

Jewell and Northwestern football poison to one who knows

By Bill Richardson
sportswriter

Take it from the man who has looked down the barrel of both offenses—Northwestern College and William Jewell will be carting heavy artillery into their National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II playoff football game Saturday in Liberty.

The kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Greene Stadium on the Jewell campus. Northwestern, in Orange City, Iowa, is unbeaten in 12 games, Jewell is 9-1.

"I'd hate to play either one of them again," said Tom Hood, de-

fensive coordinator at Doane College (Neb.), which lost to both semifinalists during the season. Doane, 7-4, lost to William Jewell 19-7 in a driving rainstorm in the season opener in Crete, Neb., then fell under a deluge of points to Northwestern 44-14 on a fast track in Crete in the fourth week of the season.

Hood doesn't mind comparing the Jewell and Northwestern offenses, but as for predicting a winner he says, "It's a pick 'em game—you know, where it's minus 1 on either side and take your choice."

Hood said he didn't see the full spectrum of Jewell's offense be-

cause of the weather conditions. But he was impressed by the Cardinals' power.

"Jewell is more of a straight-ahead power team than Northwestern," Hood said. "But (quarterback) Kelly Groom can throw the ball and his running ability adds a dimension to their offense because he can go outside. Jewell's running backs are not as fast as Northwestern's but they're stronger, more rugged runners. One side of Northwestern's defense is not as strong, and if Jewell can get at that weak side and play ball control, they can do some damage."

Hood said that Jewell's hopes

for victory will rest with breaking down the wall of protection given Northwestern quarterback Lee McKinstrey, who set an NAIA record by throwing 37 touchdown passes.

"William Jewell has the most brutal defense I've ever seen," Hood said. "The key to the game may be how tough they can be in getting in there and going after the quarterback."

Hood was impressed by McKinstrey and the variety of the Northwestern passing game.

"They list McKinstrey as 6 feet 1, but he looks more like 6-5 when he's standing back there throwing," Hood said. "He throws BBs.

A lot of his success is due to his offensive line. I've never seen a line on this level of football that can pass-block like this one can.

"Their patterns are very sophisticated and complex. They do a lot of things with their passing game. But with the kind of protection they have, you should be able to do a lot.

"When we played Northwestern it was a pretty good game for a while and we were in it. Then McKinstrey got hot and the points started going up—the scoreboard looked like it was a cash register.

"Their wide receiver, Ryan Achterhoff, can fly. He runs a 46-second 440. Man, he's a blur. I

think they put together their mile relay team out of their receiving corps. And when they start running drag patterns with those sprinters, they can go off and leave you.

"I think it's going to be a great football game. The whole thing centers around the Jewell defense's ability to get after that quarterback. If they do a good job at that, they could win by 10 points. If Northwestern picks up the stunts and runs its offense, they could win by 10."