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South Wins On 72-Yard Return of Punt By Menominee Player

Negaunee-A punt return of 72 yards in the second quarter by Emil Pontow, Menominee halfback, gave the South team a 7-0 victory over the North in the Upper Peninsula all-star game here Saturday night.

This second consecutive victory for the South leaves the series standing at two-all for the four games.

Over 5,000 fans were on hand for the opening kickoff, which was in near-perfect weather for the fans, but a trifle warm for the gridders.

Pre-game ceremonies included the introduction of individual players, coaches and officials and Edward Stevens, Negaunee recreation director and director of the game.

North Receives

North, winner of the toss, elected to receive the kickoff in the opening quarter, a quarter in which both teams spent largely in their own territory.

Richard Krieg, Marquette, and the North's most outstanding backfield man, did most of the work for his team in that quarter. He and Eugene Dellangelo, Ishpeming, were short for a first down in the first series and South took over on a punt on their own 25.

Pontow, probably the game's outstanding player, tried two line plunges after an incomplete pass, but lacked the necessary yardage and the South was forced to punt.

Krieg gave the North fans their first thrill when he took a lateral from Dellangelo and nearly broke away for a touchdown, but was dropped at mid-field after a 15-yard gain. Robert Hillier, Munising, was the first player for either team to break into enemy ground when he went to the South's 45.

A bad pass from center brought a fumble in the North backfield, the South recovering. Phil Johnson, Menominee, faked a hand-off and broke through the line for a nice gain to the North 42, but North blocked a punt and recovered at mid-field.

The North could make little gain against the South's hard-charging line and was forced to kick. The South had possession on their 25 yard line when the quarter ended.

Put-Up Threat

The first scoring threat was presented by the South during the early minutes of the second period.

Roy Johnson, Menominee, picked up nine yards to the South's 34. Herb Nicholson, Escanaba, took a pass and moved ahead seven yards. Phil Johnson made it a first down on the 44 and Pontow went to midfield on a line smash as quarterback and co-captain Howard Perron, Escanaba, smartly mixed up the plays. Pontow made another first down when he went to the midway stripe and two plays later Phil Johnson put the ball on the North's 35. A South fumble, recovered by Krieg, stopped the threat.

Krieg and Dellangelo could gain little against the South line until they teamed up with Richard Aartila, Marquette end, on a forward pass and lateral to move to their own 44-yard line. Another bad pass from center sent them back to the 25 from where Don Chopp, Calumet, carried on an end run to the North 36. The run was short and the required distance and North punted with Jack Zarek, L'Anse, getting off another of several good kicks.

Beautiful Run

From this punt came the night's only score on a piece of beautiful broken field running by Pontow.

He took the kick on his 28-yard line, cut across the field to pick up blocking and then headed for the goal posts. Aided by several timely blocks, he managed to elude the entire North team and scored standing up. Phil Johnson's try from placement was good.

Krieg then went to work for the North, after making a nice return on the kickoff to the 21. He smashed his way in two plays to the North 29 and then made a first down on the 34. Charles Leaf, Negaunee, quarterbacking the North, took a turn and got to the 40 and then Krieg made another first down at the 45, just as the half ended.

Penalty Hurts

The South, after taking the second-half kickoff, started moving again with the driving backs getting good gains with the aid of their hard-charging line.

Nicholson snared a long South pass and was down on the North's 25 yard, but the threat was erased on the next play when the South was found guilty of holding and set back 15 yards. They could make no further gains and the North gridders took over on their own 47 when they blocked another punt.

A bad pass from center gave the North an eight-yard loss. The North backs could gain little during this series as the center's passes were a little high, pulling the runners off-stride.

Taking a North punt on the 47, the South started piling up yardage again. William Wells, Menominee, took a jump pass and went to the opponent's 43 and then came around end on a wide sweep to the 31. Another 15-yard penalty on holding momentarily stopped the charge, but a Phil Johnson to Wells pass gained back the penalty and some additional yardage to the 25. On the next play the North stiffened and took over.

The North started an aerial attack, but the first try was intercepted by Pontow. Then Aartila recovered a fumble for the North on his 38 just as the quarter ended.

South Starts Again

Four plays failed to give the North the necessary yardage as the fourth period opened and they were forced to turn things back to the South.

The South, taking over on the 34, went to midfield on three plays with Pontow and Roy Johnson carrying. Pontow on another fake handoff, came through the center to the North's 39. Ronald Dahms, Iron River, went to the 30 and Pontow made it a first down on the 25. Wells cracked through center to the 19, Dahms went through the same place to the 11 and Pontow reached the North's 9.

Leaf then intercepted a fourth-down pass and the North took over on the 7.

Knowing that time was running out, the North elected to gamble and the gamble nearly paid off. Leaf faded back into the end zone and hurled a long pass, intended for Aartila. The Marquette end, not quite in position to take the pass, stumbled at midfield and the ball slid off his fingertips. He would have scored easily if he had caught it.

The game was one of the best in the series and fans are still praising the efforts of both teams.

The starting lineup for the South was: Herb Nicholson, Escanaba, left end; Jim Erickson, Escanaba, left tackle; Jim Pozza, Iron Mountain, left guard and co-captain; Robert Carlson, Stambaugh, center; Don Secinor, Iron Mountain, right guard; Dick Alfredson, Menominee, right tackle; Jack Veaser, Iron River, right end; Howard Perron, Escanaba, co-captain and quarterback; Emil Pontow, Menominee, left half; William Wells, Menominee, right half; Roy Johnson, Menominee.

The North's starting lineup: Orval Dietz, Sault Ste. Marie, left end; Joe Gemignani, Hancock, left tackle; Clayton McFarland, Sault Ste Marie, left guard; Robert Nelson, Munising, center; Melvin Syrja, Negaunee, right guard; Robert Jacks, captain and right tackle, Negaunee; Richard Aartila, Marquette, right end; Charles Leaf, Negaunee, quarterback; Richard Krieg, Marquette, left half; Robert Hillier, Munising, right half; Eugene Dellangelo, Ishpeming, fullback.