

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

THE BEST FOOTBALL NEWSLETTER ON THE PLANET™

Volume 38, Issue 9

October 17-23, 2023

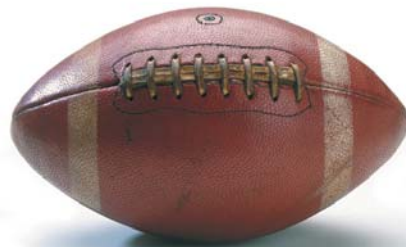
Marc's 5★ College Football Game Of The Month Goes Saturday!

**ALL BEST BETS
24-14-1 + \$4,050!**

92% 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*



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YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET

A Weekly Insight Into The Art Of Sports Handicapping

*I met a devil woman.
She took my heart away
She said, I've had it comin' to me
But I wanted it that way
You ain't seen nothin' yet.
B-b-b-baby, you just ain't seen
n-n-nothin' yet
Here's something that you
never gonna forget
B-b-b-baby, you just ain't seen
n-n-nothin' yet*

The common perception is that teams who failed to win in the College Football National Championship Game are likely headed for doom and gloom the following season. The fact of the matter is nothing could be further from the truth.

That's because pride kicks in, and with it, most of these teams tend to bear down and do everything they can to immediately rectify the situation.

Consider: Since the onset of the College Football Playoff in the 2014 season, we've witnessed no less than eight title games. The teams who scratched and clawed their way to the championship game, only to lose the contest, have gone 91-17 overall the following season. Sure, Alabama is the only three-time loser in the CFP title game, but the Crimson Tide is also the only three-time champions.

While many will say it's likely a Nick Saban thing, it speaks to the pedigree

of each team that managed to climb the mountain and put themselves into position to win the brass ring. And to show you how prideful these championship game losers actually are, they have never lost the money as an underdog the following year, going **6-2 SU and 8-0 ATS** when taking points.

However, we can put ourselves into an even more prosperous situation if we were to –

PLAY ON any defending National Champion Game loser during the regular season versus an opponent coming off a SUATS win.

That's because these refuse-to-lose warriors are 28-6 SU and 20-13-1 ATS in this role since the inception of the College Football Playoff. Taking it one step further, they improved to 25-6 SU and 19-11-1 ATS in conference games.

Last year's defending CFB Playoff loser, TCU, found itself in this same role when they hosted BYU last week. The Frogs entered off a lethargic 27-14 loss at Iowa State but rebounded with a 44-11 crushing of the Cougars – a convincing win and cover. **Sonny Dykes and his Horned Frogs** will "go for two" this week when they visit Kansas State, 38-21 winners over Texas Tech.

And, by the way, these same teams are **16-1 SU and 14-2-1 ATS** if they were

installed as favorites of 16 or more points in their previous contest.

With the Frogs one of 14 teams this season that has outgained every opponent this season, we hand it off to Bachman-Turner Overdrive for these words of wisdom...

*And now I'm feelin' better.
'Cause I found out for sure
She took me to her doctor
And he told me of a cure
He said that any love is good love
So I took what I could get
Yes, I took what I could get*

LOOK: My famous **5-Star College Football Game of the Month** goes his Saturday. We've been on a nice run in October, going 7-4-1 for an overall net profit of \$1,070, and we're just getting started.

You can score the **5-Star College Football Game of the Month** with another **\$99 Weekend of Football Winners** – or better yet, with winter just around the corner, bundle up, save, and join me for the next two weeks when I'll be releasing my 5-Star College Game of the Month and my NFL Game of the Month next week with a **\$169 Two Weeks of Football Winners Special Package** offer. Click here to join or call me toll-free for instant service at **800.321.7777**. You'll be glad you did

Marc Lawrence



THIS WEEK'S AMAZING SITUATIONAL PLAY

This NFL head coach is 15-4 ATS as a dog of more than 7 points, including **4-0 SUATS** when his team sports a sub .250 win percentage. Who is this week's dog lover?

For the Trivia Teaser answer, turn to page 12.

AWESOME ANGLE OF THE WEEK

PLAY ON any college football military dog of 20+ points coming off a SUATS loss versus an opponent coming off consecutive SUATS wins.

**Play ON:
ARMY BLACK KNIGHTS (10/21)**

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

**MILITARY
MATTERS**

**ATS W-L
Record 5/1980:**

**12-1
(92%)**

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, October 21	
Penn St OHIO ST	SERIES: 6-1 L7... 10-2-1 L13 conf RG... 8-2 aft non-conf HG 3-0 bef Wisconsin... 7-3 aft Purdue... 0-5 as HF's 10 < pts
Clemson MIAMI-FLA	SERIES: 4-0 L4... 4-0 aft Wake For... 4-0 as conf favs 5 < pts 0-5 home w/ conf revenge... 1-4 as conf HF/HD 4 < pts
Virginia N CAROLINA	SERIES: 5-1 L6... 4-1 w/ rest... 4-1 as conf dogs 20 > pts 1-5 Game 7... 2-5 in 3rd straight HG... 2-5 as conf favs 20 > pts
Michigan MICHIGAN ST	5-1 vs sing conf revenge... 5-1 as conf RF's 14 > pts SERIES: 12-2-1 L15... 7-3 as DD conf HD's... 2-7 bef Minnesota
Duke FLORIDA ST	3-1-1 aft NC State... 6-3 Game 7... 1-4 as conf RD's > 7 pts SERIES: 7-0-1 L8... 3-1 aft Syracuse... 1-6 as HF's 14 < pts
Air Force NAVY	SERIES: 5-2 L7... 3-0 aft Wyoming... 3-8 L11 as non-conf favs SERIES: Host 4-1... 11-2 w/ trip revenge... 9-2 as dogs 10 > pts
Utah USC	SERIES: Visitor 3-0... 6-0 aft California... 9-3 as RD's 10 < pts 9-3 w/ trip revenge... 6-2 aft non-conf RG... 0-5 Game 8
Arizona St WASHINGTON	SERIES: 14-1 L15... 5-1-1 as RD's 17 > pts... 1-5 bef Wash St 7-1 home vs conf opp w/ rest... 2-7 aft Oregon... 3-6 bef Stan
Washington St OREGON	SERIES: 11-2 L13... 7-1 as RD's 13 > pts... 6-1 w/ quad revenge 9-1 L10 vs quad revenge... 3-1 Game 7... 3-6 bef Utah
C Florida OKLAHOMA	1-14 aft score 45+ pts... 1-6 as dogs 14 > pts... 1-5 w/ rest 12-0 home bef BB RG... 4-1 aft Texas... 2-4 as conf HF's 17 > pts
Texas HOUSTON	SERIES: 4-2 L6... 6-3 off SU fav loss... 1-6 as RF's 12 > pts 8-0 as dogs 13 > pts... 1-3 vs opp w/ rest... 2-5 in 2nd of BB HG
Tennessee ALABAMA	5-2 vs sing conf revenge... 0-4 in 1st of BB RG... 1-5 Game 7 SERIES: 5-2 L7... 7-0 Game 8... 3-1 as conf HF's 10 < pts

TEAMS KEY FACTS, STATS & ATS TRENDS

TEAMS	KEY FACTS, STATS & ATS TRENDS
Thursday, October 19	
Jacksonville NEW ORLEANS	7-3 aft div HG... 1-10 L11 vs NFC South... 2-8 non-conf RG SERIES: 5-0 L5... 8-3 aft non-conf RG... 2-13 L15 non-conf HG
Sunday, October 22	
Atlanta TAMPA BAY	6-1 in 1st of BB RG... 4-1 L5 div RG... 0-10 Game 7 SERIES: Host 4-2... 5-1 aft Det... 1-5 as div HF's 5 < pt
Las Vegas CHICAGO	2-8 away off BB HG... 1-3 aft NEng... 2-5 L7 non-conf RG SERIES: 7-2 L9... 6-3 in 2nd of BB HG... 1-5-1 vs AFC West
Cleveland INDIANAPOLIS	7-0 in 1st of BB RG... 4-1 aft non-conf HG... 3-1 vs AFC South SERIES: Host 4-0... 3-1 in 1st of BB HG... 0-3 bef non-conf HG
Detroit BALTIMORE	3-1 bef Monday gm... 3-1 L4 vs NFC North... 5-2 aft TBay SERIES: 3-1 L4... 5-2 L7 non-conf HG... 1-3 bef non-conf RG
Buffalo N ENGLAND	SERIES: 4-1 L5... 9-1 aft non-conf HG... -2 as RF's 5 > pts 0-5 in 1st of BB div gms... 1-4 L5 div HG... 2-5 bef div RG
Washington NY GIANTS	0-5-1 bef Phil... 1-5 bef div HG... 1-4 vs .250 < conf opp SERIES: 4-1 L5... 1-5 L6 div HG... 2-10 home off BB RG
Arizona SEATTLE	3-1 w/ trip revenge... 8-3 aft Rams... 4-2 in 2nd of BB RG SERIES: 4-1 L5... 3-9 as favs 5 > pts... 2-5 L7 div HG
Pittsburgh LA RAMS	SERIES: 4-0 L4... 5-1 off dog win... 4-1 bef Jack... 4-1 aft Bye 6-2 aft Arz... 2-9 in 3rd straight HG... 1-4 vs opp off Bye
La Chargers KANSAS CITY	SERIES: 5-1 L6... 10-3 L13 as div RD's... 9-3 aft Monday HG 4-0 aft score < 20 pts... 8-1 aft allow < 10 pts... 7-3 aft Den
Green Bay DENVER	SERIES: 4-1 L5... 8-1 aft score < 14 pts... 1-3 away aft Bye 5-0 aft Thursday gm... 6-1 aft KC... 4-1-1 L6 vs NFC North
Miami PHILADELPHIA	6-1 bef div HG... 4-1 L5 vs NFC East... 4-2 away off BB HG SERIES: 5-2 L7... 4-1 L5 as non-conf HF's... 4-1 bef div RG
Monday, October 23	
San Francisco MINNESOTA	5-1 aft non-conf RG... 3-1 Game 7... 2-6 as conf RF's > 4 pts SERIES: Host 4-0... 0-4 L4 as non-div HD's... 1-4 aft Chi

NFL BYES THIS WEEK:

CAROLINA PANTHERS, CINCINNATI BENGALS,
DALLAS COWBOYS, HOUSTON TEXANS,
NEW YORK JETS, TENNESSEE TITANS.

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INCREDIBLE STAT OF THE WEEK

USC head coach Lincoln Riley
is 40-2 outright at home in his career,
including 20-0 from Game Six out.

