

2019-20 Florida State Schedule/Results

O22	1 Barry University	W, 95-66
N1	1 Columbus State	W, 84-54
N6	* at Pittsburgh	L, 61-63
N10	at Florida	W, 63-51
N15	Western Carolina	W, 79-74
N20	Chattanooga	6:30 p.m.
N23	Saint Francis (Pa.)	2:00 p.m.
N25	Chicago State	7:00 p.m.
N29	vs. Tennessee	7:00 p.m.
N30	vs. Purdue/VCU	TBA
D3	at Indiana	9:00 p.m.
D8	* Clemson	2:00 p.m.
D17	North Florida	8:30 p.m.
D21	USF	12 Noon
D28	North Alabama	2:00 p.m.
D31	* Georgia Tech	12 Noon
J4	* at Louisville	2:00 p.m.
J8	* at Wake Forest	7:30 p.m.
J15	* Virginia	7:00 p.m.
J18	* at Miami	12 Noon
J25	* Notre Dame	8:00 p.m.
J28	* at Virginia	7:00 p.m.
F1	* at Virginia Tech	4:00 p.m.
F3	* North Carolina	7:00 p.m.
F8	* Miami	12 Noon
F10	* at Duke	7:00 p.m.
F15	* Syracuse	12 Noon
F18	* Pittsburgh	8:00 p.m.
F22	* at NC State	4:00 p.m.
F24	* Louisville	7:00 p.m.
F29	* at Clemson	2:00 p.m.
M4	* at Notre Dame	9:00 p.m.
M7	* Boston College	4:30 p.m.
M	ACC Tournament	TBA

Greensboro, N.C.

*ACC Game 1 Exhibition Game; 2 Emerald Coast Classic at Tallahassee, Fla.; 3 Emerald Coast Classic at Northwest Florida State College, Niceville, Fla.; 4 ACC/Big Ten Challenge at Bloomington, Ind.; 5 Metro by T-Mobile Orange Bowl Basketball Classic at BB&T Center, Sunrise, Fla.; 6 ACC Tournament at Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, N.C.

2018-19 ACC Standings

Team	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Virginia	16	2	.889	34	3	.919
N. Carolina	16	2	.889	29	7	.806
Duke	14	4	.778	32	6	.842
Florida State	13	5	.722	29	8	.784
Virginia Tech	12	6	.667	27	9	.750
Louisville	10	8	.556	20	14	.588
Syracuse	10	8	.556	20	14	.588
NC State	9	9	.500	24	11	.686
Clemson	9	9	.500	20	14	.588
Georgia Tech	6	12	.333	14	18	.438
Boston College	5	13	.278	14	17	.452
Miami	5	13	.278	14	19	.424
Wake Forest	4	14	.222	11	20	.355
Pittsburgh	3	15	.167	14	19	.424
Notre Dame	3	15	.167	14	19	.424

Leonard Hamilton's Career Record

	W	L	Pct.	Years
Career	536	427	.557	1987-Pr.
at Okla. State	56	63	.471	1987-90
at Miami	144	147	.495	1991-00
at Florida State	336	217	.608	2002-Pr.

FLORIDA STATE SEMINOLES (2-1, 0-1 ACC)

VS

CHATTANOOGA MOCS (3-1, 0-0 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE)

FIRST ROUND / EMERALD COAST CLASSIC

DONALD L. TUCKER CENTER (11,500)

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019; 6:30 P.M.

SEMINOLE IMG RADIO NETWORK (GENE DECKERHOFF, KEITH JONES)

FOX SPORTS (CHIP CAREY, BRIAN OLIVER)

"Florida State's 12-point win against Florida showed that it has the potential to be a force in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Coach Leonard Hamilton has led the Seminoles to the second weekend of the N.C.A.A. tournament in each of the past two seasons, but has never been to the Final Four. Florida State's depth and backcourt experience could give him a chance to get there in 2020."

Jon Rothstein

CBS Sports

FLORIDA STATE BEGINS PLAY IN EMERALD COAST CLASSIC AGAINST CHATTANOOGA

Florida State, which has won two of its first three games of the 2019-20 season, plays host to Chattanooga in the First Round of the Sixth Annual Emerald Coast Classic on Wednesday, November 20, 2020 at the Donald L. Tucker Center in Tallahassee, Fla. The Emerald Coast Classic is an eight-team tournament broken into two brackets with the Seminoles playing Chattanooga (November 20) and Chicago State (November 25) in Tallahassee before traveling to Niceville, Fla., to play Tennessee (November 29, 7:00 pm EST) and either VCU or Purdue (November 30, 4:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. EST) at The Arena at Northwest Florida State College. Florida State's game on Wednesday against Chattanooga marks the third meeting between the Seminoles and the Mocs – and the first since the 1974-75 season when Florida State was led by Hall of Fame Head Coach Hugh Durham. The Seminoles lead the all-time series against the Mocs by a 2-0 margin. Following Wednesday's game against Chattanooga, the Seminoles play host to Saint Francis (Pa.) in a non-conference home game on Saturday, November 23 with the tip scheduled for 2:00 p.m. in the first meeting between the two teams.

HISTORY OF THE EMERALD COAST CLASSIC

Florida State makes its first appearance in the Emerald Coast Classic which crowned Ole Miss as its inaugural Champion in 2014. The Rebels took the first Emerald Coast Classic Championship and have been followed by Iowa State (2015), Virginia (2016), TCU (2017) and Cincinnati (2018) in claiming the team championships in one of the most attractive of the Thanksgiving tournaments spaced among the college basketball landscape. Florida State becomes the third ACC team to play in the event with Virginia (champions in 2016) and Virginia Tech (third place finish in 2015) paving the way for the Seminoles in 2019.

FLORIDA STATE VS. CHATTANOOGA – CONNECTIONS

Florida State plays host to Chattanooga in the opening round of the Emerald Coast Classic on November 20, 2019 at the Donald L. Tucker Center. Florida State's game against the Mocs is the third all-time meeting between the two teams – but the first since February 1, 1975. The Seminoles lead the all-time series by a 2-0 margin with one win coming on the Mocs' home court (January 3, 1963, 72-55) and one coming in Tallahassee (February 1, 1975, 111-70). Lamont Paris is in his third season as the Head Coach of the Mocs. He will coach his first game against the Seminoles in the Emerald Coast Classic. Eddie Shannon, who played at the University of Florida (1996-99), is in his first season as an assistant at Chattanooga. He played twice as a Gator against the Seminoles during his career – Florida State won both games. David McKinley is an assistant coach on Paris' staff. Prior to coming to Chattanooga, McKinley was a graduate assistant on Ohio University's staff when they faced Florida State on November 23, 2015 in the final round of the Paradise Jam in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. The Seminoles defeated the Bobcats by a 90-81 margin in that meeting. Tanner Bronson, also an assistant on the Chattanooga staff, played against Florida State in the 2006 ACC / Big 10 Challenge as a member of the Wisconsin Badgers. The Badgers defeated the Seminoles by an 81-66 margin at the Kohl Center at the University of Wisconsin. Bronson played one minute and scored two points. Roman DiPasquale, the Director of Video Operations for the Mocs, was a student manager for the Wisconsin basketball team that defeated the Seminoles, 61-59, in overtime in the 2009 NCAA Tournament at the Taco Bell Arena in Boise, Idaho. Jim Horten, the Director of Communications / Sports Information Director for Men's Basketball at Chattanooga, is one of the pillars of the sports information field. He returns to the Sunshine State after working at Jacksonville University in 1999.

