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Georgia Southern University Athletics



Softball Sweeps FIU On Friday

Georgia Southern notches 5-0 and 9-7 wins over the Golden Panthers

Softball

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STATESBORO - Georgia Southern picked up a doubleheader sweep over visiting FIU on Friday, taking 5-0 and 9-7 games from the Golden Panthers from Eagle Field.

The Eagles (7-11) now head back into Sun Belt Conference play, traveling to Louisiana to take on the No. 16 Ragin' Cajuns in a three-game set, beginning with a single game on Sunday at 5 p.m. ET. FIU falls to 8-14 after the pair of losses.

"Really happy with the production," Georgia Southern Head Coach [Kim Dean](#) said. "I knew we were starting to put a few things together towards the end of ULM. We didn't get the win but we were doing a lot of things right. We had another solid week of practice, and just getting back into a routine really helped our team. We had really good outings from all of our pitchers today, being able to pick each other up coming in tough spots. Just solid production, one through nine in the lineup. Really good team energy, and it's good to get these two wins going in to play Louisiana this weekend."

GAME ONE: Georgia Southern 5, FIU 0

Senior [Rylee Waldrep](#) and freshman [Anna Feil](#) combined on a five-hit shutout and [Faith Shirley](#) went 4-for-4 with a pair of RBI to lead the Eagles to the win in game one.

Freshman [Aniston Johnson](#) got the Eagles off to a good start in the fourth with her first career home run. Shirley followed with an RBI single, then [Dejah Mills](#) walked with the bases loaded to stake the Eagles to a 3-0 lead.

[Shayla Smith](#) tripled in a run in the fifth, then Shirley blasted a solo home run in the sixth to cap the scoring.

Waldrep hurled four innings of two-hit shutout ball, walking one and striking out one to notch the win and improve to 2-2 on the year. Feil hurled three innings of three-hit shutout ball, striking out one to notch her first collegiate save. Brooklyn Linneman (2-2) took the loss for the Golden Panthers, giving up six hits and three runs in 3 2/3 innings of work, walking one and striking out two.

Shirley's four-hit game was the third of her Georgia Southern career.

GAME TWO: Georgia Southern 9, FIU 7

The Eagles overcame a 6-2 deficit in the nightcap to collect a 9-7 win and earn the doubleheader sweep.

Jessica Rivera did most of the early damage for FIU, hitting a two-run home run in a three-run first inning and adding a two-run double in a three-run third. [Dejah Mills](#)' two-run home run in the bottom of the first was her second home run of the season.

In the bottom of the third inning, a wild pitch scored [Bailee Wilson](#), then Mills followed with a single down the right field line to make the score 6-4. Fifth-year [Shayla Smith](#) then put the Eagles in front with a three-run blast to center field in the fifth that made the score 7-6.

Georgia Southern added a pair of runs in the fifth on a Mills RBI double and an RBI single from fifth-year [Alia Booth](#).

FIU threatened in the top of the seventh, scoring a run on an RBI single by Bailey Grossenbacher, then loading the bases with two out. [Kyleigh Richardson](#) got Kameron Aitken to fly out to left to end the game.

Richardson (2-2) notched the win in relief for the Eagles, giving up six hits and one run in four innings of work. Kendall Dunford (4-8) took the loss for the Golden Panthers, giving up seven hits and seven runs in 3 1/3 innings of work, walking two and striking out two.

Mills finished the game 4-for-4 with four RBI, while [Bailee Wilson](#) went 2-for-3 with a pair of runs scored, extending her current hitting streak to 13 games, which is tied for the fourth-longest in school history.

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