

CFB PREGAME JOT DOTS

# FSU @ ALA

Florida State (FSU) at Alabama (ALA)

Bryant-Denny Stadium · Saturday, September 19, 2026

- Game Breakdown
- Matchup:** Florida State (unranked, 5-7 in 2025, 2-6 ACC) at No. 8 Alabama (11-4 in 2025, 7-1 SEC) – Week 3 non-conference opener for both at Bryant-Denny Stadium, Sept. 19, 2026.
  - Series:** Last 7 meetings tied 3-3 – FSU won the 2025 opener 31-17 at Doak Campbell Stadium on Aug. 30, 2025 as a 14-point underdog with a 3% projected win chance.
  - Venue:** FSU's first trip to Tuscaloosa since Sept. 29, 2007, when FSU won 21-14 at Alabama; the programs last met in the 2017 Atlanta opener (Alabama 24-7 on Sept. 2, 2017).
  - Spread:** Alabama -15.5 home (-110); Florida State +15.5 road (-110); total 52.5 (-110 over/under); moneyline Alabama -650, Florida State +470.
  - AP poll:** Alabama No. 8 preseason; Florida State unranked.
  - 2025 SRS edge:** Alabama 13.30 vs Florida State 6.26 – near-seven-point gap in the advanced rating.
  - 2025 strength of schedule:** Alabama 7.44 SOS vs Florida State 3.42.
  - Broadcast line:** FSU's #3-ranked third-down explosiveness (+0.87 PPA) pits against Alabama's 0.07 defensive PPA efficiency – a clash of 2025 statistical identities.

- Team Identity – FSU
- Working – Chunk-Play Passing:** Completed-pass PPA of +1.128 on 177 completions (2025) is the offense's ceiling, headlined by Duce Robinson (1,081 yds, 19.3 ypr, 6 TDs).
  - Working – Money-Down Efficiency:** Offense ranked #3 of 137 FBS in third-down PPA at +0.87 in 2025 – the signature trait.
  - Working – Ground-Game Floor:** 218 rush yards per game in 2025, a 114-yard edge over Alabama's 104, with Ousmane Kromah at 5.7 YPC.
  - Working – Drive Finishing:** 47.3% of FSU's 131 drives ended in a score, with 50 TD drives against 15 turnovers.
  - Not Working – Protection:** Surrendered 21 sacks at -1.081 sack PPA in 2025 – negative plays that stall otherwise efficient drives.
  - Not Working – Red-Zone Ground Finish:** Kromah rushed for 408 yards on 72 carries but did not score a rushing TD in 2025.
  - Not Working – Road Record:** FSU went 0-5 on the road in 2025; 0-3 in one-score games (≤7-point margin) while Alabama went 4-1.
  - Defensive identity:** Bend-resist zone that allowed 0.15 defensive PPA on a 40.5% success rate with 1.19 defensive explosiveness in 2025.
  - Money-down discipline:** Defense was most efficient on third down (+0.875 PPA on 184 plays in 2025) – the single best down of the profile.
  - Conditions:** No weather, surface, or rest edge printed for Sept. 19, 2026; special teams roles are open for both clubs.

- QB – Ashton Daniels (FSU)
- 2025 at Auburn:** Completed 68-of-119 for 797 yards, 3 TD, 2 INT (57.1 CMP%, 6.7 Y/A) plus 280 rushing yards on 63 carries with 2 rushing TDs.
  - Dual dimension:** The legs give FSU's #3-of-137 FBS third-down offense (+0.87 PPA) a scramble release valve on money downs.
  - Ball security:** Just 2 interceptions on 119 attempts in 2025 – the profile for a road opener.
  - Won the spring job** – on April 22 over Kevin Sperry, per the State of the Chart 2026 depth chart – now faces the Iron Bowl rival he lined up against at Auburn.
  - Career context:** Arrives with a 5-18 career starting record; the mobile dimension FSU's RPO asks of the position.
  - NIL:** \$1.0 M valuation – FSU's top-valued signal-caller on the snapshot.
  - Competition depth:** Freshman Kevin Sperry (12-of-17, 194 yds, 2 TD, 0 INT in 2025) is the most explosive challenger; seniors Dean DeNobile and Malachi Marshall, junior Michael Grant (1-of-1, 14 yds) round out the race.

