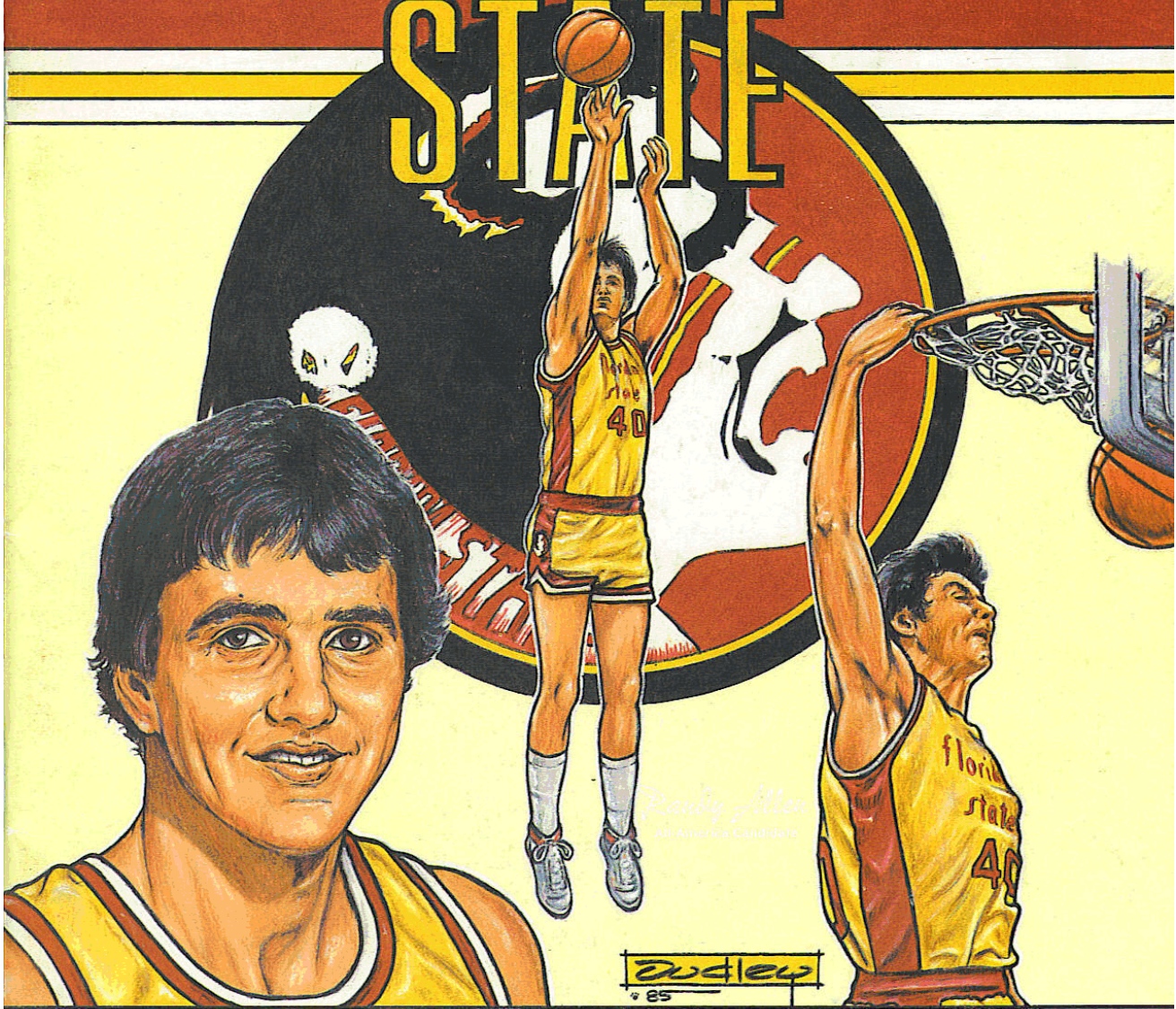


# FLORIDA STATE



1985-86 BASKETBALL GUIDE



## FLORIDA STATE SEMINOLES 1985-86 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
November 18	MARATHON OIL (Exhibition)	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
23	TAMPA	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
29	Florida	Gainesville, Fla.	7:30 p.m.
December 4	NORTH CAROLINA STATE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
7	WESTERN CAROLINA	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
14	FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECH.	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
16	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	8:30 p.m.
21	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pa.	8:00 p.m.
31	North Carolina	Charlotte, N.C.	7:00 p.m.
January 4	JACKSONVILLE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
6	CENTRAL FLORIDA	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
9	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (PA)	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
11	CINCINNATI (TV)	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	2:00 p.m.
15	LOUISVILLE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
18	SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
20	Miami	Miami, Fla.	7:30 p.m.
22	New Orleans	New Orleans, La.	8:35 p.m.
25	Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, Va.	2:00 p.m.
February 1	South Carolina (TV)	Columbia, S.C.	12:00 noon
3	MIAMI	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
8	Southern Mississippi (TV)	Hattiesburg, Ms.	1:00 p.m.
10	Memphis State	Memphis, Tn.	8:30 p.m.
