

Steph Jenks wins Metro Spotlight Award

Written by Metro Sports Report

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Linn-Mar junior Stephanie Jenks is the winner of the Metro Spotlight Award for high school girls this week, the Metro Sports Report announced Sunday.

Jenks captured the silver medal in the triathlon at the Youth Olympic Games Saturday in Nanjing, China, with a time of 1 hour, 33 seconds in the grueling swim, bike and run event.

The Youth Olympic Games are being covered on television, which showed the spectacular opening ceremony.

Jenks has become a world traveler in her running and triathlon career with trips to China, England, Brazil and Mexico. She also has competed all over the United States and will race in the ITU Junior World Triathlon in Edmonton, Canada Aug. 29.

Jenks has won multiple titles as a runner at the Drake Relays and the Class 4A state meet the past two years. She plans to compete with the Linn-Mar swimming team this fall, but will not be a member of the Linn-Mar cross country program.

Jenks voluntarily forfeited her eligibility in high school cross country last fall when she competed against collegiate runners. She won the Iowa state cross country title in 2012 as a freshman.

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Jenks celebrated her 17th birthday in China. The Youth Olympic Games featured 32 elite athletes in the triathlon.