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Setting the Scene Game Preview

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SETTING THE SCENE

Game Preview

Site: GSU Sports Arena (3,854)

Tipoff: 7 p.m.

Listen: GS Sports Network (pregame show starts a half hour before tipoff)

Watch: ESPN+

Series: Southern leads 43-23, L4

Last meeting: 1/25/20, L 82-77 (Hanner)

Probable Starters:

#2 - Elijah McCadden

#3 - Ike Smith

#10 - Calvin Wishart

#13 - Quan Jackson

#53 - Isaiah Crawley

- The Eagles cap their three-game road trip at Georgia State Friday, Feb. 28. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. on ESPN+.
- One point is on the line in the Southern vs. State Rivalry Series, which is tied 5-5.
- It's the second of two scheduled meetings against Georgia State this season. State won the first contest 82-77 Jan. 25 in Hanner Fieldhouse.
- The Eagles and Panthers enter the game tied for third place in the Sun Belt standings with South Alabama.
- The Eagles can finish no higher than second and no lower than sixth. The top two seeds get a bye into the semifinals in New Orleans, while seeds 3-8 will host tournament games as teams attempt to play their way to New Orleans.
- Georgia Southern has lost nine straight at Georgia State, and the Eagles' last win there was an 88-87 decision Jan. 11, 1992.
- The Eagles are 5-4 in games decided by five points or less, and nine of their 18 Sun Belt games have been decided by six points or less.
- The Eagles are 3-2 in their last five and coming off an 81-61 win at UTA last Saturday.
- The Eagles are 6-8 on the road and 5-4 in road league games this season.
- The Eagles rank 45th in the country and second in the Sun Belt in steals (7.9/gm), 32nd nationally in turnovers forced (15.9/gm) and 24th in turnover margin (+3.3).
- GS ranks third in the Sun Belt in fewest fouls (16.4/gm) and fourth in fewest turnovers (12.6/gm). The Eagles are second in the league in blocked shots per game (4.0); Simeon Carter ranks second (1.5/gm).
- The Eagles rank 39th in the country and second in the Sun Belt in total 3-point field goal attempts (727), and GS is third in the league in 3-pointers made per game (8.2).
- Georgia State is 3-2 in its last five and coming off an 86-76 loss at Texas State last Saturday.
- The Panthers have won 24 of their last 26 home games and are 11-1 at home this season.
- The back-to-back defending Sun Belt Conference tournament champions have compiled an 89-41 league record since rejoining the league in 2013-14. During that span, the Panthers have finished among the top two in the regular season standings five times.
- Georgia State is holding opponents to 28.7 percent shooting from 3-point range, which ranks No. 10 in the country and first in the Sun Belt. Georgia State is also holding opponents to just 39.8 percent shooting from the floor which ranks 36th in the NCAA and first in the league.