

Contents

1990-91 Florida State Seminole **Basketball Media Guide**

'90-91 Outlook For The Seminoles The Future Has **Never Been Brighter!**



Head Coach Pat Kennedy will lead a very talented, if unproven, group of youngsters into the 1990-91 season. Perhaps the most ambitious schedule in school history awaits the Tribe with next season bringing the basketball-rich Atlantic Coast Conference to Tallahassee. The future has never been brighter but FSU's sights are set on the more immediate goal of a Metro Conference championship and NCAA tournament play.

Head Coach Pat Kennedy Leading With Championship Flair

He cheers, screams, shouts, encourages and inspires his Seminoles with a unique style that has brought Florida State back among the nation's elite. Pat Kennedy's enthusiasm for FSU basketball is consuming, and he's determined that his athletes will study as hard as they practice.



Players

Talented, but unproven, they'll face a very tough schedule early. Seniors Michael Polite and Aubry Boyd lead the Seminoles into the '90-91 season

Opponents



Florida State suits up for Metro Conference competition one last time with a league championship as its goal. The Tribe must also face last year's national champs and the best from the Big East, SEC and SWC. Perhaps, FSU's most challenging schedule ever.

Basketball At FSU

Florida State becomes big news when it's picked to join tne ACC and rocks the academic world by being chosen as the site for the National Magnetism Lab - in the same year. There can be no doubt this university has found the way to combine first-class academics and athletics.

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The 1990-91 **FSU BASKETBALL GUIDE**

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Press

Florida State University's 1990-91 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.

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

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-byplay 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. 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.

FSU Quick Facts

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Road Headquarters

December 15 – Auburn Auburn University Hotel and Conference, (205) 821-8200

December 22 - Nevada-Las Vegas

The Mirage - (800) 627-6667 December 29 – Florida International

Airport Marriott - (305) 649-5000

January 3 - Tulane

Sheraton - (504) 525-2500

January 5 - Southern Mississippi

Holiday Inn - Hattiesburg, Mississippi, (601) 268-2850

January 14 - Stetson

Airport Marriott - Orlando, (407) 851-9000

January 19 - South Carolina Sheraton - Columbia, South Carolina, (803) 731-0300

January 24 - Memphis State

Marriott - Memphis, Tennessee, (901) 362-6200

January 26 - Virginia Tech

Marriott - Blacksburg, Virginia, (703) 552-7001

February 7 - Cincinnati

Clarion - Cincinnati, Ohio, (513) 352-2100

February 9 - Louisville

Holiday Inn - Louisville, Kentucky, (502) 452-6361

February 16 - Jacksonville

Marriott - Jacksonville, Florida, (904) 296-2222

February 18 - Syracuse

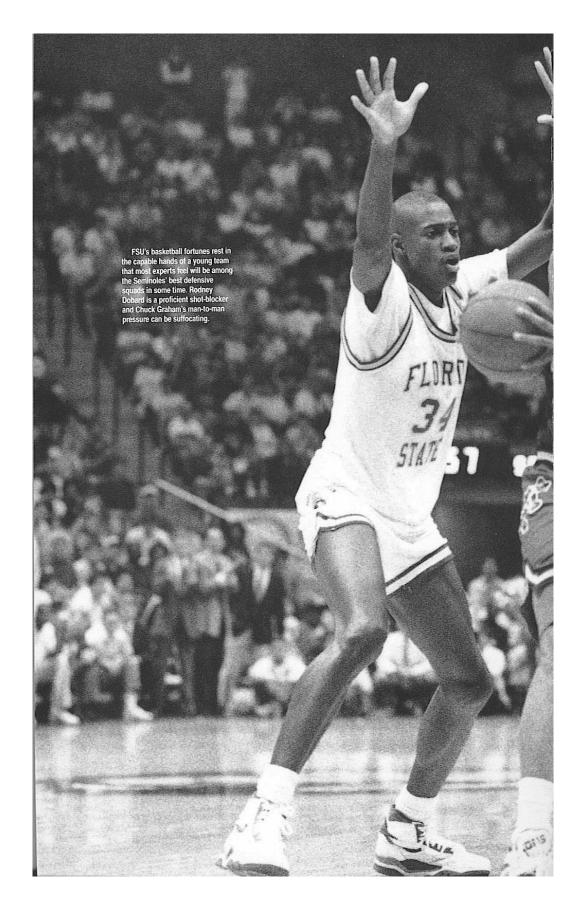
Marriott - Syracuse, New York, (315) 432-0200

