

The William Jewell Cardinals, ranked number two in NAIA Division II ratings, upset defending champion Pacific Lutheran of Tacoma, Wash., 19-14, in NAIA quarterfinal action Saturday. The game was played at Greene Stadium here.

It was a perfect setting for the contest. Perfect weather, sunny and clear, and an excited crowd, saw the Cardinals display great poise. Their game plan worked to perfection on defense, and the powerful Lutes were unable to make yardage at any time during the first half.

On offense, the Cardinals used their multiple style to find a way to crack their opponents. The first quarter was scoreless, although the Cardinals had the advantage in total yardage. On the first play of the second quarter, junior quarterback Kelly Groom found senior wide receiver Mike McGill open near midfield for a 41-yard gain, with a perfectly thrown pass. It put the Cardinals out of danger. At that time, it was third down on the Cardinal 9-yard line.

The Cardinals continued their drive to the Lute 1-foot line, and there the Lutes' defense stiffened, forcing a fourth down. Cardinal Head Coach Vic Wallace elected to go for a field goal. Sophomore Jerry Burch was good on a 23-yard attempt, putting the Cardinals on top, 3-0.

Pacific Lutheran was forced to start deep in their territory, and after getting the first down, sophomore quarterback Kevin Skogen was stopped in his backfield for a 15-yard loss. Faced with a third down and 28, Skogen passed upfield and was intercepted by junior safety Paul Taylor, who returned to the Lutes' 8-yard line.

With a fourth down at the 1-yard line, Groom faked, then scrambled and threw to senior receiver Marty Hensley, who made a difficult catch in the end zone for a touchdown. Burch was perfect on the conversion, and it was 10-0. The Cardinal fans already were anticipating victory.

After the kickoff, Skogen went to the air immediately on first down. His pass was picked off by junior defensive back David Armstrong,

who returned it 15 yards and fumbled. However, the alert Paul Taylor recovered the ball, putting the Cardinals in action on the Lutes' 15-yard line. With a fourth down at the 11-yard line, Jerry Burch entered the game and booted a 28-yard field goal, putting the Cards on top, 13-0.

Armstrong intercepted another Skogen pass on the final play of the second quarter, and the half ended with no further scoring.

The Cardinals entered the second half showing a lot of poise, surging downfield on a drive that consumed 6:16 before the Lutes stiffened, forcing a punt by the Cardinals' Jeff McGuire to the Lutes' 20-yard line.

It was then that the Pacific Lutheran team showed why they were ranked number one. They drove the ball downfield on a 13-play series that ended when Skogen passed to senior end Eric Monson for 9 yards, and the Lutes were on the scoreboard with 3:17 remaining in the third quarter.

The Lutes gained momentum, stopped the Cardinals and took over on another drive. However, on the first play of the fourth quarter, junior defensive back Mike Newman picked off another Skogen aerial, in the end zone.

On the next Cardinal drive, the Cardinals started on their own 22 and used a varied attack, which ate up the clock. A pass from Groom to tight end Scott Martin was good, and the junior moved ahead for 33 yards to the Lutes' 8-yard line. Two plays later, Groom found Marty Hensley again and the duo teamed up on their second touchdown pass. Hensley

was all alone in the end zone. A 2-point conversion failed for the Cardinals, but they had a 19-7 lead with 10:27 remaining in the game.

Then what the Cardinals feared most happened. Jeff McGuire bobbled a snap from center on fourth down, and the Lutes took over on the Cardinals' 30-yard line with new life. A Skogen pass to Monson was good to the 2-yard line, and a Cardinal penalty put the ball first down and goal at the one. Senior fullback Mike Westmiller went to his right for the score, and the Lutes were back in the game, 19-14, with 4:40 remaining.

The Cardinals maintained control of the ball and were forced to punt. McGuire kicked to the Lutes' 24. However, the Cards were called for a late tackle, and with 0:37 remaining put the ball in play at the Cardinal 43. On third down, another Cardinal pass interference penalty kept the Lutes' hopes alive, at midfield.

With :06 on the clock, a last-ditch effort saw a Skogen pass fall incomplete near the 5-yard line, and the Cardinals and their fans raised their hands in victory.

The PLU rushing attack was stymied. All year they averaged 236.6 yards per game. However, the Cardinals held them to a mere 24 yards on 30 rushing attempts while



Junior tackle Guy Weber brought down the Pacific Lutheran quarterback behind the line of scrimmage in the Cards' victory Saturday. (photo by David Owen)

the Cardinals rushed for 93 yards on 45 carries. The total yardage gained showed the Cardinals ahead 243 to PLU's 191. Jeff McGuire kept the Lutes' feared punt-return team deep in their own backyard, with a 37-yard average on seven punts.

On turnovers, the Cardinals intercepted five passes and recovered one fumble. The Cardinals lost two fumbles, but were never intercepted. The Cardinals' head coach, Vic Wallace, was elated after his team's victory. "This was the biggest win of my life, beating the number one team in front of our

fans," said a smiling Wallace.

"Kelly was great, everyone was great, but most of all, I want to praise Pacific Lutheran and their coach, Frosty Westering. I have never seen a team lose and display the high class that they showed. Every person in their entourage is to be congratulated. It's easy to see why they are the defending champions," declared Wallace.

Quarterback Kelly Groom was chosen the Offensive Player of the game. He had 12 completions on 21 aerials for 150 yards, with two touchdowns. Defensive back Paul Taylor of the Cardinals was chosen the Defensive Player of the contest. Taylor intercepted two passes, had five tackles, broke up one key pass and recovered one fumble.