

Fordon Gives Bremen Boot

By JOE ORRIS

The dictionary defines a troubleshooter as someone who locates the causes of trouble and makes needed repairs.

Meet the Marian offense, which found it tough rushing into the teeth of the Bremen defense and was out rushed by the Braves 75-46 in the first half, a 6-6 standoff.

But the Spartans fixed that problem in the second half. Marian running backs Tom Klupchak, Tim McGugan and Jim Schreiber found the going easier around end and continually hammered away for large chunks of yardage on pitchouts.

THE MARIAN offense put together a 67-yard scoring drive at the outset of the second half, 36 of which came on pitchouts, the big gainer coming on Tim McGugan's 12-yarder. This march was capped by Rich Fordon's 23-yard field goal at 3:35 of the third quarter, Fordon's toe job cleared the crossbar by inches and gave the Spartans a 9-6 lead. The Marian squad hung on for the 9-6 win in its 1979 season opener yesterday against the conference opponent.

The Spartan defense rose to the occasion, limiting the Braves rushing game to a meager 17 yards in the second half and 92 yards for the entire game. By contrast, Marian rolled up 96 yards in the second half and ran off 35 offensive plays following the halftime intermission to Bremen's 18.

It was a different story in the first half as Bremen mounted the superior penetration and broke on top first, 6-0 on Derrick Waldroup's two-yard plunge in the second quarter.

This scoring-march covered 63 yards as Braves halfback Don Kramer got the call six times for 31

yards. On the one occasion he didn't carry the ball, Kramer faked a run around right end and drew a crowd of Spartan defenders as halfback Len Spicer swept unnoticed to the left side for a 17-yard gainer down to the Marian five-yard line.

TWO PLAYS later, Waldroup followed center Jerry Lewis block over right guard for a 6-0 advantage at 7:20 of the second quarter. But don Mustard's point-after attempt sailed wide to the right.

Marian launched two drives deep into Bremen territory later in the period. But one march was killed on the Bremen 16-yard line when Bob Daggy and John Porter tackled Spartan ball handlers for a total loss of seven yards on third and fourth-down opportunities.

But just when it appeared Daggy's theft would insure a 6-0 Bremen halftime margin, Braves' quarterback Bill Griffin was smothered by linebacker Bill Ranieri and fumbled the pigskin. Spartan defensive back, Mike Joyce, alertly pounced on the loose ball at the Bremen seven-yard marker. This time Marian made good as McGugan picked up five yards around right end and then barreled the remaining yard up the middle for Marian's first TD of the season.

BUT THE Spartans attempted a run-in for the two-point conversion and wound up short as the score remained a 6-6 deadlock into the halftime festivities.

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