Saturday, March 9, 2024 Cornell Big Red at Columbia Lions

Game Time: 2:00pm ET

TV: Internet Service +

Selection: Cornell -5.5

This may be the best the Ivy League has been in quite some time. One of the conference's top teams is Cornell, which completes the 2023-24 regular season with a trip to New York City to take on Columbia.

Cornell comes in off of a heartbreaking two-point loss at Princeton, a team that hasn't lost at home all season long. At 21-6 overall and 10-3 in the Ivy League, Cornell has enjoyed a strong season, and they've done so thanks to an explosive offense that averages nearly 83 points per game. The Big Red have made more than 49% of their shots from the floor, they take care of the ball, and they cruised to a 91-79 victory over Columbia in the first meeting between those two teams.

The Lions, meanwhile, are finishing out the string. They had some hope after a strong start, but currently sit sixth in the Ivy League with just a 4-9 mark in conference play after dropping their last five games. The league stats tell a pretty ugly story, as Columbia has allowed opponents to shoot better than 47% from the floor. Most recently, Penn topped Columbia 84-72 after shooting nearly 56% from the floor and making 10 three-pointers. That Penn team is just 3-10 against conference foes, and Cornell represents a tougher challenge almost completely across the board.

Columbia's offense isn't bad, but Cornell can shoot the lights out and is looking to keep valuable momentum going as the Ivy League tournament (to be held at this very gym) approaches. The Lions will likely find it very tough to keep up and stay within the spread.