

FSU Loss to Miami All Too Familiar

From Wire Reports

MIAMI — After 1,013 yards, 100 passes and 51 points, Florida State-Miami came down to Wide Right III.

Amazing. When Matt Munyon's 49-yard field sailed wide right, No. 7 Miami completed its 27-24 victory against top-ranked Florida State on Saturday, derailing the Seminoles' national championship run and putting itself back into contention.

"I watched it, I watched it," Miami receiver Reggie Wayne said. "The only thing going through my mind was wide right one, wide right two, and I was hoping there would be a wide right three."

There was, much to the dismay of Seminoles coach Bobby Bowden, who lived through wide right field goals in 1991 and 1992 against Miami that probably cost his team a pair of national titles. The Hurricanes went on to win the national crown in '91.

"Wouldn't you know it?" Bowden asked. "He's been wide left all year, and then that happens. We had him out there pretty far, though."

Until the frantic final minutes, Miami (4-1) had an answer for everything

Florida State (5-1) tried. Four times in the first half, the Seminoles failed score from inside the Hurricanes' 26-yard line. Twice, Weinke threw interceptions on plays designed especially for the game. Two other times, Florida State passed on easy field goals and came up empty — once on a failed fourth-down run from the 16; the other on an incomplete pass from the 13.

A week after replacing Nebraska at No. 1, the Seminoles fell behind 17-0 at the half. But they staged a furious rally in the final minutes behind Weinke, who was 28-of-59 for a career-high 496 yards and three TDs — the final one a 29-yarder to Atreus Bell with 1:37 left that put the Seminoles ahead 24-20.

But Ken Dorsey answered for Miami, which took over on its own 32. Dorsey hit 6-of-7 passes, including hookups with Santana Moss for 13 yards, with Wayne for 17 yards and with Moss again for 19 yards to the FSU 8. A penalty moved

the ball back 5 yards, and then Dorsey hit backup tight end Jeremy Shockey with a 13-yard scoring pass with 46 seconds to go.

Florida State lost its 17-game winning streak — longest among major colleges. The loss also ended the Seminoles' 26-game regular-season winning streak.

Clemson Holds Off Wolfpack

CLEMSON, S.C. — Clemson's not all Woody Dantzler. The Tigers showed that Saturday.

Dantzler has been No. 5 Clemson's dazzling breakout star this season, but it took receiver Rod Gardner, tailback Travis Zachery and the defense to put away N.C. State in a 34-27 victory.

Dantzler's day was nearly upstaged by N.C. State's Philip Rivers, the 18-year-old quarterback who has led three come-from-behind victories and came close to another at Death Valley.

But with Gardner catching 10 passes for 137 yards, Zachery rushing for 147 yards and two touchdowns and Clemson's defense choking off Rivers' late rally, the Tigers (6-0, 4-0 in the ACC) held on.

Rivers threw for 370 yards, including three long touchdowns. His last scoring pass was a 63-yarder to Koren Robinson with 12:07 to go brought N.C. State (4-1, 1-1) to 34-27.

Dantzler finished with 103 yards rushing. He completed 18-of-30 passes for 220 yards.

Virginia Stuns Terps With Big 1st Half

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — A perfect first quarter from Dan Ellis and three first-half touchdowns by Tyree Foreman gave Virginia a 28-3 first-half lead, and the Cavaliers held on to beat Maryland 31-23 on Saturday.

Ellis was 6-for-6 for 148 yards and a touchdown in the first quarter as Virginia took a 21-0 lead. But a strained right hamstring made him leave the game, and he did not return. He finished 10-of-15 for 208 yards and a touchdown.

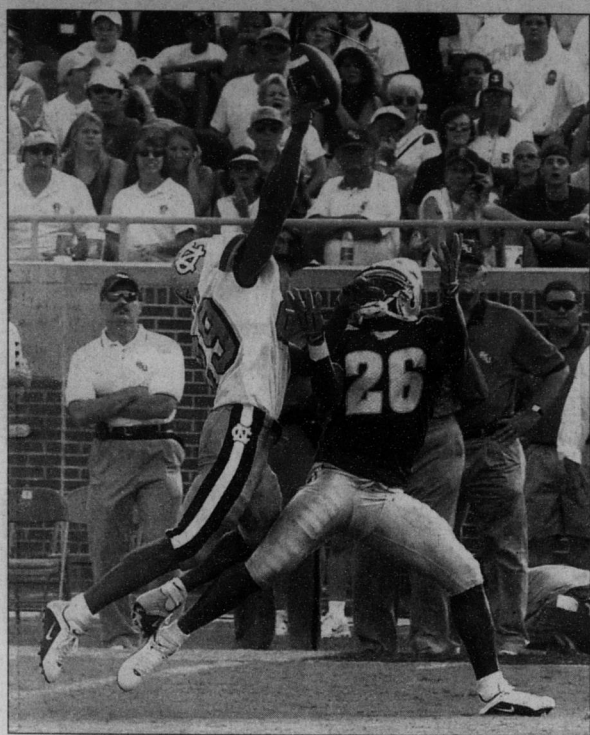
Maryland's LaMont Jordan, who ran for a school-record 306 yards last year against Virginia, finished with 78 yards on 20 carries.

