

Victory over Baker may lift Missouri Valley in rankings

The Missouri Valley Vikings, after defeating Baker 23-20 on Saturday night, have a good chance of making the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics football playoffs.

The Vikings, ranked No. 10, are sure to move up in the NAIA Division II ratings after handing No. 3 Baker its first defeat. Sul Ross State of Texas, which was tied for sixth in the poll, also lost. That means Missouri Valley, with a 7-1 record, probably will at least make the top eight.

Valley stands to improve its posi-

tion even more this week. The Vikings take on unbeaten and No. 2-ranked William Jewell on Saturday night in Liberty.

"We should move up in the ratings this week," Valley Coach Ken Gibler said. "But it won't do us any good if we don't beat Jewell. If we win Saturday, we can clinch at least a tie for the Heart of America championship. And if we win the league, we've got a good chance to make the playoffs."

On Saturday night on their home field in Marshall, Mo., the Vikings recovered a fumble at the Baker 33-yard line to set up a 22-yard field goal by

freshman Mike Brinkley with nine seconds remaining.
Sophomore quarterback Don Wink-

ler scored twice on quarterback sneaks and threw a touchdown pass to Fieldon Houston for the Vikings.