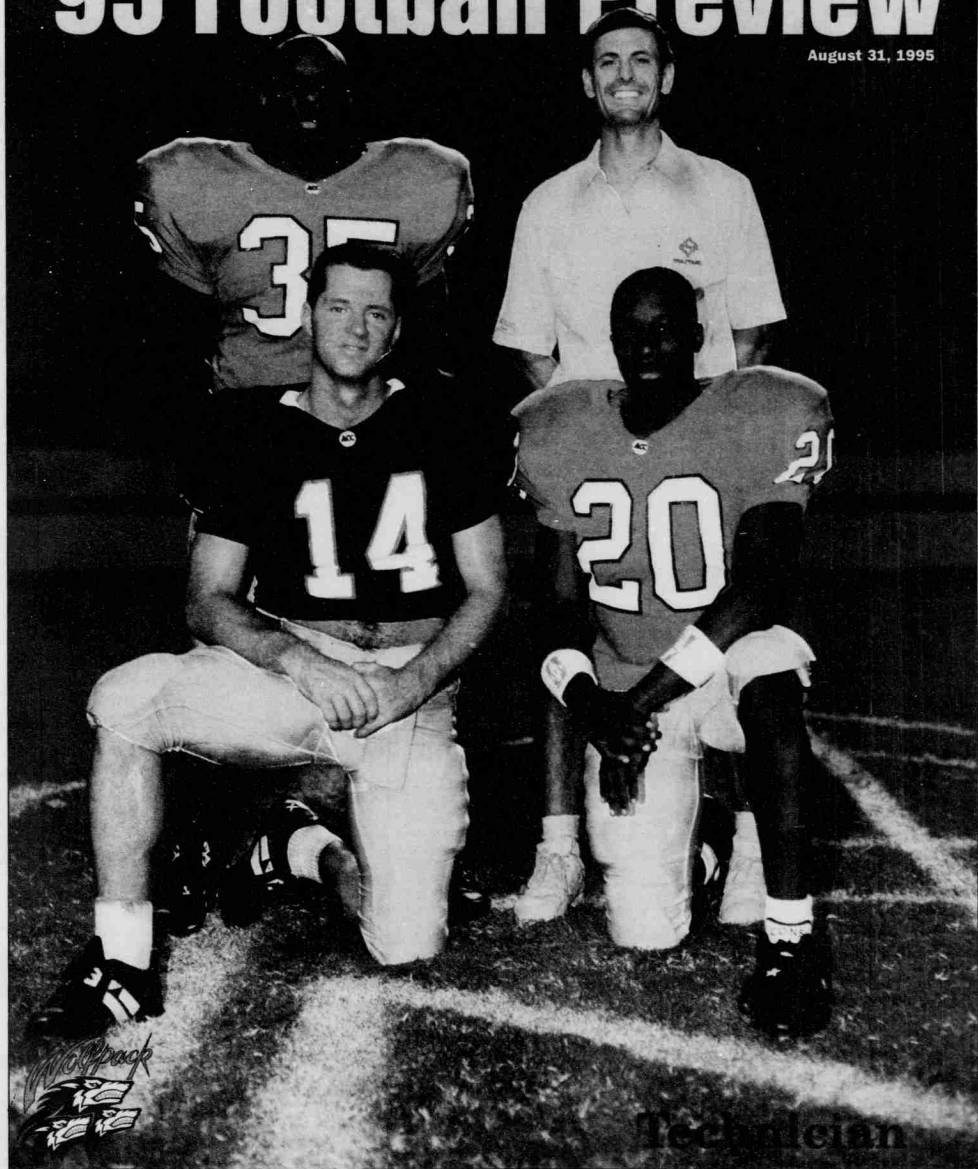


'95 Football Preview

August 31, 1995



A word from the Editor



First things first. The person who deserves the most credit for this football tab is Hunter Morris. The funny thing is you won't see his name in the mast head anywhere. He is a magician. Without him there would be no football tab and probably not even Technician sports. Thank you Hunter.

This football tab is the culmination of a

summer of work. Hopefully you see some different things in this preview than the every other day Technician. I was lucky to be in charge of this in the first place. If it wasn't for Aaron's vacation or Mike's semester hiatus from school I would be just another face in the crowd.

So here we goes nothing. The festivities started in

Pinehurst in July. There, Aaron and I met all the coaches in the ACC and played two abysmal rounds of golf. I will remember that.

Another thing I will remember is Mike Preston driving from New Jersey in the middle of the night to come to the Wolfpack Media day. We (Matt Lail, Mike, and I) managed to make it through without hav-

ing the experience that other writers or editors have in preparing these pre-season extravaganzas. But I think this tab turned out O.K. for a bunch of amateurs.

I guess there is something to be said for the ignorance of youth. If this summer has taught me anything it is that it's o.k. to be young and make mistakes. The

The pigskins are ready and so is Carter-Finley for Thursday night's game vs. Marshall. Could this be State's year... stay tuned.

finale of this project makes me feel like I accomplished something this summer. Enjoy the show and go the game tomorrow night.

J.P. Giglio,
'95 Football
Preview Editor

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Coach O'Cain, Terry Harvey, Tremayne Stephens and Rod Brown at Carter-Finley Stadium. The foursome symbolize what is right with N.C. State Football. They are second to none. photo by T. Hunter Morris

Key

Yr-Year; Att-Attempts; Comp-Completions; %-completion percentage; Yds-Yards; Tds-Touchdowns; Int-Interceptions; Avg-Average; Lg-Longest run or catch; Rec-Receptions; Pos-Position; Tkls-Tackles; UT-Unassisted tackles; AT-Assisted tackles; TFLs-Tackles for loss; PK-Placekicker; P-Punter; LS-Long snapper

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Twas' the night before the season...

■ Mike O'Cain hopes the third time is the charm not a jinx for the Pack.

By J.P. GIGLIO
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After making the headlines the field for the first two seasons, coach Mike O'Cain found himself on the front page for different reasons.

During the first week of fall camp, five projected starters were arrested for breaking and entering and the second-leading scorer was suspended for six games.

Even with the on-going turmoil, O'Cain has the Wolfpack on the brink of greatness. After enduring his first season with seven wins and a bowl berth, the Pack tied a school record with nine wins in 1994, including a 28-24 comeback victory in the Peach Bowl.

After the nine win season, fans are expecting the Pack to reach the proverbial next level. O'Cain is confident this year's squad can build on last year's success.

"The middle to the end of the season, we can be a better football team, from a talent standpoint, than we were at the end of the '94 season," O'Cain said.

The experience isn't there but the expectations are soaring higher by the day and the future is considerably brighter for the Wolfpack.

The team this year is not complacent with a bowl victory or finishing second for the fourth time in five seasons. The Pack has visions of Sugar plums and Oranges dancing in their heads.

"We're not working for second place or just a bowl game," captain Ricky Bell said. "We want to win."

"We want to win the ACC championship," star running back Tremayne Stephens said. "And go on to contend for the national championship."

At the annual Wolfpack media day, O'Cain warned fans against instant gratification.

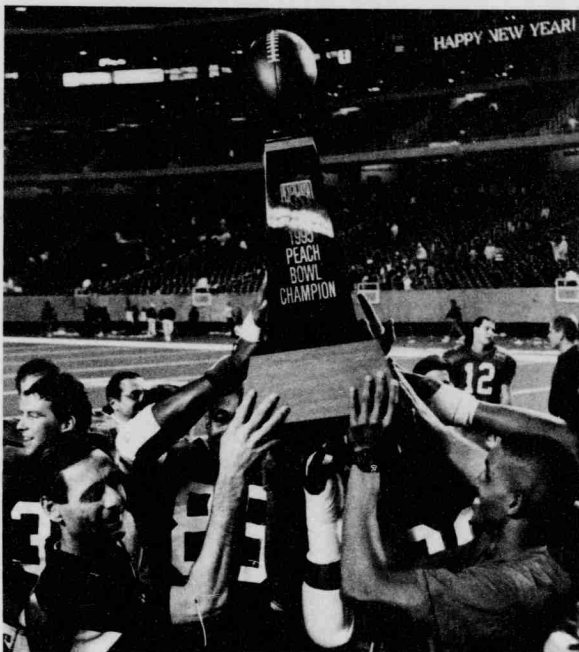
"We are not as good a football team right now as we were Jan. 1, because of experience," O'Cain said. "We have the talent, but not the experience."

