

Marc Lawrence's Weekly **PLAYBOOK**[®] \$12

THE BEST FOOTBALL NEWSLETTER ON THE PLANET™

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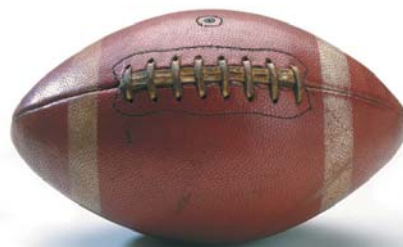
Marc's CFB False Favorite GOY: New Mex St +5.5 over WKU – WINNER!

BEST BETS 12-5-1 70% LAST 3 WEEKS!

90% ATS AWESOME ANGLE INSIDE!



- *'Betcha Didn't Know' Handicapping Article*
- *Awesome Angle and Tremendous Trends*
- *Incredible Stat of the Week*
- *Analysis on Every NFL and FBS College Game*
- *Best Bets and Key Plays*
- *Full Schedule with Opening Lines*
- *Kenny White's College & NFL Power Ratings*
- *Wise Guys Handicapping Contest*



GET SMART

GET PLAYBOOK

GET EVERY EDGE IMAGINABLE

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LYIN' EYES

A Weekly Insight Into The Art Of Sports Handicapping

*You can't hide your lyin' eyes
And your smile is a thin disguise
I thought by now you'd realize
There ain't no way to hide
your lyin' eyes.*

T It's funny how a little makeup and a do-over can change one's appearance. Then again, the atmosphere and the surroundings have as much to do with the new look as anything. And while the outer shell may look good on the surface, it's what's inside that counts.

The same holds true when it comes to NFL teams taking on new identities. In this fast-paced, ever-changing world of free agency, it's quite possible for a bad team to take on the look of a good one from one season to the next. The key thought here, though, is 'looking like a good team'. That's because it's difficult for bad teams to turn good overnight.

That's confirmed by the fact that since 1981 a total of 43 teams that managed to win four or fewer games the previous season have made it to the playoffs the following season. This year finds no less than one team at this stage of the season sporting a winning record that won 4 games last year – the upstart Houston Texans.

Before we fall for their sultry advances, it's best to know that when these teams find themselves favored during the regular season, the mascara begins to run off. Better yet, the makeup really begins to cake up for these teams when we –

PLAY AGAINST any NFL favorite with a winning record from Game Five out if they won 4 or fewer games last season and are off a SU underdog win in their last game.

That's because they fall to 32-66-4-4 ATS in this role since 1980. Bring them in against an opponent off a win, and they lose almost all of their luster, going **8-29 ATS**. To top it off, if the foe is not coming off consecutive home games, these wobbly favorites fall to **3-27 ATS**.

As we mentioned, this week's favorite with "Lyin' Eyes" is the Houston Texans, which means we're on the **Arizona Cardinals** like makeup on a beauty queen.

So there you have it. The next time you find an attractive thing calling your name, look past the eyeliner and the mascara and remember the sage advice of the Eagles, who told us...

*My, oh my, you sure know
how to arrange things
You set it up so well, so carefully
Ain't it funny how your new life
didn't change things
You're still the same old girl
you used to be.*

THIS IS IT: On the heels of our College Football False favorite Play of the Year winner last week with New Mexico State (+5.5) over Western Kentucky, a 38-29 winner, comes the **DOUBLE RELEASE** of my **5-Star College Football and 5-Star NFL Games of the Month** plays this Saturday and Sunday.

Best of all, you can pick them both up and save big bucks with a **\$129 Football Weekend of Winners package** including all of my other CFB and NFL releases, or better yet get them along with my **10-Star College Football Game of the Year** play next Saturday – **all for only \$179 complete!** It's the best bang for your buck you'll find this football season. **Click here** to take advantage, or call **800.321.7777** for fast, friendly customer service for this monster 20-Star package of winners now. You'll be glad you did!

Marc Lawrence



TRIVIA TEASER

THIS WEEK'S AMAZING SITUATIONAL PLAY

This NFL head coach loves the underdog role, going 29-20-1 ATS in his career, including **6-1-1 ATS** as an underdog when coming off back-to-back losses.

Who is this week happy dog?

For the Trivia Teaser answer, turn to page 14.

AWESOME ANGLE OF THE WEEK

PLAY AGAINST any 10-0 college football double-digit favorite in Game 11 if they are facing a .666 or greater opponent.

**Play AGAINST:
GEORGIA BULLDOGS (11/18)**

TENFOLD

**ATS W-L
Record 5/1990:
17-2-3
(90%)**

View Marc's Awesome Angle Of The Week and more at the PlaybookSports.com website!

2-MINUTE HANDICAP



FOR A COMPLETE 2-MINUTE HANDICAP OF EVERY GAME ON TODAY'S CARD, VISIT www.PLAYBOOK.com

ATS = Against The Spread • A = Away • Con = Conference • D = Dog
F = Favorite • H = Home • Rev = Revenge • R = Road • SU = Straight-Up

College Football Games

All results are ATS – Against The Spread – and most recent, unless noted otherwise. Content contained in this report remains the exclusive private property of PLAYBOOK™, PlaybookSports.com™ and PLAYBOOK.CUBE™, and may not be reused or disseminated in any form without express written consent of the publisher.

NFL Games

TEAMS KEY FACTS, STATS & ATS TRENDS

TEAMS	KEY FACTS, STATS & ATS TRENDS
Saturday, November 18	
Georgia TENNESSEE	SERIES: 4-0 L4... 3-0 aft Ole Miss... 1-4 L5 conf road gms 1-4 L5 as home dogs... 3-10 L13 vs undef conf opp
Michigan MARYLAND	SERIES: 6-1 L7... 6-1 as RF's 14 > pts... 4-1 in 2nd of BB RG 2-5 L7 vs undef conf opp... 3-7 as conf HD's > 10 pts
Louisville MIAMI-FLA	SERIES: 6-2 L8... 6-1 aft Virginia... 0-5-1 as road favs L2Y 5-2 L7 as home dogs... 3-1 aft Flor St... 1-6 bef Boston Coll
N Carolina CLEMSON	4-1 as conf RD's 7 < pts... 5-2 in 1st of BB RG... 1-4 aft Duke SERIES: 4-1 L5... 6-0 as HF's 10 < pts... 3-1 Last Home Game
Minnesota OHIO ST	SERIES: 3-0-1 L4... 4-1 as dogs 20 > pts... 3-1 aft Purdue 6-3-1 as conf HF's 20 > pts... 1-8 bef Mich... 3-7 aft Mich St
Kansas St KANSAS	SERIES: 4-0 L4... 7-1 Last Road Game... 8-2 as conf favs < 10 pts 6-3 as conf dogs < 10 pts... 1-4 in 2nd of BB conf HG
Oregon ARIZONA ST	5-0 as conf RF's 15 > pts... 6-3-1 w/ sing conf revenge SERIES: 3-0 L3... 5-0 aft UCLA... 5-0 as conf dogs 18 > pts
Washington OREGON ST	1-5 vs sing conf revenge... 2-7 as conf favs 10 < pts SERIES: 4-1 L5... 5-0 L5 w/ sing conf revenge... 4-1 aft Stanford
Ucla USC	8-2 w/ sing conf revenge... 0-4 as RD's 10 < pts... 1-3 bef Cal SERIES: 3-1 L4... 4-1 Last Home Game... 1-4 as conf favs 10 < pts
Georgia St LSU	4-0 aft App St... 6-1 in 2nd of BB RG... 3-1 L4 VS SEC 7-1 in 2nd of 3 straight HG... 4-1 as non-conf favs 20 > pts
Texas IOWA ST	3-1 as conf RF's vs opp w/ revenge... 2-5 in 2nd of BB RG SERIES: 3-0 L3... 6-0 as HD's 4 > pts... 1-6 L7 vs .800 > conf opp

TEAMS KEY FACTS, STATS & ATS TRENDS

TEAMS	KEY FACTS, STATS & ATS TRENDS
Thursday, November 16	
Cincinnati BALTIMORE	SERIES: Visitor 5-1... 4-0 as div RD's L3Y... 13-2 bef Pitt 4-0 Thursday HG... 6-3 in 3rd straight HG... 1-4 as HF's 4 < pts
Sunday, November 19	
Pittsburgh CLEVELAND	SERIES: 7-1 L8... 7-2 vs dbl div revenge... 7-2 as dogs 5 < pts 3-0 aft div RG... 4-1 home vs div L2Y... 1-5 w/ dbl div rev
Arizona HOUSTON	5-1 vs AFC South... 5-1 bef div HG... 7-2 as non-div RD's 5 < pts 1-5 bef div HG... 1-5 as non-div favs 3 > pts... 1-4 vs NFC West
La Chargers GREEN BAY	8-1 L9 non-conf RG... 6-1 as non-div RF's 3 > pts... 4-2 bef Balt SERIES: 6-2 L8... 0-4 L4 non-conf HG... 1-4 aft non-conf RG
Ny Giants WASHINGTON	SERIES: 5-1 L6... 4-1 bef non-conf HG... 3-1 vs dbl div revenge 0-6 w/ dbl div revenge... 1-6 home vs .250 < opp
Tennessee JACK'VILLE	SERIES: 4-1 L5... 5-2 L7 div RG... 1-4 in 3rd straight RG 0-4 Game 10... 1-6 L7 as div HF's... 1-3 aft non-conf HG
Chicago DETROIT	1-5 L6 div HG... 1-5 off SU home win... 1-4 in 1st of BB RG SERIES: 4-1 L5... 8-0 L8 div HG... 4-1 as favs 7 > pts
Las Vegas MIAMI	3-1 vs opp off Bye... 3-1 bef div HG... 3-9 vs AFC East SERIES: 6-1-1 L8... 5-0 as favs 6 > pts... 7-1 L8 home games
Dallas CAROLINA	5-0 aft NYG... 5-0 bef Wash... 11-3 as RF's 6 > pts SERIES: Host 4-2... 3-1 aft Thursday gm... 0-5 vs NFC East
Tampa Bay SAN FRAN	4-1 in 1st of BB RG... 1-7-1 vs NFC West... 1-6 aft non-conf HG SERIES: 4-2 L6... 5-1 bef div RG... 4-1 as non-div HF's 7 > pts
Seattle LA RAMS	0-3 aft Wash... 2-10 bef div HG... 13-8 L11 div road games SERIES: 5-0 L5... 4-1 vs sing div revenge... 0-3-1 bef Arz
Ny Jets BUFFALO	SERIES: 3-0 L3... 3-1 in 2nd of BB RG... 1-5 in 1st of BB div gms 4-0 aft Den... 4-1 in 2nd of BB HG... 5-2 w/ sing div revenge
Minnesota DENVER	5-0 bef Monday gm... 5-1 non-conf RG... 2-4 L6 vs AFC West SERIES: 3-1 L4... 4-0-1 L5 vs NFC North... 4-1 L5 non-conf HG
Monday, November 20	
Philadelphia KANSAS CITY	8-1 L9 vs .750 > opp... 1-4 L5 vs AFC West... 1-3-1 aft Bye SERIES: 3-0 L3... 7-2-1 on Mondays... 8-3 L11 vs NFC East



AS THE NOOSE TIGHTENS-REDUX

As we alluded to in this column earlier, November is the best time of the season for sports fans. The NFL is in its second-half race. College Football concludes with teams scurrying for bowl bids while the NHL, NBA and College Basketball are underway. It also is a great time for handicappers as value aplenty abounds.

Some of the best value occurs when we focus on beating undefeated teams at this stage of the season. That's because the deeper these teams get into the year, the more pressure there is on them to remain unbeaten. As a result, the noose certainly gets tighter and tighter each week, especially when these perfect teams take to the road.

This is confirmed by the fact that, since 1980, undefeated College Football teams playing on the regular season road from Game Ten out are 136-47-1 SU and 78-96-2 ATS (44.8%). This week we say goodbye to **Georgia, Michigan, and Washington.**

Worse, when they're installed as conference road favorites they fall to 55-70-80-2 ATS, including 42-63-2-2 ATS when not favored by more than 28 or more points (against hapless foes). And if they were not favored by more than 6.5 points in their previous game they fall to **2-18 ATS** in these games,

Once again, a warning signal has been sounded for **the Wolverines** this week. It's time to mask up gentlemen...

NFL WEEK TEN BYES:
ATLANTA FALCONS, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS,
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS, NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

INCREDIBLE STAT OF THE WEEK

Game 11 has been the bane of the Ohio State Buckeyes. They are 1-8 ATS the last nine years, 0-7-1 ATS versus a foe off a SUATS loss, and 0-4 ATS when undefeated.

THIS WEEK IN FOOTBALL - NOVEMBER 14-20

Remember: You Have A PLAYBOOK BEST BET Whenever Our Predicted Margin Of Victory Is 6 Or More Points In Favor Of Your Line

NCAA FOOTBALL

Tuesday, November 14

EASTERN MICHIGAN over Akron by 1

The MAC-a-thon continues! While we can't offer up a 6-pack of games in two days like we did last week, we can conjure up five contests that will go a long way in determining the final order of finish in the conference. As in years gone by, Akron is in the running for landing in the MAC basement, but the Zips still have a shot at avoiding last place if hapless Kent State continues its losing ways or if Joe Moorhead's team can bag a win in one of its final two games. The 'winning' part sounds like a tall order considering the 2-8 / 1-5 Zips are basically going through the motions at this stage of the season. However, Eastern Michigan owns just one more conference win than Akron and the 4-6 Eagles are the only team in the nation that has yet to outgain an opponent, going **0-10 ITS** (In The Stats). We look at them like the Pittsburgh Steelers in the NFL – they get pushed all around the field, yet somehow find a way to stay relevant. Still, to lay points with a team of this caliber is like hoping you won't catch COVID while visiting a hospital wing filled with COVID patients. We realize they are 8-2-1 ATS in their last eleven MAC contests, but the two losses came in the last two games. Don't consider that as a recommendation for the Zips, though, who have been held to 14 points or less in five of the last six games and are on a 1-4 ATS slide in series meetings with EMU. Decisions, decisions. In the end, we'll abide by our **'Puttin' On The Stats' SMART BOX** fade on the Ypsilanti Eagles and advise you to take it or leave it.

Toledo over BOWLING GREEN by 14

How far has Toledo run away from the other teams in this year's MAC West race? By the time those other five squads made it to the launch pad, the Rockets had already blasted off and achieved sufficient speed to leave earth orbit. In fact, Toledo is one of only five remaining teams in the nation that have outgained every opponent this season. As a result, the Rockets are winning the stats +125 net yards per game, while BGSU is losing them -142 net yards per game. So, we ask, do you want to be on the short end of a game with the Projectiles holding a +267 net yards per game advantage? We didn't think so. Toledo head coach Jason Candle has won five of his seven meetings with Bowling

BOWL SEASON College Football Bowl Rush...

We're down to the final two weeks of the 2023 college football regular season and there are plenty of bowl eligible bids still available. After last week's game a total of 61 teams have secured at least a minimum 6th bowl eligible win, with the SEC leading the pack with 9 teams, followed by the ACC with 8, and four other with 7 teams each.

The list below highlights the teams that are still alive in the bowl chase. Those with 4 wins will need to win their final two contests. Those with 5 wins will need to win at least one win in their final games to become bowl eligible. Check them out...

