Wednesday, March 6, 2024

FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON KNIGHTS AT LE MOYNE DOLPHINS

Game Time: 7:00pm ET
Selection: Fairleigh Dickinson + 4

The Fairleigh Dickinson Knights aim to repeat from last year's NEC Tournament run, which catapulted them into the NCAA Tournament and a 16-1 upset over Purdue in the NCAA Tournament.

This season has been more a struggle under head coach Jack Castleberry, but the Knights largely play the same style. FDU is great at forcing turnovers and getting into transition off those turnovers and scoring. They are a tough team who play hard for the entire 40 minutes.

FDU and Le Moyne split the season series both winning in the other team's arena where Wednesday's game will take place.

Le Moyne is one of the smaller teams in the sport, starting only two players taller than 6-foot-4: Kaiyem Cleary at 6-foot-6 and Luke Sutherland at 6-foot-7.

Head coach Nate Champion emphasizes the deep ball, taking 3s on 47% of field-goal attempts. In the most recent meeting against FDU, Le Moyne went 5-of-33 from downtown. Any chance that Le Moyne has tonight is hitting more 3's than what was on display that evening.

Meanwhile, Fairleigh Dickinson has a clear advantage down low. Forward Ansley Almonor and guard Joe Munden Jr. love to attack the interior in a half-court setting against Le Moyne's lack of size.

It simply comes down to this. Stop Le Moyne from hitting a lot of 3's. The Knights size and quickness should help them to do this once again and they should score points in transition and second chance opportunities. I'm taking the underdog Fairleigh Dickinson + 4.