But that doesn't mean O'Cain isn't excited about the possibilities of this year's squad.

"What a difference a year makes," O'Cain said. "We have a chance to be a heck of a football team, but we have a lot of growing up to do between now and Aug. 31."

A little bit of heart and soul

The burden of growing up will fall largely on the defense. State's D lost six starters from last season including five of the



Coach O'Cain raises the Peach Bowl trophy in the Georgia Dome with the Senior class of 1994. Eight players from last year's team were NFL training camps this summer.

Hunter/Morris/Fox

front seven. Four of those starters are now in the NFL, including defensive end Carl Reeves and middle linebacker Damien Covington, the heart and soul of the defense.

Reeves and Covington, first-team All-ACC performers, take with them more than 225 tackles, unmeasurable experience and leadership skills.

But according to free safety James Walker, it's not a question of rebuilding but reloading.

"I'm not saying we're not going to miss those guys, but in our system we bring players to fill the shoes," Walker said. "Just put the ball between the lines and let's get it on."

"We're hungry to prove we're one of the best schools in the country."

The defense does have five starters returning, three of which are in the secondary. The secondary, traditionally a forte of the squad, returns Walker, Kenny Harris and Ricky Bell.

Bell, one of the players arrested last week, was elected team cap-

1994 results

opponents score

Bowling Green	W20-15
at Clemson	W29-12
W. Carolina	W38-13
Georgia Tech	W21-13
at Louisville	L14-35
Wake Forest	W34-3
at N. Carolina	L17-31
at Maryland	W47-45
Duke	W24-23
Florida State	L34-3
at Virginia	W30-27

Peach Bowl

Mississippi St.	W 28-24
-----------------	---------

All systems go ... turbines to speed

The offense has not remained unscathed of scandal. Running back Carlos King, who led the team with seven touchdowns, was suspended for the first six games of the season for violating team policy.

The offense does return seven starters and is primed to lead the Pack to the NCAA Nirvana. The offensive backfield stars Terry Harvey calling the signals, Tremayne Stephens flying past opponents and Rod Brown trucking over linebackers. The trio is considered one of the best in the ACC.

Harvey is back for his third season as a starter. He is less than 1,500 yards away from breaking Shane Montgomery's career passing record.

At tailback, Tremayne Stephens durability could be the key to the offense. According to offensive coordinator Ted Cain, Stephens will see the ball considerably more this season in passing situ-

ations and in the red zone. Stephens scored only three times last season. Each touchdown was from 50 yards or more.

"We are cautiously optimistic with Tremayne," Cain said. "He is a true sophomore and though he showed flashes of outstanding play, we don't need to put the whole burden on Tremayne's shoulders."

At 6-feet, 235 pounds, Rod Brown has broad enough shoulders to share the brunt of the work. Brown can run just as well as he can block. O'Cain was impressed with Brown the day he reported for fall practice.

"He is in tremendous shape," O'Cain said. "He looks like he is ready to pick up where he left off last year."

That is good news to State fans. Brown broke the 100-yard barrier in back-to-back contests against Maryland and Duke and finished the season with a 563 yards and five touchdowns.

And Stephens and Brown won't be running behind a porous offensive line. Three starters return, including All-ACC guard Steve Keim.

The long and winding road

N.C. State's rise through the rankings and toward national prominence runs through two T-Towns: Tallahassee and Tuscaloosa. There is eight national titles between the two schools and each has one in the '90s.

O'Cain feels the bulked up non-conference matchup with the Crimson Tide is good opportunity to prove to the country how far State football has come.

"It means an awful lot if we go down there and win," he added. "If we win or play very respectably it gives us the national attention which we need at N.C. State."

The perennial ACC dilemma for the Pack is Florida State. The Seminoles will open up the season ranked No. 1 in both the AP and the CNN/USA Today polls.

Last season, State had three chances to take an early lead against the 'Noles but it didn't convert in the red zone.

"We have to take advantage of the opportunities. We did not do that last year," O'Cain said. "It's possible to beat them if they're not playing as well as they are capable of playing and are we are at our best."

Including the national showdowns, five of the Pack's first six games are against teams who played in the postseason.

"I like our schedule," Bell said. "It gives us an opportunity to be in the top five or 10. If we come out big with this schedule there is some big things in store for this team."



HUNTER MORRIS/FILE

The last time we left our leader he was giving this referee an earful on this play in the Peach Bowl. In his two seasons O'Cain has accomplished more than any coach in N.C. State history except Lou Holtz. The Pack's win in the Peach Bowl has sent expectations and ticket sales soaring.

O'Cain ready for the next level

■ Mike O'Cain faces his toughest test in his third season of great expectations and a team scandal.

BY AARON MORRISON
Sports Editor

Looking at Mike O'Cain's record during the past two seasons, one certainly would not think they were his first.

O'Cain won 16 games and guided his troops to two bowl appearances, including a win against Mississippi State in last season's Peach Bowl.

Only one other coach in Wolfpack history can compare with that, and he has a team contending for the national championship every year — Notre Dame's Lou Holtz. Holtz also made two bowl trips, but he also won 17 games in his first two seasons with State.

Despite those great seasons, something was missing. O'Cain was still in a transi-

tion period. Now he says he finally feels in place.

"I feel more comfortable with the position," O'Cain said. "I feel much more settled. People are looking to me as the leader. I feel much more in control of myself, particularly that first year."

The first year, O'Cain found himself suddenly at the helm of one of the ACC's most consistent football programs. Former coach Dick Sheridan resigned only five weeks prior to the start of fall camp.

So O'Cain was in the driver's seat of a program that demanded excellence. He took over in the middle of a consecutive-bowl-game run. The number was at five then. Now it stands at seven — and counting.

Once again O'Cain has the team poised to compete for the ACC championship. He will start his third season among

names like Florida State's Bobby Bowden and Virginia's George Welsh, names that have been synonymous with winning and tradition. Is the coach intimidated? "I feel mighty funny when I go up and shake hands with Coach Bowden," he said. "I still don't have the nerve to call him Bobby. And in a sense coach Welsh is that way. I'm not threatened by them. It's just out of respect."

But another presence has loomed over O'Cain, especially that first year. Sheridan had brought national recognition to the Pack before he stepped down. And O'Cain had to follow.

"That's not a bad shadow to be in," O'Cain said of Sheridan. "He's taught me an awful lot. I'm sure that first year people were saying, 'What if Sheridan were coaching in that situation.'"

"That was never a concern of mine. If there's a shadow you want to be in, I would just as soon be in his as anybody's."

But now O'Cain is trying to create a shadow of his own. His two-year record (16-8) is stellar in comparison to other State coaches. Sheridan could only manage a record of 12-10-1 after his first two seasons with the Wolfpack.

O'Cain is still hesitant to take all the credit for his 16 wins.

"I inherited a great program and a great staff," O'Cain said. "You take the 16 games we won over the past two years, a lot of those 16 games could have gone either way and some of the losses could have, too."

So now that O'Cain has emerged from the shadow of his former coach, everything should come up roses for the coach, right?

Thanks to the recent arrest of five of his players, O'Cain has had to learn early in his career how to handle the media.

Backed up against a rail on the second level of A. E. Finley Fieldhouse, O'Cain fielded questions regarding the five players and the disciplinary action he handed them. But O'Cain said he knows that comes with the territory.

"I don't look at the media as being antagonistic," O'Cain said. "I don't feel threatened by the media at all. I try to be open and honest. In this instance in particular there were a lot of things I couldn't say."

For now, O'Cain has stepped beyond those problems and is preparing for the upcoming season.

The Pack's schedule this season boasts some big names. The season opener is against Division I-AA favorite, Marshall. But the real tests for O'Cain and his troops come in Tallahassee against the Seminoles and in Tuscaloosa against Alabama.

According to O'Cain tough games will only help his program. He said that to gain recognition, State must play teams like that and win. O'Cain said he wants to compete for a national championship.

