

# FSU wins 61-60 with last-second shot

By Gerald Ensley  
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JACKSONVILLE — The worm turned for Florida State — and for Randy Allen.

The Florida State men's basketball team, so often a victim of a last-second shot, turned the tables Wednesday night as point guard Joe Farrar's shot from almost 30 feet swished through the basket as time expired to lift FSU to a 61-60 victory.

The shot capped a poised FSU comeback that saw the Seminoles trail by as many as 14 points in the first half, trail by four at halftime, and not take their first lead until nearly seven minutes were gone in the second half. Up by as many as seven points in those final 13 minutes, FSU took the ball out of bounds with only four seconds remaining in the game, after a tip-in by Jacksonville center Rod Kittles gave the Dolphins a 60-59 lead.

The shot also put an exclamation to the performance of Allen, who led all players with 21 points and

13 rebounds. Both totals were career highs for Allen, a sophomore.

The victory, before 8,279 fans in the Jacksonville Coliseum, gives FSU a record of 3-1 as the Seminoles begin a break of 10 days. The Dolphins are 2-2.

"When it left my hand, it felt real good," said Farrar, who made only two of six shots on the night. "I was a little concerned about how much time was left. But I didn't hear anything until it left my hand. And then I heard the buzzer."

Two seasons ago, with a less dramatic finish, FSU beat JU by the same 61-60 score in the Coliseum. But it was three seasons ago that point guard Maurice Roulhac hit a shot from about 25 feet to lift Jacksonville to an 80-79 victory over the Seminoles in the Coliseum. That same season, Tulane forward Paul Thompson hit a jumper as he fell out of bounds in the corner of the Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center to beat FSU 62-61. The season before that, St. Louis forward Willie Becton (now with Memphis State) hit a shot from the corner at the buzzer to beat FSU 72-71.

And in the most famous last-second shot ever, Virginia Tech's Les Henson beat FSU with a 90-foot shot at the buzzer in Tully Gym.

"It's a play we work on a lot in practice, and we do it with three seconds," said FSU head coach Joe Williams. "Joe was supposed to get the ball, dribble up court, and take the shot if he was open. If not, he was supposed to kick it off to one of the wings."

Farrar, who received the inbounds pass from Allen, never worried about the wing players.

"I had it in my mind I was going to shoot no matter what," said Farrar, who said he sank a similar shot in junior college to lift his Spartanburg J.C. team to victory.

Just as FSU's luck with last-second shots turned, so did the free throw shooting of Allen. After hitting only three of 13 previous free throws coming into the game, Allen cashed all six of his attempts Wednesday.

"It was just one of those things. They just weren't

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## FSU

From 1D

falling before," said Allen. "Tonight, they fell."

"The big factor in the game was rebounding (in which FSU broke up an 18-18 tie at halftime by outrebounding JU 37-29. In the second half, we just started crashing the boards better, trying to get four guys to the board every time."

Allen's last three free throws were particularly crucial.

The first came with 12:59 to play. With FSU down 32-31, Allen took a lob pass from guard Dean Shaffer, banked in the basket and was fouled by Ken Nadasky. Allen sank the free throw for FSU's first lead of the night, 34-32.

Allen, who scored 12 of his points in the second half, later added two free throws with 2:05 to play, which kept FSU at a three-point lead, 57-54.

But Ronnie Murphy, the Dolphins' leading scorer with 12 points, sank an outside shot to cut the lead to one point. FSU center Al Gipson countered with a good move in traffic to lay in two points for FSU, with 1:30 to play. But Murphy, who scored only two points in the first half after being saddled with two quick fouls, answered with a long jumper from the corner to cut the FSU lead to one point, 59-58.

FSU brought the ball up court with about a minute to play, moved the ball around and got it to Allen on the baseline. Bumped and jostled, Allen fought his way into the air, but bounced his 8-footer off the rim, where it was rebounded by JU's Otis Smith.

Jacksonville brought the ball

upcourt and called timeout with 37 seconds. Passing the ball around after the timeout, JU got the ball to Murphy, who drove to the lane, and put up a shot from about eight feet. It bounced off to the left, where Kittles got his left hand on the ball and pushed it into the basket for a 60-59 lead.

After a timeout, in which FSU coaches got a second put back onto the clock (arguing successfully that the timekeeper had not responded fast enough to the referee's timeout signal), Allen inbounded the ball to Farrar, who pushed his way between two defenders, dribbled across halfcourt and launched his shot.