TEAMS WITH 4 WINS

Army	Florida International	Rice
California	Houston	South Carolina
Colorado	Mississippi State	TCU
Colorado State	Navy	Wake Forest
Eastern Michigan	Northern Illinois	Washington State
Florida Atlantic	Old Dominion	Western Michigan

TEAMS WITH 5 WINS

Arkansas State	Minnesota	UCF
Boise State	Nebraska	UL Lafayette
BYU	Northwestern	USF
Central Michigan	San Jose State	Utah State
Georgia Tech	South Alabama	Virginia Tech
Illinois	Syracuse	Western Kentucky
Marshall	Texas Tech	Wisconsin

Green on the scoreboard, but he'll put special emphasis on tonight's contest considering the Falcons upset the Zips 42-35 last year, denying the Rockets their first double-digit winning season since 2014. The BeeGees are also a jive-talkin' **1-7 ATS** when coming off a double-digit SUATS win which, by the way, was their bowl-eligible clinching 6th win of the season. Tough to ask Toledo to close out the campaign with back-to-back road wins and covers but the Rockets are certainly capable of running the table. You know what to do.

Western Michigan over NORTHERN ILLINOIS by 1

You'll find both of these teams on our BOWL RUSH list on page 4 as each need a pair of wins to gain bowl eligibility, meaning the loser of this contest becomes a dead man walking. Having been stuck on four wins for almost a month, Northern Illinois can no longer afford lifeless efforts like their previous two games, both losses, as the Huskies were consistently victimized by drive-killing penalties, critical turnovers and a defense that could not get off the field on 3rd down. Against Ball State, Northern Illinois blew a 24-7 lead to lose in overtime and a week earlier against Central Michigan, the sled dogs were whipped from the get-go, trailing 21-0 at the half while managing 15 first downs in the game compared to the Chippewas' 26. All the while NIU head coach Thomas Hammock has worn the befuddled expression of someone who just woke up from a year-long coma. We all know the Huskies are in their comfort zone when taking points rather than laying them: an **0-9 ATS** mark as chalk of late, and an **0-8 ATS** log on Tuesdays confirms our thoughts. Meanwhile, Western Michigan is at least riding a 2-0 SUATS streak and they bring a bawdy **10-1 ATS** mark in this battle when both teams are coming off a MACtion contest. The bottom line is we don't want NIU tonight. Neither should you.

Wednesday, November 15

MIAMI OHIO over Buffalo by 14

The 3-7 Bulls will be headed out to pasture in another week and we have little to no interest of putting them in front of the best team in the MAC East tonight. Miami Ohio has not quite clinched the division title yet, needing just one more win against Buffalo or pitiful Ball State

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(also 3-7), but only a total collapse will keep the RedHawks away from a showdown with Toledo for the conference championship. When it comes to recent ATS history Miami holds all the cards, currently riding an **8-1 SU and 7-1 ATS** streak, and bringing a salty **8-0 SU and 7-1 ATS** streak on Wednesdays into the fray. Difficult to take that on with Buffy's money-burning 2-8 ATS mark in games coming off a SUATS loss. Lay it or leave it.

Central Michigan over OHIO by 1

Though Ohio is not completely out of the running in the MAC East versus leader Miami Ohio, the Bobcats must win here and next week against Akron, then hope the RedHawks stumble against both Buffalo and Ball State – not very likely (Miami owns the tiebreaker against Ohio, as the Bobcats have already taken it on the chin against the Hawks earlier this season). CMU is also under pressure tonight, residing in our 5-win list of BOWL RUSH teams, and the Chippewas will have a better shot at springing the upset versus Ohio here as opposed to next week's season-ender against mighty Toledo. The Chips do sport a nifty 17-3-1 ATS record on Wednesdays to boot, including **8-1 SU and 9-0 ATS** away. We also like that the CMU coaching staff has lit a fire under the running game, as they've churned out 544 rushing yards in the last two outings while gaining 6.5 yards per carry. Should that ground assault continue, it will be a strength-versus-strength matchup as Ohio's stalwart rush defense allows just 95 YPG and 3.3 yards per carry. The deal breaker appears to be the Bobcats horrid **0-6 SU and 1-5 ATS** skid in this series of late, so we'll take as many points as we can get and back the Chippewas here..

Thursday, November 16

Boston College over PITTSBURGH by 6

After clinching bowl eligibility two weeks ago with a win over Syracuse – BC's fifth consecutive victory – the Eagles went straight into the dumpster last week in an ugly 48-22 home loss to Virginia Tech. Considering the Hokies put up an incredible 600 yards of offense compared to 262 by Boston College, Eagles head coach Jeff Hafley can thank his lucky stars for catching Pittsburgh in the follow-up game. Or Pitt as they want to be called now. Not that it matters; the 2-7 Panthers are currently in a battle royale with Virginia to avoid finishing at the very bottom of the conference standings. Still, inquiring minds want to know how this gang of misfits tagged Louisville with its only loss this season, a 38-21 beatdown that shocked everyone – including Pat Narduzzi and his Panthers. We say that because Pittsburgh immediately slid down a 0-4 hole to ruin any post-season plans in spite of what happens here tonight. The **Well-Oiled Machine** notes that both teams are **6-1 ATS** on weekdays but Boston College is 15-8 ATS as a dog in this series, including **6-0 ATS** as dogs off a loss, while Pitt is **0-4 SUATS** as a favorite this season. In fact, we're not sure why a two-win team is laying points to a six-win bowl squad. So, we won't.

2023 COLLEGE FOOTBALL TOP 25 PLAYOFF RANKINGS

As Paul Myerberg of USA TODAY said, before we go crazy and flip out over the debut of the College Football Playoff rankings this week, consider that in eight of the nine previous seasons of the postseason format, 15 of the 32 teams listed in the top four of the debut rankings did not make the playoff semifinals. The one exception is the 2020 season, when the coronavirus pandemic pushed the first rankings to Nov. 24 and the top remained the same through selection day on Dec. 20. That being said, here are this week's Top 25 teams in the nation, per the CFP Rankings:

1 GEORGIA			
2 Ohio State	10 Louisville	18 Tennessee	
3 Michigan	11 Oregon State	19 Notre Dame	
4 Florida State	12 Penn State	20 North Carolina	
5 Washington	13 Ole Miss	21 Kansas State	
6 Oregon	14 Oklahoma	22 Utah	
7 Texas	15 LSU	23 Oklahoma State	
8 Alabama	16 Iowa	24 Tulane	
9 Missouri	17 Arizona	25 Kansas	

Friday, November 17

UTSA over South Florida by 11

The 5-5 Tampa Bulls reside in this week's **COLLEGE BOWL RUSH** file on page 4. Though prospects for a win tonight are somewhat dicey, they'll likely cement the bowl eligible minimum requirement next week under first-year head coach Alex Golesh when they host Charlotte. That would be quite an accomplishment for a team that won only one game last season, and four games over the previous three years. After being left for roadkill after an unexpected 1-3 start, the Roadrunners pulled themselves up off the pavement and are closing in on a possible third straight regular season without a loss in conference play. At 7-3 / 6-0, UTSA is in a three-way tie atop the AAC, with the season-ender against 9-1 / 6-0 Tulane next week likely commanding more of their focus than perhaps the Bulls. Not good to be looking ahead when you're just 6-12 ATS as double-digit chalk since joining the FBS. Meanwhile, South Florida's long-term 33-17 ATS log as a double-digit dog versus greater than .555 foes make the points attractive, as does a sterling **11-1 ATS** record in games when coming off an ATS loss versus foes coming off an ATS win. Did we just talk ourselves into a possible play on the Bulls? That's a 10-4, good buddy.

WASHINGTON STATE over Colorado by 10

Go figure. After opening the season 4-0, this veteran and talented Wazzu team, with an electric quarterback in Cameron Ward, is now 4-6. But even with six straight losses dragging them down, a win here puts the Cougars into position to snag a bowl bid – provided they pull the rug out next week when they visit undefeated rival Washington. Meanwhile, have you noticed that the hordes of media people surrounding Colorado head coach Deion Sanders at the beginning of the season have gradually shrunk to a pair of guys with cameras working for the school newspaper? That's what happens when a 3-0 start bottoms out by losing six of the next seven games. So, if you're looking for a double buzz kill, then look no further than this matchup of two teams looking to hop off the merry-go-round anytime soon. At least Washington State has cashed in four of the last five series meetings, and they're four-for-five ATS as conference home chalk of 7 or fewer points. The Cougs are also 7-2 SUATS in LHGs (Last Home Games) when hosting a .400 or fewer foes, and their last two losses each came by a mere 3 points. We won't be dining on anything Prime tonight.

Saturday, November 18

JAMES MADISON over Appalachian State by 3

Despite being turned down earlier, the Dukes are still appealing an NCAA waiver that prohibits them from becoming bowl eligible. Per Brett McMurphy of the Sports Action Network, If they are successful it would make them eligible for the Sun Belt title game, based on the league's by-laws. They could then also be ranked by the CFB Playoff and earn a Group of 5 New Year's 6 bowl berth. If the Dukes appeal is denied they could still go to a bowl if there are not 82 bowl-eligible teams, but their chances are considered to be a 4th-and 40, or a Hail

(continued on next page)

Mary. Apparently immune to the drama, JMU just keeps rolling along, and its 10-0 SU, 7-2 ATS, 9-1 ITS (In The Stats) overall ledger is better than any Group of 5 squad this season. That makes them one of only seven unbeaten FBS squads this season but it also makes them tight under the collar as the pressure to remain undefeated continues to grow. Appalachian State struggled out of the gate with a 3-4 start, but the Mountaineers appear to be getting their act together at the right time of the season, riding a three-game win skein entering this contest with one major thought in mind – revenge for a 32-28 home loss to the Dukes as 6-point chalk last season. For what it's worth, the Mountaineers have dressed up as dogs two times when seeking revenge since they joined the big boys. They went 2-0 ATS in those games, so we'll fade Jimmy Madison with the avenging visitor today.

3★ BEST BET

ARMY over Coastal Carolina by 6

The Black Knights have been battered and bruised in battle this season, blanked 81-0 in consecutive losses. Yet they've also won a pair of games as +7 and +18.5-point underdogs, which helped them qualify for this week's **COLLEGE BOWL RUSH** group of teams listed on page 4 – meaning a win here, and against Navy in two weeks, would make them bowl eligible. Hey, these guys beat Air Force so bad that the Falcons should be forced to relinquish whatever bowl berth they're awarded to the Black Knights. Playing for the last time this season by the banks of the Hudson River, Army is a timely **7-0 SU and 4-1 ATS** in LHGs, including 2-0 SUATS as a dog. As for today's opponent, the Chanticleers enter this game hotter than a pimple-faced groupie in the hotel room of a rock star, riding a 5-0 SUATS win skein, with the last three victories coming as underdogs. With it, the **Well-Oiled Machine** started burning the oil, noting that favorites coming off three consecutive outright wins have struggled to the point that they become prime bounce material the following game. Army is looking for payback, too, from last season's 38-28 loss as a 1.5-point dog at Coastal. This just in: Military teams are 18-9 SU and 15-11 ATS versus Sun Belt Conference teams, including 5-0 SU from Game Eleven out. All of which leads us to **THE CLINCHER: Non-conference favorites, coming off three consecutive outright wins, are 2-6 SU and 1-7 ATS since 1990, including 0-5 SUATS the last five games.**

VIRGINIA over Duke by 1

It's safe to say the Blue Devils got the short end of the shaft in last week's 47-45 double overtime shootout loss at North Carolina. There was 2:32 remaining in regulation with Duke holding a 29-26 lead when a pass by UNC QB Drake Maye appeared to be intercepted near the goal line. Duke's defenders immediately signaled for an interception, as their guy had ultimately pried the ball away. But after a short conversation, the officiating crew determined that the UNC receiver had possession on the ground before the ball came loose. The problem was the call was never reviewed. Even if it wouldn't have been ultimately overturned, that kind of play is precisely why college football's replay system exists. At minimum, it had to be reviewed. If an interception had been awarded, Duke likely would have won. Instead, it lost a heartbreaker in double overtime. Thus, the question today is will Blue Devils head coach Mike Elko be able to get his troops back up from the bitter loss? With a **2-11 SU and 3-9-1 ATS** mark in post Tar Heels games, and a 4-6 ITS log in 2023, this looks like a tall task. The 2-8 / 1-5 Cavs would love to trade places with the 6-win Devils because they aren't going anywhere other than staying home for the holidays. Virginia does host rival Virginia Tech next week to close out the campaign but don't expect a Cavalier look-ahead to the Hokies, as UVA owns a lofty **21-3 ATS** record in the contest before tackling Tech. However, with both teams entering on a 3-game losing slide, we'll go looking elsewhere.

WEST VIRGINIA over Cincinnati by 3

West Virginia hasn't made much headway in the Big 12 under head coach Neal Brown but he has led the Mountaineers to a 4-3 record in conference play this season. However, like so many 6-win teams seem to do this time of the season, WVU disappeared last week against Oklahoma after popping the champagne on a bowl eligible 6th win the prior week over BYU. They'll look to recapture the mojo this afternoon in Morgantown against a 3-7 Cincinnati squad that has not

enjoyed its debut season in the Big 12. But as choppy as the 3-7 / 1-6 Bearcats' campaign has been since earning Power 5 status, the fact of the matter is they bring the better offense and the better defense into this border war, and that's a 'buy sign' for us when the superior stats belong to the game's underdog. Yes, it's the final home game of the season for West Virginia but a 5-10-2 ATS mark in LHGs suggests it won't be an advantage for the Mountaineers. At least Cincinnati brings a **7-1 ATS** record of success as a road dog coming off a road game, which looks even better with the near-TD spread favoring WVU. Unless the line takes a nosedive, we'll bite on the Bearcats here.

INDIANA over Michigan State by 3

If not for depriving the Hoosiers of playing one last game in front of the home folks, we think the Big Ten would be better off calling today's winner via coin flip. How far have the Spartans fallen, you ask? To the point that the Hoosiers are actually laying points for only the third time in the past three seasons in a Big Ten game. The fast rise and even faster fall of Michigan State head coach Mel Tucker has poisoned the atmosphere around this team and they've won just a single conference game while getting outscored in league play by an average of 30-12. We'd love to exploit that weakness with an Indiana squad that averaged 29.7 PPG in its last three outings, but we just can't do it, not when the Hoosiers are 3-9 ATS as a favorite in LHGs versus conference foes. Our longstanding rule is to always take the points whenever two garbage teams square off. However, where both sides appear to be playing out the string, it's probably better to not get involved.

