



Monday, March 4, 2024

IDAHO STATE BENGALS @ MONTANA GRIZZLIES

Game Time: 9:00pm ET

Selection: Montana -7.5

The Montana Grizzlies return home for their regular season finale with much on the line as they enter the night tied with Northern Colorado and Weber State for 2nd place in the Big Sky Conference with a 20-10 overall record and 11-6 conference record. A loss would mean a drop all the way to the 4 seed, so they will play knowing they need to win this game. Winners of 4 of their last 5, the Grizzlies are playing good ball and are particularly tough at home where they are 12-3 overall and 6-2 in Big Sky games. They have also been very good vs teams who are below them in the standings going 10-1 vs the bottom 6 teams in the league.

This is the case as Idaho State comes limping into town losers of 4 of 5 and two in a row. It is a matchup that Montana has flat out dominated. Since 2011 Montana is 25-1 vs Idaho State. 11-0 at home and 13-1 away. They have won 9 of the last 10 matchups and 4 in a row. The last 4 in a row which includes a 76-68 win at Idaho State earlier this year have all been by more than 7.5 points. When at home you have to go all the way back to February 22 of the 2013-2014 season to find a game in which Montana did not beat Idaho State at home by more than 7.5 points. Head Coach Mark DeCuire is 17-1 vs Idaho State in his time as Head Coach of Montana and is a perfect 7-0 at home.

Montana has won 10 games this season by 15+ points highlighting their consistency in beating up on lesser competition. Their starting lineup is made up of 5 seniors that have loads of experience with 701 games played total between them. This current starting lineup will be playing their 16th straight game together.

Montana is 16-2 when shooting a better 3 point percentage and 14-4 when making more 3's than their opponent. Idaho State is dead last in the conference at defending the 3 and are ranked 6th out of 10 in shooting it. Montana is an excellent free throw shooting team converting 80.4% of their free throws on the year which ranks 3rd in the nation and would be a school record. In conference play their free throw percentage is 84.0%. They have made 80% of their free throws or better in 18 games this season which is tied with Iowa for most in the country.

Idaho State is 4-12 on the road this season and are 8-8 ATS. Montana is 7-5 ATS at home which is the best mark in the conference. Montana's 20 wins this season have come by an average of 17.2 points this season. We expect Montana to continue to dominate this matchup and cover the spread.

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

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