



TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN  
**FLORIDA STATE**  
 FOOTBALL

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3 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS | 15 ACC CHAMPIONSHIPS | 43 FIRST-ROUND PICKS

## FINAL SCORE: NC STATE 27, FSU 21

### TEAM NOTES

- Florida State suffered its first home-opening loss in eight attempts under Jimbo Fisher and is 0-2 to start a season for the first time since 1989 when it lost to Southern Miss (at Jacksonville) and Clemson before reeling off 10 consecutive wins to close the year;
- FSU is now 24-2 in home openers since joining the ACC and 11-2 when facing an ACC opponent in the home opener...NC State won for the first time in Tallahassee since 2006 (20-15) and snapped a four-game losing streak at the hands of the Seminoles;
- Trailing 27-16, the Seminoles scored on a safety with 6:26 remaining when NC QB Ryan Finley mishandled a snap and batted the ball out of his own end zone, cutting the deficit to 27-18. It was the first safety recorded by the Noles since Sept. 21, 2013 vs. Bethune-Cookman;
- **Derwin James** returned the ensuing free kick 49 yards to the NC State 40. FSU's drive stalled after a procedure penalty and two incompletions;
- **Brian Burns** blocked A.J. Cole's punt with 3:31 to play in the game as the Noles took over at the NC State 23, trailing 27-18. Ricky Aguayo converted a 34-yard field goal with 3:01 remaining, trimming the deficit to 27-21;
- FSU's rushing defense limited the Wolfpack 110 yards on 37 carries (2.9 ypc);
- FSU won the total yardage battle 382-365 but was decidedly behind in time of possession 33:22-26:38;
- The Seminoles converted on 5 of 6 red zone trips, but managed just one touchdown and four field goals...NC State was 4 of 4 on red zone conversions with two touchdowns and two field goals;
- Today's attendance was 73,541.

### PLAYER NOTES

- **QB James Blackman** became the first true freshman to start since Chip Ferguson against Miami in 1985;

#### Quarterbacks Making First Career Start Under Jimbo Fisher (since 2010):

Date	Quarterback	Opponent	Stats	Result
9/23/17	James Blackman	vs. NC State	22/38, 238 yards, 1 TD/0 INT	L, 27-21
9/5/16	Deondre Francois	vs. Ole Miss	33/52, 419 yards, 2 TD/0 INT	W, 45-34
9/20/14	Sean Maguire	Clemson	21/39, 305 yards, 1 TD/2 INT	W, 23-17 (ot)
9/2/13	Jameis Winston	at Pittsburgh	25/27, 356 yards, 5 TD (1 rush)/0 INT	W, 41-13
9/24/11	Clint Trickett	at Clemson	24/38, 336 yards, 3 TD/1 INT	L, 30-35

#### First Starts for FSU Freshman Quarterbacks:

Date	Quarterback	Opponent	Stats	Result
9/23/17	James Blackman	vs. NC State	22/38, 238 yards, 1 TD/0 INT	L, 27-21
9/5/16	Deondre Francois	vs. Ole Miss	33/52, 419 yards, 2 TD/0 INT	W, 45-34
9/2/13	Jameis Winston	at Pittsburgh	25/27, 356 yards, 5 TD (1 rush)/0 INT	W, 41-13
9/24/11	Clint Trickett	at Clemson	24/38, 336 yards, 3 TD/1 INT	L, 30-35
11/14/09	EJ Manuel	at Wake Forest	15/20, 220 yards, 2 TD (1 rush)/1 INT	W, 41-28
9/5/05	Drew Weatherford	Miami	7/24, 67 yards, 0 TD/1 INT	W, 10-7
9/1/01	Chris Rix	at Duke	9/18, 135 yards, 2 TD/0 INT	W, 55-13
11/9/96	Dan Kendra	vs. Wake Forest	20/39, 281 yards, 3 TD/0 INT	W, 44-7
11/8/86	Peter Tom Willis	at South Carolina	4/7, 51 yards, 0 TD/2 INT	W, 45-28
11/2/85	Chip Ferguson	Miami	14/28, 158 yards, 2 TD/2 INT	L, 27-35

All quarterbacks above were redshirt freshmen except Ferguson.

- With his career-high 51-yard reception on FSU's first possession of the second half, **WR Auden Tate** now has single-game career-highs for receptions (9) and yards (138). Tate suffered a shoulder injury on the play and did not return. His reception led to Ricky Aguayo's 36-yard field goal;
- **K Ricky Aguayo** converted FGs of 37, 36, 37 and 34 yards - after missing from 30 yards on his first attempt...it was his sixth multi-FG game and the most in a single game since converting a career-high six against Ole Miss last year;
- Freshman **TB Cam Akers** led the Seminoles in rushing with 58 yards on 12 carries (4.8 ypc);
- **WR George Campbell's** 60-yard reception late in the third quarter was a career-long...Campbell registered career-highs with three receptions for 85 yards;
- **LB Ro'Derrick Hoskins** led the Seminoles with nine tackles and Derwin James finished with eight...**Derrick Nnadi** and **Brian Burns** shared the team lead with 2.5 tackles for loss each;
- **DT Marvin Wilson** was credited with a tackle on his first play from scrimmage with the Seminoles early in the fourth quarter;
- **P Logan Tyler** boomed a season-long 54-yarder in the second half, his ninth career punt over 50 yards and second of the game;
- **Tarvarus McFadden** recorded the first three punt returns of his career (15, seven and three yards);
- **LB Matthew Thomas** suffered a first half injury and was ruled out for the remainder of the game;
- **LB Jacob Pugh** was ejected from the game for targeting with 3:25 remaining in the third quarter after breaking up a option pass from NC State's Gavin Locklear;



