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## Setting the Scene

Georgia Southern University

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# SETTING THE SCENE

## Probable Starters

#0 - Montae Glenn  
#3 - Ike Smith  
#4 - Tookie Brown  
#13 - Quan Jackson  
#53 - Isaiah Crawley

## Season Preview Stories

[He's Baaack](#)

[Glenn Excited to Get Back on the Court](#)

[Healthy Smith Ready for Senior Season](#)

[Quan Jackson Ready to Take the Next Step](#)

[Juniors Ready to Make an Impact](#)

[Eaglets Hope to Continue to Raise the Bar](#)

[Big Man on Campus](#)

- Georgia Southern plays three contests in the Islands of the Bahamas Showcase in Nassau.
- GS meets Florida Atlantic on the hardwood for the first time Friday with tipoff set for 5 p.m. The Eagles face either Pepperdine or Towson Saturday at either 2 p.m. or 8 p.m.
- The Eagles are 1-1 all-time against Pepperdine, and both contests have been played at a neutral site. GS won the first meeting 79-73 in 1991 and lost the second 69-59 in 1995.
- Georgia Southern advanced to the championship game of the 2017 Gulf Coast Showcase, where the Eagles fell 70-67 to Towson. It was the first meeting between the Eagles and Tigers.
- GS has not won an in-season tournament since 2003, when the Eagles defeated Cleveland State and Texas A&M Corpus Christi in the Flint Hill Resources Islander Classic in Corpus Christi, Texas.
- The tournament in the Bahamas is the second time the Eagles have played regular season games outside the United States in the last six years. GS split two contests in Cancun, Mexico, in 2013, topping Presbyterian 76-66 and falling 67-65 to Oral Roberts.
- Georgia Southern senior guards Tookie Brown and Ike Smith have been named All-Sun Belt, and the Eagles were picked in a tie for second in the conference's Preseason Men's Basketball Coaches Poll.
- The Sun Belt poll follows a trend of preseason praise for the Eagles. Athlon, Lindy's, Street & Smith's and The Blue Ribbon College Basketball Yearbook all have Brown on the preseason All-Sun Belt team and the Eagles picked in the top-3 of the conference.
- 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.
- GS has six scholarship newcomers on the roster, the most in a season during head coach Mark Byington's tenure. The Eagles return just five lettermen, but three seniors were starters the last two seasons and the five returners entered the campaign with 3,936 career points among them, the 12th-most in the country.
- With a 21-12 record last season, Georgia Southern reached 20 wins for the second time in four years.
- Georgia Southern has finished in the top-3 in three of their four seasons in the Sun Belt and has 46 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.
- GS is 9-7 in neutral site contests during Byington's tenure.
- The Eagles have won six of their last seven, dating back to last season, and are coming off a 98-89 win over George Mason Tuesday.
- FAU is 2-0 for the first time since the 2010-11 season and coming off an 80-79 win at UCF Sunday.
- The Owls have 12 new players on the roster.
- The Eagles last win against a Conference USA team was a 75-68 decision at Florida International in 2016.