

Interception triggers late Jewell comeback in 8-7 victory

By Bill Richardson
sports writer

Trailing 7-0 with 7 minutes to play, the William Jewell Cardinals' 23-game home field winning streak was definitely in jeopardy.

Then in the next 2 minutes, their fortunes turned around on three key plays and the Cardinals went on to an 8-7 football victory over Missouri Western on Saturday night in Liberty.

Jewell, which hasn't lost a regular-season game in Greene Stadium since 1978, launched its comeback on an interception by linebacker Tim Johnson on the Missouri Western 29 with 6 minutes, 17 seconds remaining. The ball thrown by Western quarterback

Andy Williams had been deflected by defensive lineman David Milen.

The Cards then pulled off a double-pass for a 27-yard gain to the 2-yard line. Quarterback Scott Sandridge tossed the ball to Paul Troth, a quarterback lined up as a receiver, and Troth fired to tight end Jeff Morhaus. Halfback Scoop Gillespie swept right end for the touchdown, and the Cards gained the lead on a 2-point pass from Sandridge to tight end Scott Smith.

The Cardinals then held off the passing threat of Williams and the runs of halfback Jeff Holland for the final 5:48. Jewell, a finalist in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II playoffs last year, has beaten two NAIA Division I schools in successive weeks. The Cardinals opened

with a 30-16 victory over Evangel.

Troth, who had battled Sandridge for the No. 1 quarterback job this summer, called the Cardinals' 27-yard pass play "a quick screen, double pass. I lined up as a receiver on the weakside," Troth said. "All I had to do was catch the pass, then throw to the other side. Morhaus was the primary receiver. He ran under the ball and made a good catch."

Jewell Coach Vic Wallace said there was no question the Cardinals would go for two points and try to get the edge in the rugged defensive struggle.

"We had that set up 4 or 5 minutes before we scored," Wallace said. "On the sidelines we said we would use it if we scored—no, when we scored. We faked a power off-tackle play to Gillespie, then the quarterback

rolled. We had two people open on the play. It's the basic old two-point conversion play. Everybody has it."

Missouri Western scored late in the third quarter after safety Chris Ball recovered a Steve Hodges fumble at the Jewell 19. Runs by Williams and Chuck Jones featured the push, with Jones scoring from the 4 on a sweep. Eric Bruder booted the extra point.

Baker 19 Kansas Wesleyan 0

Baldwin City, Kan.—The Baker Wildcats rolled up 331 yards in total offense while holding Kansas Wesleyan to only 57 yards and shut out the Coyotes 19-0.

The Wildcat offense was led by sophomore tailback Craig Williams who gained 85 yards on 18

carries.

The game was the season opener for both teams.

Concordia 13 Tarkio 12

Rock Port, Mo.—Troy Rabe kicked a 39-yard field goal with 3:46 left in the game as the Concordia (Neb.) Bulldogs came from behind to beat the Tarkio Owls 13-12 in a nonconference game.

Von Portwood scored on a 1-yard run in the first quarter to give the Bulldogs an early lead. The Owls took the lead on a 58-yard touchdown pass from Allen Sepplee to Marty Wright in the second quarter and a 69-yard scoring pass from Sepplee to David Johnson in the third quarter. Both extra-point conversion at-

tempts failed.

Rabe kicked a 38-yard field goal in the third quarter for the Bulldogs to cut the lead to 12-10.

Tabor 21 Mid-Am Nazarene 10

Henry Evans scored on runs of 33 and 4 yards and Roger Coleman returned an intercepted pass 91 yards, leading Tabor to a 21-10 victory over Mid-America Nazarene in Olathe.

Coleman, a safety who intercepted two passes, clinched the game for the Bluejays by picking off a pass with 56 seconds remaining and returning it for a touchdown.

Keith Dougherty scored on a 7-yard run and Scott Daniels kicked a 25-yard field goal for the Pioneers.

Following a one-year leave which took him to Southern Colorado University and Princeton, Dan Griggs has returned to William Jewell College as associate dean of students.

Photo by Ken Bodenhauer



Formerly an admissions and coordinator of the evening division, Griggs is now responsible for men's housing and other developmental programs for men students. "I'm a specialist at nothing, but a generalist in everything," commented Griggs. "There isn't a facet of college life that doesn't interest me. That's what makes my job so exciting."

When asked about the possible pressures his job could have, Griggs commented, "I think pressure is a preconceived conception. The training I've had as an athlete and coach helps me to handle pressure and understand people."

Griggs has two beliefs about the college's paycheck. "You can either say 'I earned it or the college gave it to me. I prefer to earn mine. I like to be totally involved.'"

He and his wife, Karen, and their two children reside in Liberty.

He began as an assistant coach at Liberty for two seasons at Oak Grove High School at Oak Grove, Mo., where he brought the Panthers their first winning season in eight years. Following his two-year coaching stint at Jewell, Griggs split his coaching duties between Southern Colorado in the fall and Princeton in the spring.

During his season at Southern Colorado as defensive coordinator, the team was 9-1 and placed fifth in the nation.

In January 1983, Griggs accepted an offer from Princeton University. "It was an offer I couldn't refuse," said Griggs. "It was a chance to coach in the big time."