

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

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## 'Roos face William Jewell in semi-finals

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In a historical first for Austin College, the Kangaroos host William Jewell College of Missouri at 1 p.m. Saturday in the NAIA Division II football semifinal playoff game.

William Jewell entered the second round of playoffs with a 19-14 win over top-ranked Pacific Lutheran. The Cardinals finished the regular season 10-0 and ranked second nationally.

The Cardinals won the Heart of America Conference championship under first-year coach Vic Williams, a coach for tight ends last year at Texas Tech.

The key to the Cardinal attack lies in Junior Quarterback Kelly Groom, a second-year starter who has led William Jewell to a 21-1-1 record while at the helm.

Groom has completed over 53% of his passes and thrown for over 1300 yards this season while rushing for an additional 400 yards.

Austin College coach Larry Kramer said Groom's effectiveness increases because of his excellent scrambling ability and quickness.

Along with this potent offense, Kramer said William Jewell has a strong defense.

Their defensive line - nicknamed by Cardinal supporters as "The Cobras" - is led by Kodak All-American defensive tackle Guy Weber, whose 10 quarterback traps leads the team.

The linebackers also add great depth to the defense. Seniors Gary Ainsworth and Wendell McGill (2nd team and 3rd team all-district, respectively) provide the experience, while freshman Tim Johnson (1st team all-district) provided young talent.

The Cardinals also sport a fine defensive back in Paul Taylor who was named defensive-player-of-the-game against Pacific Lutheran.

As Austin College fans know, the 'Roos are not without their own strengths. Senior Quarterback Larry Shillings, recently named NAIA Division II Kodak All-American, directs a highly potent air attack which includes Rort Dukes, Russ Roden, and Clay Oliphint as his primary targets.

The defense sports many fine ballplayers, also.

Although safety Chris Luper (AC's All-American safety for the past two years) will miss this game with an injury to his ribs, senior linebacker Randy Sims and senior lineman Larry Hickman can provide the experienced necessary leadership.

Coach Kramer, who shared TIAA coach-of-the-year honors with Sul Ross State's Joe George, urges all AC supporters to come watch the 'Roos and cheer them onto the finals!

