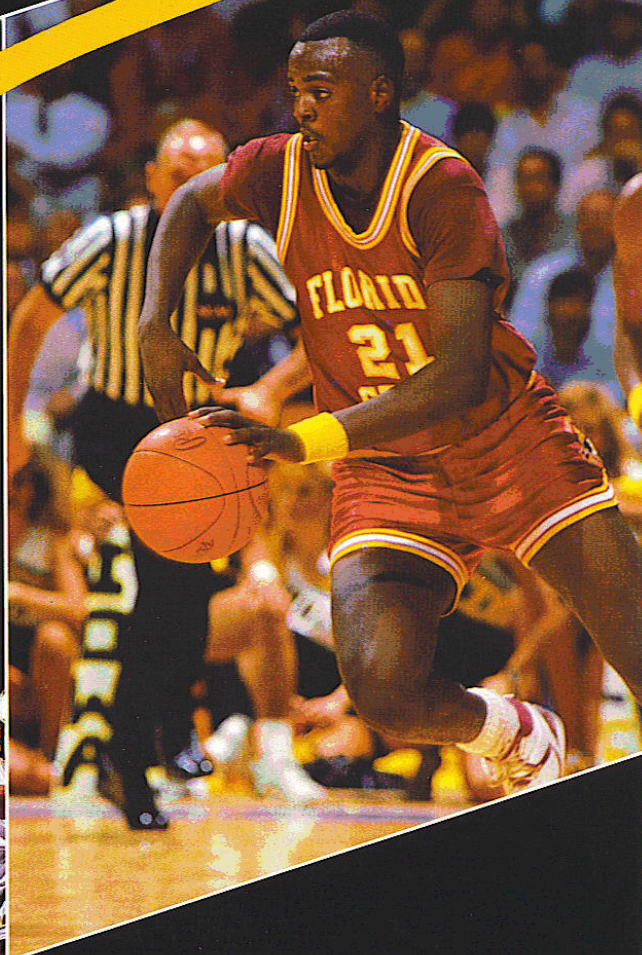
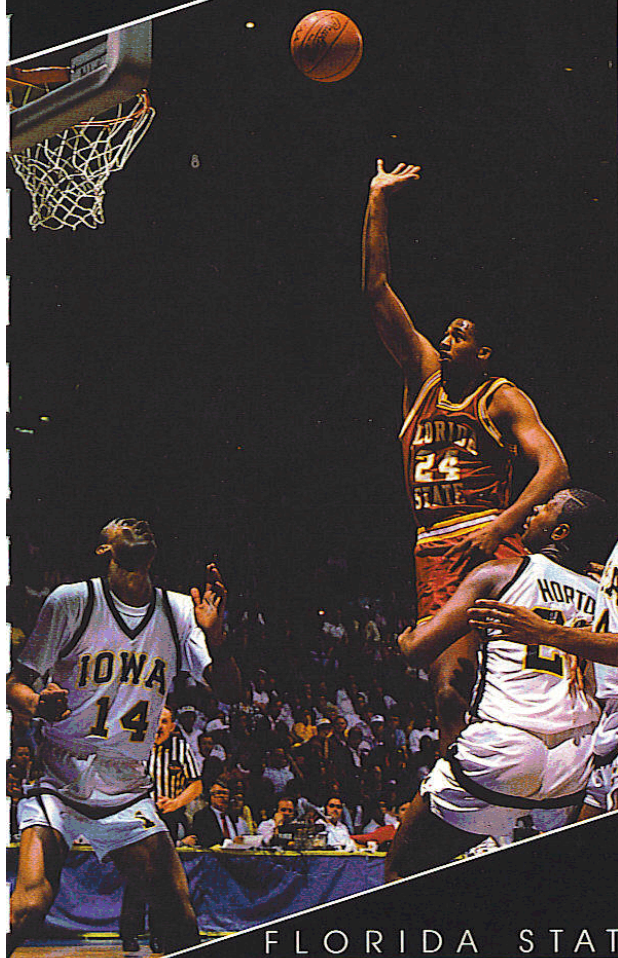


