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Georgia Southern University

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Women's Basketball Preview: Eagles Travel to Georgia State

Georgia Southern and State will renew their rivalry with a 5 PM tip



Women's Basketball | 1/19/2016 6:09:00 AM

Story Links

Georgia Southern (4-11, 1-5 SBC) at Georgia State (7-8, 2-4 SBC)
Tuesday, Jan. 19 – Georgia State Sports Arena (3,800) – 5:00 p.m.

[Live Video \(ESPN3\)](#) | [Live Stats](#) | [Live Audio](#)

Radio: 91.9 FM the Buzz

Series: Southern leads, 23-15, W1

In Atlanta: Southern leads, 11-9

Last Meeting: 3/7/15 - W, 82-74 (Atlanta, Ga.)

Probable Starters for Georgia Southern (Based on previous games):

#2 Trellanie English-Lurry, G

#11 Angel McGowan, G

#23 Alexis Sams, G

#25 Sierra Butler, F

#35 Patrice Butler, C

ANOTHER LONG ROAD SWING

- After four games in a row at home the Georgia Southern women's basketball team hits the road again for a four game road swing spread over the next two weeks.
- The Eagles start their two weeks on the road with a game at in-state rival Georgia State on Tuesday, Jan. 19 before traveling to Boone, N.C. for a Saturday afternoon game at Appalachian State.
- Following the games at Georgia State and App State, the Eagles will travel to the state of Arkansas for games at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State.

QUICK HITTERS

- Georgia Southern leads the Sun Belt Conference in free throw percentage with a .723 team percentage. The Eagles have converted 120 of their 166 attempts so far this season.
- Southern is top-five in the conference in field goal percentage defense (5th, .389) and 3-point field goal percentage defense (5th, .304).
- Angel McGowan and Patrice Butler remain in the top-15 in the conference for scoring. McGowan is currently averaging 13.9 points per game (8th) while Butler averages 12.3 (12th).
- Butler is also in the top-15 in rebounding with 5.5 boards per contest (T-14th).
- McGowan is sixth in the league with 2.1 steals per contest. She is also eighth in the SBC in 3-point field goals made (1.7 per game, 24 total).
- Alexis Sams is currently tied for 13th in the SBC with 2.4 assists per game. She leads the league with 36.1 minutes per outing.

THE HISTORY WITH GEORGIA STATE

- Georgia Southern and Georgia State have met on the hardwood 38 times with Southern owning a 23-15 record all-time.
- The Eagles boast a slight 11-9 record in Atlanta.
- Between the 1977-78 season and the 1994-95 seasons the Eagles and Panthers met 34 times. Following a Dec. 13, 1994 meeting won in Atlanta by Georgia Southern, the two did not meet again until the 1998-99 season. The two would not meet again until the 2012-13 season with another gap until last season, 2014-15.
- Georgia Southern boasts the longest winning streak in the series having claimed eight-straight from March 6, 1987 through January 10, 1991.
- State's longest streak in the series has been two separate streaks of three wins each. The first went from February 9, 1991 to February 6, 1992 and the second lasted from December 5, 1998 to February 5, 2015.
- Southern won the previous meeting between the two 82-74 in Atlanta.

SCOUTING THE PANTHERS

- The Panthers come into Tuesday's game having lost four of their last five games. The lone win came Thursday, Jan. 14 over the University of Louisiana Monroe.
- Georgia State is currently averaging 69.3 points per game while allowing opponents to score 71.4 points per game.
- As a team, they shoot 39.8% from the field including 26.9% from three-point range.
- The Eagles are led by Makeba Ponder's 13.3 points per game and 30 three-pointers. She shoots 33.3% from the field and 29.4% from three-point range.
- Behind Ponder, three players average just over 9.0 points per game and have played in all 15 games for the Panthers led by Astaja Tyghter. Tyghter contributes 9.5 points and 5.5 rebounds per game and leads the team with 32 steals. She also shoots 44.9% and has hit 62 field goals this season.
- Madison Newby and Alaysia Mitchell average 9.3 and 9.2 points per outing. Mitchell leads the team with 5.8 boards per contest while Newby shoots 56.1% from the field and leads the team with 73 assists.

ON OPPOSITE SIDELINES NOW

- Junior [Patrice Butler](#) will have a familiar face on the opposite sideline Tuesday as former Furman teammate Erica Norwood transferred to Georgia State.
- While Butler transferred following her freshman season (2012-13), Norwood waited until after her sophomore year (2013-14) and had to sit out last season. Both are redshirt juniors and will have the opportunity to play each other at least three more times following Tuesday's contest.