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SERIES PREVIEW - Eagles Open 2018 Campaign at Georgia

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Georgia Southern University



SERIES PREVIEW - Eagles Open 2018 Campaign at Georgia

Opening series can be seen live on SEC Network +
Baseball

Posted: 2/15/2018 1:33:00 PM

ATHENS, GA. - Georgia Southern Baseball kicks off the 2018 season this weekend a trip to Athens to face the Georgia Bulldogs. The series begins on Friday afternoon at 5 p.m. with all three games available on SEC Network + at WatchESPN.com.

GAME NOTES

[Georgia Southern](#)
[Georgia](#)

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

FRIDAY (2.16.18)

5:00 p.m. - Foley Field (Athens, Ga.)

RADIO - [Ga. Southern Sports Network](#)

VIDEO - [SEC Network +](#)

[LIVE STATS](#)

GS - RHP - [Brian Eichhorn](#)

UGA - LHP - Kevin Smith

SATURDAY (2.17.18)

1:00 p.m. - Foley Field (Athens, Ga.)

RADIO - [Ga. Southern Sports Network](#)

VIDEO - [SEC Network +](#)

[LIVE STATS](#)

GS - RHP - [Seth Shuman](#)

UGA - RHP - Emerson Hancock

SUNDAY (2.18.18)

1:00 p.m. - Foley Field (Athens, Ga.)

RADIO - [Ga. Southern Sports Network](#)

VIDEO - [SEC Network +](#)

[LIVE STATS](#)

GS - TBA

UGA - RHP - Chase Adkins

QUICK HITS

- Georgia Southern kicks off the 2018 campaign this weekend with a three game series against the Georgia Bulldogs. The Eagles are 7-11 in season openers in the Coach Hennon Era (2000-Present).
- The Eagles are 49-54-1 all-time against the Bulldogs and face the state's flagship institute of higher learning for the sixth consecutive season in a weekend series. The Eagles have taken three of the last five weekend sets between the squads including a sweep in 2015. Over the last two seasons, however, Georgia has won back-to-back weekends by a 2-1 margin.
- This weekend's trip to Clarke County marks the fourth time in the last six seasons that the Eagles have opened the season against Georgia. The Eagles are 1-2 all-time against the Bulldogs in the season opener.
- [Steven Curry](#)'s performance as the leadoff hitter for the Eagles in 2017 rivaled the work of an athlete in a different sport with a similar name. Curry was 18-for-43 (.418 AVG) in the first inning as the Eagle leadoff batter. He has reached base 32 times in 54 plate appearances (18 H / 7 BB / 4 HBP / 3 ROE) at a 59% rate. From those appearances, he has scored 15 runs in the first inning.
- In 2017 Georgia Southern did well to hold on to their leads. The Eagles were 28-1 when leading after six innings, 28-1 when leading after seven and 33-0 when leading after eight. The Eagle bullpen blew just two saves in 2017.
- Six has been the magic number over the last four years for Georgia Southern Baseball with a 100-13 record when scoring six or more runs. The Eagles were 30-6 last year with six or more.
- Georgia Southern had a banner year in the 2017 MLB draft with five selections to tie the program record for most picks in a single draft season. [Landon Hughes](#) (7th Round - ATL), [Jordan Wren](#) (10th Round - Boston), [Connor Simmons](#) (13th Round - ATL), [Logan Baldwin](#) (21st Round - SF), and [Jacob Condra-Bogan](#) (32nd Round - TOR) made up the draft class, matching the 1996 season with five picks over that season's 40 rounds.
- Georgia Southern's 2018 roster features more than a score of new student-athletes set to make their debut for the Blue and White in the upcoming contests. Of the 23 newcomers, 16 are freshmen and seven are transfers. Transfers [Tristan Roberts](#) (Presbyterian College) and [Blakely Brown](#) (Georgia) are ineligible for 2018 due to NCAA transfer rules.

COMING UP NEXT

Following the weekend series, Georgia Southern returns home for the next four games with the home opener set for Feb 20 against Georgia Tech. The Eagles play host to Fairfield on Feb 23-24-25 for the season's first weekend series at the friendly confines.

Georgia Southern Athletics provides up-to-date information on all its sports through its official website, GSEagles.com, through social media channels [facebook.com/GSAthletics](#), [twitter.com/GSAthletics](#), iOS app Georgia Southern Eagles and Android app Eagles GATA. Fans can purchase tickets to Georgia Southern Athletics events by visiting [GSEagles.com/Tickets](#).

In order to expedite entry and provide a safe environment for all patrons and participants, Georgia Southern Athletics has implemented a Clear Bag Policy for all ticketed sporting events, effective Aug. 1, 2017. Fans can find the complete policy as well as an FAQ section at [GSEagles.com/ClearBag](#).