Be sure to read the INCREDIBLE STAT OF THE WEEK
each week in the PLAYBOOK Football Newsletter!



BEHIND THE 8-BALL

Game 8 of the College Football season is often a crossroads for most teams. Those who have won more games than they have lost are entertaining thoughts of securing a bowl bid. Those who are reeling and going down for the count are disappointed – and their actions on the field confirm those feelings.

According to our powerful database, teams playing Game 8 off three consecutive losses are prime candidates to be dropped into a corner pocket and counted out... especially when they take to the conference road against an opponent off a loss. That's because teams in this scenario are a paltry 71-101-3 since 1980. This week we'll be queuing-up against **Florida International** on Wednesday night.

Worse, if they won four or fewer games last season and are facing a foe coming off consecutive losses, they topple to 6-41 SU and 11-34 ATS if their team Net YPR is -1.0 or worse – including **2-14 ATS** when limping in off a spread loss of -13 or more points. That is particularly disturbing news for the **FIU Panthers** this week.

So, in the meantime go ahead and make the call: 8-ball in the corner pocket for the win!

THIS WEEK IN FOOTBALL - OCTOBER 17-23

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, October 17

LIBERTY over Middle Tennessee by 17

When former Coastal Carolina head coach Jamey Chadwell made the decision to take over the vacancy at Liberty this season, it raised more than a few eyebrows. Why would he leave a program where he engineered a 31-7 SU run in his final three seasons with the Chanticleers? First, the money. Chadwell was pulling in a base salary of \$900,000 annually with a \$50,000 yearly increase at CCU, meaning he would have earned \$1,150,000 had he stayed through 2027. Instead, he opted for a seven-year deal with Liberty that averaged out to a cool \$4 million per season. Second, Chadwell did not enjoy overnight success with CCU, and he saw an opportunity to latch onto the winning culture that was already in place thanks to a 4-year stint by HC Hugh Freeze. Fast forward to now and Chadwell's Liberty squad not only owns a perfect 6-0 SU record, they have also bagged the ATS cash in five of those six contests. As for the visiting Blue Man Group from MTSU, don't let last week's 31-23 win over Louisiana Tech sway you. Aside from being out-yarded in the victory, they are **0-4 ATS** when coming off a SUATS win, while allowing 38 PPG in these follow-ups. That won't work against a Liberty team that's **8-1 ATS** in games when both teams arrive off SUATS wins. At 2-5 on the season, the Blue Smurfs are headed nowhere fast, and we don't see them blowing out the undefeated Flames' candle tonight.

Western Kentucky over JACKSONVILLE STATE by 3

It's hard not to first check the Sun Belt Conference when searching for info on these teams, yet they each reside in the overhauled CUSA. The 4-2 / 2-0 Hilltoppers are one of two teams in the conference without a loss in league play, while Rich Rod's 5-2 / 3-1 Gamecocks are breathing right down their neck. Western Kentucky is riding a red-hot **7-0 ATS** streak away when coming off a home game but we're not crazy about laying points on the road in a conference contest with a team that is allowing -65 net YPG more than they gain. The **MIDWEEK ALERT** also reports that JSU owns 112 net YPG the better defense in this game and we must respect that. Something we do not respect are the antiquated NCAA laws that deny Jacksonville State the opportunity to participate in the CUSA title game for two more years - while allowing teams to pillage from others via the Transfer Portal (but that's another story for another day).

SOUTH ALABAMA over Southern Miss by 20

Take the surnames out of the picture and this would be a must-watch SEC clash (then again, we've already seen Alabama beat Mississippi, 24-10 a month ago). Following last year's 10-3 breakthrough campaign

MARC LAWRENCE'S

5★ COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAME OF THE MONTH!

Goes Saturday, October 21

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by South Alabama and entering this season with 18 returning starters and a No. 8 national ranking in Returning Player Production, the Jaguars looked to be a time bomb primed for explosion. But after a 3-3 start in 2023, it appears HC Kane Wommack and company just can't keep the fuse lit. After stunning Oklahoma State in Stillwater by a 33-7 final, USA's bid for glory fell apart when the Jags got dumped at home by Central Michigan, losing 34-30 as 16.5-point chalk. They've gone 1-1 since then but fortunately the scheduling gods have delivered unto them a troubled 1-5 Southern Miss squad, currently wallowing in the Sun Belt West cellar. Still, there are not many positive numbers for either side in tonight's clash: Southern Miss is a ghastly **1-8 ATS** when coming off consecutive SUATS losses but South Alabama brings an equally poor **1-7 ATS** mark into this game when both teams are coming off ATS losses. However, the bottom line is there is too much talent on this Jaguars squad to expect anything other than a walkover in this contest.

Wednesday, October 18

SAM HOUSTON STATE over Florida International by 7

FIU head coach Mike MacIntyre's final season at Colorado was in 2018 but if he was hoping to enjoy a coaching career renaissance when he took over the reins in Miami last year, he may have to lower his expectations. Mac's current record with the 3-4 Panthers stands at 7-12 overall, and for the life of us, we simply can't see the justification of sending the lawless Panthers out onto the road as anything less than a dog. With just three wins in its last 18 road games, it should be noted that FIU was installed as road chalk in one of those games, a contest where they dropped a 50-17 decision at Middle Tennessee in 2019. Across the field, the Newbie Gamecocks are anxious to pick up their first win at the FBS level. After scoring just 10 total points in their first three games, they are rounding into form, averaging 20 PPG over their last three contests. That improvement should be on display tonight considering Florida International is a lousy **0-5 ATS** as a dog off a SU favorite loss. Lay the points in what appears to be 0-6 Sam Houston State's best chance to enter the win column this season.

New Mexico State over UTEP by 10

New Mexico State head coach Jerry Kill has the 4-3 Aggies pointed toward another bowl game this campaign, and we couldn't be happier for him. Beset with health issues most of us could never endure, Kill returned from a 6-year absence after leaving Minnesota at the end of 2015 to become an interim coach at TCU in 2020, a move that re-lit the fire and convinced him to undertake the monumental task of rebuilding pitiful New Mexico State. Like we told you last week, in the previous 36 games before Kill's arrival, the Aggies were favored only THREE times. Under JK, they've been chalk in 7 out of 20 contests, and the boys in Vegas have elevated them enough to appear in the

unusual role of road favorite tonight. Maybe they noticed that Kill has taken a page from the Hugh Freeze playbook and become a full-fledged cripple shooter, as he is 19-7 ATS away against foes coming off a loss, including **10-1 ATS** versus .333 or fewer opponents. UTEP beat NMSU on this field last year, 20-17, in a game where the winning Miners were actually out-yarded but don't look for UTEP's pop-gun offense (17.7 PPG) to challenge the Aggies here. Our well-oiled machine concurs, noting that the Miners are **0-7 ATS** as a conference home dog of fewer than 25 points versus winning foes and **1-8 ATS** in their last nine games against avenging opponents. Lay the field goal with New Mexico State as the latest chapter in Kill's coaching saga unfolds in El Paso.

Thursday, October 19

UPSET GAME OF THE WEEK UPSET

MARSHALL over James Madison by 8

This game has all the requirements necessary for a real Jim-dandy matchup. The 6-0 Dukes take to the highway with a 5-2 ATS mark in their last seven on the road and they're one of only eleven undefeated FBS teams remaining – which puts a large target on their back. The 4-2 Herd need this game to stay on track in the Sun Belt East where they trail division leaders Georgia State and Old Dominion by a half-game (Jimmy Mad is ineligible in the Sun Belt this season after coming up from the FCS ranks a year ago). Marshall's 18-11-2 ATS overall home dog log is impressive, as is its 2-0 ATS mark as a dog against unbeaten opponents when coming off two losses-exact (one coming over Kansas State in a 27-20 upset as a 20-point puppy). Remember, JMU hit the wall after a 5-0 start last season when they proceeded to drop their next three games before rallying back with three straight wins to close out the campaign. We can see more of the same in the offing this season as they edged Georgia Southern by only 18 total yards in last week's 28-point home win, thanks largely to a 3-0 turnover edge against the Eagles. Sure, the Stumbling Herd has lost two in a row, but they're a thundering **18-4 SU** at home when coming off consecutive losses, including 10-0 the last ten. To seal the deal, we turn it over to **THE CLINCHER: Marshall is 8-2-2 ATS as a home dog against undefeated foes, including 5-0-2 ATS in games in which the Thundering Herd is not undefeated.**

TULSA over Rice 8

On the surface, we wouldn't call tonight's telecast one-enchanted-evening material under any circumstances, but these two teams could go at each other with all the ferocity and fury of Maximus clashing with Tigris of Gaul in the movie 'Gladiator' – except there won't be tigers let loose from cages just below the coliseum floor. Why do we expect such a battle? Because both teams enter with identical 3-3 records, meaning the loser's bowl chances will take a huge hit. Ringing the bell on Win No. 6 is all it takes these days, but a Rice defeat here would put them in big trouble considering the Owls' next three games are against Tulane, SMU, and UTSA. The Golden Hurricane also get the Green Wave and Mustangs during that stretch but manage to substitute puny Charlotte for the Roadrunners. The bad news keeps on coming for Rice as they're **0-6 SU and 1-4-1 ATS** in this series when coming off a loss, and **0-6 ATS** on Thursdays. Tulsa's 8-3 ATS success when playing with rest means we'll make a small lean to the big breeze, if you please

Friday, October 20

Smu over TEMPLE by 23

Temple's 2-1 start has disintegrated into a 2-5 nightmare as the Owls are riding a **0-4 SUATS** skein, outscored by an average of 46-20. In fact, they got ripped for 41 or more points in all four of those games and show no signs of pulling out of their nosedive, especially while QB E.J. Warner is questionable in concussion protocol. So, on a Friday night in Philly, how many students will leave their dorms or cancel a night out on the town for this mismatch at The Linc? The truth is it doesn't matter. The 4-2 / 2-0 Ponies are tied atop the American Athletic Conference, and we don't see them fumbling away this opportunity, not with a 400-yard offense and a sub-300-yard defense that is winning the stats by an average +113 net YPG this season.

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The Mustangs also don't retreat to the stall when laying big points of late, going **6-1 ATS** as chalk of 14 or more. The best Temple can muster is a 3-10 ATS failure as dome dogs of 10 or more points, and the **MIDWEEK ALERT** chimes in to remind us that the Owls are 0-11 (negative eleven) in turnovers the last four games while surrendering 527 yards per game in those contests. Do you want any of that?