12	NEW ORLEANS	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
15	Cincinnati (TV)	Cincinnati, Ohio	12:00 noon
19	Louisville (TV) (ESPN)	Louisville, Ky.	9:00 p.m.
22	MEMPHIS STATE (TV)	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	12:00 noon
24	VIRGINIA TECH	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	7:30 p.m.
March 1	SOUTH CAROLINA (TV)	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	12:00 noon
6-8	Metro Conference Tournament	Louisville, Ky.	TBA

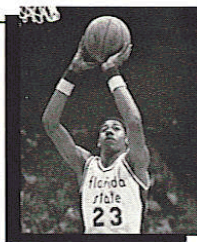
NOTE: All TV is on the Metro Raycom package. All times Eastern.

# 1985-86 SEMINOLE BASKETBALL

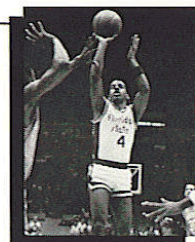
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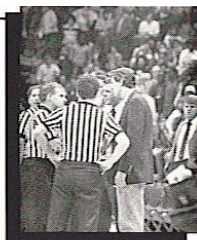


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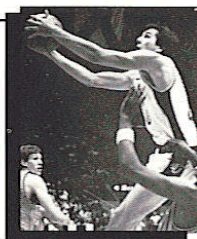
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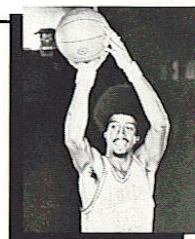
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#### FSU FINGERTIP FACTS

Location: Tallahassee, Fla. 32306  
 Enrollment: 21,500  
 Nickname: Seminoles  
 Colors: Garnet and Gold  
 President: Dr. Bernard F. Sliger  
 Athletic Director: C.W. "Hootie" Ingram  
 Athletic Board Chairman: Chuck Ehrhardt  
 Conference: Metro  
 Arena: Leon County Civic Center

#### BASKETBALL INFORMATION

Head Coach: Joe Williams (Southern Methodist '56)  
 FSU Record: (7 years): 117-88  
 Career Record: (21 years): 351-236  
 Assistant Coaches: Rex Morgan (Jacksonville '70)  
     Steve Williams (Florida '74)  
     Jackie Pons (Florida State '78)  
 Graduate Assistant: Russell Cotton (Florida State '85)  
 Secretary: Cindy Owens  
 Phone: (904) 644-1060 ext. 139

#### SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

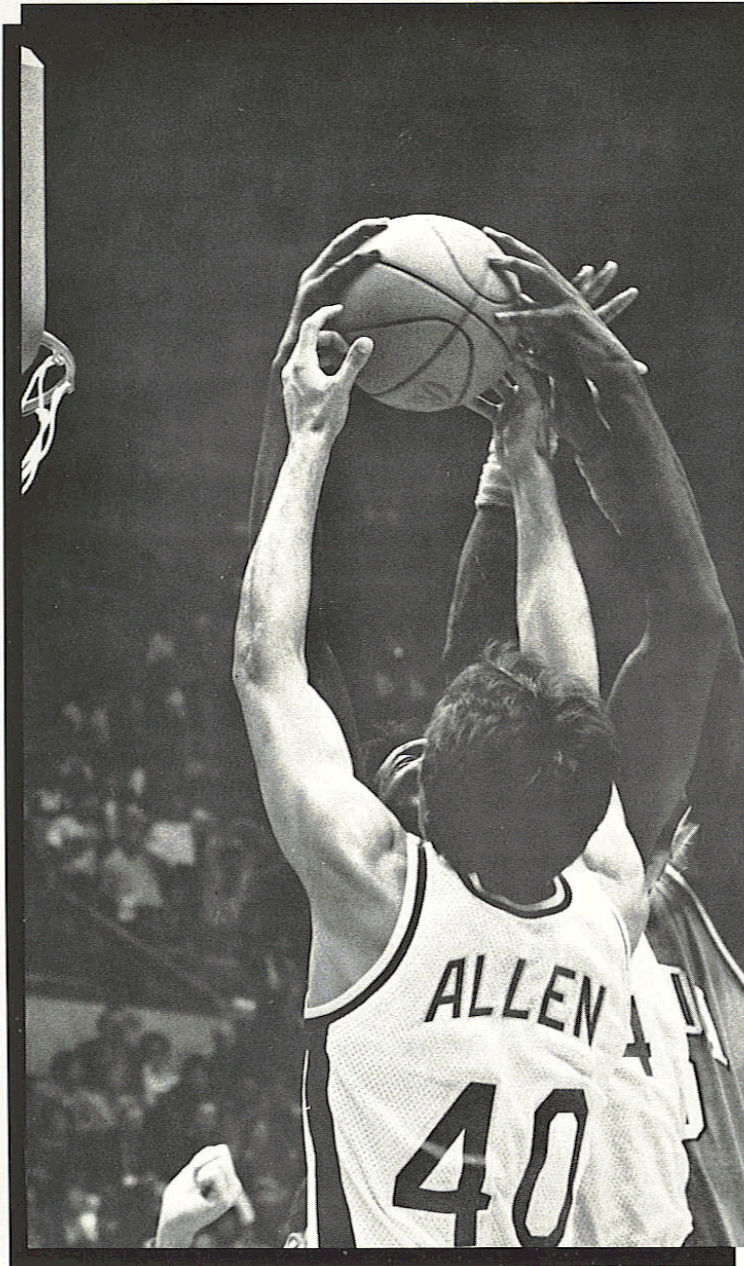
P.O. Drawer 2195  
 Tallahassee, Fla. 32316  
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The 1985-86 Florida State basketball guide was written and edited by Associate Director Lisa Morton with contributions from former Assistant Donna Turner. Photographers whose pictures appear on the following pages include Dale Pearson, Kal Lunt, Ryals Lee, Michael Lewis, the University Photo Lab, Ross Obley and Bradley Photography. Typography by RapidoGraphics, Inc., of Tallahassee, Fla. Design and Layout by J.S. Goodson & Associates of Tallahassee, Fla.

**ON THE COVER:** Florida State All-American candidate Randy Allen is captured in a painting by Dayne Dudley, an illustrator for the Tulsa Tribune, and an independent sports artist.



## OUTLOOK



**F**lorida State men's basketball team, minus four starters and faced with the task of indoctrinating eight new players, will be an improved and experienced ball club full of depth in 1985-86.

Right away, pure logic may be questioned. Never mind that the Seminoles lost center Alton Lee Gipson, who averaged 19.1 points in his career and joined (Houston Rockets) guard Mitchell Wiggins as the only players in FSU history to score 1,000 points in two years. Forget that Dean Shaffer, MVP of the Metro Conference Tournament and an NBA fifth-round selection, will be absent too. Ditto for Maurice Myrick, who played more games in a Seminole uniform than any player in history.