# FSU

*Seminoles*

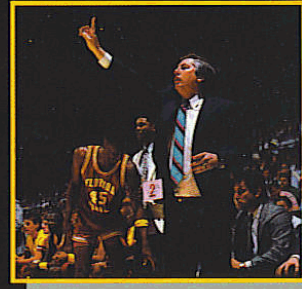
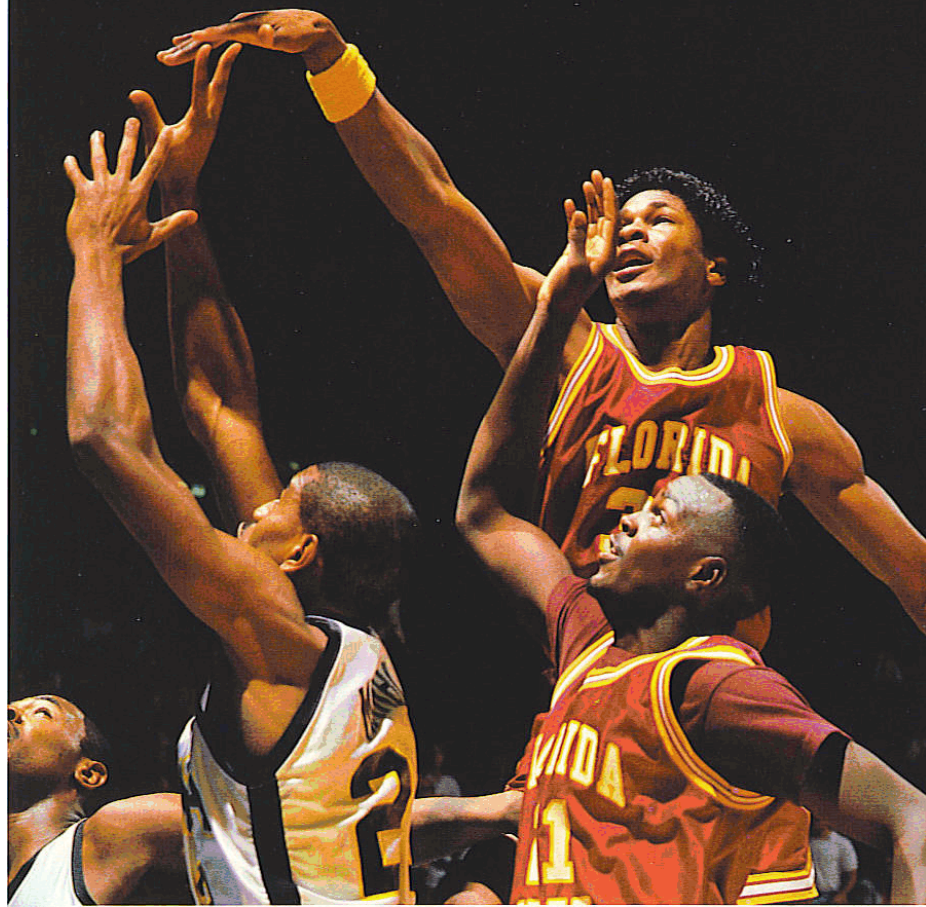


FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**1988-89 Basketball Media Guide**

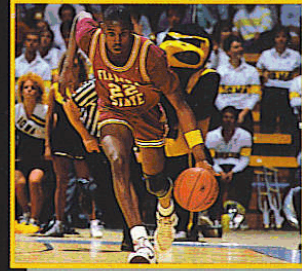


1988-89:

# ANOTHER STEP HIGHER FOR SEMINOLE HOOPS!



The Kennedy era at FSU has been highlighted by impressive wins and big success. The Seminoles are 38 - 22 under Kennedy and have gone on to post-season play both seasons.



Sharp-shooting guard Tharon Mayes returns for his junior year after finishing second in the Metro Conference with 46 percent accuracy from three-point range.



Facing taller opponents all season long, Tai Hunter turned his back on critics and finished the year as the Metro's leading rebounder averaging nine per game.

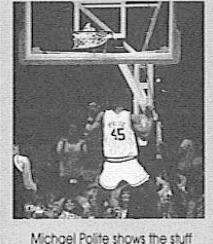
## 1988-89 Seminole Schedule

\* Indicates Metro Conference opponents

Date	Opponent	Location	Time	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Nov. 11	EXHIBITION — Sophia National Team	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	18	at Arkansas	Little Rock, AK	7:30
25	CENTRAL FLORIDA	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	21	CINCINNATI*	TALLAHASSEE, FL	1:00
29	FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	26	at South Carolina*	Columbia, SC	7:30
Dec. 3	FLORIDA	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	28	at Virginia Tech*	Blacksburg, VA	1:00
9	STETSON	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	Feb. 1	MEMPHIS STATE*	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00
14	SOUTH ALABAMA	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	4	at Cincinnati*	Cincinnati, OH	1:00
17	at Penn State	University Park, PA	7:30	6	at Louisville*	Louisville, KY	7:30
20	SOUTH FLORIDA	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	8	SOUTH CAROLINA*	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00
28-29	Red Lobster Classic (Villanova, Auburn, UCF)	Orlando, FL	TBA	16	LOUISVILLE*	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00
Jan. 4	RIDER COLLEGE	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00	18	at Memphis State*	Memphis, TN	9:00
7	SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI*	TALLAHASSEE, FL	3:00	21	at New Orleans	New Orleans, LA	7:30
11	at Jacksonville	Jacksonville, FL	7:35	23	at La Salle	Philadelphia, PA	7:00
15	TENNESSEE	TALLAHASSEE, FL	3:00	Mar. 1	VIRGINIA TECH*	TALLAHASSEE, FL	7:00
				4	at Southern Mississippi*	Hattiesburg, MS	5:00
				10-12	at Metro Tournament	Columbia, SC	TBA