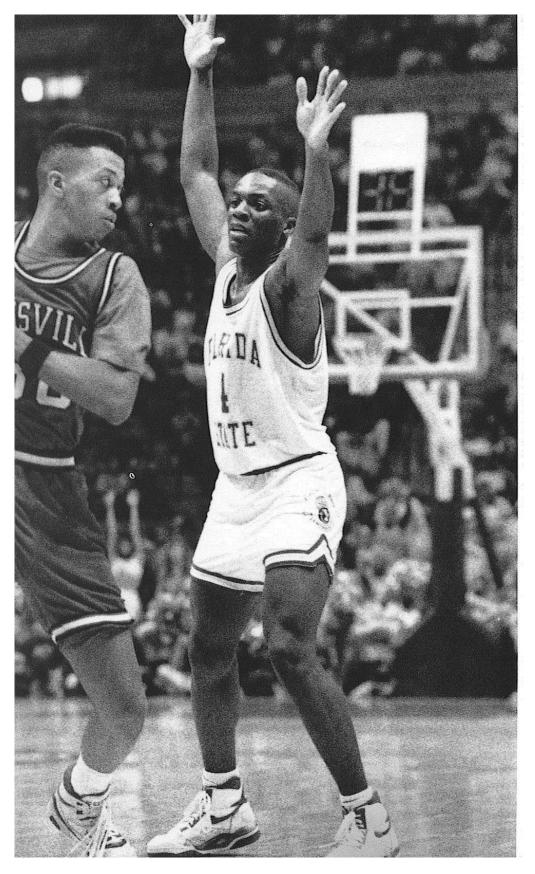
March 7-9 - Metro Tournament

Holiday Inn - Salem, Virginia, (703) 389-7061

Outlook

The Future Has Never Been Brighter





Outlook







For The Seminoles

The Future Has Never Been Brighter!

Youth abounds on the 1990-91 Seminole basketball squad with only two seniors available for action this season. Junior Lorenzo Hands (top far right) should compete for starting honors at point guard. Chad Copeland (upper middle) proved to be FSU's best against the press as a pure freshman. Rodney Dobard (top far left) led the team in blocked shots during his rookie year.

Opposite Page: Chuck Graham set a school record with his 10.1 point per game average as a pure freshman and should be one of the leaders this season.

at Kennedy's efforts and accomplishments over his first four seasons at the helm of the Florida State basketball program have resulted in the resurrection of the Seminole program. Aside from a rebuilding year last season, Florida State has put together outstanding seasons that include back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances and an NIT berth. The Tribe won the highly-regarded Metro Championship two years ago and have become a consistent NCAA contender, which marks the completion of one of Kennedy's primary goals.

The announcement made in September of 1990 may have put Kennedy's other lofty goals within reach. Florida State will begin play in the basketball-rich Atlantic Coast Conference in 1991-92, and the news has meant a recruiting bonanza for FSU.

