

Players of the Week

At 6-foot-3, 240 pounds, scouts are saying Marian's Todd Bruni has "major college size."

To Joliet East, Bruni is even bigger.

In the Spartans' 30-6 victory over the Kingsmen, tough Todd was credited with 10 solo tackles and 11 assists. For good measure, he twice deposited Joliet East quarterback Ernie DeLeon on the Sarff Field turf.

THAT'S WHAT defensive players of the week are made of and Bruni is the man this week.

Two other factors make Bruni's statistics even more impressive. Joliet East ran just 36 times (with Bruni in on 21 of the stops), and he's also the regular left tackle on offense.

"Bruni could have done even better defensively if he only played one way," said Coach Dave Mattio.

The remainder of the Illini-8 teams on the Marian schedule are hoping Mattio doesn't change his mind.

OUR OFFENSIVE player of the week is a guy who didn't even play offense last year.

Crete-Monee quarterback John Vermilye was a defensive specialist a year ago, but his giant strides have made the Warriors a real title threat in SICA South.

The latest example of Vermilye's poise came Friday night in the Warriors' 21-15 win over Rockford East.

The senior signal caller connected on five of 12

passes for 117 yards and two touchdowns. He hit Steve Finch with a 40-yarder for the Warriors' first score and then hooked up with Scott Weber on a 30-yard beauty to win the game.

"JOHN HAS developed into a team leader," said Coach Bill Brechler. "Most of the summer John worked on his passing and ballhandling. His attitude has made the best quarterback I've seen this year.

Additional nominees on offense included: Marian tackle Jim Denman; Bloom fullback Ray Vasquez; Rich East's entire offensive line (Randy Kroll, Kurt Steffeter, Don Bee, Jim Guthrie and Terry Enright); Bloom Trail running back Harold Moore; Homewood-Flossmoor quarterback Guy Lissak; Rich Central tallback Gary Cassidy and Hillcrest quarterback Joel Seiner.

Other defensive candidates were: Rich South end Ron East, Hillcrest linebacker Ron Vaught, Rich Central cornerback Rich Castillo, H-F defensive back Chuck Hlavach, Bloom Trail defensive tackle Ricky Young, Rich East noseman Mitch Schapiro and Crete tackle Jerry Marquardt.

Previous winners: offense, Jeff Martin, Marian, Bill Berger, H-F; defense, Mark Glotzbach, Rich South, Ray Zulanis, Rich Central.

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