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Media Information . . . . .	2
<b>1988-89 OUTLOOK</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>Seminole Expect a BIG Season!</i> . . . . .	4
<b>COACHING STAFF</b>	<b>9</b>
Head Coach Pat Kennedy: <i>The Kennedy Era Has Meant Success!</i> . . . . .	10
Assistant Coaches . . . . .	16
Support Staff . . . . .	18
FSU Athletic Directory . . . . .	20
<b>1988-89 SEMINOLES</b>	<b>21</b>
Player Files:	
George McCloud . . . . .	22
Tat Hunter . . . . .	24
Tony Dawson . . . . .	26
Derrick Mitchell . . . . .	28
Joey Barnes . . . . .	29
Aubry Boyd . . . . .	30
Lorenzo Hands . . . . .	31
A Closer Look at the Seminoles . . . . .	39
1988-89 Rosters . . . . .	40
<b>1988-89 OPPONENTS</b>	<b>41</b>
Opponent Team Profiles . . . . .	43-53
Travel Itinerary . . . . .	54
<b>1987-88 REVIEW</b>	<b>55</b>
<i>Cinderella Season Sees FSU Reach NCAA Tournament</i> . . . . .	56
1987-88 Statistics . . . . .	60
1987-88 Box Scores . . . . .	64
<b>BASKETBALL AT FLORIDA STATE</b>	<b>67</b>
<i>This is Seminole Basketball!</i> . . . . .	68
<i>High Tech or Halls of Ivy</i> . . . . .	74
Athletic Staff . . . . .	77
Seminole Radio Network . . . . .	82
The Theme for FSU Basketball . . . . .	84
<b>STATISTICS: THE RECORD BOOK</b>	<b>85</b>
Individual and Team Records . . . . .	87
Series Records . . . . .	94
All-Time FSU Scores . . . . .	95
FSU Basketball Lettermen . . . . .	98
The Metro Conference: <i>A Tradition of Excitement</i> . . . . .	99



Michael Polite shows the stuff that impressed Metro Conference sportswriters enough to name him to the all-freshman team. Inside moves like this made Polite hard to defend and the Seminoles hard to stop. Florida State's average of 84.3 points per game placed the Tribe among the top 15 offenses in the country last year.

**The 1988-89 FSU BASKETBALL GUIDE**  
**Editor:**  
 Rob Wilson  
**Contributing Editors:**  
 Donna Turner  
 Wayne Hogan  
**Research Assistance:**  
 Joey Ferolito  
 Steve Robinson  
 Chris Sears  
 Richard Kennedy  
**Photography:**  
 Norm Schindelar  
 Sam Lewis  
 Ryals Lee  
 Dickinson/Brouwer  
 FSU Photo Lab  
 Chris Edwards  
 The Osceola  
 Ray Stanyard  
**Creative Design/Typesetting:**  
 J.S. Goodson & Partners Advertising  
 Tallahassee, Florida  
**Printing:**  
 Boyd Brothers Printing  
 Panama City, Florida

## MEDIA INFORMATION

Florida State University's 1988-89 Basketball Guide has been designed for use by the news media and Seminole fans. Any questions not covered in this brochure can be directed to the Florida State Sports Information Office.

All requests for working press, radio, television, photographers or scouting credentials should be made to Assistant Sports Information Director Rob Wilson at least one week prior to the playing day.

**Working media:** Working media will be admitted to the Tallahassee Leon County Civic Center and will be permitted to take their seats at courtside. Press credentials may be picked up prior to the game, or held at the Will Call window.

Requests will be evaluated and credentials issued according to the following criteria.

- Local metropolitan press; wire services, national publications; opposing metropolitan press; student newspaper.
- Other daily newspapers.
- Radio and television personnel not actually broadcasting.
- Non-daily newspapers.
- Scouts.

**Parking:** To the east of the Center and surrounding areas. Press parking will be issued on a first-come first-served basis.

**Photographers:** Accredited photographers, upon presenting a photo pass, will be allowed to shoot in designated areas on the arena floor.

**Television:** Facilities are available for both local and

network broadcasts. Please have requests prepared several weeks prior to the expected broadcast.

**Radio:** Sections are reserved for both Florida State and opposing radio on press row. FSU grants broadcast rights to the official radio outlet of the visiting team on a reciprocal basis.

**Phones:** Telephone service should be secured directly through Centel Telephone Company of Tallahassee. Call 904/681-6600. Have them contact the Sports Information Office for location.

**Telecopiers/FAX:** A FAX machine is available in the press room.

**Services:** Half-time stats plus a running play-by-play will be provided to the media. Final stats and a final running will also be available following the conclusion of the game.

