

# Seminoles Hope to Avoid Topple From Top

By IAN GORDON  
Assistant Sports Editor

The oft-sowed seeds of revolution are still waiting to take root.

Since Florida State became an ACC football team in 1992, the rest of the league's football teams have been biding their time, waiting for a chance to rebel and oust Tallahassee's titans from the top of the conference.

Sometimes it's a key injury that gives the others hope. Other times, it's a Seminole loss during the regular season.

This year, the departures of Chris Weinke, Travis Minor, Jamal Reynolds and Tay Cody to the NFL have lent new optimism to practice fields and coaching offices from College Park to Atlanta.

But despite losing the nucleus of an 11-2 squad that fell to Oklahoma in last season's national championship FedEx Orange Bowl, FSU coach Bobby Bowden isn't running for cover quite yet.

"In the 47 years I've been coaching, this is not the first year I've been through a situation where I've lost everyone," Bowden said. "I've always found it more exciting when you have a lot of question marks. We've got more question marks

this year than in the last four years."

Many of FSU's concerns lie with its usually high-scoring offense. Adding to Bowden's worries is the fact that long-time offensive coordinator Mark Richt took the head coaching job at Georgia.

None more troublesome is the void Bowden has to fill at the quarterback spot. The Heisman Trophy-winning Weinke started for the Seminoles during the past three seasons and threw for 4,167 yards and 33 touchdowns in 2000.

Bowden has tabbed freshman Chris Rix as his favorite to start the Seminoles season opener on Sept. 1 at Duke.

At wide receiver, FSU finds itself unusually thin, as starters Robert Morgan and Anquan Boldin both sustained season-ending knee injuries in the preseason. Atreus Bell and Javon Walker will see significant playing time at wideout for the Seminoles.

Greg Jones and Kannapolis' Nick Maddox will battle it out to be the Seminoles' primary running back. Jones is FSU's leading returning rusher.

On the defensive side of the ball, senior free safety Chris Hope will lead an inexperienced secondary.

"My main concern is that they'll have

## Florida State '01 Schedule

Sept. 1	at Duke
Sept. 8	UAB
Sept. 15	Georgia Tech
Sept. 22	at UNC
Sept. 29	Wake Forest
Oct. 13	Miami
Oct. 20	at Virginia
Oct. 27	Maryland
Nov. 3	at Clemson
Nov. 10	N.C. State
Nov. 17	at Florida

to stay focused," Hope said. "Coming from high school and being the best player on the field, they didn't get beat too many times."

Bradley Jennings and Kendyll Pope return to FSU's linebacker corps, and



## Florida State

**2000 record:** 11-2 (8-0 in the ACC)  
**Head Coach:** Bobby Bowden  
(315-87-4 overall, 242-55-4 at Florida State)

**Home Field:** Doak Campbell Stadium (80,000)

**Returning Starters:** 4 offense, 4 defense

**Key Returnees:** WR Atreus Bell, RB Greg Jones, FS Chris Hope, LB Kendyll Pope, OT Brett Williams

**Key Losses:** WR Anquan Boldin, WR Marvin Minnis, RB Travis Minor, DE Jamal Reynolds

**Strengths:** FSU should be able to run the ball behind an experienced offensive line. The Seminoles also have defensive

stars in Hope, a Jim Thorpe Award candidate, and Pope.

**Weaknesses:** Once again, the Seminoles lost a lot of talent to the NFL. But FSU was really hurt in preseason practice, when receivers Boldin and Robert Morgan went down to knee injuries, weakening an already questionable air attack.

**Keys to season:** FSU needs to find a back to lighten the load on Chris Rix and his receivers, and the defense has to score points off turnovers, especially in big games.

**Key Game:** Oct. 13 vs. Florida



Bobby Bowden

Darnell Dockett will lead the defensive line. They will try to replicate the success of last year's defense, which allowed a little more than 10 points and 74 yards rushing per game.

Although they don't have the experi-

ence of past FSU squads, this season's roster still is stacked with high school All-Americans waiting for their chance.

"You don't have to worry about us losing any talent; we have plenty of that," offensive tackle Brett Williams said.