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## HALFTIME SCORE: NC STATE 17, FSU 10

### TEAM NOTES

- Consecutive first quarter carries of 14 and 16 yards by freshman **RB Cam Akers** were the two longest runs of the season by the Noles...Akers' 14-yd. run with 3:12 to play in the quarter was FSU's initial first down of the game;
- The Noles converted on fourth-and-three with **QB James Blackman's** 4-yard pass to **Nyqwan Murray** to the NC State 29 on the opening play of the second quarter. It was FSU's first fourth-down conversion of the season...the Noles were 0-for-1 on fourth down vs. Alabama;
- FSU's first scoring drive of the game covered 75 yards on 12 plays and took 5:56 off the clock. Blackman and **Auden Tate** teamed up for three receptions for 40 yards on the drive, capped by their 4-yard TD hook-up;
- The FSU defense turned in a strong sudden-change effort after Blackman lost a fumble which was recovered by NC State at its own 2-yard line with 7:08 remaining in the first half. The Noles allowed only four yards and forced a punt, which **Tarvarus McFadden** returned 15 yards; the longest punt return by FSU since Bobo Wilson's 18-yard return against USF last season;
- **Ricky Aguayo** made amends for missing a 30-yard field goal earlier in the second quarter by banging through a 37-yarder with :05 to play in the half, which pulled the Noles within 17-10. Aguayo's conversion capped a 10-play, 39-yard drive and followed three timeouts by NC State coach Dave Doeren in an attempt to freeze him;
- Outgained 119-43 in the opening quarter by NC State, FSU held 217-199 advantage in total offense at the half...FSU's defense limited the Wolfpack to two rushes for -4 yards in the second quarter.

### PLAYER NOTES

- Freshman **QB James Blackman** and RS-Soph. **WR George Campbell** made their first career starts;
- **P Logan Tyler's** second punt of the game covered 51 yards; his longest of the season and 8th of 50 yards or longer in his career;
- RS-Soph. **LB Adonis Thomas** made his first appearance as a Seminole in the first quarter;
- **WR Auden Tate's** 4-yard TD reception with 12:24 to play in the first half was the eighth of his career (on 30 receptions)...it was **Blackman's** first career TD pass;
- Tate established a new career high with eight receptions for 87 yards in the first half. His previous high was six receptions vs. Boston College last year, when he also had a career-high 101 yards;
- Blackman's TD pass was the first by a Florida State true freshman QB since **Adrian McPherson** connected for two fourth quarter TD passes at Virginia on Oct. 20, 2001 in a 43-7 victory. McPherson connected with **Travis Smith** (7 yds) and **Paul Irons** (5 yds);
- Rebounding from a 1-for-4 start, Blackman finished the half 15-of-20, 139 yards and 1 TD. In the second quarter the freshman completed 12-of-14 for 121 yards and a TD;
- Derwin James led the Noles' defense with six stops (3 solos)...the Noles registered four tackles for loss.

## CAPTAINS & COIN TOSS

### CAPTAINS

C Alec Eberle, DB Derwin James, LT Derrick Kelly and DT Derrick Nnadi.

### COIN TOSS

NC State chooses heads, wins, and defers to second half.

## FSU STARTERS

### OFFENSE

		2014	2015	2016	2017	Career	Consecutive
James Blackman	QB	-	-	-	1	1	1
George Campbell	WR	-	-	-	1	1	1
Landon Dickerson	LG	-	-	7	2	9	2
Alec Eberle	C	-	6	13	2	21	21
Ryan Izzo	TE	-	11	12	2	25	13
Derrick Kelly	LT	-	4	2	2	8	2
Rick Leonard	RT	-	-	6	2	8	5
Cole Minshew	RG	-	-	3	2	5	5
Nyqwan Murray	WR	-	-	2	2	4	3
Jacques Patrick	RB	-	1	1	2	4	2
Auden Tate	WR	-	-	4	2	6	2

### DEFENSE

		2014	2015	2016	2017	Career	Consecutive
Brian Burns	DE	-	-	-	2	1	1
Demarcus Christmas	DT	-	1	13	2	15	14
Ro'Derrick Hoskins	LB	-	6	13	2	20	14
Derwin James	FS	-	8	2	2	11	1
Trey Marshall	SS	-	6	12	1	19	1
Tarvarus McFadden	CB	-	-	13	2	14	14
Derrick Nnadi	DT	-	13	11	2	25	9
Jacob Pugh	LB	-	4	8	2	13	3
Josh Sweat	BUCK	-	10	10	2	21	10
Levonta Taylor	CB	-	-	-	2	1	1
Matthew Thomas	LB	3	-	12	2	16	7