

# *Marian Wallows To Defeat in Mud*

By PETER TESTA

Losing seven fumbles on a night when mistakes were at a premium, Marian put itself in a hole Friday at Lockport and combined with an inability to mount any kind of consistent attack, lost its second consecutive shutout in Illini-8 play, 19-0.

On a wind-swept and rainy night, Spartan senior quarterback Karl Volkman and junior signal-caller Brian Blue directed nine plays that lost yardage against a Lockport defense that applied consistent pressure, with five of the losses quarterback sacks that totaled 38 yards in losses.

Lockport, in raising its undefeated I-8 record to 3-0, (only 3-2 overall) took complete advantage of the few opportunities that would decide the game, forming its three touchdowns as a result of a pair of Spartan fumbles and a blocked punt.

THIRTY-four Marian rushing plays managed to sparsely gain 54 yards, but the lost ground in sacks coupled with an additional 16 backward yards in planned runs to leave the Spartans with a net of no yards rushing. Due to extremely poor field position, Volkman was unable to successfully employ his most dangerous weapon, the passing game, until only a few minutes were left.

The area's leading passer going into the weekend connected on his only two attempts for 31 yards in sparking the best Spartan penetration, which was stopped by the 11<sup>th</sup> and final Marian fumble with three minutes to go.

On his second scrimmage play, Volkman missed connections on the snap from sophomore center Tom Van Dyck, with Porter defensive tackle Leroy Irvin pouncing on the ball on Marian's 32.

Lockport's senior tailback Don Daniels, the I-8's leading rusher, picked up the only first period Porter first down, which was finally halted at the Spartan 25. Lockport's punter, Mike Panich, then booted the first of his three straight devastating punts, the low line-drive kick stopping in the heavy going at the Marian 2.

THE first attempt to wedge out of the dilemma saw Volkman driven back to the 1,

before a handoff to Anderson dropped to the turf in the Marian end zone. Irvin diving for the recovery that enabled the Porters to take a six-point lead after the first period, even more commanding than usual because of the miserable playing conditions.

Conditions became markedly worse after the halftime break, so unfavorable that both squads came up with minus yardage for the third quarter. Panich's first punt of the second half dribbled out of bounds at the Spartan 3, to doom Marian for the entire period.

A third down quick kick from the Marian 7 by junior halfback Mike Petrarca failed to back up the Porters, the ball sailing over the sideline at the Spartans 26.

But the Marian defense, led by senior tackle Todd Bruni, senior end Tom Shander, junior linebacker Mike Bartolomei, and senior defensive back Tony Jiganti forced Porter wingback Steve Jenkins to take a 13-yard loss on the third down, with the Spartans needing only one break to take the lead, still just one score behind.

THAT break never came as the Spartans slithered out to their own 37 before Petrarca had to kick for the fifth time. A quartet of Porters barreled through the middle of the line to knock the punt all the way back to Marian's 6 before falling on the ball. Junior Porter halfback Jody O'Donnell carried the final two yards for a 12-0 Lockport advantage after three periods.

Marian kept possession for just one play after the kickoff, fumbling on second down at their own 35. This fumble bounced back to the Spartan 20. Daniels gained 18 of his 88 yards on 22 carries to being the drive, and went over the middle for the third Lockport touchdown on the following play. After failing on his first two kicks, Tim Mahoney barely managed to convert his third attempt to end the games scoring.

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