1995 Football Schedule

Date	Team
Aug. 31	Marshall*
Sept. 9	Virginia
Sept. 16	at Florida State
Sept. 23	Baylor
Sept. 30	Clemson
Oct. 7	at Alabama
Oct. 21	at Duke
Nov. 4	Maryland
Nov. 11	at Georgia Tech
Nov. 18	at Wake Forest
Nov. 24	North Carolina#

* Thursday, # Friday

State's dynamic duo riddle the opposition

■ With the hard-hitting Rod Brown and Tremayne Stephens, the Wolfpack has a tough backfield to beat.

By J.P. GIGLIO
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Speed or power.

In 1995, the N.C. State ground attack can either sprint by or barrel over its opponents. Coach Mike O'Cain just has to choose his weapon.

Second-team, All-ACC tailback Tremayne Stephens and fullback Rod Brown will be the flash and crash, respectively, for the Wolfpack this season.

"There is really no way that you can go wrong," Stephens said. "We have a pretty good chance to make some noise in the ACC this year."

Last year, Stephens (5-11, 195) rushed for 791 yards in nine games. He broke the century mark five times, including 105 yards against Mississippi State in the Peach Bowl, capturing MVP honors.

After the banner season, the sophomore from Greer, S.C. will not have the same luxury of being an enigma to the opposition.

"People are going to be gunning for me this year," Stephens

said. "I'm ready to run the ball more and take the poundings I'm going to be getting."

O'Cain doesn't want Stephens to succumb to the preseason hype, putting undue pressure on himself.

"He may not be as good as he was last year," he said. "He may be a lot better."

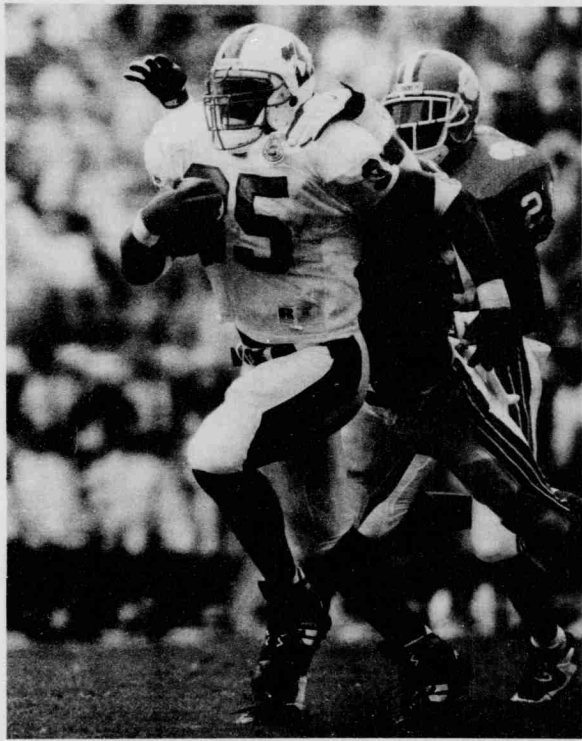
"The key for Tremayne is to go out and enjoy himself."

Running back coach Dick Portee has the same concerns about Stephens as O'Cain.

"I'm concerned about the pressure that is going to be on him," Portee said. "What am I not going to do to mess him up?"

The coaches just might have a solution to their dilemma with Stephens and his backfield partner, Rod Brown (6-0, 235). With teams looking out for No. 20, Brown's combination of bruising power and speed complements Stephens' slashing, lightning-quick game.

"As a complete fullback, I don't believe there is anyone in the conference who is better than



CHARLIE BARD/STAFF

Rod Brown carries a Clemson defender while the others just watch him passing by for 48 yards. Brown makes up one-half of the Wolfpack's potent 1-2 punch in the backfield.

See RUN, Page 14 ▶



JASON NICHOLS/FILE

No. 61 Kenneth Redmond and no. 66 Steve Keim protect the pocket for QB Terry Harvey.

The offensive line is a family affair

■ Keim and the Redmond brothers lead an experienced offensive line in the trenches.

By MICHAEL PRESTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

They get little recognition. If there is any mention of them during a telecast, chances are somebody either got called for a hold or missed a blocking assignment. At the absolute worst, they're shown being run over by a defensive end on the way to the quarterback.

Last season that was not the case for the offensive line for the Wolfpack, one of the most solid in recent memory despite getting

hit hard with injuries. Expect much of the same this year even though State loses both its starting tackles from a year ago. Returning for their final season are Steve Keim and Jonathan Redmond at guard and Kenneth Redmond at center.

"When you've got your center back and both guards, particularly now that a lot of teams are playing with a 4-3 defense, it is critical to have that middle part of your offensive line sound," Coach Mike O'Cain said.

The returning group of linemen is so impressive, Lindy's ACC Football publication recognized it as the 10th best offensive line

See O-LINE, Page 14 ▶

No fear, Guffie is here

■ The legend is gone, but the future of Wolfpack football is in good hands with the receivers and tight ends.

BY MATT LAHL
STAFF WRITER

As hard as it may be for N.C. State football fans, Eddie Goines is not coming back. He graduated and left for Seattle, leaving behind a legacy that will be remembered for years to come.

But according to senior split end Mike Guffie, fans should not worry.

"We want to prove to everyone, that just because Eddie and Adrian (Hill) left, it doesn't mean that the receivers have gone down," Guffie said. "If anything, we've gotten better."

That should be comforting to fans, but it could also leave them wondering.

"How much better can you get than Eddie Goines, the all-time greatest receiver at N.C. State?"

"One thing we're gonna prove as receivers is that we can keep up with others," Guffie said. "Everyone will be looking at Tremayne (Stephens), but we just want to prove that we can take people by surprise as well."

Guffie started every game last season and compiled 262 yards off of 18 catches en route to three touchdowns. But according to him he isn't a lock to start.

"Even though I'm the returning starter, I'm still not going to be able to step in and say 'I'm the starter.'"

"We've got a lot of good talent coming in, and I'm still going to have to prove myself all over again that I should be the starter."

That talent includes newcomers

Wide Receivers

yr	g	rec	yds	td
Greg Addis	10	6	101	0
totals	10	6	101	0

yr	g	rec	yds	td
Jimmy Grissett	11	0	0	0
1994	11	20	183	1
totals	22	20	183	1

yr	g	rec	yds	td
Mike Guffie	10	1	7	0
1993	11	2	44	1
1994	11	18	262	3
totals	32	21	313	4

Torry Holt and Chris Coleman.

Coleman was ranked as the number 4 wide receiver in the ACC region and was a "BlueChip Illustrated" All-American.

Holt is a big target (6-3, 190) who played at Hargrave Academy last year and averaged 25 yards per reception, after being named one of the top-25 prospects in the state by The Charlotte Observer.

"Torry is probably the best incoming freshman N.C. State has seen in a while," said Tremayne Stephens, who wasn't a bad freshman in his own right.

One person who will definitely be vying for the starting role is junior Jimmy Grissett, whose work ethic has earned him the strength title among the receivers. Grissett had a strong season last year and finished third among the receivers with 20 catches for 183 yards and one score.

And yet there's more. Sophomore Greg Addis will be a contender after a season in which he caught six passes for 101

yards, including a key 52-yard bomb vs. Duke.

And although he is yet to catch a pass in a game, sophomore Alvis Whitted will have many defensive coordinators biting their nails. Already an All-American track sprinter, he is also the kickoff return specialist. And he already owns one record. His 97-yard kickoff return against Maryland (yes, for a TD) last season was the longest return for a TD in 32 years.

Another track star who will battle for playing time is junior Omar Dixon, an All-ACC high jumper, who owns the school record for a leap at 7'4."

Senior Neil Chance is another track star who was encouraged by friends and football players to give it a shot, despite the fact that he has never played organized football before.

"I really wish he had one more year," Coach Mike O'Cain said. "He has really progressed quickly, and he's catching the ball well."

Also in the mix are the tight ends, which are always a vital part of the Wolfpack offense. Gone is Dallas Dickerson who was consistent above everything else. Not only did he catch the big passes, but he also was the long-snapper.

This season it looks like sophomore Mark Thomas will step in and fill the void. Last year Thomas caught only one pass for seven yards, and has some game experience.