The collection of the aforementioned players put together a club that was one rebound away from the NCAA Tournament a year ago, losing to Memphis State in the finals of the Metro Conference Tournament. But the record had been expected to be better than the 14-16 mark that was compiled. FSU lacked experience as well as depth.

That won't be a worry for Joe Williams' 1985-86 squad. Five of the eight newcomers will be at least juniors. Only two players will be making their first appearances in a college uniform.

"Overall, we should have a stronger and more physical team than a year ago," says Williams, whose coaching experience comes in the form of a 21-year career.

While the Tribe program has replacements for each of the five lettermen who left the campus, its bread and butter player will be returning junior Randy Allen. The 6-8 jumping jack averaged 15.6 points and 6.8 rebounds as a sophomore and should be one of the dominant players in the Metro Conference this year.

Florida State's entire lineup will depend on where Allen plays since Williams now has a choice of where to



play him. The reason for that "choice" centers around two players, including 6-10 junior transfer Raleigh Choice who will likely step into the center position vacated by Gipson. Choice averaged just under 10 points and six rebounds as a sophomore at Middle Tennessee, but he won't be eligible until the fifth game of the season under transfer rules. But the performance of another 6-10 candidate, junior transfer Tony Karasek, could force Williams to go with two big men, moving Allen out to the wing where he would become more of a shooter.

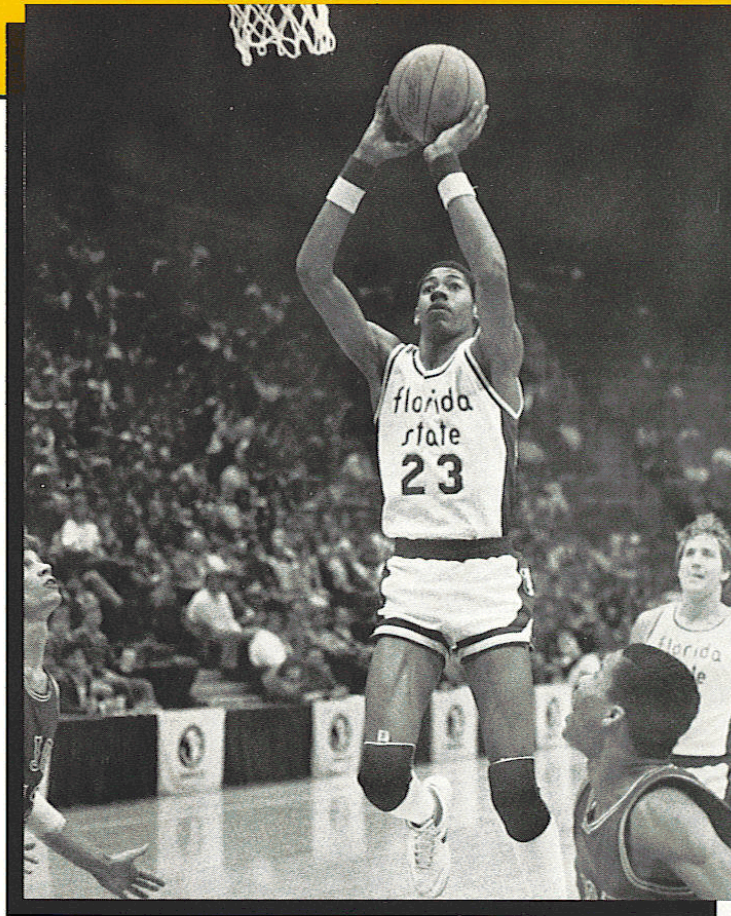
"Randy's already proven in his first two years that he's an outstanding power forward," says Williams. "But he is such a good shooter; maybe the best we have. We may have good enough inside people to go ahead and play him on the wing."

Should Allen find himself back at his old inside position, sophomore Jerome Fitchett would be a strong candidate for the wing slot. Fitchett averaged 6.8 points and 3.8 rebounds as the sixth man last season and he has grown an inch to 6-7. "Jerome can play a versatile role for us," says Williams. "He can play the high post or the wing. He has the jumping ability, and he just needs to be stronger and more physical."

