

**GAME
5:
Marian
Catholic
35, St.
Patrick
0**

Kickoff: 8 p.m. Friday at Chicago's Hanson Stadium.

Where: Fullerton and Central, Chicago.

Records: Marian Catholic 4-0; St. Patrick 2-2.

Streaks: Spartans- 4 wins; Shamrocks- 2 wins.

Last week: [Marian 28, Benet 7](#); St. Patrick 33, De La Salle 26.

Week 6: Marian at Notre Dame (Friday); St. Patrick at Marist (Friday).

Last year: St. Patrick 32, Marian Catholic 0.

The series: Last year's Shamrock win halted a seven-game Marian win streak in the series, but the Spartans still hold a 7-4 overall advantage.

Notes: Marian is seeking its eighth 5-0 start in school history and first since 1993. . . The Spartans have scored 28 or more points in four consecutive games only three other times in school history. . . In four games, Marian has outrushed its foes by an average of 225 yards to 30 yards.

Sept. 27	1	2	3	4	Total
MARIAN SPARTANS	7	14	14	0	35
ST. PATRICK SHAMROCKS	0	0	0	0	0



Marian quarterback Joe Grubisic rushed for three touchdowns and passed for another in leading the Spartans to a 35-0 victory over St. Patrick at Hanson Stadium.

Marian (5-0) blanks Shamrocks

With the Marian Catholic offense racking up record-setting numbers this season, the Spartan defense has been overshadowed at times while doing a very consistent job.

"Every week we go into the game with a zero (shutout) as one of our defensive goals," explained junior defensive back Collin McKillip. "Today, we underlined that zero, circled it and put stars all around it."

The Marian defense had a number of stars on Friday, backing up a balanced offensive attack en route to a 35-0 nonconference victory over St. Patrick at Chicago's Hanson Stadium.

The win was Marian's eighth in the last nine games against the Shamrocks (2-3) and avenged a 32-0 setback last year at Hanson. The 5-0 start is the Spartans' best since 1993 when the won the Class 4A state championship.

McKillip's work on special teams ignited the Spartans on Friday, as his blocked punt gave the visitors their first start of the night on the St. Patrick 32-yard line. It took Marian just four plays to hit paydirt, as Joe Grubisic hit a diving Andy Lietz with a 24-yard scoring toss and 7-0 lead with less than four minutes gone in the contest.

Grubisic would score three more times on sneaks as Marian kept the Shamrocks off balance with a mix of run and pass. Yet, as it has on so many occasions, the Marian defense left the offense in great position throughout the night.

"It really feels great to finally get the shutout because we've played so well," McKillip said. "It's great to finally get one and now we're 5-0. We haven't been 5-0 since the year we won a state championship, so that feels pretty good too."

The Marian defense yielded just six first downs for the game and allowed the Shamrocks into Marian territory just twice- the second time on a fake punt. Superb play in the secondary from McKillip, Calvin Rowe, Marquis Pittman, Zack LoMonaco and Jerrell Wilkinson (interception) limited St. Patrick to just 36 yards through the air.

The excellent coverage also helped provide sacks for Ryan Vaughan and a combined effort from Adam Pack and Sean Waldron.

"We thought they would run a lot of options and dives," McKillip explained. "But they tried to open it up on us and we didn't give them many passes at all."

Courtesy of good field position, Marian scored from long and short range. A pair of 1-yard Grubisic sneaks gave Marian a 21-0 halftime command, then long pass receptions by Milan Curry and Ryan Williams set up the Spartans' two third-quarter touchdowns.

Grubisic tallied on a 7-yard burst up the middle and tailback Chris Rodriguez (20 carries, 97 yards) bounced outside after going off tackle for a 15-yard touchdown.

Grubisic finished an efficient eight of 11 for 147 yards, as Williams caught three for 71 yards, Curry two for 42 and Lietz two for 36.

The Spartans will visit Notre Dame next Friday at 7:30 p.m.

CATEGORY	Marian	St. Patrick
First downs	12	6
Rush attempts / yards	35-146	28-108
Passing yards	147	36
Pass completions	8	5
Pass attempts	13	16
Had intercepted	0	1
Fumbles / lost	1/0	3/2
Penalty yards	5-45	5-25
Next	at Notre Dame	at Marist

SCORING

MC- Andy Lietz 24-yard pass from Joe Grubisic (Tim Rhoads kick), 6:11 first.

MC- Grubisic 1-yard run (run failed), 6:13 second.

MC- Grubisic 1-yard run (Grubisic to Chris Rodriguez), 5:11 second.

MC- Grubisic 7-yard run (Rhoads kick), 8:52 third.

MC- Rodriguez 15-yard run (Rhoads kick), 1:54 third.

INDIVIDUALS

Passing: MC- Grubisic 8 of 11, 147 yards, TD; Mike Jedlicka 0 of 2. SP- Brian Crawford 4 of 14, 27 yards, 1 INT; Joseph Costa 1 of 1, 9 yards; David Bilek 0 of 1.

Rushing: MC- Rodriguez 20-97 (TD), Daniel Johnson 4-16, Grubisic 5-16 (3 TD), Ryan Williams 1-7, Forrest McCain 1-5, Jedlicka 4-5. SP- Michael Benson 8-35, Ryan Hartline 5-24, Crawford 6-20, Jonathan Fitzgerald 2-18, Jakub Koziol 2-6, William Currie 3-4, Daniel Schak 1-1, Erik Jacobson 1-0.

Receiving: MC- Williams 3-71, Milan Curry 2-42, Lietz 2-36 (TD), Rodriguez 1-(minus 2). SP- John Leonard 1-11, John Denk 1-9, Koziol 1-7, Kenneth Schak 1-5, Hartline 1-4.

Interceptions: Jerrell Wilkinson (MC).