"He did a fine job for us, and I thought he demonstrated a lot of poise for a freshman last year," tight end coach Brette Simmons said. "Coming out of spring practice, he's the leading candi-



HEB THORSA/STAFF
Jimmy Grissett hopes to fill the void left by Eddie Goines, Technician's most famous guest columnist.

See WIDES, Page 12 >

Insurance policy is gone at quarterback

■ The Wolfpack is banking on Terry Harvey's right arm and health but if he goes down, bathroom redshirt freshman Jose Laureano.

BY MATT LAHL
STAFF WRITER

The N.C. State football team has not had a quarterback start all 11 games since 1989. But now is not a good time to mention that this season, the Wolfpack returns only one experienced quarterback, senior Terry Harvey.

But on the other hand, the Pack finds itself lucky to have Harvey back. He could have just as easily opted to play professional baseball instead, and not run the

risk of injury.

But as fate would have it, Harvey decided to come back for one more season. And it will be a season in which he will be carrying the load for the Pack. He finds himself without his old roommate, Geoff Bender, waiting in the wings. And head coach Mike O'Cain is just delighted to have him back.

"Terry is a competitor," O'Cain said. "He is a terrific baseball player with a definite future there."

"But he also loves the game of football so much, and he has put so much time and effort into N.C. State football that he really feels like he still has something to accomplish."

This season could turn out to be a prosperous year not only for

Harvey, but for the offense as well.

With the primarily intact backfield and experienced key wide receivers, Harvey can look to post some large numbers as he has already done in his career at State. He is currently fifth on the State career passing yardage list with 3,826 yards. And despite sharing time not only with Bender but with baseball as well, he is on pace to surpass Shane Montgomery as the all-time leading passer at N.C. State.

And Harvey is no stranger to having his back against the wall. He has been involved in at least eight fourth-quarter comebacks in his career. He led the Pack in an impressive win at Clemson (167 yds and two tds). He carried the offense to glory on every

possession at Maryland. And he rallied State to a thrilling come-from-behind win against Duke in which he threw for 262 yards and two touchdowns to the Blue Devils. And in the Peach Bowl he passed for 139 yards and one TD to lead the Pack past Mississippi State. And this was all just last season.

"Terry is just a tremendous team leader," O'Cain said. "When he took over the starting position three years ago, he also took over the leadership role for the whole team."

"I think that is a tribute to his hard work."

But the amount of talent at quarterback does not falter once you get past Harvey. The experience does. Knowing this, the coaching staff finds itself with a

very difficult, yet promising situation if something were to happen to Harvey.

Enter Jose Laureano. He is being hailed as "the most athletic quarterback in the past 10 years" of Wolfpack football. And there is no doubt that Laureano will be called upon to render his services some time during the season.

"I just have to be ready," Laureano said. "That's what practice is for, if I do have to come in, then, hopefully I can do my best."

Despite being redshirted last season, the coaches said they feel that he is progressing quickly into the program.

"Honestly, Jose is not ready

Defensive Lineman

yr	g	t	sacks	tfls	fr	int
Jon Rissler (End)						
1992	10	13	0	0	0	0
1993	11	34	2-13	3-17	1	0
1994	11	45	3-5-18	7-28	1	0
totals	32	92	5-5-31	10-45	2	0
Mike Harrison (T)						
1992	11	20	3-5	4-18	0	0
1993	10	21	0	1-1	0	0
1994	11	50	1	3-8	0	0
totals	32	91	4-5	8-27	0	0
George Williams (T)						
1994	11	21	0	2-3	1	0
totals	11	21	0	2-3	1	0

Carl Reeves out, Jon Rissler in

■ The loss of spiritual leader and captain Carl Reeves leaves a hole on the defensive line but the coaches are hopeful this year's captain can lead the way for the Pack.

By MICHAEL PRESTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The biggest task for the N.C. State defensive coaches will be

to find a replacement one of its best ever—Carl Reeves. With the departure of Reeves, the staff is going to have to look for answers to some pretty big questions.

The biggest being who will step up to fill Reeves' role? The answer may lie in

the intimidating frame of senior John Rissler.

"Carl was an exceptional player here," said defensive ends coach David Turner. "If any of his

teammates learned anything while he was here, hopefully it was how to go full speed."

However, Rissler was appointed one of the team's tri-captains for the upcoming season, so he is already expected to play a big role. If last season's numbers dictate what he's capable of, numbers which included 45 tackles and 3.5 sacks, it is a role he will fill well.

See RISSLER, Page 12 ▶

Secondary sets the tone for Wolfpack D

For whom the Bell tolls



The Bell tolls for the John Jensen. In one of Technician's favorite photos, the Duke receiver gets the ill communication firsthand from junior captain Ricky Bell.

ANER BARRICOLA/FILE

Let the games begin...

■ Bell looks to put his off-season turmoil behind him to continue the tradition of excellence in the secondary.

By MATT LAIL
STAFF WRITER

More than anything Ricky Bell wants the football season to begin. After a troubled pre-season the All-ACC candidate is ready to get on the field and continue on his way to joining an elite group in N.C. State football history.

Following in the footsteps of Sebastian Savage and William Strong—all names that State fans remember—Bell is trying to become the eighth defensive back to play in the NFL in the last six years.

But Bell has run into legal trouble early this season, his name has been in the headlines for the wrong reasons. The junior cornerback is looking to change that.

Coach Mike O' Cain feels that Bell will put the incident that occurred on August 20 behind him.

"Ricky is a strong individual," O' Cain said. "He was selected as a captain as a junior, which says a lot about how the team feels about him."

And it's not just the players who feel strongly about him. The coaching staff has placed Bell on the wide side of the field, the strong safety position.

"Ricky is a complete football player," secondary coach Kent Briggs said. "Watching the great defensive backs that have been here in the past, I feel that he is as good a football player as we have had."

With Bell being on the wide side, it shows the confidence that the staff has in his ability to go up against the best receivers in the ACC.

This shouldn't be a problem for Bell, who is not only an All-American candidate, but a

■ The defensive backs will try to overcome recent setbacks to continue its tradition of anchoring the Wolfpack defense.

By J.P. GIGLIO
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

A game hasn't even been played this year, and the N.C. State defensive backfield has already created a fitstorm of controversy.

With the arrests or junior cornerback Ricky Bell and safety James Walker, the backbone of the defense is already in jeopardy.

If Bell and Walker, who are on probation pending a Sept. 21 court date, can remain out of trouble, this year's unit should continue the tradition of excellence in the secondary.

"We are veterans. We have to come together and carry the team

this year," Walker said. "Speed is not a question; we have the speed. It is a question of getting it together."

In the past six years, State has sent seven defensive backs to the NFL, including Dewayne Washington, a first-round draft pick in 1994. Despite the Pack's track record of turning out stellar defensive back's, Bell said he feels this year's team is something special.

"I think we have the potential to be the best secondary ever," the junior captain said. "We have the size, the speed and the 'I don't care' attitude."

"We are not scared of anyone." Secondary coach Kent Briggs isn't ready to go that far, but he does like what he sees in this year's backfield.

"It's the best depth in the last three or four years," he said. "We have three starters back and six

See D-BACKS, Page 13 ▶

Secondary

yr	g	t	sacks	tfls	fr	int
Ricky Bell (CB)						
1993	11	90	0	1-2	1	2-28
1994	11	62	0	0	0	1-37
totals	22	152	0	1-2	1	3-65
Allen Johnson (CB)						
1992	12	12	0	0	0	0
1993	11	27	0	0	0	1
1994	11	13	0	0	0	0
totals	34	52	0	0	0	1
Kenny Harris (SS)						
1993	11	21	0	1-1	0	0
1994	7	16	0	0	0	0
totals	18	37	0	1-1	0	0
Brandon Davis (SS)						
1994	8	17	0	0	1	0
totals	8	17	0	0	1	0
James Walker (FS)						
1993	11	139	0	2-9	0	1-12
1994	11	84	0	1-2	0	2-12
totals	22	223	0	3-11	0	3-24
Damon Wyche (FS)						
1994	11	14	0	0	0	0
totals	11	14	0	0	0	0

See BELL, Page 15 ▶

One last chance to shine

Senior quarterback Terry Harvey is back to prove once again that there is no I in Team.