4★ BEST BET

TENNESSEE over Georgia by 3

Being 'first' has always been a big deal for humans. Edmund Hillary was knighted for being the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest in 1953 but if you fly over the mountain these days, you'll see a line of climbers waiting to get to the top longer than the geeks who pack city sidewalks waiting to buy the latest iPhone. When it comes to college football dating back to 1900, Minnesota is the only team to win three national championships in a row, from 1934-36. That accomplishment has rarely been threatened over the years, but it looks to be in serious jeopardy right now thanks to the Georgia Bulldogs, winners of back-to-back national titles in 2021-22 – and undefeated so far in 2023. The Dawgs certainly won't need directions as they head back to the SEC championship game for the third straight year on the heels of last week's 52-17 mauling of Mississippi. The USA TODAY put it best when they said the offensive line protects rocket-armed QB Carson Beck like the Crown's jewels. And with the return of all-world TE Brock Bowers from injury – and a defense that allows just 15.6 PPG – Georgia once again looks like the team to beat. However, now that they are the new No.1 team in the latest CFB Playoff rankings, they also reside inside this week's **SMART BOX** in an '**As The Noose Tightens**' role, and as a fade in our **AWESOME ANGLE** on page 2. And if you've been following our "**Puttin' on the Stats**" **SMART BOX** suggestions this month, you have a qualifying play on the Volunteers, who have been out-yarded in only one contest this season. You also have plenty of bullets to load in the chamber for the Vols, including **8-0 ATS** in their last eight home games, **7-0 ATS** when coming off a conference road game, and **6-0 ATS** off a loss. Despite their spotless SU record this season, Georgia is a surprising **1-6 ATS** when coming off a double-digit win, and 1-4 ATS in their last five conference road games. Since all three Tennessee losses came on the road, we'll load up here in Knoxville with **THE CLINCHER: Defending National Champions are 26-38-1 ATS as road favorites against .700 or greater opponents, including 0-6 ATS versus foes coming off a SUATS loss (see Georgia versus Auburn this season).**

Michigan over MARYLAND by 10

It's been all about the Maize-and-Blue this week. When asked before last Saturday's Michigan-Penn State game about coach Jim Harbaugh's 3-game suspension for a sign-stealing scandal, former Ohio State coach Urban Meyer could only find one word to use: "Insanity." As for Michigan's "sign-stealing scheme," Meyer said he's "never heard of that" in his head coaching career. "I've heard people say, 'Everyone does it.' I've never heard of that in my career," Meyer said. Fast

forward to Harbaugh after his team beat the Nittany Lions, where he lauded Michigan's perseverance amid the turmoil of his suspension, and the media focus on the team. Because of that, Harbaugh touted the Wolverines as America's team. "The perseverance, you know, and just the stalwartness of these guys. I mean, it's gotta be America's Team," Harbaugh said. "America loves a team that beats the odds, beats the adversity, you know, overcomes what the naysayers and critics, so-called experts think. That's my favorite kind of team." Those statements sent SEC analyst and mouth of the south Paul Finebaum into a frenzy. "I found it sad and pathetic," Finebaum said. "Why? Because this isn't America's team. This isn't what America's about. This team is not representative of anything other than a program accused of cheating. Cheating!" One thing we know for sure is that the Wolves rushed the ball 32 straight times to end the Penn State game with no passes in the 2nd half, which, in all likelihood, took QB J.J. McCarthy out of the running for the Heisman Trophy. To no one's surprise the Wolverines are one of a handful of Power 5 teams that have been perfect 'In The Stats' this season. Today's ATS numbers, though, are not so good: 2-9-1 ATS in conference games after Penn State and 1-4 ATS when undefeated before playing Ohio State. The **MIDWEEK ALERT** reports that the Terps are 8-2 ITS (In The Stats) this season, while allowing just 322 yards per contest, plus they're **5-1 ATS** in Last Home Game scenarios versus .888 or greater opponents. The probability of a Michigan look-ahead to the Buckeyes, combined with Harbaugh's absence on the sidelines, is very concerning. So too is the fact that Go Blue take up residence as the primary fade inside this week's **SMART BOX** on page 3. Gulp. Can't call for the outright upset but the Terps should hang around.

MIAMI FLORIDA over Louisville by 8

Unlike Willie Nelson, there's one team in the ACC that dreads going on the road again. While Louisville fans dream of running the table for their first 1-loss season since 2013, the fact is the Cardinals are not road warriors, currently **0-4 ATS** away from Derby City this season and **0-5-1 ATS** as road chalk the last two years. Louie also has a big skeleton in its closet, a 38-21 loss to pitiful Pitt earlier in the season that could drag down their strength of schedule rankings when it comes time for bowl matchups. Meanwhile, Miami got off to a great 4-0 start this year but landed on a rollercoaster thereafter, going 0-2, 2-0 and 0-2. QB Tyler Van Dyke came off the bench to rally the Canes to a close-but-no-cigar finish at Florida State, but the 27-20 loss was close enough to cash as a 3-Star Playbook Newsletter Best Bet. The **MIDWEEK ALERT** reports that both teams are 8-2 ITS (In The Stats) this season, with the Cards +142 net yards per game and the Hurricanes +127. We like Miami head coach Mario Cristobal's 16-7 ATS mark versus .888 or greater opponents, including **8-3 SU and 9-2 ATS** when his team sports a .600 or greater win percentage, and his **12-2 ATS** record against foes who surrender more than 12 points per game. And we can take advantage of Louisville's poor road record with the Hurricanes' 5-2 ATS mark in their last seven tries as home dogs. Yes, we think Miami will huff and puff and blow... you know the rest.

SOUTH CAROLINA over Kentucky by 6

The 4-6 Gamecocks are down to their final two shots if they wish to make it three-for-three as bowlers under head coach Shane Beamer. A win here and next week at home against Clemson checks the box, but Clemmie means nothing if they don't lay the groundwork first. The 6-4 Wildcats were on their way to making early bowl reservations after bolting out of the gates at 5-0 this season but have hit a 1-4 SUATS and ITS (In The Stats) glut since. Our best guess is they are favored here on name and reputation which, with an AMEX Gold card, gets you cup of coffee at Starbucks these days. They also have a huge game to close out the regular season next week against hated Louisville, which could very easily creep into their thoughts today. South Carolina brings a 7-2 SUATS mark into this contest in games when coming off consecutive wins as a favorite, including **3-0 ATS** versus winning foes, and Beamer checks in with a **4-0 ATS** ledger versus foes with a better record coming off a loss. Desperate times call for desperate measures, so we'll back the desperate Cocks in Columbia tonight.

VIRGINIA TECH over NC State by 7

We didn't see that coming. NC State quarterback Brennan "The Bust" Armstrong, a highly touted transfer from Virginia, lost his job to MJ Morris after several weeks of subpar play to begin the season and was used sparingly after the Wolfpack's 13-10 home loss to Louisville at the end of September. So, we turned on last week's NC State-Wake Forest game and lo and behold, there was Armstrong back behind

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center. Only this was a new and improved Armstrong, who went 12-of-17 passing for 111 yards and TD, plus he rushed 15 times for 96 yards and TD. The Pack rode his performance to a 21-0 halftime lead in the 26-6 drubbing of the Deacs, with State outgaining Wake by 379-163 total yards. However, the question is can Armstrong repeat last week's performance against the red-hot Hokies? Virginia Tech's 48-22 beatdown of Boston College last week raised the bar a few levels, including the 600 yards they gained being the most by the team since 2009, and the most on the road against a Power Five opponent since collecting 675 yards against Pittsburgh in 1993. With it, the 5-5 Gobblers are playing their best ball at the right time of the season, riding a **5-1 ATS** win skein, and in need of just one more win to go bowling. The Pack are stuck in an awful **0-6 ATS** slide in this series, and with seven wins already in the bag, look for them to get bagged by the bowl hungry Techsters.

PENN STATE over Rutgers by 15

What a downer. Following last week's home loss to Michigan, Penn State is now a combined 4-16 SU versus the Buckeyes and Wolverines under head coach James Franklin. And while the Nittany Lions did win the Big Ten regular season championship back in 2016, their inability to beat the East division's two best teams has kept them on the sidelines since. While viewers of the 'Matrix' film series continue to debate if Keanu Reeves' character Neo is 'The One', it can be said that Nittany Lions head coach James Franklin remains the '1' - the number of wins he owns against Top 5 opponents since coming to Penn State. The **Well-Oiled Machine** is not averse to piling on, noting that PSU is a wallet-depleting **1-9-1 ATS** as conference home chalk of 15 or more points, and just **2-10 ATS** when both teams are coming off a loss. The visiting Knights have already earned an invitation to go bowling, meaning the Big Ten could produce as many as 10 bowlers this season. Still, that shouldn't slow Rutgers head coach Greg Schiano, who is 12-6-2 ATS away during his second stint with the Knights, including **3-0-2 ATS** versus .800 or greater opponents. With Penn State down in the dumps but expected to win its final two games by wide margins, we'll look for Rutgers to sneak in under the number today.

North Carolina over CLEMSON by 3

Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney couldn't believe his eyes. Despite impressive back-to-back wins over Notre Dame and Georgia Tech, Dabo's 6-4 Tigers were still absent from this week's CFP rankings. Huh? The 465 yards they put up against Tech last week was their best in an FBS contest this season and the 254 yards they surrendered was also the Yellow Jackets second-lowest output of the season. So, are they on the come? Vegas thinks so, bringing them in as a touchdown favorite against a team with better credentials. At **9-1 ITS** (In The Stats) this

(continued on next page)

season, the Heels check in as a **"Puttin' on the Stats" SMART BOX** dog, which goes hand in hand with Mack Brown's 15-5-1 ATS career mark as a dog with the better record, with 13 outright wins, including **5-0 SUATS** the last five games. And in case you didn't know, Brown has been in six games in his career when he was seeking quadruple revenge-exact (as he is here today). He is 4-2 SUATS, with no opponent scoring more than 21 points. UNC QB Drake Maye, who is dropping fast in next year's NFL draft, needs to step up and deliver some big games against quality opponents to stop the bleeding. Brown's **4-1 ATS** record as an ACC road dog of 7 or fewer points should provide enough gauze to do just that. And down goes Clemson... again.

OHIO STATE over **Minnesota** by 20

Sitting at 5-3 two weeks ago, the Gophers appeared on easy street when the conversation turned to this year's bowl season. Now, on the heels of consecutive SU favorite losses to a pair of teams that sported losing records at the time they met, they are now 5-5 with two games remaining. Not even eternal optimist P.J. Fleck could entertain the notion of his Minnesota team beating the Buckeyes today, so he'll have to set his sights on next week's home finale versus Wisconsin to bag a bowl invitation. As for Ohio State, you know they are pissed after falling off the top perch in the latest College Football Playoff ranking following last week's 35-point rout over Michigan State, but you also know the double-revenge-minded Buckeyes are counting down the hours to Ann Arbor to right a few wrongs next week. In addition, Ohio State takes up residence inside our **INCREDIBLE STAT** this week on page 3, and it's not a good thing. The ATS archives also favor taking the points with Goldy this afternoon, as Minny is **9-1 ATS** when coming off consecutive SUATS losses, and coach Fleck is **5-0 ATS** as a road dog of 25 or more points, plus **4-0 ATS** as a double-digit dog versus undefeated foes. The Gophers' 3-0-1 ATS recent series run coupled with Ohio State's 1-8 ATS failure before meeting Michigan seals the deal here. Sidebar note: We realize that we hail from Ohio and have an allegiance to the Buckeyes, but it's our opinion the best player in the country may not win the popularity contest known as the Heisman Trophy. Don't be surprised if 6' 4" WR Marvin Harrison Jr. is the first player drafted in April. He hauled in seven passes for 149 yards with three touchdowns and has at least 100 receiving yards in six of his past seven games and has at least one score in each of his last six. If MHJ continues on this torrid path, OSU has a great shot at winning it all.

Tulane over **FLORIDA ATLANTIC** by 13

Willie Fritz and his Green Wave enter this game in a three-way free-for-all atop the AAC with SMU and UTSA, all undefeated in conference play this season. Meanwhile, Florida Atlantic's 4-6 record means the Owls need to pull the upset here and win at Rice next week to earn their bowl stripes. Ain't gonna happen, though, since FAU is a dreadful **0-7 SU and 1-6 ATS** as a dog in LHGs (Last Home Games). We realize the Greenies aren't exactly a money-making machine in 2023 with their 3-6 ATS record versus FBS opponents, but they are **9-1 ATS** off a conference home game, and **9-2 ATS** the last eleven away games. There's also a good chance that if the Owls fall behind big early on, they could pack it in for the rest of the game. Remember, Tulane is the only Group of 5 team in this week's CFP rankings, coming in at No. 24, and has won eight straight on the scoreboard. Lay it or leave it.

NAVY over **East Carolina** by 8

"Do you believe in miracles? Yes!" You would be forgiven if the Pirates radio team uttered that immortal Al Michaels line when ECU beat FAU on the road last weekend for the Pirates second win of the season. That won-loss means no bowling in Greenville, NC but East Carolina could lay a roadblock in front of Navy's renewed bowl hopes. The Mids are late arrivals for THE COLLEGE BOWL RUSH, but they do have four wins. In this series, Navy has been dominant, 6-1 SU / **7-0 ATS** while the Pirates limp in with a **1-5 ATS** mark when coming off a road game against teams coming off a home game. East Carolina does have defense as stiff as a whiskey neat, and we admit we're not always keen on laying points with Navy. We did uncover this confidential "For Your Eyes Only" document...the Academy is **6-0 ATS** in games when coming off an SU underdog home win. We like the cut of Navy's jib and count on them to navigate through the flotsam and jetsam that is East Carolina's season.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN over **Old Dominion** by 4

The Eagles were flying along at 6-2 but quickly were clipped in back-to-back games while giving up 85 points in those losses. They run into

one of many 4-6 teams that are desperately clawing at bowl straws and ODU is **7-0 ATS** as a dog after taking points in the last game. Georgia Southern is **6-1 ATS** in last home games for the season and hasn't lost in Statesboro yet this season while Old Dominion is 1-4 on the road. Eagles are better offensively; Monarchs have a tiny winged defensive edge. Monarchs haven't won since 10/21, Georgia Southern is 0 for November. This one game needs a virtual safety car, as we urge yellow flag caution.

Purdue over **NORTHWESTERN** by 4

Coach of the Year Candidate? You can play it safe with Kirby Smart, Ryan "Beard Dye" Day, Kalen DeBoer, or you can write in David Braun, who has led Northwestern to a 5-5 mark, way better than anyone had a right to expect when you look at what Braun inherited. Win No. 5 was a 14-point stunner over Wisconsin and the heavily hyped Luke Fickell, who called the defeat "embarrassing". We agree because Northwestern had lost 14 straight road games until they jumped around at Camp Randall. Embarrassing because one headline said, "Northwestern's offense overpowers Wisconsin". There's so much good karma surrounding the Wildcats we won't even refer to them as the Mildcats this week. Yet...Big 10 West last place holder Purdue is 12-6 SU and 14-4 ATS away in this series and they roll lucky 7's in Game 11's, going 9-1 ATS when traveling and 7-0 ATS when taking points. We hate to douse Northwestern's St. Elmo's Fire, but an 0-8 SU and 2-6 ATS when coming off a win the past three seasons is enough to get us jumping off the Wildcats bandwagon before we get singed.

BALL STATE over **Kent State** by 15

This is NOT the matchup the Mid-American Conference has in mind for the popular hashtag #MAAction. These teams are so bad in 2023, they are forbidden from even subscribing to BowlTV. The Burned-Out Flashes are 132nd in PPG at 15 and 130th in Total Yards at 261 per game. The Cardinals have won two of their last three including a roadie at Northern Illinois last week and are lacking in this series at 2-4 SU/1-5 ATS. They have been on the receiving end of two straight outright favorite losses to Kent and while we don't expect that to come up in the pre-game pep talk from BSU Coach Mike Neu, he can inspire his troops with Ball's hard **10-1 ATS** mark when coming off a SU underdog win and 3-1 SUATS in their final home game of the season. KSU is **0-7 ATS** as the dog, **0-7 ATS** when coming off consecutive SUATS losses which means the Faded Flashes are ripe for more disappointment. The conference is hiding this game on a Saturday, but we found it and have officially slapped it with the **ESPN Minus Game of the Week** label. Normally we thumb our noses at the ESPNMOTW but somehow this one is just ugly enough to love, a three-hour slow motion Supersized episode of "Dr. Pimple Popper" we can't turn away from try as we might.

CHARLOTTE over **Rice** by 3

Yes, Charlotte over Rice sounds like some side dish at a Colonial Williamsburg restaurant. Yes, the 49ers have one of the nation's worst offenses, averaging an Iowa-like 18.9 PPG but Charlotte has scored 71 in splitting their last two affairs. Rice should be pretty steamed about being on a three-game losing streak and equally boiled over about losing to Charlotte last year 56-23, in Houston(!) while a 15.5-point favorite. We sense Rice's bowl chances are about to go dry at the hands of a Niners team that can only play spoiler. They are 2-0-1 ATS as a dog of four or fewer points in last home games and are an impressive **10-1 ATS** when both teams enter off SU losses as dogs. Charlotte would do well to adopt something from a wise songwriter from Minnesota, who once wrote "When you ain't got nothing, you got nothing to lose."