**Interview policies:** Florida State players may be reached through the Sports Information Office. A media card will be filled out and given to the player who will return the call collect. No interviews will be granted on game days prior to the game. Following completion of the game, Florida State players will be available to the media after a cooling-off period. Head Coach Pat Kennedy will be taken to the press room where he will conduct a question and answer session with the media.

**Press meals:** A light buffet is available in the Seminole Spirit Room to all members of the media. See Assistant Sports Information Director Rob Wilson at the game for buffet tickets.



Among the most sought-after speakers on the FSU athletic staff, Pat Kennedy is right at home in front of civic groups, athletes, or the press.

A refreshing ability to speak equally intelligently about sports as well as other matters, Kennedy is at his best with an audience.





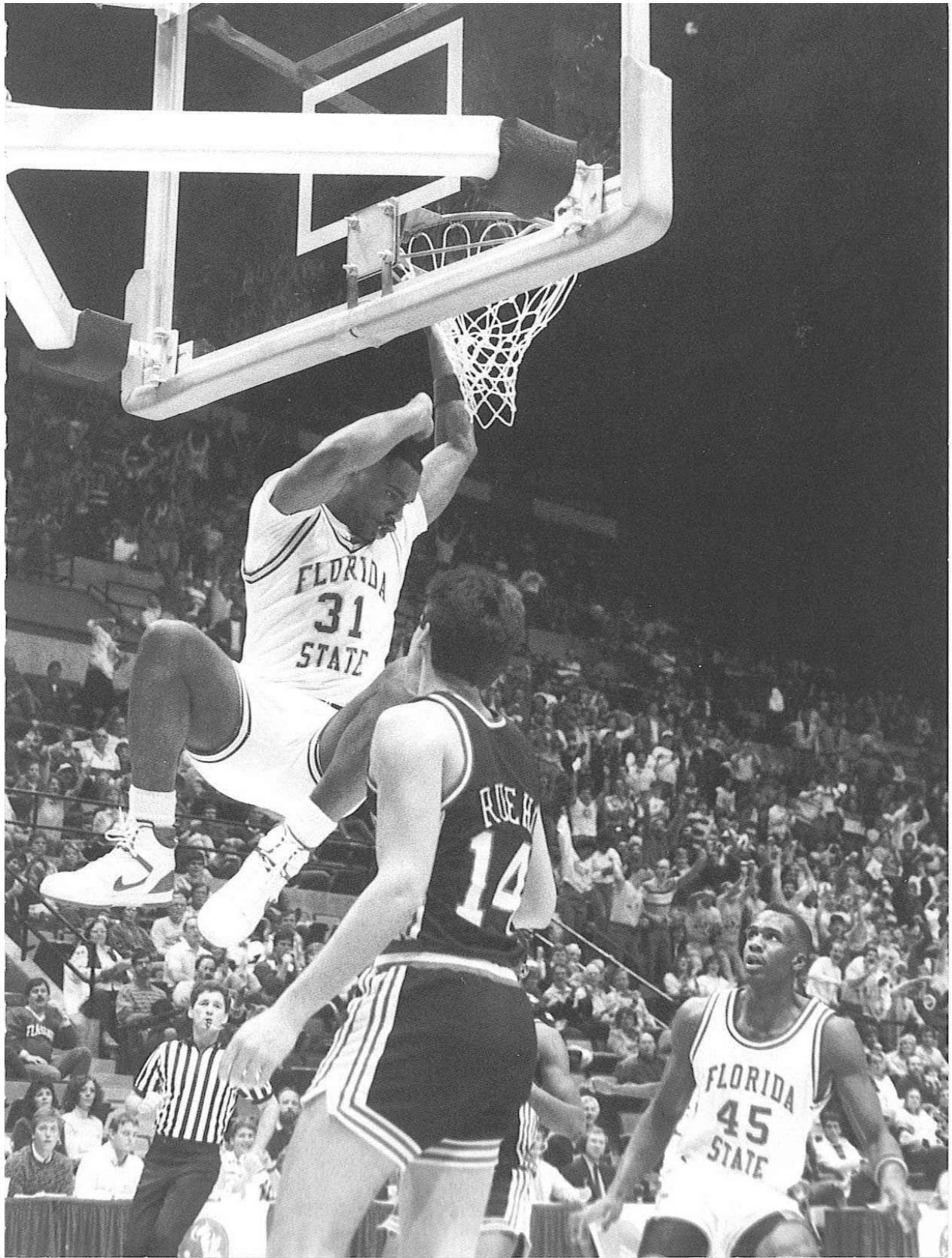
# OUTLOOK

## 1988-89 OUTLOOK

IN THIS SECTION

*The Seminoles Are  
Expecting a BIG Season! . . . 4*

**Photo:** Rim-rattling dunks like this one by freshman David White made Florida State one of the most exciting offensive teams in the country last year. The Seminoles return 90 percent of the scoring that put FSU among the top 15 offenses of 1987-88. Ranked in the top 20 by many preseason publications, the Tribe returns four starters and one of the deepest benches around. George McCloud and Tony Dawson return to lead the offense, while Tat Hunter is set to defend his Metro rebounding crown making FSU one of the favorites in the Metro race.