Saturday, October 21

WAKE FOREST over Pittsburgh by 6

Much like the Cobra versus the Mongoose, Pittsburgh should get a lot of action after the Panthers kept their season on life support with a 38-21 win over previously undefeated Louisville last week. But thanks to its natural resistance to snake venom, the mongoose is seemingly able to pierce the cobra's defenses at will and ultimately tires out its opponent, winning 75 to 80% of its encounters. The 'mongoose' in today's matchup is 3-3 / 0-3 Wake Forest, reeling from a trio of consecutive losses and tied with Syracuse in the cellar of the ACC. However, a deeper look inside the numbers shows 2-4 Pitt being out-yarded 474-288 as they've now won the stats in only one game this season (against bantamweight Wofford in their season opener). Deacons' head coach Dave Clawson is **7-0 ATS** in his career in games when his team is coming off three losses-exact, and with 55 YPG the better offense – and a decent defense – look for the Deacons to break out of the basement today. Down goes the cobra!

OHIO STATE over Penn State by 1

The biggest matchup on today's card pits two undefeated Top 10 squads battling to remain in contention for the Big 10 East title. Brandishing an **18-3 SU and 18-1 SUATS** record in games when coming off a pair of SUATS wins, we'd normally be all over No. 7 Penn State like the Lions were seeking revenge for their only home loss from last season – which they are. The problems we have are two-fold: 1) they have literally faced the Sisters of the Poor this season – save for overrated Iowa and improving West Virginia – and beating up on chump foes like Northwestern and Massachusetts is no way to prepare for a powerhouse like No. 3 Ohio State, and 2) they were 15.5-point home dogs in their loss to the Buckeyes last season, which means they should be a 21-plus point dog in the Horseshoe here. Simply put, the math doesn't add up, but who are we to second-guess the lines maker? One thing's for sure; Ryan Day's squad has been on a rampage after Lou Holtz said they weren't a 'great' team, crushing Maryland and Purdue by a combined score of 78-24. Day has also ruled over PSU counterpart James Franklin on the scoreboard, winning all four meetings outright by an average margin of just over 11 PPG. But while Franklin has beaten the Buckeyes only once going into his tenth season with the Nittany Lions, he's mopped up against

(continued on next page)



the spread, cashing in 7 of their nine series get-togethers, and three of four against Day. Our well-oiled machine also calls out a huge disparity in numbers today. Penn State is **9-0 ATS** in its last nine Big Ten contests and 10-2-1 ATS in the last 13 conference road games. By comparison, Ohio State stands **0-5 ATS** as home chalk of 10 or fewer points and **0-5 ATS** in games when both teams are unbeaten, and the Buckeyes are coming off a conference tilt. All things considered, we won't challenge Day's impeccable 28-2 SU record at home, but we also won't break our golden rule of taking the points in a matchup of 6-0 or greater CFB teams. We hope it's a good one!

5★ BEST BET

Clemson over MIAMI FLORIDA by 13

Memory Refresher: Mario Cristobal was absolutely ROASTED for committing an all-time coaching blunder that resulted in a loss to Georgia Tech two weeks ago. With 33 seconds left on the clock, the Hurricanes held a 20-17 lead and faced third-and-10 at the Yellow Jackets' 30-yard line. Rather than electing to have his team take a knee for the victory, Cristobal called a run play that resulted in a fumble. Tech recovered and scored a last second TD to bring down the Canes, 23-20. Downtrodden Miami fans were assured that their team would bounce back the following week against North Carolina, but it didn't happen as the Tar Heels bolted out to an insurmountable 38-17 lead in the 41-31 victory over the 'U'. Meanwhile, Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney has probably heard more criticism about his team this year than he has over the past ten seasons. Favored over Wake Forest by 21 points last week and they could only put 17 on the board? C'mon man! The fact is the 4-2 / 2-2 Tigers find themselves up against it and if they have any realistic hope of competing in the ACC title game (which they've missed only once since 2015), a win today is mandatory. Point spread history suggests they'll git 'er done, considering Clemson is 6-2 and 7-1 ATS in the series of late, including **4-0 SUATS** the last four. The Hurricanes put up plenty of garbage yards in last week's loss at UNC but they're a feeble **0-5 ATS** at home with conference revenge and **1-7 ATS** when both teams are coming off a conference game. They also have problems coming off two losses-exact, going 4-11 SU and 4-10 ATS, including **0-3 SUATS** away, with every loss by 18 or more points. That's our cue to turn things over to **THE CLINCHER: Hurricanes head coach Mario Cristobal is 9-16 ATS at home in conference games, including 0-5 SUATS with Miami.**

NORTH CAROLINA over Virginia by 20

The 6-0 Tar Heels moved into the No. 10 spot in this week's AP Top 25 after last week's 41-31 decision over Miami. But despite an offense that pumps out 37 PPG, UNC quarterback Drake Maye appears to be regressing as the season wears on. Sacked five times by the Canes to bring his 2023 total to 16, Maye completed just 51% of his passes

and rushed for only 10 yards in ten carries. Maybe he can iron out the kinks today against the train wreck currently masquerading as Virginia football. Cavaliers' HC Tony Elliott is sinking fast with a 1-5 record this year and he's beaten only four teams since arriving last season: Richmond, Old Dominion, Georgia Tech and William & Mary. No looking ahead for the Heels as they have Georgia Tech, Campbell, and Duke on the docket before road games at Clemson and NC State close out the regular season. One thing worth looking at, however, is North Carolina's penchant for shooting themselves in both feet, as illustrated by 13 penalties for 132 yards versus Miami last week. The feeling here is the noose is about to get tight for the unbeaten Heels; thus, we're not thrilled about laying big wood with a team that's gone 2-5 ATS in their last seven as ACC chalk of 20 or more points. Surprisingly, the Wahoos have gone to the pay window in 5 of the last six get-togethers, and they also show up in Chapel Hill with a 4-1 ATS record as conference dogs of 20 or more. We've said it before, but it bears repeating: hold your nose and take the points.

Boston College over GEORGIA TECH by 3

How do you lose to Bowling Green at home as 21-point chalk then go on the road and beat Miami Florida as a 19-point dog? Ask Georgia Tech. The Yellow Jackets have alternated losses and wins to go 3-3 this season – and today the pattern points to a SU loss. We'd feel better about backing BC if the Eagles' three wins had come over someone other than Holy Cross, Virginia, and Army, but the fact is the 3-3 / 1-2 Eagles take on the 3-3 / 2-1 Wreck in a game that will likely have repercussions when bowl season rolls around. Dueling trends cloud the picture with Boston College **1-8 ATS** when coming off a SU underdog win, but **6-1 ATS** when coming off a non-conference road game. However, the **MIDWEEK ALERT** reminds us that the Wreck dress up as a "leaking oil" favorite fade, having been outstated in each of its last five games... and it doesn't hurt knowing they are **2-16 SU** and **3-14 ATS** in games when coming off a win. Say no more! We don't know if this phrase was first uttered by The Borg in 'Star Trek' or by the Cybermen in 'Doctor Who' but if you are still entertaining notions of wagering on Georgia Tech, be advised that "Resistance is futile".

CINCINNATI over Baylor by 8

Welcome to the Big 12, Cincinnati and UCF. They currently share the cellar in the conference at 0-3 but the Bearcats look to bust out today against a 1-4 Baylor team that's a mere shell of the unit that finished 12-2 and won a Big 12 Championship in 2021. UC was a big-time bust against Iowa State on the field last Saturday, trailing 17-7 at half but managing only a field goal after the break in the 30-10 drubbing by the Cyclones. In defense of the Bearcats, they have outgained four of their six foes this season, and are winning the stats by an average +115 net yards per game – yet they ride a 4-game losing streak entering this game. We're also aware that Cincy has lost the money in ten straight conference games, but we'll rely on the power of the **MIDWEEK ALERT** and its stats in this matchup. Despite the return of starting QB Blake Shapen, the 2-4 / 1-3 Bears look to be in a world of hurt, outstated in each of their last three contests and residing just one game out of the Big 12 basement. With Cincinnati head coach Scott Satterfield 8-3-1 ATS when coming off a SU favorite loss, including **3-0-1 ATS** at home, we're not interested in risking any of our hard-earned money on this comatose Bear.

CONNECTICUT over South Florida by 1

UConn's musical theme for the season is Cream's 'What A Bringdown'. After head coach Jim L. Mora rode into town last year and posted a 6-7 campaign from the rubble of a 4-33 disaster the previous three seasons, the locals were all excited about what lay ahead for their beloved Huskies. Are we allowed to use the word 'disaster' twice in one write-up? Okay, maybe it's not that bad but UConn just snapped a 5-game losing streak in an improbable road win over Rice. The sled dogs need a victory badly today because their next three games are all on the road versus Boston College, Tennessee, and James Madison, greatly dimming any chance of returning to a bowl. The 3-4 / 2-2 Bulls are a mid-rung team playing in the mid-rung AAC, but the real problem is their 440-yard defense is only eight places from being the worst in the entire FBS! They allowed middling Florida Atlantic a whopping 587 yards last week and simply can't be trusted laying points on the conference road. They're also just **1-8 ATS** as a favorite coming off a previous game as a favorite (or the two words in their DNA they cannot handle, chalk and chalk). UConn has a full week of rest advantage working in their favor today so we'll buy-in on the Huskies.

Michigan over MICHIGAN STATE by 19

With Sparty in total chaos due to the scandalous dismissal of head coach Mel Tucker, this looks to be Michigan State's "bowl" game of 2023 as a loss to the Wolverines here would drop them to 2-5 with Ohio State and Penn State still on the docket. Yes, the Spartans have issues, all sorts of them, but this is still their archrival against whom they are **10-5 SU and 12-2-1 ATS**. In the interest of full disclosure, here is a list of the teams that Michigan has battered this season: East Carolina (1-5), UNLV (5-1), Bowling Green (3-4), Rutgers (5-2), Nebraska (3-3), Minnesota (3-3), and Indiana (2-4). No wonder the Wolverines defense has yielded just 47 total points in seven games! The Khaki Pants brigade has gone **5-1 ATS** of late as Big 10 road chalk of 14 or more points but the Well-Oiled Machine notes that undefeated double-digit conference road favorites in Game Eight are only 22-34 ATS. We realize it's playing with fire, but that's what fire trucks are for. We can hear it now, "9-1-1, what's the nature of your call?"

