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Setting the Scene Game Preview

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SETTING THE SCENE

Game Preview

Site: Mitchell Center (10,000)

Tipoff: 4 p.m. ET

Listen: GS Sports Network (pregame show starts a half hour before tipoff) - WHKN 94.9 FM (Statesboro), 630 AM WBMQ (Savannah), 1370 AM WLOP (Jesup)

Watch: ESPN+

Series: GS trails 11-5, W1

Last Meeting: W, 81-74, 3/1/18 (Hanner)

Probable Starters:

#0 - Montae Glenn
#4 - Tookie Brown
#10 - Calvin Wishart
#13 - Quan Jackson
#53 - Isaiah Crawley

- Georgia Southern completes its two-game road trip at South Alabama in a 4 p.m. ET tipoff on ESPN+.
- The Eagles are 3-2 in their last five and coming off a 90-82 win at Troy Thursday evening.
- Tookie Brown's 3-pointer from the top of the key 1:46 into the game put the senior over 2,000 points for his career. He finished with 19 and has 2,017 career points.
- Brown ranks eighth on the Sun Belt career scoring list and tied for seventh on the NCAA active career scoring list.
- Senior Montae Glenn is two rebounds shy of becoming the 12th Eagle to reach 600.
- Georgia Southern has trailed by double digits in seven of its last eight contests and came back to win three of those games. The Eagles have come back from double-digit deficits to win five contests this season.
- GS ranks sixth in the country in field goal percentage (.505) and 13th in scoring, averaging 85.3 points a game. The Eagles have scored 80-plus 11 times, 90-plus five times and over 100 twice.
- GS ranks 34th in the nation and first in the Sun Belt in turnover margin (+3.4), 18th in the NCAA in turnovers forced (17.4) and 35th in steals (8.3).
- GS finished the non-conference portion of its schedule with an 8-5 record. The slate is rated the 36th most difficult in the country in the latest edition of the NCAA Net (through games Jan. 17), making it the most difficult in the Sun Belt.
- Georgia Southern has finished in the top-3 in three of their four plus seasons in the Sun Belt

and has 49 conference victories, the fourth-most since 2014. The Eagles joined Louisiana and UTA as the only three Sun Belt schools to reach double-digit conference wins in each of the last four seasons.

- Tookie Brown has been named to the Lou Henson Award Midseason Watch List. The award is given to the Mid-Major Basketball Player of the Year at the Final Four.
- Brown was named first-team All-Sun Belt and first-team All-District for the third consecutive season last year. He is the 17th player in the 43-year history of the Sun Belt to earn first-team accolades in three seasons and became the first Eagle to accomplish the feat in Georgia Southern history.
- Injuries have kept Georgia Southern from having its full roster available for any game this season, and three opening day starters have missed a combined 13 contests. GS has used eight different starting lineups.
- After winning a pair of games on the opening weekend of Sun Belt play, South Alabama has lost its last three and is coming off a 69-66 setback to conference leader Georgia State Thursday night.
- The Jaguars are 9-3 at home this season.
- South Alabama was picked seventh in the Sun Belt Preseason Coaches Poll. Rodrick Sikes, who has made 50 3-pointers this season, was named second-team Preseason All-Sun Belt, and Josh Ajayi, who averages 15 points and eight rebounds, was a third-team selection.

The Series

- South Alabama leads the all-time series, which began in 1978, 11-5, and has won five of the last seven meetings.
- The teams split the season series last year with each team winning at home.
- GS is 2-6 against South Alabama on the road, and lost the last meeting, 69-67, Dec. 31, 2017. Quan Jackson's 3-point try from the corner as the buzzer sounded came off the rim as the Jags earned the win.
- Prior to the 2014-15 season when GS joined the Sun Belt, the teams had not met since 2010 and 2011, both South Alabama victories.
- The Jaguars won four of the first five meetings from 1978-80.
- Georgia Southern swept the season series in 2014-15.