

GAME 3: Carmel Catholic 28, Marian Catholic 7

Kickoff: 7:30 p.m. Friday at Carmel Catholic High School.

Where: 1 Carmel Parkway, Mundelein.

2007 records: Marian Catholic 2-0; Carmel Catholic 1-1.

Streaks: Spartans- 2 wins; Corsairs- 1 win.

Week 2: Marian 27, Bloom 14; Carmel 9, Libertyville 6.

Week 4: Nazareth at Marian (7:30 p.m. Fri); Carmel at Notre Dame (7:30 p.m. Fri).

Last year: Carmel 73, Marian Catholic 55.

The series: The Corsairs have won six in a row to even the series at 9-9, as Carmel has averaged 43.5 points per game during the current streak. The Spartans' last victory came in a 19-7 Prep Bowl victory in 2000.

Notes: Marian is seeking its first 3-0 start since 2002 when the Spartans opened the campaign with a 5-0 mark... the ESCC put together an overall mark of 8-2 during the second week of nonconference games... the Spartan defense had forced seven turnovers in the first two weeks of play and the offense has had three 100-yard rushing efforts... last year's 73-55 contest vs. Carmel ranks as one of the highest-scoring affairs in IHSA state history.

Sept. 7	1	2	3	4	Total
MARIAN CATHOLIC	0	0	0	7	- 7
at CARMEL CATHOLIC	7	7	7	7	-28



Marian's Julian Williams pulled in four passes Friday, but the visiting Spartans still dropped their ESCC opener at Carmel, 28-7.

Marian Catholic thwarted in ESCC opener at Carmel

MUNDELEIN- Visiting Marian Catholic didn't exactly play like a 2-0 team on Friday night, but the Spartans also didn't have a listless effort.

Carmel didn't do anything flashy, amazing or incredible.

However, the host Corsairs did put together a fundamental effort that added up to seven points in all four quarters en route to a 28-7 ESCC victory in the loop opener for both squads.

Marian (2-1) scored its lone points in the game's final minutes when a group of Spartans forced a sack and fumble, with Arthur Riley rambling 72 yards with the return for a consolation score. Dan Roque added the conversion kick to account for the final score.

The defensive score proved to be Marian's best offense as the Spartans managed just 100 yards on the ground and 72 through the air after rolling up 61 points in their first two victories.

"They came out well-prepared; they were very well-disciplined and they came to play tonight," Marian running back Malcolm Allen praised of the Carmel defense. "They had everybody in the right spots and everybody stuck with their duties and responsibilities. They ran their defense to perfection."

Allen had put together a pair of 100-yard rushing efforts for Marian in two victories. He led

the Spartans in rushing Friday, but never had a rush of more than 7 yards en route to a 64-yard effort on 18 tough carries.

The Spartans managed 10 first downs (just five fewer than the Corsairs), but never mustered more than two first downs on an individual drive.

Marian never visited the Carmel red zone and committed four turnovers, although three of them came when the contest was likely determined.

The Spartan defense tried to rally the visitors on a couple occasions before the game was out of reach.

With Marian trailing just 7-0 in the second quarter, Dominick Corsiglia and Kirk Roberts combined on a big sack to force a Carmel punt. Andres Rodriguez returned the boot 17 yards to midfield.

However, Marian's drive lasted just three plays when the Corsairs squelched it with one of three interceptions.

Marian quarterback Evan Watson clicked on seven of 14 attempts for 72 yards, but his final two aerial attempts resulted in Carmel pickoffs.

With the Spartans chasing a 21-0 deficit, but still early in the fourth quarter, defensive back Kevin Kammert broke up a fourth-down passing attempt to give Marian the ball at the Corsair 25.

The Spartans gained a pair of first downs on connections from Watson to Julian Williams, but held the ball only five plays when a fumble on a sweep gave the ball back to Carmel (2-1).

Williams led Marian in the receiving department with four catches for 28 yards.

Allen also pulled in two passes for 21 yards, while Mark Scott had Marian's other reception for 23 yards. Scott was also the Spartans' second-leading rusher with 24 yards on six carries.

The Corsairs finished with 228 rushing yards and 74 more through the air... not gaudy numbers, but enough for Marian to look at a 2-1 record heading into next Friday's 7:30 p.m. home game against Nazareth Academy.

"We've just gotta come out with more emotion in practice and show a lot more energy when we get to game time," Allen concluded. "It's a loss, but not the end of the world. We just have to come out next week and turn things around."

CATEGORY	Marian	Carmel
First downs	10	15
Rush attempts / yards	35-100	49-228
Passing yards	72	74
Pass completions	7	4
Pass attempts	14	6
Had intercepted	3	0
Fumbles / lost	1-1	2-2
Penalty yards	1-5	5-29
Next	NAZARETH	at Notre Dame

SCORING

CA- Mike Taylor 8-yard run (Austin Heinrichs kick), 5:14 first.

CA- David Venegoni 3-yard run (Heinrichs kick), 5:00 second.

CA- Andrew Nerup 18-yard pass from Venegoni (Heinrichs kick), 2:35 third.

CA- Geoffry Fields 7-yard run (Heinrichs kick), 5:41 fourth.

MC- Arthur Riley 72-yard fumble return (Dan Roque kick), 1:45 fourth.

Rushing: MC- Malcolm Allen 18-64, Mark Scott 6-24, Brandon Sherman 7-15, Evan Watson 4-(minus 3). CA- Fields 15-88 (TD), Taylor 10-57 (TD), Venegoni 11-50 (TD), Sean Madison 5-21, Nerup 4-8, Matt Berg 2-3, Jimmy Miller 1-1.

Passing: MC- Watson 7 of 14, 72 yards, 0 TD, 3 INT. CA- Venegoni 4 of 6, 74 yards, 1 TD, 0 INT.

Receiving: MC- Julian Williams 4-28, Scott 1-23, Allen 2-21. CA- Taylor 2-50, Nerup 1-18 (TD), Berg 1-6.

Interceptions: CA- Aaron Kwasigroch (2), Tim Cook.