WEST VIRGINIA over Oklahoma State by 5

What's gotten into these Cowboys? After a 2-0 start wiped out by losses to South Alabama and Iowa State, OSU looked like they might spend the remainder of the season wandering in the wilderness. Not so! Impressive wins over both Sunflower State squads, Kansas, and Kansas State, has the Pokes looking like a legitimate contender in the Big 12 race again. The Cowboys travel to Morgantown with a chip on their shoulder from a 24-19 loss to West Virginia as home chalk last year in which they outgained the Mountaineers. They are doing things in 'pairs' this season – won their first two games; lost the next two games; won their last two games. They also matched that production 'In The Stats' as well, going 4-2 overall this campaign. This series has been a sore point for West Virginia, who stands 3-9 SU and 3-8-1 ATS all-time versus OSU, including **0-3-1 ATS** the last four as a host. Sheesh! The good news for the stump-jumpers is they had a 4-game win skein snapped at Houston last Thursday, making both teams 4-2 / 2-1 on the season; hence the winner gains the hammer when bowl bids are offered. "Almost Heaven" gets the ATS nod as well, boasting a **7-2 ATS** record as home favorites of late, while Mike Gundy's cowpokes are just **2-10 ATS** when coming off a home dog win. Still, we see this being one of those 'last team with the ball wins' contests. Tread carefully.

FLORIDA STATE over Duke by 6

Like Ol' Man River, the Seminoles keep rolling along, 6-0 and outscoring foes by 24 PPG, and a quick glance at their remaining schedule tells us they could very likely run the table and land in the ACC Championship game. But first, they've got to banish another contender in Duke that's outscored opponents by 21 PPG, and also fields a rock-ribbed defense that allows only 9.8 PPG. Yes, while Florida State has dominated this series, none of those results came with Mike Elko roaming on the opposite side of the field for the Blue Devils. Try this on for size: Elko is **14-5 SU and 13-4 ATS** at Durham, including **3-0 SUATS as a double-digit dog** – yes, you read that right. Duke's only defeat this season came by just 7 points in a gut-busting 21-14 loss to Notre Dame and Elko calmed the masses two weeks later with a suffocating 24-3 defeat of NC State. As for FSU, we're simply not enamored with their body of work this season as they've been out-yarded on two occasions, and own a mediocre 343 YPG defense. The Seminoles also have to contend with the pressure of a **1-6 ATS** record as home chalk of 14 or fewer points (check line) in front of a Homecoming weekend crowd at Doak Campbell Stadium. Of course, we can't make a stronger call on Duke until we know the status of QB Riley Leonard, who suffered a sprained ankle on the final play of the Notre Dame game. But we can't lay this kind of word when we think FSU will be thrilled to get off this minefield alive.

Rutgers over INDIANA by 8

You know Rutgers coach Greg Schiano believes he already has this game in hand when he's playing the "butter up the opponent that has a bad record card" in his pre-game press meetings. RU gets this one, then they're bowl eligible, which means a lot to a program that has defined downtrodden in the past. IU has had little success lately in this series, **0-3 ATS** when coming off a SUATS loss and as the season goes on, the Hoosiers get worse. The last two seasons from Game Five on, IU is 1-14 SU and 4-14 ATS. Rutgers has another numerical advantage, going 8-2 ATS when coming off a home game and facing a foe off a road game. Not for nothing, but we couldn't help but notice RU going for two in their roaring comeback win over the artist

formerly known as Michigan State. The score was 27-24 after a Kyle Monangai TD run, and instead of opting for the 4-point lead, they tried (and failed) to make it 29-24. You may ask yourself, what was the spread? You may tell yourself it was -4.5 or -5 with Rutgers laying the points. You may ask yourself, what was Rutgers thinking? Somehow the talking heads missed this one, but the gamblers hanging around Satriale's surely didn't. Bada Bing!

EAST CAROLINA over Charlotte by 4

The state of North Carolina versions of Iowa's offense clash in the ESPN Minus Game of the Week. Neither team averages 20 PPG, both barely average over 300 yards per game and ECU converts one-third of their third downs. That number makes the Pirates look like the Greatest Show on Turf when you find out Charlotte is batting .235 on third down. East Carolina's lone win was against FCS participant Gardner "Jack" Webb, while the 49ers cracked the win column in week one vs. South Carolina State and has scored only 23 points in their last three games. There is a sliver of good news for the Niners, though, they're 8-1 ATS when both teams are coming off losses as underdogs, 4-0 ATS when both are coming off home games and 7-2 ATS as a recent dog. It's an insult to canines to call this game a dog. The late Bob Barker would call for this matchup to be spayed and neutered.

UTSA over Florida Atlantic by 1

Give the Owls some props, they lost starting QB Casey Thompson last month and after nearly knocking off Illinois, new QB Daniel Richardson led them to AAC wins over Tulsa and South Florida. FAU hasn't lost in three games against the Roadrunners, who have joined the Owls, Tulane, and SMU at 2-0 in the conference title race. Somehow UTSA is in the title chase despite being outgained on the season but a check of their past under Coach Jeff Traylor shows the Roadrunners find another tractor gear from Game 7 on, going 17-2 outright. Very Veteran QB Frank Harris is back in action for the Roadrunners after yet another injury, and UTSA has won his last two starts. This one is legit too close to call, y'all.

Air Force over NAVY by 6

If Navy has turned its season around, this will be the sternest test for the rest of the year. 22nd ranked Air Force boasts a defense that would make the actual Air Force proud, giving up less than 15 PPG. When the Flyboys have the football, they're number one in the nation in rushing at 334.2 YPG and converting third downs at 59.4%, third best in the USA. AFA is coming off a rugged win over a very strong Wyoming team and is 6-0. Why the lean towards the Navy? The Falcons are 6-1 ATS in the first of back-to-back roadies but only 3-8 ATS in the last 11 as non-conference chalk. As a host, Navy is 4-1 ATS in this series, 14-3 ATS when coming off triple revenge (Navy has lost the last three meetings), 6-1 ATS when coming off a W, and 9-2 ATS in the last 11 as a double-digit dog. It will be handoffs galore in what should be one of the fastest games in the nation this year with the winner getting some fingerprints on the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy, currently in Colorado Springs.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN over UL-Monroe by 21

What was thought to be a tight matchup before kickoff turned into a James Madison rout of Georgia Southern last week, and now the Eagles are poised to give ULM the Statesboro Blues. The Warhawks are a dismal **1-15 ATS** coming off a conference road game, plus last week's loss at Texas State was made even worse by TSU scoring two times in the final five minutes after not having a touchdown all game. Typical ULM in 2023 to be outgained badly, 452-285, which fits their team profile perfectly. Monroe is an average -133 In the Stats this season. GSU "Ain't Wastin' Time No More" this season, not with a 9-3 ATS mark when coming home after a loss. The Eagles also take teams to "The Whippin' Post" at home, **10-1 ATS** lately as home chalk. We expect a "Revival" for Georgia Southern football and a "Stormy Monday" in Monroe when the Warhawks go over the video.

Appalachian State over OLD DOMINION by 10

App State boasts a nicely balanced offense averaging over 456 yards per game, hitting on 45% of third downs. QB Joey Aguilar had a 162 QBR in the Mountaineers' last game which was a...loss at home to Coastal Carolina??? Surprisingly ODU has the same 3-3 record as ASU after holding off Southern Mississippi last week but get them into Boone, NC and the leaves fall off and die. In the last three in this series, the Monarchs have had their wings ripped off, losing by an

(continued on next page)

average of 29 points, going 0-3 SU and 1-2 ATS. ODU has plenty of experience as the underdogs, and the skid marks are deep – 15-37-1 ATS in game they lose when Vegas turns its back on them. Meanwhile, back in Boone, the Mountaineers are 19-3 SU and 15-7 ATS in their last 22 lined games when coming off a loss. Keep the Thinking Cap bound in the closet and keep an eye on whether RB Nate Noel plays for App State. If he does, it will likely tilt an already uneven playing field even more in favor of the Mountaineers.

Central Michigan over BALL STATE by 6

It's been a long year since CMU absorbed an upset loss in Mount Pleasant to the Cardinals, 17-16. The Chippewas were 7.5-point favorites, outgained Ball State by 94 yards and still lost at home. Ball State's offense has lacked testicular fortitude this season, averaging around 15 PPG and 267 YPG, great numbers if this were the 1950's but a five-year-old playing NCAA '24 could top that. Get Da Chips on the MAC highway and they're hellish, 38-8 SU, 28-14-2 ATS as conference road chalk. We're seeing the Chips turning the Cards into road kill that will require chalk marks around the corpse.

BOWLING GREEN over Akron by 4

We won't bury the lede here. Akron is a surprisingly good road dog, logging **6-1 ATS**. They also bring in a zip lock defense that's giving up only 338 ypg, so that tells you just how terrible the Akron offense is at 280.7 YPG, which teams like Washington have by halftime. Oh, but the Falcons are pretty, pretty, pretty, pretty terrible with the football too, scoring 19.6 ppg and a weak 302 ypg. The BG passing game has just six TD passes, but 12 interceptions, which is two more than the Falcons defense has managed. Another albatross keeping the Falcons from flying, a stinging **0-4 ATS** laying points the last two seasons. Curb your enthusiasm for this one and zip up if you must.

Buffalo over KENT STATE by 11

If East Carolina vs. Charlotte cannot uphold its responsibilities as the ESPN Minus Game of the Week, Buffalo at Kent State is the runner-up choice, the Miss Congeniality of bad football. We've correctly identified Kent as one of the nation's worst teams, being outgained by 122 per game. Buffalo may be 2-5 overall, but the two wins are in MAC play over Akron and Central Michigan. Get Da Bulls on the road, and they're **3-0 ATS** in their last three bus rides and 7-2-1 ATS away from home the last three seasons. They're probably not going to forget an upset loss at home to Kent State last year either when they took a 30-27 shot to the chin while a 5-point favorite. It is homecoming at Kent, and a Gold Out has been called, which leads to some sort of a cheap "win gold, bet Buffalo" kind of joke. Perhaps the most appropriate gold joke to describe KSU football is: "Why was the underground miner depressed? Because he couldn't see the light at end of the tunnel."

MIAMI OHIO over Toledo by 5

Three teams have made themselves best in the Mid-American Conference in 2023 and two of them meet in Oxford Saturday. Toledo is 7-0 and largely dominant, winning the stats battle by +135 per game. But the West's best has a glaring flaw only the gambler's eye can detect...**0-8 ATS** when coming off a win as a favorite as well as 1-11 ATS in their last 12 games as the fave. Toledo has the 25th ranked offense in totals yards, and it's well balanced at 243.1 rush with 216.1 passing yards. Miami can't match that offensive output, but QB Brett Gabbert has been heroic for the RedHawks with 14 TDs and only four INTs so far. Miami is also 7-1 ATS when a home underdog. Incredibly these in-state teams haven't met since 2011 but it may not be the last meeting in 2023 between these two as both are strong contenders for the MAC Title game where Toledo reigns as defending champs.

