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VBALL Preview: Eagles Start the Stretch Run Wednesday

Georgia Southern University

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*GS plays four matches in five days in three cities this week.*

Marc Gignac

Milledge Austin

Katie Bange has six triple doubles this season.

Women's Volleyball | 11/1/2016 10:02:00 AM

**Story Links**

**Georgia Southern (12-14, 4-6) vs. Coastal Carolina (19-4, 10-1)**
**Date:** Nov. 2 - 6 p.m. - Hanner Fieldhouse - [Live Video](#) | [Live Stats](#)
**Date:** Nov. 4 - 6:30 p.m. - Conway, S.C. - [Live Video](#) | [Live Stats](#)

**Georgia Southern at Appalachian State (3-21, 1-10)**
**Date:** Nov. 5 - 8 p.m. - Boone, N.C. - [Live Video](#) | Live Stats
**Date:** Nov. 6 - 12:30 p.m. - Boone, N.C. - [Live Video](#) | [Live Stats](#)

**Georgia Southern team information**
[Roster](#) | [Stats (PDF)](#) | [Schedule](#)
Probable GS Lineup:
#6 Lauren Reichard
#8 Alex Beecher
#10 Cathrine Murray
#13 Katie Bange
#14 Kendra Koetter
#17 Anna Wenger
#21 Reilly Bosworth

Georgia Southern plays four Sun Belt matches this week instead of the normal two this time of year because home matches against Coastal Carolina and Appalachian State were postponed by Hurricane Matthew and rescheduled for this week. The Eagles will play a home-and-home against Coastal Carolina Wednesday and Friday and take on App twice in Boone on Saturday and Sunday.

GS is fourth in the East Division standings, while Coastal Carolina is in first and App is in sixth. The top four from each division advance to the Sun Belt Tournament in Arlington, Texas, Nov. 18-20. The Eagles finish the regular season with a home-and-home series against Georgia State next week, and the Panthers are third in the East standings.

The Eagles have lost their last five league matches and are coming off a 3-2 home setback to Little Rock Saturday. Coastal Carolina has won nine in a row and is coming off a 3-0 home win over ULM Saturday. Appalachian State has lost its last three and fell 3-1 at South Alabama Sunday.

Georgia Southern is 2-8 all-time against Coastal Carolina, and the teams have not played since 2009, a 3-1 Eagle win in Hanner Fieldhouse. GS is 15-31 against App and has lost the last four. The Mountaineers swept the Eagles in each of the last two seasons.

Alex Beecher averaged 6.25 digs and 1.25 assists in three matches last week. The redshirt senior reached 20-plus digs twice, giving her 45 career matches with 20-plus digs. She posted 36 digs against Little Rock, her sixth career match with 30-plus digs. Already the school's all-time leader in digs, Beecher now has 2,238 for her career, 164 shy of moving into the top-25 in NCAA history. She ranks 12th in the country and second in the Sun Belt in total digs this season (491).

Katie Bange ranks third in the country and first in the Sun Belt with six triple-doubles. All six have featured kills, assists and digs.
The Eagles rank 28th in the country and first in the Sun Belt in aces.

*Lauren Reichard* ranks third in the league in blocks with 105.

Georgia Southern will finish the season with back to back matches against the same opponent. The last time Georgia Southern played the same opponent in back-to-back contests was in 2001, when the Eagles lost 3-2 to Furman at home on the last day of the regular season and topped the Paladins 3-2 in the first round of the Southern Conference Tournament. GS went on to win its first SoCon Championship and advance to the NCAA Tournament. The Eagles already played Troy in back to back matches this season, both Eagle victories.

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.