



Friday, March 8, 2024

PEPPERDINE WAVES VS. SAN DIEGO TOREROS

Game Time: 9:00pm ET

TV: ESPN+

Selection: San Diego + 2 over Pepperdine

Pepperdine wing Houston Mallette entered the transfer portal before this tournament began. Mallette appeared in 31 games for the Waves this season and his surprising decision to transfer comes in the wake of Pepperdine parting ways with head coach Lorenzo Romar after a dreadful 12-19 season.

Mallette is a huge loss for the Waves. He averaged 14.7 points, 3.2 rebounds, and 2.4 assists on 41.5 percent shooting from long range. He scored 23 points in the win over San Diego back in January but was less effective in the loss a month later and will not be present for tonight's game. It is hard to replace a talent like Mallette in a game between two teams close in ability. However, despite being close in overall ability, one team knows who to win (San Diego 17 wins) and one has struggled all season (Pepperdine nearing 20 losses!).

San Diego has a huge head coaching edge with Steve Lavin, who led St. John's to three seasons of 20+ wins and took UCLA to the Sweet 16 or higher in five of his seven years in Southern California. The Toreros of San Diego are coming in off five days rest, whereas Pepperdine played last night, destroying a bad team. They defeated a terrible Pacific team 102-43 and that is a big part of the reason they are the favorites tonight. We look for a big bounce tonight facing a rival that will actually show up and fight. Take the Toreros and the points in round two of the WCC Tournament.

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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