

Escanaba Daily Press
By: Dennis Grall
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U.P. football prep all-stars begin practice

MARQUETTE — The players checked in and began practicing Monday for the first U.P. All-Star football game in 57 years.

The West team practiced outside and was in full pads and contact while the East team practiced inside the Superior Dome and went through drills and partial sets.

The game will be held Saturday at the Superior Dome at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Monday also served a worthwhile charity, with 500 pounds of food being donated to the Beacon House food pantry. The Marquette High School Dance Team assisted and Econo Foods and Super One donated power bars, juice and snacks for the players and coaches.

The teams will practice again today, with a media session from 7-9 pm tonight.

Wednesday will include a skills challenge for the players, while coaches will play a round of golf.

Former NFL coach Steve Mariucci of Iron Mountain will be the guest speaker at Thursday's All-Star Reception.

Fourteen area players are among the 90 participants, including Joe Delisle, Corey Gonyea and Cody Kangas of Manistique, Lance Gearhart, Garrett Nowack and Brian Veese of North Central, Tyler Kuehl, Dustin Lovell, Derek McCarty and Jake Pfiester of Rapid River, Mike Coyne and Joe Mileski of Gladstone, Justin Greenfield of Bark River-Harris and Max Skradski of Escanaba.

Jeff Olson of Ishpeming is head coach of the East, with Kevin Bellefeuille of North Central among the assistants. Bill Santilli of Forest Park is the West coach.