

CHICAGO HEIGHTS STAR- Oct. 4, 1962

What to do? DeSoto Puzzled by Marian

They Practice Well; Falter In Combat

Marian football coach Joe DeSoto sat in the Gately stadium locker room last Friday night thinking. His team has just lost its third straight game.

The youthful Spartan mentor sat in his athletic office this week pondering over what type of “pep medicine” he could give his gridders.

DeSoto’s thoughts centered around how to remedy his teams costly “fundamental mistakes.”

The coach had forgotten (just a little bit) the 20-6 loss to Catholic Metropolitan conference foe St. Francis Friday night.

His goal now was to make adjustments for CMC opponent St. Francis of Wheaton, whom the Spartans meet at 2 p.m. Saturday at Bloom field.

“I don’t know what to say about our situation,” said DeSoto, “but we have to do something in a hurry.”

The coach was referring to the “tougher half” of the schedule which presents itself in the Spartans’ six remaining games.

After the St. Francis of Wheaton game, Marian must face undefeated Andrean Catholic of Gary, Thornton Fractional South, Little Flower, Crete-Monee and Marmion of Aurora.

Only the league contest with Little Flower is a home affair for the Spartans.

DeSoto needs shock treatment every time he thinks “how good” his team looks on the practice field and “how un-coordinated” it can look under game conditions.

“We just don’t have a good second effort— our linemen aren’t blocking and our backs aren’t running. What do you do,” asked DeSoto.

Actually Marian was only a little better off at this time last year with a 1-won, 2-lost mark. The Spartans bombed Glenwood in the opener and then lost to Luther South and Wilmington.

But for DeSoto, that was last year. This year he had hoped to do better – in fact so much better that his team would be undefeated at this point.

“I recognize the fact that we’re green,” he said, “and I really thought it would take three years to get things rolling here.” The former St. Ambrose college halfback has been at the Marian helm for two seasons now.

One incentive that might help his athletes to “get hungry” is the fact that St. Francis dumped the Spartans last year 32-0. DeSoto is trying to avert such embarrassment this time.

DeSoto doesn’t plan any big changes in personnel— letting sophomores Tim Tierney and Bob Dyke go at quarterback; Mike Schreiber and Jerry Nicholas at halfbacks and senior veteran Joe Bijak at fullback.

Jim Theis, a freshman from Park Forest, will man Dick Hamilton’s offensive end post, the latter moving to a defensive flank spot.

The Marian forward wall might come into the gam with a new look due to injuries to key personnel Monday night.

Senior guard and co-captain Jim Addyman suffered a fractured jaw and face lacerations during the workout. DeSoto indicated the veteran lineman would be out for the season.

Joe Krusinski, who DeSoto had hoped to move into an offensive line spot, also was hurt as was halfback Ed Linthicum.

Krusinski suffered face cuts during a blocking workout while Linthicum suffered hand cuts in making a tackle. Both are expected to see limited duty in Saturday's contest.

Addyman suffered a broken leg last season and was out for the year.