Demon Deacons Drop Another One

WINSTON-SALEM — Dan Stricker and Jared McGrath each scored touchdowns as Vanderbilt held off Wake Forest for a 17-10 victory Saturday.

Wake Forest moved from its 7 to the Vandy 24 with just more than a minute left, but James MacPherson's pass to Ira Williams fell short on fourth-and-nine.

The Demon Deacons (0-5) are off to their worst start since 1974.



DTH/JEFF POULAND

Florida State wideout Atreus Bell, shown against North Carolina, caught a go-ahead touchdown with 1:37 left before Miami rallied for the win.

ACC ROUNDUP

Panthers Beat Seahawks in Battle of New Offenses

From Wire Reports

CHARLOTTE — The Carolina Panthers won the battle of offensive changes with the Seattle Seahawks.

The struggling Panthers bolted to a 20-point halftime lead under new offensive coordinator Richard Williamson and got field goals of 44, 42, 22 and 29 yards from new kicker Joe Nedney in a 26-3 victory Sunday.

Seattle's switch at quarterback didn't go as well. Brock Huard made his first career start in place of Jon Kitna, who had thrown eight interceptions and been sacked 19 times in a 2-3 start.

But Huard, whose brother Luke plays quarterback at North Carolina, couldn't move the Seahawks as the Panthers (2-3) avoided a three-game losing streak at home. Seattle was limited to 209 total yards and 11 first downs as Kitna spent the

game with his arms folded on the sideline.

Williamson moved over from wide receivers coach early in the week when Bill Musgrave suddenly resigned following home losses to Atlanta and Dallas.

Steve Beuerlein benefited the most from the offensive shakeup, going 27-for-39 for 332 yards. Tshimanga Biakabutuka, who had fumbled four times in the last two losses, added 103 yards rushing.

Jones Scores in Chargers' Loss

SAN DIEGO — The Denver Broncos found the ideal way to get out of a funk — play San Diego.

Brian Griese threw three touchdown passes — two to Ed McCaffrey to cap 24-yard drives following interceptions — as the Broncos beat the Chargers 21-7 on Sunday.

The Broncos (3-3) had lost their previous two games, both at Mile High Stadium. That hadn't happened in suc-

cessive games since 1990.

The Chargers (0-6), off to their worst start since losing 11 in a row to start the 1975 season, are one of two NFL teams without a victory this season; the other is Cincinnati.

The Chargers scored their points on a 26-yard pass from Jim Harbaugh to Freddie Jones with 52 seconds left before halftime to tie the game at 7-7. Jones, a former Tar Heel, caught five passes for 72 yards.

Patriots Teach Peyton a Lesson

FOXBORO, Mass. — Patriots quar-

terbacks Drew Bledsoe and Michael Bishop teamed up to show Peyton Manning how to do something he's never done in Foxboro. Win.

Trickery and big plays overcame a stunning stretch of ball control by the Indianapolis Colts as New England won 24-16 Sunday, continuing its revival from an 0-4 start and sending Manning home with an 0-3 record on the Patriots' field.

Bledsoe threw fourth-quarter touchdowns of 2 yards to Eric Bjornson and 4 yards to Terry Glenn. Glenn's catch followed an 18-yard pass from holder Lee Johnson to Bjornson on a fake field-goal attempt that moved the ball to the 4.

Bishop did what Bledsoe has trouble doing — scramble to buy time to launch a desperation pass. He completed one pass for a 44-yard touchdown.

The Colts (3-2) had held the ball for 14 plays but managed just a 33-yard field goal by Mike Vanderjagt that gave them a

10-3 lead with 10 seconds left in the half.

Manning completed 31-of-54 passes for 334 yards and one touchdown, but he also threw three interceptions. Bledsoe was 15-of-23 for 142 yards and no interceptions.

Field Goal Lifts Redskins

PHILADELPHIA — Michael Husted's job is safe — at least for the trip back to Washington.

