Rare full house looms for Baker-Jewell game

By Bill Richardson A Member of the Sports Staff

It takes a special attraction to fill Greene Stadium on the William Jew-

ell College campus.

In 1959, former assistant football coach Darrell Gourley recalls, all 6,000 seats were taken for a night game between unbeaten Jewell and unbeaten St. Benedict's (now Benedictine) of Atchison, Kan.

"What a game that was," said Gourley, now Jewell's wrestling and track coach. "We had a 20-0 lead after three quarters and Benedict's came

back and won it 21-20."

Then there was a pleasant summer Saturday in 1975 when fans over-flowed Greene Stadium to watch the "new look" Kansas City Chiefs in a scrimmage.

Paul Wiggin had taken over as only the second coach in the Chiefs' 15-year history. Wiggin set up the "Great Quarterback Shootout," bringing in eight candidates to compete for the position. Greg Cook was the star of the 7-0 scrimmage but Mike Livingston won the job.

Greene Stadium could be filled again today when Baker, 8-0, and William Jewell, 9-0, meet at 1:30 p.m. in a Heart of America Conference football showdown that has playoff bearings for Division II of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Ba-

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ker is ranked second, William Jewell fourth.

On the basis of averaging 59.9 points a game and leading the NAIA in rushing and total offense, Baker probably ranks as the favorite. Regardless of the outcome, both teams are expected to get playoff bids. Athletic officials of Baker and William Jewell have said their schools would be willing to serve as host teams in the 8-team playoffs. Teams will be determined Nov. 16.

Baker spoiled an unbeaten season for Jewell and knocked the Cardinals out of the playoffs last year with a 53-

21 romp in Baldwin, Kan.

Jewell alumnus Charlie Richard, in his first season as Baker coach, called the Cardinals "an awesome team offensively and defensively. Their offensive line is tremendous. (Senior back) David Cunningham is probably the No. 1 small college pro prospect."

Cunningham, who suffered a slight leg injury in the Missouri Valley game, is second in the NAIA in rushing at 157 yards a game. Jewell's 465 yards a game ranks second to Baker's 583 in NAIA total offense.

In another key area game, undefeated Missouri-Rolla seeks the title clincher in the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association at home against Southeast Missouri.