***A conglomerate of freshmen, transfers, and FSU veterans are the pieces to FSU's basketball puzzle for 1985-86. If it fits together nicely, it could paint a pretty picture for FSU fans.***

Newcomers in the front court are a pair of 6-6 freshmen in William "Tat" Hunter and George McCloud. Hunter, a smooth first team all-stater, knows his offense but his ability to adapt to FSU's defense will be a key. McCloud, another first-team all-state pick, will probably fit more into the second guard plans although he could play the wing slot. Like Hunter, his ability to pick up the defensive end will dictate his playing time.

In the backcourt, FSU lost both playmaker Joe Farrar and the scrappy Shaffer. The point position will have the best depth and experience with three transfers and one veteran in contention for starting honors. LaRae Davis, a teammate of Choice's before the pair transferred, is the leading candidate to



replace Farrar. He averaged over 11 points in his first two collegiate seasons. Like Choice, he will have to sit out the Tribe's first five games. Challenging him will be sophomore Craig Mateer, the true quarterback of the group, and junior college All-American PeeWee Barber, who can score at will. Thomas Mabry, Farrar's backup last season, is also a contender.

The second guard slot could be grabbed quickly by senior David Shaffer, brother of Dean, who at 6-8 has size and shooting touch as well as unselfish passing skills. Sophomore Tony Carter played more and more as the 1984-85 season progressed. McCloud will be another candidate and Davis could move here too.

"Overall, we have more depth and experience than last year," says Williams. "I think we'll be a better shooting team. Defense is the one area where we're going to have to work hard to find some players who can take over the roles that Myrick and Shaffer played last year."

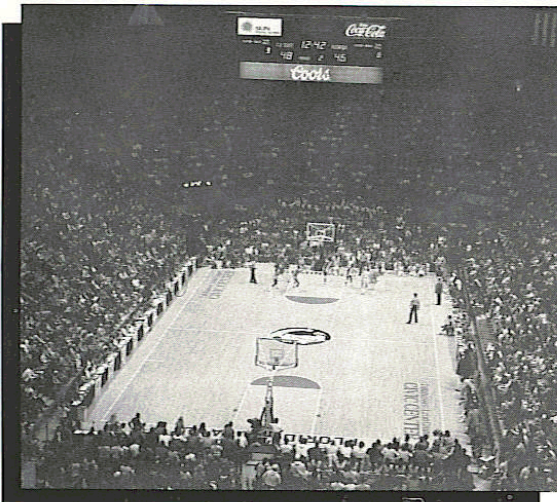
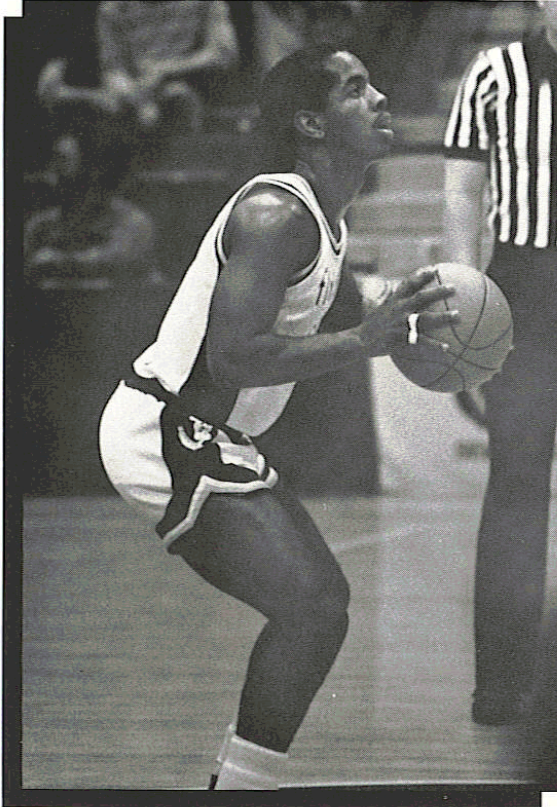
A solid schedule awaits the Seminoles. "We have some tough ones, mostly on the road," acknowledges Williams. Included in that bunch are Florida, who will play FSU prior to the schools' football game on Nov. 29, Alabama, Pittsburgh and North Carolina. The seven-team Metro Conference race is one of the outstanding ones in the country and last season four teams from the conference were represented in post-season play. Memphis State and Virginia Tech advanced to the NCAA Tournament (the Tigers went on to the Final Four) and Louisville and Cincinnati played in the NIT. "It never gets any easier," says Williams, allowing a slight smile.