MISSISSIPPI STATE over **Southern Miss** by 8

Bulldogs AD Zac Selmon really stuck it to Zach Arnett this week, firing the Head Bulldog after only 10 games on the job. Hail State is 4-6 in their first season following the passing of Mike Leach, but Selmon barely waited for the body to cool in the ground before throwing Arnett's career in the grave as well. The good news for Arnett is his reputation as a solid defensive mind will keep his cell phone busy in the off-season. MSU is a brutal **1-10 ATS** when both teams are coming off conference clashes and 1-9 ATS when coming off back-to-back SUATS losses. Southern Miss is a weak defensive team, giving up 35 PPG and their offense can't match that pace, scoring 11 PPG fewer. Why the fade against the SEC squadron? The Golden Eagles are 4-0 ATS when coming off a win when the other guy is coming off a loss. That defeat ended up being a job bloodletting when both



the losing AND winning coach are fired (Jimbo Fisher beat Miss. State by 41 points and cleaned out his office the next day). We just can't get behind the Bulldogs under such shaky circumstances, especially when the next week they're trying to avoid getting egg on their faces against Ole Miss. Fade pattern here.

IOWA over Illinois by 1

Illinois is a very hard team to figure out, which matches their 5-5 record. The Illini boosted bowl hopes with a Jayden Daniels-like effort from QB John Paddock in a double overtime win vs. Indiana, Paddock threw for 505 yards, second best in college football this season. The Battling Bielema's have won three of their last four including two in a row, but Paddock may be left at the starting gate with the overpowering Iowa defense. Especially since that defense knows game after game what to expect from the Hawkeyes offense, which is to say...nothing. Illinois is **5-1 ATS** off an ATS loss versus a team coming off an ATS win. Iowa's defense is 102 yards per game better than Illinois, while the Illini has the better offense by 127 YPG. Iowa's offense is bad, really bad, but it is balanced...121 Rushing and 122 Passing per game. Let's cut to what America wants to know...30.5 is the O/U. BTW the runaway winner for the Broyles Award, handed out to the best assistant coach in the nation must be Iowa's Defensive Coordinator Phil Parker, who has earned every penny of his \$1.4 million salary. Parker is on the list of nominees released this week. Iowa is 8-2, in line for a good bowl game and ranked in the top 25. We have little faith in Iowa covering, but in Parker We Trust.

GEORGIA TECH over Syracuse by 10

Syracuse started 4-0 and went to 4-5 before evening their record with a rout over a terrible Pittsburgh team, while GT is the steadier of the bunch, not having dropped two games in a row yet this season. We don't think they'll break that streak this week, thanks to being **6-0 SU** and **5-0 ATS** when tasting bitter defeat in the previous week. Syracuse's win came thanks to 382 rushing yards and just 17 passing yards. The Orange passing "attack" threw only 8 aerials, completing 4 while Dan Villari, #89 in the program listed as a tight end, rushed for 17-154-1 while going 3-5 for 12 yards passing. RB Lequint Allen added 102 yards in a ball control attack that rivaled any of the military academies. No way of telling if Coach Dino Babers will re-run that winning approach, but he can't erase SU being 1-10 ATS as a dog after being a dog in the previous game. Both teams are 5-5, but Syracuse's next game is against Wake Forest...Georgia Tech will finish with Georgia. Techsters clearly have the motivational edge, mainly fear-based, but an edge, nonetheless.

KANSAS over Kansas State by 1

There were days when this matchup might have been one of the worst of the week, but the two Sunflower State reps are 7-3 and neither team has lost two in a row in 2023. KU is 5-1 ATS in the 11th game of the season and 9-3 ATS in their last home game versus a team coming off a SUATS win. The Jayhawks are 6-3 ATS as conference dogs of less than 10 points while the Wildcats are 7-14-1 ATS as a favorite off a SUATS win versus a .700 or greater foe. K. State is a Bettor's best buddy in recent meetings between the rivals, going 14-0 SU and 11-3

ATS in the last 14 meetings. Two great running backs dominate this stage, KSU's DJ Giddens and KU's Devin Neal. Neal needs just 35 yards to reach 1,000 and he's scored in each of the last three games and if KU is to pad Head Coach Lance Leipold's resume, Neal must come up big. Leipold keeps his receipts in his wallet, **18-5-1 ATS** when on a revenge mission, plus Lance is 30-11-1 ATS at home. The opening number looks too generous for our taste plus we can always count on Friedrich Nietzsche for perspective when he wrote "It is impossible to suffer without making someone pay for it, every complaint already contains revenge". There may be an opening for Nietzsche at a sportsbook in Vegas if anyone is hiring.

LIBERTY over Massachusetts by 24

You can always count on UMass football to have plenty of experience being a big underdog and from Game 11 out, the Minutemen are a sturdy 4-2 ATS when a dog of 20 points or more. The Flames have moved into Air Force's vacated spot as the "unknown unbeaten", ranked No. 24 at 10-0 with two games remaining after UMass. Liberty can't handle being a big favorite, going **1-6 ATS** in the last seven games when they have been a 20+ favorite and while they are 11-1 ATS when coming off a home win, the one slip up came when they were...say it with us...favored by 20+. Conference USA has turned out to be more competitive than we thought, so Liberty can't lay down its arms with only a one game lead on New Mexico State for the conference top spot. We just can't get lit over the Flames this weekend. We know one team that will be rooting hard for UMass to pull off a major upset...the 1972 Dolphins.

5★ BEST BET

Utah over ARIZONA by 11

Sweet matchup in the nation's number one football conference this year. Both teams are 7-3 with Zona a remarkable 5-2 in conference play, one game better than middle of the pack Utah. Both teams play strong defense, UA averages giving up just under 21 PPG, Utah 17.8. Arizona likes to throw it; Utah likes to run it. Incredibly Arizona has a shot, an outside shot, but a shot, at winning the Pac-12's last regular season title, while the Utes are hoping to give long time Head Coach Kyle Whittingham his 100th Pac-12 victory. We have been tooting the Wildcats horn all season long, bragging about them as one of the best rebuilding stories of the season. Now, we throw them in the deep end of the pool without a lesson or arm floaties to back the occasionally erratic Utes. U of A is understandably distracted the week before they tangle with rival Arizona State, going 0-7 ATS before ASU and **0-6 ATS** in Game 11. If that's enough for you, too bad, because we're tossing in Arizona's 2-8-1 ATS mark when coming off a road favorite win. Utah has recently dominated this series, **6-0 SU** and **5-1 ATS**. You make the Utes a road dog or pick 'em, they laugh in your face with a **15-3 ATS** mark. This game, pre-season, had Utah as an eight-point favorite and we think the wise guys had it right the first time. Want something funny? Funny how? Funny like we're a clown? We amuse you? Perhaps, **THE CLINCHER will amuse you: Arizona is 3-12 ATS in last home games when coming off a win, including 1-10 ATS versus sub .800 opponents.** Were you shakin'? We're wondering about you.

OREGON over Arizona State by 25

ASU is 0-3 ATS in their last three before Arizona, **1-5 ATS** in the first half of back-to-back home games, 3-9 ATS in last home games when coming off a SUATS win (they shut down UCLA 17-7 last week) and even worse **0-6 ATS** when the Sun Devils are coming off a double-digit spread win. Had enough? What do you mean it's only a flesh wound. Fine. Oregon is **5-0 ATS** as a conference road favorite of 15 or more, **9-1 ATS** when favored last game while the opponent was the underdog in its last game. Oregon boasts the nation's No. 2 offense, run by a Heisman Trophy candidate whose thrown for 3,315 yards, with a 77.7% completion rate, and a TD:INT ratio of 29:2. There's a potential wild card here that bears watching, the return of Arizona State QB Jaden Rashada, who has not played since Game 2. ASU Coach Kenny Dillingham was very coy when asked if Rashada will see action, saying "Potentially". That, plus Oregon having blood in their eyes when looking ahead to Oregon State next week has us friend zoning the Ducks. You know what we mean. Don't deny it either.

(continued on next page)

Oklahoma over BYU by 29

Oklahoma still has a chance to win the Big 12 in the Sooners last year in the conference, but first off, they must handle their own business and win out. Understandably we were all blown away by LSU's Jayden Daniels record setting performance vs. Florida, but OU Quarterback Dillon Gabriel had five touchdown passes and ran for three against the 2023 Big 12 equivalent of UF; West Virginia. The well-traveled Schooner performs well at the end of a season, going 6-2 SUATS in their last eight final road games. Gabriel has two outstanding receivers, Drake Stoops and RS-Freshman Nic Anderson, who leads the nation with a 25.7 yards per catch average. Meanwhile, the Cougars continue to find life in a tougher conference...well...tougher. The Deseret News reports as of mid-week the Cougars weren't sure who would start at quarterback, Kedon Slovis or Jake Retzlaff. Head Coach Kalani Sitake is even hinting they don't have the right players to run the defense they want. BYU is **0-6 ATS** off consecutive losses as an underdog, and **1-7 ATS** off a loss vs. a team off a win. Run all the stats you want into the spaghetti strainer and what's left is this: BYU is -117 net yards PG this season, OU is +131 net. If you think we're setting you up for the big dramatic reverse reveal, you have watched way too many episodes of "The Masked Singer".

WYOMING over Hawaii by 11

Give the Rainbow Warriors their due, they jumped all over Air Force in Honolulu last week, handing the Falcons a surprising second straight loss. But, and all college football fans know this, a road trip for Hawaii is another matter, and here they leave the warmth of Oahu for the altitude and likely cold weather in Laramie. UH is 3-17 in its last 20 road games. Hawaii also drags along a boring offense that's far from the June Jones glory days. UH is averaging 338 yards per game. The Cowboys are bowl eligible but have also lost three of their last four including a 20-point whipping handed down by UNLV and frankly they aren't tearing it up offensively either, averaging 301.6. Wyoming is historically flat in their final home game of the season, going 7-10 SU and 6-11 ATS and that includes a damning **0-6 ATS** versus foes coming off back-to-back wins. Hawaii on the other hand has a strange way of finishing off seasons, by beating the line in road finales, going 4-1 ATS and **5-1 ATS** in the last six games of this series. The Guys in the Desert want a bigger commitment then we are willing to provide.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE over Utep by 8

Not much to see here, two 3-7 teams showing up because they're supposed to, and both have taken similar paths through the sportsbooks. UTEP started 0-5 SUATS in their first five FBS games, but since have been spotted collecting at the window in three of the last four games. The Blue Raiders started 0-5 SU in their first five FBS tilts and they too have cashed three of the last four tickets. Twice MTSU has been a small favorite, and twice they've disappointed the chalk players. Middle is **4-0-1 ATS** all-time in this series but we're not swayed. We're not so excited, we just can't hide it and we know, we know, and we know we won't be losing control, or money on this matchup.

JACKSONVILLE STATE over Louisiana Tech by 10

Without much fanfare, Rich Rodriguez has put together a terrific season at Jax State, comfortably bowl eligible at 7-3. Classic Rich Rod offense, with his team ranked in the FBS Top 15 at 218 rushing yards per game and ranked way back in the pack with the passing game. The Gamecocks are way hotter than their South Carolina counterparts, winning five of their last six and their book numbers are also in the black, 7-3 SU and 7-1 ATS. JSU runs into a Louisiana Tech team infected with very bad karma. Tech Coach Sonny Crumbie singled out beat reporter Ben Carlisle and berated him at practice, said he wasn't supportive enough and banned him from the team. Coach Crumbum did Carlisle a favor by keeping him away from a team that needs wins, not fawning media. The Bulldogs have dropped five straight including last week's 42-27 pounding by a Sam Houston State team that picked up just their second win this year. The Techsters are 8-18 ATS in season ending tilts and that includes 3-12 ATS on the road. Eventually Crumbie Cookie will figure out La. Tech's biggest problem the next time he looks in a mirror.

NOTE: Home team is shown in ALL CAPS. PLAYBOOK selection is **Underlined and Bold**. Should we pass or not have a strong opinion on a game, neither team will be bolded.

Washington over OREGON STATE by 6

Winners this week in the courtroom, proud 2-Pac member Oregon State now tries to tilt the College Football Playoff away from #5 Washington. The Beavers have a twisty path to the Pac-12 title game and all they have to do is beat both Washington plus Oregon and have Arizona lose one of its remaining two. Nothing to it. Oregon State is a solid 8-2 team, having won In The Stats eight out of 10 times with an average profit of +139/game. OSU West is 5-0 in their last five single conference revenge battles but in this series, they are 1-10 SU in their last 11 games. We cannot make sense of unbeaten Washington being the underdog here, although they haven't exactly been blowing teams away lately as their last six wins have been by 10 or fewer points. Last two times UDub has been the dog, they beat Texas and Oregon outright. This is the 108th renewal of this series, and it's the first time both teams have been ranked. It's a matchup deserving of the national spotlight. We also can't quite figure out why Washington, without a loss in a conference way harder than the ACC, isn't in the playoff committee's Top 4. That committee badly needs a jolt of either Jolt Cola, or what they can get watching the game, a dose of BPE, Big Penix Energy.

FRESNO STATE over New Mexico by 28

College football is 50% better in the Heisenberg State this year, but the UNM Lobos are still firmly terrible while rivals New Mexico State have become a 2023 darling. The Lobes are 1-10 ATS in Game 11's, **1-11 ATS** when coming off back-to-back SUATS losses (which they have a lot of experience with). We hate kicking someone when they're down, but New Mexico is also **1-8-1 ATS** as a dog of 17 or greater. Fresno State is exactly the opposite, **9-1 ATS** in the last 10 games of this series, 8-3 as a conference favorite of 15 or greater and they've won four of their last six Game 11's. Fresno QB Mike Keene started the week as questionable after getting knocked out in Fresno's loss to San Jose State, so monitor his availability. Don't forget to tune in for the halftime jersey retirement ceremony of Fresno Diamond Dog legends Mike Batesole and some home run guy named Aaron Judge. It may be the most interesting aspect of the night.

Ucla over USC by 1

By the time you make that plunge, you may be looking at Chip Kelly's last game at UCLA. Plenty of reports surfaced mid-week saying Kelly's Westwood tenure won't be as long as John Wooden's was. Heck, if the rumors are true, William H. Spaulding had a longer run from 1928-38, going 72-51-8. Kelly's buyout is reportedly nine million, or as Jimbo Fisher calls it his "Whataburger Drive-Thru Fund." Kelly has not been able to replicate at UCLA what he did in Oregon. Meanwhile, not only are the folks in Norman, OK, still mad at USC's Lincoln Riley but Trojans fans are pretty steamed too with the recent collapse of the SC defense. USC is **0-5 ATS** in their last five as the favorite and 1-4 as the favorite of 10 or less. Tommy Trojan pulled out a wild 48-45 win over the Bruins last year, but against single conference vengeance, USC is a weak 1-4 in the last five. UCLA with single conference revenge is a robust 8-2 and is 5-2 after Arizona State but strangely 1-3 before Cal. No one looks ahead to Cal, or maybe you do, thinking an easy win is coming up. The Bruins are beat up at the QB position and it surely affected them in the beating they took from the Sun Devils, but that's a last place team that clocked them. Two unhappy sidelines, two unhappy fan bases, possibly only one coach keeping his job after the game, or the season...what to do? Luckily, we have the solution, the best box you will receive before Christmas...**THE SMART BOX**, which points out UCLA's proud **9-1 record In the Stats** gives them top dog status. If Kelly's going out, he's got a shot to be the toast of LA college football one last time.

