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Ronberg, DeCook To Coach Opposing Elevens In U.P. All-Star Football Battle

Negaunee-The all-star football game to be played under the floodlights of the Negaunee playgrounds at 8:30 Saturday night, August 17, between “north” and “south” teams of the Peninsula will bring together a trio whose athletic careers were joined in 1926.

Allan Ronberg, Norway, has been named coach of the “south team” and Joseph DeCook, Newberry, will oppose him as mentor of the “north team”. Sponsor of the game is Oscar E. Wassberg, Negaunee.

Ronberg, DeCook and Wassberg enrolled as freshmen at Northern Michigan College of Education in 1926 and each made the team his first year in basketball and football. For four years they starred on athletic teams at Northern during a period when the college gained much prestige in sports competition.

Ronberg went to Norway and since then his teams have been leaders on the Menominee range. Time after time, “Ronnie” and his protégés have been the entry to beat. They have won the hard way being a Class C team with a majority of opposition in Class B.

DeCook has had a similar record at Newberry, where he has been coach since graduation from college with the exception of the two years he served as an officer in the navy. He has a Class C school and meets such Class B outfits as Soo, Ishpeming, Marquette, Negaunee and Manistique. And DeCook doesn't have to blush when the records of games with these teams are posted in the family album.

Wassberg coached in Manistique 11 years then went to Bay City. Since he came to Negaunee he has turned out winning combinations, as he did in Manistique and Bay City.

DeCook has chosen Robert Villemure, coach at Munising, as his assistant, and Ronberg has picked Leo Brunelle, from St. Joseph's, Escanaba, to aid in fitting his southern all-stars for the tussle on August 17.

The boys come here August 11 and go into training. Players already have been selected.