

All-Star Game Activities Under Way

Iron Mountain Daily News (www.ironmountaindailynews.com)
215 E. Ludington, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

MARQUETTE - The schedule for this week's 2010 U.P. Football All-Star contest includes a full slate of activities leading up the game at the Superior Dome at 2 p.m. (Central time) Saturday.

On Monday, players and coaches held a food drive for the Beacon House pantry. Econo Foods and Super One groceries donated power bars, sports drinks and snacks for all of the players and coaches.

Media Day and pictures take place tonight (Tuesday)

Wednesday is the Skills Challenge where players compete in speed, strength, receiving, quarterback, kicking and punting skills.

A youth football camp takes place Thursday at the dome for players in grades 1-8. Camp instructors will be the All-Star Players, who will instruct the youth players on basic football skills and drills. Youth players will block, catch, run and throw. There will even be a padded pit for the players to practice making diving catches, and the players also will run a 40-yard dash through a tunnel of cheering fans. Cost is \$10 and no pre-registration is necessary.

Friday night is the All-Star banquet where the keynote speaker will be former Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Mike Maslowski.

Saturday morning, before the game, will be the underclassman combine held for players in grades 9-12 for the upcoming school year. Athletes will be tested in speed, strength and agility, with the results sent out to colleges all across the country. Registration (\$55) is available on-site.

U.P. Football All-Star Game will be donating proceeds to the following U.P. charities: Beacon House Food Pantry, as well as two individual U.P. high schools. Those two schools will be announced Friday. A lottery drawing will be performed to select the two schools, and donations will be made directly to the football program of those schools chosen.

Each year, new schools will be chosen until all U.P. schools have received benefits from the game.

Fact Box

BK Enterprises of Iron Mountain has been named the official awards provider for the U.P. Football All-Star Game.

BK will be providing the all-star player, coach and sponsor plaques, most valuable player, as well as sponsoring the championship traveling trophy.

The trophy stands nearly two feet in height, features a full-size gold football, the game logo and each year's game score.

"We are so happy that Brenda (Mattson) and BK have agreed to participate in the game again," said event organizers. "They have an outstanding reputation in the community and having providers involved that are from the U.P. makes the event that much more special."

In addition to donating many of the awards for the game, BK will also make available to the public team and individual plaques to commemorate the game.