

**CHICAGO HEIGHTS STAR- Sept. 23, 1965**

## **Mack Shakes Up Backfield**

**By Bob Lueder**

“You can’t gain 82 yards and expect to win a ball game,” is the point Marian coach Norm Mack is attempting to emphasize as the Spartans prepare for their home debut.

Marian will host Lockport West at the Bloom high school field at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Lockport West used a solid running attack with end sweeps the chief weapon to roll over Wheaton North last Friday, 12-6.

Mack had the game well scouted and reported West had a good nucleus of the team back that tied Marian 13-all in the rain a year ago.

“We have to make some changes in the backfield assignments and most of our practice will be based around that this week,” Mack stated.

Greg Lee will remain as the signal caller, while Larry Conlan is to stay as the blocking back in the Spartans’ winged-T offense.

“Lee did make some mistakes, but for a junior in his first varsity game, I thought he did a good job,” Mack spoke in regard to his club’s 13-6 loss to Homewood-Flossmoor last week.

The Spartan brother act could hold as a key to the Lockport West game. Tim Massey, a senior, will be used strictly on defense, while junior Bill will be given a chance to carry the ball. Slated for offensive backfield duty are seniors Jack Thar and Mike Platt, along with junior Mark Klausner.

Thar saw limited duty against H-F and his recently mended knee proved to be sound. This will allow the Spartan co-captain more game time in the Lockport West contest.

The best news for Marian could come later in the week when doctors remove the cast from Claudio Cerulli’s ankle to see when Marian’s best back prospect will be ready to go.

Mack reported that his club came out of the H-F battle with only minor injuries to linemen Dave Mattio, Craig Snyder and John Towle. Towle was singled out by the coaching staff as being the most pleasant surprise after the 5-9 senior was listed earlier as a doubtful starter.

The defensive linebacker intercepted three Viking passes and turned one of them into the lone score the Spartans were able to make.

“I’ll have to stick with my offensive lineup from end to end,” Mack remarked. “They turned in an outstanding job and most of the boys had to go on defense also.”

Mack said he was still looking at the second string for some candidates to give relief to the first unit.

The Spartans were also pleased with the pass defense that was set up by Tim Massey, Conlan, Thar, Platt and John Pascarella.

This will be the final test before the Spartans begin play in the Catholic Metropolitan conference with games against Maryville, Gary Andrean, Little Flower and St. Francis DeSales on future Saturdays.

All Marian home games will be played on the Bloom field at 2 o’clock. The frosh-soph contest will be held on the Spartans’ campus starting at noon.