

North 48, South 14

North Wins for the First Time Since June 2016 with a 48-14 Victory Over the South in the 50th Annual Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game

(Game story by Dave Giles, Minnesota All-Star Football Game Historian)

After six straight losses to the South, including a 29-0 shutout loss in 2022, the North All-Stars outscored the South 33-0 in the second half to win convincingly 48-14 in the 50th Annual Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game before a crowd of 2,184 at U.S. Bank Stadium.

The North scored twice in the first quarter to take a 12-0 lead. The South scored on a 60-yard touchdown pass on the final play of the first quarter to come to within 12-6.

In the second quarter, Carter Holcomb's (Rochester Mayo) 54-yard punt return touchdown (plus a two-point conversion) put the South ahead 14-12.

The North kicked a 32-yard field goal with 0:00 left on the clock in the second quarter to take the lead for good (15-14 at halftime).

In the decisive third quarter, the North outscored the South 21-0, including two touchdowns only 9 seconds apart, to take control of the game. The North added two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter to complete the scoring.

The South leads the all-time North-South series 18-11-1. The South leads the current North-South series (2011-2023) 10-3. The North All-Stars won for the first time in seven tries at U.S. Bank Stadium.

FINAL SCORE: NORTH 48, SOUTH 14

SCORING SUMMARY BY QUARTERS:

Team	1	2	3	4	Total
North All-Stars	12	3	21	12	48
South All-Stars	6	8	0	0	14

SCORING SUMMARY:

First quarter:

North – Wyatt Osterbauer (Buffalo 6A) 6-yard pass from Daylen Cummings (Centennial 6A) (kick failed) 10:33 (North 6-0)

North – Daylen Cummings (Centennial 6A) 35-yard run (pass failed) 1:53 (North 12-0)

South – Jalen Smith (Mankato West 5A) 60-yard pass from Bart McAninch (Mankato West 5A) (kick failed) 0:00 (North 12-6)

Second quarter:

South – Carter Holcomb (Rochester Mayo 6A) 54-yard punt return (2-point conversion good) 7:00 (South 14-12)

North – Zach Bengston (Becker 4A) 32-yard field goal 0:00 (North 15-14)

Third quarter:

North – Tanner Schmidt (Stillwater 6A) 20-yard pass from Nolan Geislinger (Eden Valley-Watkins 2A) (Zach Bengston Kick) 9:41 (North 22-14)

North – KhiJohnn Cummings-Coleman (Coon Rapids 6A) 20-yard pass from Daylen Cummings (Centennial 6A) (Zach Bengston kick) 9:25 (North 29-14)

North – Dmario Davenport (Andover 5A) 6-yard run (Zach Bengston kick) 2:02 (North 36-14)

Fourth quarter:

North – Luke Dehnicke (Andover 5A) 8-yard pass from Nolan Geislinger (Eden Valley-Watkins 2A) (kick failed) 8:33 (North 42-14)

North – Andy Becker (Kimball Area 2A) 13-yard run (run failed) 4:51 (North 48-14)

2023 MVPs:

MVP Offense, North	Daylen Cummings	Centennial	QB
MVP Offense, South	Bart McAninch	Mankato West	QB
MVP Defense, North	Mason Carrier	Detroit Lakes	LB, RB
MVP Defense, South	Antonio Menard	Lakeville North	DL, DE

Head Coaches:

North – Jack Negen, Robbinsdale Armstrong

South – Nick David, Mound Westonka

North Captains:

Daylen Cummings (QB Centennial)

Emerson Mandell (OL, OT Irondale)

Mark Rendl (LB Forest Lake)

Tanner Schmidt (WR Stillwater)

South Captains:

Jide Abasiri (DL Prior Lake)

Caleb Jannsen (LB Stewartville)

Francis O'Malley (RB Montevideo)

Maxwell Woods (RB Chanhassen).

This All-Star game featured some rare occurrences:

- Both North quarterbacks (Daylen Cummings of Centennial and Nolan Geislinger of Eden Valley-Watkins) threw two touchdown passes. It was the first time since the last North win in June 2016 that two quarterbacks from the same All-Star team each threw two touchdown passes. It was only the third time that this happened in All-Star Game history (previously 1997, June 2016).
- This All-Star Game included only the third punt return touchdown in All-Star Game history (previously in 1955 and 1997) and the first since 1997. The punt return touchdown was a 54-yard return by Carter Holcomb (South, Rochester Mayo) in the second quarter.
- Two high school teammates combined on a touchdown pass for only the third time in All-Star game history, when Mankato West quarterback Bart McAninch connected with his Mankato West teammate (WR) Jalen Smith on a 60-yard touchdown pass. This was previously accomplished by East Grand Forks in 2005 and ironically by Mankato West in 2015.
- Nine different players scored touchdowns in this game, tying the All-Star game record (9) set in 2005.
- Seven different North All-Star players scored touchdowns, setting an All-Star game record for the most players to score touchdowns for one All-Star team in one All-Star game. The previous record was 6 (1945 North, 1987 Metro, 2005 Outstate, 2009 Metro).
- Ten different players scored in this game, tied with 1997 and 2009 for the second most players to score in All-Star game history. The record is 13 players in 2005.
- Two Andover players scored for the North team (Dmario Davenport and Luke Dehnicke). This was only the fifth time that two players from one school scored in the All-Star game (previously 2000 White Bear Lake, 2005 East Grand Forks, 2005 Eden Prairie, 2015 Mankato West).

Notes:

- Players and coaches representing 79 schools and 41 Sub-Districts participated in this year's game.
- Uniforms: North – White on white, purple trim; South – purple on purple, white trim