



2009 General Shale Brick Atlantic Sun Basketball Championship

Finals ~ Saturday, March 7, 2009 ~ Allen Arena ~ Lipscomb University ~ Nashville, Tenn.



WBB- No. 1 ETSU Lady Buccaneers vs No. 2 Jacksonville Dolphins ~ Noon



Series Record
Tournament Series
Lady Bucs Notes

ETSU leads 8-1
ETSU leads 2-0

No. 1 vs No. 2
Season Results

No. 1 leads 7-2
1/3 (at ETSU 86, JU 77), 1/29 (ETSU 65, at JU 54)

- * Atlantic Sun Player of the Year Siarre Evans is the only player in the league averaging a double-double with 16.7 points and 10.3 rebounds per game, tops in the conference in both categories.
- * ETSU is trying to become the first team to successfully defend its title since Georgia State went back-to-back in 2002 and 2003.
- * ETSU is the top-scoring team in the tournament field, averaging 71.4 points per game, and ranks fourth in the league in field goal percentage, shooting 39.2 percent from the floor.
- * The Lady Bucs are back in the title game for the third consecutive season, the first team to accomplish that since Georgia State played in four straight championship rounds from 2000-2003.
- * Through the first five games of the championship, the higher-seed has prevailed all five times. This event has occurred only once previously, in 2000, when second-seeded Campbell upset top-seed Georgia State.
- * ETSU faced Jacksonville in last year's final as well with the Lady Bucs pulling out the 75-72 victory. This is the first rematch of a previous year's title game since Georgia State and Campbell met in 2000 and 2001. The Camels won 66-49 in 2000 as the lower seed, but the Panthers returned the favor in 2001, upending the top-seeded Camels, 64-62.
- * ETSU has won seven straight games in the series against Jacksonville, and eight of nine overall. The Lady Bucs only loss in the series came in the 2006-07 season in an 83-79 setback in Jacksonville.
- * ETSU has won four consecutive tournament games, marking the longest championship win streak since Georgia State won 10 straight from 2001-04.
- * With a win, ETSU will reach the 20-win plateau for the third consecutive season, the first A-Sun school since Georgia State won at least 20 games in four-straight seasons from 2000-03.
- * ETSU head coach Karen Kemp notched her 200th career win earlier this season with a 75-67 victory over FGCU in Fort Myers, making her the first coach in school history to reach that mark. All of her career wins have come with the Lady Bucs.

Dolphins Notes

- * Jacksonville is into the championship round for the second consecutive season.
- * Seniors Virginia Gregoire and DaVina Hamilton lead the Dolphins in scoring, averaging 10.1 and 10 points per game, respectively.
- * Gregoire ranks second on the all-time scoring list at Jacksonville.
- * The Dolphins lead the Atlantic Sun in scoring defense, allowing just 57.5 points per game, and are second in field goal percentage defense permitting opponents a 38.1 shooting percentage.
- * The tenacious Dolphins' defense has held opponents under 50 points on seven occasions this season, and are 6-1 in those contests; including a 51-49 victory against Belmont in the semifinals.
- * Gregoire ranks in the top-three on the Jacksonville career list in scoring, rebounding, 3-point field goals made, steals, assists and minutes played.
- * Jacksonville is trying to avoid becoming the first school to lose to the same team in three consecutive tournaments since Florida A&M lost to Georgia Southern in four consecutive tournaments from 1987-1990.
- * Jacksonville's trio of seniors, Gregoire, Davina Hamilton and Regina Omoite have amassed 74 wins in their four-year careers; 14 more victories than any other four-year span in Dolphin history.
- * In addition to a berth in the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history, a victory in the championship round will place the Dolphins on the 20-win plateau for the third consecutive season, making them and ETSU the only two teams in the A-Sun to accomplish that feat.
- * Gregoire and Omoite have each scored over 1,000 points in their illustrious four-years, the only pair of teammates in the A-Sun with such prolific scoring careers.
- * Jacksonville head coach Jill Dunn earned her 100th career coaching win with a 71-42 victory over Lipscomb on February 26 in Nashville. Already the winningest coach in Dolphin history, 79 of her career wins have come on the JU sideline. Dunn won 23 games in two seasons as the head coach at Western Carolina.

ETSU Quick Hits

Championship Appearances.....	3
Record.....	6-2
Last Appearance	2008 - Champions
Highest Seed	No. 1 - 2008
Best Finish	Champions, 2008
No. 1 Seed All-Time	43-9
No. 1 Seed Championships	14
Last No. 1 Championship	2008 - ETSU
Last No. 1 win vs No. 2	2008 - ETSU 75, JU 72
Largest Tourn Margin - Win	22 - 2009, ETSU 82, Mer 60
Largest Tourn Margin - Loss	12 - 2007, Bel 69, ETSU 57

Jacksonville Quick Hits

Championship Appearances.....	6
Record.....	5-5
Last Appearance	2008 - Finals
Highest Seed	No. 2 - Three Times
Best Finish	2008 - Finals
No. 2 Seed All-Time.....	38-17
No. 2 Seed Championships	Six
Last No. 2 Championship.....	2006 - FAU
Last No. 2 win vs No. 1	2008 - No. 2 JU 68, No. 3 GWU 47
Largest Tourn Margin - Win	21 - 2008, JU 68, GWU 47
Largest Tourn Margin - Loss	13 - 2006, FAU 74, JU 61



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MBB - No. 1 Jacksonville Dolphins No. 2 ETSU Buccaneers ~ 5:00 p.m. **ESPN 2**

Series Record
Tournament Series

ETSU leads 5-4 No. 1 vs No. 2
First Meeting Season Results 1/3 (at ETSU 84, JU 82), 1/30 (at JU 82, ETSU 72 - OT) No. 1 leads 8-4

Championship Notes

* This matchup will feature six 1000-point scorers (Ben Smith, Marcus Allen and Lehmon Colbert for JU; Courtney Pigram, Kevin Tiggs and Mike Smith). ETSU and Jacksonville are two of the 16 programs in the country with three 1000-point scorers on the roster. Never in the 31-year history of the league have two teams stepped onto the court each with a trio of 1000 point scorers on their respective rosters.