# Seminoles Expect a

# BIG Season!



By Rob Wilson

# H

opes are high in Tallahassee.

Talent, experience and depth characterize the Florida State basketball team as it prepares for the 1988–89 season. The Seminoles return a strong nucleus of players and this year's squad may have the talent to rival the accomplishments of the 1972 FSU team that lost to UCLA for the national championship.

Florida State finds itself ranked in the top 20 in numerous pre-season publications and a big reason is a trio of seniors that come of age to lead the Seminoles as juniors last year. George McCloud (top) led the team in scoring passing Tony Dawson in the last week of regulation play. A master of inside moves, Dawson (bottom) hammered away at opponents scoring an average of 17.9 points per game. The two give FSU a scoring combination that allows them to stretch defenses.

Opposite Page: Tot Hunter faced taller pivot players in all but three games last year. Yet the 6'7" junior managed to lead the conference in rebounding and he ruled the paint for Florida State. Hunter will get rebounding help from newcomer Irving Thomas and should become more of an offensive threat in his senior year.

This wealth of optimism comes on the heels of a truly remarkable season. With just one starter returning from the previous year's NIT squad, Florida State was picked to finish next to last in the Metro Conference in 1987–88. However, the Tribe turned in one of the school's finest seasons, finishing second in the conference race and earning its first bid to the NCAA tournament since 1980. The accomplishment becomes even more impressive considering how the Seminoles got to the tournament. Florida State Head Coach Pat Kennedy had moved an overweight, seldom used forward to point guard; based his offense on a junior college transfer with a bad leg; and faced a difficult schedule with a 6-7 center. From that tenuous position, the Seminoles forged their second consecutive 19-11 season and finished the year in storied Pauley Pavilion at the NCAA West Regional basketball tournament.

The Seminoles begin the 1988–89 season in a completely different situation. The difficult schedule is still there, but FSU returns four starters

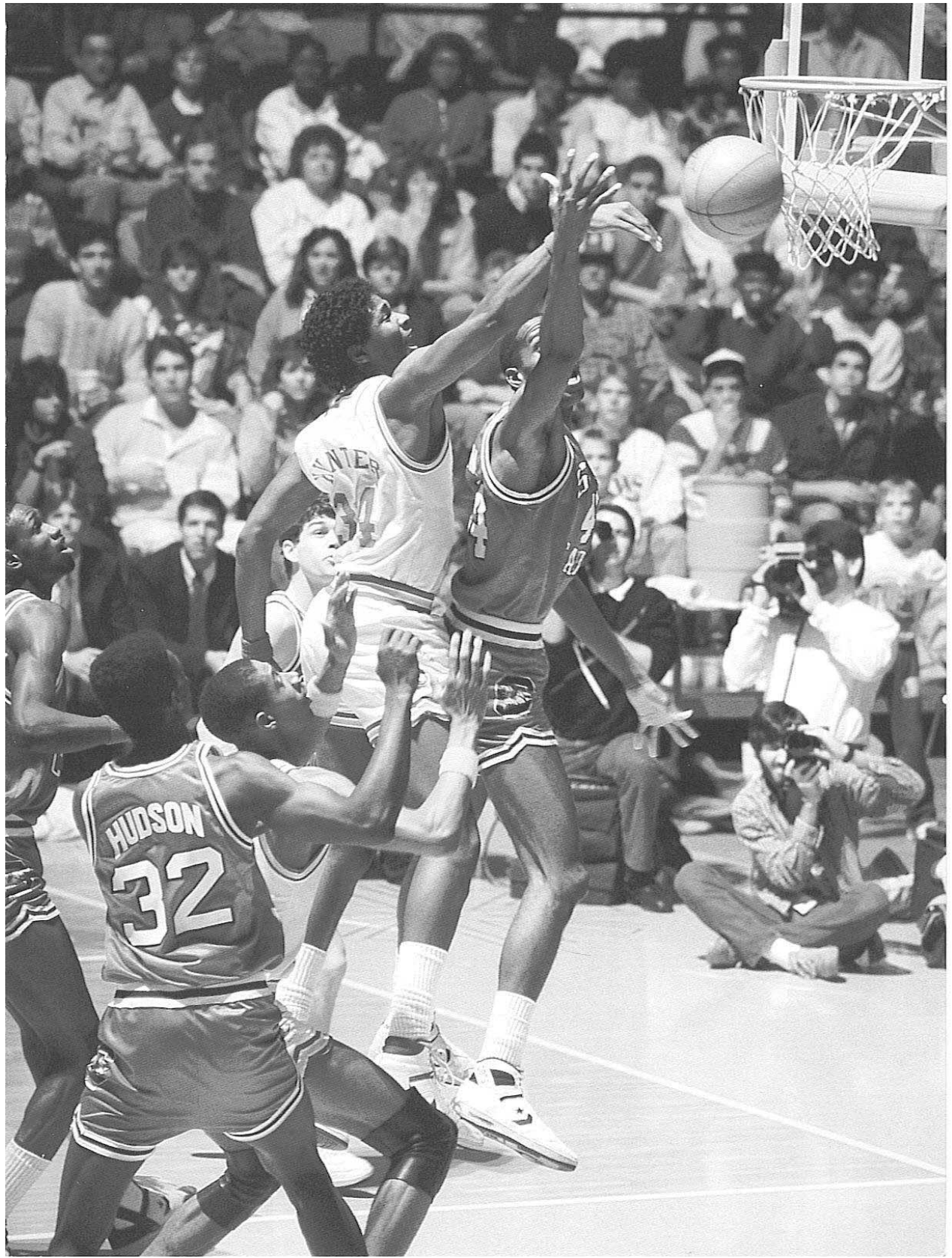
and will be a preseason top 20 squad. The attention should kill any opportunity the Garnet and Gold had of "sneaking up" on its opponents, and the combination of seasoned starters and a talent-laden bench should put the Seminoles among the favorites in the competitive Metro Conference.

