

**CHICAGO HEIGHTS STAR- Oct. 31, 1963**

## **Spartans, Warriors Tangle Marian Can't Forget Last Year's Game**

**By Bob Lueder**

"We still have salt in our wounds from last year's beating," said Marian coach Joe DeSoto about the game with Crete-Monee Saturday at Bloom field.

The Spartan tutor was thinking back to last season when his club won just once and it was Crete-Monee that really pasted them with a shocking finish.

Marian was winning 20-14 by scoring a touchdown with about two minutes left to play and for a while it looked like something might be salvaged from a bad season.

"I'll never forget it," DeSoto claimed. "Back came Joe Balogh with the kickoff return for Crete-Monee and he went all the way to score and we got beat 21-20."

A second reason for a win is that this is the Homecoming game for Marian.

This is the first time the Spartans have ever been on the winning side of a football schedule and they hope to add an impressive mark to a 5-won, 2-lost, 1-tie record in the final two games.

"We expect Crete-Monee to come here keyed up and we just can't afford to let down or they'll whip us," DeSoto said.

Marian has one of the area's finest runners in junior Jerry Nicolas, who has scored 61 points to date, a new school record.

Nicolas is a shifty runner and once he spots daylight, he'll turn loose with the speed. The 155-pound halfback is also the top pass receiver for the Spartans.

For the first time in six games, Marian will have its first unit in the backfield. At the opposite half from Nicholas is Steve Bergstrom, who has been hobbled by a bad ankle.

Doing the signal calling for DeSoto's eleven is Tim Tierney and at fullback is the only senior of the quartet, Mike Schreiber.

Schreiber has been in and out of the lineup since the St. Francis of Wheaton game on September 28 with a foot injury, but is now ready for full time service.

DeSoto praises his "black team" or defensive squad as one of the best in this section and it has limited the opposition to only 543 yards rushing this year.

Leading up the aggressive group is linebacker Tom Bijak and end Ken Alger. The only weakness is on passing where the opponent has 526 yards.

On top of the offensive ground gaining attack, Nicolas has picked up 618 yards in 71 carries for a nifty 8.7 yard per carry average.

Bergstrom is second with 481 yards and a 6.4 average, while Schreiber is in third with 332 yards and a 6.0 average. In all, the Spartans have gained 1,638 rushing.

Starting at the ends for Marian are Ed Scott and John Mulhollan. The tackles are Joe Wojdula and Dean Bartolini. Captain Joe Krusinski is with Bijak at the guard, while Larry Pilotto is the center.

Coming in when Crete-Monee has the ball to lend some aid will be Terry Prokup, Charles Carolo, Greg Rohlf and Dennis Schmal. Slated for their share of action are also Dane Mattio and Len Ignelzi.

The only doubtful person on the injured list is kicking specialist Julio Gozzi, but he could be ready by Saturday. Previously, the Spartans lost two players for the year on injuries.