

## Treasure Valley edges Idaho in all-state game

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### Viks' Peterson picks off pass, returns it 50 yards

EAGLE -- For many senior football players, November marked the end of their high school football careers.

A few, however, were given one last shot to experience the thrill of clashing pads with fellow high schoolers in the Idaho All-State Game on Saturday at Eagle High School.

Though having no implications, each team played to win and Team Treasure Valley came out the victor with a 17-13 win over Team Idaho.

"It was a lot of fun," said Brandon Hanna, Lake City High's first-team all-state linebacker. "More than anything I just enjoyed having one last game with my buddies in high school."

Team Treasure Valley dominated for most of the game and put Team Idaho in a 17-3 hole after quarterback Matt Ballenger, headed to the University of Colorado, connected with Boise State walk-on Tyler Shoemaker for a 20-yard score. The score came on the heels of a Team Idaho turnover deep in its own zone.

Team Idaho didn't give up, however, and following a series of turnovers that saw the ball change hands on four consecutive possessions, Team Idaho quarterback Zach Orme hit running back Ben LaPorta, the offensive player of the game, on a 4-yard touchdown pass to bring the score to 17-13.

The series of turnovers began when Team Idaho quarterback Justin Udy was picked off by Riley Brown. Two plays later, however, Coeur d'Alene's Calvin Peterson picked off Jake Gross and returned it 50 yards before being tackled.

"I saw the receiver running a hook and then I saw the quarterback throw it," said Peterson, "and I just backpedaled and brought it down. I sat back and waited for some blocks and got some yardage back, but it ended up not doing much."

Peterson's pick went for naught as Udy threw his second interception on Team Idaho's next offensive play.

As hard as Team Idaho tried to give Team Treasure Valley the ball, Team Treasure Valley was insistent on giving it right back as Trent Mallory from Minico recovered a fumble three plays later.

After Team Idaho pulled to within one score, BSU recruit Jarrell Root of Team Treasure Valley blocked the extra point try, maintaining the four-point spread.

It was his second blocked kick of the day. He had also blocked a punt earlier in the game.

Team Idaho scored its other touchdown midway through the second quarter when Udy plunged into the end zone from a yard out, pulling Idaho within 10-7.



LaPorta carried the load for Team Idaho as he racked up 116 yards on 22 carries and one score.

Though coming out on the losing side of things, many of the local players were just happy to play ball again and meet other athletes from around the state.

"It was just an awesome game to play in," said future Idaho State lineman Adam Chadwick of Coeur d'Alene. "I roomed with Brandon Hanna down here and I was right across the hall from a couple other Lake City guys and we bonded even more than we did after our first game during the regular season. It was just a blast. It was the best time I've ever had."

The one thing that was rough on many of the Team Idaho players were the two-a-day practices in 100-plus-degree weather.

"The two-a-day part was not that fun because of the heat," said Hanna who's slated to play at Oregon next year. "But outside of football, it was great to be able to hang out with guys that I just met or meet guys that I had been reading about."

It was Team Treasure Valley's third win in three tries since the state all-star game was resurrected in 2005.

Other area athletes competing in the All-State Game were Matt Kelso, Brandon Lopez and Cory Tanner of Lake City; Scott Holbrook and Brandon Peters of Timberlake High School; Jake Rhodes of Coeur d'Alene; and Jarod Stone and Kenny Swift from Bonners Ferry.

Treasure Valley 3 7 0 7 -- 17

Idaho 0 7 0 6 -- 13

TV -- FG Tony Maxwell 39

TV -- Jake Harley blocked punt recovery in end zone (Maxwell kick)

IDAHO -- Justin Udy 7 run (Cory Rukowski kick)

TV -- Tyler Shoemaker 20 pass from Matt Ballenger (Maxwell kick)

IDAHO -- Ben LaPorta 5 pass from Zach Orme (kick blocked)

#### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING -- Idaho, Roberts 9-34, LaPorta 22-116, Barnard 1-(-4), Orme 1-14, Udy 5-13, Olsen 1-(-10). Treasure Valley -- Kaiserman 11-69, Burroughs 2-(-5), Rowley 6-28, Gross 2-10

PASSING -- Idaho, Orme 3-5-0-30, Udy 3-7-2-25. Treasure Valley -- Ballenger 5-9-0-31, Gross 7-11-1-103.

RECEIVING -- Idaho, Craney 1-26, Roberts 1-(-1), Lott 1-20, Ellsworth 1-6, LaPorta 1-5. Treasure Valley - - Burroughs 3-7, Shoemaker 7-118, Coburn 1-2, Kaiserman 1-7.