



AUGUSTA STATE GAMEDAY UPDATE

***No. 4 seed -- No. 24 GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE Bobcats (22-5) vs.
No. 1 seed -- No. 5 AUGUSTA STATE Jaguars (24-4)
Peach Belt Conference Tournament ❖ Semifinals
Saturday, March 7, 2009 ❖ 6:00 p.m.
USCA Convocation Center (3,600) ❖ Aiken, S.C.***

THE FACTS ... National Ranking: No. 5 (NABC) ... Regional Ranking: No. 1 (Southeast Region) ... Overall Record: 24-4 ... PBC Record: 17-3 ... Last Five Games: 5-0 ... Last 10 Games: 10-0 ... Last 15 Games: 13-2 ... At Home: 11-1 ... On The Road: 11-3 ... At Neutral Sites: 2-0 ... At Home In The PBC: 10-0 ... On The Road In The PBC: 7-3 ... Under Head Coach Dip Metress: 109-42 (.722) ... At Home Under Metress: 57-9 (.864) ... On The Road Under Metress: 42-25 (.627) ... At Neutral Sites Under Metress: 10-8 (.556) ... At Home In The PBC Under Metress: 39-7 (.848) ... On The Road In The PBC Under Metress: 30-16 (.652) ... vs. Nationally-Ranked Opponents Under Metress: 15-7 (.682) ... In The PBC Tournament Under Metress: 4-4 (.500)

LAST TIME OUT ... Top-seeded Augusta State enjoyed a record-breaking performance en route to a 97-78 victory over Lander on Friday, March 6 in the PBC Tournament quarterfinals ... The No. 5 Jaguars extended their winning streak to 10 straight and set a new school record and PBC tournament record with 17 3-pointers ... ASU scored a season-high 56 points in the first half and shot 60.7 percent from the field ... Junior guard Ben Madgen scored 19 of his game-high 24 points in the first half ... He connected on a career-high six 3-pointers and handed out a career-high eight assists ... Daniel Dixon was 5-of-8 from behind the arc and netted 19 points with six rebounds and four assists. ... Garret Siler added 16 points and nine rebounds while Fred Brathwaite managed 11 points and Caleb Brown had 10 points off the bench ... The Jags' 97 points were the most ever in their 33 PBC tournament games ... The 19-point margin of victory was the largest in a PBC tourney game as well.

LAST TIME OUT VS. GCSU ... The No. 24 Bobcats upset No. 7 ASU 79-76 on Saturday, Jan. 31 in the Centennial Center in Milledgeville, Ga. ... The victory snapped a string of five straight losses to ASU ... The contest featured 17 leads changes and 10 ties and marked the fifth top-25 matchup of the season for the Jags ... After an ASU turnover, Tye Rowland hit two free throws with 11.8 seconds left for a 79-76 GCSU lead ... The Jags raced the ball up the floor and Ben Madgen's game-tying attempt from the right wing was short ... ASU led 63-59 after a Daniel Dixon 3-pointer at the 8:36 mark and a pair of Garret Siler free throws gave the Jags a 65-59 advantage before Rowland keyed a 7-0 spurt with a trey and added a reverse layup ... Two Keaton free throws gave GCSU a 66-65 lead at the 6:21 mark ... A Keaton jumper tied the game at 70-all with 3:18 to play after Dixon's two from the charity stripe put ASU in front ... A Caleb Brown tip in off a Dixon missed 3-pointer put the Jags up 74-72 before Keaton answered with a long-range bomb from the left wing for a 75-74 Bobcat lead with 1:55 left ... A Keaton jumper put the hosts ahead 77-74 at the 1:00 mark and Siler's layup made it a 77-76 game with 40.6 seconds left.

ASU IN THE PBC TOURNAMENT ... The Jaguars are making their 18th appearance ... ASU entered the tourney as the PBC Champion and as the No. 1 seed after finishing the regular season 17-3 in league play and 23-4 overall ... The Jags are 18-15 all-time, including 4-5 all-time in the semifinals ... ASU is 4-4 under fourth-year head coach Dip Metress ... The Jags have claimed two PBC Tournament titles, winning back-to-back tournaments in 2001 and 2002 ... ASU is 2-3 vs. Georgia College & State ... The Jags are making their third semifinal appearance in five seasons under head coach Dip Metress ... ASU has suffered three consecutive losses in semifinal games (2003, 2005 and 2007) ... The Jags and Bobcats last met in the PBC tourney in 2007, with ASU claiming a 91-82 victory in the quarterfinals ... ASU is 2-0 against GCSU under Metress in the PBC Tourney.

WITH A WIN ... ASU will extend its winning streak to 11 games, the third-longest in school history ... The Jags will earn their first PBC Tournament semifinal victory since 2002 ... ASU will record its 25th win of the season, two shy of matching the school record for wins in a season ... The Jags will advance to the PBC Tournament Championship game for the first time since 2002 ... ASU will improve to 5-4 in the PBC Tournament under head coach Dip Metress and to 11-6 in the postseason under Metress ... The Jags will improve to 3-3 vs. GCSU in the PBC Tournament ... ASU will improve to 3-0 under Metress against the Bobcats ... The Jags will improve to 16-7 vs. nationally-ranked opponents under Metress.

