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## Setting the Scene Game Preview

Georgia Southern University

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# SETTING THE SCENE

## Game Preview

**Site:** Hanner Fieldhouse (3,897)

**Tipoff:** 7 p.m.

**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 leads 18-15, W2

**Last Meeting:** W, 67-61, 2/1/18 (away)

### Probable Starters

#0 - Montae Glenn

#4 - Tookie Brown

#10 - Calvin Wishart

#13 - Quan Jackson

#53 - Isaiah Crawley

- Georgia Southern caps the regular season with three consecutive games in Hanner Fieldhouse. The stretch starts with a contest against Little Rock at 7 p.m. Thursday on ESPN+.
- GS has won its last four and enters the week in control of its own destiny in its goal of winning one of the top two seeds in the upcoming Sun Belt Tournament. The top two seeds earn a double bye into the semifinal round, while the third and fourth-seeded teams receive a bye into the quarterfinals.
- It's the first and only meeting between the Eagles and Trojans this season and the third straight game in which GS is playing a Sun Belt opponent for the first time this year.
- GS is tied for second with Georgia State in the Sun Belt standings, and Little Rock is 10th.
- The Eagles are 4-1 in their last five and coming off a 92-69 win at Appalachian State Saturday afternoon.
- GS ranks sixth in the country in field goal percentage (.501) and 15th in scoring, averaging 83.6 points a game. The Eagles have scored 80-plus 14 times, 90-plus seven times and over 100 three times. GS has shot 50 percent or better in 14 contests and 60 percent or better twice.
- GS ranks third in the Sun Belt in turnover margin (+2.1), 27th in the NCAA in turnovers forced (16.0) and 37th in steals (7.9).
- Georgia Southern has finished in the top-3 in three of their four plus seasons in the Sun Belt and has 56 conference victories, tied with UTA for the third-most since 2014. GS is currently the only Sun Belt school to reach double-digit conference wins in each of the last five seasons.
- Tookie Brown ranks sixth on the Sun Belt career scoring list and ninth on the NCAA active

career scoring list. He is six steals away from 200 for his career and the only player in Sun Belt history with over 2,000 points and 500 assists.

- 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.
- Senior Ike Smith will sit out the rest of the season and seek a medical hardship waiver to regain a year of eligibility. Smith, who has amassed 1,480 career points and 492 rebounds, played in the first 10 games of the season and averaged 14.7 points and 5.7 boards for the Eagles, and Georgia Southern is 10-7 since he has been out.
- Senior Montae Glenn is four blocked shots away from 100 for his career. He is currently ranked first on Georgia Southern's career field goal percentage list (.587) and his .630 shooting percentage this season is currently a school record.
- 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 23 contests. GS has used eight different starting lineups.
- The Eagles are 8-3 in Hanner Fieldhouse this season, 58-21 under Mark Byington and 33-11 in Sun Belt contests.
- Little Rock is 3-2 in its last five but coming off a 72-65 loss at Arkansas State Saturday evening.
- Rayjon Tucker ranks fifth in the Sun Belt in scoring (20.3 ppg) and sixth in field goal percentage (.489). Tucker has ranks 25th nationally in minutes played (36:38 per game) and has been on the floor 87.3 percent of the time for the Trojans. He has played 40 minutes six times.

### **The Series**

- This will be the 34th meeting in the all-time series, which began in 1988.
- Georgia Southern leads it 18-15 but has lost three of the last five.
- The Eagles won both games in 2014-15, and those contests were the first in the series since the 1990-91 season, when both schools were members of the TAAC.
- Three of the last six games have been decided by three points or less and one of those went to overtime.
- The Eagles are 11-5 against the Trojans at home.