

# 'Miracle win' bolsters Cards

The only real way to tell who is the winner of a football game is to look at the scoreboard when time's up.

The William Jewell College football Cardinals were forced to use these tactics Saturday in Lamon, Iowa. There, the Cards faced the Graceland College Yellowjackets on a hot, humid afternoon with temperatures flirting with the upper 90s.

And at the conclusion of the game, Graceland had the advantage in almost every statistic. But the final score read 14-10 for the Cardinals.

The uneven statistics show Graceland ahead in first downs (25-13); in passing (252 to 168 yards for Jewell); plays from scrimmage (81 to 52) and time of possession (36:42 to 23:18 for Jewell). How did the Cardinals pull it off?

"We made about five individual plays that were among the best efforts I have ever seen," said head coach Vic Wallace. "Marty Hensley caught an unbelievable pass in the third quarter. There was no way he could catch the ball. Ainsworth (Gary) knocked down a pass in the end zone on their final play that took an extreme effort."

"Mike McGill's punt return was a classic. It really put us on track. 'Scoop' Gillespie made almost all of his rushing yardage on his own, and Andre Nelson was fantastic in throwing the two-point conversion following our last touchdown," said the Jewell coach.

That, in a nutshell, is the story of the Jewell victory. Again, offensive

mistakes continue to bog down Jewell. Four fumbles made the afternoon temperatures feel 20 degrees warmer.

After an evenly played scoreless first quarter, junior quarterback Kelly Groom was sacked and fumbled. Graceland picked up possession on the Cardinal 29-yard line. Seven plays later, All Conference quarterback Russell Bruch passed to wide receiver Steve Collier in the end zone and Graceland scored first. A point after touchdown kick was successful, and the 7-0 score stood up through the halftime.

The third quarter saw more of the same. Cardinal penalties — and dropped passes — led to one of six Jeff McGuire of Liberty punts. Graceland then engineered a 10-play drive that ended with a Curtis Martin 27-yard field goal and a 10-0 lead. The passing of Russell Bruch to receivers Steven Kronebaugh, Steve Collier and Craif Austin rattled the Cardinal zone defense, and Graceland seemed to be on the way to an upset of the nationally ranked Cardinals.

Then Jewell settled down and came alive. An early fourth quarter nine-play drive of 83 yards resulted in the Cardinals' first tally. A two-point conversion effort failed.

The defense jelled, holding Graceland during the next series of downs.

On the Graceland punt, Mike McGill caught the ball on his 20-yard line and left a trail of would-be tacklers for 45 yards. He carried the

ball to the Graceland 35.

Six plays later, Groom connected with Marty Hensley and Hensley scampered across the line for the first lead the Cardinals had in the game. Andre Nelson hit Scott Martin on a two-point conversion and the score read 14-10 for Jewell.

Graceland took possession with 5:51 on the clock. And after 10 plays, the Yellowjackets had the ball on the Cardinal 8.

Two running plays put the upset-minded Yellowjackets on the 3, a third-down pass was incomplete.

With 41 seconds in the game and on a fourth down, Gary Ainsworth knocked down a pass in the end zone.

With 33 seconds left, the Cards took possession and Kelly Groom smothered the ball until the clock ran out.

"I can't say enough about the Cobras," said Coach Wallace, alluding to a nickname for the defensive line. "Guy Weber, Wayne Schmidt, Jan Redmond and Steve Holeman were magnificent. They were physically drained but we couldn't get them out of the game. In all my coaching career, I have never been more proud of any team than I have been today. I am grateful and every Cardinal fan should be," said Wallace.

"Because of the heat, many times we had to pick up players and take them off the field. But they were back in on the next play. Our young team was up against a veteran offense that consisted of 10 seniors and one junior. Every member of the



REACHING FOR THE PASS

Hensley stretches for Groom throw (Dave Owen photo)

team, whether they played or not, deserves credit for this win," said Wallace.

Defensively, Tim Johnson was credited with two solo tackles, 19 assists, one interception and one blocked punt. Ainsworth was a close second with a single solo, 19 assists and two blocked passes.

Jewell opens the home season Saturday night against Benedictine. The game starts at 7:30 at Greene Stadium.

**CARD NOTES:** Mo Valley — ranked third in the Heart of America Athletic Conference, defeated the University of Missouri-Rolla, 31-10, in football action at Rolla. Missouri Valley ended a 14-game winning

streak the Miners had built. It was the longest winning streak in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II.

A streak of an entirely different nature came to an end for the Tarkio Owls. The Tarkio College gridders boasted the longest losing streak in collegiate football: 28 games. But Tarkio defeated Culver-Stockton College of Canton, 20-12 in football action at Tarkio.

Baker University, Baldwin, Kan., defeated Kansas Wesleyan, 47-16, in football action Saturday at Baldwin. Trailing 16-13 going into the second half, Baker reeled off 34 unanswered points for the win. Baker is 1-0 on the season.

Also, Ottawa defeated Mid-America Nazarene, 18-16, and Central Methodist College bowed to Evangel. Evangel tallied 21 points to 15 for Central Methodist.

Tim Johnson, the 5-11, 200-pound defensive star at William Jewell College, has been selected player of the week by the Heart of America Athletic Conference and by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Division II.

Johnson Saturday tallied two solo tackles, a blocked punt, 19 tackle assists and an interception in Jewell's win over Graceland.

Sept. 5, the second semester freshman tallied one tackle and 13 assists as Jewell swept past Mid-America Nazarene College, 31-7.