

# To remain nationally ranked *Jewell defeats Mo Valley*

As Coach Vince Lombardi of the Green Bay Packers once said, "Football games are decided by three or four plays, but you never know which ones before they happen."

This was certainly the case Saturday night at Greene Stadium in Liberty as the William Jewell Cardinals, ranked No. 2 in the latest NAIA Division II poll, staged a thrilling 23-12 victory over the 13th ranked Missouri Valley Vikings.

Taig the opening kickoff, the Vikings methodically marched 72 yards on their pening drive which was capped by a 7-yard pass from Trent Mitchell to Eugene Lee, to give the team from Missouri Valley a 6-0 lead. In fact, it was all Missouri Valley in the first half as the Jewell offense failed to

secure a single first down.

It was up to Jewell's defense to keep the Cards in the game and they did so with vigor. After being blown away from the line by the Vikings on their first march, Jack Stasi (senior, Kansas City) fired the defense into a superior effort and the Cards held Valley to only two first downs for the remainder of the first half.

As the Cards took over in the second quarter, Mark Capra began to get the offense moving. On consecutive runs, Capra moved the ball 29 yards to the Jewell 48. Vic Davolt, Card running back, contributed 31 yards on five carries and Jeff Gourley kept the drive alive with two key third down receptions as Capra moved his squad to a first and goal at the Viking 9.

Four plays later, All-American David Cunningham was stopped inches short of the goal line on a valiant defensive effort by the Viking interior linemen. The Cardinals would not be denied, and the defense's "TNT" squad, made up of Guy Weber, Pat Burke and Wayne Schmidt, shut the Viking machine down giving the Card offense the ball at midfield.

Aided by a roughing the kicker called when a Viking crashed into punter Jim Sheridan, Jewell marched to the Valley 13 where Al Garcia gave Jewell a 30-yard field goal to bring the halftime score to 6-3. This was the first of the key plays which determined this contest.

Coming out in the second half, Jewell moved 60 yards

aided by a pass interference call and a 22-yard reception by Robin Schermerhorn to a first and 10 at the Valley 4 where Mark Capra bulled his way over for the touchdown, giving Jewell a 9-6 lead.

On their next possession Jewell struck again, this time when Schermerhorn made a spectacular leaping grab for a pass. Pulling it down before the cheering fans, Robin raced to the Valley 1 where Capra plunged in on the next play. Al Garcia added the conversion to bring the score to 16-6.

Early in the fourth quarter, Missouri Valley capitalized on a Jewell pass interference infraction to tighten the score at 16-12 as Eugene Lee raced 5 yards for a score. Going for two points so that a field goal could give them the win, the

Vikes were turned back as Chris Choice batted the conversion pass back into the quarterback's face.

After being forced to punt on their next possession, the Cardinal offense came up with the play of the game. As Robert Fitzpatrick momentarily bobbled a Sheridan punt, offensive guard Steve Spencer knocked him aside, took the fumble, and gave his offensive teammates new life and possession at the Viking 19.

Using Vic Davolt, Jewell's speedy running back, Capra moved into scoring possession at the 7 where he hit Jeff Gourley for a touchdown. Al Garcia again added the conversion for the final score.

For the final 11 minutes, Jewell's swarming defense did not allow a single Viking first down, and held them to

a minus 5 yards in total offense. Led by Bruce Hill (whose 10 tackles took away the Viking outside game), Gary Ainsworth and Jack Stasi, the Cardinal defenders simply dispirited a fired-up Missouri Valley team until Capra could get his offensive machine rolling.

Offensively, Jewell had 16 first downs and 332 yards in total offense while holding Missouri Valley to only 9 first downs and 151 yards. Individually, Capra had another outstanding night as he went 13 for 25 in passing for one touchdown and scored two others by the rush. Robin "P.R." Schermerhorn picked up 6 of Capra's ariels for 129 yards. He is nationally ranked in scoring with 11 touchdowns and 66 points.

## *Three all-conference*