OHIO over Western Michigan by 20

A stunning loss at Northern Illinois last week has staggered but not knocked out the Bobcats' MAC East chances with a shot at Miami later in the year. Ohio still has one of the nation's stingiest defenses, fourth overall and now facing a WMU team that has transitioned from "Row the Boat" under PJ Fleck to almost good enough to get to the conference title game under Tim Lester to...yecch. Ohio is +100 YPG on average, which shows you how tough their defense must be because Ohio is very "mid" offensively. The Broncos have been a Bettor's Friend each of their last three games but there's a JLo sized but in there...WMU is 8-33-2 ATS in conference battles from the underdog spot. There's little to no chance the Bobcats look past Western after Ohio's blunder in DeKalb last week, and there's even a smaller chance the Broncos win.

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Wisconsin over ILLINOIS by 10

Bret Bielema's Illini have been one bummer after another this season until they surprised 13.5-point favorite Maryland, and the rest of the nation for that matter, with a 27-24 win over the Terps. Still, Illinois was outgained 380-337, meaning there's only one game out of seven that they have out-yarded their foe: the win over Florida Atlantic. If you think it's a wise move to grab the Illini as a home dog since the number is 8 or above...drop that like it's hot, because Illinois is **0-4 ATS** in that situation. Wisconsin is **6-1 ATS** with conference revenge vs. a losing team and last year Wiskie was humiliated at home by Illinois 34-10 as a 6.5-point favorite. That game cost Wisconsin's head coach Paul Chryst his job. Unlike The Bruised Bielemas, the Badgers are 5-1 In the Stats, and they should awaken from the offensive coma the loss to Iowa put them in last week. Wisconsin will have to run the ball to win, since their passing game is flatter than week old Leinie.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS over Eastern Michigan by 15

Yes, we are more than aware EMU has a 4-3 record opposed to the Huskies' 3-4 mark. Traditionally NIU has owned the Green Team from the Gray Field, 13-2 SU and 10-5 ATS in the series and QB Rocky Lombardi, while not exactly evoking the greatness of NIU's 2013 Heisman Candidate Jordan Lynch, hasn't thrown an interception since September 16 at Nebraska. The Eastern offense is MIA, somehow the Eagles have that winning record despite being outgained in every game, even by Kent State, who held EMU to 218 yards. EMU is losing the stat game by an average of -141/gm. This Eastern offense is meeting a Northern defense that decimated a strong Ohio squad... NIU held the Bobcats to 4.4 yards per pass and 3.7 yards per rush and picked off passes on three straight second half possessions. It gets worse for the Eagles when we tell you EMU is **0-6 ATS** as dogs of 8 or more points when facing a team coming off a pair of SUATS wins. This is getting so cruel that The Dream Academy may be called in to sing "Life in a Northern Town" a not terribly cheerful tune featuring the following lyrics "Ah-hey-ma-ma-ma...dee-doo-din-me-ya-ya...hey-y-yah". To drag Greg Kihn into this, they don't write 'em like that anymore.

Minnesota over IOWA by 3

If Iowa football were a "The Simpsons" episode, Bart would be writing "I will not talk about Iowa's offense" on the blackboard. We're going to do our best not to bring it up. Somehow, somehow, Iowa is 6-1 despite being outgained in all but one game, with a -84 net yards deficit. The Hawkeyes are winning with a superb defense that gives up less than 15 points per game and an average of 247.4 ypg. They beat Wisconsin, despite a stretch of having more possessions (six) than yards (four). Yeah, we wrote about their offense. Iowa had to place a women's basketball exhibition game at Kinnick Stadium to reassure fans someone can score in the stadium. The Iowa O is the equivalent of a decomposing body in the trunk of a car that's been rotting for two months. It's going to be an awkward Christmas around the Ferentz

home when Dad must tell his offensive coordinator son that thanks to the terms of his contract, you're fired. Minnesota barely lost to Iowa last year in Minneapolis, even though they outgained the Hawkeyes by more than 100 yards, a harbinger of Iowa football. Minnesota is stuck in the middle, like Gerry Rafferty and Stealers Wheel. The Golden Gophers are a game and a half out of last, and a game and a half away from Iowa in first, making this game a marker for their season. A win, and the Gophers get closer to the West Division top spot, a loss means Minnesota can start planning to make the "Sorry You Didn't Win Enough Games in the Regular Season to get a Prestigious Bowl" Bowl. The last word goes to Minnesota...Coach P.J. Fleck is **6-0 ATS** away in his career versus an opponent .800 or greater coming off a win of seven points or more. We checked...the O/U for this game and it did not open at 10.5. If it had...

Texas Tech over BYU by 10

The Book of Mormon is a raunchy, and hilarious Broadway musical not for the easily offended. The Book of BYU's Big 12 season isn't quite so funny. The Cougars are 1-2 in their debutante season and have been outscored 109-73 in three games. You may inquire why the love for Buddy Holly's hometown team that's coming off a bad beating by Kansas State and is 3-4 overall. You ask, we provide the truth: BYU Coach Kalani Sitake is 10-18 ATS in games where he's got the better record, including **0-4 ATS** as a dog by an average losing margin of 25 points. Sitake's counterpart, TTU coach Joey McGuire is **5-0 ATS** in conference games coming off a loss of less than 20 points. Tech started the season with losses to Wyoming and Oregon, instead of fattening up on non-contenders (to be fair, they did play Tarleton State in week 3). Tech RB Tahj Brooks is on pace for a 1,000-yard season, he has 791 already with five end zone visits. BYU is 121st in Total Offense and 96th in Total Defense. We will give the last words to the Deseret News columnist Jay Drew who wrote "BYU's numbers through six games indicate the Cougars might be the weakest 4-2 team in the country."

NEW MEXICO over Hawai'i by 3

In a swing moodier than Jada Pinkett, UH went from a 2.5-point dog to the favorite in this one, even though the game isn't on the island. The Rainbow Warriors are on a 9-game road losing streak and while New Mexico isn't exactly Ohio State, the game is still on the mainland. Hawai'i is also a **4-20-1 ATS** in its last 25 as conference chalk, so what are the Wide, Wide, World of Sports bettors thinking? UNM is 7-2 SUATS at home in this series too, so all guesswork has been eliminated. No half measures here...

UNLV over Colorado State by 13

The Rams can look to the Runnin' Rebels as an example of a program beginning to rise from the desert dust. A few years ago, UNLV football was a punchline used in every smoky downtown comedy cellar but in 2023 the Rebs are 5-1 and have scored 40 or more points in every game except Michigan. Barry Odom's bunch grinds you into powder with a run game averaging 221.5 per. UNLV dares you to stop the run, and so far, they've found the end zone 21 times of their 26 offensive touchdowns with the run game. Even more remarkable, instead of having a bellwether back, UNLV's leading rusher, Vincent Davis Junior, has 327 yards in six games. UNLV is **5-1 SU and 5-0 ATS** this season and 3-0 at home where the average victory margin is 19. Colorado State has shown a pulse this year at 3-3 but they are **1-8 ATS** when coming off a home win. Need a little more reinforcement? Barry Odom is 16-2 SU and 9-4 ATS in his career against .500 or worse teams. Vegas show prices and the upcoming Formula 1 race are expensive tickets...the best show in town may be at Allegiant Stadium – and it's not the Raiders.

SAN DIEGO STATE over Nevada by 10

It wouldn't be surprising if the Wolf Pack looked to the south in the Silver State with a blotch of envy. UN is winless after six games, and it can be summed up in their passing game: 4 TD passes, 7 INTs and 17 sacks allowed. Through six games they have only tried 12 extra points, but don't blame PK Brandon Talton, who has made all 12. Nevada has lost the stats battle in every game too. Why the lean toward The Pack? The answer my friend is blowing in the Santa Ana winds...UN is **9-1 ATS** when coming off a spread loss against a team coming off a spread win. Don't fool yourself, SDSU isn't all that either; they're being outgained by an average of minus 117 this season and are 4-12 ATS as double-digit chalk. Hey, that's why they call it gambling folks! Take a bold chance and Back the Pack.

Ucla over STANFORD by 11

The Bruins slipped 7 spots to No. 25 in the AP Poll after last week's 12-point loss at Oregon State, as QB Dante Moore was picked off three times by the Beavers. After a 3-0 start to the season, the Bears have nodded off, going 1-2 in their last three games entering this contest. In addition, they have not fared well recently in this series, going 3-12 SU and 4-10-1 ATS versus the Tree. Meanwhile, Colorado built a 29-0 lead at halftime in Boulder, and looked like they were going to cruise to an easy win over a 1-4 Stanford squad, but things changed in a hurry. The Cardinal struck first in the second half and then reeled off 26 straight points to make it a game, before finally prevailing in a 46-43 double overtime win in their biggest scoring outburst since they beat – you guessed it – UCLA with a 48-47 win in 2020. The good news is they are 50-19 SU and 44-21-2 ATS in games after tallying 40-plus points, including **10-1 ATS** as a dog of 7-plus points. Don't hop off the train just yet.

4★ BEST BET

USC over Utah by 14

Okay, let's say it all together: "USC is not a title contender." Don't tell them, though. The one-loss Trojans fell 8 spots in the AP Poll after last week's disembowelment at the hands of Notre Dame as they turned the ball over five times, which means they never had chance to beat the Irish. Now they are back home this week, though, where Lincoln Riley's home-road dichotomy is striking, with the home team going 46-25 SU and 40-29 ATS in his career. They did, however, lose twice to the Utes last season, including a costly CFP defeat in the Pac-12 title game. There are some good numbers on the Trojan Horse, including a 9-3 ATS mark with triple revenge, plus a 6-2 spread record after a non-conference road game and a 5-2 ATS record after taking on Notre Dame. As for the Utes, it's beginning to look as though they will be redshirting star QB Cam Rising, as his recovery from knee surgery is not looking promising. Kyle Whittingham is 8-16-1 ATS when the Utes lose their previous game outright as a road dog, including **1-12-1 ATS** as a dog of fewer than 7 points. But never fear, we have saved the best for last, and it comes compliments of **THE CLINCHER: See this week's INCREDIBLE STAT on page 3.**

WASHINGTON over Arizona State by 19

As the fans poured out onto the field and the public-address system at Husky Stadium blared Prince's "Purple Rain" immediately after UDub edged Oregon here last week, you just knew that this was the greatest moment in Washington history. With it, QB Michael Penix is the now the new leader in the Heisman clubhouse. Unfortunately, the Huskies are **1-15 ATS** in Game 7, an unsavory 2-7 ATS after playing Oregon, and 2-5 ATS as conference home faves of more than 17 points. So now we will watch how the Huskies play down to the level of the lowly visitors today. Meanwhile, ASU is **14-1 ATS** in their last 15 meetings in this series, not to mention having a **5-1 ATS** mark versus undefeated conference foes. Oh yeah, we forgot to add that they are **5-1-1 ATS** as road dogs of more than 17 points. Simply put, this is an ideal spot for the victory-starved Pitchforks, who should take advantage of the obvious letdown situation for the Purple Reign. (See what we did with that!)

