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Marian To Play Wind Up

By Jack Jeneson

The grid battle of the "M" boys (Marian and Marmion academy, that is) will unfold at 8 p.m. Friday in Aurora.

It will be the final game of the season for two teams which have found winning at a premium.

Marian enters the contest with a 1-won, 7-lost mark, while Marmion has done a bit better. The academy team fashions a 3-won, 5-lost worksheet.

The Spartans lost a tough 21 to 20 contest to Crete-Monee last Friday, while Marmion was defeating Suburban Catholic league foe St. Edward's of Elgin by a 27 to 13 count.

This is the first meeting between the two teams. A frosh-soph contest at 6:15 will precede the varsity tilt.

Marian coach Joe DeSoto plans an all-senior type night at Marmion, letting several of his last-year men see action for the final time in a Spartan uniform.

Marmion backs Greg Barker and Rich Weber, along with end Jim Nardone will be playing their final high school game.

Ten Spartan seniors will answer the final high school football game call.

These performers are ends Gene Mulderink, Dick Hamilton and John Patti; tackles Jim Pierson and Bill Tietz, and backs Joe Bijak, Jerry Lucas, Jack Schreiber, Ed Linthicum and Mike Kuhl.

Co-captain and senior Jim Addyman will not play against Marmion, just as he missed the last three games. Addyman suffered injuries in practice during the middle of the season and has been out ever since.

"We plan nothing different for Marmion," said DeSoto, "we'll try and start some seniors and go from there." Marmion Coach Neil Fichtel has watched his club batter St. Bede of Peru 47 to 7, Immaculate Conception 33 to 13 and St. Edward.

A blessing for the academy team will be the probable return of halfback and leading scorer Mike Close, as 175-pound junior. An injured foot has caused Close to miss several Marmion games.

Fichtel employs the "slot formation" type offense with just two running backs behind junior quarterback Mike Chew. The pro-type offense carries with it the threat of running and passing.

Chew fired three touchdown passes against Thornridge early in the season. Thornridge handed Marmion one of its five defeats 25 to 19 after being down at halftime 19 to 6.

Nordone is the team's best end, doubling also as a defensive linebacker. He was named to the first team all-Suburban Catholic conference last year as a junior.

Marmion co-captains are center Rick Sharpenter and 185-pound tackle John Hollmier. Augie Shiralli, a 205-pounder, goes at the other academy tackle.

An interesting sidelight to the game is that two Tierney's (Tim of Marian and Tom of Marmion) will have opposite side interest.

Tim is the Marian sophomore quarterback. His uncle, Tom is the Marmion line coach.