## Coming back in '83

## already being pondered at Jewell

By Bill Richardson A Member of the Sports Staff

McMINNVILLE, Ore. — For linebacker Steve Mattingly and seven other senior starters on the William Jewell College football team, the quest for a national championship had come up short.

The Cardinals' three-year hope of going all the way in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II playoffs was dashed Saturday in a 33-15 loss to Linfield College.

"I'm disappointed, but we made it a long way," Mattingly said. "I'm thankful for that and glad to have played with these guys the last three years. We'll bounce back from this like we've bounced back from other losses.

"And while I won't be playing again next year, I'll be in the stands cheering for them."

To return to the playoffs and get another opportunity for their first national football title, Jewell would have to break an NAIA Division II precedent. No Division II team has ever made it to the playoffs four straight The Cardinals' biggest loss will be quarterback Kelly Groom, who has lost only four times in three years as a varsity starter. Jewell also loses its starting tight end, a center, guard, two defensive backs and a defensive lineman.

Occupied by the playoffs for the last month, Jewell Coach Vic Wallace hasn't had much time to think about next year. But Wallace said Saturday that he is considering switching split end Andre Nelson, who will be a senior in the 1983 season, to the quarterback position.

Wallace said Nelson, who has played sparingly at Jewell, was an outstanding quarterback in high school. The Cardinals have used his passing ability on end-around option plays. Making Nelson a stopgap quarterback would enable Wallace to bring along a younger prospect.

Jewell's defense, its strong suit most of the season, was plagued by Linfield's sharp execution and misdirection plays.

"They ran a lot of slow-developing misdirection plays and executed very well," Mattingly said of the Wildcats.
"We are a pursuit team and they took advantage of how well we pursued. They got the pursuit going one way, then ran the other. Their quarterback (Randy Mueller) was mobile and seemed to hit the passes when they needed them."

Jewell finished 10-2, Linfield 12-0, The national title was the first for Linfield, which had lost in the championship game when NAIA football playoffs were lumped into one division. The two-division setup began in 1970.

Linfield Coach Ad Rutschman, who has coached the Wildcats to a national baseball title, gained his first football crown on his team's fifth trip to the Division II playoffs.

"Both national championships were great, but this one (football) is something extra because we won it at

home," Rutschman said. "I've never seen Randy Mueller sharper. He moved us through the air all day."

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