OREGON over Washington State by 16

Oregon head coach Dan Lanning made three crucial decisions in Saturday's 36-33 loss at Washington. Analytics freaks liked his chances – the scoreboard didn't. The first, on the final play of the first half at the 3-yard line, he dished a 20-yard field goal which would have cut the halftime deficit to 22-21, and the Ducks were stopped. The second, trailing 29-18 in the 3rd quarter he failed again on 4th down from the 8-yard line instead of taking the chip shot field goal to cut it to a one-score game. And the third, after rallying back to take a 33-29 lead. Lanning went for it again on a 4th-and-3 from the Huskies' 47-yardline line with just over two minutes remaining to try and cement the game, yet failed again, handing the ball back to Washington at midfield where they promptly scored in two plays (hello, Georgia Tech) for the game-winning score. Talk about a bad day at the office. FYI: he did the same thing last year in a home loss to the sled dogs when he gambled on 4th down from his own 34-yard line and failed with 1:26 left, setting up a game winning FG for
(continued on next page)

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Washington. Talking about living and dying with analytics, Lanning went face-to-face with the Grim Reaper and lost on all fronts, and it will be no surprise if the 'Letdown Reaper' makes an appearance here today. Across the field, the Cougars have more than held their own in this series, going 11-2 ATS in the last 13 matchups and are **7-1 ATS** as road dogs of more than 13 points, not to mention **6-1 ATS** with quadruple revenge. Suffice it to say, this is an ideal spot for Wazzu to dust itself off following last week's 44-6 annihilation at home by Arizona.

Utah State over SAN JOSE STATE by 1

Ah, the power of a motivating halftime speech. Brent Brennan must have come up with a doozie on Saturday. Coming off three straight defeats and trailing 17-14 at the intermission to New Mexico, the Spartans came storming out of the locker room with 24 third quarter points to run away from the Lobos and coast to an easy 52-24 victory. QB Chevan Cordeiro tossed a long TD pass to RB Kairree Robinson on the second play of the second half to get things started, and Robinson added two of his three rushing scores after that as Sparty outgained New Mexico, 531-393. The game reversed a troubling trend for Brennan as the 2-5 / 1-2 Spartans had lost the stats battle in five of their first six contests of the season. Unfortunately, San Jose is **1-7 ATS** in games when both teams are coming off a conference clash. Meanwhile, the 3-4 / 1-2 Aggies are at a crossroads, having dropped four of their last five games. They've been a bowler each of the last five non-cover years and will need to put the pedal to the medal to keep the streak alive. The good news is they are 10-0 SU and 9-1 ATS in this series, including **7-0 SUATS** in the last seven meetings. They bring the nation's No. 15 overall offense in points scored (33) and yards gained (459) per contest and **5-1 ATS** away off consecutive home games. You know what to do.

OKLAHOMA over Central Florida by 24

The Sooners still have their chests puffed out after the big upset of Texas in the Red River Showdown, but don't expect a letdown in front of the rabid Oklahoma fans this week in Norman. For openers, that dramatic victory was two weeks ago, and the Sooners are 4-1 ATS after taking on the Longhorns. They are also **12-0 ATS** at home before back-to-back road tilts. Meanwhile, the Knights have not been a good underdog in recent years, going **1-6 ATS** as dogs of more than 2 touchdowns, **1-5 ATS** with rest, and a horrible **2-10 ATS** when coming off a SU favorite loss. These lousy numbers are not a good omen for the struggling Knights, who enter on a 0-3 SUATS slide after opening the season 3-0. The plummeting record coincided with the loss of QB John Rhys Plumlee to a leg injury, and while he did start in UCF's last game, a 51-22 loss to Kansas, it is not encouraging that he played only the first three series against the Jayhawks before leaving with

another minor injury, going 3-of-7 for 33 yards. Coming off the bye week, HC Gus Malzahn feels that Plumlee is "close to 100%".

Coastal Carolina over ARKANSAS STATE by 11

How warm is the hot seat in Jonesboro for Butch Jones? Not as hot as it was going into the campaign (a 5-19 SU record in his first two seasons), as the 3-3 mark this year may have him breathing a bit easier. However, the Red Wolves are **1-7 ATS** at home when coming off back-to-back road games and they are being out-yarded by 117 net yards per game this season. That probably won't cut it today against a traditionally strong Chanticleer team that is also 3-3 but may be diminished a bit this year since the departure of Jamie Chadwell. Certainly, this Coastal Carolina squad will need to get their act together if they want to hit the alleys for the 4th straight season. They are 4-1 ITS (In The Stats) this season, which actually outperforms their record, and they got their first-ever win over Appalachian State last Tuesday (after six straight losses) on a last-second field goal. Are they back on track? We'll see.

Texas over HOUSTON by 17

In one of the biggest injustices in the AP Poll this week, Texas moved up one spot despite not playing and coming off a loss to Oklahoma, while Oregon slipped one spot behind the Horns after taking mighty Washington down to the wire. In our opinion, that was a major no-no! Now they visit a cross-state rival in the Cougars, who arrive off a dramatic upset win over West Virginia, and will look to post consecutive victories for the first time this season. Could this be the point in another season that the Horns allow a tough loss to derail their season and send it swirling down the drain? Probably not – they are too talented for that, while Houston's 117th-ranked defense should have lots of difficulty stopping Quinn Ewers and the Texas attack but be aware of the numbers. The Horns are **0-4 ATS** after taking on Oklahoma, 1-6 ATS as road chalk of more than 12 points, and 1-5 ATS with rest. Conversely, the Cougars are **8-0 ATS** as dogs of more than 13 points and 6-3 ATS versus opposition coming off a SU favorite loss. They arrive off an extremely dramatic upset win over West Virginia behind their gutsy QB Donovan Smith and will look to post consecutive victories for the first time this season. Again, probably not gonna' happen, but this one will be closer than many people think.

ARKANSAS over Mississippi State by 13

Call this the battle for the caboose with both teams winless and residing in the cellar in the SEC West (along with Auburn). The Bulldogs take to the road off a pair of home games, a scenario in which they stand 2-6 SU and **1-7 ATS** dating back to 2017. They are also just 2-12 outright in this series when they are allowing 22 or more PPG on the season. There has been no update on whether two of the Dogs' best offensive players (quarterback Will Rogers and running back Jo'quavious Marks) will play today, as Mike Wright – who is more of a rushing threat than a passer – had to step in for Rogers in the win over Western Michigan two weeks ago. Meanwhile, the Hogs have not been very sharp this season, and are riding a 5-game losing skid, although four of the losses have been of the one-score variety. Some of their struggles might be attributed to four straight road games in the tough SEC, so a return to the pig sty at Razorback Stadium will be a welcome event. Head coach Sam Pittman needs this game to even his career slate with the Hogs and he is 10-3 ATS against opponents coming off a loss, including **12-1 ATS** versus foes who surrender more than 22 PPG on the season.

Tcu over KANSAS STATE by 1

TCU fell to the Wildcats in the Big 12 title game last season, so you know they'll be fully focused in this rematch today. At 4-3 / 2-2, the Horned Frogs trail the 4-2 / 2-1 Wildcats on all counts. Head Frog Sonny Dykes is 17-7 ATS as a single-digit dog when coming off a win, including **11-2 ATS** when coming off a double-digit victory. The Frogs absolutely smoked BYU 44-11 last week with redshirt freshman Josh Hoover making the most of his first career start, tossing 4 TD passes, as TCU outgained BYU, 594-243. Hoover gets the chance to build on that dazzling debut, as starter Chandler Morris should miss a month with a knee injury. Meanwhile, K-State head coach Chris Kleiman shocked everybody by yanking Will Howard after the senior QB threw three interceptions in the first half against Texas Tech and replaced him with freshman Avery Johnson. The youngster responded by rushing for five touchdowns in the 38-21 win. No indication yet whether the benching of Howard will be permanent, but regardless, the Cats

are just 6-10 SUATS home when coming off a pair of road games, including **1-7 SUATS** when their win percentage is less than .700. In a game that could feature two blossoming quarterbacks matched up today, revenge could be the deciding factor.

ALABAMA over Tennessee by 14

Major payback is in order for the Tide today after they dropped the ball in a 52-49 loss as 9-point road chalk at Tennessee last season, a game in which the Tide surrendered 567 yards. It was the most points allowed by a Nick Saban team in an SEC game in his career, but Saban is 21-7 ATS when his team is seeking revenge against a foe coming off a SUATS win, including **16-3 ATS** versus opponents with at least one loss on the season. One concern for Bama this week could be the five sacks given up by the Crimson Tide in last week's 24-21 win over Arkansas, the fifth straight week that Bama's offensive line has allowed four or more sacks. Meanwhile, the Volunteers head into Tuscaloosa on a 3-game winning streak, but have not fared well at all in this series – even after last year's barn-burner, Tennessee is just 2-15 SU and 5-12 ATS versus Alabama. They are also **0-4 ATS** in the first of back-to-back road games and 2-8 ATS as a dog if favored in their last game. With Jalen Milroe now seemingly entrenched as Saban's starting QB, we say lay it if you play it.

Memphis over UAB by 1

The Blazers have given the Tigers fits recently, going 10-3 SU and 9-3-1 ATS since the turn of the century. Our biggest concern is their 418 YPG defense. With a 9-3 ATS record as home dogs, the host warrants a look today. Meanwhile, Memphis is 4-2 on the year and looks headed for a bowl invite, but they have dropped 2 of their last three contests while allowing an average of 32.3 PPG. Since the Tigers have been outstatted in each of their last four games, making them a "leaking oil" favorite, you won't find us laying points on the road with these money burners.

