



**Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

## **South Florida Bulls @ USTA Roadrunners**

**Game Time: 8:00pm ET**

**TV: ESPN+**

**Selection: South Florida Bulls -5**

The South Florida men's basketball team is led by Amir Abdur-Rahim, who last season coached Kennesaw State to its first-ever Division I NCAA Tournament berth in 2022-23. Abdur-Rahim's Kennesaw State team set an NCAA record as the fastest team to ever reach the NCAA Tournament after a one-win campaign, accomplishing the feat in a span of just three seasons. Abdur-Rahim has brought his magic to Tampa, Florida and has turned around the South Florida Bulls. This is the best team the Bulls have had since the early 2010s, a team that made a run in the NCAA Tournament.

The Bulls have been playing stout defense and are tied for 58th in the NCAA with a turnover margin of 2.2. They have also been playing exceptionally well on the offensive side of the ball. The Bulls are hitting nearly 37% from 3-point range, something that the Roadrunners saw first hand when they lost to the Bulls by 17 on Jan. 27. South Florida also sports a deep bench, which is 30th in the NCAA and third in the conference averaging 27 points per contest. The USF bench has outscored its opponent's bench by a staggering 648-426.

USTA, which is rated 287th in the nation on KenPom, is also struggling on defense as one might expect from a team with only 8 wins. KenPom has them rated 357th on defensive efficiency. The Roadrunners have several bad losses at home this season including to Rice, East Carolina and Army, with two of those bad teams defeating them by double digits! We don't see the Roadrunners bouncing back from that bad defeat to the Bulls on Jan. 27, a team that they do not match up well against. The only concern is that the Bulls have a big game with SMU on tap next, but we think that is one of the reasons this spread is as low as it is, along with being a road game. We expect Amir Abdur-Rahim to have his team focused on one game at a time. Take South Florida and lay the points.

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If a single game you purchased does not win based on the point spread, you will receive the next equivalent game FREE OF CHARGE.

Any questions or comments can be sent to: [wiz@wizardraceandsports.com](mailto:wiz@wizardraceandsports.com)

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