In addition to the Metro home games, FSU's best attraction for its Tallahassee fans will be North Carolina State, who will visit December 4.

A conglomerate of freshmen, transfers and FSU veterans are the pieces to FSU's basketball puzzle for 1985-86. If it all fits together nicely, it could paint a pretty picture for FSU fans.



## GENERALLY SPEAKING



**HEAD COACH:** Joe Williams (Southern Methodist '56) is in his eighth season as head coach of the Florida State Seminoles. He has put together a 117-88 record during that time. His best seasons at Florida State included the 1979-80 campaign when the Tribe went 22-9 and participated in the Midwest Regionals and the 1983-84 season when FSU received its first-ever NIT bid in a 20-11 season. Williams has compiled a 21-year total of 351 wins and 236 losses. He is one of three active coaches in the game who have led three schools to the NCAA Tournament. His other head coaching stops were at Furman and at Jacksonville, where he led his 1970 squad to the NCAA Championship game with UCLA.

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Rex Morgan (Jacksonville '70), Steve Williams (Florida '74) and Jackie Pons (Florida State '78) serve as right-hand men to Williams while graduate assistant Russell Cotton (Florida State '85) rounds out the staff.

**ALL-AMERICAN CANDIDATE:** Just a junior, 6-8 forward Randy Allen is Florida State's player to watch. Before he graduates, it's expected that he'll rewrite the FSU record book. Allen is already a two-year starter and has averaged 11.9 points and 5.8 rebounds in his first two years at Florida State. He was a second-team All-Metro selection as a soph.

**RETURNING STARTERS:** There's just one. He's 6-8 junior forward Randy Allen (15.6 ppg./6.8 rpg).

**KEY DEPARTURES:** Four starters graduated. They include 6-11 center Alton Lee Gipson (18.9 ppg/7.8 rpg), 6-2 point guard Joe Farrar (10.5 ppg/2.9 rpg), 6-3 guard Dean Shaffer (10.4 ppg/3.4 rpg) and 6-5 forward Maurice Myrick (10.1 ppg/6.2 rpg).

**OTHER KEY RETURNERS:** 6-7 sophomore forward Jerome Fitchett (6.8 ppg/3.8 rpg)

**NEWCOMERS:** There's a bundle. They include 6-1 junior guard Pee Wee Barber; 6-10 junior center Raleigh Choice, 6-0 junior guard LaRae Davis, 6-7 freshman forward William "Tat" Hunter; 6-10 junior center Tony Karasek, 6-1 sophomore guard Craig Mateer; 6-6 freshman guard-forward George McCloud, 6-8 senior guard David Shaffer.

**STRENGTHS:** The incoming players provide FSU with much needed experience and depth. Florida State has not had such depth in years. There will be a fight at every position for playing time. Outside shooting should be a plus this year instead of a hindrance. Offensive power and physical play is much improved. A truly great player in Randy Allen to build the team around. Team size is impressive.

**WEAKNESS:** The team must gel since only five players have been at Florida State prior to this season. Furthermore, only one of the five has been at Florida State longer than a year. Look for the lineup to be juggled frequently early on until one combination settles in. Defense is the main question mark since every other area of the game seems to have improved. The Seminoles must replace Maurice Myrick and Dean Shaffer who both were outstanding on the defensive end.

**SCHEDULE:** As always, the Metro race is a tough one with four teams attending the NCAA playoffs or the NIT last year. FSU plays North Carolina, Alabama and Pitt on the road outside of the conference schedule. The Seminoles should provide a home thriller in N. C. State visiting the Leon County Civic Center in December.