

# Cards advance to NAIA semifinals

by Greg Lucas

Call it deja-vu, call it whatever you want, but for the second time in two years, the William Jewell College Football Cardinals will meet Northwestern College of Orange City, Iowa, in an NAIA Division II Semifinal Playoff Game in Greene Stadium at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

Jewell gained its fourth consecutive trip to Division II semifinal play with an impressive 51-7 quarterfinal victory over Wilmington College on Nov. 19.

The Red Raiders, on the other hand, had to come from behind to defeat St. Thomas, 17-10, and earn their semifinal spot.

Last year, Northwestern came to Liberty ranked number one in the NAIA coaches poll and were defeated by the Cardinals 23-10. Jewell then went on to the championship game against Linfield College and lost 33-15.

This year is much the same story. The Red Raiders are again ranked number one in the country with a 12-0 record and sport an offense that is tops in the nation, averaging 515.4 yards per game and 39.7 points.

Northwestern also has their 1982 first team NAIA All-American quarterback Lee McKinstrey back. He himself averages 255.4 yards per game in total passing and rushing yards.

Despite the differences in final regular season rankings (Jewell was 7th), the Cardinals also have impressive statistics. They average 30.7 points per game while the defense has held its opponents to 8.9 en route to a current 9-1-1 record. In their last four outings Jewell has averaged 51.25 points a game.

With the impressive statistics of both teams, one might think that the team who has the ball last will win the ballgame.

"For us (Northwestern) to win the football game, we're going to have to control the ball," said McKinstrey. "That means we'll have to establish our running game and keep the ball from their (Jewell's) explosive offense."

Jewell head coach Vic Wallace had the same thoughts about the Cardinals. "We're going to have to move the ball on them. They're a very high-powered outfit that can score a lot of points, so we'll have to be able



**Senior defensive backs Dan Christian (9) and Brian Fairchild (40) converse on the sidelines during the Cardinals' 51-7 NAIA Div. II quarterfinal playoff victory over Wilmington College on Nov. 19. Jewell will take on Northwestern College in a semifinal game tomorrow at 1 p.m. in Greene Stadium.**

to move the ball effectively when we have the chance."

Both McKinstrey and Wallace expressed similar concerns about the opposing defenses they will be facing.

"They (Jewell) run a basic 4-4 defense,"

said McKinstrey. "But they mix up their passing coverages very well and they don't run the same coverages in the same situations very often. That's why we'd rather establish the run and mix the passes in the offense—to keep them guessing."

"Northwestern runs a 4-3 similar to ours," said Wallace, "except they will blitz their safeties a lot more. When they do blitz that will leave an open area in the secondary and we'll have to find that open area to be effective with the passing game."

"Our defense is going to have to stop McKinstrey's passing and their option game. They'd like to get us in a situation where they can keep us guessing and we'll have to take that guessing game away from them."

In last year's contest, McKinstrey threw seven interceptions (he threw only seven in 1982 regular season), and perhaps he did not live up to his All-American billing. Does he or his team have anything to prove tomorrow?

"I really don't think I have anything to prove," said McKinstrey. "We're going down there to win the ball game and if we can't afford to let emotions get in the way of our playing ball."

"Jewell has two good safety men, and last year we didn't have much of a running game. I was forced to throw 65 times that game. This year we're a much more balanced team (259.4 yards per game rushing and 256 passing), so I won't be forced to put the ball in the air as much."

Another factor that could influence the outcome of the game is the weather during the week of preparation for both teams.

Orange City had 14 inches of snow dumped on it, and the Red Raiders have not practiced outdoors all week as opposed to the Cardinals who have been outside every day.

In the other semifinal game tomorrow, Westminster College will visit Pacific Lutheran in Tacoma, Wash., for a 3 p.m. CST contest. Westminster defeated Findlay 28-0 and Pacific Lutheran beat Baker 35-3 in quarterfinal play to earn their spots.

The NAIA Division II Championship game will be played a week from tomorrow at a site to be determined by the NAIA.

Kickoff for tomorrow's game is, again, 1 p.m. Tickets are available for students at a cost of \$3 each with an I.D. until 5 p.m. today at the Mabee Center. All tickets will be \$9 tomorrow with or without an I.D.

Red Rage Radio, KWPB-92FM, will broadcast the game live starting with a one-hour pre-game show at noon.