



NCAA BASKETBALL

FROM ONE OF THE NATIONS TOP SPORTS HANDICAPPER

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

PROVIDENCE @ XAVIER

Game Time: 6:30 PM EST

Watch: FOX SPORTS 1

Game Pick: PROVIDENCE +4

GAME ANALYSIS

No. 16 Xavier welcomes No. 17 Providence to Cintas Center.

Both teams have identical records: 17-5 overall and 9-2 in the Big East.

The Musketeers will be without one of their most important players. Senior forward Zach Freemantle's dealing with a left foot injury that will sideline him for four weeks.

Providence plays one of the toughest brands of basketball in the Big East this season. The Friars are one of the best offensive rebounding teams in the country and they get to the free-throw line more than any other team in the Big East. Between creating second-shot opportunities, drawing fouls and getting to the line, Providence is elite at using its physicality to its advantage. The Friars have made 376 free throws this season. Their opponents have only attempted 330.

Then factor in a Big East player of the year-level talent in Bryce Hopkins, and it's easy to see why the Friars are competing for a second consecutive conference championship.

Providence is No. 10 in the country in offensive rebounding and one of the best teams in the country at getting to the foul line. Xavier can't let the Friars generate second chances on the glass and Providence can't live at the free-throw line. Those two areas create a clear path for Providence to pick up a road win.

We will gladly take the generous 4 points with Providence on Wednesday night.

GUARANTEE If a game does not win based on the point spread, you will receive next week's equivalent game by email FREE OF CHARGE

NON-GUARANTEE Charge is applied regardless of the game outcome.

NOTE: The point spread is dependent on the wagering site used and when the game is bet. We wager on EVERY game given out and those tickets will be posted on the web site at the beginning of each week. Each ticket bought will be either \$500 or \$1000.

NO other sports handicapping service does this. We at wizardraceandsports.com believe in transparency and integrity. We back our selections with REAL MONEY.

Late injuries and/or illnesses ruling out players can result in big swings in the line and could be announced at any time - even as close as minutes before the start of the game. We at wizardraceandsports.com have no control over these line changes.

The line which we get when our wager is placed is what we use to grade our selections on wins and losses. This is the criteria we adhere to, which shows transparency in our weekly records.

Any questions or comments can be sent to: wiz@wizardraceandsports.com

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