## NCAA BASKETBALL

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# Tuesday, February 27, 2024 Pittsburgh Panthers vs Clemson Tigers 

Game Time: 7:00pm ET<br>Selection: Pittsburgh Panthers +8

Pitt bounced back from an ugly loss to Wake Forest with a big home victory over a solid Virginia Tech team on Saturday. Now they travel to South Carolina for a must-win game versus another ACC rival. A win would provide Pitt with better position on the NCAA tournament bubble as we head into March.

The Panthers have earned their two biggest victories on the road this season, posting wins as underdogs against Duke and Virginia Tech. If Pitt hopes to return to the NCAA tournament, another upset win will go a long way. This is a critical game as Clemson represents the only top opponent remaining in the four games left in the regular season.

Everything seemed to go right for the Tigers in their 79-70 win over Pitt back on Dec. 3 as Joseph Girard III was 7 for 10 shooting, including four three-pointers. Senior PJ Hall had a double double, coming up with 10 rebounds. Pitt coach Jeff Capel, who led Oklahoma to 30 wins and an elite 8 showing many years ago, will have a gameplan to neutralize Hall and Girard this time around.

Clemson does not have a huge home field advantage like many teams in college hoops, and Pitt is one of the better teams on the road this season. With those facts in mind, this spread favoring the home Tigers is simply too high in a must-win game for a solid team facing a conference rival. Take the Panthers and the points, and if your budget allows, we recommend a small wager on the +268 moneyline.

