Blue Raiders Knock Off ULM 38-20

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TODAY'S GAME CAPTAINS: Today's game captains for Middle Tennessee were QB Wes Counts, WR Kendall Newson, DB Jykine Bradley, and DE Tanaka Scott. **FIRST-EVER CONFERENCE GAME:** Today's Middle Tennessee-UL-Monroe football game marked the first-ever contest in the newly-formed Sun Belt Conference between two league teams. With the win over the Indians, the Blue Raiders locked up their first conference victory since 1998 when they defeated UT-Martin (Nov. 7, 1998) on the road as a member of the Ohio Valley Conference. **ROAD WARRIORS:** For the first time since 1998, the Blue Raiders have now won three road games in a row dating back to the 2000 season. Next week at Louisiana-Lafayette, the Blue Raiders will be trying to make it four straight for the first time since a period from the end of the 1984 season through the 1985 campaign. **BRADLEY ANOTHER INT:** For the second straight game, senior defensive back Jykine Bradley came up with an interception when he picked off ULM's Andy Chance in the first quarter. Bradley, who is ranked 4th nationally in interceptions per game, has a team and Sun Belt leading three interceptions. For his career, Bradley now has eight interceptions. **COUNTS PASSES HOLCOMB:** With two touchdown passes tonight, QB Wes Counts surpassed Kelly Holcomb for second place on the all-time list at Middle Tennessee. Counts, who now has four TD passes on the season, ran his career total to 37 and needs four more to equal the school mark held by Teddy Morris (41). **NEWSON TIES FOR THIRD:** Kendall Newson's first quarter touchdown reception was the 16th of his career and the second of the season. Newson now stands in a tie for third on the all-time touchdown receptions list and needs two more to tie Demetric Mostiller for second place. **SECOND BLOCK UNDER COACH MAC:** The Blue Raiders blocked their second kick under Andy McCollum when Kareem Bland batted away an extra point attempt against ULM in the third quarter. The other blocked kick in the McCollum era came against Louisiana Tech last year when Michael Woods blocked a punt. **FROST HAS CATCH:** TE Lucas Frost made his second career reception early in the first quarter against the Indians. It marked the first reception by a Blue Raider tight end since Xavier Hatnot hauled one in at UAB last season. **THREE IN A ROW FOR BILLINGS:** Punter Robert Billings has booted three straight punts that were downed inside the 20-yard line dating back to the Troy State game. **HICKS**

SCORING UPDATE: With 24 points tonight against UL-Monroe, Dwone Hicks ran his career scoring total to 212 points and surpassed Bobby Young for sixth place on the all-time list. Hicks' three rushing touchdowns were the 32nd of his career, while his receiving TD was his third. **YOUELL GETS CAREER-HIGH:** Junior wide receiver David Youell caught a career-high seven passes against the Indians. **HICKS TURNED RECEIVER:** Over the last two games, running back Dwone Hicks has caught nine passes for 105 yards. The nine grabs are the most Hicks has recorded in a two-game span. **LONGEST DRIVE BY THE BLUE RAIDERS:** In the second quarter, Middle Tennessee put together a 14-play drive that covered 99 yards and 35 inches for a touchdown. It marked the longest drive in the history of the Blue Raider football program. The Blue Raiders got backed up to the inch-line following a ULM punt that was perfectly downed just outside the goal line. **NEWSON NETS 103:** Kendall Newson caught eight balls for 103 yards against ULM, marking his second 100-plus yard receiving game of the season and the 12th of his career. Newson's 12 career 100-yard games is the most by any Blue Raider receiver in history. **TIDBITS:** The Blue Raiders scored on their opening drive of the game for the second straight week - Kendall Newson extended his streak to 35 straight games with at least one reception, while Tyrone Calico moved his to 25 games - Michael Woods' second quarter fumble recovery was the first of his career and the first by the Blue Raiders this season - QB Wes Counts opened the game by completing his first 11 passes in a row - The Blue Raiders have now won six consecutive games dating back to the 2000 season - Middle Tennessee is now 12-0 under Andy McCollum when leading at the half - Before ULM's third quarter touchdown pass, the Blue Raiders had not allowed the Indians to score a single point in eight straight quarters - Dwone Hicks has now had at least one rushing touchdown in three straight games and in six of his last seven outings - The Blue Raiders have now scored at least three points in 14 straight quarters.

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