LOOK FOR FLORIDA STATE TO...

...Defeat Chattanooga and win its 34th consecutive non-conference home game. The Seminoles' current streak against non-conference opponents began December 6, 2014 with a 96-73 victory over UCF;

...Defeat Chattanooga and raise its record to 51-3 at home in the Donald L. Tucker Center since the end of the 2015-16 season (a perfect 18-0 record in 16-17; 13-2 in 2017-18, 15-1 in 2018-19 and 1-0 in 2019-20);

...Defeat Chattanooga and win its eighth consecutive home game. The Seminoles closed out their 2018-19 season with victories over Clemson (77-68, January 22), Georgia Tech (59-49, February 2), Louisville (80-75, February 9), Wake Forest (88-66, February 13), Notre Dame (68-61, February 25), NC State (78-73, March 2) and Virginia Tech (73-64 in overtime, March 5) and opened their 2019-20 home schedule with a win over Western Carolina (79-74, November 15).

Florida State Basketball / National Polls

ASSOCIATED PRESS POLL

Rk.	Team	19-20 Rec.
1.	Duke (52)	4-0
2.	Louisville (8)	4-0
3.	Michigan State (4)	2-1
4.	Kansas	2-1
5.	North Carolina	3-0
6.	Maryland	3-0
7.	Virginia (1)	3-0
8.	Gonzaga	4-0
9.	Kentucky	2-1
10.	Ohio State	3-0
11.	Oregon	4-0
12.	Texas Tech	3-0
13.	Seton Hall	3-1
14.	Arizona	4-0
15.	Utah State	4-0
16.	Memphis	3-1
17.	Villanova	2-1
18.	Xavier	4-0
19.	Auburn	4-0
20.	Tennessee	3-0
21.	VCU	4-0
22.	Texas	4-0
23.	Colorado	2-0
24.	Baylor	2-1
25.	Washington	2-1

ARV – Florida State (26th place)

USA TODAY POLL

Rk.	Team	Points
1.	Duke (25)	786
2.	Louisville (1)	744
3.	Michigan State (4)	705
4.	North Carolina	644
5.	Kansas (1)	634
6.	Virginia	625
7.	Maryland (1)	619
8.	Gonzaga	588
9.	Ohio State	502
10.	Kentucky	498
11.	Oregon	484
12.	Texas Tech	466
13.	Seton Hall	403
14.	Arizona	382
15.	Villanova	276
16.	Utah State	248
17.	Tennessee	247
18.	Auburn	242
19.	VCU	210
20.	Memphis	194
21.	Xavier	187
22.	Texas	118
23.	Baylor	111
24.	Washington	102
25.	Colorado	51

ARV – Florida State (30^h place)

ACC Operation Basketball (Oct. 8, 2019)

1.	Duke (51)	1564
2.	North Carolina (19)	1493
3.	Louisville (29)	1448
4.	Virginia (12)	1405
5.	Florida State	1157
6.	NC State	1038
7.	Notre Dame	915
8.	Syracuse	910
9.	Miami	768
10.	Pitt	577
11.	Clemson	564
12.	Georgia Tech	437
13.	Boston College	382
14.	Virginia Tech	334
15.	Wake Forest	328

A QUICK REVIEW OF THE 2018-29 SEASON

Florida State enjoyed one of the greatest seasons in school history in 2018-19 as it played in its third consecutive NCAA Tournament, advanced to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament for the school-record tying second consecutive season, finished the season ranked 10th nationally, advanced to the championship game of the ACC Tournament, finished fourth in the ACC standings and defeated six nationally ranked teams. Florida State won a program record 29 games and earned a school-record 13 ACC wins, finishing fourth in the best conference for college basketball in the country. The Seminoles defeated Virginia, who won the National Championship, in the semifinals of the ACC Tournament to reach the championship game of the ACC Tournament for the third time in school history.

FLORIDA STATE NATIONALLY IN THE LAST TWO SEASONS

The Seminoles are one of seven teams in the nation (Florida State, Duke, Gonzaga, Kentucky, Michigan, Purdue and Texas Tech) who have advanced at least as far as the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament in both of the last two seasons. The Seminoles advanced to the Elite Eight in 2018 and to the Sweet 16 in 2019.

HAMILTON MOVES CLOSER TO SIXTH WINNINGEST COACH IN ACC HISTORY

With 336 career victories during his tenure at Florida State, 18th-year Head Coach Leonard Hamilton enters the Seminoles' game against Chattanooga on Wednesday as the seventh all-time winningest coach in ACC history. He needs only 13 wins to move into sixth place in ACC history (passing Maryland's Lefty Driesell) and only 14 wins to become just the sixth coach in the illustrious history of the nation's best basketball conference to win 350 career ACC games.

Hamilton In ACC History

Rank	Coach, School	Career Wins
1.	Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	1,059
2.	Dean Smith, North Carolina	879
3.	Gary Williams, Maryland	461
4.	Roy Williams, North Carolina	453
5.	Bobby Cremins, Georgia Tech	354
6.	Lefty Driesell, Maryland	348
7.	Leonard Hamilton, Florida State	336

FLORIDA STATE IN NON-CONFERENCE GAMES AT THE TUCKER CENTER

Florida State enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga having won 33 consecutive non-conference home games at the Donald L. Tucker Center. The Seminoles' streak began with a 96-73 win over UCF on Dec. 6, 2015. Included in the streak are three victories over Florida (Dec. 30, 2014, 65-63; Dec. 11, 2016, 83-78; Nov. 6, 2018, 81-60), a win over Minnesota in the ACC Big Ten Challenge (Nov. 28, 2016, 83-78) and a win over Purdue in the ACC Big Ten Challenge (Nov. 28 2018; 73-72).

