed to the University of Iowa football program and also plays basketball for the Saints. He plans to study pre-med at Iowa and would like to become a doctor.

Here is our Question-&-Answer session with Matt Nelson:

MSR: What is your favorite team highlight in sports?

MATT: Making it to the state title game last year against Ankeny.

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MSR: Who has had the biggest influence on your sports career?

MATT: I would have to say Coach Schulte (Xavier football coach Duane Schulte) has instilled so many qualities in all his players. I wouldn't be where I am today without him.

MSR: What are your future goals in sports?

MATT: Play football at the University of Iowa and hopefully start as soon I can.

MSR: What are your favorite classes in school?

MATT: Human anatomy or AP biology.

MSR: What has been your favorite community service project?

MATT: Helping Matthew 25 create urban gardens during junior service day last year.