

Jewell seniors hope to put off finale

By Bill Richardson

A Member of the Sports Staff

For guard Mark Mundell and 17 other seniors on the William Jewell team, this could be the final day of their football careers. Or it could be the start of something big.

Mundell will be appearing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II playoffs for the fourth straight year when the Cardinals meet Wilmington College of Ohio in a quarterfinal game at 1 p.m. today in Liberty.

"You want to play every game like it's your last one," said Mundell, a three-time All-District 16 selection from Brookfield, Mo., who hasn't missed a game since entering William Jewell in 1980. "For some of us, that could be a reality. But this also could be the year that we win our first national championship. That's been my goal since I was a freshman. That would be better than any individual honors I've won."

Wilmington, 8-1, and William Jewell, 8-1-1, appear to be peaking as they

enter post-season competition. Wilmington closed regular-season play with seven straight victories. Jewell won its final three games by lopsided scores.

"Our offense has finally come to the task," Mundell said. "Our feet are back on the ground. We're playing a lot more aggressively. In the past, we'd get a lead and wouldn't score anymore. We want to go in the playoffs and do what we've done the last three weeks."

The Cardinals may get only limited service from starting quarterback Scott Sandridge, who suffered a knee injury in the Tarkio game last Saturday. Coach Vic Wallace said Sandridge is wearing a cartilage brace on his left knee and has been able to practice and should start. No. 2 quarterback Paul Troth relieved Sandridge at Tarkio and could wind up playing most of the game today, Wallace said.

The NAIA's tie-breaking rule will be in effect today. If the game is tied at the end of regulation play, each team

is allowed to run four plays from the opponent's 20-yard line. If one doesn't outscore the other, the process is repeated until a winner is determined.

In other NAIA Division II quarterfinal games today, Baker, 10-0, plays Pacific Lutheran, 7-2, in Tacoma, Wash.; Westminster (Pa.), 8-1, plays at Findlay (Ohio), 8-1; and St. Thomas (Minn.), 9-1, plays at Northwestern (Iowa), 11-0.

Baker's awesome defense will be matched against Pacific Lutheran's high-scoring offense. Baker scored six shutouts, registered six safeties and held its final five opponents to 12 points. Pacific Lutheran averaged 36 points a game over the last six games.

Senior linebacker Chris Brown leads the Baker defense. The Wildcats, who enjoyed their first undefeated, untied season since 1942, also have a strong kicking game. Sophomore Ron Frazier kicked 38 extra points and a school-record nine field goals. Freshman Darin Liston set a school punting record with a 38.4 average.