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Setting the Scene Game Preview

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SETTING THE SCENE

Game Preview

Site: Hanner Fieldhouse (3,897)

Tipoff: 1 p.m.

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

Watch: ESPN+

Series: First meeting

[Hanner Fieldhouse Gameday Guide](#)

Probable Starters:

#0 - Kaden Archie

#2 - Elijah McCadden

#5 - Eric Boone

#12 - Andrei Savrasov

#24 - Prince Toyambi

- Georgia Southern opens its 91st season and 50th Division I campaign of men's basketball Wednesday as the Eagles play host to Florida National in the first meeting between the schools.
- It's also the debut for Brian Burg, who was named the head coach of the Eagles March 29.
- It's the latest start to a season for the Eagles since 1995, when the Eagles opened the campaign with an 88-44 loss to Georgia in Augusta Nov. 27.
- GS is 32-16 in season openers in the Division I era and 43-4 in home openers, winning the last eight. The Eagles are 25-2 in the Division I era when opening the season in Hanner Fieldhouse with the losses coming to Austin Peay (88-87 OT) in 1980 and Valparaiso (90-81) in 2011.
- 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 tied for fourth in the Sun Belt standings and has finished in the top-5 in the Sun Belt standings in each of its six seasons in the league. The Eagles are one of just two Sun Belt teams (UTA) and 26 teams in the country that have won 10-plus league games in each of the last six seasons. The Eagles are 70-44 in Sun Belt games in their six seasons, the second-best record in the league during that time span (Georgia State 73-41).
- 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 East Division.
- Georgia Southern returns 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 10th-most in the country. Georgia Southern has six transfers from Division I schools, and one from a Division II program who are all eligible to compete this season.

- GS is 25-3 in its last 28 non-conference games in Hanner Fieldhouse. The Eagles are 71-26 in Hanner Fieldhouse in the last six seasons and 42-16 in contests against Sun Belt competition.
- The Eagles are 4-1 in their last five, dating back to last season.
- Florida National has already played seven games and comes into the contest with a 2-5 record. The Conquistadors played consecutive home games against Arizona Christian Sunday (L, 103-90) and Monday (111-91) and lost them both. Florida National finished the 2019-20 campaign with a 24-6 record.