

Martin-Manley, Lowery receive conference honors

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

A pair of Iowa football players were recognized by the Big Ten on Monday, as senior cornerback B.J. Lowery was named the league's Defensive Player of the Week and junior wide receiver Kevonte Martin-Manley was named Special Teams Player of the Week.

Martin-Manley became just the third player in Big Ten history and first in Iowa history to return two punts for touchdowns in the same game after scoring on 83-yard and 63-yard returns, both of which came during the second quarter of the Hawkeyes' 59-3 win over Western Michigan last weekend.

His 184 punt return yards compiled were 17 yards shy of the school record held by Nile Kinnick. Martin-Manley is the first Iowa player to receive weekly special teams honors from the Big Ten since current kicker Mike Meyer last season following a four field-goal effort against Michigan State.

As for Lowery, he came away with a pair of interceptions against Western Michigan that were both returned for touchdowns. The first pick-six was a 35-yard return that came in the final minute of the first half. The second one was a 13-yard return on Western Michigan's first offensive play from scrimmage in the third quarter to put Iowa up 45-3.

Lowery is the first Hawkeye player to receive the league's weekly accolade for defense since 2011 when former defensive lineman Thomas Nardo did so following a 12-tackle performance against ULM.