

Marian Stuns Hawks: Karl Hits His Marks For Super Spartans

By MARK SMITH

Playing the biggest opening game in their history before a jammed Hillcrest stadium crowd, Marian Catholic's Spartans used a pinpoint air attack to run the Hawks off the field, 30-9 yesterday in Country Club Hills.

Smashing Hillcrest's 23-game home winning streak, Marian's Karl Volkman quarterbacked a stunning 371 yard total offense, passing for two TDs and two conversions while running for another score in a shocking upset rout.

Spotting Carl Zambo's highly-touted Hawks a 3-0 Ted Chakos field goal, Marian got rolling for victorious Coach Dave Mattio after a second quarter Jeff Kudukis fumble at the Hillcrest 16. The 6-foot-1, 170 pound Volkman optioned right, faked to fullback Jerral Stringer and raced around end for the game's first touchdown. His two-point pass to flanker Mark Blankenberger made it 8-3.

THE SPARTANS defense, strong all day mainly due to the defensive line play of ends Dennis McCarron, Tom Shander and tackles Jeff Schied and Todd Bruni, then stopped Hillcrest on four plays allowing Marian to run out the first half clock.

Marian opened the second half with a 66-yard six-play drive. A key 33-yard second down Volkman to Blankenberger pass plus a personal foul on Hillcrest set up a first and goal from the Hawk 9, where Volkman pitched out to Spartan halfback Jeff Martin, who rambled wide untouched for the 14-3 score.

Martin, who also caught a two-point pass later in his 3-for-59 yards receiving log on top of 100 rushing yards on 12 carries, suffered what appeared to be a serious leg injury in the fourth quarter and had to be carried off the field.

Totally outplaying Hillcrest now, the Spartans drove 56 yards early in the final period for their final tally.

VOLKMAN'S 15-yard down and in to Blankenberger plus a roll right, throw left two-pointer to Martin made it 22-3 before a 10-yard Volkman to Blankenberger crossing pattern before a Mike Petrarca running conversion upped the count to 30-3.

Hillcrest countered weakly later in contest when backup QB Joel Seiner, taking over for starter Jack Phillips, flipped a 31-yard bomb to tight-end Chakos for the 30-9 final.

Marian had 195 yards rushing on 36 carries to complement Volkman's nine of 12 for 176 yards. Blankenberger caught six for 117 and 14 points on two TDs and a conversion. Volkman also ran for 35 yards.

Hillcrest was held to 62 yards rushing led by Kudukis' 48 Phillips missed all three of his pass attempts while relief man Seiner hit three of five for 96 and the Hawks' lone TD.

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