



## U.P. FOOTBALL ALL-STAR GAME

### All-Star Players Learn More Than Just Football

MARQUETTE, MI – The third installment of the U.P. Football All-Star Game took place on Saturday, June 26 at the Superior Dome. The game featured eighty-seven players from throughout the U.P., as well as thirteen coaches from nine U.P. high schools.

In addition to football, players spent the week performing several charitable functions, including a food drive and a youth football camp. They got a chance to feel what it was like to give back to the community and help the young players who aspire to be like them. They were reminded that it wasn't too long ago they were the starry-eyed kids that looked up to the high school football stars of the U.P.

A special guest, Mike Maslowski, former Kansas City Chiefs linebacker, also gave the players motivation and words of encouragement at an All-Star Banquet for the players and their families. He delivered a message for them that in order to be successful in life, you need to overcome many obstacles. In order to do that, you need to stay focused and be willing to sacrifice and do things that may be uncomfortable in order to achieve your goals.

Players spent the week making friends with opponents they usually considered enemies on the field. Schools and conferences were combined into two teams, East and West. Players quickly found out that their rivals are not much different than they are. Friendships were built; ones that will endure beyond the week.

With 2000 people in attendance, the game was surely a success according to the numbers. The most important measure of success, however, is that a group of outstanding young men took a step toward being productive contributing members of our society. They are responsible, considerate, and hopefully will continue to give back to the people and communities that have helped them on their individual paths of success.

The 2010 U.P. Football All-Stars have represented themselves, their families, schools and communities very well. The bar has been set very high for the Class of 2011.

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