

GAME 2: St. Viator 52, Marian Catholic 21

Kickoff: 7:30 p.m. Friday at Forest View Educational Center.

Where: 2121 South Goubert Road, Arlington Heights.

2005/ESCC records: Marian Catholic 0-1; St. Viator 1-0.

Streaks: Spartans- 5 losses; Lions- 1 win.

Week 1: Nazareth 26, Marian Catholic 20; St. Viator 35, Benet Academy 6.

Week 3 (Fri.): Joliet Catholic at Marian Catholic; Notre Dame at St. Viator (Forest View).

Last year: Marian Catholic 27, St. Viator 15.

The series: The Spartans own nine straight victories and a 10-1 series command, as the lone St. Viator victory came in 1967.

Notes: St. Viator represents the first of five 2004 playoff schedule on the Marian schedule.

. . The Spartans will try to avoid their first 0-2 start since 1995. . . Marian has scored at least 27 points in its last five meetings with the Lions. . . Spartans opponents have scored first in the last five games, dating back to last year's meeting against St. Viator.

Sept. 2	1	2	3	4	Total
MARIAN SPARTANS	6	8	7	0	-21
ST. VIATOR LIONS	13	18	7	14	-52



The Marian defense chats in a time out during the Spartans' 52-21 ESCC loss at St. Viator on Friday.

Spartans trampled in ESCC visit to St. Viator

After putting up a strong second half in its opening game at Nazareth, the Marian Catholic offense continued to put up solid numbers in its week two ESCC visit to St. Viator on Friday.

However, the Marian offense seldom got a necessary breather to recharge and was forced to play catch-up for most of the night against a powerful and diversified Lion attack.

The Marian offense was often called back to work on short rest, as St. Viator scored on drives of 1, 3, 2, 1, 3 and 1 plays en route to a 52-21 demolition of the Spartans.

The Spartans (0-2, 0-2) took a pair of first-half leads and scored first in the second half to pull within two scores, but the Marian defense forced just three St. Viator punts for the night and was shredded for 570 total yards.

Things looked bright for the visitors midway through the second quarter when fullback Josh Howe burst into the end zone for Marian's second score. On a fake, holder Jack Krause hit Joe Frjelich for a two-point conversion and 14-13 Spartan lead with 8:17 to play in the half.

But St. Viator's quick-strike offense quickly turned the tables before halftime.

Three snaps later, the host team took the lead for good at 21-14 after a 30-yard bomb from Jared Funk to Dan Carter for their second touchdown.

After a Marian punt, the Lions needed just two plays before tailback Pat McAvoy (14 carries, 224 yards) gave St. Viator a 28-14 lead with a 15-yard touchdown run. Adding insult to injury, the Lions added a 25-yard field goal by Tim Nolan late in the second quarter to take a 31-14 command into halftime.

The defensive woes were magnified after Marian lost linebacker Jack McCormick to injury, as St.

Viator finished with 307 yards on the ground and 263 through the air.

Marian posted some impressive offensive numbers as well.

After a strong opener, junior tailback Clifton Gordon was a workhorse in week two. Behind some strong blocking by Jon Jack, Marc Novak, Ben McDonnell, Jason Bruno and Dennis Kelly, Gordon carried 31 times for 148 yards.

Receiver Derrick Middleton turned in his second straight two-touchdown effort, pulling in scoring passes from Zack Stevenson for 14 and 22 yards. For the night, Middleton pulled in five passes for 121 yards. Stevenson was 13 of 25 for 180 yards.

However, the pace was too much for Marian's offense on Friday.

Coming out of halftime strong for the second straight week, Marian marched down the field the first time it had the ball in the second half. Courtesy of a couple scrambles by Stevenson (50 rushing yards), Marian moved quickly downfield and pulled within 31-21 when Middleton followed his 22-yard touchdown catch with a conversion kick.

However, St. Viator wasted little time in turning the momentum.

With just one snap, McAvoy raced 69 yards for a score to give the Lions a 38-21 cushion.

Marian continued to move the ball and finished with 20 first downs for the night, but saw its consecutive scoring streak snapped at five quarters with a scoreless fourth period.

Along with allowing four plays of 48 yards or more on Friday, the Marian defense failed to force a turnover for the second straight week.

Sophomores: Marian fell to 1-1 with a 22-8 loss to St. Viator, despite a 61-yard touchdown run and conversion catch from Mark Scott.

Freshmen: Jacob Cohn had three touchdowns and Nyko Palombi two to lead Marian to a 42-13 victory over the Lions to improve to 1-1. Dan Roque added a rushing score and threw to Armando Lopez for another. Mario Earnest was perfect in seven conversion kicks.

At 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Marian Catholic will celebrate **Coach Dave Mattio's 30th season** with a brief pre-game ceremony before the Spartans host Joliet Catholic at 7 p.m.

CATEGORY	Marian	St. Viator
First downs	20	18
Rush attempts / yards	44-196	22-307
Passing yards	180	263
Pass completions	13	13
Pass attempts	25	18
Had intercepted	1	0
Fumbles / lost	1-0	1-0
Penalty yards	5-60	4-30
Next	Joliet Catholic	Notre Dame

SCORING

MC- Derrick Middleton 14-yard pass from Zack Stevenson (kick failed), 9:31 first.

SV- Jared Funk 8-yard run (pass failed), 7:01 first.

SV- Dan Carter 31-yard pass from Funk (Tim Nolan kick), 0:20 first.

MC- Josh Howe 6-yard run (Jack Krause to Joe Frjelich), 8:17 second.

SV- Carter 30-yard pass from Funk (Funk to Casey Lynde), 7:08 second.

SV- Pat McAvoy 15-yard run (Nolan kick), 4:40 second.

SV- Nolan 25-yard field goal, 0:26 second.

MC- Middleton 22-yard pass from Stevenson (Middleton kick), 7:09 third.

SV- McAvoy 69-yard run (Nolan kick), 6:52 third.

SV- Funk 56-yard run (Nolan kick), 9:02 fourth.

SV- McAvoy 88-yard run (Nolan kick), 4:27 fourth.

INDIVIDUALS

Passing: MC- Stevenson 13 of 25, 180 yards, 2 TD, 1 INT. SV- Funk 13 of 18, 263 yards, 2 TD.

Rushing: MC- Gordon 31-148, Stevenson 10-50, Howe 2-7 (TD), Mattio 1-(minus 9).

SV- McAvoy 14-224 (3 TD), Funk 4-67 (2 TD), Patrick Lamick 1-15, Dan Wallace 1-1, Joe Pape 2-0.

Receiving: MC- Middleton 5-121 (2 TD), Howe 2-22, Dennis Kelly 1-17, Michael Brooks 2-12, Gordon 3-7. SV- Carter 5-124 (2 TD), Matt O'Connor 2-73, McAvoy 2-29, Lynde 1-23, Pat Guth 2-9, Dan O'Connell 1-5.

Interceptions: Mike Roberts (SV).