By J.P. GIGLIO
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It's three o'clock in the afternoon at the Weisiger-Brown athletic facility, the lobby is empty except for a few scattered athletes and coaches. Up the stairs climbs Terry Harvey with a baseball hat lying crooked on his head, the blue hat reads "TEAM."

Make no mistake about it, Terry Harvey knows what the word team means. In the age of underclassmen bolting to the professional ranks faster than the ink dries on their scholarship, Harvey is throwback to another time. His loyalties can not be exchanged for a signing bonus.

"I've come this far and I made a commitment to the school and myself," the senior from Dacula, Ga. said. "You don't play four years and give up your fifth season of eligibility, that's stupid."

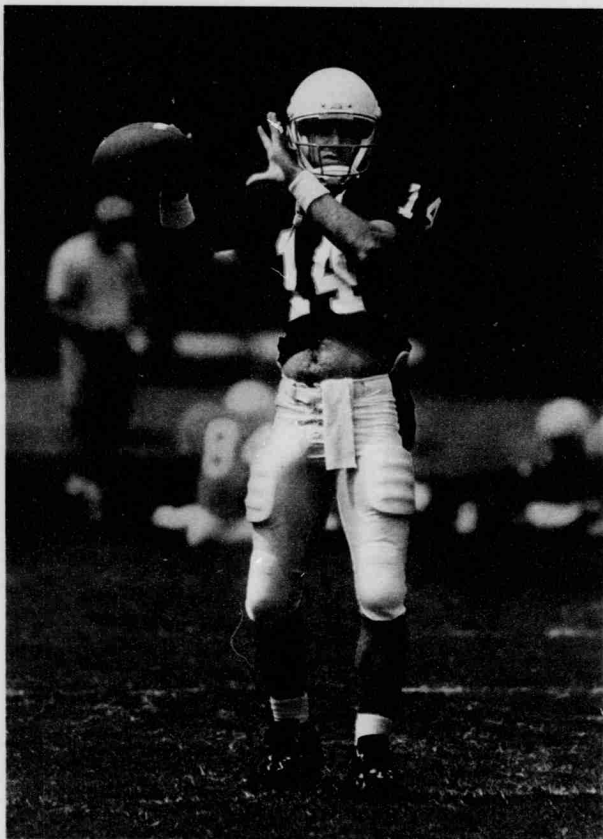
As a perennial All-ACC pitcher on the Wolfpack baseball team, Harvey has been drafted four times. His excellence on the baseball diamond has not only yielded a professional career with the Cleveland Indians Class A affiliate, but a place in the record books. He holds the school record for victories, strikeouts, games started, and innings pitched.

On the gridiron he is on pace to assault the career mark for passing yardage.

In three seasons as the starter, Harvey has connected on 287 passes for 3,826 yards. An average season should surpass Shane Montgomery's all-time yardage record of 5,298.

"Records are nice," Harvey said. "But it's probably something that will mean more to me down the road when I'm looking through the books."

Harvey says he has been fortunate to be playing in the right situations. He credits the good luck as a



Senior Terry Harvey is back for his third season as a starter. The fearless Harvey is on pace to take over Shane Montgomery's all time passing yardage by the end of the season.

MELISSA BAUER/STAFF

result of hard work. But starting offensive guard Jonathan Redmond knows what makes Harvey special.

"He's a gamer," Redmond said. "He is fearless when the game is on the line."

Redmond's praise put Harvey in an awkward position. He downplayed Redmond's boast about his competitiveness with the same serene disposition that has led him to rewrite the N.C. State record books.

"I hope people look at me as a gamer. Anybody can play under normal conditions," Harvey said. "When the game is on the line, that is when I want the ball. I love the pressure."

And he has delivered under the pressure situations for the Wolfpack. Proving Redmond's point, in Harvey's career he has led the Pack to ten fourth-quarter come from behind victories.

One career highlight that Harvey remembers vividly

is the Maryland game last season at College Park.

The Wolfpack scored on all nine offensive possessions to win on a last-second field goal 47-45. Harvey finished the game with 233 yards and a touchdown.

"That was one of the funnest games I ever played in," he said. "That's the ultimate thing is to have fun. It is a game and it's supposed to be fun."

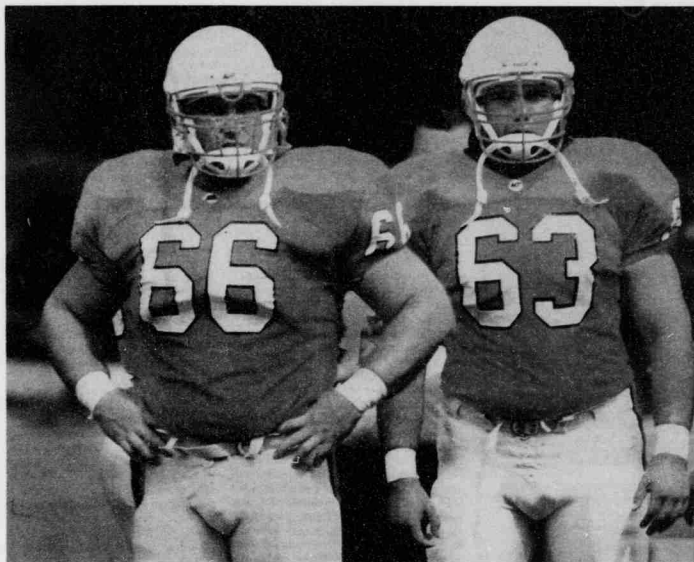
The fun of college football is not the only thing that keeps the fifth year senior from coming back.

"It's a challenge to me," Harvey said. "If I was going to give up football I would have done it a few years ago."

One challenge Harvey will face this year will be a rigid non-conference schedule against Alabama and Baylor.

See HARVEY, Page 13 ▶

Keim anchors the line



Captain Steve Keim has worked too hard off the field to let anyone stop him on it.

MELISSA BAUER/STAFF
Keim leads the way in practice as well as the games. He is an All-American candidate at LG.

“Being chosen as a captain is probably the best honor I’ve received. That shows [the players on the football team] obviously respect me, and think that I can play a role as a leader on the team.

— Steve Keim, Football team tri-captain

By **AARON MORRISON**
SPORTS EDITOR

Don’t talk to N.C. State left guard Steve Keim about a lack of respect. He’s got plenty, from teammates, coaches and fans.

Keim is an All-American candidate and a tri-captain for the Wolfpack this season. And all that comes from one thing and one thing only — hard work.

When you hear his coaches talk about him, those are the first things out of their mouths.

“He works very hard,” offensive line coach Robbie Caldwell said. “He came to us with a good work ethic. He worked hard his first year and added weight and bulk and really became a student of the game.

“You couldn’t ask for anything more.” Keim’s great work ethic would prove very helpful after his sophomore season. In April, during spring practice Keim tore his anterior cruciate ligament. Doctors told Keim he would probably be out six or seven months. That meant most of his junior season would be lost to injury.

But Keim proved otherwise and returned for the first day of fall camp the following August.

“I just basically did everything the doc-

tors told me to do,” Keim said of his incredible five-month rehabilitation.

“Coach [William] Hicks worked a lot with me on agility and side-to-side lateral movement.”

But Keim couldn’t just worry about rehabilitating his knee. He had to prepare his entire body for the upcoming season.

“That was the hard part,” he said. “I had to run and lift weights like my regular routine, and then I had to spend another hour just on my knee.”

Keim recovered and played every game last season and never even missed a practice. He had his best season ever, and still Caldwell said he was only about 75 percent.

“Certainly last year was a very good year for Steve. He gained a lot of notoriety throughout the league, and he was about three quarters,” Caldwell said. “You could see sometimes he would favor his knee, particularly when he got in a power situation.

“Certainly that leg was a little weaker. But now, I don’t have any proof of this, but I would just about bet you that the operated leg is stronger than the good leg.”

The work ethic that led to his quick recovery and his effort on the field have proven his mettle to his teammates. The Wolfpack voted Keim one of three captains. Above all other things he’s won in his college career, Keim likes that one

best.

“Being chosen as a captain is probably the best honor I’ve received,” he said. “That shows they obviously respect me, and think that I can play a role as a leader on the team.”