The last time two teams met in A-Sun final with neither owning a previous A-Sun title came in 2006. Belmont defeated Lipscomb 74-69, in overtime, starting its three-year run of titles.

Dolphins Notes

- * Clinched first regular-season conference title in school history
- * Last made the NCAA Tournament in 1986 as a member of the Sun Belt Conference.
- * Jacksonville advances to its second A-Sun Championship title game. The Dolphins lost, 79-61, to Belmont last year. They will attempt to join UALR in 1985 and UCF in 2003 as the only two teams to lose in the final one year and capture the title in the next.
- * With Jacksonville's win, the top seed has advanced to each of the last six A-Sun Championship title games. They are just 1-4 in the previous five (Belmont, 2008, has the lone win).
- * Friday's 16-point margin is Jacksonville's widest in an A-Sun Championship game. Previously, its largest margin of victory came in last year's semifinal, an 89-80 win against Gardner-Webb.
- * Ben Smith: 3-for-16, 8 pts, 9 rebs in 2008 title game vs Belmont.
- * Marcus Allen: lone remaining starter from the 2005-06 team when Dolphins went 1-26.
- * Ayron Hardy: 2009 Atlantic Sun Defensive Player of the Year - only A-Sun player in the top 10 in both steals and blocks, seventh in both.
- * Cliff Warren: 2009 Atlantic Sun Coach of the Year - would be second straight Coach of the Year to lead his team to the A-Sun title (Rick Byrd, Belmont).
- * Made 10 3-pt FG against Lipscomb including connecting on 7-of-9 in the second half

Championship Notes

* For the third time in the last eight years, the same two schools will meet in both the men's and women's title games, and for the first time since the championships have been played concurrently at the same site. In 2007, Belmont's men and women defeated ETSU. In 2002, FAU and Georgia State met each other. FAU won the men's crown while Georgia State won the women's title.

* The higher seed has won all five games thus far. The last A-Sun Men's Championship to go without an upset came in 1998 when College of Charleston won the second of back-to-back titles.

Buccaneers Notes

- * Tiggs, the A-Sun's leading scoring has accumulated 58 points in the first two games. The 3-game record is held by Willie Jackson, 87 points in the 1982 Championship. He will attempt to become just the fifth scoring champ to lead his team to the A-Sun Championship (last: Shernard Long, Georgia State in 2000-01).
- * Tiggs needs 16 points to pass Pigram's 2007 3-game total 73 points as the most points for an entire Buccaneer in an A-Sun Championship
- * Courtney Pigram: 2017 points, 2nd in A-Sun history. On Friday, ended the league's 25-year drought between 2000 point scorers. Centenary's Willie Jackson reached the milestone in 1984.
- * Against Belmont, Tiggs, Pigram and Mike Smith scored 22 of the Bucs' first 24 points. They combined for 70 points. On the season they have averaged scoring 54.7 of ETSU's conference-leading 78.4 points per game.
- * Tiggs (37 vs Stetson on Wednesday) and Pigram (30 vs Belmont on Friday) have each posted 30-point games in this year's Championship. Prior to the 2009 Championship, only there had only been two 30-point games in the A-Sun Championship in the last 10 years
- * The Bucs make their second A-Sun Championship title game. In its previous appearance, Belmont defeated ETSU, 94-67 in Johnson City, Tenn. All-time, the Buccaneers own a 6-3 record in title games, last winning back-to-back SoCon titles in 2003 and 2004.
- * 0-2 all-time in A-Sun Championship games in which the Buccaneers are the lower seeded team (5-0 as the higher seed)
- * Murry Bartow: seeking 3rd NCAA Tournament appearance. His dad, Gene, made 12 NCAA Tournaments in his career (once with Memphis State, twice at UCLA and nine times while coaching UAB).

JU Quick Hits	ETSU Quick Hits
Championship Appearances..... 9	Championship Appearances..... Four
Record..... 4-9	Record..... 5-3
Last Appearance 2008 - Runner-up	Last Appearance 2008 - Semifinals
Highest Seed No. 1, 2009	Highest Seed No. 1 - 2007
Best Finish 2008 - Runner-up	Best Finish 2007 - Runner-up
No. 1 Seed All-Time 53-20	No. 2 Seed All-Time..... 49-24
No. 1 Seed Championships 11	No. 2 Seed Championships Six
Last No. 1 Championship 2008 - Belmont	Last No. 2 Championship..... 2007 - Belmont
Last No. 1 win vs No. 2 2008 - No. 1 Belmont 79, No. 2 Jacksonville 61	Last No. 2 win vs No. 1 2007 - No. 2 Belmont 94, No. 1 ETSU 67
Largest Tourn Margin - Win 16 - 2009; JU 88, Lip 72	Largest Tourn Margin - Win 16 - 2007, ETSU 77, Stet 61
Largest Tourn Margin - Loss 20 - 1999; GSU 78, JU 58	Largest Tourn Margin - Loss 27 - 2007, Bel 94, ETSU 67