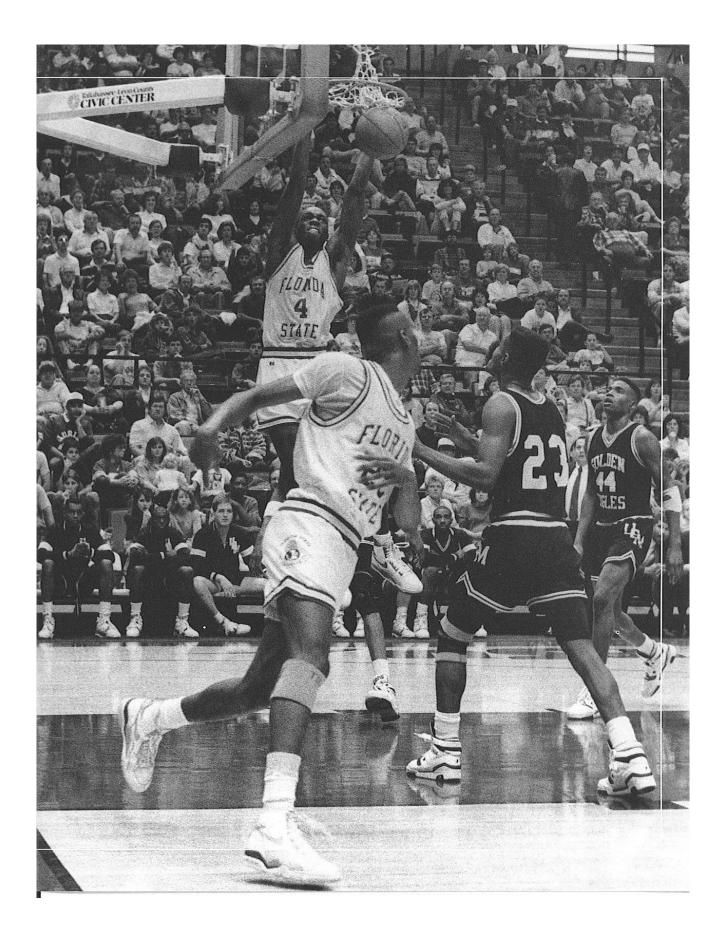
But Kennedy's hopes for the 1990-91 season revolve around a climb back into the nation's elite. Buoyed by an excellent recruiting class and an ambitious schedule, Kennedy will lead a talented, but young, group of Seminoles into the '90s.

e are going to have a lot of talent this season," said Kennedy. "But the scary thing is that most of it will be unproven. We know that the schedule may be the most difficult Florida State has ever played, but we are not going to shy away from it. I promised when I came here that scheduling top national teams was going to be a priority and we have. Now we have got to tackle it with a group of young players. It will be a challenge."

The immediate goal for FSU will be to regain its Metro-leading form of two years ago. To do so, the Tribe will rely heavily on a pair of talented forwards.

Michael Polite has the skills and experience to lead the Seminoles during his senior season. An opportunistic offensive player, Polite possesses problems for opponents at both ends of the floor. And if they concentrate too hard on the FSU star, Douglas Edwards should be able to make them pay.

Considered by nearly every expert to be the second







Top: Ron Miller proved a threat from the three-point range last season nailing 53.3 percent of his bombs. David White (above) would be one of only three seniors on the squad and he may redshirt this season.

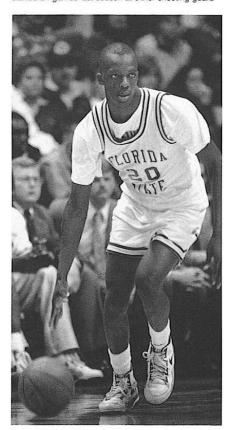
Right: Aubry Boyd is the most versatile player on the team and will be counted on as one of the emotional leaders on the young squad. Boyd started at forward most of last season, but is an excellent ball handler and passer.

Opposite Page: Michael Polite led Florida State in rebounding as a junior with 8.5 per game. His exceptional leaping ability and rebounding instincts give the Seminoles a second-shot threat in the paint. best player coming out of high school in 1989 (Kenny Anderson of Georgia Tech was number one), Edwards, 6-9, is the most heralded recruit in the history of FSU basketball. His ability to adapt quickly to both the college game and Kennedy's system will be an accurate barometer on the season.

Polite, however, will be the key to early season success in Tallahassee. Among the most gifted athletes on the team, Polite must assume a leadership role both on and off the court. The 6-7 senior from Daytona Beach is a likely preseason All-Metro Conference selection as he finished 1989-90 among the league's top rebounders with 8.5 per game. A feathery soft jumper and powerful drive to the bucket produced over 14 points per game last season with potential for even more scoring this season. If his outside shot comes along, as it did late in the season, he should contend for post-season honors.

