

Cards win 27-0 but...

Turnovers plague Jewell in victory

by Greg Lucas

When it rains it pours.

That phrase tends to be overused, but when it comes to the mistakes made by the NAIA Division II number one ranked team—William Jewell—in last Saturday's Heart of America Athletic game with Culver-Stockton, it fits well.

Though the Cardinals' 27-0 victory over the Wildcats in Canton, Mo., was impressive on the scoreboard, a six-turnover performance (five fumbles, one interception) by the offense overshadowed the efforts of the Jewell defense, which held Culver to 66 total yards on offense.

"We (the offense) started out fine," said Jewell senior quarterback Scott Sandridge. "It seemed like after the first mistake we let it get to us."

After a couple of possessions by Culver that went nowhere Jewell opened the scoring on a seven-yard touchdown run by senior halfback Scoop Gillespie with 7:26 left in the first quarter. Junior Eddie Adden's extra point kick made the score 7-0. The five-play drive covered 31 yards.

Jewell again took over in good field position on its own 49-yard line. Four plays later senior tailback Steve Hodges took a pitch from Sandridge on an option left, broke a couple of tackles and rumbled 34 yards for his first of two touchdowns of the day. Adden's kick again was good to give the Cards a 14-0 lead and an apparent rout.

A rout, however, it was not to be. The Cards' next three possessions ended in fumbles recovered by the Wildcats.



Senior strong safety Paul Taylor (41) instructs his sophomore substitute Mike Ruth on his assignments during Saturday's 27-0 Cardinal win over the Wildcats of Culver-Stockton. Jewell takes on Central Methodist College at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, here.

The biggest turnover came after Jewell had recovered a fumbled Culver punt return on the Wildcat 34.

The Cards moved the ball to the 12-yard line only to fumble again, ending

an almost certain scoring opportunity.

"I was disappointed with the way both the offense and the defense played," said Jewell Head Coach Vic Wallace. "We sure didn't play like the team we are."

Wallace had expected the game with Culver, a team which has now lost 25 games in a row, to be one that the offense could work on execution. He had no explanation for the team's poor showing.

"I don't believe in let-downs after big games," commented Wallace, referring to the Cards' 8-7 win over Missouri Western the week before. "We just didn't play well."

Jewell got another touchdown from Gillespie with 7:33 left in the second quarter on a three-yard run. The score was set up when sophomore Alphonso Brat recovered another Culver fumbled punt return on the Wildcat six-yard line. The extra point failed, giving Jewell a 20-0 lead.

Hodges ended the scoring with 4:30 left in the third on a three-yard run. Sophomore Monty Childers's point after was good for the 27-0 final.

Jewell's defensive attack was led by senior linebacker Jerry Twigg and sophomore linebackers Mike Jones and Jeff Lewis, who combined for 20 tackles, while Twigg added an interception.

The Cards, who are now 3-0 overall and 1-0 in the Heart of America Athletic Conference, totaled 257 yards in offense while the Wildcats fell to 0-2 and 0-1, respectively.

"This is the kind of game you like to get behind you and prepare for the next game," added Wallace.

Jewell takes on HAAC opponent Central Methodist College, which lost to Mid-America Nazarene College 21-0 Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. here tomorrow.