COLORADO STATE over Nevada by 14

Hard to imagine this, but the Rams still have a shot at bowl eligibility and should be favored to beat a weak Nevada team. If that happens, CSU goes to 5-6 with a trip to Hawaii to conclude the season, far from a certain W. Nevada is 2-8 and believe us, it could be a lot worse but give the Wolf Pack a lollipop for not completely folding after an 0-6 start. The Rams can't run the ball, but QB Brayden Fowler-Nicolosi will pass 3,000 yards this season if he stays healthy. BFN's BFF, WR Tory Horton, has 87 catches but hasn't found the end zone since September 30th. Nevada suffers from the dreaded Playbook diagnosis of MNYPG, aka Minus Net Yards Per Game and at a -150 net yards per game deficit, and against a team in our COLLEGE BOWL RUSH Circle of Trust, we offer the wisest words we can publish: lay it if you play it.

STANFORD over California by 3

"The Game" is unfortunately a shell of its former self, two rivals just slapping each other around with very little meaning. Yes, Cal is a member of the COLLEGE BOWL RUSH at 4-6 and they do play at UCLA Thanksgiving Saturday against what might be Chip Kelly's last go round. Da Bears broke a four-game losing streak by taking on the broken Wazzu Cougars last week. Neither team plays defense well, both giving up around 37 PPG. Given Cal's reputation as a deep thinker school, it's not surprising there is a yin-yang about their rivalry with the Cardinal. In this series, Cal if 4-0 ATS in the last four meetings, but 3-7 ITS (In The Stats) all season and 1-4 SU in the last five games. Stanford just got out of the cryo chambers following last week's 62-17 battering by Oregon State so the best healing for those bruises would be to sacrifice Cal to the No Bowl Gods. Something we smell in the distance isn't just Sunset Sherbert, OG Kush, Chem Breath, or the very popular Laughing Gas strain, but an upset. Anyone have any Grateful Dead cassettes or at least some tortilla chips man?

LSU over Georgia State by 31

This is where the SEC annually schedules a punching bag, in its next to last game of the season – and this is where we normally want to fade them in these sandwich affairs, but Brian Kelly appears to have other thoughts on his mind. Apparently, he is going to do all he can to help secure a Heisman Trophy for his quarterback, Jayden Daniels. Daniels became the first player in FBS history to throw for over 350 yards and run for over 200 yards in last week's 52-35 win (as a -16-point favorite) over Florida last week. Maybe Diante Lee of The Athletic put it best: "Jayden crossed the 'cheat code in an arcade game' threshold Saturday night." LSU head coach Kelly piled on after the game to pimp for his player, saying, "If he didn't win (the Heisman Trophy) tonight, he's got to be the leading candidate. Unless the Heisman is just about popularity. If you want to be the most popular then fine, but he's the best player in college football." For us, it stirred up memories of TCU and Max Duggan last season, and with it, the Tigers are the sixth FBS team to gain more than 700 yards in a game this season. For what it's worth, the other five teams went 5-0 SU and 3-2 ATS in follow-up games, averaging 474.5 YPG. As for the punching bag, Georgia State got off to a 6-1 start but has dropped three straight, including losses to Georgia Southern and James Madison in the last two games, by identical 42-14 scores. (They were outgained by JMad and Appy State, 567-228 & 609-360.) They are also 3-1 in their last four matchups with the SEC, but just 2-5 ATS as dogs of more than 20 points... so no, we are not taking this heavy lumber.

OLE MISS over **UL Monroe** by 28

It's safe to say that Georgia stripped the wheels off the "Lane-Train" in last week's 52-17 manhandling of Ole Miss when the Rebels surrendered 611 yards on defense. Lane Kiffin promised his Rebels would have a "house money" mentality in the game but proved to be more like Monopoly money in the end as they bankrupted instead. The **Well-Oiled Machine** notes today that the SEC is 8-21 at home in penultimate games against sub .500 non-conference opponents. In addition, the Rebels are 2-5 SU and **1-6 ATS** in LHGs (Last Home Games), including 0-3 ATS with Kiffin. On the flip side, here is a key stat: Warhawks' head coach Terry Bowden is **15-2 ATS** as a road dog of 16 or more points when his troops are coming off a loss. That's all we need to know.

TULSA over North Texas by 3

Tulsa is **0-6 ATS** when coming off a road loss but hung tough with Tulane in a 24-22 loss last week when they outgained the Wave by over 100 yards in the stats. They even had a chance to tie the game late, but Braylon Braxton's pass on a 2-point conversion attempt fell incomplete in the back of the end zone. Today, both teams enter 3-7 / 1-5 this season, so neither are involved in the CUSA title game race – or headed to a bowl game for that matter – with North Texas losing their 4th straight conference game. After giving up 314 yards on the ground with 4 touchdowns to SMU last Saturday, the Mean Green brings the worst defense in the FBS (474 YPG) into Tulsa today. You won't find us laying points with them anytime soon.

TROY over Louisiana by 8

The 8-2 Trojans have clinched a ticket into this year's Sun Belt championship game, while the 5-5 Ragin' Cajuns need a win here or next week at home against ULM to become bowl eligible. Kudos to Trojans' head coach John Sumrall in just his second season at Troy, and last year he avenged an upset loss to Louisiana in this series from 2021,



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so revenge is not on his plate this year. The Men of Troy bring nothing but strong trends into this battle, but we don't see them showing their hand this close to the title game. Meanwhile, the Cajuns will be looking to bounce back from a tough overtime loss to Southern Miss and are **10-1 ATS** when coming off a home defeat. They are also a sparkling **7-1 ATS** in their last eight games as a double-digit dog, so grab the points today.

Smu over **MEMPHIS** by 1

The Ponies are locked in a three-way tie at 6-0 atop the AAC standings and need a loss by Tulane in order to play in the championship game at home. But one thing at a time. The good news in Dallas is QB Preston Stone played in last weeks' 45-21 rout of North Texas, going 11-for-20 for 234 yards and 2 TDs. The problem today is SMU is just **1-7 ATS** when coming off a SUATS win and facing an opponent coming off a SU win and ATS loss. They've also struggled in Game Eleven travelers, going just **1-6 ATS**. Meanwhile, the Tigers have always been a rock-solid home dog (8-2 ATS last ten games) and are 10-3 SU and 9-3 ATS in LHG's. Memphis avoided an upset in overtime last week against Charlotte when the 49ers missed a field goal in the first OT. At 8-2 on the season this year, and 7-2 SU and **8-1 ATS** in this series, we'll grab the generous points in this overlay.

UAB over Temple by 5

The Owls enter with decent numbers, including **5-0 ATS** when coming off a loss but ATS cover, and **11-1 ATS** coming off a loss as a dog. However, at 3-7 this season, we're not in a big hurry to find room for them on our ticket this week. On the flip side, the Blazers had gone to a bowl game in each of the previous five non-COVID seasons when they hired Trent Dilfer as their new head coach this season. (Dilfer's only head coaching experience was at a private high school.) They now sit 3-7 after a brutal 25-point loss at Navy last week. Worse, USA TODAY reports Dilfer called a timeout with 11 seconds remaining to score a stat sheet-stuffing touchdown from the 10-yard line, only to get stuffed on the next three plays. What a clown! We'll stay as far away from this game as possible.

Texas over **IOWA STATE** by 3

The Horns own the hammer in the Big 12, controlling their destiny with wins here today and next week at home against Texas Tech. Unfortunately, with Quinn Ewers back in action, they have now lost outstanding RB Jonathan Brooks for the season with a torn ACL. True freshman C.J. Baxter takes over, but they'd better bring their 'A' game to Ames where the Cyclones own the better defense. Texas is just **1-5 ATS** after playing TCU and 2-5 in the second of back-to-back road games. In addition, the Clones have covered the last three meetings

(continued on next page)

of this series and overall, have rung the register 6 straight times as a home dog of more than 4 points. Also, head coach Matt Campbell is 28-11 ATS as a conference dog, including 11-3 ATS at home. Iowa State endured a losing season last year but has bounced back in 2023 and secured a bowl bid with their latest victory, a 45-13 late-night win at BYU. Consider this a very dangerous spot for Hook 'em.

HOUSTON over Oklahoma State by 1

The Cowboys suffered the epitome of a letdown following their Bedlam series-ending, goalpost-takedown upset of Oklahoma when they no-showed at UCF in a 45-3 blowout loss. It was so bad that OSU's Ollie Gordon II, the nation's leading rusher, was held to 25 yards on 12 carries. The ignominy of it all is that the Cowboys became only the second top-15 team since 1936 to lose by more than 40 points to a sub-.500 team. Worse, they had the inside track to a date in the Big 12 title game in hand until they got caught with their pants down, and now Texas is in the pole position. On the other side, if there has been a bright spot in Dana Holgorsen's world it is the arrival of opponents coming off a SU favorite loss, as he is 7-3 SUATS in his career in such games, including **7-1 SUATS** after game Six. The Cougs also check in at 9-2 SU and 8-3 ATS in LHGs, including **7-1 SUATS** versus .500 or greater foes. You know what to do.

ARKANSAS over Florida Int'l by 35

The disappointing Hogs are just 3-7 this season and about to suffer their first non-COVID losing season under Sam Pittman, who was asked about any worries he had about keeping his job. "Well, we've got a lot to fix around here," said Pittman, adding, "I need to do a better job, so I can't really sit around worried about my job security or me." They shouldn't lose this one, though, as the Razorbacks are **7-0 ATS** coming off a SU favorite loss. Meanwhile, FIU is 2-8 ATS in games when both teams are coming off a loss. Since they are losing games by an average of 122 net yards per game, the Panthers look to be the perfect fodder in this bar-be-que in Fayetteville.

TCU over Baylor by 16

Both of these promising programs have taken a hard hit this season. The Bears limp in on a 0-3 SUATS losing run and bring a 4-11 SUATS series mark with them, including **1-7 ATS** the last eight games. The Bears were annihilated by Kansas State on Saturday, falling behind 35-7 in the second quarter. Still, after the spate of recent head coach firings, Dave Aranda knows his seat has turned toasty and will rely on his 13-8-1 ATS log as a conference dog in hopes of keeping the alumni happy. It may not be enough. Meanwhile, the Horned Frogs are obviously nowhere close to the juggernaut they took to the CFP final last season, but they did show flashes of brilliance in a 20-3 fourth quarter comeback to put a scare into Texas last week. Head coach Sonny Dykes is **12-2 ATS** at home in his career against conference opponents coming off a loss, including **7-0 ATS** when he is installed as the favorite.

UPSET GAME OF THE WEEK UPSET

Florida over MISSOURI by 1

What a great storyline for the Tigers this season, a team that was seen as a borderline bowl team in August. Now, after trouncing Tennessee 36-7 in a crucial SEC East matchup, the Tigers are likely headed for a New Year's Six bowl barring a collapse in their last two games against Florida and Arkansas. It all starts here, if they can get past the Gators – and we feel that is a big IF. A couple of things we did not like were some unsportsmanlike decisions by Eli Drinkwitz in the trouncing of Tennessee where he used several time-outs in the final minutes of the game, including trying to ice the Vols' kicker on their last FG attempt. We also don't like Mizzou's **1-7 ATS** record when coming off a SU underdog win versus foes coming off a loss as a dog, and **1-8 ATS** mark off a home game versus foes coming off a road game. Meanwhile, after sitting 5-2 a month ago, the 5-5 Gators are in real danger of missing the bowl season for the second year in row as they close out the season against a pair of hot, highly ranked foes (today's game, then Florida State on deck). The truth is Florida's only legitimate win this campaign came against Tennessee in a home dog role. However, this tells you all you need to know about backing the scarred Gators today – **THE CLINCHER: Florida is 19-8-1 ATS as a conference dog when facing a foe coming off a SUATS win, including 9-0-1 ATS as a dog of 10 or more points.**

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AUBURN over **New Mexico State** by 13

The Aggies (and our favorite, Jerry Kill) cashed as Marc's CFB False favorite Play of the Year in last week's upset win over Western Kentucky. So, will we be hopping off them this week? Fat chance. For openers they are riding an **8-0 ATS** win streak, including 6-0 SU the last six games. They will play for a conference title on Dec. 1 at Liberty, and their eight wins are the most in a single season since the Aggies went 8-2 in 1965. Meanwhile, after a dubious 0-4 start in the SEC this season, the Tigers appear to have regained their growl with a 48-10 annihilation of Arkansas last week. It marked their third straight conference win, the last a bowl-eligible clinching victory. Now with Alabama on deck, look for the eye of the Tiger to be more focused on the Tide than this groupie. The **Well-Oiled Machine** cements it, noting that SEC home teams in their second-to last contest of the season are 24-36-2 ATS when facing non-conference FBS foes, including **1-6 ATS** when coming off consecutive SUATS wins and hosting a non-conference foe.

TEXAS TECH over Ucf by 10

Give the Knights their due. After watching a 3-0 start to the season blow up, they hosted hot potato Okie State as a 4-5 unit and proceeded to lasso the Cowboys in a 45-3 rout and now need one win in their final two contests to go bowling for an eighth straight season. The return of QB John Rhys Plumlee from injury has been a big factor in UCF's resurgence (along with the ultra-cool Space Game Uniforms this past week), but a consistent contributor this season has been RB R.J. Harvey, who rushed for over 100 yards for the fifth straight game versus the Cowboys. Still, we have to figure the 5-5 Red Raiders to be at their best today with a visit scheduled at Texas on deck, making this their best chance to go bowling. We also realize they've struggled in LHGs, going just 2-5 SU and 1-6 ATS over the last seven seasons, but they are 1-0 SUATS in this same game under head coach Joey McGuire.

WESTERN KENTUCKY over Sam Houston State by 16

As good as life in the FBS has been for newcomer Jacksonville State this season, it's been just about the opposite for the Bearcats, save for a pair of wins over Kennesaw St and Louisiana Tech in the past two weeks. The problem is last week's win over the Bulldogs – their first over an FBS squad – was of the smoke-and-mirrors variety as they were outgained by over 100 yards in a 42-27 road win. Look for a quick return to the norm today. Meanwhile, we have to admit it's strange to find a 5-5 team on the ropes (1-3 SU and 0-4 ATS last four games) laying a pair of touchdowns. Yet they bring a 12-0 SU and 9-3 ATS ledger to the contest in LHG's, (Last Home Games) including **4-0 SUATS** when Wicky owns a .500 or fewer win percentage. As Hugh Hefner would say, just lay it.

NOTRE DAME over Wake Forest by 20

Another scrimmage game for the Leprechauns who should close out the season next week at Stanford with a victory and conclude the campaign

as a 9-3 squad. Still, Notre Dame fans are finding fault with the pace of play espoused by head coach Marcus Freeman, calling it "Jim Tressell ball". In fact, the 61.3 snaps per game is ranked 123rd in the nation (proving there is a statistic for everything). However, before hecking the family jewels on the Irish, you should know the Demon Deacons are **8-0 ATS** in games when both teams are coming off a SUATS loss. Also, keep in mind that the Fighting Irish have dropped two of their last three decisions against ACC foes after winning their previous 30. On the flip side, the Deacons bring a lofty **9-1 ATS** mark into this battle in games when riding a three-game-exact losing streak. They're also **7-1 ATS** when coming off a home loss and 3-1 ATS as a double-digit dog in this series. A win/no cover is the call from this vantage point.

