Friday, February 23, 2024 Brown Bears @ Columbia Lions

Game Time: 7:00pm ET

TV: SNY or ESPN+

Selection: Columbia Lions -3

Ivy League foes meet when the Columbia Lions (13-9) host the Brown Bears (7-17) at Columbia's home arena, Francis S. Levien Gymnasium. Columbia recently defeated Brown, 83-69, on the road at Pizzitola Sports Center on Feb. 10, a game that they dominated in the second half.

Columbia has had a good season by historical standards. Their 13 wins this season are the most under head coach Jim Engles and most since the 2015-16 season. It comes as no huge surprise. The Lions are one of only four teams in the country that returned more than 90% of their scoring this season, along with Northern Iowa, Wisconsin, and St. Bonaventure. Columbia is also one of 11 teams in the country to return at least 70 percent of its points, rebounds, assists, steals, and blocks from 2022-23. As a result, they surpassed the previous win total from the past two seasons combined.

This is a good shooting team that is coming off a tough loss to Harvard on Saturday. Columbia is averaging 84 points per game in wins this season. The Lions are averaging 17.6 assists, which ranks No. 16 in the country and is second in the Ivy League. Columbia is shooting 38 percent from three-point range (18th in the country) and has a defensive three-point percentage of 30.7 (45th in the country). They scored over 100 points twice this season! Columbia is also a deep team, averaging 29.6 bench points per game, which ranks No. 19 in the country. The Lions are just one of two Ivy League teams along with Cornell (19-4) to have six players averaging over eight points per game this season.

Brown has struggled all season long with only 7 victories and only one win against a team ranked in the top 200 on KenPom. They don't match up well against the fast-paced Lions and they figure to have trouble staying close late in the game. Take the Lions and lay the 3 points.