

Frosh Tight End Makes His 1st Catch a Career Catch

BY JOHN C. MANUEL
SPORTSATURDAY EDITOR

As a redshirt freshman listed third on the depth chart, Marc Montoro didn't figure to get too many snaps for North Carolina this season.

But when Tar Heel tight end Greg DeLong crumpled to the Carter-Finley Stadium turf in the second quarter Saturday with a knee injury, Montoro's play-

ing-time picture changed considerably.

Montoro came in late in the third quarter for a third-down play at N.C. State's 3-yard line. The Tar Heels led 20-14, and another touchdown would put the game firmly in UNC hands.

Quarterback Jason Stanicek took the snap and rolled right, faking an option, and found a wide-open Montoro in the back of the end zone for the touchdown. The score and the ensuing two-point

conversion sealed the win for UNC, capping an 18-point third-quarter outburst.

"When I broke into the open, I just saw that Jason had done a great job of getting outside," Montoro said. "All I had to worry about was catching the ball, and Jason put it right in my hands."

At 6-foot-4, Montoro, a Marietta, Ga., native, has good height for a tight end, but his 215 pounds makes him decidedly small for the position's blocking requirements.

For this reason, he came into the 1993 season listed behind all-conference candidate DeLong and 6-4, 240-pounder Freddie Jones at the tight end spot.

DeLong's injury, a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee, changes all that. The Orefield, Pa., junior caught a four-yard toss from Stanicek late in the second half at the State 13. "When I planted to cut back I just felt a pop," he said.

"It didn't hurt or anything until I got

cooled down a little in the lockerroom. When the trainers checked me out they found a lot of movement in the knee. It's a torn ACL (anterior cruciate ligament). I'm hoping to get a medical redshirt."

Montoro is confident he and Jones can fill DeLong's shoes. "There is a lot of pressure to come in because Greg is a great tight end," he said. "We just need to go out there and do what we practiced and I don't think we'll have any problems."

AP Top 25

Team	Record	Pts	Pst
1. Florida State (58)	4-0	1,546	1
2. Alabama (4)	4-0	1,482	2
3. Miami	3-0	1,414	3
4. North Dakota	4-0	1,381	4
5. Florida	3-0	1,297	5
6. Nebraska	4-0	1,180	6
7. Ohio State	3-0	1,157	7
8. Michigan	2-1	1,077	8
9. Penn State	4-0	1,058	9
10. Oklahoma	3-0	1,006	10
11. Tennessee	3-1	943	11
12. Arizona	4-0	782	12
13. Syracuse	3-0	750	13
14. Texas A&M	2-1	718	14
15. Washington	2-1	688	15
16. North Carolina	4-1	648	16
17. California	4-0	514	20
18. Louisville	4-0	429	24
19. Colorado	2-2	426	13
20. Brigham Young	4-0	415	21
21. Virginia	4-0	390	22
22. Wisconsin	4-0	358	23
23. Auburn	4-0	188	25
24. N.C. State	2-1	73	19
25. West Virginia	3-0	71	-

Other receiving votes: Stanford 38, Mississippi 34, Virginia Tech 25, Southern Cal 17, UCLA 17, Northwest 13, Baylor 11, Georgia Tech 10, Fresno State 7, Hawaii 7, Kansas State 7, San Diego State 6, Oregon 4, Indiana 2, Clemson 1.

UNC vs. NCSU Score Box

UNC	7	3	18	7	35
NCSU	7	7	0	0	14

Scoring Summary
First Quarter
 NCSU - Downs 5 run (Videtic kick), 4:59
 UNC - Henderson 1 run (Pignetti kick), 0:54
Second Quarter
 NCSU - Brown 1 run (Videtic kick), 11:44
 UNC - Pignetti 40 field goal, 6:35
Third Quarter
 UNC - C. Johnson 50 run (Pignetti kick), 14:42
 UNC - Pignetti 26 field goal, 12:03
 UNC - Montoro 3 pass from Stanicek (L. Johnson rush good), 2:10
Fourth Quarter
 UNC - Henderson 18 run (Pignetti kick), 11:27
 Attendance - 54,400

UNC	NCSU
First Downs	21-12
Rushes-yards	57-301-36-86
Passing yards	96-158
Return yards	16-15
Comp-Att-Int	12-17-0-19-30-1
Fumbles-lost	3-3-0-6-3-4-5
Penalties-yards	5-51-7-57
Time of Possession	32:22-27:38

