

Cardinal Sports Release

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POST SEASON IN DOUBT AS BAKER CRUSHES JEWELL

By Jim Finlay,
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Missouri Valley squeaked by Baker; William Jewell gave Missouri Valley a convincing beating; so William Jewell now cruises to victory over Baker, right? No, wrong! The only way to describe what happened at Baldwin City Saturday night is in the words of "Bear" Bryant of Alabama. Explaining an embarrassing loss, the "Bear" once said, "We just took a good old country whipping."

The Cardinals got off to a typically slow start as Baker drove to a first quarter touchdown on the running of Frank Schroeder but came back to tie the score on Robin Schermerhorn's (senior, Great Mills, MD) 12th touchdown pass reception of the year. Unfortunately, Baker used a reverse to Schroeder on the ensuing kickoff and he galloped 80 yards to his left to put the Wildcats back in front by a score of 14-7 after Tony Butt's kick. Then lightning struck as Baker used its second on-side kick of the night, grabbed the fumble and quickly put the score at 21-7 after a Rod Froebe to Jerry Moore pass. The Wildcats still were not finished and added a field goal of 39 yards by Butts to take a commanding 24-7 margin.

To the delight of their frozen fans who encircled the visitors' side of the field, Jewell scored two touchdowns in the final two minutes of the first half on a plunge by David Cunningham (junior, Louisiana, MO) and a pass to Jeff Gourley (freshman, Liberty) following

a Wayne Schmidt (sophomore, N. Tonawanda, NY) fumble recovery. Al Garcia (senior, Kansas City) was successful on both conversions and the Cards entered the dressing room only down by a field goal.

A jubilant tunnel of fans stretched across the gridiron to welcome the Cardinals back from the dressing room, but this would be their only opportunity to cheer in the second half. From the kickoff on, it was simply no contest. Baker, superbly coached in "trick plays", blew the Cardinal defense off the field. They struck early, and at this point broke the defenses spirit, on a fake punt. Darrell Lindsey passed for a touchdown that was picture-book perfect.

The momentum was all Baker's as they followed with drives of 62, 70, and 44 yards and capped two of these with unexpected two-point conversions. In fact, this was the story of the game as Baker piled on 30-second half points to bring the score to 53-21.

Baker came out and tried the unexpected, and in what Vince Lombardi called the game of execution, they "executed" the Cardinals. The plays which were used were no flukes; they obviously took many hours to perfect, and were played to perfection. Against this type of attack, there is no time to adjust. Jewell could only stand helplessly by as the score continued to climb.

As to its effect on the Cardinals post-season hopes, the NAIA polls will be awaited with anticipation. If Jewell remains in the top 12, a playoff bid is still a strong possibility. Also, the Moolah Shrine bowl bid against Missouri Western in St. Joseph looms as a chance for the Cards to redeem themselves. More importantly, however, the Cards must win the game Saturday against Graceland College in order to gain a share of the Heart of America Conference title. This contest is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., November 10 in Limoni, Iowa.