## Blue Raiders face Owls in key SBC matchup

## Team will honor 17 seniors

November 26, 2010 - Athletic Co

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. For Middle Tennessee and
Florida Atlantic, both 4-6
overall with two games left to play in the 2010 lootball
season, it's time to win or go home. The winner will stay alive in its quest to become bowl eligible with six wins, while the loser is assured of being on the outside looking in during the bowl season.



FAU and the Blue Raiders have had some classic games in their brief history of the rivalry. Coach Rick Stocktill to Ram holds a slim 4-3 edge over Coach Howard Schnellenberger's Owls, thanks to having won the last two games.

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Last year, on a hot, steamy afternoon in Fort Lauderdale, the Blue Raiders again came from behind to beat the Cults 27.20 in the signature game of the six-game win streak that closed the season for to beat the Cults 27.20 in the signature game of the six-game win streak that closed the season for form of the Cults 27.20 in the six-game win streak that closed the season for the Cults 27.20 in the Season for the Season for the Cults 27.20 in the Season for the Season f

"I am looking forward to our game with FAU on Saturday," declared Stockstill. "Our games here in the past have always been very physical, close games. I do not expect anything different this time."

Stockstill indicated that running backs Phillip Tanner and Bennie Cunningham would likely be getting more carries. "They are running really well and really physical, so they are going to get the majority of carries from the tailback position. And our offensive line has been getting a good push."

Senior offeroive tackle Mark Fisher noted that the O-line did not always get alor to excell, except from the coaches. When a back gets 100 or 200 yards a game, then we feel a part of that as well. Late in the game, when we regetting eight and nine yard runs, and you are getting some good blocks, it feels good.

Saturday's game will be the final home game for 17 Blue Raider seniors, many of whom have helped re-shape the Blue Raider record book. The seniors who play offense are Dwight Dasher, Philip Tanner, Evon Lestone, Mass Fisher, Chris Hawkins, Gerret Andrews, Wes Caldwell, and Adam Wood. They have accounted for 343 career starts, 60 touchdowns, 362 points, 5,069 yards parsing, 3,349 yards nurthing, 1,744 energing yeards and 9014 yards of bits different parsing, 3,454 yards nurthing, 1,744 energing yeards and 9014 yards of bits different participants.

Defensively, the Blue Raider seniors are Rod Issac, Jamari Lattimore, Jeremy Kellem, Kevin Brown, Jarrett Critiserton, Dwight Smith, Artsvan Davis, Emmanuel Pe rez and Gary Tucker. They have made 732 tackles, 446 assists, 38.5 sacks, picked off 21 passes, recovered 14 fumbles and blocked 11 kids.

As far as knoncs go, this group has been highly decorated. Rod Issae, Jeremy Kellem, Jamani Lattimore, Dusight Dasher and Mark Figher have been selected All-Sun Belt Conference at least one. Philip Tamer was the National Player of the Week is 2006 for his sixt-out-both performance against North Texas. Dasher was named the Most Valuable Player in the New Orleans Book and has two SERN Helmer Sickner.

Kellem, Fisher, and Tanner have been consistently recognized for their academic excellence, and just this week, Kellem was named the fourth footbal Academic All-American at Middle Ternessee. The group also has several SBC Pytes of the Week awashi, including Issas's award this week for his 100-yard fumble return against Western Kentucky last Saturday.

"I am proud of this senior class, how they have played on the field, what they have done off the field academically. There are a let of fine young men in this class that are going to be maily, really sessessful men once they leave here and pet in their carest; predicted Stockall. "The forever indebted to them, I love every one of them, and respect every one of them. They are going to be great fathers, or great hundrands and great people in their communities."

Saturday's game will be broadcast live on BRN affiliates, including Nashville flagship station WNSR 560 AM, as well as Mufreezboro flagship stations WGNS 1450 AM and WMOT 89.5 FM. Live statistics, as well as Web Audio, will be available on GoBlueRaiders.com.

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