# Clemson Needs to Overcome Crucial Losses



## Clemson

**2000 record:** 9-3 (6-2 in the ACC)

**Head Coach:** Tommy Bowden

(33-13 overall, 15-9 at Clemson)

**Home Field:** Memorial Stadium (81,474)

**Returning Starters:** 7 offense, 4 defense

**Key Returnees:** LB Chad Carson, QB Woodrow Dantzler, DT

Nick Eason, C Kyle Young, TB Travis Zachery

**Key Losses:** LB Keith Adams, DB Alex Ardley, S Robert

Carswell, WR Rod Gardner

**Strengths:** The Clemson offense will still be potent, despite the

loss of Dantzler's favorite target, Gardner. Zachery was an

All-ACC performer a year ago. Carson is a Butkus Award candidate and leads the defense.

**Weaknesses:** The secondary returns just one starter, safety Charles Hafley, from a 2000

squad that was second in the ACC against the pass. The kicking game will be a question

mark, as Clemson's punting and place kicking ranked at the bottom of the ACC.

**Keys to season:** Dantzler and Zachery must continue to put points on the board,

while the defense must do its best to play well with inexperience.

**Key Game:** Nov. 17 at South Carolina



Tommy Bowden

## Clemson '01 Schedule

Sept. 1	Central Florida
Sept. 8	Wofford
Sept. 15	Duke
Sept. 22	Virginia
Sept. 29	at Georgia Tech
Oct. 13	at N.C. State
Oct. 20	UNC
Oct. 27	at Wake Forest
Nov. 3	Florida State
Nov. 10	at Maryland
Nov. 17	at S. Carolina

By OWEN A. HASSELL

Assistant Sports Saturday Editor

Clemson coach Tommy Bowden is heavily involved in his team's offensive play-calling, but he might focus more of his attention on defense this season.

The Tigers (9-3 overall, 6-2 in the ACC last season) are without Keith Adams, last year's defensive leader, who opted to leave early for the NFL. But despite losing its main defensive threat, Clemson has been picked by the ACC media to finish third in the conference behind Florida State and Georgia Tech.

Expectations in Death Valley remain high with the return of Heisman Trophy candidate Woodrow Dantzler, the Tigers' do-it-all quarterback. Dantzler's running and throwing abilities make him one of the most potent offensive threats in the conference.

In 2000, Dantzler threw for 1,871

yards, including 10 touchdowns, and set a single-season Clemson record for total offense with 2,899 yards. He added 13 rushing touchdowns for the Tigers.

But Dantzler will work under center without his favorite target. Wide receiver Rod Gardner graduated, prompting Dantzler to look for different answers in Clemson's passing game.

"I wouldn't try to fill his shoes with anyone," Dantzler said. "It is going to be more of a team effort with all four receivers at any given time."

An inexperienced receiver corps may place more running assignments on Dantzler.

And while he had no problem taking on the role, it could easily lead to an injury. Dantzler already suffered the same fate at North Carolina last year on a running play, and the Tigers can ill afford to have the same happen this season.

Especially with a defense that is untested and young, Clemson lost nine defensive players from its 2000 team.

"With defense being the key to a successful season, that's the biggest question mark," Bowden said. "We lost a lot of players, and we don't have as much depth and experience defensively."

Last year's squad ranked second in the ACC in scoring defense and third in total defense. But with just four starters returning, it's a whole new ball game for the Clemson defense, a defense that will be tested in the Tigers' season opener against Central Florida.

Bowden will turn to Butkus Award candidate Chad Carson to lead the Tigers' defense. Stepping in for the talented Adams, Carson must fill the void the second-round draft pick left.

"I think it is positive pressure because Keith was a great leader, and I've learned from him," Carson said.

FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1

With this coupon or  
UNC Student ID, get  
\$1 OFF Dinner Buffet!

Offer Expires 8/2/01

Come try the largest Chinese Buffet in the Triangle!

35 Chinese Restaurant  
Chapel Hill

Dine-in Buffet Only 919-968-3488  
University Square

1

ONE DOLLAR

VIP PRINTING & SIGNS EXPRESS

Go Heels!!

919-968-0000

Village Plaza • Franklin St. & Elliott Rd.  
www.vipprintingandsign.com