

# South Carolina extends FSU's skid

By Gerald Ensley  
Democrat staff writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Same script. Same result.

Only the arenas change for the Florida State men's basketball team that lost its eighth game in a row Saturday night, dropping 92-77 decision to South Carolina.

The losing streak is FSU's worst since the 1956-57 squad lost nine in a row (though still short of the record 13 straight losses by the 1947-48 team).

The Seminoles, losers of 10 of their last 11 games, are 7-11 overall and 0-7 in the Metro Conference. With the loss to South Carolina, now 11-6 overall and 4-3 in the conference, the Seminoles have now lost once to every Metro team.

Just as the case has been in almost all of its losses, FSU was done in by shooting: The Seminoles shot poorly and the other team shot well. Running lukewarm and cold throughout the game, FSU wound up shooting 45 percent from the floor, and making 15 of 26 free throws. South Carolina, which came

into the game shooting 45 percent from the floor, connected on 59 percent of its shots.

"If you could buy it at the Quik-Pik (food store), I'd buy it in quantities," South Carolina head coach Bill Foster said of his team's shooting turnaround. "I don't know why we shot better tonight. I know I've been saying all along that we've got to shoot better. Tonight we finally did."

FSU was led in scoring by forward Randy Allen with 20 points. Guard Joe Farrar added 14 and guard Dean Shaffer

had 13. Center Al Gipson, who had been playing well of late, scored a very quiet 13 points, connecting on only five of 18 field goal attempts and four of eight free throws.

South Carolina, which made 10 of its first 12 shots en route to shooting 61 percent in the first half, was led by Linwood Moye with 21 points and Keith James with 20. Coming into the game, James, a freshman, had been in a slump, making only 35 percent of his shots in

See GAMECOCKS, 3F

past six games. But Saturday, mostly on bombs from long-range, James made 10 of 13 field goal attempts.

"If he had missed a couple of his shots, it would have been a different ballgame," said FSU head coach Joe Williams. "We missed those shots early and that put us in a hole."

Indeed, FSU opened the game by missing their first seven shots from the floor. Not until Gipson hit a free throw with 16:47 left in the half did FSU score — and by then was on the short end of a 10-1.

Led by the active play of Moye and James, the Gamecocks made 10 of their first 12 shots, jumping to a 27-12 lead with 9:42 left in the half. The Gamecocks extended that lead to 22 points, 41-19, with 4:54 to go in the half before FSU — which had made only seven of 23 shots from the floor at that point — finally began to rally.

Led by Gipson and Shaffer, the Seminoles rang off eight straight points to close the South Carolina lead to 14 points, 41-27, with 3:05 left in the half.

The Seminoles wound up making seven of their last eight field goal attempts of the half, closing to 43-33 with 1:26 to go in the half.

But a free throw by Tarone Thornton and a jumper by Jimmy Hawthorne pushed the Gamecocks to a 13-point lead with 1:05 to play. Jerome Fitchett rammed home a dunk for FSU with 47 seconds to close the margin to 11 points.

But with South Carolina running its spread offense, Hawthorne was fouled by Farrar with seven seconds to go. Hawthorne made two free throws and a long-range bomb by Myrick was short, sending the Gamecocks into the locker room with a 48-35 halftime lead.

FSU cut that margin to nine points early in the half, as an active defense forced South Carolina into seven of its eventual 17 turnovers in the first seven minutes of the second half.

But with both teams hitting a dry spell shooting, FSU could get no closer than nine points until 5:20 remained.

Then FSU's Jerome Fitchett drove the baseline and dunked the ball to cut the South Carolina lead to 71-64. Twice more, the last time coming with 3:10 to play, FSU trailed by seven. But after baskets by James and Moye pushed the

Gamecock lead to 11 points with 2:20 to play, FSU was forced to foul at every opportunity.

South Carolina, only a 66 percent free-throw shooting team coming into the game, responded by making 11 of its last 12 free throws in the final minutes, and closed out the scoring with a dunk by Tarone Thornton, to offset baskets by Shaffer, Gipson and Fitchett in the game's final minute.

FSU next plays Florida in Gainesville on Monday night.

# Florida State (77)

	FG	FT	Rb	Asst	S	Min	TP
Myrick	2-6	6-8	3	5	0	31	10
Allen	9-14	2-2	3	0	1	30	20
Gipson	5-18	4-8	6	1	0	39	14
Farrar	6-10	2-2	3	3	3	33	14
Shaffer	6-14	1-2	4	9	4	35	13
Speights	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	3	0
Mabry	0-3	0-2	2	1	0	9	0
Fitchett	3-4	0-2	4	2	2	20	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31-69</b>	<b>15-26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>77</b>

# South Carolina (92)

	FG	FT	Rb	Asst	S	Min	TP
Kendall	2-2	4-4	3	2	0	14	8
Moye	8-14	5-6	5	4	1	27	21
Brittain	2-6	1-2	8	4	0	24	5
Foster	3-4	8-10	2	5	0	35	14
Hawthorne	5-7	4-4	4	11	0	37	14
James	10-13	0-0	6	2	2	34	20
Thornton	3-8	1-2	7	0	0	19	7
Martin	0-2	3-4	1	0	1	5	3
Stierle	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	5	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33-54</b>	<b>26-32</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>92</b>

Halftime score: S.C. 48, FSU 35; Fouled out: Myrick, Farrar (FSU), Brittain (S.C.); Technical fouls: none; Total fouls: FSU — 23, S.C. — 21; Attendance: 7896.