Preseason NFL Clash Has Local Flavor

When the Jets and Eagles line up against each other Aug. 20, a number of players will have connections to the Carolinas, including two Eagles players and a coach who spent time at Carter-Finley Stadium as members of the Wolfpack.

of the Wolfpack. Tickets are available through Ticketron at (800) 543-3041 or by contacting N. C. State's Reynolds Collseum Box Office at (919) 737-2106.

Mike Quick is still in contract negotiations with the Eagles. If he returns, the former star receiver for the Wolfpack could move up substantially among the team's career leaders in several statistical categories. After missing most of last season with a broken leg, he should advance in receptions, touchdown receptions, receiving yards, and 100-yard receiving games. Entering his eighth season with the Eagles, he has 341 receptions to rank fourth on the alltime list.

Former Wolfpacker Reggie Singletary is in his fifth year with the Eagles. He was a defensive lineman with the Wolfpack. Now he's listed at 280 pounds as a backup offensive guard or tackle. Defensive back Izel Jenkins is in his third year in the NFL, and coaches say he could progress from a back-up to a starting role this season. Defensive line coach Dale Haupt was a member of the Wolfpack coaching staff from 1972 until 1976 under former coaches Lou Holtz and Bo Rein.

Two other Eagles players have ties to the Carolinas. Defensive end Clyde Simmons, who is in his fifth year, played at Western Carolina. Former Winston-Salem State player Donald Evans, in his third year in the NFL, is a defensive end acquired last year from the Los Angeles Rams.

On the other side of the ball, the man getting the most attention is the Jets No. 1 draft pick Jeff Lageman of Virginia. His selection surprised a lot of Jet fans as well as Lageman himself. But coach Joe Walton says the three-time All-ACC Team selection will likely start at outside linebacker. Former Clemson tight end K. D. Dunn enters his sixth year in the NFL. He's listed behind Mickey Shuler on the depth chart, but starts in double tight-end formations. Dunn has some competition for his position from Keith Neubert, and Walton says the issue will be decided in the preseason. The Jets' roster also lists a pair of reserve linebackers in Tim Cofield, a four-year pro from Elizabeth City State, and Steve Hammond, a second-year pro from Wake Forest.

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