



**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

## **INDIANA HOOSIERS AT MARYLAND TERRAPINS**

**Game Time: 2:00pm ET**

**TV: CBS**

**Selection: Under 137 points**

Indiana entered the season with glaring issues in two key departments: shooting the ball from 3 (31%) and guard play and it has played out for most of the season, especially when their point guard Xavier Johnson went down due to an injury. He returned in the last game playing 15 minutes, but the team looked out of sync. It takes a few games to gel when a key cog returns after missing so many games.

Once Johnson went down, Trey Galloway and freshman Gabe Cupps started playing roles they shouldn't play. Galloway wouldn't start at point guard for winning Big Ten squads and Cupps would redshirt his freshman season for most Big Ten teams.

The Hoosiers have a pair of dominant bigs in Malik Reneau and Kel'el Ware. Reneau led Indiana at 16 points per game and has improved his passing. Ware is outstanding on both ends, using his extreme length and athleticism to block and alter shots at the rim while being a solid offensive player. Teams who don't have size could struggle against the dominant interior tandem. Opponents will let Ware and Reneau shoot 3s to avoid getting dominated at the rim.

Northwestern comes into College Park with a game plan: Let Maryland shoot the ball from 3. Maryland went 2-of-22 from deep in their loss to Northwestern this week. The Terps just can't shoot from deep at all. It was one of the worst offensive performances I've ever seen. For the first time this season, my wife and I were lulled into a deep sleep watching the game. It was more painful than watching water drip.

Where Maryland excels is that they are elite on the defensive end ranking fifth in defensive efficiency and at forcing turnovers (19% turnover rate). Once the Terps' defensive pressure ramps up, opponents need to protect the ball or Maryland will make you pay.

Jahmir Young for the Terps is one of the best point guards in America. The lefty is ending his career on a strong note, averaging 20 points, 4.8 rebounds and 4.2 assists. He can shoot it from 3 (34% from 3) but is tremendous going downhill to the hoop and finishing or drawing fouls, also shooting 90% from the line. Young is the only reason Maryland has occasional offensive success.

Both teams have offensive issues. In the modern era of college hoops, teams love to play at a quick tempo and want more possessions in a game. Neither of these 2 teams play this style of ball. This season both teams' success came with scores ending up in the 60's. With the total of 137, I feel there's wiggle room for the final score to fall under and therefore this is the play.

---

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)

**Follow me on Twitter at: The Wizard@WizardPicks**

THE WIZARD® and THE WIZARD Design are registered service marks of Wizard Race and Sports, INC. © 2024 Wizard Race and Sports, INC.

Republication, retransmission or dissemination of the contents