"I know he traveled," said JU coach Bob Wenzel, referring to Farrar's move between the two defenders. "But it wasn't called, so it wasn't a travel. And the guy (Farrar) made a terrific shot."

"What's good about this game is that it increases the rivalry between the two teams," added Wenzel, who noted that FSU had beaten JU on a last-second shot by point guard Tony William in the 1981 Florida Four tournament.

What was most important to FSU about the game was the poise the Seminoles showed in the second half. Connecting on only 8 of 28 shots in the first half — while the Dolphins were hitting 12 of 27 en route to a 25-21 halftime lead — FSU came back to hit 18 of 30 shots in the second half to finish the game shooting 45 percent from the field.

"We were missing good shots early so we knew that there wasn't anything real wrong. We were just tight. In the second half, we just kept running our offense, and we started making some shots," said

Williams.

The game nearly got away from FSU soon after it took its lead with 12:59 to play. Exactly a minute later, Gipson was whistled for an intentional foul when he elbowed Kittles, who made both shots to tie the game 36-36.

After Gipson, who scored 18 points including 12 in the second half, hit a hook to put FSU back up, 38-36, Kittles attempted a dunk at the other end. Gipson rose into the air, covered the ball with his hand, stopping the shot, but was called for a foul.

Incensed, Gipson kicked the ball toward the Jacksonville bench. He was called for a technical, which guard Cleveland Williams sank, after Kittles made one of two free throws, to tie the game.

"I guess the ref just felt like calling a foul," said Gipson of the intentional foul call. "The ref was supposed to call a technical after I kicked the ball. I shouldn't have done that."

"But I was upset he called a foul. I blocked the ball. I was nowhere near touching him (Kittles)."

Sitting down for about two minutes, Gipson — who was involved in an altercation with graduated

Jacksonville forward Terry Pike in last year's game in the civic center — returned to the game to a chorus of boos. But after raising his arms in mock acknowledgement of the boos, Gipson played under control and scored his last six points down the stretch.

#### Florida State

|          | FG    | FT   | Rb | Asst | S | Min | TP |
|----------|-------|------|----|------|---|-----|----|
| Allen    | 8-18  | 6-6  | 13 | 1    | 2 | 39  | 22 |
| Arnold   | 2-6   | 0-0  | 3  | 4    | 2 | 35  | 4  |
| Gipson   | 9-15  | 0-2  | 5  | 0    | 0 | 37  | 18 |
| Farrar   | 2-6   | 2-2  | 2  | 3    | 0 | 32  | 6  |
| Shaffer  | 1-7   | 0-0  | 4  | 4    | 0 | 26  | 2  |
| Myrick   | 4-6   | 1-2  | 6  | 3    | 2 | 28  | 9  |
| Fitchett | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0  | 0    | 0 | 3   | 0  |
| Team     |       |      |    | 4    |   |     |    |
| Totals   | 26-58 | 9-12 | 37 | 15   | 6 | 200 | 61 |

#### Jacksonville

|          | FG    | FT   | Rb | Asst | S | Min | TP |
|----------|-------|------|----|------|---|-----|----|
| McDuffy  | 5-10  | 0-0  | 6  | 0    | 1 | 37  | 10 |
| Smith    | 4-7   | 2-4  | 3  | 3    | 3 | 38  | 10 |
| Kittles  | 3-4   | 5-9  | 8  | 0    | 0 | 28  | 11 |
| Pearson  | 3-8   | 0-0  | 3  | 1    | 3 | 33  | 6  |
| Murphy   | 6-16  | 0-0  | 2  | 1    | 0 | 23  | 12 |
| Nadasky  | 1-2   | 0-0  | 1  | 0    | 0 | 14  | 2  |
| Hinton   | 0-2   | 0-0  | 0  | 3    | 0 | 8   | 0  |
| Williams | 4-6   | 1-1  | 3  | 0    | 0 | 17  | 9  |
| Lewis    | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0  | 0    | 0 | 1   | 0  |
| Terrell  | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0  | 0    | 0 | 1   | 0  |
| Team     |       |      |    | 3    |   |     |    |
| Totals   | 26-55 | 8-14 | 29 | 8    | 7 | 200 | 60 |

Halftime: Jacksonville 25, FSU 21;  
Fouled out: None; Technicals: Gipson; Total  
fouls: FSU 12 Jacksonville 15; Att. 8,279.