The leadership that Keim provides is not like that of last year’s captain Carl Reeves. Reeves was very outspoken. Keim lets other things do the talking.

“I think I lead by example more than by talking,” he said. “I’m not really big on getting up in front of a lot of people and yelling trying to get guys up for a game.

“I just basically get out there and get after people on game day.”

And according to Caldwell, there aren’t many players who get after it like Keim. “He is always ready to play,” Caldwell said. “I’ve never seen him when he didn’t have that glaze to his eyes.”

Many people think of a captain as a player in a skill position — quarterback, receiver, linebacker — but according to Keim, offensive line takes more skill than you might think.

“If you take a look at the NFL, you’ll see that offensive line is the spot where you don’t see rookies playing much,” Keim said. “You have to look at the defense and call out the defense before the play. Then from there you have to figure what you

See KEIM, Page 12 ▶

Explosive potential

■ Despite the losses in the kicking game, State's special teams are dangerous with KR Alvis Whitted, who looks to dial long distance for six again this year.

BY MICHAEL PRESTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

This season's version of special teams has Mike O'Cain scratching his looking for replacements for All-ACC place kicker Steve Videtich and starting punter Chad Robson, both of whom were consistent and vital pieces of last year's success.

"Whoever punts for us will have never punted in a game," O'Cain, who has taken over the duties as special teams coach, said. "Whoever kicks for us will have never kicked in a game, so yes, I'm concerned."

The biggest problem is the kicking game, where three untested and unproven players are vying to fill the shoes of the most consistent kicker to ever play for State. Freshman Bryant Smith, sophomore Chris Hensler or junior Marc Primanti are the candidates, but none is standing out more than the others.

"I feel they have the talent and the ability to tget the job done," O'Cain said. "It's just a matter of them stepping up when the game is on the line and there's 50,000 people in the stands."

If there is a front-runner it would be Primanti, who is the most experienced, although he hasn't been game-tested. In one scrimmage during practice, he hit on five of seven attempts, including one from 45 yards. However, Smith may have the best leg-strength, which was evident when an attempt from 54 yards out during the same scrimmage had plenty of distance

but hooked wide left.

As far as the punting game goes, there is only room for improvement. Last year the Wolfpack ranked 104 out of 107 Division I-A teams in net punting. The departure of Robson leaves the door wide open for two sophomores, Jason Biggs and Bubba Moore, and the freshman, Jay Dukus.

"Jason has been with the program for two years," O'Cain said. "We feel like he has the ability, it's just a matter of it done under pressure."

Biggs saw some action last year in the game against Western Carolina, when he punted three times for 100 yards (33.3 average), which was two yards below than Robson's average. However, Dukus and Moore are both capable of winning the starting job.

Greg Addis returns for another year of holding for extra point and field goal attempts, and has been doing a fine job during the practices and scrimmages in catching some poor snaps and getting them down in time. The loss of Chris Love as long-snapper is more detrimental than at first glance. Sophomore Larry Daugherty is apparently making an impression on the coaches with his consistency.

The plus in the whole kicking game depletion is the return unit. Returning kicks is sophomore Alvis Whitted, quite possibly the fastest man on the east coast.

He finished the season second in the conference and 15th in the country in kick-off returns with a 25.1 average. He also recorded State's first return for a touchdown since 1962, which resulted in the AT&T Long Distance award for that week.

Joining Whitted could be one of three

See SPECIAL, Page 15 ▶



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New scheme, new players in '95

■ The six-game loss of Duan Everett King coupled with the loss of three starters has Ken Pettus looking for answers early in the season.

By MICHAEL TODD
Staff Writer

With the loss of all of last year's starters at linebacker, the N.C. State defense needs players to step up, fill the void and lead the defense from that position.

"The linebackers are like the quarterback on offense," said Ken Pettus, the Wolfpack's defensive coach and linebackers coach. "We call the signals, the adjustments."

The chief loss from last year is two-time, first-time All-ACC selection, Damien Covington, who is also the Pack's career leader in tackles and was co-defensive MVP in last year's Peach Bowl victory along with Carl Reeves.

Finding a replacement for Covington will not be easy.

"We will try to fill Damien's shoes, but it's awfully tough to do," Pettus said. "It's something that you just can't do — put a label on someone and say 'You're a leader.'"

"That young man has to go out and earn it and prove to his teammates that he is a leader."

In practice, Ron Melnik and Morocco Brown, have stepped up to the challenge of replacing Covington as middle linebacker.

Melnik missed last season because of an injury to his right knee during spring practice. It was the second injury Melnik suffered before the 1994 season.

The first injury came near the end of the 1993 season while he was preparing for the Hall of Fame Bowl against Michigan. That year, Melnik participated in five games and had

Linebackers

yr	g	t	tfls	rf	int
Morocco Brown (MLB)					
1994	10	18	1-1	0	0
Totals	10	18	1-1	0	0

yr	g	t	tfls	rf	int
Kit Carpenter (OLB)					
1994	11	39	0	0	0
Totals	11	39	0	0	0

yr	g	t	tfls	rf	int
Duan Everett (OLB)					
1994	10	50	3-4	1	1*
Totals	10	50	3-4	1	1

*Touchdown vs. Louisville, Oct. 8, 1994.

nine tackles.

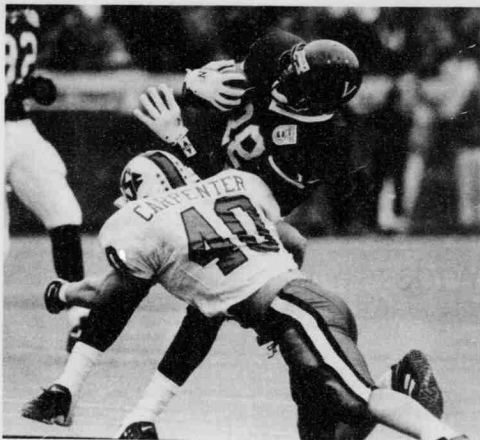
Brown played special teams last year along with spot duty at inside linebacker. He was credited with 18 tackles and a forced fumble last year. The sophomore from Hampton, Va., had big games against North Carolina and Florida State, where he had five and four tackles respectively.

At outside linebacker, both spots are up for grabs. Fighting for the spots are two sophomores and a freshman.

Sophomore Kit Carpenter started against Bowling Green last year and racked up a career-best 10 tackles. He recorded another seven tackles vs. Virginia, and finished the year with 39.

Another sophomore, Steven McKnight, was redshirted last year after playing every game of the 1993 season and recording 25 tackles. McKnight is one of the faster players on the team, as he has been clocked under 4.4 seconds in the 40-yard dash, earning his nickname of "Rocket Man."

Freshman Bobbie Cotten played for Hargrave Academy last year and had a team-high 76 tackles. He also had one



HUNTER MORRIS/FEE

The depleted linebacker corps will count on OLB Kit Carpenter to make more plays like this in the new 4-3 scheme.

sack and two fumble recoveries.

Potential starter Duan Everett, a sophomore who had 50 tackles and a 66-yard interception return against Louisville last year, has been suspended for six games due to his arrest last weekend.

But no matter who is selected to start the season at linebacker, they will have to get

into the flow of the defense quickly.

"We've an aggressive, attacking style defense," Pettus said. "Just because they're young, we can't change the defense a tremendous amount just to satisfy them. We can't change our whole scheme just because we don't have quite the experience we're used to."

STUDENT PICK-UP FOR 1995 FOOTBALL GAMES

Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis for all games except Homecoming. Tickets for Homecoming will be distributed on a priority basis in this order: Graduate students and Seniors first, Juniors and Sophomores second, Freshmen and Lifelong Education students third. All student tickets must be picked up at the Coliseum Box Office on the distribution dates listed below. The Coliseum Box Office will distribute tickets from windows 1, 2, and 3. Window hours will be from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the first day of distribution and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the remaining days.

All-Campus Cards and NCSU Student Tickets are both required for NCSU students to enter Carter-Finley Stadium. ADMISSION WILL BE REFUSED OTHERWISE. Student tickets will not be available at the stadium on game days. WARNING: Fraudulent use of an All-Campus Card may result in the loss of seating privileges for the owner.

