Cardinals sack Vikings 17-7; Fig. Baker to test number one status

by Scott Burton

William Jewell defensive end Steve Montgomery wasn't counting his chickens before they hatched last Saturday night in Marshall, Mo.

The football Cardinals posted a 17-7 Heart of America Athletic Conference victory over Missouri Valley, but it may have been three closing minute quarterback sacks by Montgomery that helped protect William Jewell's top ranking in Division II of the NAIA.

"We changed our defensive scheme a little," said Montgomery. "The changes allowed me to get to the quarterback untouched."

Montgomery, who got to Missouri Valley quarterback Don Winkler a total of six times, spoiled the Vikings' last bid to cut into the Jewell lead.

With four minutes remaining, Missouri Valley blocked a Jeff McGuire punt and recovered at the Cardinal 20-yard line. That's when Montgomery came to the rescue.

"We had them (Missouri Valley) scouted real well," said Montgomery. "The coaches did a good job."

Montgomery sacked Winkler for a 10-yard loss on first down and the southwest Missouri native recorded another sack of eight yards on second down. Valley's Winkler didn't find time to throw on third down either. Montgomery recorded another 10-yard sack and the Vikings faced fourth down and 38 with just over a minute to play.

"Defensively, we knew we'd bend a little," said Montgomery. "We knew we'd bend, but we didn't break."

The Cardinals opened scoring midway through the first quarter. Jewell quarterback Kelly Groom scored on a one-yard sneak and Steve Hudson kicked the extra point. On the ensuing kickoff, Missouri Valley's Tony Walker scooted 77 yards to forge a 7-7 tie.

"I feel like this year's team is more mature," said Montgomery. "We have a lot of people in the same positions and the se-

niors have shown great leadership."

Groom, who led the Cardinals to 409 yards of total offense, directed a 76-yard scoring drive just before the half ended to give Jewell a 14-7 lead. The drive was capped by Groom's five-yard touchdown toss to Jimi Reed.

Hudson booted a 20-yard field goal late in the third quarter to account for the 17-7 margin.

"We're pretty much in the heart of the schedule," said Montgomery. "The coaching staff and the players like to put emphasis on one game at a time."

Jewell, 5-0 and 4-0 in the HAAC, will host Baker University tomorrow night at 7:30. "Give Baker a lot of credit," said Montgomery, "Baker could be our toughest opponent this year."

Baker, 4-2 and 2-1, beat Mid-America Nazarene 26-10 last weekend. Two weeks ago the Wildcats upset NAIA Division II ninthrated Benedictine, Kan. 28-18. "We've got to take it to them offensively," stressed Montgomery. "We've got to show them we can move the football. Defensively, we've got to hit them hard and focus on their running game."

The Cardinals are likely to go with Groom at quarterback, Scoop Gillespie (RB), Steve Hodges (RB), Reed (who had 12 catches for 150 yards last weekend), Darrell Schwabe (WR), Scott Martin (TE), Mark Mundell (G), Ralph Yeater (G), Mike Rogers (T), Lonnie Bruns (T) and Greg Embree (C) offensively.

Montgomery, Jerry Twigg (DE), Guy Weber (DL), Jan Redmond (DL), Steve Ennen (LB), Tim Johnson (LB), Steve Mattingly (LB), David Armstrong (CB), Art Davis (CB), Paul Taylor (FS) and Mike Newman (SS) are probables for Jewell defensively.

"It's nice to be ranked number one and be on top," said Montgomery. "Personally, I don't harp on it. You're really not number one until the end of the season."