Individual Statistics
Rushing: NCSU - Downs 19-67, George 5-29, Fitzgerald 2-8, Cotton 1-2, Brown 1-1, Harvey 3-9, Bender 4-12; UNC - C. Johnson 18-153, L. Johnson 15-81, Henderson 8-48, Stanicek 8-28, Watson 4-16, Williams 2-6, McGregor 2-11, Thomas 2-5.
Passing: NCSU - Bender 10-11-0-59, Harvey 8-18-1-81, Downs 1-1-0-18; UNC - Stanicek 12-17-0-96, Thomas 0-0-0-0.
Receiving: NCSU - George 9-52, Goines 4-31, Hinton 1-20, Griffin 1-18, Hill 2-16, Dickerson 1-16, Downs 2-5; UNC - L. Johnson 3-32, DeLong 2-23, F. Jones 2-14, Wall 2-12, Holiday 1-13, Montoro 1-3.

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 1

the State defense, giving the Tar Heels a 17-14 lead. Just 18 seconds had ticked off the clock.

"That was a big momentum change for us," Stanicek said. "The kickoff return, too — that set the tone for the whole second half. We just got so pumped up from the run by Curtis that we just kept it going. We didn't want to lose it."

Johnson finished the game with 153 yards on 18 carries. He has 581 yards on the season, averaging 7.5 yards per carry.

Two plays into State's next drive, a hard hit from cornerback Jimmy Hitchcock jarred the ball loose from Wolfpack tailback Gary Downs. Tackle Greg Black recovered the fumble, and Tripp Pignetti kicked his second field goal of the day 1:45 later, giving UNC a 20-14 lead.

And later in the third, State coughed the ball up on its own 32. Back-up QB Terry Harvey, who came into the game when starter Geoff Bender left with a pinched nerve, just flat-out dropped the ball. UNC linebacker Kerry Mock pounced on it.

Seven plays later, Stanicek lobbed a three-yard pass to freshman tight end Marc Montoro. Montoro had replaced Greg DeLong, who left the game in the first quarter with a season-ending knee injury. It was Montoro's first career catch, and it broke the Wolfpack's back.

Stanicek pitched to Leon Johnson (15 carries, 64 yards) for the two-point conversion and with 2:10 left in the third, the Tar Heels were in command, 28-14.

"I'm not sure we took it to them offensively," offensive coordinator Darrell Moody said moments after slapping fives with his defensive counterpart Carl Torbush. "I think you go back and evaluate the film, the dominant team on the football field was our defense."

North Carolina's defense allowed just two first downs in the quarter. State scored its two touchdowns in its first three possessions, one coming after Curtis Johnson fumbled the ball on UNC's 22.

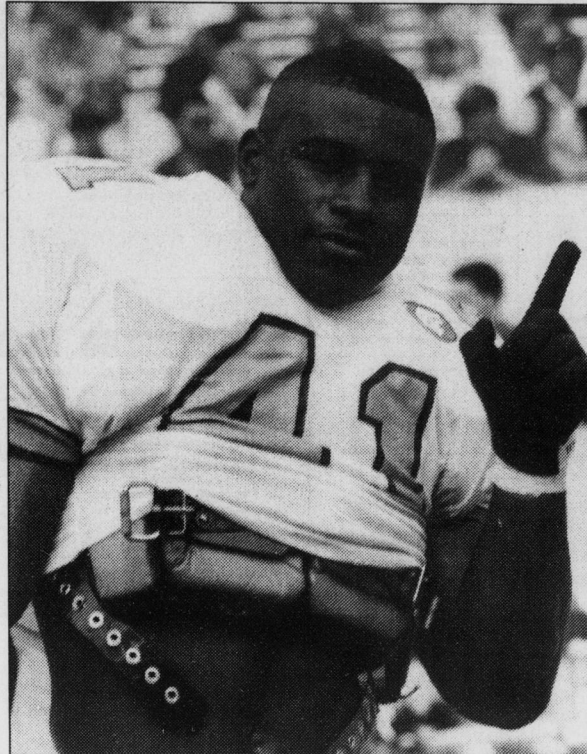
N.C. State's defense, meanwhile, simply could not stop Stanicek and the option.

Yes, Stanicek played and played well. The junior quarterback, listed as questionable after he bruised his shoulder in UNC's 33-7 loss to Florida State last week, replaced Mike Thomas after the first series. Thomas left the game with torn ligaments in his ribs before he threw his first pass.

