

Aug. 31	1	2	3	4	Total
<b>MARIAN SPARTANS</b>	26	13	6	0	<b>45</b>
HALES SPARTANS	0	0	0	14	<b>14</b>



**Marian Catholic defensive back Calvin Rowe had an interception and returned a fumble for a score to lead the Spartans to a 45-14 season-opening win at Hales.**

### **Marian stomps Hales in opener**

It had to be a good sign when Marian Catholic's Ryan Williams exploded for a return of 57 yards on the season's opening kickoff Saturday.

How true. That was only the beginning of the bad news for host Hales Franciscan.

The visiting Spartans used three-play drives on their first four possessions to vault to a 26-0 command before five minutes had elapsed in the season. From there, Marian used a dominant effort from its first-unit defense to coast to a 45-0 margin and eventual 45-14 nonconference victory.

"This effort was what was expected, but it's still great to build momentum right from the start and get the season off on the right foot," explained junior tailback Travis Bushnell. "We did a great job getting things going right away and we've just gotta keep playing this way next weekend in Indianapolis."

Bushnell's feet were in the right direction Saturday, as he used nine carries for a productive 39 yards and three touchdowns. Marian used quality over quantity in the air too, as starting quarterback Joe Grubisic was 4-for-4 for 66 yards and two scores.

The Spartans used lightning strikes on Saturday, as none of the six offensive scoring drives necessitated more than five plays. . . or traveled more than 31 yards.

Grubisic topped off the opening drive with a 32-yard scoring toss to Milan Curry before Tim Rhoads' conversion kick made it 7-0. Hales' next three chances to run an offense resulted in two plays and a fumble and two Marian recoveries of kickoff.

Before the host team knew what hit it, Bushnell followed Curtis Rich into the end zone from 8 yards out, added a 2-yard score and fullback Evan White hit Paydirt from 3 yards away. In the second quarter, Grubisic hit Andy Lietz for a 15-yard score and Calvin Rowe returned a fumble 37 yards for 39-0 halftime command.

Led by strong efforts up front from Sean Waldron, Russell Rivers, Keith Munoz, Adam Bohlen and Matt Peebles, the Marian defense was efficient as well. Rowe and Zach LoMonaco added interceptions.

Courtesy of three sacks, Hales finished with just 2 rushing yards on 18 attempts. After Bushnell's third touchdown from 3 yards away gave Marian a 45-0 lead in a running-clock second half, Hales added consolation passing scores on its final two possessions. Bushnell led the Spartan rushing attack with 39 yards, as Marian totaled just 202 yards working with short fields most of the afternoon.

"Our offensive line did an unbelievable job," Bushnell said of the likes of Rich, Tim Kelly, Kyle Fischer and Jon Scudella. "They really got the job done. We have some young people there, but they all played like seniors today."

Reserve quarterback Mike Jedlicka added 20 rushing yards and 23 passing yards, while Daniel Johnson added 16 rushing yards on six totes. Marian's five pass completions found five different targets.



CATEGORY	Marian	Hales
First downs	10	9
Rush attempts / yards	30-113	18-2
Passing yards	89	132
Pass completions	5	9
Pass attempts	8	19
Had intercepted	0	2
Fumbles / lost	4/3	1/1
Penalty yards	4-50	3-25
Next	at Arlington	ST. RITA

### SCORING

**MC-** Milan Curry 32-yard pass from Joe Grubisic (Tim Rhoads kick), 11:17 first.

**MC-** Travis Bushnell 2-yard run (kick failed), 10:15 first.

**MC-** Bushnell 8-yard run (Rhoads kick), 8:01 first.

**MC-** Evan White 3-yard run (kick failed), 7:05 first.

**MC-** Andy Lietz 15-yard pass from Grubisic (Matt Harris kick), 8:44 second.

**MC-** Calvin Rowe 37-yard fumble return (pass failed), 7:30 second.

**MC-** Bushnell 3-yard run (kick failed), 5:32 third.

**HF-** Nate Hood 70-yard pass from Adam Taylor (run failed), 1:58 fourth.

**HF-** Earry Hall 15-yard pass from Taylor (Taylor to Hood), 0:15 fourth.

### INDIVIDUALS

**Passing:** MC- Grubisic 4 of 4, 66 yards, 2 TD; Mike Jedlicka 1 of 4, 23 yards. HF- Taylor 9 of 19, 132 yards, 2 TD, 2 INT.

**Rushing:** MC- Bushnell 9-39 (3 TD), Jedlicka 4-20, Daniel Johnson 6-16, Chris Rodriguez 3-13, Harris 4-10, Grubisic 1-8, White 3-7 (TD). HF- DeAndre Lindsey 7-33, Vince Saunders 3-(minus 1), Taylor 7-(minus 14), Antonio Hughes 1-(minus 16).

**Receiving:** MC- Curry 1-32 (TD), Philip Cherry 1-23, Lietz 1-15 (TD), Forrest McCain 1-14, Bushnell 1-5. HF- Hall 2-27 (TD), Lenald Mombo 3-16, Hood 2-8 (TD), Lindsey 1-8, Vernon Robinson 1-1.

**Interceptions:** Zach LoMonaco (MC), Calvin Rowe, (MC).