"We need to have proven, consistent leadership out of our older players," said Kennedy. "And when I say older, that includes Chuck Graham and Lorenzo Hands, not just our seniors. We've got to have someone take over at the crucial times on the floor and lead. That is something we lacked at times last season."

Iso at the small forward spot will be the versatile Aubry Boyd. A talented 6-6 senior with the ball handling skills to play guard as well as forward, Boyd will be all over the court this season, with more consistent play a top priority. He started 24 games last season at either shooting guard



or small forward and averaged 6.4 points per game and was second on the team in assists with 73.

Also vying for playing time will be incoming freshman Jesse Salters. Runner-up in the voting for the state's "Mr. Basketball," Salters, 6-6, could be a real surprise if his inside game dominates as it did at Tampa Chamberlin High.

Edwards has the inside track on the power forward spot with experienced reserves ready to step in. David White, a 6-5 senior, has the rebounding and defensive skills to make him an excellent role player; however, coaches may redshirt him as he is still bothered by a stress fracture in his leg. 6-10 junior Byron Wells lacks only experience and the aggressiveness that comes with it to become a valuable player. Wells gives the Seminoles another scorer on the floor when in the game, but his future is also questionable as he may be redshirted because of slow recovery from an ankle injury.

Kennedy's hopes for the 1990-91 season revolve around a climb back into the nation's elite.
Buoyed by an excellent recruiting class and an ambitious schedule, Kennedy will lead a talented, but young, group of Seminoles into the '90s.

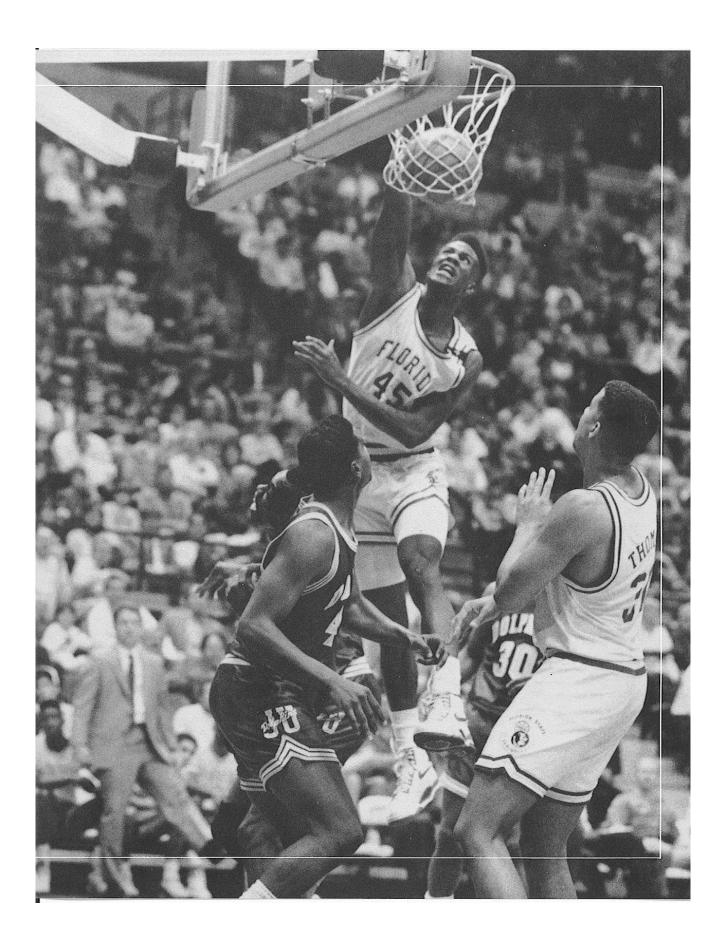
FSU's post players will have to grow up fast during the early part of the 1990-91 season. Rodney Dobard, a 6-9 sophomore, comes off a fine freshman season where he led the team in blocked shots (36) and showed that he has the defensive skills to play center at this level. Coaches hope he will become more of a force in the offensive scheme where he averaged 3.0 points per game as a rookie. The key to his improvement may be the gains he makes in the weight room this summer.