"I am very excited about the potential of this season," Kennedy said. "I am a very positive person, so I am always looking forward to the year. But I think when you look at what we have coming back and the newcomers, you have to consider Florida State a top-notch team. The season is long and a lot of things can happen to prevent you from reaching your potential, but I really feel we are worthy of the preseason attention. And I feel that we can compete for the conference championship, but road wins will probably be the key in the Metro again this year."

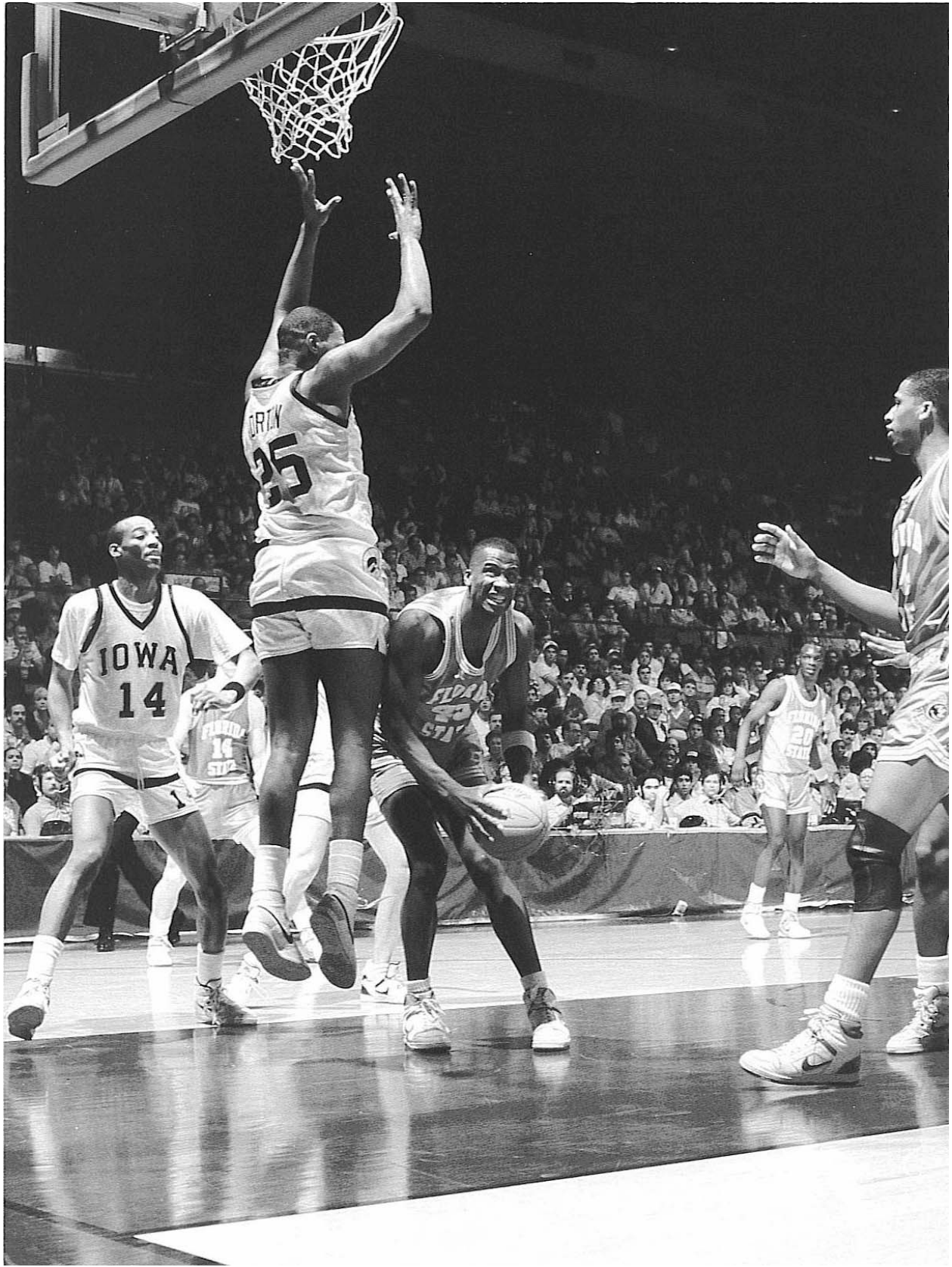
### Why are expectations so high in Tallahassee?