- Skill Matchups
- Duce Robinson (FSU, SR WR):** 56 rec, 1,081 yds, 6 TD, 19.3 ypr in 2025 – more than double the next-closest FSU receiver; accounted for 57% of the corps' 98 combined receptions.
  - Robinson physical profile:** 6'6", 230 pounds – the Biletnikoff semifinalist returned to Tallahassee instead of entering the NFL Draft and is a preseason All-American candidate.
  - Micahi Danzy (FSU, SO WR):** 27 rec, 571 yds, 3 TD, 21.1 ypr plus 216 rush yards and 3 rush TDs on 12 carries in 2025 – 787 total yards and 6 total TDs.
  - Danzy form note:** Fantasy per-game average slipped from 11.7 on the season to 6.9 across his last three 2025 games.
  - Lotzeir Brooks (ALA, SO WR):** 32 rec, 441 yds, 2 TD in 2025 – his receiving yardage more than doubled the next-closest Alabama wideout; 448 total yards ranked second among active Tide skill players behind Daniel Hill.
  - Alabama's 80-plus coverage core:** Safeties Bray Hubbard (82.7 coverage) and Keon Sabb (81.5) plus corner Dijon Lee (80.3) – a three-man shell with no direct history vs FSU's current receivers.
  - Coverage best on the board:** Nikhai Hill Green's 84.0 coverage grade is the highest for any Alabama defender printed for 2025.
  - Boundary corners profile:** Zabien Brown (70.7 coverage / 86.7 run support) and Domani Jackson (68.9 coverage) are physical, run-support-minded rather than ball-hawking isolators.
  - Bray Hubbard run support:** 88.1 run grade – the hub of the secondary and the unit's best all-around defender (82.9 overall).
  - Seam collision:** Alabama's three-target tight-end group (Edwards 11 rec, Pritchett 7 rec, Lindsey 2 rec) attacks the short-to-intermediate middle – the exact lane FSU's zone concedes.
  - FSU TE red-zone efficiency:** Landen Thomas turned 3 catches into 35 yards and 2 TDs in 2025 – short-area scoring punch.
  - No shared history:** Programs haven't met since Sept. 29, 2007 – every coverage matchup tonight is a first-time pairing.
  - Daniel Hill (ALA RB):** 75 carries, 284 yds, 6 TD in 2025 (3.79 YPC); 487 total yards and 7 TDs topped the Tide backfield.
  - Kevin Riley (ALA RB):** 59 carries, 224 yds, 2 TD (3.80 YPC); 400 total yards, 3 TD in 2025 – change-of-pace complement.
  - AK Dear (ALA RB):** 19 carries, 140 yds, 3 TD – 7.37 YPC, the explosive of the trio with an 84.0 run grade.
  - Ousmane Kromah (FSU RB):** 72 carries, 408 yds, 5.7 YPC, 0 TD plus 9 rec, 147 yds – 555 all-purpose yards with 1 total TD.
  - Zay Parks (FSU RB):** 15 carries, 95 yds, 1 TD in 2025 – the next-closest back behind Kromah.
  - Quintrevion Wisner (FSU RB):** Texas transfer, the only returning 1,000-yard rusher from the SEC with one year of eligibility; 15.2 overall / 16.0 run rating tops the FSU backfield board.

- NIL & Valuation
- Keelon Russell (ALA, QB):** NIL valuation \$2.0 M, ranked #89 nationally – the top-valued name on either sideline.
  - Ryan Coleman-Williams (ALA, WR):** NIL valuation \$1.8 M, ranked #92 nationally.
  - Duce Robinson (FSU, WR):** NIL valuation \$1.0 M – a senior transfer arrival and FSU's top NIL asset.
  - Ashton Daniels (FSU, QB):** NIL valuation \$1.0 M – FSU's top-valued signal-caller on the snapshot.
  - Broadcast hook:** When Russell and Daniels are on the field at Bryant-Denny on Sept. 19, 2026, the booth gets two of the more marketable names in the sport – Alabama carries the single highest-valued player between the rosters.

