

<b>GAME 9: Marian Catholic 32, St. Patrick 7</b>
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**Kickoff:** 7:30 p.m. Friday at Spartan Stadium.

**Where:** Joe Orr Road and Ashland Avenue, Chicago Heights.

**Records:** St. Patrick 2-6; Marian Catholic 6-2.

**CMC White:** St. Patrick 2-4; Marian Catholic 4-2.

**Streaks:** Shamrocks- 3 losses; Spartans- 1 win.

**Last week:** McNamara 40, St. Patrick 8; Marian Catholic 10, Notre Dame 0.

**Last meeting:** Marian Catholic 21, St. Patrick 0 in 1995.

**The series:** The Spartans own an overall edge of 7-3 and have not lost to the Shamrocks since 1969. The current seven-game streak includes two shutouts.

**Tidbits:** Playoff pairings will be announced Saturday night. The Spartans have qualified for the playoffs in nine of the last 11 seasons.

Oct. 20	1	2	3	4	Final
ST. PATRICK	0	7	0	0	7
at MARIAN CATHOLIC	0	14	12	6	32



**Devon Clark caught six passes for a record 185 yards, including a 33-yard TD from Mike Gavin, helping lead Marian Catholic to a 32-7 victory over visiting St. Patrick.**

## Spartans (7-2) thump St. Patrick

Maybe a little adversity is what it took to ignite the Marian Catholic offense.

Right after visiting St. Patrick scored with 55 seconds remaining in the second quarter on Friday to take a 7-6 edge, the Spartan offense rebounded with a vengeance. Not only did Marian (7-2, 5-2) respond with a score to take a halftime

lead--- the Spartans scored on five straight possessions.

The 32-7 Catholic Metropolitan White victory over the Shamrocks will send the Spartans into next weekend's IHSA playoffs with some strong play at the right time.

"I hope this gets us going," Marian senior quarterback Mike Gavin said after the Spartans' second straight victory. "This is the time that all you do through the season needs to culminate in a solid team effort. Passing, rushing and all phases need to step up. I hope this win is a good sign of things to come."

Rebounding from back and ankle injuries, Gavin twirled 10 completions in 16 attempts for 225 yards and a pair of scores. However, the contributors were many. Devon Clark pulled in six passes for a school-record 185 yards and a score, while Deon Bradley rushed for 122 yards and found the end zone as a receiver and rusher.

Meanwhile, the Marian defense was stingy as well. The Spartans got interceptions from Eric Papp, Jimmy Siegert and Chris Pack. Other solid efforts in the secondary from Sergio Flores, Cedrick Middleton and Nick Mitidiero limited the Shamrocks (2-7, 2-5) to a four of 17 night throwing the ball.

A touchdown pass to Jay Warner briefly gave St. Patrick a lead. It lasted only 51 seconds, however. Gavin marched Marian 63 yards in less than a minute, with a 41-yard strike to Clark eventually setting up a 7-yard touchdown toss to Bradley. Gavin ran for the conversions to send the stunned Shamrocks into halftime with a 14-7 deficit.

"We've had a lot of guys injured this year and this might be the first time since about the second week that we're almost at full strength," Gavin said. "Tonight, we had a lot of things working together and we had fun. That's the way it's supposed to be."

The Spartans had plenty of fun in the second half, scoring on their first three possessions on drives of 66, 55 and 70 yards.

The Marian lead swelled to 20-7 when Tom O'Brien and Mike Romeli opened huge real estate on Bradley's 13-yard touchdown scamper. On Marian's next possession, Clark outran the defense for a 33-yard touchdown grab. Finally, Joe Marias (seven rushes, 43 yards) capped off the scoring with a 1-yard score.

The Marian defense, which got sacks from Papp and Jonathan McMahon, held an opponent to single-digits for the fifth time this season. This also marks the ninth time since 1990 that the Spartans have posted at least seven victories.

Hoping for a similar run to the one that took Marian Catholic to the Class 5A state championship game last fall, the Spartans will await playoff pairings on Saturday night.

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>St. Patrick</b>	<b>Marian</b>
<b>First downs</b>	12	20
<b>Rush att./yards</b>	31-83	42-197
<b>Passing yards</b>	81	245
<b>Pass completions</b>	4	11
<b>Pass attempts</b>	17	19
<b>Had intercepted</b>	3	0
<b>Fumbles/lost</b>	0-0	2-1
<b>Penalty yards</b>	5-54	7-90

<b>Next</b>	<b>season over</b>	<b>PLAYOFFS</b>
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**SCORING**

**MC-** Eric Papp 2-yard run (kick failed), 3:55, second.

**SP-** Jay Warner 26-yard pass from Dan Linares (conversion kick), 0:55, second.

**MC-** Deon Bradley 7-yard pass from Mike Gavin (Gavin run), 0:04, second.

**MC-** Bradley 13-yard run (kick failed), 7:09, third.

**MC-** Devon Clark 33-yard pass from Gavin (kick failed), 3:56, third.

**MC-** Joe Marias 1-yard run (pass failed), 8:57, fourth.

**INDIVIDUALS**

**Passing:** SP- Linares 3 of 16, 59 yards, 3 INT; Pat Brooks 1 of 1, 22 yards. MC- Gavin 10 of 16, 225 yards, 2 TD; Don Busse 1 of 3, 20 yards.

**Rushing:** SP- Adonis Johnson 10-35, Anthony Risa 6-19, Michael Braglia 3-18, Anthony Riktor 8-11, Linares 4-0. MC- Bradley 19-122 (TD), Marias 7-43 (TD), Mike DiGiulio 7-30, Busse 2-4, Gavin 2-3, Papp 1-2 (TD), Bris Dawkins 3-(minus 4).

**Receiving:** SP- Warner 1-26 (TD), Risa 1-22, Tom Shallcross 1-21, Danny Santucci 1-12. MC- Clark 6-185 (TD), DiGiulio 2-22, Tom O'Brien 1-21, Michael Holmes 1-20, Bradley 1-7 (TD).

**Interceptions:** MC- Eric Papp, Jimmy Siegert, Chris Pack.