



U.P. FOOTBALL ALL-STAR GAME



Day 3 All-Star Players Skills Challenge

MARQUETTE, MI – The highlight of day 3 for the U.P. All-Star football players Wednesday was the Players Skills Challenge. Events included the Fastest Man (40 yard dash), the Strongest Man (Bench Press), a Quarterback Challenge, Receiver Challenge, Punting and Kicking.

For some of the challenges, the players were split into two divisions, so that the lineman could have equal billing like everyone else. “I just asked if we could have our own competition for just the lineman. We are not as fast as those little guys on our team, but still want to compete in many of the events”, said Ed Zarn of Forest Park.

Adding the new division saw the Skills Challenge take on a whole new atmosphere, as there were several competitions taking place within each event. Three of the events were split to promote more good-natured competition for the players, Fastest Man, Strongest Man and Receiver Challenge.

Results for the Players Challenge are as follows:

Fastest Man: CJ Paquin, Cedarville, 40 yard dash = 4.488 seconds (electronic timed)

Fastest Man (Lineman): Cole Welch, Kingsford, 4.764 seconds

Strongest Man: Josh Hadel, Gladstone, Bench Press = 225 pounds, 21 repetitions

Strongest Man (Non-Lineman): Dan Perrault, L'Anse, 16 repetitions

Quarterback Challenge: Jordan Maccoux, Menominee, Distance Thrown = 57 yards

Receiver Challenge: Derek Horde, Sault Ste Marie, 52 catches/56 thrown

Receiver Challenge (Lineman): Zack Anderla, Menominee, 32 catches/32 thrown

Punting: Ryan Kleisner, Kingsford, 55 yards

Kicking: Dan Menze, Marquette, 51 yards

The Skills Challenge gave the players a much-needed rest from the grind of two practices per day. Each event that was performed had a gallery of players watching. Everyone was gathered around the competitors, cheering them on while they competed. The players took the rest of the day off to recover, before resuming practice on Thursday.

While the players were having their Skills Challenge, the coaches were having a friendly competition of their own. All of the coaches were sent to the Marquette Heritage Golf Course to play a round of golf. The weather was excellent and they enjoyed having the time to discuss their game plans away from the football field.

The All-Star Reception is set for Thursday at the YMCA at 6 PM. On Friday, the All-Star players will conduct a youth camp at the Dome from 7PM-9PM. The Underclassmen Combine will take place on Saturday morning at 9AM, before the All-Star Game.

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