Seminoles Out Of Conference At Home In Last Seven Years

Season	Record	Winning Percentage
2019-20	1-0	1.000
2018-19	7-0	1.000
2017-18	6-0	1.000
2016-17	9-0	1.000
2015-16	6-0	1.000
2014-15	8-1	.888
2013-14	5-0	1.000
Totals	42-1	.977

SEMINOLES ON THE DEFENSIVE

Florida State enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga averaging 5.7 blocked shots, 5.0 steals and holding its first three opponents to a .354 shooting percentage from the field. The Seminoles held their first two opponents to a combined .297 shooting from the field (30 of 110) and an average of 56.0 points scored per game. Redshirt sophomore Malik Osborne, who leads the Seminoles with five blocked shots, has helped the Seminoles block at least five shots in each of their first three games. Senior Trent Forrest and redshirt sophomore Anthony Polite have four steals each to lead Florida State who totaled eight steals in its victory over then No. 6 Florida in Gainesville.

Leonard Hamilton's Junkyard Dog Defense

Opponent	FG Pct.	Blocks	Steals	Points Allowed
Pitt	.314 (16-51)	6	4	61
at Florida	.280 (14-50)	5	8	51
W. Carolina	.450 (27-60)	6	3	74
Totals	.354 (57-61)	17	15	188 / 62.7

FLORIDA STATE CONTINUES TO SHOOT WELL FROM THE FREE THROW LINE

Florida State enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga as the ACC leaders – and the only ACC team to have a team free throw shooting percentage better than 75.0 percent. The Seminoles lead the ACC with a .818 mark and have missed only eight free throws in the first three games of the season. Florida State ranks first in the ACC with a .818 mark and leads the No. 2 team (Notre Dame) by 7.4 percentage points. In the early going of the season, the Seminoles have made more free throws (54) than both Georgia Tech (49) and Virginia (34) have attempted. As the ACC leaders, Florida State is shooting 23 percentage points higher from the line (.818) than No. 6/7 ranked Virginia (.588).

Seminoles From The Free Throw Line

Opponent	FTM	FTA	Pct.	Notes
at Pitt	13	15	.867	M.J. Walker finishes a perfect 4 of 4
at Florida	18	23	.783	M.J. Walker and Trent Forrest both 5 of 6
Western Carolina	23	28	.821	Patrick Williams finishes a perfect 7 of 7
Totals	54	66	.818	Patrick Williams leads the ACC at 1.000 pct.

**Florida State Men's Basketball
Upcoming Milestones**

Leonard Hamilton

Victories as an ACC Coach

336 (Career at Florida State)

+13 (Needs)

349

To Become the 6th Winningest Coach in ACC History (all victories)

Leonard Hamilton

ACC Victories at Florida State

(Regular Season + ACC Tourn.)

151 (career at Florida State)

+10 (Needs)

161

To Become the 5th Winningest Coach in ACC history (ACC games) – surpassing Frank McGuire of North Carolina and South Carolina

Leonard Hamilton

Wins vs. AP No. 1 In Career

4 (career at Florida State)

+4 (Needs)

To move into a tie for first place college basketball history with Roy Williams for all-time wins vs. the nation's No. 1 ranked team

Trent Forrest

Career Steals

169 (career at Florida State)

+12 (Needs)

181

To move into 8th place for career steals in school history passing Chris Singleton (2009-11)

Trent Forrest

Career Assists

342 (career at Florida State)

+20 (Needs)

362

To move into 10th place in school history for career assists passing LaMarr Greer (1995-98)

Trent Forrest

Career Points

821 (career at Florida State)

+179 (needs)

1,000

To become the 49th player in school history to school 1,000 or more career points

M.J. Walker

Career 3-Point Field Goals Made

89 (career at Florida State)

+11 (needs)

100

To become the 23rd player at Florida State with 100 or more career 3-point field goals made

M.J. Walker

Career 3-Point Field Goals Made

89 (career at Florida State)

+5 (needs)

To move into 23rd place in school in school history with 94 career 3-point field goals made passing Aubrey Boyd (1988-91), Michael Joiner (2001-04) and Todd Galloway (2003-06)

POSSIBLE STARTING LINEUP FOR FLORIDA STATE...

F	#1	RaiQuan Gray (6.0 ppg and 3.3 rpg; Started nearly as many games this year (3) as he did last year (4)
F	#10	Malik Osborne (6.0 ppg and 7.3 rpg; Team leader in rebounds (22) and blocked shots (5) in first 3 games
G	#3	Trent Forrest (14.3 ppg and 3.7 apg; Team leader in scoring (14.3) and co-leader in steals (4)
G	#23	M.J. Walker (11.3 ppg and 4.0 rpg; Team leader in free throws made (14) and 3 field goals made (4)
G	#24	Devin Vassell (12.3 ppg and 4.3 rpg; Team leader in field goals made (16) in first three career starts

...AND TOP RESERVES

G	#2	Anthony Polite (6.0 ppg and 2.3 rpg; Team co-leader with perfect free throw shooting percentage 1.000
F	#4	Patrick Williams (9.0 ppg and 4.0 rpg; Team co-leader and ACC leader with a perfect FT shooting pct.
G	#11	Nathanael Jack (0.0 ppg and 1.0 rpg; First career Division I appearance in first game of season at Pitt
F	#30	Harrison Prieto (0.0 ppg and 1.0 rpg; Team Co-Captain as a redshirt junior
G	#31	Wyatt Wilkes (0.0 ppg and 0.7 rpg; Has played in all three games with 5.6 min. player per game
C	#15	Dominik Olejniczak (0.0 ppg and 1.0 rpg; Has played in two of three games in first season as a Seminole
G	#0	RayQuan Evans (0.0 ppg and 0.0 rpg; First career appearance in FSU's victory over W. Carolina

POSSIBLE STARTING LINEUP FOR CHATTANOOGA

F	#11	Rod Johnson (9.3 ppg, 7.3 rpg; Team leader with 12 free throws made in first three games of season
F	#15	Ramon Vila (9.5 ppg, 6.5 rpg; Team leader with 13 offensive rebounds in four games as a starter
F	#32	Matt Ryan (16.8 ppg, 5.0 rpg; Team co-leader with 67 points, 23 FGM, 12 3 FGM and 9 FTM
G	#3	David Jean-Baptiste (16.8 ppg, 4.0 rpg; Team co-leader with 67 points, 23 FGM, 12 3 FGM and 9 FTM
G	#4	Maurice Commander (7.3 ppg, 3.3 apg; Team leader with 13 assists in 4 games as a starter

FLORIDA STATE VS. CHATTANOOGA-- A SERIES HISTORY

The Series:	Florida State leads, 2-0
First Game:	January 3, 1963; Florida State 72, Chattanooga 55
Last Game:	February 1, 1975; at Florida State 111, Chattanooga 70
Last Florida State Win:	February 1, 1975; at Florida State 111, Chattanooga 70
Last Chattanooga Win:	None
Last Florida State Win in Tallahassee:	February 1, 1975; at Florida State 111, Chattanooga 70
Last Chattanooga Win in Tallahassee:	None
Current Streak:	Florida State has won 2
Current Streak in Tallahassee:	Florida State has won 1

