

GAME 5: Carmel 50, Marian Catholic 7 (HOMECOMING) [Assembly photos](#)**Kickoff:** 7:30 p.m. Friday at Spartan Stadium.**Where:** Joe Orr Road at Ashland Avenue, Chicago Heights.**2008 records:** Carmel Catholic 3-1; Marian Catholic 1-3.**ESCC records:** Carmel 1-1; Marian 1-1.**Streaks:** Corsairs- 1 win; Spartans- 1 win.**Week 4:** Carmel 49, Benet Academy 13; Marian Catholic 20, St. Joseph 12.**Week 6:** Notre Dame at Carmel (Fri., 7:30 p.m.); Marian at Nazareth (Sat., 1:30 p.m.).**Last year:** Carmel Catholic 28, Marian Catholic 7.**The series:** The Corsairs have won seven in a row to take the series edge at 10-9, as Carmel has averaged 40.3 points per game during the current streak. The Spartans' last victory came in a 19-7 Prep Bowl victory in 2000.**Notes:** The teams have met every year since 1998... In the last meeting in Spartan Stadium, the squads played one of the higher scoring games in IHSA history in a 73-55 Carmel victory... In Marian's four contests, the team to gain more yardage owns a 1-3 record... Carmel is one of eight ESCC teams with a current record of .500 or better... despite a 1-3 mark, the Spartans own the third best scoring defense in the ESCC... Marian's last five scores have come in five different fashions (interception return, pass, kickoff return, rush, field goal)... The Spartans are seeking their first victory on the stadium's new *FieldTurf*.

September 26	1	2	3	4	Total
CARMEL CORSAIRS	28	22	0	0	-50
at MARIAN SPARTANS	0	0	7	0	-7

**Marian's Dan Vargas watches the action on Friday night during the host Spartans' homecoming ESCC contest against Carmel.****Spartans foiled by Carmel in Homecoming rout**

Some things are just difficult to explain.

Southern California routs Ohio State, then loses to Oregon State.

On Friday night in Chicago Heights, it was difficult to explain to Marian Catholic how Carmel Catholic had lost a football game this season.

With Homecoming fireworks planned following the contest, the visiting Corsairs decided they would start the fireworks on their own in the first half.

Carmel had seven first-half possessions. Seven consecutive scores gave the Corsairs a 50-0 halftime cushion and added up to a 50-7 spoiling of the Spartans' Homecoming festivities.

Carmel improved to 4-1 with its second consecutive ESCC victory, while Marian was left on the brink of playoff elimination with marks of 1-4 and 1-2.

As has been Marian's pattern all season, the Spartans outplayed (and outscored) their opponent in the second half.

With a running clock in the second half, the Spartans marched 63 yards in 13 plays

following the second-half kickoff. Jesse Steward busted off a pair of first-down runs and Marian moved into the red zone when reserve quarterback Joey Walker hit Armando Lopez with a 5-yard pass to the Corsair 17.

Five plays later, the same Spartan combination hooked up, as Walker hit Lopez in the back of the end zone with a 1-yard touchdown toss. Dan Roque added the conversion kick, ending Marian's highlights for the night and pulling the Spartans to within 50-7.

With the clock on the move, Marian's defense only had to make one true stop in the second half and keep Carmel at fewer than the 55 points it scored the last time the teams played in Spartan Stadium.

Marian's defensive highlight came in the form of a sack by Nolan Berens in the second quarter. Unfortunately, the Corsairs already had a 35-0 command at that point.

Carmel's scoring strikes were not cheap, either. The Corsairs hit paydirt on drives of 75, 80, 64, 90 and 59 yards en route to the lopsided intermission margin. Marian's lone turnovers of the contest resulted in short Carmel drives in the opening half.

A Spartan interception paved the way for a three-play, 6-yard Carmel scoring drive, and a Marian fumble quickly resulted in a one-play, 8-yard Corsair scoring drive.

The Marian offense actually produced 149 yards in the opening half, highlighted by Tommy Doane's 60-yard screen pass to Walker. However, the Spartans never got closer than a missed 25-yard field goal and Carmel churned out 365 yards of offense in the opening half.

Marian has become a squad noted for halftime adjustments, as the Spartans have outscored their opposition, 54-18, in the second half for five games. However, Marian has been shut out four times in the opening half and has been outscored, 88-3, in the first two quarters.

Along with firing the touchdown toss, Walker also led the Marian ground game with 49 yards on 13 carries. With all six totes coming in the second half, Steward finished with 47 rushing yards.

Doane had a productive opening half, as the junior signal-caller completed eight of 14 attempts for 111 yards.

Marian will try to turn things around under the sun next week- as daytime has produced the Spartans' lone victory- when it visits Nazareth for a 1:30 p.m. ESCC contest.

CATEGORY	Carmel Catholic	Marian Catholic
First downs	13	10
Rush attempts / yards	40-361	27-113
Passing yards	21	117
Pass completions	2	10
Pass attempts	2	20
Had intercepted	0	1
Fumbles / lost	0 / 0	2 / 1
Penalty yards	6-39	4-40
Next	NOTRE DAME	at Nazareth

SCORING

C- Mike Taylor 2-yard run (Jimmy Miller kick), 9:49 first.

C- Taylor 2-yard run (Miller kick), 7:25 first.

C- Jack Baucas 8-yard pass from Andrew Nerup (Miller kick), 3:54 first.

C- Taylor 6-yard run (Miller kick), 2:07 first.

C- Miller 6-yard run (Miller kick), 7:46 second.

C- Jackson Davenport 36-yard run (Miller kick), 2:34 second.

C- Pat Gemignani 8-yard run (Nerup run), 1:33 second.

MC- Armando Lopez 1-yard pass from Joey Walker (Dan Roque kick), 2:33 third.

Rushing: C- Taylor 11-167 (3 TD), Eric Stevenson 4-91, Davenport 4-45 (TD), Miller 4-21 (TD), Dirk Wagner 5-13, Nerup 4-12, Gemignani 2-9 (TD), Matt Rejc 1-2, John Csiha 1-2, Ian Nyre 1-1, Namu Park 1-0, Larry Amato 1-(minus 2); MC- Walker 13-49, Steward 6-47, Frank Tambrini 5-19, Doane 3-(minus 2).

Passing: C- Nerup 2 of 2, 21, 1 TD, 0 INT. MC- Doane 8 of 14, 111 yards, 0 TD, 1 INT; Walker 2 of 6, 6 yards, 1 TD, 0 INT.

Receiving: C- Stevenson 1-13, Baucas 1-8 (TD). MC- Walker 2-70, Brian Kelly 2-18, Lopez 3-16 (TD), Caleb Dyson 1-10, Austin Guaccio 1-3, Arthur Riley 1-0.

Interceptions: Jake Sinkovec (C).

