



U.P. FOOTBALL ALL-STAR GAME



Day 2 of All-Star Week Complete

MARQUETTE, MI – Day 2 of the U.P. Football All-Star week has concluded. The second day for both teams saw them settling in to their practice routines. Practice was held once in the morning and again in the afternoon. Having solidified their personnel, the teams began to implement their game plans. The offenses worked on the playbook, and decided what was going to work best with their individual talent. The defenses began developing plans for stopping the different offensive sets. Each practice sees the teams creating better chemistry and improved execution of their plays. Overall, at the end of day 2, these 86 players from throughout the U.P. look like two teams who are practicing for a game on Saturday, not a group of individuals that happened to be wearing the same uniform.

Tuesday evening was Media Day at the Dome and there was much excitement in the air. Players were interviewed and team pictures were taken. Media on hand included TV, radio and newspapers, all who were eager to get the players' perspectives on the game. ESPN Radio did two live shows from the Dome and several players were able to sit at the microphone and get asked questions about the game and their experiences.

Wednesday afternoon will see the players enter into the Skills Challenge. Players will compete in the Fastest Man, Strongest Man, Quarterback and Receiver Challenge, as well as Punting and Kicking. This friendly competition will lighten the mood for the players, who have been intently focused on their preparation for the game. The players can let their guards down for a while and enjoy the atmosphere. The Skills Challenge is open to the public and begins at 1:30PM in the Dome.

Thursday evening will bring one of the U.P.'s most famous football sons to Marquette, as Steve Mariucci gives the keynote address at the All-Star Banquet. The players will be introduced and recognized, and fans get to interact with the players to discuss the week's activities. The banquet will conclude with Steve Mariucci speaking to the players about some of his experiences and how football has impacted his life.

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