

Terance Mann – The Glue Guy

By Corey Clark

December 17, 2016

Tallahassee Democrat

Some Players might bristle at the description. Like it was almost an insult to their talent level and ability.

But when Terance Mann hears the term “glue guy” he beams with pride. Because that’s precisely what he was raised to be.

The Florida State sophomore grew up watching his mom coach the game – Daynia La-Force is currently the head women’s coach at Rhode Island – so he knows better than most how important those players are that can do everything to help win.

They don’t care about leading the team in points or rebound. They just care about helping lead their team to a victory.

Any way Possible.

“Exactly,” Mann said. “I’ve seen my mom have up and down seasons. And when they’re winning I’ve never seen her talking about who scored the most points. She talked about how the team played. She was happy if they were engaged and playing together. And if they played well on defense.”

So that’s what Mann Tries to do. He tries to be a good teammate. Tries to play well on defense. Tries to do his part on both ends of the floor. And in the locker room.

It’s why Florida State head coach Leonard Hamilton said Mann was becoming the leader of the team after his 16-point, 10-rebound performance on Sunday in the win over Florida.

Keep in mind: Mann is just 11 games into his sophomore season. That’s pretty early on to be considered a leader.

“My strength is probably keeping all my teammates happy on the court,” Mann said. “I try to do the little things. I just try to do what my team needs to win.”

Last year he didn’t get a chance to do that a whole lot. As the least-heralded member of an FSU freshman class that featured Dwayne Bacon and Malik Beasley, the 6-foot-6 Mann averaged 17 minutes per game for the Seminoles.

While his fellow freshmen classmates led the team in scoring.

“They’re like my best friends,” said Mann, who averaged 23.1 points per game as a senior at Tilton School in New Hampshire. “I loved seeing them get all that attention and how well they did, especially with Malik going all the way and getting drafted. ... It was amazing to see those dudes do what they did.”

But it wasn’t always easy. It never is for a freshman who is on the bench more than he’s on the court.

“I had my times when I would get into myself and be itching to get out there,” Mann said. “But I talked to my mom a lot and she helped me through it. She didn’t let me get selfish or anything.

“She helped me through it all. She’s Been through it the last 22 years. She’s seen players go through it all the time, so she didn’t let me get selfish or be a cancer to my team.”

He's been anything but this season for the 10-1 Seminoles. He's been the glue.

Mann is second on the team to Bacon in minutes played (25.5) and is currently averaging 7.9 points, 4.8 rebounds and 2 assists per game. He knows he still has a lot of work on, but he truly believes his team has a chance to be special.

And that's what he cares about the most.

"Everyone's happy," Mann said. "Everyone's happy seeing each other do well. Everyone's happy with what we can do. ... I feel like this team can be as good as we want to be. If we choose to lock in and pay attention to detail, we could find ourselves in the Final Four.

"That's really what we believe."