Stockstill disappointed with Monday's practice

Secondary has Stockstill's eye with experience and talented newcomers like Russell and Edwards

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MT FOOTBALL PRACTICE NOTES

Stockstill on Monday's Practice: "I was very disappointed in today's practice. There was not a whole lot I liked out there. The offense did not compete or play as hard as the defense and there were just too many mistakes. The offense played their best during the team period but then I was not pleased with the defense because they did not finish the practice. Today was the most disappointed I have been so far in camp."

Stockstill on full pads going on Tuesday: "We will go in full pads Tuesday for the first time as it completes the acclimatization period but you will not see many differences from today. We will not go to the ground and will not be any more physical then we were today."

Stockstill high on the secondary: "Kevin Brown, Rod Issac, Jeremy Kellem, and Derrick Crumpton are guys who have been around and they come to practice everyday and compete. They are great leaders for the entire group. Kenneth Gilstrap, Juno Prudhomm, Marquise Dixon, and Sammy Seamster are guys playing with a lot more confidence and it shows.

"I think newcomer Eric Russell is special. He can really play and I have been impressed with how quickly he has responded because he did not get on campus until the day we reported. He has a lot

of ability and will really help this football team. T.L. Edwards is another guy who I believe will help this team and has made some plays already. I also like the athleticism and effort from freshman Chris Sharpe and Khari Burke."

TODAY'S FUN BLUE RAIDER QUESTIONS WITH SENIOR DWIGHT DASHER

1. What Blue Raider would do the best on "Dancing with the Stars"? Craig Allen
2. Who has the best nickname on the team, and what is it? Kenneth Gilstrap - Radio, because he talks so much
3. Which one of your teammates would be the most likely to appear on "Survivor"? OL Colin Boss
4. What teammate would most likely get involved in politics? OL Mark Fisher
5. From the Twilight series, do you like Team Edward or Team Jacob? Team Jacob
6. Who should be the next judge on American Idol? Coach Stockstill
7. What Super Hero would you like to be! Dash from the Incredibles
8. What food did your mother have to make you eat as a youngster before you left the table? Fish
9. What song would you pick to be played when the Blue Raiders run out onto the field before a home game? We Ready

BROWN KNOWN FOR HIS HARD HITTING: Senior safety Kevin Brown, one of Middle Tennessee's trio of All-Sun Belt Conference performers in the defensive backfield from the state of Florida, relishes his rapidly-growing reputation as a hard-hitter.

"I love it. I live for it," says Brown, who was recruited from Tampa's Jefferson High School. "It releases a lot of steam for me, all of the pressures that build up, all the tests during the week and stuff like that, then you get on the field and get a great hit, and it's almost like I get a chill when I hit somebody like that. As soon as I get up, I'm ready to do it again."

Does Brown feel another kind of pressure on him as a result of all of the pre-season honors that have come his way?

"Not really. All that pre-season stuff is nice, but I just want to go out and have a better season than I did last year. As long as I do my job, and do my part to get a win for my team, that's all that matters. If the accolades do come, then I will be grateful to God for that."

If Brown is to have a better season than he did last year, it will take some doing. He took 962 snaps, with a season high of 94 against FAU. Brown recorded 63 tackles, sixth-best on the team, had seven pass break-ups and intercepted four passes which he returned for 77 yards. Brown was named Sun Belt Conference Defensive Player of the Week last year for his stellar performance against North Texas when he had six tackles, a pass breakup and two interceptions against the Mean Green.

FAN DAY: Meet the 2010 Blue Raiders and coaches at Middle Tennessee's annual Football Fan Day, Sunday, August 15 from 2 PM - 4 PM at Murphy Center. Autographs, inflatables, free hotdogs and drinks, and loads of fun will be on hand for all members of the Blue Raider family. Bring your kids and friends to get them ready for the 2010 football season. Show you're Blue Raider Pride and pick up 2010 football posters, schedule cards, and much more. Blue Raider fans who would like to purchase the official BLACKOUT t-shirt may do so for $15.00 which will include a ticket to the Oct. 5th game versus Troy. IdeasTees will also be on hand to sell other Blue Raider gear.

FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHT VIDEO IS READY: "March to New Orleans", presented by The Cavender Financial Group, is on its way to season ticket holders who took advantage of the early bird renewal

special after the 2009 New Orleans Bowl and is available for sale in local stores.

The 49-minute video is a permanent record of the memorable 2009 season that included wins over Memphis and Maryland, the first visit to Floyd Stadium by an SEC team, a seven-game winning streak to close out the year, and the New Orleans Bowl victory over Southern Mississippi. Chocked full of highlights, the story of the incredible season is told from the point of view of many of the players and Coach Rick Stockstill.

"March to New Orleans" is on sale for $20 per copy at the Floyd Stadium Ticket Office, Lightning's Locker Room, Phillips Bookstore, The Learning Circle, and Reeves-Sain Drug Store.

NEXT PRACTICE: The Blue Raiders will practice on Tuesday at 5:20 PM. The practice is open to the public.

SEASON TICKETS: 1-888-YES-MTSU OR GoBlueRaiders.com.

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