7-0 freshman Andre Reid will back up the post spot. Potential is the best way to describe Reid, who runs and jumps like a small forward. His pre-season development will determine his playing time.

Chuck Graham comes off the best freshman season a Seminole has ever had after averaging 10.1 points per game last year. The 6-3 sophomore quickly developed a fine reputation around the league with his explosive leaping ability and sharp offensive skills. He will lead a trio of dead-eye shooters at the shooting guard. Ron Miller, a 6-3 junior from Tallahassee, kept opponents honest with his three-point bombs last season, and he will be a zone-breaker again this year.

irst-year player Malcolm Nicholas may be a surprise in the garnet and gold lineup. A high school teammate of Douglas Edwards, the 6-3 Nicholas has a nice outside shot and tremendous appetite for the game.

Who will quarterback the Tribe in 1990-91 is still in question, and the answer is probably the most important of the year.



Right: Rebounding will be among the most important aspects of the 1990-91 Seminoles as the young team must face a schedule full of seasoned veterans. Coaches will emphasize rebounding even more since David White will be unavailable for bench help this season.

Top: Chuck Graham's 41-inch vertical leap gives him the ability to play with the big boys in the lane.

Below: Michael Polite worked on his outside shot over the summer and that, combined with his established reputation for excellent pane on the inside, should make him one of the Metro Conference's top players.



The USAGE

Kennedy's search for a point guard went coast to coast before he settled on Derrick Myers out of Allegheny Community College in Pittsburgh. A pure point guard with strength and savvy, the 6-1 junior was named most valuable player of the junior college national championship tournament.

Also competing for the job will be a 6-3 junior Lorenzo Hands. A very disciplined player, Hands gets

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I promised when I came here that scheduling top national teams was going to be a priority and we have. Now we have got to tackle it with a group of young players. It will be a challenge.

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the ball into the scorer's hands and specializes in noseto-nose defensive play. If rising sophomore Chad Copeland can play more consistently than he did as a freshman, he has all the skills to lead the potent Seminole attack. He answered the call last year starting six games and finishing with 48 assists, which is second among returning players.

"Depth is going to be a real concern over the season," Kennedy said. "We have learned just how important overall bench strength is when you get to the NCAA Tournament and that will be compounded by the probable redshirting of some upperclassmen. We will play our young guys early and try to get them ready for battle by the time we hit our Metro slate. But it is a tough league to compete in as a first-year player."

he young Seminoles will have their work cut out for them tackling a 1990-91 schedule that features eight alumni of last year's NCAA Tournament. FSU's toughest tests will probably come against defending national champion UNIV in Las Vegas and Final Four participant Arkansas in Tallahassee. A trip to the Carrier Dome to face Syracuse and to Auburn for a match-up with the Tigers, along with home stands against Florida and La Salle, round out a prestigious non-conference schedule.

Louisville and Memphis State, as usual, appear to be the biggest road blocks in FSU's hopes for a second Metro Conference championship in three years. Southern Mississippi and South Carolina will be loaded in the upcoming season to give the Metro the look of a conference up for grabs.

"Everyone involved with our program is just so excited about the future," admitted Kennedy. "We've got such a great opportunity to play some excellent programs this season and the general enthusiasm of our fans toward our program has never been higher. It's a great time to be at Florida State and sometimes I have to pinch myself at the opportunities that lie in the immediate future."

Consistency will be the buzz word around the FSU camp in the fall. The Seminoles lost too many games in the closing minutes last fall, prompting coaches to look for depth on the bench and an increase in intensity. If the Seminoles can fill a couple of holes and the young players reach their potential, Florida State should contend for another NCAA Tournament berth.

"Our goal is to win the Metro Championship and earn a berth to the NCAA's," said Kennedy. "It has been my goal since I came here, and while it will require some extraordinary effort, I believe we can achieve those goals."