White squad gets best of Blue in annual Spring Game

Craddock accounts for four TDs as White squad rolls

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Joe Craddock accounted for four touchdowns and completed 19-of-25 passes for 235 yards to lead the White squad to a 28-7 win against the Blue team in the annual Middle Tennessee Blue-White Spring game in front of 2,512 at Floyd Stadium Saturday. The White team piled up 324 yards total offense and had 17 first downs while scoring on three of its first four offensive possessions. The Blue team managed 180 yards total offense and scored its only touchdown in the third quarter after the White team had jumped out to a 21-0 halftime lead. It wasn't just about winning and losing, though, it was about having fun, competing and getting out of the game without additional injuries that have continued to mount through the spring. Discipline continued to be a trademark of the Blue Raiders during the Rick Stockstill era as the team's combined for just two penalties and one turnover. "The most important thing about today is the fact we got through it without any injuries," Stockstill said. "We had some decent plays today on both sides of the ball but the guys really had fun playing and that's what it is all about. We only have 10 seniors so we are a very young football team and this spring was very important to us. We will just keep developing and working hard over the summer to get ready for 2008. I really appreciate all the fans who came out today and supported our program." Craddock, who has split his time between football and baseball this spring, connected for a 34-yard touchdown with Caleb Dugger on the game's opening

possession to give the White team the early 7-0 lead after David DeFatta's kick was good. After holding the Blue team on downs, the White team was at it once again on its second possession. Craddock capped the nine-play, 42-yard drive with a 5-yard pass to Patrick Honeycutt in the front of the end zone. It would be the first of many outstanding catches for Honeycutt in the Spring game. Honeycutt had 11 receptions for 118 yards and two touchdowns as he continued to demonstrate outstanding progression from the fall into the spring. He capped the first-half scoring with a 9-yard scoring strike from Craddock and DeFatta's point after extended the lead to 21-0. "I enjoyed being the go-to guy today and making a lot of catches. It was a lot of fun," Honeycutt said. "Even when we were up 21 we never counted the Blue out because of Dwight (Dasher) and Phillip (Tanner). The game was never out of reach, but we are glad we will be eating Steak and Shrimp on Monday." Craddock would play in the second half but he did the bulk of his damage in the first two quarters with his 19 completions in 25 attempts for 235 yards with a long of 34. His passed for three touchdowns and ran for another. Desmond Gee led the ground attack for the White team with 41 yards on 10 carries, while Elijah Johnson finished with 28 yards on seven rushes. Rising junior Phillip Tanner led the Blue team's ground attack with 29 yards on nine rushes and accounted for his team's only touchdown with a 1-yard run in the third quarter. Blue team quarterback Dwight Dasher completed 12-of-20 passes for 110 yards and was intercepted once by safety Kevin Brown. The White team capped its scoring in the fourth quarter when Craddock ran in from the 3 to provide the 28-7 margin. The Blue team's defense was led by linebacker Cam Robinson's 10 tackles, while Antwan Davis and Devin Dutton added five each. Defensive lineman Chris McCoy had two sacks, while Rod Issac and Jeremy Kellem each had one tackle for loss. Corner Ted Riley led the White defense with six tackles and linebacker Jamari Lattimore finished with five, including a sack. Wes Hofacker had two tackles for loss. The Spring Game concludes Middle Tennessee's spring practice. Stockstill announced the winners of this year's team awards during halftime of the Spring Game. This year's winners are: **Academic Award Winners**

Jeanne Massaquoi Freshman Award: Mark Fisher
Donald Craig Sophomore Award: Jamal Lewis
Dr. James Walker Junior Award: Phillip Tanner
Dr. Sidney McPhee Senior Award: Ivon Hickman

Most Improved

Running back: Desmond Gee
Wide Receiver: Patrick Honeycutt
Tight end: Gene Delle Donne
Offensive lineman: Evon Lettsome
Quarterback: Dwight Dasher
Defensive lineman: Chris McCoy
Linebacker: Ivon Hickmon
Safety: Jeremy Kellem
Cornerback: Alex Suber
Specialist: Adam Wade

Most Improved Strength & Conditioning

Quarterback: Andrew Banks
Wide Receiver: Michael Cannon
Running back: Desmond Gee
Tight end: Gene Delle Donne
Offensive lineman: Mark Fisher
Defensive lineman: Chris McCoy

Linebacker: Andrew Harrington
Safety: Anthony Glover
Cornerback: Rod Issac
Specialist: David DeFatta

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