Consider the return of four starters; the return of 79 of the 84 points per game which ranked the Seminoles among the nation's top 15 offensive









teams; and the addition of inside force Irving Thomas and talented guards Lorenzo Hands and Byron Wells to an already loaded roster. The numbers add up to a talented group of hoopsters.

While FSU had just one senior a year ago, the Seminoles will rely on the leadership of four seniors this year. George McCloud and Tony Dawson are back to lead the offense, Tat Hunter is set to defend his Metro rebounding crown and Derrick Mitchell will again be "instant offense" for the 1988-89 Tribe.

McCloud, the "overweight, seldom used forward" of a year ago, burst on the college basketball scene in his junior season, topping it off with first team all-Metro honors and an invitation to try out for the United States Olympic basketball team. McCloud used the early portion of last season to develop his ball-handling skills and get comfortable with a new position. Then he lit up the scoreboard, overtaking Dawson for the scoring title in the last two games and finishing with an 18.2 point per game average. An excellent shooter and adept passer, McCloud is one of the top returnees in the Metro this year.

Dawson was among the conference leaders in scoring and rebounding in 1987-88 and narrowly missed all-Metro honors his first year. Dawson came to FSU with a reputation as a proficient scorer after earning first team All-America

honors at Gulf Coast Community College. Seldom has a player lived up to his press clippings like Dawson — he literally carried the Tribe offense early in the year, baffling opponents for an average of 17.9 points and 7.6 rebounds per game. After further rehabilitation to a leg injured in a childhood accident, he should be in all-conference form this season.

*While FSU had just one senior a year ago, the Seminoles will rely on the leadership of four seniors this year.*

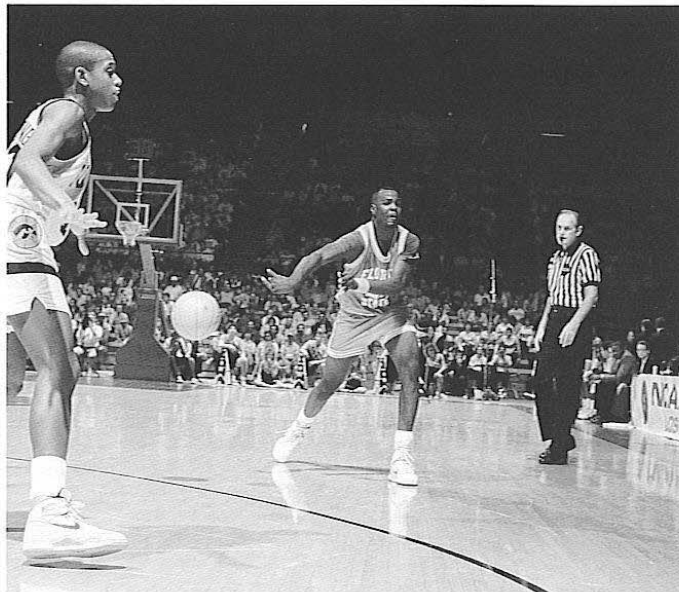
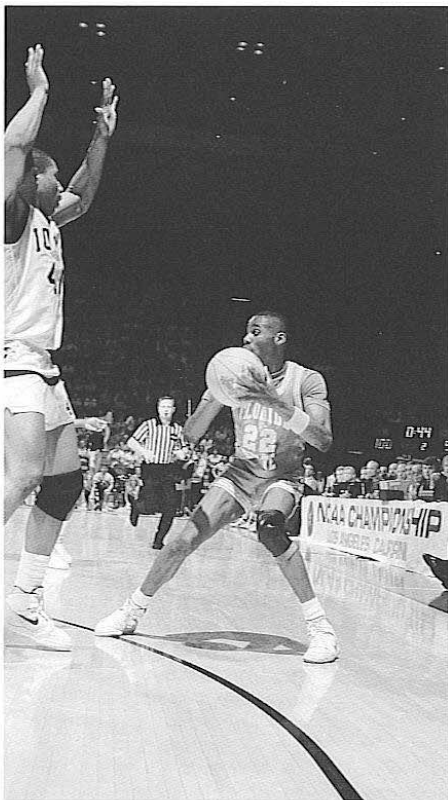
Tat Hunter may have been the biggest surprise of last year. Most experts pointed to the lack of a true center as a major problem for FSU, but the 6-7 Hunter led the Metro with an impressive nine rebounds per game average. He also averaged 9.4 points per contest and led the squad with 40 dunks. His outstanding work on the boards was a major reason Florida State was outrebounded just seven times in 30 games.

