

# GEORGIA BASKETBALL

## NIT FIRST-ROUND POST-GAME NOTES & QUOTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016 • STEGEMAN COLISEUM • ATHENS, GA.

# GEORGIA 93, BELMONT 84

### NOTES

- Yante Maten had a career night, setting new bests in points (33), field goals made (14), 3-pointers (three), and attempts from deep (three). Maten's 33 points were the most ever for Georgia in a NIT game, and his 14 field goals were the most for a Bulldog in a game since Jarvis Hayes sunk 14 against Murray State in the 2002 NCAA Tournament.
- Maten's 33-point, 10-rebound effort was his 10th double-double of the season, tying the most in a season for any player under Mark Fox at Georgia.
- Charles Mann's 23 points were a season high, besting his 21-point effort against Mississippi State. He also tied his career high in 3-pointers with four.
- The Bulldogs reached the 20-win plateau for the third consecutive season, the second time that feat has been accomplished at UGA in 111 seasons of basketball.
- Georgia improved its all-time record to 3-0 against Belmont and improved its all-time record in the NIT to 13-12.
- The Bulldogs' 93 points were a season high, besting a 90-point effort in the season opener against Chattanooga that required overtime.
- Four players scored in double-digits for Georgia, the ninth time the Bulldogs have accomplished that feat in NIT play.
- The Bulldogs close the season with a 15-4 record at Stegeman Coliseum.

### DOUBLE-DIGIT BULLDOGS

- Yante Maten registered his 10th double-double of the season and 11th of his career. His 33-point performance was good for his 29th double-digit scoring game of the season and 34th of his career. It was his 12th 20-point game of the season and 12th of his career. It was his first ever 30-point game. The double-digit rebounding effort was his 11th of the season and 12th of his career.
- Charles Mann's 23-point performance was good for his 19th double-digit scoring game of the season and 71st of his career. It was his second 20-point game of the season and ninth of his career.
- J.J. Frazier's 16-point performance was good for his 26th double-digit scoring game of the season and 44th of his career.
- Kenny Gaines' 12-point performance was good for his 23rd double-digit scoring game of the season and 68th of his career.

### GEORGIA HEAD COACH MARK FOX

*On tonight's game...*

"It's a great win for our team. Our kids get to keep playing, and that's the most important thing, is that these guys were able to advance in the tournament and extend their season. Obviously, it is a big win from that standpoint. Also, to get [win] number 20 was significant for our team, these players, and our program, so we're excited about that. We beat a very well-coached and good basketball team, and one that we thought we would have a hard time defending, and we obviously did. Even though my players will probably say I was very critical of our defense, you have to tip your cap to Belmont's ability to spread you out and shoot the 3-point shot."

*On Belmont coach Rick Byrd's opinion that Georgia played well...*

"I think we did a lot of really good things. I was not pleased with how we defended, and I will probably always have something to critique and be critical of, but we did play very well offensively. J.J. [Frazier] having not practiced, not going through shoot-around, we didn't think we would get a lot from J.J., but he was a great facilitator. And when Yante [Maten] has the night he had, people start sinking in on him, and Charles [Mann] has a lot of open shots. He's obviously worked very hard to become a much improved three-point shooter. We did play well, and I would agree with Coach Byrd. And he has a terrific team."

### SOPHOMORE FYANTE MATEN

*On tonight's performance...*

"On the inside I went up strong and tried to finish and get a little arc on the ball. On the outside, they were just backing off of me and I kind of felt my shot going in before the game so I figured, why not?"

*On three-pointers...*

"I haven't been working on it too much, if I'm being honest. I always thought I could shoot it so if you think you can do it, there's a good shot that you can."

### SENIOR G CHARLES MANN

*On three-point success...*

"I knew it was going to be a good game when it started going in. I saw one go in and I got a little bit of confidence and just kept on shooting it."

### BELMONT HEAD COACH RICK BYRD

*On tonight's loss...*

"Congratulations to Georgia...I hope that he [Coach Fox] thinks that they played well because there's certain things that you have to get when you're a school like us, particularly when you're a smaller team playing against a bigger school and one of those things is that we felt like we had to help on their posts off the perimeter. Then Maten makes three out of three in the first half (3-pointers), and I don't know how many he had made all year, but not many...I thought we competed very hard, but we came out and started the second half very poorly and it cost us."

### BELMONT F EVAN BRADDS

*On the challenges in defending Yante Maten...*

"I think everything was difficult with him. He's a big, strong guy. Like coach said, we want to step in and step out and he threw 3-3 in the first half. When he did that, it kind of made him un-guardable for awhile. All their big guys played well. They all played well. They are a good team."