FLORIDA STATE VS. CHATTANOOGA – THE LAST TWO GAMES

<u>Feb. 1, 1975</u>	<u>Jan. 3, 1963</u>
at Florida State 111	Florida State 72
Chattanooga 70	at Chattanooga 55

FLORIDA STATE VS. CHATTANOOGA – THE LAST GAME

Larry Warren scored 22 points and led six Seminoles in double figures as Florida State defeated Chattanooga, 111-70, on February 1, 1975 at Tully Gym on the Florida State University campus. Warren made 10 of 18 field goals, was a perfect four of four from the free throw line and totaled four rebounds as the Seminoles shot .622 percent from the field in the win. Also in double figures for the Seminoles were Wayne Smalls (18 points), Eugene Harris (13 points), Carlton Byrd (11 points), Greg Grady (10 points) and Harris Davis (10 points) as Florida Staet led 53-39 at halftime and took the win at home. William Gordon (26 points) and Wayne Golden (20 points) led Chattanooga in the scoring column while Golden led his team with eight rebounds. Florida State held Chattanooga to .421 shooting percentage from the field and earned a +20 margin (48-28) rebound margin.

TONIGHT'S OFFICIALS

Tonight's referee is Ted Valentine and the umpires are Brian Dorsey and Jeff Pon

2018-19 FLORIDA STATE ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown
0	RayQuan Evans	G	6-4	210	Jr.	Billings, Mont./North Idaho College
1	RaiQuan Gray	F	6-8	260	RSo.	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla./Dillard
2	Anthony Polite	G	6-6	215	RSo.	Lugano, Switzerland/St. Andrews Christian School (Fla.)
3	Trent Forrest	G	6-5	210	Jr.	Chipley, Fla./Chipley
4	Patrick Williams	F	6-8	225	Fr.	Charlotte, N.C./West Charlotte
5	Balsa Koprivica	C	7-1	260	Fr.	Belgrade, Serbia/Montverde Academy
10	Malik Osborne	F	6-9	215	So.	Matteson. III./Bosco Institute/Rice
11	Nathanael Jack	G	6-5	195	Jr.	Mississauga, Ontario, Canada/Eastern Florida State
12	Justin Lindner	G	6-1	180	RJr.	Memphis, Tenn./Christian Brothers
15	Dominik Olejniczak	C	7-0	260	Gr.	Tourn, Poland/Ole Miss/Drake
20	Travis Light	G	6-5	175	RJr.	Vienna, Va./IMG Academy
23	M.J. Walker	G/F	6-5	213	Jr.	Riverdale, Ga./Jonesboro
24	Devin Vassell	G	6-6	180	So.	Suwanee, Ga./Peachtree Ridge
30	Harrison Prieto	F	6-8	230	RJr.	Mandeville, La./St. Paul's School
31	Wyatt Wilkes	F	6-8	220	RSo.	Orlando, Fla./Winter Park
33	Will Miles	G	6-6	220	RJr.	Orlando, Fla./Trinity Prep
42	Cleveland Yates	G	6-2	214	Fr.	Memphis, Tenn./Briarcrest Christian School
44	Ty Hands	G	6-5	180	RFr.	West Palm Beach, Fla./Palm Beach Lakes

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE: RayQuan Evans (RAY-Qwan); RaiQuan Gray (RAY-Qwan); Balsa Koprivica (Ball-Sha KA-Pre-Vizza); Dominik Olejniczak (DOM-a-nick Ole'-knee-CHUCK); Devin Vassell (Dev-in Vuh-SELL - like Sam Cassell with a V)

ITS HAS BEEN 1,810 DAYS SINCE THE SEMINOLES LOST AT HOME TO A NON-ACC OPPONENT

Florida State's non-conference home winning streak stands at 1,810 days or four years, 11 months and 14 days or 59 months and 14 days entering Wednesday's game against Chattanooga.

Quoting Florida State Men's Basketball

"Trent Forrest is a wickedly physical and intelligent player."

Brian Geisinger
ACCSports.com

"Under-The-Radar Freshman: Florida State's Patrick Williams. Well embedded moles in Tallahassee feel the 6-8 SF is potentially as talented a first year wing as both Dwayne Bacon and Malik Beasley. The ACC has been put on notice."

Jon Rothstein
CBSsports

"Leonard Hamilton always has players."

Rick Bozich
WDRB.Com

"The cast changes but the show goes on for the ageless Leonard Hamilton. FSU will be big, deep and athletic again."

Joe Giglio
Raleigh News and Observer

"He's (Leonard Hamilton) another one. Monster. He's a monster (as a recruiter)."

Unnamed NCAA Coach
July 2019

On Hamilton's Incredible Recruiting Prowess

"I think he (M.J. Walker) made steady progress. But because he steps into more of a leadership role now, I'm expecting him to have his best year."

Leonard Hamilton
Florida State Basketball

"Devin Vassell is fearless. He played with an extreme amount of confidence. He's one of those youngsters that seems to not be affected by the pressures of the moment. He seems to relish that. He has this tremendous desire to improve."

Leonard Hamilton
Florida State Basketball

"I think he (Patrick Williams) has a complete skill set. He's as advertised."

Leonard Hamilton
Florida State Basketball

"RaiQuan Gray is a versatile player who can space the floor, take over distributing duties from Forrest in spots and defend all five positions."

Tashan Reed
The Athletic

"Leonard Hamilton is one of the best coaches in college basketball."

Tashan Reed
The Athletic

"Sophomore Devin Vassell proved last year he is a dangerous outside weapon."

Michael Bradley
Lindy's College Basketball Annual

"Trent Forrest is one of the ACC's most complete players."

Michael Bradley
Lindy's College Basketball Annual

SEMINOLES' FRESHMAN WILLIAMS LEADS ACC IN FREE THROW SHOOTING PERCENTAGE

Following his perfect seven of seven performance from the free throw line in Florida State's victory over Western Carolina, Seminole freshman Patrick Williams enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga ranked first in the ACC in free throw shooting percentage. He is the only player ranked in the ACC's top 15 who is perfect from the line in the first two weeks of the season. Williams was a perfect three of three in the final 2:36 of the Seminoles' victory over the Catamounts and scored what proved to be the game-winning basket (a layup) with 45 seconds remaining to be played. His bucket at the 0:45 second mark gave Florida State a 75-74 lead – a lead the Seminoles increased following his basket. Williams made a free throw on a traditional three-point play to put the Seminoles up 73-72 with 2:36 to play then made two of two free throws with 16 seconds left in the game to put Florida State up 77-74.