FSU's fourth returning starter is hot-shooting guard Tharon Mayes. Among the nation's top three-point shooters last season, he hit 46% (46 of 100) from behind the three-point stripe. Mayes improved steadily as the year progressed and finished the season as the third leading scorer with a 13.2 points per game average.

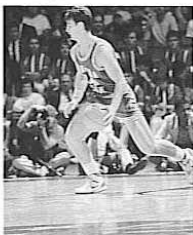
Opposite Page: Michael Polite earned a spot on the Metro's all-freshman team in 1987-88 and finished the season as FSU's fifth leading scorer. A silky-smooth jump shot and inside savvy make Polite a dangerous forward in the Seminole arsenal.



Tharon Mayes (below left) did most of his damage from outside the three-point line hitting 46 percent of his bombs. He averaged 13.2 points per game and was second among Metro players in three point percentage. While George McCloud (below) drew great praise for his scoring ability, his passing skills were often overlooked despite the fact that he led the team with 105 assists. Assists were not Tat Hunter's specialty (above), but handling the ball above the rim proved to be. He led the Metro in rebounding and the team in dunks.



Despite occasional need for extra coaching, Florida State enjoyed excellent play from its young players all season. Mike Polite (below, bottom) finished the year as the top performer off the bench averaging over six points per game. Brad Johnson (below), also a freshman, shed his football gear just in time to lace up his sneakers and by game number nine had earned the starting role at the small forward spot.



A pair of first-year players proved that you can play the same position using different styles. Derek Mitchell (above, right) is most dangerous when penetrating defenses. He earned the label "instant offense" for his ability to ignite the Seminoles. Aubry Boyd, (above, left) a pure-freshman who brought impressive credentials from the high school ranks, came on after Christmas to prove an important element in the attack. Boyd's "look-away" passes can send opposing coaches to the videos to see what happened.

A talented group of sophomores make up the bulk of what could be one of the best benches in college basketball. **Michael Polite earned a spot on the Metro's all-freshman team** despite starting just one game last year. He averaged 6.3 points and 3.8 rebounds and his pure athletic ability drew praise from coaches and fans. Brad Johnson joins Polite in a "sixth man" role. A quarterback on the football team, coaches credit Johnson's solid play as a freshman for FSU's success in avoiding an upset in 1987-88. Johnson started 11 games at small forward and averaged 5.9 points and 1.6 rebounds per game.

“  
*Everyone concerned with the program can see Florida State basketball coming on and I think this year you will see the Seminole program go a step further.*  
 ”

Aubry Boyd came on late last year to play impressive ball. The 6-6 point guard showed an ability to play inside and may see time at forward this year. David White should benefit from a year of collegiate experience after adjusting to a small forward position. Joey Barnes returns to back-up at both guard positions and rounds out the list of super-sophs.



Also back for FSU is senior point guard **Derrick Mitchell**. Tabbed "instant offense" for his ability to come off the bench and spark the offense, Mitchell is the best penetrator of the Seminole guards. His play allows McCloud to play in different spots and rest during the game.

**Irving Thomas, a 6-9 transfer from Kentucky, may be the player who brings the puzzle together.** Runner-up for Florida's "Mr. Basketball" title as a high school senior, Thomas spent two years at the University of Kentucky before transferring to FSU and sitting out last season. After a year of learning the system, Thomas has established himself as one of the team leaders. Blake Miles, a redshirt freshman, should also benefit from a year of work with the Tribe and could be a factor at either guard or forward.

Two outstanding freshmen complete FSU's roster. Lorenzo Hands, a point guard from Twin Lakes High in West Palm Beach, was runner-up for the 1988 "Mr. Basketball" title and could be an immediate contributor for the Seminoles. Hands comes from the same program that produced Dallas Maverick Derek Harper. Byron Wells carries a list of impressive prep accomplishments and his outside touch at 6-8 will be tough to defend.

"I guess some people would shy away from expecting too much," said Kennedy, whose record stands at 38-22, including two post-season tournament bids, in his two years at Florida State. "But I just believe in our players and our program. The NCAA bid last year really gave us confidence. When I say us, I mean the coaching staff, the players, the administration and the fans. Everyone concerned with the program can see Florida State basketball coming on and I think this year you will see the Seminole program go a step further. Now, that step? I think I'll keep that prediction to myself."

**Considering Florida State has lost just four home games in the last two seasons, came within a combined seven points of defeating top-ranked teams Pittsburgh, Oklahoma, and Iowa last year, returns four starters, and boasts a group of talented newcomers — one begins to realize why basketball enthusiasts are optimistic in Tallahassee these days.**

