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Setting the Scene Game Preview

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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 2-0, W2

Last meeting: 11/7/18, W 139-51

Promotions: Glowstick Night; End-of-Semester Celebration!; Toys for Tots - bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate

Probable Starters:

#2 - Elijah McCadden

#3 - Ike Smith

#13 - Quan Jackson

#23 - Simeon Carter

#24 - David-Lee Jones Jr.

- Georgia Southern plays host to Carver College Friday at 7 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse. The game will air on ESPN+.
- It's one of two contests in the next 14 days for the Eagles, who have exams next week.
- The Eagles are coming off a 2-1 weekend at the Hilton Garden Inn FGCU Classic and topped host FGCU 72-57 in their last contest. Ike Smith and Elijah McCadden were named all-tournament.
- The Eagles are 63-22 in Hanner Fieldhouse under Mark Byington and 35-12 in Sun Belt contests. GS is 23-3 in its last 26 non-conference home contests.
- Georgia Southern was picked third in the Sun Belt in the conference's Preseason Men's Basketball Coaches Poll. Quan Jackson was named first-team All-Sun Belt, Ike Smith was named second-team all-league and Isaiah Crawley was named third team all-conference.
- The Sun Belt poll followed a trend of preseason praise for the Eagles. Athlon, Lindy's, Street & Smith's and The Blue Ribbon College Basketball Yearbook all have the Eagles picked in the top-3 of the conference.
- The Eagles posted 20 wins in consecutive seasons for the first time in 30 years. The last time GS won 20 games two years in a row was in 1987-88 (24-7) and 1988-89 (22-6). GS has three 20-win seasons in the last five years.
- Senior Ike Smith received a medical hardship waiver to regain a year of eligibility. Smith

scored five points against Reinhardt Nov. 8 to pass 1,500 for his career and had four rebounds vs. Radford Nov. 15 to become the fifth Eagle with 1,500 career points and 500 rebounds, joining Jeff Sanders (1,861 pts, 893 reb), Kevin Anderson (1,843 pts, 986 reb), Matt Simpkins (1,684 pts, 642 reb) and Louis Graham (1,581 pts, 908 reb).

- Smith has been named to the Lou Henson Award Preseason Watch List. The award is given annually to the nation's top Division I Mid-Major player.

- Elijah McCadden was named Sun Belt Player of the Week Nov. 26 after tallying 28 points, four rebounds, two steals and block against Mercer.

- The Eagles rank 11th in the country in steals (10.5/gm), 10th in turnovers forced (19.6/gm) and seventh in turnover margin (+7.0).