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Jewell players were stunned by shutout defeat at Baker

By the Associated Press

William Jewell College's wide receiver Jimi Reed never thought Baker University would shut out the Cardinals in their Saturday night battle in Baldwin City, Kan., for an NAIA Division II playoff spot.

Now, Reed can only hope for another shot at the Kansas team which blanked William Jewell of Liberty, 10-0, to virtually clinch a spot in the NAIA playoffs.

Baker is 7-0 and ranked No. 4 in the fight for the eight-team post-season Division II competition. William Jewell, which hasn't won in two weeks, dropped to 5-1-1 and may be in jeopardy of missing the playoffs for the first time in four years. The Cardinals came into the game ranked No. 5 in the Division II poll.

Baker scored on an 80-yard drive in the first quarter, with Chuck Rhodes throwing to Joe Boeh on a 46-yard scoring play. A recovered William Jewell fumble later led to Ron Frazier's 25-yard field goal.

Before the game, Baker's defense was ranked No. 1 in Division II with an average yield of 138.7 yards per game. The Cardinals managed 204 yards total offense, but the Wildcats' defense came up with the big play every time one was needed.

Near the end of the first half for instance, the Cardinals drove to the Baker 19, but safety Roger Mallory intercepted a Scott Sandridge pass at the goal line and returned it 36 yards to end the threat.

However, the William Jewell defense held Baker to only two first downs in the last three quarters.

"They didn't do anything special," Reed said. "They just played tough on defense. I never thought we'd get shut out. Maybe we can get another shot at them and do better next time."

Also on Saturday, Missouri Western of St. Joseph upset previously unbeaten Missouri Southern of Joplin, 17 to 10, on the latter's gridiron. Missouri Western's defense forced five turnovers and held Central States Conference rushing leader Missouri Southern to only 55 yards on the ground.

A Missouri Southern fumble at its own 1-yard line set up Missouri Western's clinching touchdown in the third period. Mark Smreker's tackle on Lions' runningback Harold Noirfalise caused the fumble, which Smreker recovered on the 1. Scott Crawford scored for Missouri Western on the next play.

Noirfalise, who entered the game averaging 110 yards rushing per game, was held to 45 yards on 15 carries.

Defensive end John Frerking accounted for two scores — a safety and a blocked punt for a touchdown — in Missouri Rolla's 15-10 win over Central Missouri State of Warrensburg. Frerking blocked a CMSU punt, picked the ball up and sped 20 yards for a touchdown midway through the first quarter in Rolla. Frerking scored a safety with 11:42

left in the game when he pinned Mule runningback Jeff Horned in the end zone on a reverse play. Frerking finished the game with 11 tackles for minus-14 yards.

Art Addison rushed for 134 yards and two touchdowns as Northeast Missouri State of Kirksville beat Northwest Missouri State of Maryville, 27-21.

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