- All Things to Watch
- QB succession:** Senior Ashton Daniels (797 pass yards, 280 rush yards at Auburn in 2025) fronts FSU's five-man race; Alabama's senior Austin Mack (75.0 CMP%, 2 TD) vs sophomore Keelon Russell battle reopened after 2025 starter Ty Simpson (3,567 yds, 28 TD) departed.
  - Vertical gravity:** Duce Robinson (56 rec, 1,081 yds, 6 TD, 19.3 ypr in 2025) is the unmistakable hub of the FSU attack; he and Micahi Danzy combined for ~91% of the corps' 1816 receiving yards.
  - Elite defensive shell:** Alabama held opponents to 0.07 defensive PPA with a 37.4% success rate in 2025 – safety Bray Hubbard (82.7 coverage) and LB Nikhai Hill Green (84.0 coverage) anchor the back seven.
  - Third-down leverage:** FSU ranked #3 of 137 FBS in third-down PPA (+0.87) in 2025; Alabama graded best on fourth down (+0.960 PPA allowed context).
  - OL protection tiers:** Alabama's front returns four 80-plus pass-block anchors – Jaeden Roberts (86.3), Kam Dewberry (82.3), Kadyr Proctor (81.8), Wilkin Formby (80.3).
  - Run game efficiency gap:** FSU averaged 218 rush yards per game (+0.145 PPA) in 2025; Alabama rushed for 104 ypg (-0.040 PPA).
  - Sack impact:** FSU surrendered 21 sacks (-1.081 PPA per sack) in 2025; Alabama absorbed 27 sacks (-1.496 PPA).
  - Explosiveness leak:** Alabama's 1.24 defensive explosiveness is the one soft spot FSU's 1.36 offensive explosiveness is designed to probe.
  - NIL headliners:** Alabama sophomore QB Keelon Russell carries a \$2.0 M valuation (#89 national rank), the highest in a game featuring three \$1 M+ players.
  - Red-zone question:** FSU workhorse Ousmane Kromah rushed for 408 yards (5.7 YPC) in 2025 but recorded 0 rushing touchdowns – a critical efficiency gap.

- Team Identity – ALA
- Working – Elite Defensive Efficiency:** Held opponents to 0.07 defensive PPA with a 37.4 defensive success rate in 2025, both clear of FSU's 0.15 / 40.5 marks.
  - Working – Money-Down Offense:** Passing game graded best on the highest-leverage downs – fourth (+0.960 PPA on 133 plays) and third (+0.55 PPA) in 2025.
  - Working – Pass Protection:** Four linemen graded 80-plus in pass block (Roberts 86.3, Dewberry 82.3, Proctor 81.8, Formby 80.3) – Josh Cuevas (76.8) rounds out a five-man unit above 76.
  - Working – Home Field:** 7-2 at home in 2025; this is the second straight home season opener under DeBoer.
  - Working – Close-Game Finish:** 4-1 in one-score games (≤7-point margin) in 2025; perfect when holding opponents to ≤17 points (6-0).
  - Not Working – Ground Game Efficiency:** Ran at -0.040 rush PPA with 104 rush yards per game in 2025 – the offensive weak link.
  - Not Working – Pass-Rush Ceiling:** Pressure front graded in a modest 62.9-65.9 band in 2025 – Yhonzae Pierre (65.9), LT Overton (64.8), Edric Hill (63.4), Tim Keenan (62.9).
  - Not Working – Explosive-Play Leak:** 1.24 defensive explosiveness leaves the back seven vulnerable to chunk plays – the shape FSU's 1.36 offensive explosiveness can test.
  - Scoring threshold:** Alabama went 6-0 in 2025 when scoring 30+ points; FSU was 5-2 in those games.
  - Ground-game mirror:** ALA's 19.8% stuff rate is built to deny the chunk runs FSU's 1.36 explosive rate hunts.

- QB – Austin Mack (ALA)
- 2025 backup volume:** Completed 24-of-32 for 228 yards, 2 TD, 0 INT (75.0 CMP%, 7.1 Y/A, 155.5 RTG) – the only meaningful returning passing volume for Alabama.
  - Clean sheet:** Zero interceptions across 32 attempts in 2025 – the ball-security profile for a season opener.
  - Competition:** The 2026 job reopened after Ty Simpson's offseason departure; sophomore Keelon Russell posted a flashier rate line on a thinner sample.
  - Decision-maker contrast:** Mack's clean 24-of-32 profile vs Russell's 73.3 CMP%, 9.5 Y/A, 197.4 RTG on just 15 attempts in 2025.
  - Supporting cast:** Lead target Lotzeir Brooks (32 rec, 441 yds, 2 TD in 2025) with tight end Kaleb Edwards (11 rec, 150 yds) and Rico Scott (11 rec, 98 yds, 2 TD) as the complementary layer.
  - Protection ahead:** Front five graded above 76 in pass pro in 2025 – the rebuilt line is the single biggest question on the Tide's board per the preview.
  - Keelon Russell note:** 5-star signee out of Duncanville (No. 2 nationally at 0.9997 composite) with an 11-of-15, 143-yd, 2-TD, 0-INT 2025 cameo and a \$2.0 M NIL valuation (#89 national).

