

MIDDLE TENNESSEE POSTGAME NOTES



Saturday, December 16, 2017

Cramton Bowl – Montgomery, AL (Raycom Media Camellia Bowl)

Middle Tennessee 35, ASU 30

CAPTAINS: Today's game captains were QB Brent Stockstill, OL Chandler Brewer, WR Richie James, LB DJ Sanders and WR Shane Tucker.

DARIUS HARRIS MVP: Junior LB Darius Harris was named MVP of the game with a career-high 12 tackles, a sack and a forced fumble that led to a DJ Sanders scoop and score.

SANDERS TO THE HOUSE: Senior linebacker DJ Sanders, playing in his final game, scored his fourth career defensive touchdown when he brought back a fumble return 54 yards in the second quarter. It was Sanders' first fumble return for a TD. Sanders owns three interception returns for scores which is one shy of the career record of four held by Kevin Byard.

FIRST FOR GARNETT: Sophomore Ruben Garnett recorded his first career touchdown reception when he hauled in a 31-yard strike from Brent Stockstill just before the half. It marked just the third catch of the season for Garnett.

TAKEAWAYS: Middle Tennessee entered tonight's bowl game with only eight takeaways all season, which was the second fewest in the country. Against the Red Wolves, MT had three with an interception and two fumble recoveries.

DEFENSIVE SCORES: Under Rick Stockstill, the Blue Raider defense has scored 27 defensive touchdowns and 22 have come since 2009. Of the 27 scores, 17 have been interceptions and 10 have come by way of fumble returns. The Raiders had just two defensive scores in 2016 and only two in 2017.

QUICK HITTERS: PK Canon Rooker played in his team-high 52nd game tonight ... LB DJ Sanders made his team-leading 26th straight start ... QB Brent Stockstill has now thrown at least one touchdown pass in 23 straight games played ... Terelle West's 45-yard TD run was the longest of his career and went down as the longest in Camellia Bowl history ... The 54-yard fumble return for a touchdown marked the first fumble return for a score in the Blue Raiders' modern bowl history ... Safety Jovante Moffatt registered his first career interception on an ASU hail mary to end the first half ... DT Jordan Ferguson had his first sack of the season tonight against ASU