Husted's 24-yard field goal with four seconds left lifted the Redskins to a 17-14 victory against the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday.

Darrell Green set up the winning field goal by intercepting Donovan McNabb and returning it 33 yards to Philadelphia's 19 with 23 seconds left.

Stephen Davis ran 13 yards on the next play and appeared to fumble, but the play was ruled dead after the officials blew the whistle.

Philadelphia (3-3) had beaten

Washington in nine of its last 10 games at Veterans Stadium.

Brad Johnson was 23-of-36 for 289 yards, and Davis had 84 yards, including a touchdown. McNabb was 17-of-34 for 186 yards, including two touchdowns and two interceptions.

Thomas Sparks Win Against Bills

MIAMI — Like so many times in the past, the showdown between AFC East archrivals Miami and Buffalo ended with Thurman Thomas holding a game ball.

Only this time Thomas provided a spark for the Dolphins, and he did it not so much with his running as with his taunting.

Thomas repeatedly talked trash to his former teammates, and Miami's defense backed him up with a smothering performance Sunday to beat the Bills 22-13.

Thomas had seven rushes for 24 yards and caught three passes for 26 yards for Miami (5-1).

Big Apple Enjoys Pair of Clinchers

Bobby J. Jones pitched the Mets past the Giants with a one-hitter, and the Yankees held on to beat Oakland.

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Mets didn't need any more late-inning dramas.

They scored early this time, and Bobby J. Jones did the rest to finish off the San Francisco Giants and put the Mets back in the NL championship series.

Jones pitched the sixth complete game one-hitter in postseason history, and Robin Ventura gave New York all the offense it needed with a two-run homer in the first inning as the Mets eliminated the Giants with a 4-0 win in Game 4 of their NL division series Sunday.

Jones limited the Giants to a fifth-inning double by Jeff Kent as the wild card Mets won the final three games of the series to avoid a cross-country trip and a decisive Game 5 in San Francisco.

New York earned itself two days off before opening the NLCS in St. Louis on Wednesday. The Mets were 6-3 against the Cardinals this season.

The Giants (97-65), who finished with the best record in the majors, had their magical season end with a whimper, in part because Barry Bonds was a post-season bust again.

Bonds dropped to 0-5 in playoff series — three with Pittsburgh, two with the Giants — with a .196 batting average overall. The three-time MVP made the final out of the series, hitting a fly ball to center that left him 3-for-17 against the Mets. Jones, in his first career post-season

start, made quite a name for himself. Known as much for being one of two Bobby Joneses on the Mets as for his own pitching, Jones etched his place in Mets postseason history.

Jones struck out Bonds on a high fastball to end the first, drawing an ovation from a crowd ready for another celebration.

Ventura gave them much more to cheer about in the bottom half. After Mark Gardner walked Mike Piazza with two outs, Ventura turned on a first-pitch fastball and hit it off the scoreboard in right field. Ventura, who had been just 1-for-12 in the series, rounded the bases as fireworks shot up behind the center-field fence and fans threw confetti from the upper deck.

Big 1st Inning Propels Yanks

OAKLAND, Calif. — The New York Yankees, tired of being eulogized as fallen champions, broke out of their offensive malaise for a half-inning and then barely held on for a series-clinching win over the sleepy Oakland Athletics.

Chuck Knoblauch's return to the lineup sparked a six-run first inning, leading the Yankees to a 7-5 win Sunday night in the decisive Game 5 that completed a Big Apple playoff sweep of the Bay Area.

Knoblauch, back in his accustomed leadoff spot after being benched for three games, lined the night's first pitch to right for a single. Derek Jeter walked, and Paul O'Neill's high-chop single loaded the bases.

Bernie Williams drove in a run with a sacrifice fly, David Justice walked and Tino Martinez doubled in three runs

with a drive off the center-field wall that Terrence Long broke in on. Jorge Posada's infield single chased losing pitcher Gil Heredia.

Luis Sojo greeted reliever Jeff Tam with a sacrifice fly on which Long again broke the wrong way, and singles by Scott Brosius and Knoblauch made it 6-0. A routine toss from catcher Ramon Hernandez forced Tam to dive for the ball for the flustered A's.

The A's had the tying runs on base in the fourth and the tying run at the plate in the sixth and eighth, but failed to score off a New York bullpen that struggled the second half of the season.

Mariano Rivera got the final five outs for his 16th post-season save, breaking the record he had shared with Dennis Eckersley since Friday night.



Former Tar Heel Freddie Jones caught five passes for 72 yards and one touchdown in San Diego's loss.

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