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Setting the Scene Game Preview

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SETTING THE SCENE

Game Preview

Dates: Jan. 1 and 2

Site: Hanner Fieldhouse (3,897)

Tipoff: 6 p.m. on Jan. 1 and 3 p.m. on Jan. 2

Watch: ESPN+

Listen: GS Radio Network

Series: GS trails 13-7, L2 | [Series History](#)

Promotions: Family 4 Pack for Friday - 4 tix for \$21, Faith & Family and Faculty/Staff Appreciation Night on Saturday

[Hanner Fieldhouse Gameday Guide](#)

Probable Starters:

#3 - Zack Bryant

#5 - Eric Boone

#11 - Mackenzie McFatten

#23 - Grant Weatherford

#24 - Prince Toyambi

- Georgia Southern opens Sun Belt Conference play against South Alabama on New Year's Day in Hanner Fieldhouse. The Eagles and Jaguars will play back-to-back days Friday and Saturday. Friday's game tips off at 6 p.m., Saturday's game starts at 3 p.m. and both will be on ESPN+.
- GS opens conference play at home for the third time in Southern's seven in the Sun Belt. It's the second straight season the Eagles open Sun Belt play at home.
- Georgia Southern is 3-3 in Sun Belt Conference openers and 2-0 when starting league play in Hanner Fieldhouse.
- The Eagles have not played since a 73-60 setback at FGCU Dec. 22, and South Alabama has not played since a 93-90 double overtime loss at Alabama A&M Dec. 19.
- 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. Bryant scored his 1,000th career point with a pair of free throws at Davidson with 12:39 left in the game. He scored 986 points at UAB before transferring to Georgia Southern.
- Georgia Southern was picked fifth in the Sun Belt's East Division in the Sun Belt Preseason Coaches Poll.
- 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 11th-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. Seven of the nine newcomers made their Georgia Southern debuts in the season opener Nov. 25.

- 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.
- The Eagles are 10-4 in their last 14 dating back to last season. The Eagles won four of their last five against Sun Belt opponents last season.
- The Eagles are 74-27 in Hanner Fieldhouse in the last seven seasons and 42-16 in contests against Sun Belt competition (includes 2020 Sun Belt Tourney).
- South Alabama was picked second in the East Division, and Michael Flowers was named third-team all-league in the Sun Belt Preseason Coaches Poll.