AIR FORCE over Unlv by 8

The Runnin' Rebels have been an ATS machine this season under first-year head coach Barry Odom, going 8-1 ATS. The winner here takes control of the MWC standings. Meanwhile, we're still looking into what crawled up and died inside the Falcons since the calendar turned to November as they enter this fray on the heels of back-to-back losses to Hawaii and Army after winning 13 straight games. Huh? Actually, the Falcons lost star quarterback Zac Larrier with a leg injury in the second quarter of the Army game, while running back Emmanuel Michel, and Dane Kinamon also did not play. Air Force struggled to consistently move the ball without 3 of their best players, and now, all three are questionable this Saturday. The other big culprit has been turnovers, as Air Force is -10 to 0 in the last two contests. Meanwhile, a win here will clinch a MWC title berth for either team. With the Falcons 14-3 outright over their last 17 games in this series, expect the Flyboys' defensive edge (+137 net YPG) to be the deciding factor today.

ARKANSAS STATE over Texas State by 3

After stumbling out of the gate with a two-game losing effort, the 5-5 Wolves have put themselves into bowl contention, but will need a win here today or next week at Marshall. A dependable 9-3 SU and 8-4 ATS dog-log in LHG's comes to their aid, including **9-1 SU and 8-2 ATS** in games in which ASU sports a .300 or greater win percentage. Meanwhile, the Bobcats rode a hot 4-1 start to a bowl ticket under first year head coach GK Kinne, but they've since leveled out, entering this contest just 2-2 SU and 1-3 ATS in their past four games. We see potential trouble again this week with a hungry host bringing their best to the final curtain call at home.

SOUTH ALABAMA over Marshall by 4

The 5-5 Jags are living up to their shortened nickname. They ride a ragged 3-4 streak entering this contest and bring a **0-9 ATS** mark in games following a home favorite win today. After scoring 55 points in consecutive games earlier this season, they have averaged just 17 PPG since, while going 1-2. Meanwhile, at 5-5 / 2-5 the Herd make this week's Bowl Rush chart despite residing alone in the Sun Belt East basement. A change at quarterback made a huge difference in a 38-33 win over Georgia Southern, as freshman Cole Pennington, the son of former Marshall standout Chad Pennington, stepped in and brought home the win. Now they bring a highly profitable **8-1 ATS** mark into this battle as a road dog of 7-plus points, which puts us on the take.

Boise State over UTAH STATE by 5

Boise State canned head coach Andy Avalos after the Broncos beat New Mexico, 42-14, last week to improve to 5-5 on the season, but boom, the Boise State administration dropped the hammer anyway. Avalos' record with the Broncos was 22-14, including a 10-4 season last year that was capped with a win in the Frisco Bowl. Many are left scratching their heads over the firing, but word has it the school was not satisfied with his body of work, despite the fact that he was named MWC Coach of the Year in 2022. The Broncos are bordering on their first losing season since 1997, which was just their fifth overall since 1947. Perhaps the biggest black cloud, though, is that Boise has not won the MWC during his tenure and the prospect of doing so this year is slim. They are **2-4 SU and 0-5-1 ATS** in their last six road games, and **0-4 ATS** in games when both teams are coming off home contest. The feeling here is the players may have been the cause for the ouster of their head coach and with that, we'll take a seat on the sideline for now. If not for the turmoil in Boise, we might have taken a closer look at them here, as the Broncos have defeated the Aggies in 19 of the last 20 meetings, with Utah State posting an ATS mark of **3-15-1 ATS** in those games. Like the Broncos, the Aggies are 5-5 and will need a win in either of their final two games to gain bowl eligibility. Big game... enjoy watching it with us.

WISCONSIN over Nebraska by 11

Two weeks ago, the Huskers were 5-3 with visions of bowling running through their minds. Now, coming off an embarrassing loss to Michigan State, they are on the 5-5 list of teams outlined in this issue who are looking to cut the mustard and become bowl eligible. The problem is they now have a horrible QB situation. Jeff Sims, who was the starter at the beginning of the season before becoming Mr. Turnover, came into the game when Heinrich Haarberg was injured and tossed two more interceptions before accumulating zero yards passing in 2 quarters of play. He gave way to Chubba Purdy, who was definitely not an improvement. So now what, Matt Rhule? Anyway, the Badgers are not in much better shape, as they have shrunk into irrelevance in Luke Fickell's first season in Madison – or have they? The **MIDWEEK ALERT** comes to their side this evening as the 5-5 Badgers are actually outgaining foes by 44 net yards per game, while having won the stats in 8 of their 10 games this season. Wisky is also **9-1 ATS** when coming off a SU home favorite loss. After last week's egg-on-the-face 14-point home loss to Northwestern, they'll need to beat either bowl-chasers Nebraska here or Minnesota next week. The Badgers have made a bowl appearance in 21 straight seasons, so we think they'll find a way to get 'er done.

SAN JOSE STATE over San Diego State by 18

Another scary series history belongs to the Spartans here: 1-9 SU and 3-7 ATS. While that is a check mark in San Diego State's favor, we can't overlook the current form with SJSU winning the stats by 50 net yards per game behind QB Chevan Cordeiro, and the Aztecs losing them by 101 net yards per game. Sparty is also coming off a huge 42-18 win over Fresno State, who was 8-0 two weeks ago. Couple Spartans' head coach Brian Brennan's 14-3-1 ATS career mark in games when coming off a SUATS win, including **5-0-1 ATS** at home, and we can only look one way here tonight. Across the field, we haven't seen a fall this steep in a long while. After landing a bowl berth in each of the past 12 non-COVID seasons, the Aztecs are in a duel for the MWC cellar with New Mexico, a program that will be home for the holidays for the seventh year in a row this season. San Diego State lost their third straight game and 6th of their last seven after dropping a 22-19 decision to Colorado State in Fort Collins and we won't back a team that is already headed for Christmas in Baja.

PRO FOOTBALL

Thursday, November 16

3★ BEST BET

Cincinnati over BALTIMORE by 10

The Ravens' loss to the Browns last week was the seventh time in the past two seasons they have squandered a lead of 14-plus points, only to walk off the field a loser. The team just cannot protect the lead. In fact, they've trailed a total of 28:46 this season! Not in any one game, but the entire season. When the Browns kicked the game-winning field goal as time expired last week, Cleveland had trailed the entire game. So much for the Lamar Jackson MVP talk. In the last two regular seasons, Baltimore has lost 7 regular season games. Per ESPN, they had a 75% win probability in the 4Q in each game – including a 90% chance in the 4Q in five of the games. Through it all, they remain atop the deeply rich AFC North, where every team sports a winning record. Statistically, the Ravens top the loop in Rush Yards Per Game (154.9), while the Bengals rank last (74.8). That's a lot of real estate for Joe Burrow to make up. The Bengals have taken numerous standing 8-counts this season, entering tonight's contest 1-4 against the AFC, including 0-2 in division games. If they lose this contest, they will have little to no chance in any tiebreakers when it comes to the NFL playoffs. If the frozen fans in Baltimore sense a strong chill tonight, it will likely come from the arm of Joe Brr, who is 7-4 SU and **10-1 ATS** in their last eleven games as a dog behind Burrow, as well as **4-0 ATS** away against foes coming off a SU loss as a favorite. And better yet here comes **THE CLINCHER: Cincinnati is 10-2 ATS away with Burrow when coming off a loss, including 5-0 SUATS in games when the Bengals own a .400 or greater record.**

Sunday, November 19

4★ BEST BET

CLEVELAND over Pittsburgh by 14

Talk about riding a high and then getting sucker punched. The Browns stirring win at Baltimore last week was part of an NFL record six games that were decided on the final play of the game – all field goals – when Cleveland, Houston, Arizona, Detroit, Seattle, and Denver all kicked winning field goals on the final play of their respective games. The USA TODAY reports that 69.8% of all games this season have been within one score in the fourth quarter. The win also marked the first time a team trailed the entire game through the first 59:40 and won the game. It lifted the Browns to 5-3 and second place in the division. They then got walloped by the football gods when QB Deshaun Watson, who was 14-for-14 during the second-half comeback against Baltimore last week, was ruled out for the balance of the season with a shoulder injury. It's now time, in Watson's absence, for the team to rally around the backup quarterback, P.J. Walker or Dorian-Thompson Robinson. If it's Walker, he'll bring eye-opening numbers into the contest, going 6-4 SU and 7-3 ATS in his NFL career starts, including **4-0 SUATS** at home, **4-0 ATS** against foes coming off a win, and **3-0 ATS** versus division foes. Meanwhile, it can be said that beauty is in the eye of the beholder when it comes to the 6-3 Steelers. They are currently a half-game out of first place despite being out-yarded in all nine games this season. You can blame it on an offense that ranks only above the Giants, Raiders, Panthers, and Jets in overall yards per game. All six of their wins have been by seven or fewer points (average 5.2 PPG), while all three losses have come by double-digits. With it, the Steelers are the only team in NFL history to be outgained in total offense in each of their first nine games but still have a winning record. Pittsburgh has been outgained on the season by 865 yards. It has a -26-point differential. The Steelers have recorded 36 fewer first downs than opponents this season, and they've run 75 fewer offensive plays. Sheesh. This game also presents a matchup of the league's top two sack masters in T.J. Watt, who has the most sacks in NFL history in his first 100 games, against the Browns Defensive MVP leading candidate Myles Garrett, who is tied for the lead league with 11. With the Browns bringing a lethal combo of top-rated Rushing Attempts Per Game (34.9) along with the league's top-ranked defense, look for the "rally around the backup" war chant to carry them to 5-1 SUATS in their last six division home games in the Dawg Pound today. With it, we hand it off to **THE CLINCHER: Pittsburgh head coach Mike Tomlin is 6-11 ATS away in his career against foes coming off a SU underdog win, including 2-10 ATS when the Steelers sport a .500 or greater win percentage.**

Arizona over HOUSTON by 1

Don't look now, but the Texans are only one game back of the AFC South division-leading Jaguars and are ahead of the Bengals by a tiebreaker in the AFC's current projected playoff field as the final wild-card team. Coming off his rookie-record 470-yard passing day in Week 9, rookie phenom QB Stroud put up 356 yards more in Sunday's 30-27 upset of the Bengals in Cincinnati. He joined Cam Newton and Andrew Luck for the most games (3) with 350+ pass yards among rookies – with eight more games yet to play. Just as impressive is Houston's 4-1 SU and 5-0 ATS mark against .500 or greater teams this season. The bad news – and there is always bad news – is its dismal 1-3 SU and 0-4 ATS record against losing foes, which speaks to their level of immaturity when it comes to stepping up and letting down against various opposition. With that, the rejuvenated Cardinals enter into a tricky spot for the Texans. Making his first start after tearing his anterior cruciate ligament last year, Arizona quarterback Kyler Murray was a bit rusty against the Falcons. That's normal. But with his rushing, his ability to extend plays, his pocket presence and his arm, the downtrodden Cardinals (2-8) are far more competitive with him under center. Murray completed 19-of-32 for 249 yards with no touchdowns against one interception in the Cardinals' 25-23 win. He also scored a rushing touchdown while gaining 33 yards on the ground on six carries, including a 13-yard scramble on a third-and-10 with 1:50 left in the game that set up the game-winning field goal. Noting Arizona's **5-1 ATS** mark against the AFC South and the Texans'

tepid 1-5 ATS record before hosting a division opponent, we cement the call with Marc's **"LYIN' EYES" BETCHA DIDN'T KNOW** article on page 2 for even more mind-blowing support for the Redbirds.

GREEN BAY over LA Chargers by 1

QB Justin Herbert's 16,438 career passing yards eclipsed Hall of Famer Peyton Manning for the most by a player in his first four NFL seasons. Herbert threw for 323 yards and four TDs in a defeat last week to the Lions. Talk about the misuse of a star quarterback, in last week's 41-38 loss to the Lions, the Bolts lost their 13th game by a field goal or less since Justin Herbert has been with the team. That's ugly. And talk about close calls, enter the 3-6 Packers, who have suffered four losses this season by a combined total of 11 points this season. They are, however, 8-2 ATS in games when both teams enter off a SUATS loss. With the Bolts having surrendered season-high yardage in three of their last seven games, we'll take whatever we can get.

WASHINGTON over NY Giants over by 5

OMG. While in the process of accruing fewer than 200 yards four times this season, Little Blue faces the most scoring problems in the league, averaging 11.8 PPG, worse than the paltry 14.1 PPG being put up by the vanishing Patriots' offense. Fortunately, Washington ranks dead-last in Rushing Attempts Per Game (20.2), which figures to put the ball in the hands of the Giants' offense more often than not today. Tommy DeVito is still living in the low-rent district of the New York Giants' locker room, yet he is now their starting quarterback. Last week he was the first rookie to start at QB for the Giants in the modern draft era, and he wasn't even drafted. With it, he was the 10th rookie to start an NFL game this season, the most starting rookie QBs since stats began being tracked in 1950. On the opposite side of the field, Washington will be seeking revenge for a pair of losses (and a tie) they suffered in this series since last season. With it, the Commanders bring a **0-6 ATS** mark into this fray when seeking double revenge exact. They are also **1-6 ATS** at home versus .250 or fewer foes and **1-5 ATS** in the first of consecutive division games. Given Washington's wimpy **3-16 ATS** mark as a double-digit division favorite, you know what to do here. Grab the clothespin.

JACKSONVILLE over Tennessee by 3

The Jaguars were knocked off their pedestal in last week's rousing 31-point home loss to the Niners. For them, it was a "step-up game" in which they totally misstepped. They'll look to get back on track in this division duke out knowing they've just 2-5 SU and 1-6 ATS as division home chalk as well as 4-11 SU and 4-10-1 ATS in Game eleven of the season, including **0-4 ATS** the last four games. The Titans enter 9-3 SUATS the last dozen games in this series, along with Mike Vrabel being the answer in this week's **TRIVIA TEASER** on page 2. With NFL teams tending to come up short when coming off a snapped win streak, look for more of the same today.

DETROIT over Chicago by 12

The Lions no longer have the league's worst defense, though Sunday served up an unwanted flashback when they coughed up 38 points to the Los Angeles Chargers. But no problem – even on the road – as the NFC North leaders hung on for a 41-38 win that pulled them one game behind the idle Philadelphia Eagles - who are about to face Kansas City, Buffalo, San Francisco, Dallas, and Seattle in succession – in the race for the conference's No. 1 playoff seed. Ironically, Dan Campbell beat Brandon Staley at his own game when instead of kicking a go-ahead FG on 4th-and-2 with less than 2:00 remaining, he opted to go for the first down, made it, and ran the clock down for the game-winning kick rather than giving the ball back to Justin Herbert with a chance to let the Chargers win the contest. There is no refuting the fact that the Lions are **8-0 ATS** in their last eight division home contests, including five outright wins in a row. They have also cashed in nine of their last twelve games against opponents coming off a Thursday contest. With Chicago QB Justin Fields expected back for the Bears this week, the point spread lowered a few points, which, in truth, creates added value for the poker-hot Lions. No bear meat for us, thank you.

MIAMI over Las Vegas by 16

Look out, Miami. You know what's coming. Interim head coach Antonio Pierce gets it. Run the ball down the opponent's throat and win the game. It's in his DNA, and it's been working since he assumed the reins in Las Vegas. No one knows better than him that since 2019 when the Raiders acquired Josh Jacobs, they are 21-5 in

games in which he ruses the ball for 20 or more carries. They are 10-32 when they don't. It doesn't get any simpler than that. Miami's No.2 rush offense (147.9) triumphs over the Raiders' No. 30 rush attack (83.3), which makes it a difficult task for the Black and Silver. Starting today, coming out of their Bye week, the Dolphins will face five teams currently with losing records, whose records today are 19-27 combined, including the Raiders this week, the Jets (twice), the Commanders, and the Titans. In case you didn't know: Pierce drives a candy apple red '64 Chevy Impala, which shouldn't be shocking since the man was born and raised in Compton, California. Prior to Sunday night's game against the Jets, Pierce rolled into Allegiant Stadium with his cool ride, and fans immediately declared the Raiders winners of the game — even though it was still hours before kickoff. That won't happen here today, not with Miami **6-0 ATS** as a favorite of six or more points, **7-1 ATS** in its last eight home games, and **5-1 ATS** when coming off a Bye. Look for the Raiders to fall to 3-10 ATS against the AFC East today.

