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No. 2 William Jewell scores early, beats Missouri Valley

I ndefeated William Jewell posted its 18th consecutive regular-season college football victory Saturday night. turning back Missouri Valley 25-13 in a Heart of America Conference game on a rain-slickened

second in the America



National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II poll. jumped to a 9-0 lead in the opening 3 minutes, but didn't secure the victory until Vic Davolt scored from the 1 with 4 minutes. 28 seconds left in the game.

Jewell's biggest offensive play came on a 74-yard touchdown burst by Scoop Gillespie in the second quarter.

Jewell's early 9-0 advantage came on a blocked punt and a safety. Jewell linebacker Tim Johnson blocked Bill Babylon's

punt in the opening 2 minutes, and Ira Chandler recovered in the end zone. Less than 2:00 later, a faulty snap cost the Vikings again as the ball sailed over Babylon's head for a Jewell safety.

Missouri Valley got into the punt blocking act in the second quarter. The middle of the Vikings' line knocked a blocker into punter Jeff McGuire, resulting in a blocked kick. Defensive end John Weisansal fell on the ball in the end zone.

Missouri Valley's other touchdown came on a 12-yard pass from quarterback Don Winkler to tight end Fieldon Houston in the fourth quarter.

Jewell, 8-0 overall and 6-0 in conference, outgained the Vikings 280 yards to 68. Gillespie and Steve Hodges each rushed for 138 vards.

Valley, ranked eighth in the NAIA division II poll, dropped to 7-2 and 6-1.

The Vikings' top threat was Winkler because of his scrambling and passing.

"The first 5:00 of the game killed us," Valley Coach Ken Gibler said. "We had some people who were not ready to play. In a tough game you don't make mental mistakes."

Gibler refused to blame the weather for the limited offensive showing by the Vikings.

"Both teams had to play in the same thing," he said.

But William Jewell Coach Vic Wallace thought the muddy field hurt the Cardinals' offense more than the high-scoring Vikings.

"It really hurt us more than it did them. The offense we had ready was an option game. In a mud game, if you try to run the option you're in trouble beacuse you have to run along the line of scrimmage," Wallace said. "That means we had to battle their strength, which is a pass rush and a big defensive line. We had to go 1-2-3 into that big line."