

Players of the Week

On offense, he carries the football. On defense, he stops people who carry the football. He kicks the football. Give him Rich East football tickets and he'll sell them.

When he was at Rich South High School last year, he sang the national anthem.

Versatile doesn't seem to be a strong effort word to describe the rugged senior, who is this week's player of the week on offense. He has already been honored this season at linebacker on defense.

TONY HAS been one of the major reason why the Rockets are now 4-0 and atop the SICA South entering Saturday's home struggle against Andrew. In last week's come-from-behind win over Kankakee Eastridge, Lombardi was sensational at tailback, rushing 32 times for 215 yards, a season high. He also scored his fifth and sixth touchdowns of the young campaign, in addition to kicking three extra points - giving him nine of 10 conversions for the season.

When Joliet East tried to take to the air during the closing stages of a scoreless first half duel with Marian Catholic last Saturday, the Kingsmen didn't know about a guy named Mike Prior.

So, instead of running out the clock, Joliet East decided to pass. Prior intercepted passes on consecutive East possessions, helping key Marian's 15-0 victory.

The second of those steals led directly to the winning points for the Spartans.

THUS, PRIOR is our defensive selection this week.

Homewood-Flossmoor's defense also registered a shutout, 7-0 over Thornwood, and senior linebacker Fran Pelletiere was the leader. At Rich

East, Donnie Steward had six tackles and seven assists, also knocking down three passes and intercepting a pass, as Kankakee Eastridge gained only 53 yards rushing.

Bloom had special praise for linebacker Duane Peterson, Crete-Monee for linebacker Scott Smalley (16 tackles, 10 assists), Rich Central for linebacker Jack Cappozzo, Hillcrest for Ron Shupryt and Rich South for defensive end Todd Alliss (one interception, six tackles, three assists, two quarterback sacks).

Offensively, senior center Randy Smith led the way for Rich South, grading a sharp 90% in the line. At Hillcrest, quarterback Terry Johnson was nominated, while Bloom put up fullback Jerry Kwasek.

CRETE-MONEE'S Keith Nuzzo continues to pile up impressive statistics at quarterback. Against Andrew he completed 16 of 29 passes for 291 yards and three touchdowns, tying a single game mark. He was joined by end Mike Favorite, who collected nine of those passes for 145 yards and kicked four extra points.

Marian Catholic offensive guard Ed Ziltz blocked brilliantly for the Spartans in their win over Joliet East. He helped key Marian's steady rushing attack. Rich Central Terry Bohan had 41 yards in seven carries, in addition to springing teammate Russell Johnson to his third 100-yard rushing total.

Previous players of the week include (defense) Rich East's Lombardi, Hillcrest's Shupryt and Bob Tournour (offense) Rich Central's Don Passmore, Johnson and Bloom Trail's Kevin Newquist.

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