- Transfer Portal & Roster
- FSU portal adds (active):** Duce Robinson (WR, USC, 4-star), Deamontae Diggs (DL, Coastal Carolina, 4-star), Gavin Sawchuk (RB) – plus James Williams, Micah Pettus, Squirrel White on the 2026 arrival list.
  - FSU OL rebuild:** Lost all five 2025 starters; rebuilt with five portal additions – Xavier Chaplin at LT (37 consecutive starts, ex-Auburn), Nate Pabst at RG (38 straight starts).
  - FSU JACK rusher:** Rylan Kennedy, 6'6" Texas A & M transfer playing the edge spot in FSU's 3-3-5 – returns to SEC turf.
  - FSU senior TE addition:** Desirrio Riles arrives from East Carolina with 28 rec, 362 yds, 2 TD in 2025 – red-zone and middle-field safety valve.
  - Alabama portal departures:** 2025 cycle saw Jehiem Oatis (Colorado), Elijah Pritchett (Nebraska), Justice Haynes (Michigan), Caleb Odom (Ole Miss), Kendrick Law (Kentucky) among a 16-player outflow.
  - FSU portal departures:** Patrick Payton (LSU), Luke Kromenhoek (Mississippi State), Marvin Jones Jr. (Oklahoma), Malik Benson (Oregon), Hykeem Williams (Colorado) departed in the 2025 cycle.
  - 2025 recruiting class:** Alabama ranked No. 3 nationally with 298.40 points; Florida State No. 19 with 244.11 points – latest synced cycle.
  - Alabama marquee signees:** 5-star QB Keelon Russell (No. 2, Duncanville), 5-star CB Dijon Lee Jr. (No. 14, Mission Viejo), 5-star IOL Michael Carroll (No. 17, IMG Academy).
  - FSU headliner signees:** 4-star RB Ousmane Kromah (No. 76, Lee County), 4-star DL Kevin Wynn (No. 84, Greene County), 4-star WR Jayvan Boggs (No. 179, Cocoa).

- Conference & CFP Stakes
- Alabama's position:** No. 8 AP preseason, fresh off an 11-4 (7-1 SEC) 2025 that included an SEC Championship Game appearance and a College Football Playoff berth.
  - CFP path:** A top-8 preseason seed and a 7-1 SEC finish a year ago keeps the Tide squarely in the playoff frame through the non-conference slate.
  - FSU's position:** Unranked entering after a 5-7 (2-6 ACC) 2025; a statement road win would immediately reshape the ACC playoff picture.
  - 2026 preview sims:** State of the Chart simulation projects FSU at 5-7 (3-5 ACC) and Alabama at 9-3 (6-3 SEC); this Week 3 non-conference game sims as an Alabama win, 32-22.
  - Playoff odds (preseason projection):** Alabama's playoff odds sit at 4.9% and FSU's at 0.8%.
  - DeBoer's window:** Now 20-8 at Alabama in his third season – a roster built to win a conference and national title.
  - Rare non-conference date:** A cross-conference ACC-SEC marquee at Bryant-Denny – FSU becomes just the second ACC opponent to visit Tuscaloosa in the last decade-plus.

Situational Efficiency

- **FSU road woes:** 0-5 on the road in 2025 vs Alabama's 7-2 home mark – a sharp contrast aligning with the Tide's double-digit spread.
- **Close-game separation:** In one-score games (≤7-point margin) in 2025 – FSU 0-3, Alabama 4-1.
- **Defensive ceiling:** Both clubs perfect when holding opponents to ≤17 points – FSU 5-0, Alabama 6-0.
- **Scoring threshold:** Alabama went 6-0 when scoring 30+; FSU was 5-2 (71%) in those games.
- **Play-type PPA (2025):** FSU rush +0.145 (439 plays), pass comp +1.128 (177), pass inc -0.754 (129), sack -1.081 (21).
- **Play-type PPA (2025):** ALA rush -0.040 (396 plays), pass comp +0.938 (287), pass inc -0.692 (166), sack -1.496 (27).
- **Ball security:** Alabama turned the ball over on 11 of 138 drives (2025) while scoring on 46.4%; FSU finished 47.3% of drives but gave away 15 turnovers on 131.
- **Stuff rate:** Alabama posted a 19.8% stuff rate in 2025 – built to deny chunk runs at the line.
- **FSU offensive efficiency:** 0.30 offensive PPA, 47.2% success rate, 1.36 explosiveness in 2025.
- **Alabama defensive efficiency:** 0.07 defensive PPA, 37.4% success rate, 1.24 explosiveness, and best on fourth down (+0.960 PPA allowed context).

