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Georgia Southern University



PREVIEW: GS Women's Basketball Renews Rivalry, Hosts Panthers Saturday

Eagles look to earn a split with Georgia State on the year and take a point in the Rivalry Series

Women's Basketball

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STATESBORO, Ga. - The Georgia Southern women's basketball team hosts Georgia State on Saturday in a key Sun Belt Conference contest at 2 p.m. at Hanner Fieldhouse.

In addition to being a key league tilt between two teams who find themselves tied in the latest Sun Belt standings, the game is also another installment in the [Southern vs. State Rivalry Series](#), where the winner earns a point towards the season-long competition between the two schools. The game is a White Out Hanner contest where Eagle fans are encouraged to come dressed in white and cheer loudly for the squad.

The host Eagles (5-19, 2-11 SBC) are coming off of a weekend split with the Louisiana schools. Georgia Southern notched its largest win in the Sun Belt era on Feb. 8, defeating UL Monroe by a 75-45 score. The Eagles then fell to Louisiana by 10, 58-48, last Saturday.

Georgia State did the same last weekend, knocking off UL Monroe, 70-57, last Saturday after falling to Louisiana, 75-60, on Feb. 8.

The Panthers are the top free throw shooting team in the league at 74.5 percent and rank 52nd in NCAA Division I in that category. Madison Newby (83.5 percent) and Kierra Henry (82.5 percent) are now 1-2 in the league as the Eagles' [Nakol Franks](#) (92.0 percent) fell below the minimum FT made to qualify.

The two teams met back on Jan. 20 in Atlanta, with Georgia State taking a 71-56 win over the Eagles. Georgia State dominated that meeting on the glass, outrebounding Georgia Southern by a 56-24 margin, including a 25-7 edge on the glass. Henry had 18 points in that matchup, while Francseca Minali had 18 rebounds.

Since that meeting, however, the Eagles have done a much better job on the glass, including getting a standout effort from [Alexis Foulks](#) last Saturday against Louisiana. Foulks had 15 rebounds against the Ragin' Cajuns, the most for a Georgia Southern player in the Sun Belt era and the most since Danielle Spencer had 17 rebounds at Jacksonville on Nov. 24, 2013.

Georgia State has won the last four matchups between the two teams, but Georgia Southern still leads the overall series, 24-19.

The game will be [broadcast on True Blue TV](#), while [Colin Lacy](#) will have [audio of the action on the Georgia Southern Sports Network](#). [Live stats are also available](#).
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