Breaking Down Williams From The Free Throw Line

Opponent	FTM	FTA	Pct.	Notes
at Pitt	2	2	1.000	Totaled 5 points in his FSU debut at ACC opponent Pitt
at Florida	0	0	.000	Totaled 4 points in FSU victory over No. 6 ranked Gators
Western Carolina	7	7	1.000	Totaled team-high tying 18 points in win home opening win
Totals	9	9	1.000	ACC free throw pct. leader entering game vs. Chattanooga

FORREST NAMED TO COUSY AWARD WATCH LIST

Trent Forrest, who was named to the 2019 NCAA Tournament All-West Regional Team in 2019, has been named to the 2020 Bob Cousy Award Watch List – an award which is presented annually by the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame to the nation's top collegiate point guard. Forrest is one of four point guards from the Atlantic Coast Conference on the list of 20 which will be narrowed down to five players in March as finalists for the award. The award will be presented to the top point guard on April 10, 2020 at the College Basketball Awards Show in Los Angeles.

FORREST BEGINS SEASON ON A TORRID SCORING PACE

Senior Trent Forrest enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga with a career-high 14.3 points per game scoring average. He has scored at least 16 points in two of Florida State's first three games of the season and has increased his scoring average by 5.0 points per game as compared to his junior season. Forrest has also made one 3-point field goal in each of the Seminoles' first three games of the season – he has already made more 3-point field goals this season than he did as a freshman (one) and as many as he did as a sophomore (three). Forrest made a total of 11 3-point shots during the first three seasons of his career at Florida State.

Breaking Down Forrest's Scoring Totals

Opponent	FGM-FGA	3FGM-FGA	Points	Notes
at Pitt	8-17	1-3	19	Team scoring leader
at Florida	1-7	1-3	8	8 points in win over No. 6 ranked Gators
Western Carolina	5-14	1-3	16	Perfect 5 of 5 from the free throw line

WALKER HEATS UP FROM 3-POINT LINE AGAINST WESTERN CAROLINA

Junior M.J. Walker held the hot hand from the bonusphere in the Seminoles' victory over Western Carolina as he made a season-high three 3-point shots in scoring a team-high 18 points in helping Florida State improve to 2-1. It marked the 11th time in his career that he has made at least three 3-point field goals in a game. Walker made back-to-back 3-point shots in a 34 second span to pull the Seminoles out of an eight-point deficit and towards the Seminoles' victory over the Catamounts. Walker's 3-point shot at the 12:06 and 11:32 marks began a 32-19 game closing run that led the Florida State to its seventh consecutive season home opening victory.

Breaking Down Walker From The 3-Point Line

Season	3FGM	3FGA	Pct.	Notes
2017-18	41	119	.435	Averaged 1.2 3FGM/Game
2018-19	44	134	.328	Averaged 1.3 3FGM/Game
2019-20	4	13	.308	Averaging 1.3 3FGM/Game
Totals	89	266	.335	Averaging 1.2 3FGM/Game for his 73-game career

WALKER FROM THE 3-POINT LINE FOR HIS CAREER

Junior M.J. Walker enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga needing only 11 3-point field goals made to become just the 23rd player in school history to make 100 or more 3-point shots. He needs only three 3-point shots made to move into the Seminoles' all-time top-25 for career 3-point shots made with 92.

OSBORNE AS FLORIDA STATE'S LEADING REBOUNDER

Redshirt sophomore Malik Osborne has been a prolific rebounder during the first two seasons of his career – first at Rice University in 2017-18 and now at Florida State in 2019-20. After finishing second amongst his teammates in rebounding in his only season at Rice, Osborne enters Wednesday's game against Chattanooga as the Seminoles' leader with 22 rebounds and a 7.3 rebounds per game average. Osborne pulled down a game-high nine rebounds against both Pitt and Western Carolina.

Osborne Goes To The Boards

Season	School	Games	Rebounds	RPG	Notes
2017-18	Rice	31	202	6.5	Career-high 13 rebs vs. UTSA and Marshall
2019-20	Florida State	3	22	7.3	Season-high 9 rebs vs. Pitt and W. Carolina
Totals		34	224	6.6	Has totaled at least 9 rebs in 9 career games

OSBORNE ALSO PLAYING WELL OFFENSIVELY

Redshirt sophomore Malik Osborne, who enters Wednesday's game averaging 6.0 points scored per game, is shooting .538 from the field and .800 from the free throw line. As one of seven Seminoles averaging more than 22 minutes played per game and one of three Florida State players (Osborne, Patrick Williams and Balsa Koprivica) who is shooting better than .500 percent from the field and .800 percent or better from the free throw line.



**2019-20 Florida St. Men's Basketball
Season Box Score
All games**

Game Records

Record	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
ALL GAMES	2-1	1-0	1-1	0-0
CONFERENCE	0-1	0-0	0-1	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	2-0	1-0	1-0	0-0

Team Box Score

No.	Player				Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds											
		GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	DQ	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
03	FORREST, Trent	3-3	101	33.8	14-38	.368	3-9	.333	12-14	.857	4	8	12	4.0	7	0	11	10	1	4	43	14.3
24	VASELL, Devin	3-3	87	29.2	16-31	.516	3-8	.375	2-5	.400	5	8	13	4.3	5	0	3	2	2	2	37	12.3
23	WALKER, M.J.	3-3	75	25.1	8-25	.320	4-13	.308	14-17	.824	0	12	12	4.0	8	0	3	3	1	1	34	11.3
4	WILLIAMS, Patrick	3-0	66	21.9	8-16	.500	2-5	.400	9-9	1.000	3	9	12	4.0	3	0	1	4	4	1	27	9.0
01	GRAY, RaiQuan	3-3	68	22.5	5-15	.333	1-6	.167	7-10	.700	3	7	10	3.3	7	1	5	4	1	1	18	6.0
13	POLITE, Anthony	3-0	67	22.4	5-17	.294	4-11	.364	4-4	1.000	0	7	7	2.3	4	0	1	7	2	4	18	6.0
10	OSBORNE, Malik	3-3	75	24.8	7-13	.538	0-2	.000	4-5	.800	8	14	22	7.3	11	1	1	2	5	1	18	6.0
5	KOPRIVICA, Balsa	3-0	23	7.5	3-4	.750	0-0	.000	2-2	1.000	2	1	3	1.0	11	1	0	4	1	0	8	2.7
31	WILKES, Wyatt	3-0	17	5.6	0-3	.000	0-3	.000	0-0	.000	1	1	2	0.7	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0.0
15	OLEJNICZAK, Dominik	2-0	11	5.4	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	1	2	1.0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.0
30	PRIETO, Harrison	1-0	5	4.9	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
11	JACK, Nathanael	1-0	3	2.8	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
0	EVANS, RayQuan	1-0	3	3.3	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Team											3	4	7									
Total		3	600		66-163	.405	17-57	.298	54-66	.818	30	74	104	34.7	62	3	27	37	17	15	203	67.7
Opponents		3	600		57-161	.354	22-71	.310	52-69	.754	36	71	107	35.7	57	-	27	43	6	13	188	62.7

