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A Q&A with newcomer Brandon Perry

MT Media Relations

What are some of your goals entering fall camp?

"Most freshmen love to play and I'm trying to get there. I'm working hard in the weight room. You have to make all your reps count and that's what I'm doing. It's allowed me to have time to get into shape. I lift weights on my own at home but there is no one to push me. Now I have other players pushing me. I have to work hard to get into shape and that's what I've been trying to do."

How important has the new NCAA rule allowing freshmen to come to summer school paid off for you so far?

"I like it because it has given me a chance to get close to some of the professors and they get a chance to see what type of student I am. It gives you an early jump because you can start working on your hours and figuring out what you want to do as far as your major."

What has impressed you to this point about the Middle Tennessee campus and/or the community?

"One thing I love about this campus is it's big but it's all right here. I know there are a lot of people who go to school here so you are going to make new friends and I like that. I like meeting people. Last Saturday the football players went around town giving out posters and season ticket applications. My group went to Smyrna and the people were real nice and seemed to love MT football. I enjoyed it and enjoyed meeting all the people."

What do you feel will be the biggest difference from high school football to Division I-A football?

"Coming into college football as a freshman, I'm not the type to have a big head and think I am supposed to be out there. You always need to work on something to get better no matter who you are. I know the speed of the game is going to be different, a lot different, and you have to go hard every play. In high school I was a little bigger than everybody so I could maybe take a few plays off and get away with it. You have to go hard every play here or someone is going to pass you or beat you."

How do you feel about some of the recent scheduling announcements that will see the Blue Raiders have home games against Louisville, Virginia, and Maryland?

"It's going to be exciting. Our motto at my high school is that you don't lose at home. I'm trying to come in here with that attitude. I know I can't be a captain and I am still learning but I have some sayings of my own that I will pass along to the other freshmen and try to make sure we all are on the same page."

What are some of your hobbies?

"I enjoy lifting weights, working out, trying to get in shape, school. I like basketball. I use to run track. I am very athletic. I am nice to talk to and enjoy meeting new people. I'm into God."

What are some of your academic goals?

"I'm still undecided on my major but I'm leaning toward physical education. I know I have some time to think about it but I want to make good decisions, make good grades and earn my degree."

What is your impression of some of the returning players who are here for voluntary workouts?

"All of the players are good role models. I look up to all of them. I am a freshman and haven't been here. They have been here a few years and they understand how things are. The best thing for you to do as a freshman is talk to these guys, get close to them, listen and learn."

What is the typical week for you right now?

"Every day starts at 6:15 a.m. I go to class at 7:30 and that goes until a little after 11 a.m. I go to study hall in the afternoon and then I have my workouts in the late afternoon, around 4. The rest of the day I'm studying or doing a little extra running and then having a little time for myself."



Brandon Perry works out in Floyd Stadium to better prepare him for next week when camp officially begins. (MT)