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GAME	GUEST TICKET	DISTRIBUTION DATES
Aug. 31 Marshall	\$20.00	Aug. 28-30
Sept. 9 Virginia	\$20.00	Sept. 5-7
Sept. 23 Baylor	\$20.00	Sept. 18-20
Sept. 30 Clemson	\$25.00	Sept. 25-27
Nov. 4 Maryland	\$20.00	Oct. 30-31 & Nov. 1
Nov. 24 UNC (FRIDAY)	\$25.00	Nov. 19th

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Keim

Continued from Page 9

have to do on that play.

"And you have to do all that in the time it takes to get from the huddle to the line of scrimmage and then actually accomplishing the block."

But Keim knows his job on the team. He knows everyone else will get the hype. But most of all, he knows that he will get rewarded if he does the job.

"I'm happy in the role I play," he said. "You'll get your due recognition if you're deserving of it. What really matters is being out there at Carter-Finley Stadium in front of all those fans and getting a big win."

Wides

Continued from Page 6

date to start, be he's certainly not a lock."

His competition will be coming primarily from Devon Smith, a 6-5, 235 pound true freshman from Ahoskie, N.C. However, the only other tight end with any game experience is redshirt junior Jason McGeorge, but he had off-season wrist surgery.

"Offensively, we feel very confident where we are," O' Cain added. "We don't have the names like Eddie and Adrian, but we need to have some receivers step to the front so we can become a

Rissler

Continued from Page 7

With State dropping the 50 package in exchange for the new 4-3 scheme, Rissler will be given the opportunity to double his sacks. Because in the new defensive line-up Rissler will be spending most of his time chasing down the opposition's quarterback.

"He's been battle-tested," said Turner. "He's one of the strongest guys on the team and he was elected a tri-captain, so that says a lot about him and how his teammates think about him."

Another defensive end will need to step up this season. Sophomores Brad Collins, Clayton Simon and Chris McNeil will be battling it out for playing time this season.

Last year, Collins finished with 15 tackles, 12 of them solo, with two sacks, one quarterback hurry and four tackles for a loss. McNeil recorded six tackles with one coming for a loss, while Simon recorded five tackles. Turner knows how important it is for these players to emerge this season.

"The pass defense is only as good as the pressure up front," he said. "We have to stop the running game, and if we can do that, we'll be in pretty good shape."

Most of that pressure will be



Tri-Captain Jon Rissler looks to chase down more quarterbacks this year at the end position.

coming right up the middle with the two defensive tackles, one of whom defensive tackles coach Jeff Snipes has very high on his list.

"Michael Harrison is what I consider to be an all-star candidate," said Snipes. "He's been an

on-and-off starter all his career, and I'm looking for him to have a good year."

Last year Harrison appeared in all 11 games, and registered 50 tackles and one sack. He also contributed five hurries and three tackles for losses. And Harrison

is well aware that he is going to play a much bigger part in the defensive scheme this season.

"I've got to take a leadership role," said Harrison. "It's time for me to step up and lead by example with a super effort."

"Our defense will be fairly young in the early going, so I've got to use my seniority to pave the way."

The other defensive tackle spot could be occupied by 6-3, 284 pound George Williams, a sophomore out of Lakewood, N.C. Last year as a true freshman, he came in and made his presence felt right away. He appeared in every regular season game and the Peach Bowl and registered some impressive numbers: 21 tackles (highest among non-starters), two for losses, and four hurries.

"We have a good competition going," Snipes said. "Lateef Peterson and George Williams, who played a lot as a true freshman, will be battling it out for the starting job."

Peterson didn't play last season, but his imposing size (6-5, 290) should net him some playing time this year. Also looking for time will be Chris Tortu, Brian Brooks, and Mark Lawrence, who the team voted as its Most Improved Player at the end of last season.

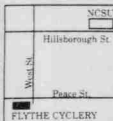
According to Snipes things are falling into place for the upcoming season.

"I'm looking forward to coaching these guys this fall," he said. "I'm optimistic about our chances to slow people down."



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Harvey

Continued from Page 8

"You have to play the upper echelon teams if you want to be an upper echelon team," he said. "This program is trying to schedule people like that to be in serious contention at the end of the year."

Harvey returns this season but, two things will be different. His favorite target, wide receiver Eddie Goines, is now with the Seattle Seahawks and his former roommate, backup quarterback Geoff Bender has graduated.

"Eddie was in the primary position on a number of plays. But all the wide receivers need is an opportunity," Harvey said. "Late in the year they showed that they can with some big catches."

Bender's graduation affects not only Harvey's on field performance but off the field as well. The two forged a special relationship that was rarely seen by two players competing for the same position.

"It won't be as funny," Harvey said. "It's more a business like attitude now."

"I'll probably be more efficient in the classroom and on the field."

With his team behind him and ready to lead them to the next level, an efficient Harvey is a dangerous thing to the N.C. State record book and the rest of the ACC.

Career Passing leaders

no.	player, years	yards	comp-att
1	Shane Montgomery, 1987-89	5,298	421-746
2	Erik Kramer, 1985-86	4,602	334-616
3	Dave Buckley, 1972-75	4,286	307-524
4	Tim Esposito, 1983-84	3,847	333-585
5	Terry Harvey, 1991, 1993.	3,826	287-506

QB — Terry Harvey

year	g	comp	att	int	pct	yds	td
1991	3	40	72	0	.556	523	0
1993	11	131	235	8	.557	1837	14
1994	10	116	199	9	.583	1486	8
Total	24	287	506	17	.567	3826	22

Q-Backs

Continued from Page 6

mentally for college football," O'Cain stated. "But he is physically ready. We don't have any pushovers on our schedule this season, so we will try to get him in some games late so that he can get the feel for the game."

"He definitely has the tools." As a high school senior, Laureano was ranked as the fifth quarterback in the entire Southeast, and he was ranked as one of the Top-100 players in the South by the Atlanta-Journal Constitution.

Behind Laureano is redshirt junior Michael Glasheen, who transferred from Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory.

Glasheen has been steady for the Pack. He led the scout team

last season and was voted Most Valuable Offensive JV player. His excellent work habits and quick mind has helped him earn the chance to vie for back-up service.

"Michael has really come a long way," O'Cain added. "To tell you the truth, when he stepped on campus last year, I really didn't think he would be earning a spot on the team, much less being the second-string job."

And State fans should not forget Roxboro's Jamie Barnett. He was the Durham-Herald Sun Player of the Year for the area and was honorable mention all-state by the Associated Press.

Add to that his impressive 2,979 yards passing and the 23 TDs, and you've got a solid future to look forward to at QB.

D-Backs

Continued from Page 7

players who saw action."

State loses only cornerback William Strong, a fifth-round pick of the New Orleans Saints. Bell (5-10, 190) will fill in as the strong-side corner, and senior Allen Johnson (6-0, 185) will play the field corner.

Bell will be at his third different position in three years. But Briggs is not worried.

"I have a lot of confidence in Ricky at whatever position he lines up in," Briggs said. "Watching the defensive backs we have had here in the past, I feel like he is as good a football player as we've had here."

Bell was quick to give credit where credit is due.

"Coach Briggs is big with technique," Bell said. "He is the big difference in making me a better defensive back."

At safety, State has as much talent as any other position on the team. Walker (6-3, 200) is a two-year starter at free safety. Damon Wyche (5-11, 185) is a backup who saw game action in 11 games and was instrumental in the Peach Bowl victory.

Walker recorded 82 tackles last season — good enough to finish second on the team. At his free safety spot he is the quarterback of the defense.

"I make the calls so I know where the linebackers and the defensive line are going to be," Walker said. "My job is to stop anything that gets past the line of scrimmage."

"Anything I can get my hands on, I try to stop."

At strong safety both Kenny Harris (6-2, 195) and Brandon Davis (6-1, 200) started last year. Redshirt freshman Jason Perry, the defensive MVP of the spring game, should provide depth.

Harris started seven games before his season ended with a broken arm in the North Carolina game. The Pack will be ready this year if injuries hit the team.

"We have depth, and with our schedule we are going to need it," Bell said. "Teams will try to run the ball on us at first, but I don't think it's going to work."