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	OT	TOT
Florida St.	86	117	0	203
Opponents	89	99	0	188

Exhibition 1 -- Florida State 95, Barry 66

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -- Florida State's exhibition opener provided a glimpse of what lies ahead for the Seminoles -- both in the upcoming season and beyond. It also showed coach Leonard Hamilton a few things he'd like for his team to tighten up between now and the Seminoles' season opener on November 6. So, in that sense, it was a near-perfect evening for FSU, which got 19 points and five assists from senior Trent Forrest in a 95-66 victory over Barry University at the Donald L. Tucker Center. Forrest, the central figure for an FSU team that lost its top two scorers from a year ago, was one of six Seminoles to finish in double-figures. Anthony Polite added 18 -- including 16 in the second half -- while RaiQuan Gray (10 points) and newcomers Patrick Williams (12, nine rebounds), Nathanael Jack (10), Dominik Olejniczak (10 points, seven rebounds) and Malik Osborne (seven points, seven boards) all enjoyed productive outings.

Florida State 95, Barry University 66 Donald L. Tucker Center

Oct. 22, 2019

Barry	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Walsh	21	0-3	0-2	6-8	0-1	1	2	0	1	0	0	6
Moya	17	2-7	1-5	0-1	0-3	3	1	2	3	0	1	5
Birts	20	1-4	1-1	4-4	3-2	5	2	0	4	1	1	7
Allende	17	0-5	0-3	0-0	0-2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Dolven	24	1-4	0-0	1-3	2-3	5	4	1	2	0	0	3
Perez	21	4-8	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	4	1	2	0	2	8
Sheffield	7	2-3	2-2	0-0	1-2	3	0	2	0	0	0	6
Marcinekvisius	3	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kakar	18	4-8	2-4	2-2	2-1	3	1	0	4	0	0	12
Scorbinskis	26	4-7	4-5	2-3	1-1	2	2	0	1	1	1	14
Mikyska	9	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Dean	9	0-6	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	1	1	3	0	1	0
Mejia	8	1-5	1-4	2-2	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Team				0-4	4							
Totals	200	19-60	11-27	17-24	10-20	30	21	8	22	2	6	66

Fl. State	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Gray	26	4-6	2-3	0-1	0-4	4	2	4	4	0	4	10
Polite	22	7-9	3-4	1-1	0-2	2	3	0	0	1	3	18
Forrest	21	7-10	0-1	5-6	1-2	3	1	5	3	1	1	19
Williams	18	5-10	0-3	2-2	1-8	9	2	0	3	1	0	12
Olejniczak	16	5-5	0-0	0-0	2-3	5	1	0	2	0	0	10
Osborne	26	2-8	0-3	3-4	4-3	7	3	0	2	2	1	7
Jack	24	3-12	3-13	1-2	4-3	7	4	0	1	0	0	10
Lindner	16	0-0	0-0	0-2	0-1	1	2	3	2	0	0	1
Prieto	5	0-1	0-0	1-2	1-0	1	1	0	2	0	0	1
Wilkes	18	3-9	2-7	0-0	2-4	6	2	0	1	0	0	8
Light	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Miles	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
Team				0-3	3							
Totals	200	36-70	10-31	13-20	16-35	51	23	12	22	5	9	95

FG% - Barry, .317, Florida State, .514. 3FG% - Barry, .407, Florida State, .323. FT% - Barry, .708, Florida State, .650. Technical Fouls: Barry -- None. Florida State -- None. Referees - Ray Styns, Les Jones, Anthony Burris

Barry	21	45	-	66
Florida State	27	58	-	95

Exhibition 2 -- Florida State 84, Columbus State 54

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -- In its final exhibition game before regular season play begins at Pittsburgh, Florida State earned an 84-54 victory over Columbus State at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center. Sophomore Devin Vassell led three Seminoles in double figures with 18 points. Also in double figures were Anthony Polite with 16 points and freshman Patrick Williams with 10. The game saw some familiar faces returning to the court after missing Florida State's exhibition victory over Barry. Both M.J. Walker and Devin Vassell made their highly anticipated season debuts and came back with a vengeance. Walker, who started and played nine first half minutes, totaled six points on two made 3-point shots. Vassell totaled 18 points (three-of-three three-pointers) and finished with six rebounds.

Florida State 84, Columbus State Donald L. Tucker Center

Nov. 1, 2019

Columbus	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Thomas	19	0-5	0-3	0-0	0-1	1	1	1	2	0	2	0
Givens	21	6-12	2-7	2-3	0-1	1	0	1	7	0	1	16
Taylor	21	2-7	0-4	0-0	0-1	1	1	2	1	0	0	4
Paulding	23	0-1	0-0	0-2	0-3	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Moore	24	2-3	0-0	2-4	0-2	2	0	1	1	0	3	6
Horton, L	26	5-13	1-6	4-2	1-2	3	2	2	3	0	0	15
Preston	16	2-3	0-0	1-0	1-4	5	1	1	0	0	0	5
Porter-Wilson	14	1-3	0-0	0-0	1-1	2	2	2	0	0	0	2
Horton, C.	8	1-3	1-3	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
David, Jr.	6	0-3	0-2	0-0	0-1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Ivey	4	1-2	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Jedenski	4	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jones	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Kemp	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaines	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team				0-0	2							
Totals	200	20-56	5-28	9-13	3-18	21	10	10	17	3	6	54

Fl. State	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Gray	20	1-4	0-0	2-2	2-6	7	0	3	3	0	3	4
Forrest	28	1-5	0-2	0-0	0-3	3	2	7	2	0	2	2
Osborne	20	3-11	0-0	1-1	2-6	10	0	0	1	0	0	7
Walker	10	2-6	2-6	0-0	1-0	1	2	0	2	0	0	6
Vassell	23	7-9	3-3	1-1	1-5	6	2	0	2	2	0	18
Williams	23	5-11	0-2	0-0	3-1	4	1	1	3	0	1	10
Koprivica	19	4-5	0-0	0-0	5-6	11	3	1	2	0	0	8
Polite	25	5-9	2-4	4-4	0-1	1	2	2	2	0	3	16
Jack	15	2-8	1-6	0-0	1-0	1	0	3	2	0	1	5
Wilkes	14	2-5	1-3	1-2	4-2	6	0	1	0	0	1	6
Lindner	2	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Light	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prieto	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team				2-3	5							
Totals	200	33-74	9-26	9-10	22-34	56	12	18	20	2	11	84

