

CHICAGO HEIGHTS STAR- Sept. 30, 1965

Marian in CMC Start

By Bob Lueder

Marian opens Catholic Metropolitan conference play against Little Flower at the Bloom field Saturday looking for that first win it needs so much.

“It’s just a matter of us having the offense jell,” Spartan coach Norm Mack reported. “If we can start now, a good season can still be ahead.”

The rushing statistics show Marian has only gained 108 yards on the ground and 67 in the air, the reason it lost to Homewood-Flossmoor and Lockport West.

Little Flower will bring one of the school’s best teams to Chicago Heights for the contest, with nine senior veterans in the starting lineup.

The Lancers won their opening game over Gage Park 22-8 and last week lost a close 19-13 battle to CMC power Gary Andean.

“I still feel our defense is sound and there will be no major changes, only that we hope to give a few of the boys a rest,” Mack stated.

Dave Mattio, 6-3 senior, who has been one of the Spartans’ top performers, was kept out of scrimmage most of the week with a sprained ankle.

The 210 pound Marian co-captain suffered the injury in the second half of the Lockport West game, but is expected to be ready for full time service this week.

Mack reported that senior Mike Platt will be given a chance to do more running with the ball this week after a good showing against West.

The new backfield alignment will have Jack Thar at the flanker back, with either Bill Massey or Mark Klausner at the fullback position.

Greg Lee continues as the number one signal caller and Mack thinks once the junior gets a good game under his belt the Spartans will begin to roll.

The best news in the Spartan camp came when doctors removed the cast from halfback Claudio Cerulli’s ankle.

Cerulli, slated to be the Spartans’ top runner this season after a good junior year, suffered a break in pre-season practice.

“Claudio will be able to resume workouts some time this week and we have hopes to use him a week from Saturday in the Andean game,” Mack commented.

Looking back at the Lockport West game, Mack thought his club was hurt because they were guilty of too many infractions.

With Mattio out of action, the defense weakened and this prompted Mack to state, “I’ll be looking for a pair of good reserves in practice this week.”

Guido Damiani, 5-10 junior, will be starting at offensive guard this week in order to give some rest to seniors Mike Fanning and Craig Snyder.

The Marian offense has failed to score a touchdown this season. John Towle tallied against H-F on an intercepted pass while Tim Massey picked up a blocked punt and Snyder a fumble for tallies in the Lockport West clash.