



Saturday, March 9, 2024

KENTUCKY WILDCATS AT TENNESSEE VOLS

Game Time: 4:00pm ET

TV: CBS

Selection: Kentucky + 9

Tennessee won the SEC regular season on Wednesday beating South Carolina. It was a hard-fought contest and a revenge game for the Vols as South Carolina defeated them at their home court earlier in the season. With the SEC Tournament next week and Tennessee in a very good spot to be on the 1 line on Selection Sunday, they could come out a bit flat. A win is likely, but I feel Kentucky can make it a game.

The Wildcats lost to Tennessee earlier this season, but a win secures the No. 4 seed in the SEC tournament and in turn a double bye, so they are highly motivated to play hard for all 40 minutes.

Kentucky can put up points. That's not their issue. It's their defense that is exploited, but they have improved the last few weeks. The Cats run-and-gun style ranks third in 3-point percentage and inside the top 30 in 2-point percentage. Efficiency is the name of the game for the Wildcats, who don't turn the ball over much.

One of the most underrated players for Kentucky has been freshman Reed Sheppard. He's a do-it-all point guard who's shooting over 50% from 3. He also ranks first in the conference in steals and has averaged 7.3 assists per game over his last four. His ball-handling ability takes pressure off players like Rob Dillingham and Antonio Reeves.

Tre Mitchell returning to the lineup last week following an injury, provides a boost on both ends of the floor.

This is a different Kentucky team than when it fell to Tennessee over a month ago. They have had success on the road, beating a hot Auburn team at the time and nearly defeating Mississippi State. I feel the 9 points the oddsmakers are giving us is good value on the Kentucky Wildcats.

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

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