

September 8, 2008

## Blue Raiders sweep SBC awards

### Craddock, Suber, DeFatta honored

*Athletic Communications*

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - For the fourth time under Rick Stockstill and the fifth overall, Middle Tennessee made a clean sweep of the weekly Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week awards. Quarterback [Joe Craddock](#), defensive back [Alex Suber](#), and punter [David DeFatta](#) earned the three honors following the Blue Raiders upset win of Maryland. Craddock earned the offensive award, while Suber brought home the defensive honor and DeFatta took the special team's award.

Craddock, who was also honored by ESPN Saturday night with a Helmet Sticker award, completed a career-best 28 passes on 40 attempts for 256 yards and two touchdowns. The senior from Birmingham has topped the 200-yard passing mark in both games this year.

Suber hauled in the game-clinching interception in acrobatic fashion in the corner of the endzone with less than three minutes remaining for his second career pick. The Tampa, Fla., native, who also added three tackles, locked up All-ACC receiver Darrius Heyward-Bey for the most part of the game. Heyward-Bey finished with just three catches for 90 yards, but 80 yards came on a bubble screen with Suber on the opposite side of the field.

DeFatta enjoyed a solid night of punting, sporting a 42-yard average on four kicks, but his biggest play came on the opening drive of the game. The Franklin, Tenn., product came on to punt with Middle Tennessee facing a fourth-and-5 on their 44 and perfectly executed a fake punt when he completed a 28-yard pass to tight end [Alvin Ingle](#). It was Middle Tennessee's first-ever pass completion by a punter since joining the FBS ranks in 1999.

The Blue Raiders have now won 20 player of the week awards under Rick Stockstill with four on offense, seven on defense, and nine on special teams.



Alex Suber made the game-clinching interception late in the fourth quarter to seal the win against Maryland. (Jim Brown/US Presswire)

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