

Marian No Bargain in OT

By PETER TESTA

Marian Catholic's frustrating football season ended, appropriately, with frustration.

The visiting Spartans finished in overtime yesterday afternoon, as Bernie Blackburn's extra point kick following Scott Wittington's six-yard touchdown, gave Bolingbrook a 7-6 triumph.

Battling to a scoreless deadlock in regulation, Marian won the coin flip and promptly took the lead. Mike Petrarca was the workhorse, needing all four downs to cover the 10 yards.

ON THE key conversion, however, quarterback Brian Blue and Petrarca never did hook up on the handoff.

Now it was Bolingbrook's turn. Wittington raced for three yards, Jim Ziebell adding another, then Wittington managed to shake loose for the final six. Blackburn's kick made the difference.

Most of the action took place in the fourth quarter. After Wittington's booming 62-yard punt pinned Marian at its own 27 early in the period, Bolingbrook received a big break.

LATER IN the fourth quarter, Marian's best drive of the afternoon also came up with nothing. Starting from their own 27, Marian marched to Bolingbrook's nine - thanks to nine straight rushes by Petrarca.

But on fourth down, sophomore Jim Dee's 31-yard field goal bid fell short.

Petrarca totaled 85 yards in 20 carries, which was nearly half of Marian's offensive output of 173 yards. Wittington had 77 yards in 14 tries for Bolingbrook, while quarterback Al Horsman ended with 58 yards in 20 attempts.

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