

Florida State Basketball Makes A Splash With 2015 Freshman Class

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Don't look now, but FSU is slowly becoming a major target for top recruits coming out of high school. It all started last year when Andrew Wiggins, who would later become the number one overall selection in the NBA draft, put FSU in his final four.

Losing Wiggins to Kansas was a big blow to the Seminoles' basketball team, but it also might have been a key reason why coach Leonard Hamilton is now doing what he's doing. Because of Wiggins, FSU was finally put into the same recruiting conversation as elite basketball powerhouses such as Kentucky, North Carolina, and Kansas. The recruiting class coming in for Florida State this season will surely have an impact right away. The 2015 freshmen are without a doubt one of the best, if not the best, class FSU has ever been able to reel in. According to 247 Sports, the 'Noles freshmen class is ranked No. 8 in the country and in the top three in the ACC.

Alright, it's time to get to the fun stuff, let's break down this class.

The 'Noles have two incoming freshmen that are listed in the top 30 by 247 Sports in Dwayne Bacon and Malik Beasley.

Bacon is highest ranked recruit FSU has had for quite some time now, making appearances in the top 10 of a vast majority of recruiting websites. Bacon is listed as a 6-6 shooting and his size will be a mismatch for most two-guards in the country. He will also prove to be a viable option to play small forward as well.

Bacon attended high school at Oak Hill Academy in Virginia, and if that sounds familiar it's because that's where NBA stars like Carmelo Anthony, Kevin Durant, and Brandon Jennings went as well. After watching some film on him, it's very likely that Bacon will be a main scoring option for coach Hamilton.

Bacon is very effective on all three levels on the court. He has the ability to drive to the basket, pull-up for a mid-range jumper off the dribble, and create his own shot from beyond the three-point line. After watching just a few minutes of film, it's very clear why he was sought after the way he was.

Next up is the four-star 6-4 guard out of Alpharetta, Georgia, Malik Beasley.

Beasley ranked No. 28 overall by ESPN in the country, gives the 'Noles two players ranked in the top 30. Beasley has been very involved with the FSU community and fan base ever since he signed his letter of intent.

If you want to get excited about this kid, just go check out his Instagram feed (Beezy5). It's FILLED with him pulling off insane dunks and him putting in work throughout the night.

Beasley has a very good chance to be something special while he's at FSU. He's not the type of player who's going to just chuck up shots, and he plays hard on both sides of the ball.

After watching some interviews with him, it seems as though he prides himself on his defensive abilities, which is something FSU needs desperately. Beasley will be another freshman that will make an immediate impact on this roster.

Another four-star recruit Coach Hamilton was able to land was guard Terrence Mann. Mann was the first one to sign onto this 2015 class. He is more of a forward, with a tremendous ability to clean up around the glass. He may not be the highest scorer, but his basketball IQ is very high for someone his age. The 'Noles in the past have struggled rebounding the ball both offensively and defensively, and Mann will help the cause next season.

Hamilton and his staff were also able to land three-star center Jean Marc Christ Koumadje, listed at 7-4, making him the tallest player in FSU history. With the departure of senior Kiel Turpin, Koumadje has the opportunity to

complement some experienced players in the front court. For his size, he is unbelievably coordinated. He runs up and down the court like a deer, and will be a force to be reckoned with in the paint.

The last piece to commit to this class was JUCO transfer Benji Bell. Bell will bring maturity to a very young squad, and also depth, something that FSU has struggled with the past few years. Look for Bell to be a very strong option for Coach Hamilton coming off of the bench.

Florida State has stocked its roster for seasons to come by adding quality depth with the 2015 class. It could get even better with the 2016 class, with many believing it could even surpass this one. In any case, Hamilton and his staff have ensured Florida State will be back amongst the ACC's elite in a short time.