



## **COACH BEN HOWLAND**

**December 4, 2016**

**Georgia State vs. Mississippi State**

### ***Opening Statement...***

“I’m really proud of our team. Georgia State is a really good team, when I watched film on them I saw that they had Purdue down 13 points with 7 minutes to go and Purdue found a way to come back and win. They are a really good team and they are going to win a lot of games in the Sun Belt conference this year. They play a zone defense that makes it very difficult to penetrate and they have a lot of players that are very athletic. To beat a team like that by 22 points makes me feel very good going into final exams week. Lamar Peters played incredible today and really gave us a lift in the first half when we were struggling. I.J. Ready settled down and really played great as our floor general today. I thought Schnider Herard played his best game for us so far and he’s still going to get so much better. Mario Kegler played well for us today, especially defensively.”

### ***On attacking zone defense...***

“I didn’t think we got the ball to the high-post as much as we’d like to like we did against Oregon State. When we get Xavian Stapleton back in about 18 days it is really going to help us with our depth and that’ll help us in attacking the zone. We need to have guys who can flash to the high-post or can athletically see over it. I thought Mario Kegler did a good job of that today, and he has really improved there. We’ve got to get Quinndary Weatherspoon in there doing the same thing. He’s taking too many three-point shots right now and I told him that while he was on the bench. He’s taking a few shots where he needs to penetrate instead of taking the three-point shot.”

### ***On Quinndary Weatherspoon...***

“We depend on him so much that sometimes we forget that he is only 8 games into his sophomore season. He’s so good that sometimes we get spoiled by him and expect more than we should. He listens so well though, and he is very coachable. It is a pleasure to coach him because he listens, tries his hardest and does everything that I ask him to do.”



## HEAD COACH RON HUNTER QUOTES

December 4, 2016

Georgia State vs. Mississippi State

### *Opening Statement...*

“I thought Mississippi State shot the ball really well and played well. I think we played the worst game we have played all year. I am kind of disappointed in the way we played. I think they shot the ball very well. They went 13-34 from the three. If you shoot the ball that well, then you’re going to win a lot of games. We have to just move on but give a lot of credit to Mississippi State for shooting the ball very well.”

### *On Lamar Peters...*

“We were concerned about Weatherspoon, but we knew Peters was a strict shooter. Some of the shots he made were early on in the game. We got the lead in the first half and he had a couple of big shots. Every shot that he made, they seemed to be cut in the middle, so I think he did a real nice job with that. If he’s making shots like that then they are a really good basketball team.”



## MISSISSIPPI STATE PLAYER QUOTES

December 4, 2016

Georgia State vs. Mississippi State

**G – Lamar Peters – Fr.**

***On the outcome of the game...***

“I just wanted to go out and let the game come to me. Making my open shots and just taking my time while knocking them down. I was just listening to Coach Howland. He always tells me to be patient and things will come to you. That’s all I wanted to do today; help the team get a W.”

***On making a comeback after Monday’s incident...***

“I just wanted to work hard. I know I owe it to my team, to come out and show the guys that I’m a team player. That was kind of selfish of me oversleeping. So, I just wanted to come back and shake-back for my team and be a good team player so that’s what I came to do today.”

***On helping Quinndary out...***

“Q, a lot of people are going to be focused on him, because he’s a good player and one of the top players in the SEC. I knew that they were going to be focused on him, so when I need to make the extra pass or be open, I just want to take my time to knock it down. You’re not going to get too many open shots in college so, I just wanted to capitalize every time I get the chance to get the shot off.”

**G – Mario Kegler – Fr.**

***On becoming more acclimated to the game and playing together...***

“I would say its’ just more experience. We all knew that we could come in and shoot the ball like that, but it’s just our team trusting us to take the time out to knock them down.”

***On getting the W and being ready for SEC play...***

“Like Coach Howland has been saying, this was going to be a big game for us going out on our break. We just wanted to come out and get this win before we go to conference play and show everybody that we are ready for SEC play.”

***On the upcoming week of practice during break...***

“I think Coach Howland is going to make us practice hard and go after each other. But, it’s going to be worth it.”



## MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY Basketball

Georgia State at Mississippi State  
Sunday, December 4, 2016  
Humphrey Coliseum  
Starkville, Miss.

**Paid Attendance: 6,805**

### **Mississippi State Team Notes**

- Mississippi State improved its series lead against Georgia State to 3-0.
- The Bulldogs improved to 61-12 all-time against Sun Belt teams.
- MSU is 6-2 for the first time since 2013-14.
- The 22-point margin of win was the largest this season.
- MSU is now 3-0 this year when leading at the half.
- The 82 points were a season-high.
- MSU made a season-high 13 3-pointers, the most since also making 15 against North Carolina A&T on 12-12-10.
- MSU attempted a season-high 34 3-pointers, the most since taking 31 a year ago since Southern University.
- Ben Howland moved above .500 at 20-19.

### **Mississippi State Individual Notes.**

- Lamar Peters had a career-high 24 points on 9-12 shooting.
- Schnider Herard had a career-high 8 points.
- Mario Kegler had a career high 16 points.
- In his last three games, I.J. Ready has collected 11 steals.