FG% - Columbus State, .357, Florida State, .446. 3FG% - Columbus State, .179, Florida State, .346. FT% - Columbus State, .692, Florida State, .900. Technical Fouls: Columbus State -- None. Florida State -- None. Referees - Lee Cassell, Jemel Spearman, Kellen Milner

Columbus State	29	55	-	54
Florida State	41	43	-	84

Game 1 -- Pitt 63, Florida State 61

PITTSBURGH, Pa. -- Reserves Ryan Murphy and Terrell Brown scored 13 points to lead Pitt to a 63-61 win over Florida State in the season opener for both teams. The Panthers won despite shooting just 31 percent (16 of 51) from the field. Pitt survived by getting into the lane relentlessly against the bigger Seminoles, an approach that helped them outscore Florida State 22-13 at the free throw line. Senior guard Trent Forrest led Florida State with 19 points. Devin Vassell added 14 but the Seminoles couldn't survive 14 turnovers and 27 fouls. RaiQuan Gray, Malik Osborne and Balsa Koprivica all fouled out for Florida State. Florida State went up 40-31 on a layup by Osborne with 13:37 to play. The Panthers, however, responded. The Seminoles had a chance to tie it at the end of regulation but Patrick Williams missed a jumper with two seconds to go. Anthony Polite grabbed the offensive rebound but couldn't get a shot off before the buzzer. Florida State shot 40 percent (21 of 53) from the floor.

Pitt 63, Florida State 61 Petersen Events Center

Nov. 6, 2019

Fl. State	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Gray	27	3-6	0-2	1-2	2-1	3	5	2	1	0	0	7
Osborne	23	1-4	0-2	0-0	2-7	9	5	0	1	4	0	2
Forrest	39	8-16	1-3	2-3	0-2	2	2	2	5	1	2	19
Walker	16	0-4	0-2	4-4	0-5	5	4	0	0	0	0	4
Vassell	21	6-7	2-2	0-0	2-0	2	2	1	1	0	0	14
Polite	25	2-10	2-6	2-2	1-3	4	3	0	3	0	1	8
Williams	27	1-5	1-2	2-2	0-2	2	1	0	1	1	0	5
Koprivica	6	0-0	0-0	2-2	1-0	1	5	0	1	0	0	2
Wilkes	8	0-1	0-0	0-0	1-1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Jack	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prieto	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team				1-2	3							
Totals	200	21-53	6-20	13-15	13-24	35	27	6	14	6	4	61

Pitt	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Hamilton	18	2-2	0-0	2-3	3-0	3	1	0	0	0	0	6
Drumgoole, Jr.	20	0-4	0-3	0-0	0-1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0
Johnson	38	3-11	2-4	5-8	0-6	6	3	1	2	0	2	13
McGowens	34	2-6	2-5	4-6	1-6	7	4	5	6	0	1	10
Toney	13	0-7	0-3	0-0	2-0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0
Browne	22	4-5	0-0	5-6	2-1	3	2	0	0	0	0	13
Murphy	31	3-7	3-6	4-4	1-3	4	1	3	2	0	0	13
Champagnie	23	2-9	2-5	2-4	2-4	6	3	0	0	0	0	8
Team				2-3	5				1			
Totals	200	16-51	9-26	22-31	13-24	37	16	11	13	0	5	63

FG% - Florida State, .396, Pitt, .314. 3FG% - Florida State, .300, Pitt, .346. FT% - Florida State, .867, Pitt, .710. Technical Fouls: Florida State -- Walker. Pitt -- Champagnie. Referees - Ted Valentine, Mike Stephens, Tony Henderson

Florida State	25	36	-	61
Pitt	25	38	-	63

Game 2 -- Florida State 63, Florida 51

GAIN

Fl. State	Min	FG	3FG	FT	O-D	Reb	F	A	T	B	S	Pts.
Gray	17	1-4	0-1	2-2	1-1	2	1	1	2	1	0	4
Osborne	25	2-2	0-0	2-3	4-5	9	2	1	1	1	0	6
Forrest	32	5-14	1-3	5-5	1-1	2	4	2	1	0	1	16
Walker	26	5-11	3-6	5-7	0-4	4	3	2	1	1	0	18
Vassell	32	4-9	0-3	2-4	1-4	5	2	2	1	1	0	10
Evans	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poite	24	1-4	1-4	0-0	0-2	2	0	1	2	1	2	3
Williams	22	5-8	1-2	7-7	1-3	4	0	1	2	0	0	18
Koprovica	10	2-2	0-0	0-0	1-1	2	3	0	3	1	0	4
Wilkes	2	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Olenniczak	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Team					0-2	2						
Totals	200	25-55	6-20	23-28	9-23	32	18	10	14	6	3	79

FG% - Western Carolina, .450, Florida State, .455. 3FG% - Western Carolina, .391, Florida State, .300. FT% - Western Carolina, .786, Florida State, .821. Technical Fouls: Western Carolina -- None. Florida State -- None. Referees - Mark Schnur, Lamar Simpson, Jerney Mosier

Western Carolina	43	31	-	74
Florida State	36	43	-	79

Malik Osborne's Versatility Paying Dividends Early In His Florida State Career

By Curt Weiler

Tallahassee Democrat

November 14, 2019

Days before his Florida State debut, Malik Osborne found out it would go a little differently than expected.

The redshirt sophomore on the FSU men's basketball team had worked all preseason with the guards as he transitioned away from the center role he played in high school and in his one year at Rice before transferring to FSU.

And yet, days before the Seminoles took on Pitt last Wednesday, he discovered that a calf strain to projected starting center Dominik Olejniczak would keep him out of the game.

While he had worked with the guards for the majority of the preseason, his 6-foot-9 frame paired with the inexperience of true freshman center Balsa Koprivica caused a change of plans. Osborne would start at center in his FSU debut.

"It was probably like a couple of days before when I heard that Dom was not gonna be able to play, so that it was like, 'Okay, you played big before at Rice and you had some experience,'" Osborne told the *Democrat*.

"It was pretty much like I was a vet big even though I wasn't practicing as a big already so based on my prior experiences, a couple of days before, that's when I knew. I was like, okay, it's time to start game-planning at the five.

"I never really knew I was gonna start and then I got the nod to start for the five so I was like you know it's not about just playing the five, it's about doing what I need to do at that position for what my team needs. It really wasn't a concern for me."

Despite the late change, Osborne has found instant success in a spot he didn't expect to play for the Seminoles (1-1, 0-1 in ACC). After a pair of road games to start the season, he'll finally make his home debut Friday at 7 p.m. against Western Carolina (2-1).

While Osborne transitioned away from playing the center position during his redshirt year, he's still got plenty of experience at the position.

