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1-6-2021

## Setting The Scene Game Preview

Georgia Southern University

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# SETTING THE SCENE

## Game Preview

**Dates:** Jan. 8-9

**Site:** Holmes Center (8,375)

**Tipoffs:** 6 p.m. Friday and 4 p.m. Saturday

**Watch:** ESPN+

**Listen:** GS Sports Network

**Series:** GS trails 28-24, L2 | [Series History](#)

### Probable Starters:

#0 - Kaden Archie

#2 - Elijah McCadden

#3 - Zack Bryant

#5 - Eric Boone

#12 - Andrei Savrasov

- Georgia Southern continues Sun Belt Conference play on the road when they travel to Boone, N.C., for a pair of contests against longtime rival Appalachian State. Both contests will be broadcast live on ESPN+.
- The Eagles are coming off a home split against South Alabama last week on the opening weekend of conference play. Appalachian State also split a pair of home contests against Troy.
- Georgia Southern is coming off its third consecutive 20-win season and advanced to the Sun Belt Championship Semifinals for the third straight campaign. The Eagles have won 20-plus games in four of the last six seasons.
- Georgia Southern returned five lettermen (two scholarship), which is tied for the fourth least in the country. The Eagles' nine newcomers are tied for the fourth-most in the country. Georgia Southern is replacing 79.1 percent of its scoring from last season, the 11th-most in the country.
- Junior guard Elijah McCadden was named second-team All-Sun Belt and senior guard Zack Bryant was named third-team All-Sun Belt in the Preseason Coaches Poll. Georgia Southern was picked fifth in the Sun Belt's East Division.
- The Eagles have won five of their last seven against Sun Belt opponents, dating back to last season. GS has won three consecutive road contests against Sun Belt opponents (includes 2020 Sun Belt Tourney game at Georgia State).
- The Eagles are ranked 25th nationally and second in the Sun Belt in offensive rebounds per game (13.82) and 32nd nationally and second in the league in rebounding margin (8.9).
- Georgia Southern ranks 15th nationally and second in the Sun Belt in steals per game (9.7) and seventh nationally and first in the Sun Belt in total steals (107). The Eagles are 31st in the country and second in the league in turnovers forced (17.6/gm).
- The Eagles have notched 34 wins away from home in the last four seasons and are 3-2 this year. The most wins away from home in a season in school history is 12 in 1988-89.
- The games against Georgia Southern will cap a stretch in which Appalachian State plays six of seven contests at home. The Mountaineers are 5-2 in the Holmes Center this season.
- Appalachian State was picked fourth in the Sun Belt Preseason Poll, and Justin Forrest was named Preseason first-team all-league.
- The Mountaineers lead the Sun Belt in scoring defense (58.0/gm) and opponent field goal percentage (.390).