

Jewell defeats a tough Mo Valley

Spirits Soar

On an eerie Halloween night, the William Jewell Cardinals defeated the Missouri Valley Vikings at Greene Stadium, 25-13.

The contest was the epitome of the unusual.

The opening minutes of action saw the Cardinals apply the tricks and receive the treats. With only 1:30 in to the game, Tim Johnson, Cardinal middle linebacker, blocked a punt at the 10-yard line. Ira Chandler fell on the ball in the end zone for a Cardinal touchdown. Jerry Burch added the extra point, and it was quickly 7-0.

The Cardinals kicked off to the Vikings again, and only 1:30 later, on a fourth down play, a bad snap from center carried high over the punter's head and rolled out of the end zone. It was an automatic safety and another 2 points. At that time, the score was 9-0, and the Cardinals' offense hadn't even touched the ball.

Two series of exchanges later and still in the initial quarter, the Car-

dinals' attack stalled at the Viking 12-yard line. At that point, sophomore Jerry Burch entered and kicked a 30-yard field goal. It was a spooky beginning for the Vikings as they fell behind, 12-0.

With the second quarter beginning and the teams changing sides on the field, the witches seemed to stay put. A Bill Babylon punt by the Vikings saw the ball roll out of bounds on the Cardinal 1-yard line. Deep in a hole, Head Coach Vic Wallace elected to punt on the third down. It was the Vikings' turn and they blocked a Jeff McGuire punt, whereupon three Vikings' pounced on the ball for a touchdown for Missouri Valley. Mike Brinkley added the conversion, and the Vikings were back into the ball game, were awaiting more treats.

With the rains pounding heavily on the playing turf, the play was becoming more treacherous as neither team could mount a scoring threat. Then, before you could say "goblin" Fernandars "Scoop"

Gillespie went Galloping 75 yards over a big hole in the left side of the line and outran his pursuers for a score. A Jerry Burch PAT gave the Cardinals some breathing room, the score at the half read 19-7, with the rains continuing.

In the third quarter, it seemed that every time either team could muster a valid threat, either a penalty or one of William Jewell's five fumbles caused the threat to collapse. Neither team could put points on the board during the quarter; the Cardinals seemed to use the clock, as they were against the wind. However, in the waning moments of the stanza, Missouri Valley moved the ball downfield into position to score, just before they changed positions at the beginning of the fourth quarter.

Then, on a fourth down play, the Vikings' sophomore quarterback, Don Winkler, tossed a pass to tight end Fieldon Houston who was all alone. It was a 12-yard play, good for

a touchdown, and again, the Vikings were back within reach. Houston, a Liberty product, saw it fitting to come back to haunt the local team with the score. However, the Cardinals stopped a Viking run that was a 2-point try. The score was then 19-13, and another score by the Vikings could have put them into the lead.

The Cardinal defense was equal to any attack by the Vikings, as they withstood further Cardinal mishaps. Steve Hodges and Gillespie then used the run to put the Cardinals knocking at the goal line of the Vikings.

Steve Hodges used a burst to his right, and fought his way to the one-yard line before being bounced out on bounds. It took three plays before the Cardinals found the answer. Senior Vic Davolt took a pitchout from quarterback Kelly Groom, and Davolt found his way into the corner of the end zone. A two-point conversion failed but the Cardinals were in the driver's seat at 25-13 and only 4:28 remaining.

Two roughing the passer penalties enabled the Vikings to get up enough steam to go for another score. However, on the final play of the game, with the clock reading 00:00, Doug Switzer, cardinal junior defensive back intercepted a Viking pass and both teams marched off the muddy field, with the final 25-13 in favor of William Jewell.

It was an important contest, with first place in the Heart of America Conference in the balance, and National rankings equally important. The Cardinals no doubt will continue to hold on to their No. 2 NAIA Division II rating, while the Vikings, who were No. 8, might lose ground and a possible playoff spot.

The Cardinals, with a record of 8-0 and a perfect 6-0 conference record, will travel to Baldwin, Kan. Saturday to meet the Wildcats, for a 7:30 p.m. kick off. Baker stands at 7-1, with the only loss to Missouri Valley and will no doubt be ranked in the top 10 at game time. The rivalry between the two teams is intense, and it

shapes up as a classic battle between two powers of small college football.

Head Coach Vic Wallace of the Cardinals explained his teams' play: "We went into the game knowing that we needed to run the option plays. Their front four is great. But the conditions made it necessary to go right at them. Passing conditions were horrible, and the ball handling was precarious. But there was some awfully good football being played by both teams," he added.

In reality, the Cardinals dominated the action, as they were able to attack for 290 yards on the ground while holding Missouri Valley to 68 yards on 40 rushing attempts. The Cardinals completed three passes, for 56 yards, while the Vikings completed 11 aerials, but netted only 48 yards. The end result saw the Cardinals with a commanding lead of 346 total yards to 116 for the losers.