



**Sunday, March 24, 2024**

# **ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE VS. GRAND CANYON ANTELOPES**

**Game Time:** 07:10 pm ET

**Watch:** TBS

**Selection:** Grand Canyon Antelopes +6

It is not often you watch March Madness and encounter a situation where a 12-seed has a significant home field advantage, but that is exactly what we saw on Friday night when the Antelopes faced the Gales of St. Mary's. The loyal Grand Canyon fans travel well and a legion of purple-clad fans that filled Spokane Arena were in full force. It was a raucous environment that St. Mary's had to deal with.

The Antelopes responded and were just the seventh team this season to reach the 70-point mark against the regular season and tournament champions of the West Coast Conference, a team that defeated Gonzaga twice. It was an impressive performance from start to finish for Grand Canyon. Grand Canyon star Tyon Grant-Foster scored 22 points, and the Antelopes earned its first NCAA Tournament victory as they knocked off the No. 5 seed 75-66 decisively. The Antelopes did it with style, slashing and shooting their way to expose the No. 2 scoring defense in the country. Gabe McGlothlin matched the physical post players for Saint Mary's and added 12 points and 11 rebounds. Ray Harrison finished with 17 points, and the Grand Canyon interior had 9 blocks on the evening! Grand Canyon won this game easily despite having a tough night from the perimeter, shooting well below their norm at only 27%.

Alabama made it look easy in their first round win as well putting up 109 points in its first-round win over Charleston. The Tide have one of the best offenses in the country, ranked #3 overall, but similar to their SEC rival Kentucky, they are seriously lacking on the defensive end. On KenPom they are ranked a dismal 117th in the national for defensive efficiency. They had four losses during the season where their opponent scored 99 points or more, nearly unheard of in college hoops. Grand Canyon figures to be able to score with the Tide, but their superior defense can be the difference in this game. Look for the Antelopes to go toe-to-toe with the Tide and give them a serious run for their money. Take the 6.5 points.

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Any questions or comments can be sent to: [wiz@wizardraceandsports.com](mailto:wiz@wizardraceandsports.com)

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