

Oct. 29 JoJo's Fish4Scores.com Athlete(s) of the Week

## Dunn, Park and Mostrangeli a terrific trio on defense against Notre Dame

By Rich Fisher

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Oct. 29: AJ Mostrangeli made a clutch defensive play in one red zone and Sam Park made one in the other. Jordan Dunn took care of a lot of what went on in between.

The trio played a key role in the Spartans 21-10 win over Notre Dame Friday night which likely sealed a playoff berth for Steinert. For their efforts, Park, Dunn and Mostrangeli are the JoJo's Tavern/Fish4Scores.com Athlete(s) of the Week for the week ending Oct. 28.

"They all had big games," coach Dan Caruso said. "Take your pick."

We couldn't pick, which is why they are tri-winners.

Start with Mostrangeli, who helped Steinert cling to a 7-3 lead by making a huge hit to drop quarterback Sam McDuffie for a four-yard loss on Notre Dame's fourth-and-one from the Spartan 10-yard line.

Later in the game he recovered a fumble to set up Steinert's second touchdown, and also had another hit to limit the Irish to no gain on first down. He had a total of nine tackles (two for a loss).

The senior spent some time at defensive end and some more at linebacker during the game, and is fine with either.

"I played a couple plays at linebacker at Rancocas Valley," he said. "I stayed down a lot, but somebody got hurt and by then I knew the position, so I stepped back to one of the two middle linebacker spots.

"By the time we played Lawrence (in the season's third game) I was playing mostly linebacker. I can play either position, no problem. (Defensive coordinator) Bob Ziegler is a great coach, he'll put me where I'm most effective."

Park was pretty effective in his own right. During the second quarter, he broke up a third-and-6 pass from the Notre Dame 38 to force the Irish to punt.

The senior came up even bigger in the third quarter. After Steinert tallied to make it 14-



*Sam Park not only had seven tackles and two pass break-ups, but he came up with a huge goal line interception in Steinert's win over ND Friday night (Photo by Dennis Symons Jr./purchase photos at [www.dennissymons.com](http://www.dennissymons.com)).*

3, the Spartans wanted to make the score stand up with a big defensive stand. ND drove to the 10 before Park intercepted a pass on the goal line and made a nice return (despite a penalty) to give Steinert some breathing room. He finished with seven tackles and two pass deflections.

And then there was Dunn, who played single man-to-man coverage on Notre Dame's Billy Reed and held the dangerous receiver to just two catches for eight yards (one on a screen pass). The senior had four tackles and four pass break-ups.

Entering the game, Caruso motivated his receivers by reminding them Reed was touted as Mercer County's top pass catcher. Dunn is one of those receivers, but it motivated him on the defensive side of the ball as well.

"Jordan took it personally," Mostrangeli said. "You can say Reed is the best receiver in the CVC, but it's Jordan Dunn. I'll talk to anybody about that. Jordan is excellent."

Dunn actually gives that honor to teammate Vanel Dossous, who had four catches for 92 yards on the night. He credits Dossous for making him a better cover man in games.

"I think we have the best wide receiver in the county, we just don't throw the ball as much as Notre Dame does," Dunn said. "I stick Vanel Dossous every day in practice and he has some of the best hands I've ever seen."

Thus, he felt more than ready to go against Reed.

"If I can stop Vanel in practice, it makes it easy in the games to shut down other receivers," Dunn said. "Reed is tall, but I jump higher than him so I was hoping they would throw deep to him because I knew I'd be able to stop it."

"Most of all, I was just very physical with him. Other corners who played him weren't as physical and let him off the line easy."

Dunn was quick to point out that it wasn't all about him in the victory.

"Our whole defense played great," he said. "We had a lot of big stops to allow our offense to score some points."