State also ensured that the well won't run dry after this season if Bell and Walker miss any action. Six new freshman defensive backs were brought in this year including Kurt Kewmans Baddi (6-1, 195), the blue-chip prospect from Placentia, Calif.



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Schaub Lounge
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Student Center Lobby Second Floor
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O-Line

Continued from Page 5

in the country, due in large part to the trio of seniors up front, two of whom are brothers.

The Redmonds were partly responsible for opening holes the size of airline hangers for second-team All-ACC tailback Tremayne Stephens.

"Against Virginia, we all had our guys sealed off, and I just saw his heels clicking," Kenneth Redmond said. "Everybody says the offensive line gets no glory, but that is our glory, seeing him run as hard as he can run."

Redmond's brother agrees there is no glory in the trenches, but without them Stephens couldn't get the headlines.

"You know those guys are going to do all they can do to get one yard. And when you look at them in the huddle and you know they are doing their job, it motivates you to do yours," Jonathan Redmond said. "It almost makes you move someone so he [Stephens] can get his yards."

Rounding out the starting five is Keim, who has been named in several pre-season publications as an All-ACC member and in one case, an All-American.

"Our coaching staff is one of

the best in the country because they put us in a position to win all the time," Keim said. "You're always ready for what's going to happen. They watch so much film that they have us offensively prepared for everything."

The left and right tackle spots on the line are question marks going into the season. One of the biggest concerns is that none of the three players expected to fill the positions have ever started a game at the division I level. That includes the projected starter at left tackle, junior Terrance Boykin, who is going to be expected to come in and protect Terry Harvey's back.

"There are three young men who have to step up for us to be the quality offense we feel we can be," O' Cain said. "The first is Terrence Boykin at left tackle."

"We need him to play very well at the left tackle position, which may be one of the toughest positions to play on the football field."

One concern the coaching staff has about Boykin is his size. During his one-year hiatus from the game, he had a very difficult time putting on additional weight. He will be going into the season standing 6-7, but only weighing in at 260 pounds.

At right tackle, it appears that junior Tom Dombalis and senior Lamont McCauley are gearing

up to handle the duties, even though one of these two may see additional action at left tackle.

Another player who will get a chance to play this season is redshirt freshman Ian Rafferty, who switched over to offense toward the end of spring practice.

As far as reserves go for the starters, O' Cain doesn't feel that he will be faced with the same problem as last season, one which forced him to play true-freshman Seamus Murphy, who returns for his sophomore year as a back-up to Redmond at center.

"I feel like we're two deep at guard and two deep at center, and if those three guys come around, we can be two deep at tackle," O' Cain said. "As long as we stay healthy, I don't see how depth will be a problem on the offensive line."

If depth does become a problem, the Wolfpack can always fall back on its very large freshman class, several of whom are probably future starters. Alex Santos, out of Hargrave Academy in Florida, is 6-4, 310 pounds, and Andy Hastings, who measures in at 6-5, 260 are two

Run

Continued from Page 5

Rod is," O' Cain said. "He is the most complete fullback we've had since I've been at N.C. State."

Brown has started two years in rushing yards and scoring last season.

With the starters in place, O' Cain's biggest concern heading into fall practice has been finding backups. With both power I-back Carlos King (6-2, 215) and Kevin Mattier, two players returning with game experience, the task did not seem so monumental at the beginning of camp.

"The depth at the running back position is definitely a key for us," O' Cain said. "The key is to get the ball in the end zone. We don't care who gets it there."

However, after the second day of practice, with the prospect of limited playing time, Mattier decided to leave the team. Then the next day, King was suspended

for six games for violating team policy.

O' Cain had counted on King, who scored a team-high seven touchdowns last season, before his suspension.

With the loss of King for the brunt of the schedule, Mattier rejoined the team.

In the team's first two scrimmages, freshman tailback Quentin Neals (6-2, 205) has seen extensive action and so has redshirt freshman Cordell Smith (6-1, 200). Add redshirt freshman Theo Chavis (5-8, 175), one of the fastest players on the team, to the mix and O' Cain hopes that one of the three will emerge as the backup to Stephens.

At fullback, another redshirt freshman Jeff Butler (6-1, 225), a designated-hitter on the baseball team, should see action behind Brown. Besides being named high school all-American in baseball by Mirano, Butler led the state of Florida in rushing his senior year in high school with 2,392 yards.

J.P., Hunter, and Technician Sports would like to thank Marc K. for his invaluable help in scanning and touching-up the color pictures that appear in the '95 Football Tab. We would also like to thank Skippy the Wonder dog for dropping in and keeping us company on this long, long night. Enjoy the Tab. Now give me the Advil, I'm going to bed. — THM

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Bell

Continued from Page 7

Thorpe Award nominee, which is given to the best defensive back in the nation.

Bell has the tools and the experience to get it done at the strong safety position. He is quicker than a 4.5 in the 40, and he can bench-press more than 400 pounds. He started at the position as a red-shirt freshman and then played the position for Wolfpack in the Peach Bowl last season.

Throughout his career at N.C. State, Bell has been a hard-nosed player.

In 1993, he was selected to the Sporting News all-America freshman team. This selection could be based on the fact that as a freshman, Bell dished out 90 tackles (fifth on the team), along with two interceptions.

But his highlight of that freshman season may have been during one of the two lowlights for the entire team—the Hall of Fame Bowl against Michigan. Somehow during that disaster, Bell found a way to rack up eleven tackles, with ten of those coming unassisted.

And last season he accounted for 62 tackles, with 48 of those being first hits. His season and career high was at Maryland, where he knocked the Terrapins on their shells thirteen times. He had eight tackles versus Florida State, and seven apiece against both North Carolina and Clemson. Throw in his 37-yard interception return against Georgia Tech and nine broken up passes, and you've got a player on his way to stardom.

But ever the team leader, Bell is anxious to do whatever it takes to make the entire team better.

"I think we have the potential to be the best secondary ever," Bell said. "We could really have a great defense. We need to solidify the depth, because with our schedule, we are going to need it."

With the entire defense only returning five starters, many look for opponents to rack up some large numbers versus the Pack, either on the ground or in the air. But Bell doesn't think so. "They can try to run the ball at us first, but it's just not gonna work."

There is no doubt that Ricky Bell is ready to get the season started. A quick start against the Thundering Herd of Marshall will negate any misconceptions that fans have for the defense. And with teams like Virginia, Florida State, Clemson and Alabama on the slate, Ricky Bell is looking forward to having "big things in store" for N.C. State this season.

Special

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freshman. Tory Holt returned a senior in high school. Cordell Smith was red-shirted last season, but during his prep career he registered a 90 yard kick-off return and was named to the USA Today All-american team as

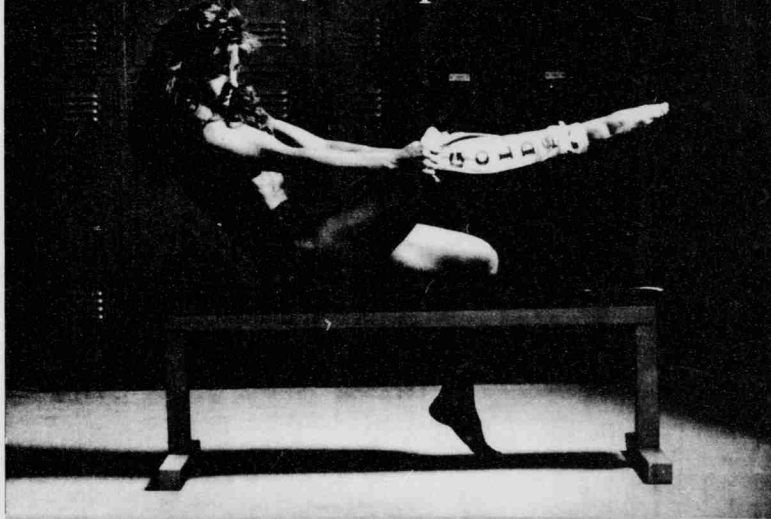
an honorable mention. Also in the hunt is Theodore Chavis, who missed the last part of spring practice due to toe surgery.

According to one depth chart, three kickoffs for touchdowns may fall into the hands of Tremayne Stephens. If not, Holt, who returned three punts for touchdowns last season in high school, may possibly take on the task.

Technician Sports

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