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Georgia Southern University Athletics



Southern Smoke BBQ Cook-Off Added As Part Of Spring Game Festivities

Events scheduled for April 24 at Paulson Stadium

Football

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STATESBORO - The first Southern Smoke BBQ Cook-Off, presented by Ellis Meat Market, has been added to a day of fun festivities surrounding the annual Blue-White Spring Game, presented by Southern Exchange, on April 24 at Allen E. Paulson Stadium. While the Eagles will wrap up their spring football session that day, Eagle Nation is invited to come to Statesboro for the entire day.

The Southern Smoke BBQ Cook-Off will feature members of the athletics staff and coaches competing on the grill as they put their favorite recipes up for judging. The competitors can choose to participate in any of the three meat categories: pulled pork, brisket and/or ribs. There will be a competition to determine the best side, as well.

The meat is being generously provided by Ellis Meat Market, who for over 40 years has been a major part of the Bulloch County area. Through the years, Ellis Meat Market has been known for keeping the highest quality meats and service, which has made Ellis Meat Market known as the biggest little meat market in town.

Participants will be judged on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the highest) from the following categories: aroma/taste, texture/tenderness, visual appearance and creativity.

In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken by who has the highest average score from each judge based on aroma/taste. If there is still a tie, it will be broken by who has the highest average score from each judge based on each following category, respectively: texture/tenderness, visual appearance and creativity.

The panel judging will consist of the most respected names in the culinary tasting industry and one fan will also be chosen to join the panel (more on that later!). The contest will be streamed live on the Athletics Facebook page as well as on Instagram Live. Winners will be announced at the Spring Game.

After the judges have sampled all of the delectables, Eagle Nation will be offered free plates of all the food until it's gone. We know this past year has been difficult, and this is an opportunity to thank everyone for sticking with us as we try to get back some normalcy in our lives. Plating and judging will take place at 11:15 a.m. on the sidewalk outside the stadium between Gates 8 and 12 at the Bishop Field House end with food samples being handed out to fans around noon.

The Blue-White Spring Game, presented by Southern Exchange, will kick off at 1 p.m. and will be streamed live on ESPN+.

[Southern Exchange](#) is Boro Built! Its goal is to offer products that are as unique and tradition-rich as Georgia Southern University and the surrounding Statesboro area. The retail store offers a relaxed atmosphere for a shopping experience that Eagle fans deserve. Among other items, its collection includes apparel, hats, wall art and gift ideas.

The Eagle track & field team will also be in action that day at Erk Russell Park, hosting the GS Spring Classic. All events are free to the public.

Later that evening, the EFAA will host the 14th Annual \$10,000 Reverse Raffle & Auction at Allen E. Paulson Stadium.

The \$10,000 Reverse Raffle & Auction includes live entertainment, food and an open bar with all proceeds directly benefiting the Georgia Southern football program, as well as the Erk Russell, Tom 'Doc' Smith, and [Roger Inman](#) Scholarships that are available to the University's student-athletes, student managers and athletic trainers.

One ticket gains entry for two guests to the event and one entry into the raffle.

To purchase a ticket, [go here](#).

Georgia Southern hosts an exciting slate of home games this fall at Paulson Stadium as the Eagles welcome BYU, Coastal Carolina, Georgia State, Louisiana, Gardner-Webb and Arkansas State. Fans looking to purchase season tickets may visit [GSEagles.com/FootballTickets](#) or call 1(800) GSU-WINS during business hours (Monday-Friday; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.). They can also stop by the Ticket Office at 203 Lanier Drive. Season ticket packages start as low as \$80/each for all six home games this season.

Fans will also be able to redeem the GATA Rewards points at the Spring Game. Prizes, which include pop sockets, power banks and more, will be available for pick up outside Gate 12 throughout the day. Stop by the marketing tent to collect your prizes. Fans can check on their prizes status by clicking on the Rewards tab in the app.