

Central's Arnie Williams Is Local Athlete-Of-Year

ARNIE WILLIAMS in a breeze. Yes, picking the prep athlete-of-the-year in the city area was an easy task this year. Very few local athletes have achieved the honors won by Battle Creek Central's Williams.

During 1964, Arnie led the Bearcats to the state Class A track championship and to a tie for the Six-A Conference football crown.



In track he won both the 100-yard and 220-yard state championships and shared in three Central High school records. He set school records of 9.7 seconds in the 100-yard sprint and :21.5 in the 220 and shared in setting a new 880-yard relay record of 1:29.2. Dick Speights, Ken Richardson and Carl English were other members of the quartet.

To top off his career in football, Arnie sped to Class A all-state honors last fall as a halfback. Williams was vital in leading Central to a 7-2 won-lost record and a share of the Six-A crown. Arnie scored 15 touchdowns and averaged 9.5 yards on 122 rushes. He piled up 1,159 yards rushing, highest in the state in Class A ranks.

As a result Williams easily wins the athlete-of-the-year honors for 1964, a feature started by this corner in 1957.

Williams is the third straight Bearcat to be accorded this honor. Central athletes own five such honors out of a possible eight.

Past winners are: Fred Rounds, Central 1957; Bob James, Central, 1958; Alan Gibbs, Lakeview, 1959; Ron Welch, Springfield, 1960; Ted Perry, St. Philip, 1961; Jesse Fleming, Central, 1962; and John Whalen, Central, 1963.

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HERE ARE a few other citations from the 1964 Athlete

Arnie Williams feature 12-27-1964

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