

Grads play in senior bowl

By DICK BOYD

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Norton Community High School 2010 graduates Zane Perez and Landon Hamel and Logan High School 2010 graduate Tyson Pabst were members of the North Team in the first annual United States Army Midwest High School Friendship Senior Bowl played on a hot Saturday afternoon at Hummer Sports Park in Topeka.

Perez and Hamel were All-Mid-Continent League players in high school and Pabst was an All-Cheyenne Conference selection. Perez saw action as a running back and defensive back, Hamel played defensive back and Pabst played tackle on both offense and defense.

All three players were excellent representatives of their schools and played hard and well.

Since both teams had just three days of practice prior to the game, defenses were dominant on both sides of the ball. Regulation time expired with a 6-6 tie which sent the game into overtime. The South prevailed in the extra period with a field goal to earn the 9-6 victory.

The South kicked off to start the game. After several plays, they recovered a fumble, could not advance and kicked a field goal with 1:55 left in the first quarter. Their 3-0 lead held up through the period.

The North got a drive going in the second quarter but it was stopped by a South pass interception deep in their territory. The hard-hitting North defense caused a South fumble and the North recovered in the end zone for the only touchdown of the contest, giving them a 6-3 lead with 6:16 left in the first half. The point after try was no good.

Neither team was able to move the ball prior to halftime and the North's 6-3 lead stood at intermission.

The North kicked off to start the second half. After one South first down, the North recovered a fumble at mid-field. After an incomplete pass, the North fumbled and the South recovered. The North held and the South tried a field goal which split the uprights to tie the score at 6-all with 2:56 left in the third quarter.

The North got a drive going



Norton's Zane Perez, left, fights off a blocker as he and Logan's Tyson Pabst, No. 86, pursue a South running play during the United States Army Midwest High School Friendship Senior

Bowl on Saturday in Topeka.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton head football coach Lucas Melvin, left, was an assistant coach for the North Team during the United States Army Midwest High School Friendship Senior Bowl at Hummer Sports Park in Topeka on Saturday. He was showing the game program to Norton area players for the North Team, from left, Landon Hamel, Norton; Zane Perez, Norton and Tyson Pabst, Logan.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

but the period ended before they could tally with the score still 6-all.

The South defense was equal to the occasion to start the fourth quarter and the North punted. The North defense was equally efficient and forced the South to punt. The South defense held again and the North punted. The South tried to move through the air but Landon Hamel alertly stepped in front of the intended receiver and intercepted the ball!

The North was unable to move down field, however, and punted. The South got a good return to the North 30-yard-line. A field goal try with 25.5 seconds left in regulation was no good. The South held, got the ball back and tried another field goal but it was also wide and the game went into

overtime tied at 6-all.

The North received the ball first in the extra period. The pigskin was placed at the 10-yard line and they had four downs to make it into the end zone. Once again, the South defense was equal to the occasion.

The South then had four downs to score from the 10-yard-line. The North defense was equally tough and did not allow the South to penetrate the end zone on three downs. On fourth down, the South kicked the winning field goal, making the final 9-6 in their favor.

Other players from the North Team included Patrick Ahrens, defensive end, tight end; Lex Parsons, defensive back, quarterback; Tad Parsons, safety, defensive back; Brandon Mau-

rath, strong safety; Ethan Jirak, defensive lineman, all of Oakley; Landon Keller, defensive back, wide receiver, Palco.

Lex Parsons was chosen "The Most Valuable Player" for the North Team.

Norton Community High School head football coach Lucas Melvin was an assistant coach for the North Team.

"I thought the North all-stars all played very hard and our local players had an outstanding game," said coach Melvin. "Our defense shut them out except for three field goals.

"We had fewer players than the South so the 90 plus degree weather took more of a toll on us."

Zane Perez will continue his football career through a scholarship at Colorado School of Mines and Landon Hamel will continue to play through a scholarship at Hutchinson Community College. Tyson Pabst will attend North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit. Zane is the son of Kelli and Rudy Perez. Landon is the son of Melanie Mortensen and Jan Hamel. Tyson's parents are Kathy and Dan Pabst.

Area football players to compete

By DICK BOYD

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Area star football players will compete in the 25th annual Kansas Eight-Man All Star Football games which will be played Saturday at Trojan Field, North Hersey Avenue, Beloit.

The Division I contest will begin at 10 a.m. and the Division II game will kickoff at 1 p.m.

Division I West players will include Clinton Johnson and Blake McKeever of Hill Gity, Cade Rietzke of Thunder Ridge and Cody Corwin and Matt Bird of Quinter. Other Division I West players are: Jason McClaren, Josh Stapelton, Minneola; Billy Stensland, Nathan Charlton, Greensburg; Brayden Bloomfield, Drew Deaver, Clifton-Clyde; Evan Loomis, Marc Renfro, Macksville; Derrick

Aufdemberge, Ethan Schroeder, Lincoln; Matthew Broeckelman, Rock Hills; Brett Gfeller, Clay Rogge, Triplains/Brewster; Trent Befort, Pratt-Skyline; Zach Hibbert, South Gray.

Head coach of the Division I West team is Jerry Voorhees, Thunder Ridge.

Assistant coaches are Russ Steinbrock, Clifton-Clyde and Brian Roesch, Quinter.

Playing for the Division II West squad will be: Kevin Wissman, Otis-#Bison; Garrett Dreiling, Brett Otley, Victoria; Tyler Brunton, Burton; Garrett Somerhald, Tanner Stevens, Haviland; Brenton Turner, Jacob Ingham, Qvirira Heights; Taylor Pearce, Tate Andrews, Sharon Springs; Nolan Dreiling, Tyler Bailey, Pawnee Heights; Mark Spare,

Ashland; Stewart Ott, South Barber; Dal Schultz, Logan Stephens, Wheatland-Grinnell; Isaac Broeckelman, Golden Plains; Jake Kizzar, Chase; Kyle Gridley, Cunningham; Jesus Perez, Fowler.

Head coach of the Division II West team is Matt Scripsick, Ashland.

Assistant coaches are Travis Starr, Otis-Bison and Stephen Hokanson, Bucklin.

Tickets are general admission at both gates and one ticket is good for both games.

The Kansas Eight-Man Football Association was organized in 1986 so that more 8-man players could receive recognition for their football prowess.

The games have been held every summer in Beloit.

Assisting the association with sponsorship of the games have been the Beloit Rotary Club and Beloit Knights of Columbus.

In addition to giving recognition to outstanding senior football players and coaches, the association votes yearly on recommendations to the Kansas State High School Activities Association and promotes the existence of 8-man football clinics.

Don't forget to support your local athletes this summer by attending a game

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