WINNER, WINNER, CHICKEN DINNER ... With 24 wins, ASU has posted the third-winningest season in school history, behind only the 1969-70 (27-3) and 2007-08 (27-7) squad ... With 23 wins, ASU recorded the second-most regular-season victories in school history and the most since the 1969-70 season, when the Jaguars were guided by former Peach Belt Conference Commissioner Marvin Vanover ... ASU's 75 wins the last three seasons (2006-07 to present) are the most over a three-year span in school history ... The Jags have won 22 or more games for the seventh time in school history and for the fourth time in the last nine years (2001-02: 22-8, 2006-07: 24-7, 2007-08: 27-7, 2008-09: 23-4) ... With 27 wins last season, ASU matched the school record for wins in a season, equaling the 1969-70 edition of the Jags (27-3) ... ASU's 51 combined wins in 2006-07 and 2007-08 set a new school standard for the most over a two-year span in school history (49 wins in 1970-71).

ASU VS. NATIONALLY-RANKED OPPONENTS ... The ASU-Armstrong Atlantic State matchup on Saturday, Feb. 14 marked ASU's sixth game against a ranked opponent this season, the most in school history in a regular season ... The Jags are 3-3 against nationally-ranked opponents this season and 15-7 (.667) under head coach Dip Metress ... ASU has played more top-25 opponents Metress than any other coach in school history ... ASU is 13-4 during the regular season and 7-0 in Christenberry Fieldhouse vs. nationally-ranked foes under Metress ... ASU went 5-1 during the 2007-08 season, including 3-0 in the regular season, against nationally-ranked opponents ... The highest-ranked opponent the Jags have ever faced was No. 2 USC Aiken on Jan. 5, 2009 ... Previously, the highest-ranked opponent the Jags had faced was No. 3 Winona State in the 2008 NCAA Tournament National Championship game in Springfield, Mass. The Jags' 76-67 victory over No. 10 Clayton State on Feb. 7, 2007 was the first-ever Top 25 matchup in Christenberry Fieldhouse (ASU was ranked No. 16) ... No. 7 ASU's 87-76 victory over No. 2 USC Aiken on Jan. 5, 2009, marked the first top-10 matchup in Peach Belt Conference history and the Jags-Pacers' rematch on Jan. 19 marked the second-ever, top-10 showdown in league history ... The Jags have been a part of three of the last four PBC matchups in which both teams were nationally-ranked.

POLL POSITION ... ASU is currently ranked No. 5 in the nation ... The Jags have been ranked in all 13 national polls in 2008-09, including five weeks in the top five and 12 weeks in the top 10 ... ASU has been ranked in 33 consecutive national polls, dating back to the 2006-07 season ... On Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2008, ASU vaulted up No. 3 in the nation, its highest national

ranking in school history ... ASU's No. 5 preseason national ranking was the highest in school history ... The Jags were ranked in all 14 national polls during the 2007-08 season ... ASU began the 2007-08 season ranked No. 6, climbed as high as No. 5 on Nov. 26, 2007 -- which was, at the time, the highest national ranking in school history -- and finished at No. 10.

LET'S GO STREAKING ... ASU has won 10 straight games – the third-longest streak in school history -- dating back to Monday, Feb. 2 ... Senior center Garret Siler has scored in double figures in 16 straight games ... Siler and fellow senior Steve Smith, along with junior Ben Madgen, have started in 34 straight games.

CAREER MILESTONES ... Senior center Garret Siler will be making his 100th career start against GCSU, while junior guard Ben Madgen and senior point guard Steve Smith will be opening in the 92nd and 89th games of their respective careers ... With 24 points vs. Lander in the PBC Tourney quarterfinals, Madgen moved into eighth place on the PBC career scoring list with 1,540 points, passing USC Upstate's Kevin Harrington and USC Aiken's Kendrick Smith ... With 16 points vs. Lander in the PBC Tourney quarterfinals, Siler moved into 12th place on the PBC career scoring list with 1,489 career points, passing former Augusta College standout Derek Stewart.

AUGUSTA STATE HEAD COACH DIP METRESS ... is 109-42 (.722) and in his fifth season at the helm of the Jaguar program and 243-135 (.643) in his 13th season overall as a head coach ... Metress was named the fifth head coach in the program's 44-year history on May 10, 2004 ... A former Jaguar assistant from 1989-1995, Metress returned to Augusta following a highly successful eight-year stint at Belmont Abbey College in Belmont, N.C. ... In eight seasons, Metress guided the Crusaders to a 134-93 (.590) record, including a 117-56 (.676) mark the last six years ... In his last seven seasons (last three at BAC, first four at ASU), Metress is 153-61 (.715), an average of 21.9 wins per season.