AUBURN over Ole Miss by 3

With the Tigers losing three straight games and finding themselves at a crossroads with a 3-3 record on the season, it's time to start picking up bowl-appealing victories, and it starts here. HC Hugh Freeze is 36-19 ATS at home, including 11-3 ATS when taking points, and the Tigers have won three straight times in this series at Jordan-Hare. In the last ten meetings between these two schools, Aubbie is 7-1-2 versus the spread. They are also 10-4 ATS as conference home dogs of less than 8 points. Conversely, Ole Miss is a miserable **3-20 ATS** as road favorites of less than 8 points and owns a scary 2-8 spread record with rest. Coming off consecutive wins and cruising along at 5-1, Johnny Reb looks to add another notch to his belt in this home tilt, but with 13-16 SU and 8-19-2 ATS marks as conference road chalk this century, you know where to turn to here. Remember, Freeze coached at Ole Miss for 5 years before resigning after officials discovered that he had used a university cellphone to call escort services at least a dozen times over 33 months. Ya think he wants to win this game?

Georgia State over LOUISIANA by 3

The Ragin' Cajuns went 2-4 SUATS in their final six games of the campaign last year under Michael Desormeaux, and they're looking dead ahead to a get-even game with South Alabama, so Georgia State finds themselves in a nice position today. Especially since Louisiana is **0-6 ATS** when coming off a win. The Panthers recovered from their first loss of the season (28-7 to Troy) by getting past Marshall 41-24 last week, as senior QB Darren Grainger ran for a pair of TDs and threw for another. At 5-1 / 2-1, they now roll into Lafayette with a **13-1 ATS** mark in games when coming off a win as a favorite and are also **10-1 ATS** when coming off a conference home game. You can be brave and tackle those numbers head on, or you can be smart and use them.

NEBRASKA over Northwestern by 17

OMG! The Huskers have swallowed the ignominy of six consecutive losing seasons, yet they dress up as two touchdown favorites today against a foe they've struggled with at home since joining the Big Ten (1-5 ATS). One of the big reasons for the double-digit number is the Cornhusker defense, which has stopped the run this season and is now ranked 4th in the nation in Rushing Defense. While well underway, Matt Rhule's rebuild from rock-bottom in Lincoln has a long way to go, but a bowl invitation would be a nice first step. It would be a rare one as well, since the Children of the Corn have stayed home for the holidays every year since 2016. Speaking of rare occurrences, the

Cats enter this contest off a victory last week (albeit against Howard!), knowing they are **0-6 SUATS** when coming off a win by an average losing margin of 23.5 points per game. With two programs heading in opposite directions, we'll let this big ugly dog go, even though there will be revenge involved today for Nebby, who handed Northwestern their only victory last season with a 31-28 Wildcat win in Dublin.

MISSOURI over South Carolina by 1

There probably weren't many people at the start of the season who would have imagined that the Cocks would be dogging it up here today, but at 2-4 SU this year (and Mizzou an impressive 6-1), the tables have clearly turned. However, while Carolina is 1-5 ITS (In The Stats) and losing the stats by an average of 49 net YPG, they need this game like blood to keep their 2-year bowl skein intact under Shane Beamer. Keep in mind that SC is **7-0 ATS** in the first of back-to-back road games, and **8-1 ATS** away with quad revenge. On the flip side, Missouri is **0-5 ATS** after playing Kentucky, and 2-8 ATS in Game 8. You just know the Tigers have eyes for Georgia, up next, and a 1-4 ATS mark before facing the Dawgs has us eyeing up the hungry visitor as an upset could be in the making.

TULANE over North Texas by 25

The Mean Green picked up their first victory as a member of the AAC by defeating Temple 45-14 on Saturday. It's been a rough start to the season for North Texas' first-year head coach Eric Morris, but the Greenies have now evened their record at 3-3. Unfortunately, they have been known to lose it in roles like this, as they are **1-10 ATS** when coming off a home win as a favorite, and just 2-9 ATS in games when both teams were favored in their previous game. Meanwhile, Tulane won their fourth straight game last week in comeback fashion, as they trailed Memphis 21-10 in the third quarter, only to score 3 unanswered TDs thereafter to notch a 10-point road win. Both teams have been stat warriors this season, each going 5-1 ITS. (In The Stats) The difference is the Green Wave have a fine defense (305 YPG), while the other Green team owns a defense by design (455 YPG), a mighty poor one at that. Down in these parts it's Willie's World, where backers of Fritz Magic rule.

3★ BEST BET

LSU over Army by 17

There are a lot of colorful numbers coming to light in this contest. A couple of examples are an 8-2 ATS record for the Black Knights as dogs of more than 20 points, and a 5-2 ATS mark for Army in their last seven matchups with the SEC. Then, there is this from the Well-Oiled Machine: Military dogs of 14 or more points are **7-0 ATS** versus SEC foes since 1984. This just in: **We have received marching orders to back the Black Knights as they qualify under Marc's AWESOME ANGLE on page 2.** Meanwhile, the Bayou Bengals are just 1-4 ATS before a Week of Rest, and a miserable 2-8 ATS when coming off a conference game versus a foe coming off a non-conference contest. Brian Kelly's offense had another explosive game last week against Auburn behind his dazzling QB Jaylen Daniels, but laying such heavy lumber is not in our genes. And with the Tigers eyeballing Alabama next, we'll surely be on the take in this paint-by-color matchup.

PRO FOOTBALL

Thursday, October 19

NEW ORLEANS over Jacksonville by 6

Disparate results from last week helped set the table for this Thursday night affair, with the Saints returning home off a seven-point road loss at Houston where the New Orleans Saints outstatted Houston, 430-297, while Jacksonville hit the highway on the heels of last week's 17-point home win in which they actually lost the stats by a 354-233 yardage margin. Rest assured; our **MIDWEEK ALERT** statistical newsletter is all over the Saints like a shadow on a wall. Sure, Jacksonville's team turnover differential is +7, which ranks second in the NFL. And the Jaguars lead the NFL in takeaways with 15. But the fact of the matter is that TOs have a tendency to regress to the mean. Meanwhile, Jags' QB Trevor Lawrence is questionable with a sprained

(continued on next page)

knee. If he sits, it will be C.J. Beathard behind center for Jacksonville. Beathard has made 12 starts during his NFL career, going 2-10 SU and 5-7 ATS. The Jags are also **1-10 ATS** in their last eleven games against the NFC South, while the Saints are **4-0 SUATS** in the last four games in this series. For a team that just spent two weeks in London that now hits the road for two more games outside of Jacksonville, we're betting they won't make it back home unscathed.

Sunday, October 22

Atlanta over TAMPA BAY by 3

With a bevy of NFL games involving 'phony inside-out' stat results from games last week, our diligent **MIDWEEK ALERT** football newsletter is working overtime this week, ferreting out no less than ten games involving teams checking this box on this week's NFL card. This is one of them, as the Falcons lost, 24-16, to Washington last week despite outstatting the Commanders by a whopping 211 yards. It marked the second-straight game in which the Dirty Birds have won the total yardage by over 100 yards. They'll enter today's game with a **6-1 ATS** mark when coming off a home loss. That ties nicely into the Bucs' **1-8 ATS** record of late when coming off a SUATS loss. With Tampa **1-10 ATS** before a Thursday game and Atlanta **6-1 ATS** in the first of consecutive road games, there is only one way to look here.

CHICAGO over Las Vegas by 1

If things couldn't get worse in the Windy City, they just did. QB Justin Fields left last week's game with a dislocated thumb injury and was replaced by Tyson Bagent, an undrafted rookie from Division II Shepherd University. On the quarterback injury front, Raiders' signal caller Jimmy Garoppolo was hospitalized with a back injury during last week's contest against New England. On Bagent's first drive in the NFL, he was strip-sacked, and the Vikings returned the fumble 42 yards for a touchdown. It proved to be a costly play in the Vikings' 19-13 victory. With the quarterback situation up in the air in this fray, we'll look to fade Las Vegas' **0-9 ATS** ledger as a road favorite as the Bears improve to 8-2 ATS in this series. Grin and Bear it.

Cleveland over INDIANAPOLIS by 1

Thanks to an overwhelming effort from the league's top-ranked defense, the Browns are one of three teams in the AFC North with three wins. The Cleveland defense has allowed 1,002 yards total all season, which is the lowest number through five games in over 50 years. In fact, the Browns are surrendering 200.4 yards a week, more than 60 fewer than Baltimore's second-ranked defense. It is also the third fewest through five games in NFL history. On top of it all, the Browns have allowed only a 31.2% success rate through the first six weeks of the NFL season. The question today is, can the stop-unit carry an offense that has gone MIA after losing Deshaun Watson, as they are averaging 11 PPG on 250 YPG. They are also **0-5 ATS** in their last five games when coming off a win. Granted, the Colts aren't much, but they are **12-2 ATS** when coming off a double-digit SUATS loss. Coupled with a certain letdown in order for the Browns, look for this game to go right down to the wire.

Detroit over BALTIMORE by 1

The roar coming out of Motown these days is not for its legendary music but for the football Lions instead. One more win would make them 6-1 for the first time in the Super Bowl era (since 1966). Detroit is the only team in the NFC North with a winning record and appears to be running away with the division. For the first time since 1969, the Lions have won four straight games by 14 points or more. And don't tell anyone, but Detroit has tallied 20+ points in a franchise record 15 consecutive games, the NFL's longest active streak. As a result, they are tied for the best record in the NFC. Let's face it, on the opposite side of the coin, the Ravens' offense has been MIA most of the season with PK Justin Tucker responsible for 18 of Baltimore's 24 points in last week's win over Tennessee in London. If form over function matters in the NFL, then this game has a flowing mane to it given the Lions **10-0 ATS** mark in games when both squads are coming off SUATS wins, not to mention its **6-1 SU** and **7-0 ATS** dog log of late. With the up-and-down Black Birds just **2-8 ATS** as home chalk, we're forced to take it or leave it.

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.

