

Big Play Lifts East

West Yields Late TD Pass In U.P. All-Star Game

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By BRANDON VEALE, For The Daily News

MARQUETTE - After two relatively one-sided games, the third edition of the U.P. Football All-Star Game was almost perfectly even: down to a yard here and two yards there.

However, those decisive yards went to the East All-Stars, which prevailed 21-14 Saturday in the Superior Dome.

"They had one more big play than us," West quarterback Nate Sturos of Calumet said. "It came down to that one play."

That one play came with 4:42 remaining in the game, as East QB Gerrit Mortensen (St. Ignace) found a wide-open Kollin Jensen (Gladstone) sprinting down the left sideline after running a wheel route out of the backfield. Jensen, whose older brother Kyle was the East Offensive MVP in the 2009 game, extended to make the grab and reached the end zone untouched.

It was Jensen's second touchdown of the day.

Jensen's game-winning TD broke a tie forged when two of the Copper Country's premier athletes this season linked up for a perfect play.

Early in the fourth quarter, Sturos hit Mike Schmaus of Ontonagon along the right sideline.

Schmaus, who will play for Michigan Tech next fall, barely kept himself inbounds for the last few yards to complete the 25-yard scoring play.

Schmaus also figured in West's crazy last-gasp fourth down play. West quarterback Paul Angeli (West Iron) pitched a lateral to Schmaus, who ran deep into his own backfield and reversed field to avoid several East tacklers. Schmaus threw a forward pass to Justin Fila (Norway), who found a seam and got multiple blocks but was tackled just two yards short of the first-down marker.

Josh Siler of Forest Park dove into the end zone from two yards out to open the scoring for the game. Siler is slated to play defensive back for the Huskies, but finished the offensive portion of his prep career with 82 yards on 15 carries and was named West's Offensive MVP.

West came painfully close to tying the game just before the half. Sturos led West down the field with a healthy dose of Siler, but back-to-back throws to Dylan Tengesdahl (Kingsford) in the end zone fell incomplete. Tengesdahl did well to get a hand on both 50/50 efforts, but was not ruled to have held on to either when he hit the ground.

West's Andy Carpenter (Kingsford), who recorded two solo and eight assisted tackles, was West's Defensive MVP.

Carpenter's fumble recovery started a 15-play effort that led to Schmaus's touchdown catch.

Fact Box

East Team

Offensive MVP-Kollin Jensen-Gladstone

Defensive MVP-Justin Farley-Westwood

Character Award-Aaron Skrenes-Westwood

West Team

Offensive MVP-Josh Siler-Forest Park

Defensive MVP-Andy Carpenter-Kingsford

Character Award-Blake Frantti-Calumet

West Offense

Josh Siler, Forest Park - Rush (15-82 yds, 1 TD)

Justin Fila, Norway - Rush (8-32 yds), Receiving (1-9 yds)

Justin Heupel, Kingsford - Rush (2-8 yds)

Paul Angeli, West Iron County - Rush (4-8 yds), Passing (9-22 yds)

Beau Dubois, West Iron County - Rush (2-3 yds)

Dylan Tengesdahl, Kingsford - Receiving (3-35 yds).

Andy Hartwig, Iron Mountain - Receiving (1-5 yds)

Erik Rynesh, North Central - Rush (1-1 yd)

West Defense

Andy Carpenter, Kingsford - Solo-2, Assists-8, Total Tackles-10.

Brady Grayvold, Norway - Solo-2, Assists-5, Total Tackles-7.

Brian Hewlett, Norway - Solo-2, Assists-4, Total Tackles-6.

Tim Martin, Forest Park - Solo-1, Assists-5, Total Tackles-6.

Winston Larson, Kingsford - Solo-1, Assists-4, Total Tackles-5.

Tony Amicangelo, Iron Mountain - Assists-3, Total Tackles-3.

Ben Carr, Kingsford - Assists-3, Total Tackles-3.

John Mashak, North Dickinson - Solo-1, Assists-1, Total Tackles-2

Andy Hartwig, Iron Mountain - Assists-2, Total Tackles-2.

Christian Valesano, Forest Park -Assists-1, Total Tackles-1.