



**Friday, March 22, 2024**

# **NEW MEXICO LOBOS VS CLEMSON TIGERS**

**Game Time:** 03:10 pm ET

**Selection:** New Mexico ML (- 126)

The 11 seed New Mexico Lobos enter the NCAA Tournament red hot after ripping off 4 wins in 4 days to capture the Mountain West Conference Title. They are the first Mountain West Team in league history to accomplish this feat and beat 3 tournament teams (Colorado State, Boise State, San Diego State) along the way to win the title all in a span of 70 hours. Their opponent the 6 seed Clemson Tigers are trending in the exact opposite direction. The Tigers lost 2 of their last 3 regular season games and then got completely blasted by a very pedestrian Boston College team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of the ACC Tournament by a final score of 76-55. Losing by 21 points to a lesser opponent is not exactly the kind of momentum you want heading into the big dance.

One of the big factors that jumps out when analyzing this matchup is how the lower seeded New Mexico Lobos are significantly better rated on KenPom. There is an 11-spot difference between New Mexico and Clemson as the Lobos are ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> on KenPom and the Tigers are ranked 36<sup>th</sup>. When we look at the metrics New Mexico has a significant edge defensively and with offensive rebounding. The Lobos Adjusted Defensive Efficiency is ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> nationally and their offensive rebounding percentage is ranked 50<sup>th</sup> compared to the Tigers who rank 69<sup>th</sup> and 222<sup>nd</sup> respectively. Another area that will be an issue for the Tigers is when it comes to how fast New Mexico plays as they have the 8<sup>th</sup> fastest tempo in the country. Clemson is ranked 236<sup>th</sup> in bench minutes so you have to wonder if the Tigers will have the legs to keep up with the Lobos for a full game.

In the history of the NCAA tournament 11 seeds that are favored to win are 10-1 SU. On the year New Mexico has been very profitable ATS going a strong 23-11 and they are 19-7 ATS as favorites, both top marks in their conference. What's even better is they are 8-0 ATS at neutral site games on the year. Clemson on the other hand is 1-3 ATS at neutral site games. Clemson has also lost in the opening round of the tournament in 6 of their last 7 appearances. Take the Lobos to advance.

---

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](mailto:wiz@wizardraceandsports.com)

Follow me on Twitter at: [The Wizard@WizardPicks](https://twitter.com/TheWizard@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 is prohibited.