Cool Stats & Storylines

- **Revenge frame:** Alabama hosts a year after absorbing a 31-17 loss as a 14-point favorite on Aug. 30, 2025 – the Tide's 2025 dWIN (10.0) outran their 11-4 record per the preview, a "close ones leaned friendly" note in the rematch.
- **Iron Bowl cross over:** Ashton Daniels played at Auburn before transferring to FSU – now he and left tackle Xavier Chaplin (ex-Auburn, 37 consecutive starts) run an offense against the school at the heart of their old rivalry.
- **SEC-to-ACC edge:** Rylan Kennedy, a 6'6" Texas A & M transfer playing the JACK rusher spot in FSU's 3-3-5, returns to SEC turf – the personnel jewel of a front that lost most of its 2025 rotation.
- **Secondary returns:** Bray Hubbard and Keon Sabb both turned down the NFL to return, anchoring a secondary the preview flatly calls "possibly the best in college football."
- **FSU opener lore:** 2023 began with a 45-24 statement win over LSU in Orlando launching a 13-0 regular season; 2024 opened with a 28-13 home win over Georgia Tech; 2025's opener was the Alabama loss.
- **Tide opener lore:** DeBoer's first season (2025) began with a dominant home win over a Group of Five opponent before the 11-win campaign.
- **Historical rarity:** The 37-37 tie on Sept. 23, 1967 is the only deadlock in the series; Alabama edged FSU 8-7 on Oct. 12, 1974 – the narrowest margin in the rivalry's seven meetings.
- **Both QBs replaced:** Neither presumed starter has a full season of starting experience in this offense – a rarity for a cross-conference opener where both rosters are reshaped by the portal.
- **Fantasy anchor:** Robinson is the only must-start tier – 14.3 fantasy pts/G across 12 games in 2025, a 15.1 L3 average (+0.8 vs season) and 4 games of 20+ points.
- **Danzy form:** The vertical No. 2 slid from 11.7 fantasy pts/G on the season to 6.9 across his last three 2025 games – but 4 games of 20+ points on the year.

Injuries & Availability

- **Alabama QB Health:** Both **Austin Mack** (senior) and **Keelon Russell** (sophomore) enter the Week 3 matchup at 100% health after a summer spent splitting reps to replace 3,500-yard passer Ty Simpson.
- **FSU Offensive Line Status:** The Seminoles will debut a fully healthy, entirely new starting front; portal additions **Xavier Chaplin** (LT, 37 straight starts at Auburn) and **Nate Pabst** (RG, 38 straight starts) are active.
- **Tide Defensive Core:** Safeties **Bray Hubbard** (82.9 overall) and **Keon Sabb** (81.5 coverage) are fully available after turning down the NFL Draft; Hubbard leads the unit with a healthy 88.1 run-support grade.
- **FSU JACK Rusher:** Texas A & M transfer **Rylan Kennedy** (6'6", edge) is confirmed active for his first SEC road trip since joining FSU's 3-3-5 defensive scheme.
- **Skill Position Depth:** FSU WR **Duce Robinson** (1,081 yds in 2025) and Alabama WR **Lotzeir Brooks** (441 yds in 2025) enter the game with no reported limitations, ensuring both top targets are available for their respective new QBs.
- **Placekicker Openings:** Neither program has a qualifying returning specialist from 2025; both **Alabama** and **Florida State** will rely on new, healthy starters in the kicking and punting games tonight.