Dallas over **CAROLINA** by 4

Who gifted the Cowboys this year's schedule? Since their Bye four weeks ago, they will have faced the Rams, Giants, and the Panthers in three of those games. They are also cruising 'In The Stats', winning each of the last four contests by an average 172 net yards per game. The Cowboys have been unbeatable of late at AT&T Stadium with 12 consecutive home wins. They are, however, just 5-8 SUATS in their last 13 road games, including 1-8 ATS when coming off a win. Call that your friendly 'bar bet of the week.' It should be mentioned that the Cowboys padded theirs in last week's 49-17 rout over the barefoot Giants with seven TDs while posting 640 yards and 32 first downs, its +468 net yardage advantage over the G-Men was the largest difference in an NFL game in 44 years. Welcome to a return to Earth. It starts with Dallas' dismal 6-10 SU and 4-12 ATS records in games when coming off a double-digit win, including **1-7 SUATS** the last seven games, not to mention its 10-12 SU and 8-13-1 ATS log against the NFC South. Plus, its 2-6 ATS log in games after beating division rival NY Giants by more than 21 points. Carolina's 16-9-1 ATS record as a dog in NFC East games figures to improve today.

SAN FRANCISCO over Tampa Bay by 14

The Niners got off the schneid in a big way in last week's rout of the Jaguars in Jacksonville last week, and with it, they have reasserted themselves as the team to beat on the road to the Super Bowl. They'll bring a **15-2 ATS** mark as home favorites into the tilt, including 10-0 SUATS from Game Ten out. The Bucs currently enter as the No. 8 overall seed in the NFC Playoff Picture, but are **1-7 ATS** against the NFC West and **1-6 ATS** after hosting an AFC opponent. If you like Tampa, we have three words of advice: Proceed with caution.

5★ BEST BET

LA RAMS over Seattle by 10

The 6-3 Seahawks enter this contest tied atop the NFC West with the 49ers knowing they will be taking on San Francisco (twice), Dallas, and Philadelphia in their next four contests. Next to them, Los Angeles looks like a walk in the park for Seattle. And that's where they should trip up. Our concern is Pete Carroll's troops, currently the No. 5 seed in the NFL Playoff Picture, have allowed more yards than they've gained this season. and the ultra-angry Rams enter off their Bye week riding a 0-3 SUATS losing skein. According to the **Well-Oiled Machine** that's a potent combination, as underdogs in this role are 27-10-1 ATS since 1995. It doesn't hurt that L.A. is **9-1 ATS** the last ten games in this series, including **5-0 ATS** when the Seabags arrive off a SUATS win. Meanwhile, Seattle enters just 3-8 ATS in its last eleven division roadies, including 0-3 ATS as a favorite. Tie it into the Rams' 26-16-1 ATS record in division games behind Sean McVay, and McVay's **4-0 ATS** mark in the first of consecutive division games when coming off a loss of 7 or more points, plus McVay's **3-0 ATS** career mark as a division dog with a losing record. We'll seal the deal, though, with **THE CLINCHER: The Rams are 4-0-1 ATS as a dog with a week of rest.**

BUFFALO over NY Jets by 11

Stop the presses. The Jets have now had 36 consecutive drives without a touchdown. Yet somehow, since their Bye week this season, they are 1-2 outright despite winning the stats in all three games — while holding two of the foes under 200 yards of offense. They are, however,

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a miserable 0-5 ATS in games after being tripped up as a favorite. And then there is Buffalo, perhaps the most disappointing team in the league. At 5-5, the Bills would be on the outside looking in at the NFL playoffs, currently ranked No. 10 in the NFL Playoff Picture. We all know where the problem appears, but it goes deeper than that. QB Josh Allen has turned into a turnover machine, responsible for 14 of the Bills' 18 giveaways with INTs in six straight games. He now has 112 TOs in his 5.5-year NFL career and growing. The Bills' real issue, though, is on defense, as injuries have ravaged the stop unit. They'll hope Game Eleven continues its winning way, as Buffalo is **11-3 SU** and **11-2-1 ATS** at home in these games. They are also 12-4 SU and 19-6 ATS at home coming off a home loss. Meanwhile, the Flyboys are **1-8 ATS** when coming off a SU favorite loss and **1-6 ATS** as a dog after being a favorite in their previous game.

Minnesota over DENVER by 6

Meet the team with the longest winning streak in the NFL — the Vikings, currently on a five-game win skein, thanks to two TD passes from the league's latest backup QB, 'Passtronaut' Joshua Dobbs, in last week's win over New Orleans. Quizzically, all five wins have come without the services of All-Pro WR Justin Jefferson, who is expected back this week. On the flip side, the Broncos won their third straight game in a Monday Night upset victory at Buffalo. The **MIDWEEK ALERT** reminds us that Denver was outgained in each of the last two victories. They are also just 1-6 SU and 2-5 ATS post Mondays. With the Vikes **5-0 ATS** before a Monday Night appearance and **5-1 ATS** in their last six away games at AFC sites, the points become the play today.

Monday, November 20

Philadelphia over KANSAS CITY by 1

The quintessential Super Bowl rematch from last season, when the Chiefs prevailed, 38-35, despite being out-yarded in the contest, 417-340. That has become an Andy Reid trademark throughout his career — winning games while losing the stats. His Chiefs return from a win in Germany in which — surprise — they were outgained by Miami. The Well-Oiled Machine notes that teams returning off a SUATS win in Europe are 3-10 ATS, with rest against avenging foes, including 0-3 SUATS versus winning foes. We realize Andy has been dandy in the NFL career when coming off a Bye week, but the Eagles counter coming off a Bye week themselves. Philly is also 6-3 SU and **8-1 ATS** of late in regular season games against .750 or better opponents. On the other side of the coin, the Featherheads are 3-5-1 ATS as regular season favorites against .750 or better opponents. With the Chiefs holding a commanding 3-game lead in the AFC West, we don't expect to be seeing much chest bumping by Taylor Swift and her new BFF, Tiffany Mahomes, tonight, especially after checking out **THE CLINCHER: The Eagles are 13-4 SU and 15-2 ATS on Mondays when coming off a SUATS win, including 14-0 ATS when Philadelphia owns a winning record.**

NOTE: Home team is shown in ALL CAPS. PLAYBOOK selection is Underlined and Bold. Should we pass or not have a strong opinion on a game, neither team will be bolded.

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*Below are the Top 20 Contestants after Week 10 of the 2023 Wise Guys Contest (first-word alphabetical order)
1-One Point Single Plays Listed*

Andy Iskoe TheLogicalApproach.com	N Carolina +7'	12-8 / 5-5 / 17 pts	Joe Nelson NellySports.com	PANTHERS +11'	12-8 / 8-2 / 20 pts
Billy The Kid PlaybookSports.com	N Carolina +7'	12-8 / 5-5 / 17 pts	Marc Lawrence PlaybookSports.com	CARDINALS +4'	13-7 / 5-5 / 18 pts
Brady Kannon brady.kannon@gmail	EAGLES +3'	10-10 / 8-2 / 18 pts	Marco D'Angelo marco@wagertalk.com	Wyoming -13'	10-10 / 8-2 / 18 pts
Dionne D'Amico dfasano10@gmail	N'Western -1'	11-9 / 7-3 / 18 pts	Mike Muzyka mjmsportsline@aol	BRONCOS -1'	11-9 / 7-3 / 18 pts
Doc's Sports max@docsports.com	PACKERS +3'	12-8 / *6-4 / 19 pts	Prime Sports gdpsports1@gmail	App State +10'	11-9 / *5-5* / 17 pts
Don Buster busterpeabody@hotmail	Virginia +4'	11-9 / 7-3 / 18 pts	Ross Benjamin RossBenjaminsports.com	RAMS +1'	13-7 / 7-3 / 20 pts
Dr Alan Caprec88@aol	WAS UND 37'	14-6 / *8-2 / 23 pts	Scott Wetzel swoppositpick@yahoo	DOLPHINS -11'	13-7 / *8-2 / 22 pts
E-R Picks stopa12@yahoo	EAGLES +3'	13-7 / 7-3 / 20 pts	Solomon Sports adamberns1807@yahoo	WAS UND 37'	12-8 / 6-4 / 18 pts
Jeff Michaels jmsports@gmx.com	SMU -7'	11-9 / 6-4 / 17 pts	TD Tony tdtony@hotmail	Ore State -1'	12-8 / 5-5 / 17 pts
Joe D'Amico allamericansi@cox.net	JAGUARS -6'	12-8 / 6-4 / 18 pts	Victor King vic@playbooksports.com	TITANS +6'	14-6 / 8-2 / 22 pts

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THE 2-MINUTE HANDICAP: O/U STYLE

AN 'OVER / UNDER' REPORT ON THIS WEEK'S NFL CARD BY VICTOR KING

All games played on this week's NFL schedule are listed below. As always, the number listed first is the 'OVER' and the number listed second is the 'UNDER'. If you like what you see, there's much more – including **5 NFL O/U BEST BETS** – inside the **2023 Playbook 'TOTALS' TIPSHEET** by Victor King – the definitive weekly OU newsletter. A single issue is only \$11.00. Rest-of-Season subscription is \$65.00. Sent via email on Tuesdays. Call the PLAYBOOK offices to get on the 2023 "Totals Train"! ***This week's GAME 11 Playbook O/U TREND play: Cardinals @ Texans 'OVER' the TOTAL'**

2023 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE – WEEK ELEVEN

GAME MATCHUPS	KEY OVER/UNDER STATS
Cincinnati (Open: 44) BALTIMORE	4-1 OU L5 vs Bal (50.0)... but 1-7 OU bef Pit... 1-4 L5 div RG... 2-6 OU on Thursdays... 3-8 OU Game 10 3-0 OU in 3rd straight HG... 4-1 OU on Thursdays... but 3-10 OU as HF's 4 < pts... 5-10 OU in 2nd of BB div gms
Pittsburgh (38) CLEVELAND	3-0 OU L3 vs Clev (45.3)... 3-1 OU vs dbl div revenge... but 1-6 OU as dogs 5 < pts... 1-6 OU bef Cin... 3-6 OU Game 10 3-0 OU w/ dbl div revenge... 8-3 OU in 2nd od BB div gms... but 0-4 OU aft div RG... 1-4 OU aft Balt... 3-9 OU Game 10
Arizona (47) HOUSTON	4-0 OU away off SU dog win... 3-0-1 OU bef Rams... 4-1 OU bef div HG... 3-1 OU non-div RD's 5 < pts... 5-2 OU Game 11 6-0 OU home vs Any WEST Div opp... 5-1 OU aft Cin... 3-1 OU bef Jack... 3-1 OU as non-div favs 3 > pts
La Chargers (42) GREEN BAY	5-0 OU bef Balt... 4-0 OU Game 10... 6-3 OU as non-div RF's... but 1-3 OU aft non-conf HG... 1-3 OU L4 non-conf RG 5-1 OU aft Pit... but 0-4 OU L4 vs AFC West... 0-2 OU L2 vs LAC... 2-11 OU aft non-conf RG... 3-6 OU bef div RG
Ny Giants (37) WASHINGTON	5-2 OU vs dbl div rev... but 0-4 OU L4 vs Wash (30.5)... 0-3 OU 2nd of BB RG... 1-7 OU Game 11... 2-5 OU bef non-conf HG 4-1 OU home vs .250 < opp... but 0-4 OU in 1st of BB div gms... 1-7 OU as favs 5 > pts... 1-5 OU bef Dal... 1-3 OU Game 11
Tennessee (40.5) JACKSONVILLE	4-0 OU Game 10... 3-1 OU 3rd straight RG... but 0-7 OU bef non-conf HG... 0-4 OU away vs div L2Y... 1-5 OU as dogs 4 > pts 7-3 OU 2nd of BB HG... but 0-6 OU aft non-conf HG... 1-7 OU Game 10... 2-7 OU in 1st of BB div gms... 1-3 OU bef Hou
Chicago (45) DETROIT	7-3 OU L10 div RG... but 0-3 OU aft Car... 1-5 OU off SU home win... 1-4 OU aft Thur HG... 2-6 OU bef Min 5-1 OU as favs 6 > pts... 5-1 OU aft LAC... 4-1 OU L5 as div HF's... 7-2 OU bef GB... but 2-11 OU aft non-conf RG
Las Vegas (48) MIAMI	8-0 OU L8 vs Mia (50.9)... 7-1 OU vs AFC East... 3-1 OU vs opp off Bye... 5-2 OU non-div dogs 7 > pts... but 3-6 OU bef KC 3-1 OU home TY... 5-2 OU vs AFC West... but 1-4 OU aft Bye... 1-4 OU bef Jets... 1-4 OU aft KC... 3-12 OU Game 10
Dallas (41) CAROLINA	4-1 OU aft NYG... 6-3 OU vs opp off Thur gm... but 0-4 OU vs NFC South... 1-5 OU as RF's 6 > pts... 2-6 OU Game 10 4-1 OU bef non-conf RG... 3-1 OU aft Thur gm... but 1-5 OU home vs .666 > opp... 1-4 OU aft score 3 < pts
Tampa Bay (42.5) SAN FRANCISCO	3-0 OU L3 away vs SF (48.0)... 4-2 OU Game 10... but 0-7 OU aft non-conf HG... 0-4 OU 1st of BB RG... 1-4 OU dogs 7 > pts 4-1 OU bef Sea... 5-2 OU aft allow 7 < pts... 4-2 OU Game 10... but 0-5 OU as non-div HF's 7 > pts... 2-4 OU vs NFC South
Seattle (44.5) LA RAMS	4-1 OU L5 div RG... but 0-5 OU aft Wash... 0-4 OU as RF's 4 < pts... 1-7 OU L8 vs LAR (38.6)... 1-5 OU bef SF 5-1 OU L6 div HG... but 0-4 OU vs sing div revenge... 1-4 OU bef div RG... 1-3 OU bef Ariz... 3-6 OU Game 10
Ny Jets (40.5) BUFFALO	4-2 OU bef div HG... but 0-4 OU L4 div RG... 0-4 OU in 2nd of BB RG... 0-3 OU aft LV... 1-3 OU vs opp off Monday gm 4-0 OU bef OHil... 3-0 OU L3 div HG... but 0-4 OU L4 vs NYJ (36.0)... 0-4 OU Game 11... 3-8 OU aft Monday HG
Minnesota (43) DENVER	4-0 OU Game 11... 4-1 OU vs opp of Mon gm... 4-1 OU bef Chic... 3-1-1 OU L5 vs Den (49.8)... but 0-5 OU vs .333 < opp 5-1 OU L6 vs NFC North... 5-1 OU as non-div favs 4 < pts... but 1-8 OU Game 10... 1-4 OU aft Mon gm... 1-4 OU aft Buf
Philadelphia (47.5) KANSAS CITY	7-2 OU L9 vs AFC West... but 0-7 OU Game 10... 1-4 OU as non-div RD's 5 < pts... 2-7 OU away aft Bye... 2-6 OU Mondays 4-0 OU Game10... but 0-6 OU L6 vs .750 > opp... 1-5 OU Mondays... 2-9 OU aft Bye... 1-5 OU L6 vs NFC East
Bye Week	Atlanta Falcons
Bye Week	Indianapolis Colts
Bye Week	New England Patriots
Bye Week	New Orleans Saints