Stanicek completed 12 of 17 passes for 96 yards and rushed eight times for 26 yards — not his best day statistically. But he was the field leader, holding the ball until the last second and then flicking it to his tailback for a big gainer in the option.

"He didn't look very hurt to me," O'Cain said. "He played very well. He's an excellent quarterback. He's in control of his football team. He's improved as much from last year to this season as any young man I've seen."

The UNC offense gained 169 total yards against State in 1990, 271 in '91 and 361 in '92. Saturday, the Tar Heels gained 397. State did everything it could to stop the



UNC linebacker Ray Jacobs celebrates by lifting one finger Saturday after UNC's 35-14 win against rival N.C. State.

STREAK

FROM PAGE 10

serve as relief. "So much has been talked about with the Streak," Brown said. "In two of those years we were awful. Another year we weren't very good. One year over here we turned the ball over too much. And last year was a great game.

"The Streak is not an issue because there are streaks in every program. The thing I'm proud of is our football program got better today."

The Tar Heel program is better — thanks to triumphs like the 21-17 Peach Bowl win against Mississippi State, a 31-9 win against USC in Anaheim this season and last year's back-to-back wins against Virginia and Georgia Tech. Now UNC has defeated N.C. State, that nemesis down the Interstate, and the Mack Brown Era may just have a new biggest win.

"I'd put this win up there," Harris said. "Each time we beat a Top 25 team on the road it's great for the program. Beating State is even better because we're ending the Streak, and it's the first step to winning the state championship, which is one of our goals."

Defensive tackle Marcus Jones, who batted down two passes in the second half to end a State threat, said the rivalry made this win especially sweet.

"Definitely — this is for bragging rights," he said. "UNC, they're way out in California. Those guys in the area, we see them if we go on Franklin Street or something like that. We can bump into one another. But for the longest time, they had bragging rights."

The end of the Streak did not weigh as heavily on the minds of State players, or head coach Mike O'Cain.

"It's an important football game," the first-year coach said. "Just because we didn't win doesn't mean it's any less important. It's an important game to us, our

fans and our alumni. "We lost one football game. That doesn't make our season. That's what we told our players — the sun'll be out tomorrow and we've just gotta prepare for Clemson (next week).

Wolfpack players walked back to their lockerroom in stunned silence after the final gun sounded, and were still stunned after the game.

"I just don't know what happened," Wolfpack wide receiver Eddie Goines said. "It was real intense out there."

The intensity and the rivalry translated into two fights, one during the game and one postgame brawl between assistant coaches.

UNC outside linebacker coach Donnie Thompson and State offensive coordinator Ted Cain came to blows as players shook hands on the field and had to be separated.

"There were a lot of extracurricular things going on," Goines said. "A lot of talking and pushing. Every play somebody had something to say."

UNC fullback William Henderson didn't think the intensity was out of the ordinary.

"I don't think it was anything personal," the junior said. "We'll probably see each other tonight sometime and then there won't be any other flare-ups. Basically, it was just the intensity of the game."

With all that was riding on the game, this style of play was not unexpected. For UNC, this game meant the end of the State Streak and a shot at the mythical state championship.

"For us to have a good year we have to win on the road, particularly in the league," Brown said.

"We have to go to Atlanta (to play Georgia Tech) and we have to go to Charlottesville (to face Virginia)."

And to make the fans and alumni happy at North Carolina, you just have to beat State.

VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE 10

outside hitters carried us. On a good team, the outside hitters should. The success of a good volleyball team depends on how good your outside hitters are, and our outside hitters were good tonight."

Amber Willey. A pulled hip flexor kept UNC starter Katie Galloway sidelined much of the weekend.

Her replacement, Willey, had seen action in only 20 of UNC's 44 games before the Georgetown match. The Tar Heels barely missed a beat.

Willey, a freshman, had four kills in each match, a total of 24 digs, and a team-high five service aces against Auburn.

"Amber came in and played well," Sagula said. "She made some freshman mistakes, as they will. But as a whole, she's stepping her play up."

The UNC enthusiasm. Finally, enthusiasm and intensity keyed the Tar Heels throughout the two wins. Sagula said the team had talked about that before the Georgetown match.

"We said we have to come out and play with more emotion," he said. "We need some intensity and make something happen on defense."

"We played real hard. And we made them play as hard as they could."

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