

BAKER UNIVERSITY vs. WILLIAM JEWELL COLLEGE

Saturday, Oct. 23

No. 1 William Jewell stays unbeaten, pounds Baker 39-18

By Bill Richardson

sportswriter

Junior backs Steve Hodges and Scoop Gillespie each rushed for more than 100 yards Saturday night as William Jewell College defeated Baker University 39-18 in a Heart of America Conference game in Liberty.

The victory was the sixth straight for the unbeaten Cardinals and undoubtedly protected their No. 1 ranking in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II. Jewell also has won its last 28 regular-season games.

Heart of America

Hodges, a 5-foot-10, 200-pounder from St. Louis, rushed for 150 yards in 24 carries and Gillespie, a 5-11, 180-pounder, also from St. Louis, had 120 in 16 carries.

Hodges and Gillespie made the key runs for the Cards after Baker had closed the gap to 25-10 midway through the fourth quar-

ter. Gillespie escaped a Baker stunt on the right side and rushed 49 yards to the Wildcats 31-yard line. On the next play, Hodges went through the left side and broke down the sideline for a 30-yard gain to the 1. Hodges scored with 7 minutes, 28 seconds left and the Cards were home free. They added an extra touchdown in the final minute while killing

the clock. Hodges scored from 8 yards out with 23 seconds left.

In contrast to their usual big-play passing attack, the Cardinals gained 302 yards on the ground and 120 passing.

"We wanted to come out and run hard," Hodges said. "We had always passed well against Baker before, but we wanted to show them we could run. Baker was No. 1 in the nation in rushing. We kept the intensity up right to the end. Our line did an absolutely great job of blocking."

Hodges said he returned to his power-running style after working the week before on cuts and finesse running.

"I tried to run hard, with more power," Hodges said. "I practiced that all week. I made sure I ran hard."

Quarterback Kelly Groom scored twice on runs of 1 and 5 yards. Hodges scored three touchdowns and Steve Hudson kicked three conversions and field goals of 36 and 29 yards.