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KENNY WHITE'S 2023 FOOTBALL POWER RATINGS

Power Ratings courtesy of KennyWhiteSports.com

Rnk: Overall rank nationally (130 teams) • **PWR:** Numerical team power rating • **HF:** Numerical home field value

Rnk	School	Conference	PWR	HF	Rnk	School	Conference	PWR	HF	Rnk	School	Conference	PWR	HF
NCAA														
58	Air Force	Mountain West	101.5	4.5	41	James Madison	Sun Belt	105	2.5	51	Rutgers	Big Ten	103.5	4
130	Akron	Mid-American	79	2	25	Kansas	Big 12	110	3.5	125	Sam Houston St	Conference USA	82	3.5
5	Alabama	Southeastern	124	6	12	Kansas St	Big 12	118	5	110	San Diego St	Mountain West	89	4.5
74	Appalachian St	Sun Belt	97.5	4	133	Kent St	Mid-American	76	4.5	68	San Jose St	Mountain West	99	3
31	Arizona	Pac-12	108.5	4.5	31	Kentucky	Southeastern	108.5	4	28	SMU	American Athletic	109	4
71	Arizona St	Pac-12	98.5	4	64	Liberty	Conference USA	100	4	58	South Alabama	Sun Belt	101.5	2.5
39	Arkansas	Southeastern	105.5	4.5	114	Louisiana Tech	Conference USA	88	3	39	South Carolina	Southeastern	105.5	5
114	Arkansas St	Sun Belt	88	3.5	22	Louisville	Atlantic Coast	111	4.5	121	Southern Miss	Sun Belt	85	4
92	Army	Independent	93	3.5	6	LSU	Southeastern	121.5	5.5	89	Stanford	Pac-12	93.5	4.5
23	Auburn	Southeastern	110.5	5	87	Marshall	Sun Belt	94	4	74	Syracuse	Atlantic Coast	97.5	4.5
118	Ball St	Mid-American	86.5	2.5	35	Maryland	Big Ten	107	4.5	25	TCU	Big 12	110	5
68	Baylor	Big 12	99	4.5	72	Memphis	American Athletic	98	3	109	Temple	American Athletic	89.5	2.5
51	Boise St	Mountain West	103.5	5	27	Miami (FL)	Atlantic Coast	109.5	4	16	Tennessee	Southeastern	114.5	5.5
82	Boston College	Atlantic Coast	96	4.5	65	Miami (OH)	Mid-American	99.5	2.5	7	Texas	Big 12	121	5
110	Bowling Green	Mid-American	89	2	1	Michigan	Big Ten	129.5	5	14	Texas A&M	Southeastern	116.5	6
117	Buffalo	Mid-American	87	3	86	Michigan St	Big Ten	95.5	5	82	Texas St	Sun Belt	96	3
74	BYU	Big 12	97.5	5	102	Middle Tenn	Conference USA	91	3	37	Texas Tech	Big 12	106.5	5
55	California	Pac-12	103	4	65	Minnesota	Big Ten	99.5	4.5	48	Toledo	Mid-American	104	3.5
112	C Michigan	Mid-American	88.5	2.5	14	Mississippi	Southeastern	116.5	4.5	51	Troy	Sun Belt	103.5	4
119	Charlotte	American Athletic	86	2.5	51	Mississippi St	Southeastern	103.5	5	45	Tulane	American Athletic	104.5	2.5
57	Cincinnati	American Athletic	102	5	19	Missouri	Southeastern	113	4.5	121	Tulsa	American Athletic	85	4
18	Clemson	Atlantic Coast	114	5.5	107	Navy	American Athletic	90	4	102	UAB	American Athletic	91	4
79	Coastal Carolina	Sun Belt	96.5	3.5	41	NC State	Atlantic Coast	105	4.5	31	UCF	Big 12	108.5	4
72	Colorado	Pac-12	98	4.5	56	Nebraska	Big Ten	102.5	5	28	UCLA	Pac-12	109	3.5
104	Colorado St	Mountain West	90.5	4.5	128	Nevada	Mountain West	80	4.5	98	UL-Lafayette	Sun Belt	92	3.5
126	Connecticut	Independent	81.5	3	132	New Mexico	Mountain West	78	2	129	UL-Monroe	Sun Belt	79.5	2.5
41	Duke	Atlantic Coast	105	3.5	101	New Mexico St	Conference USA	91.5	2	127	UMass	Independent	81	2.5
104	East Carolina	American Athletic	90.5	4	21	North Carolina	Atlantic Coast	112	4.5	82	UNLV	Mountain West	96	2
123	E Michigan	Mid-American	84.5	2	107	North Texas	American Athletic	90	3	16	USC	Pac-12	114.5	4
41	Florida	Southeastern	105	5	94	No Illinois	Mid-American	92.5	4	104	USF	American Athletic	90.5	3
98	Florida Atlantic	American Athletic	92	3	79	Northwestern	Big Ten	96.5	3.5	19	Utah	Pac-12	113	4.5
131	Florida Int'l	Conference USA	78.5	2.5	8	Notre Dame	Atlantic Coast	120.5	5	89	Utah St	Mountain West	93.5	4
9	Florida St	Atlantic Coast	120	5	2	Ohio State	Big Ten	126.5	6	120	UTEP	Conference USA	85.5	3
77	Fresno St	Mountain West	97	4.5	77	Ohio U	Mid-American	97	3.5	35	UTSA	American Athletic	107	3
4	Georgia	Southeastern	126	6	13	Oklahoma	Big 12	117.5	5	94	Vanderbilt	Southeastern	92.5	4
87	Geo Southern	Sun Belt	94	2.5	34	Oklahoma St	Big 12	107.5	5	82	Virginia	Atlantic Coast	96	4.5
94	Georgia St	Sun Belt	92.5	2	116	Old Dominion	Sun Belt	87.5	2.5	48	Virginia Tech	Atlantic Coast	104	5
68	Georgia Tech	Atlantic Coast	99	4.5	2	Oregon	Pac-12	126.5	5	65	Wake Forest	Atlantic Coast	99.5	4.5
124	Hawaii	Mountain West	83	5.5	23	Oregon St	Pac-12	110.5	5	9	Washington	Pac-12	120	4.5
62	Houston	Big 12	101	4.5	11	Penn St	Big Ten	119.5	5	45	Washington St	Pac-12	104.5	4.5
58	Illinois	Big Ten	101.5	4.5	58	Pittsburgh	Atlantic Coast	101.5	4.5	45	West Virginia	Big 12	104.5	5
79	Indiana	Big Ten	96.5	4.5	62	Purdue	Big Ten	101	4.5	98	W Kentucky	Conference USA	92	4.5
38	Iowa	Big Ten	106	5	92	Rice	American Athletic	93	2.5	112	W Michigan	Mid-American	88.5	3.5
28	Iowa St	Big 12	109	5						48	Wisconsin	Big Ten	104	5.5
89	Jacksonville St	Conference USA	93.5	4.5						94	Wyoming	Mountain West	92.5	4.5


Rnk: Overall rank in NFL • **PWR:** Numerical team power rating • **HF:** Numerical home field value

Rnk	Team	Conf/Div	PWR	HF	Rnk	Team	Conf/Div	PWR	HF	Rnk	Team	Conf/Div	PWR	HF
NFL														
30	Arizona Cardinals	NFC West	94	2.5	13	Houston Texans	AFC South	100	2.5	25	Minnesota Vikings	NFC North	96.5	3
17	Atlanta Falcons	NFC South	98	2.5	22	Indianapolis Colts	AFC South	97	3	28	New England Pats	AFC East	94.5	3
3	Baltimore Ravens	AFC North	107.5	3	10	Jacksonville Jaguars	AFC South	102.5	2.5	15	New Orleans Saints	NFC South	98.5	3
7	Buffalo Bills	AFC East	105	3.5	1	Kansas City Chiefs	AFC West	109	3.5	32	N.Y. Giants	NFC East	88	3
27	Carolina Panthers	NFC South	95	2.5	25	Las Vegas Raiders	AFC West	95.5	2.5	18	N.Y. Jets	AFC East	97.5	2
28	Chicago Bears	NFC North	94.5	2.5	10	L.A. Chargers	AFC West	102.5	2	5	Philadelphia Eagles	NFC East	106.5	3
13	Cincinnati Bengals	AFC North	100	3	30	L.A. Rams	NFC West	94	2.5	22	Pittsburgh Steelers	AFC North	97	3
9	Cleveland Browns	AFC North	103	2.5	6	Miami Dolphins	AFC East	105.5	2.5	1	San Francisco 49ers	NFC West	109	3
4	Dallas Cowboys	NFC East	107	3						12	Seattle Seahawks	NFC West	100.5	3.5
22	Denver Broncos	AFC West	97	3						18	Tampa Bay Bucs	NFC South	97.5	2.5
8	Detroit Lions	NFC North	104.5	3						18	Tennessee Titans	AFC South	97.5	2.5
15	Green Bay Packers	NFC North	98.5	3						18	Wash Commanders	NFC East	97.5	2.5

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THIS WEEK'S BEST BETS

A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT STAR-RATED BEST BET SELECTIONS

FOR WEEK ENDING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023		3★ BEST BET	4★ BEST BET	5★ BEST BET
	COLLEGE	ARMY	TENNESSEE	UTAH
	NFL	BENGALS	BROWNS	LA RAMS
	UPSET GAME	FLORIDA	SUBSCRIBE TO PLAYBOOK TODAY: 800.752.9266	

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2023 COLLEGE & PRO FOOTBALL - NOVEMBER 14-20

Listed next to the games below are two entries: **OL** is the opening line on the contest and **PB** is the **PLAYBOOK** margin.
You have a **PLAYBOOK** Recommendation whenever our predicted margin of victory is 6 or more points off the opening line. Remember, opening lines are subject to change during the week so always check **YOUR CURRENT LINE** against the **PLAYBOOK** line to determine a final play.

All times listed are Eastern Standard Time (Red type indicates time change) • Games in Official International Rotation sequence • Dates & times subject to change

		OL	PB		OL	PB		OL	PB		OL	PB	
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14													
	335	KENTUCKY 7:30 PM		2			379	WASHINGTON 7:30 PM	1	6		423	MARSHALL 5:00 PM
	336	S CAROLINA SEC		6			380	OREGON ST ABC				424	S ALABAMA ESPN+
301	AKRON 7:00 PM						381	NEW MEXICO 10:30 PM				425	BOISE ST 7:00 PM
302	E MICHIGAN CBSSN	4'	1				382	FRESNO ST FS1	24	28		426	UTAH ST CBSSN
303	TOLEDO 7:00 PM	ESPNU	10	14			383	UCLA 3:30 PM			1	427	NEBRASKA 7:30 PM
304	BOWLING GREEN						384	USC ABC	6			428	WISCONSIN
305	W MICHIGAN 7:00 PM		1				385	NEVADA 3:00 PM				429	SAN DIEGO ST 10:30 PM
306	NO ILLINOIS ESPNU	3					386	COLORADO ST	11	14		430	SAN JOSE ST CBSSN
	343	MINNESOTA 4:00 PM					387	CALIFORNIA 6:30 PM	4'			SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19	
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15													
	344	OHIO ST BTN		28'	20		388	STANFORD P12		3			
307	BUFFALO 7:00 PM			9'	13		389	GEORGIA ST 8:00 PM				451	PITTSBURGH 1:00 PM
308	MIAMI OHIO ESPN2	9	14				390	LSU ESPN2	31	31		452	CLEVELAND★ CBS
309	C MICHIGAN 7:00 PM		1				391	UL MONROE 12:00 PM				453	ARIZONA 1:00 PM
310	OHIO ESPNU	8'					392	OLE MISS SEC	36'	28		454	HOUSTON CBS
	349	OLD DOMINION 6:00 PM					393	NORTH TEXAS 3:00 PM	2'			455	LA CHARGERS 1:00 PM
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16													
	350	GA SOUTHERN ESPN+		7	4		394	TULSA ESPN+		3		456	GREEN BAY FOX
311	CINCINNATI★ 8:15 PM		10				395	LOUISIANA 3:30 PM				457	NY GIANTS 1:00 PM
312	BALTIMORE PRIME	4					396	TROY NFL	15'	8		458	WASHINGTON FOX
313	BOSTON COLLEGE 7:00 PM		6				397	SMU 12:00 PM	7'	1		459	TENNESSEE 1:00 PM
314	PITTSBURGH ESPN	2					398	MEMPHIS ESPN2				460	JACKSONVILLE CBS
	355	RICE 2:00 PM		1			399	TEMPLE 3:00 PM		5		461	CHICAGO 1:00 PM
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17													
	356	CHARLOTTE ESPN+		3			400	UAB ESPN+	7'			462	DETROIT FOX
315	SOUTH FLORIDA 9:00 PM						401	TEXAS 8:00 PM	9	3		463	LAS VEGAS 1:00 PM
316	UTSA ESPN2	16	11				402	IOWA ST FOX				464	MIAMI CBS
317	COLORADO 10:30 PM						403	OKLAHOMA ST 4:00 PM	7			465	DALLAS 1:00 PM
318	WASH ST FS1	5	10				404	HOUSTON ESPN2		1		466	CAROLINA FOX
	361	SYRACUSE 8:00 PM					405	FLORIDA INT'L 7:30 PM				467	TAMPA BAY 4:05 PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18													
	362	GEORGIA TECH ACC		5'	10		406	ARKANSAS ESPNU	30'	35		468	SAN FRANCISCO FOX
319	APPALACHIAN ST 2:00 PM			7'			407	BAYLOR 3:30 PM				469	SEATTLE 4:25 PM
320	J MADISON ESPN+	11'	3				408	TCU B12	13	16		470	LA RAMS★ CBS
321	COASTAL CARO 12:00 PM	5					409	FLORIDA★ 7:30 PM		1		471	NY JETS 4:25 PM
322	ARMY★ CBSSN		6				410	MISSOURI ESPN	11			472	BUFFALO CBS
323	DUKE 3:00 PM	3'					411	NEW MEXICO ST 4:00 PM				473	MINNESOTA 8:20 PM
324	VIRGINIA CW		1				412	AUBURN SEC	22	13		474	DENVER NBC
325	CINCINNATI 2:30 PM						413	UCF 5:00 PM				MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20	
326	WEST VIRGINIA B12	6'	3				414	TEXAS TECH FS2	3	10		475	PHILADELPHIA 8:15 PM
327	MICHIGAN ST 12:00 PM						415	SAM HOUSTON ST 3:30 PM				476	KANSAS CITY ABC
328	INDIANA BTN	4'	3				416	W KENTUCKY ESPN+	12'	16		BYES: Atlanta, Indianapolis, New England, New Orleans	
329	GEORGIA 3:30 PM	10					417	WAKE FOREST 3:30 PM				MARC'S DOUBLE 5-STAR CFB AND NFL GAMES OF THE MONTH GO THIS WEEKEND! CALL 800.PLAYBOOK TODAY.	
330	TENNESSEE★ CBS		3				418	NOTRE DAME NBC	24'	20			
331	MICHIGAN 12:00 PM	21	10				419	UNLV 3:30 PM					
332	MARYLAND FOX						420	AIR FORCE CBSSN	4	8			
333	LOUISVILLE 12:00 PM	1'					421	TEXAS ST 3:00 PM	4				
334	MIAMI FLA ABC		8				422	ARKANSAS ST ESPN+		3			