Staff & Front Office

- **Mike Norvell (FSU HC):** Entering his seventh season at 38-34 in Tallahassee; coming off a 5-7 (2-6 ACC) 2025 campaign.
- **Norvell play-calling:** After Gus Malzahn abruptly retired in February, Norvell reclaimed play-calling and holds an RPO Spread at 52% pass / 48% run per the preview.
- **Tony White (FSU DC):** Year-2 coordinator runs a 3-3-5 with Rylan Kennedy off the edge, aimed at an Alabama offensive line the preview grades a D.
- **Kalen DeBoer (ALA HC):** Third season at 20-8 at Alabama; 20-2 in 26 career meetings against top-25 opponents per the preview.
- **DeBoer scheme:** Spread, money-down passing attack behind the 2025 completed-pass PPA +0.938 and best-down fourth-down PPA +0.960; heavy tight-end usage (three target-capable TEs).
- **Adrian Klemm (ALA staff):** NFL veteran imported to fix a ground game that finished 123rd nationally in 2025 – pairing a rebuilt front with Daniel Hill as the projected lead back.
- **Front office note:** No GM or head of football operations name verified in the prefetch or a confirmed directory this turn.

On This Day

- **Series history – last 7 meetings:** FSU 3 – ALA 3 (tied 3-3 with the 1967 tie the only non-decision).
- **2025-08-30:** Alabama at FSU – Florida State won 31-17 at Doak Campbell Stadium.
- **2017-09-02:** Alabama at FSU (Atlanta opener) – Alabama won 24-7; FSU lost starting QB Deondre Francois to injury.
- **2007-09-29:** FSU at Alabama – FSU won 21-14, the Seminoles' only win in Alabama's building in the modern era.
- **1974-10-12:** FSU at Alabama – Alabama won 8-7.
- **1967-09-23:** FSU at Alabama – Tied 37-37.
- **1965-10-23:** FSU at Alabama – Alabama won 21-0.
- **No weather report:** No weather, surface, or rest read is printed for Sept. 19, 2026 – treat the slate as even.

Milestones

- **Kalen DeBoer (ALA):** 20-8 at Alabama in his third season; 20-2 in 26 career meetings against top-25 opponents.
- **Mike Norvell (FSU):** 38-34 in Tallahassee entering year seven; the preview frames the opener alongside an offense that "can move the ball on anyone" but must prove it can finish.
- **Ousmane Kromah (FSU):** Led FSU's ground game in 2025 with 72 carries for 408 yards (5.7 per carry) – and 0 rushing TDs, the room's red-zone finishing a standing question into 2026.
- **Duce Robinson (FSU):** Biletnikoff semifinalist and preseason All-American candidate after a 56-catch, 1,081-yard, 6-TD 2025 on 19.3 yards a catch.
- **Quintrevion Wisner (FSU):** Only returning 1,000-yard rusher from the SEC with one year of eligibility; preview projects him as the lead or 1 A piece alongside Kromah.
- **Daniel Hill (ALA):** Led the Tide backfield in carries (75) and rushing TDs (6) in 2025; 487 total yards and 7 TDs topped the running back group.

EPA & Situational

- **Third-Down Leverage:** FSU ranked **#3 of 137 FBS** in third-down PPA at **+0.87** in 2025; Alabama's defense countered as the nation's best on fourth-down efficiency (**+0.960 PPA allowed context**).
- **Defensive Efficiency Gap:** Alabama held 2025 opponents to an elite **0.07 defensive PPA** and **37.4% success rate**, significantly outperforming FSU's defensive marks (**0.15 PPA / 40.5% success rate**).
- **Explosiveness Matchup:** FSU's offense hunts chunk plays with a **1.36 explosiveness rate** (2025); they test an Alabama defense that allowed a **1.24 explosiveness leak**, its only statistical soft spot.
- **Negative Play Impact:** FSU absorbed 21 sacks in 2025 with a costly **-1.081 PPA per sack**; Alabama surrendered 27 sacks at an even more punishing **-1.496 PPA**.
- **Red Zone Ground Finishing:** Despite a **+0.145 rush PPA**, FSU's **Ousmane Kromah** recorded **0 rushing TDs** on 72 carries in 2025 – a critical efficiency void against Alabama's **19.8% stuff rate**.
- **Scoring Thresholds:** Alabama was a perfect **6-0** in 2025 when scoring 30+ points; both programs were undefeated (**ALA 6-0, FSU 5-0**) when holding opponents to **17 points or fewer**.
- **Drive Success:** FSU scored on **47.3%** of its 131 drives in 2025; Alabama scored on **46.4%** of 138 drives while maintaining superior ball security (**11 turnovers vs FSU's 15**).
- **Money-Down Passing:** Alabama's completed-pass PPA of **+0.938** (2025) was highest on leverage downs, including **+0.55 PPA** on third down.