He played center in high school as well as in his only year at Rice, averaging 9.0 points and 6.5 rebounds as a true freshman for the Owls.

This wealth of experience helped it all come back to him quickly when he and the Seminoles needed it most.

"At this point, it's second nature. The techniques, the footwork, all that stuff, it just comes naturally at that point because I've been doing it for so long and for so many reps... Nothing really went away and I'm thankful for it because it's helped our team," Osborne said.

"I'm still working on guard stuff in practice, but I'm also focused on the bigs right now because that's where immediate help and assistance is needed right now."

In his debut in FSU's 63-61 loss to Pitt, Osborne's offensive impact was minimal. He scored two points on four shots. However, he made a significant impact at the other end, wrangling a game-high nine rebounds -- four more than any other Seminole -- and blocking four shots.

Olejniczak was able to play in FSU's second game at Florida Sunday, but he remained limited enough that Osborne was called on to start again.

In his introduction to the FSU-UF rivalry, he made his impact felt as he finished with 10 points and played a major role in keeping SEC Preseason Player of the Year Kerry Blackshear Jr. from hitting a shot from the floor. Blackshear had 10 points, but they all came from the free-throw line.

"It's just huge to show the type of upside that he has and the type of ability, the type of player that he is to be able to go in and make an impact on the position that he's never really played at Florida State," sophomore Devin Vassell told the *Democrat*.

"I'm excited for him to just keep learning the spot because I know that once he really gets it, he's going to be a dominant force."

In short time, FSU head coach Leonard Hamilton has seen significant growth from Osborne in a role no one expected him to have to play entering preseason camp.

"When you are playing in our system, you get accustomed to working on your individual improvement areas, working on your game, thinking that this is what is needed for me to fit in and help our program. All of a sudden now, you lose Dominik and he's the next choice," Hamilton said.

"That was a tremendous adjustment for him. That didn't come easy because just to get in there, draw fouls, he was challenged by that early. A few more practices, I thought he got a little more comfortable. Those are some areas we need to work on because we need everybody to be comfortable in whatever position we put them in in relation to what we need in a particular game."

It's unclear whether FSU will ask Osborne to remain at center or return to more of a perimeter role once Olejniczak is fully healthy and ready to claim the starting center role.

It doesn't much matter to Osborne. He's going to have the same approach regardless.

"Everything is pretty much the same as far as my mindset, the aggression in and just going out and being who I am and that's just like a rebounder, a hustle player and an energy guy," Osborne said.

"I knew whether I was going to be a perimeter player or play in the post, that that was going to be my mindset regardless."

Florida State freshman Patrick Williams 'Scratching The Surface' Of His Potential

Wayne McGahee III
Tallahassee Democrat
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Florida State's Patrick Williams isn't a typical freshman.

The 6-foot-8, 225-pound forward from Charlotte, N.C. comes to Tallahassee with enormous expectations.

Williams was ranked as a five-star prospect out of West Charlotte High by the 247Sports composite rankings in the 2019 class, and he's already been projected as a first round pick in a 2020 mock draft by ESPN.

"He has all the tools to be a very, very special player at Florida State," FSU associate head coach Stan Jones told the *Democrat*.

"He's just scratching the surface of what he's going to become. I think he's the youngest freshman we've ever had come in. He's from a great family and he's got he's got great character. I'll be shocked if he doesn't just continue to grow and grow and do some spectacular things during the course of the season."

There's usually an adjustment period for highly-ranked prospects as they transition from high school to the college level.

Being able to take plays off on the defensive end, getting the ball every time down the court, and being the vocal point for the team is something many talented high school players get used to.

When they get to the college level, those things go away for most players and it can be a tough adjustment.

But FSU's coaches and players all agree that's not the case with Williams. He's got a team-first mentality and doesn't expect anything to be given to him.

"He is very similar in humility as Jonathan Isaac was, in the fact that he doesn't think he's good enough yet, which is a great characteristic," Jones said.

"When you have that healthy fear of where you are and what you want to become, I think that escalates your growth and development. He's never come in with any premonitions of where he should be playing or how much he should be playing. He just wants to become a better player like Jonathan was.

"He lets you coach him. He responds to coaching. He accepts instructions at an extremely at a high level and can give it back to you."

Isaac wasn't the only comparison that Jones made for Williams. He also said that he's a lot like former FSU forward Chris Singleton, who was also a first-round pick by the Washington Wizards.

He compared him to Singleton because of his ability on the defensive end of the court, though he also said Williams is further along offensively than Singleton was when he arrived at FSU.

"I've put him in a category with a couple pretty good Florida State players in Chris Singleton and Jonathan Isaac and he meets all the criteria that both those guys have done while they were here," Jones said.

FSU fans got their first introduction to Williams during the Seminoles' 95-66 exhibition win over Barry University.

It took him a little time to find his rhythm, but after he threw down his first dunk of the game, he settled in nicely.

Williams finished the game with 12 points, nine rebounds, and a block in just under 18 minutes of play. All five of his baskets came on dunks and he knocked down both of his free throw attempts.

"We expect a lot from him," redshirt sophomore forward RaiQuan Gray said.

"He's a great athlete. He has a high basketball IQ. He fits right into our system. He can run, jump, and shoot. We treat him like one of the vets so he's earned a lot of respect."

His athleticism was on full display as he flew through the air on his dunks as well as his effort rebounding and blocking shots.

Williams effort on the defensive end was something else that stood out about his game, but it didn't surprise his teammates.

If a player doesn't give the same effort on the defensive end of the court as he does on the offensive end, then that player isn't going to see the court much under FSU head coach Leonard Hamilton.

Williams has worked hard to be a good defender for the Seminoles and his efforts haven't gone unnoticed.

"He does good and with his athleticism, he can you guard one through five if he had to and one through four easily," senior point guard Trent Forrest said.

"He can block shots one through five and clean up the glass like probably one of the best on the team. I'll say he's probably one of our best shot blockers that we have, even with our seven footers. So just his athleticism and his ability to kind of get around the court with quick burst like he does is going to help us a lot."

Williams does have things that he needs to work on, including being more self-assertive when he has the ball. That's something he's been working on during fall practice and he's already made progress in that regard.

FSU knows that Williams is going to make some freshman mistakes this season. That comes with the territory no matter how talented a player is.

But there's a lot of confidence that when Williams does make a mistake, he won't make it twice.

"We've always kind of prided ourselves on having those kind of guys that can cover a lot of ground quickly and can cover a lot of space up high that other people can't get to and he certainly fits the mold in all those categories," Jones said.

"He'll just grow in confidence offensively once he starts figuring his spots out a little bit more and realizing where he is okay making mistakes and where he's going to learn from his mistakes and not make that one again."