3★ BEST BET

NEW ENGLAND over Buffalo by 1

We'll be the first to admit, but this requires large stones. That is, if you're willing to measure your testosterone levels. After scoring its first touchdown in 12 quarters last week, the Patriots are on a roll... downhill, that is. But head coach Bill Belichick has never been much of a downhill skier, and with that, we look for a change of direction today. His troops return home to Foxborough, where they are 0-3 SUATS this season, with the last loss a 34-0 goose egg. Needless to say, it was the worst home loss in The Hoodie's career. Do you want more ugliness? Then New England has it, as no team has fewer takeaways (3) this season. And no team has a higher percentage of drives (81.7%) that end without points. Meanwhile, after tallying more than 36 points in Games Two through Four, the Bills plateaued with 20-and-14-point scoring efforts the past two weeks. Was it a regression to the mean, or is the Bills offense spiraling downward? We'll see today. What we know for sure is Buffalo's rush defense is among the worst in the league, allowing 5.4 YPR (only Denver is worse at 5.6). That's a full 2.0 YR worse than the 3.4 yards per carry that the Pats allow. Aside from Buffy having a difficult time in Game Sevens, **1-7-1 ATS** the last eight years, the Patriots are **7-1 ATS** in the seventh games of the season, including 6-2 outright. It's time to pop some Nugenix Thermo-X capsules... and take the points while you're at it. And, of course, heed **THE CLINCHER: See this week's Trivia Teaser on page 2.**

NY GIANTS over Washington by 3

Oh boy, here we go again with yet another **MIDWEEK ALERT** double phony "inside-out" stat result from last week when the visiting Commanders toppled the Falcons in Atlanta even though being outgained 402-193 in total yards, while the G-Men fell to the Bills even though they won the yardage, 317-297. And don't look now, but 23-year-old QB Sam Howell ranks ninth in the NFL in passing (1,500 yards) with a rock-solid completion rate (67.8%), all of this behind a dilapidated Washington offensive line that has surrendered more sacks (34) than any other in the NFL. Meanwhile, the Giants can blame only themselves for settling on a pair of field goals deep in Buffalo territory. Brian Daboll can continue to turn beet-red in the face, and whine and cry over every mistake Big Blue makes, but the bottom line is it's on him to do a better job of getting his team conditioned to win close-call games. They were 9-4-1 in such games last season but only 1-1 this season. Adding heat to New York is the fact that ESPN Stats & Info summed up their start pretty well, noting the G-Men are the fourth team since 1950 that failed to score an offensive touchdown before halftime in each of their first six games. With the Giants 6-2-1 SU and 7-2 ATS in this series of late, and the Commanders 0-9 outright before facing Philadelphia, including **0-5-1 ATS** the last six games, we expect an about-face and a clear complexion from Daboll today.

SEATTLE over Arizona by 11

So, what's wrong with the Seahawks this season? The answer is simple: QB Geno Smith's mistakes are essentially on par with 2022's level. It's his touchdown production that's down by nearly half. It's why Seattle's last three losses have been by an average of 16.7 points per. Don't expect that to be the case today, though. It took a month, but it appears the Cardinals are who we thought they were. They are winless in the stats this season and have allowed three foes season-high yardage. They are also **1-10 SUATS** in their last eleven division duels. With Seattle **6-0 SU** and **5-0-1 ATS** in the last half-dozen games in this series, the reality of it all continues to lurk like a black cloud hanging over Arizona today.

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4★ BEST BET

LA RAMS over Pittsburgh by 13

Meet a team that's won three of its last four games, coming out of its bye week that is also about to get WR Diontae Johnson back on an offense that needs a spark in the worst of ways. The question for the Steelers is will it matter? Not according to the Well-Oiled Machine (see The Clinchers below for more). The fact of the matter is Pittsburgh is, hands down, a 'phony-baloney' sitting at 3-2 on the season despite having been outgained in all five contests. It's why they are losing the stats by an average of -122 net YPG. Along with Arizona, they and the Steelers are the only two teams in the league to own a goose egg 'In The Stats' this season. For the Rams, who gained a season-low 123 yards in the first half, and the second half when they scored 20 points, they will need to put a complete game together, with star WR Cooper Kupp back in the lineup, that will happen real soon. Knowing the buttheads are **9-0 SU and 8-1 ATS** when coming off a division home game and facing a .500 or greater foe certainly aids their case. So does the fact that head Steeler Mike Tomlin is 3-10 ATS away off a win with rest in his career versus non-division opponents. We wrap it up with **THE CLINCHER: .600 or greater NFL road dogs, coming off a Bye that won their previous game outright as an underdog, are 2-17 SU and 4-15 ATS - including 0-7 SUATS since 2000 if they are facing a sub .600 opponent.**

5★ BEST BET

LA Chargers over KANSAS CITY by 6

Talk about being snake-bit. Six Chargers' losses have been by three or fewer points since last season. Only the Broncos with more (7). But then again, looking back, the Chiefs have shown a propensity like no other to involve themselves in one-score games under Andy Reid. On his watch, Kansas City has been involved in a total of 111 such games in his 187-game career with the Chiefs. That equates to 59.4% of the time. Reid's troops have gone 27-71-2 ATS overall in those contests, or a staggering 27.5 % ATS, including 8-43 ATS at home. We're guessing the big cheeseburger enjoys intense games. And here's a stat to chew on: QB Patrick Mahomes has now started 100 NFL games and won 80 of them. Unfortunately, he is just 28-25 ATS at home with the Chiefs. When the Bolts hired Kellen Moore from Dallas to be their offensive coordinator after firing Joe Lombardi after last season, Moore was expected to elevate the Chargers' offense among the best in the league. So far, Moore has done that for the passing offense, but the Chargers' trouble running the ball has remained. Nonetheless, QB Justin Herbert enters 12-7 ATS in his NFL career in division games, including **5-0 ATS** as a dog of more than three points. With the Bolts 10-3 ATS as division road dogs and the Featherheads **1-6 ATS** after hosting a Thursday game, we seal the deal with **THE CLINCHER: Defending Super Bowl champions coming off a SUATS win are 8-18-2 ATS at home in division games the following season against foes coming off a SUATS loss, including 1-9 ATS when the champs sport a greater than .800 win percentage.**

Green Bay over DENVER by 6

The problems of the Broncos are many, for sure. It starts with QB Russell Wilson, who has been sacked 501 times in his NFL career. Only Aaron Rodgers has hit the carpet more times (531). Wilson's 39.8 QBR this season ranks 27th in the league, behind the likes of Desmond Ridder, Justin Fields, and Anthony Richardson. Good God. This from a man who is hauling down \$18 million this season, on a quarter-billion dollar deal he signed with Denver. The better news for the Broncos is they'll only leave Denver one time from now until December. Or maybe that's not good news considering they are 0-3 SUATS at home this season. Well rested Green Bay checks in at **7-1 ATS** when coming off a road dog loss, and **7-1 ATS** in games when both teams arrive off SUATS losses. Remember, NFL away teams coming off a Bye, that went 0-2 SUATS prior to the breather, are 27-13-1 ATS since 2000, including 8-1 ATS against foes coming off a double-digit loss. You know exactly what to do.

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PHILADELPHIA over Miami by 10

And then there were none. The Eagles and the 49ers each fell off their unbeaten perch last Sunday, each in games in which Frisco was held to a season-low 215 yards by the Browns' staunch top-ranked defense, and Philly actually outgained the Jets by over 100 yards. Putting these two teams on a scale, we find that Miami's offense averages better than 100 yards more than the second-ranked Eagles. However, the Green Birds' defense is 56 YPG superior to the Fish, and that's where games like this are generally won. After falling into a 14-0 hole, the Dolphins scored 6 TDs on 12 possessions and cruised past Carolina last week, setting the table in this battle of one-loss squads. From the Well-Oiled Machine: Since 2004, 5-0 teams who lost their initial season games in the previous contest are 6-2 SUATS at home in bounce-back efforts, including **4-0 SUATS** in the last four. With the Eagles 16-8 SU and 17-7 ATS against the AFC East, including **6-1 ATS** versus greater than .750 opponents, and the Dolphins **1-5 SUATS** in games coming off a pair of 14-plus point wins, it's back to business for Philly tonight.

Monday, October 23

San Francisco over MINNESOTA by 3

Through the first five games of the season, San Francisco looked unshakable. And then along came a trip to "The Land," following a three-game homestand. The well-rested Browns and the top-ranked defense did the rest, and suddenly the 49ers were human again. So, what can we expect from the formerly undefeated Niners now that they've finally tasted defeat? This much we know for sure: 5-0 NFL teams who fall in Game Six are just **2-5 SU and 1-6 ATS** away the following game. The ugliness of that situation means that the 1972 Dolphins can exhale for another year. However, the key to tonight's contest are the potential losses of star RB Christian McCaffery with a rib injury and all-everything bagel Deebo Samuel with a shoulder injury. On the other side of the field, Minnesota relied on a stingy defense to get past Chicago and improve to 2-5 on the season. The Vikes are also 4-1 ATS on Mondays against foes coming off a SUATS loss as a favorite. Let's face it, the only reason Frisco fell short in Cleveland was a missed 41-yard field goal attempt by rookie PK Jake Moody on the final play of the game. To that, we say, "Where is Robbie Gould when you need him?" Check the status of injuries to both teams before stepping up to the window tonight ... but be in no hurry to come to the aid of the Niners.

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Now in its 35th year, the WISE GUYS CONTEST is a Winners-take-all handicapping event sponsored by PLAYBOOK.com. All plays are graded against the lines posted after 4:00 PM Mondays via the WISE GUYS CONTEST Report. Each week below we'll post Single Plays from the Top 20. Following the Single play is their overall Win-Loss record / Double Play record / Total Points earned to date. * Indicates Triple Play Won or Lost.

CR Plays playbooksports.com	CARDINALS +8'	7-5 / 3-3 / 10 pts	Mike Muzyka mjmsportsline@aol	C'MANDERS -2'	7-5 / 4-2 / 11 pts
Dionne D'Amico dfasano10@gmail	PACKERS -1'	7-5 / 5-1 / 12 pts	Prime Sports Network gdpsports1@gmail	Penn St +4'	7-5 / 3-3* / 10 pts
Don Buster busterpeabody@hotmail	STEELERS +3'	7-5 / 5-1 / 12 pts	Richard Witt rihwi@aol	BILLS -9'	7-5 / 4-2 / 11 pts
Dr Alan Caprec88@aol	BUF UND 42'	10-2 / 6-0 / 16 pts	Robert Ferringo robert@docsports.com	SAINTS -1'	7-5 / 6-0 / 13 pts
Dr Plays arstopa@hotmail	BUF UND 42'	6-6 / 4-2 / 10 pts	Ross Benjamin rossbenjaminsports.com	Minnesota +5'	9-3 / 5-1 / 14 pts
E-R Picks stopa12@yahoo	Old Dominion +6'	8-4 / 5-1 / 13 pts	Scott Rickenbach rickenbachcpa@gmail	CHARGERS +6'	8-4 / 5-1 / 13 pts
Jeff Michaels jmsports@gmx.com	RAMS -3'	7-5 / 3-3 / 10 pts	Scott Wetzel swoppositeticks@yahoo	Duke +14'	8-4 / 5-1 / 13 pts
Joe Nelson NellySports.com	VIKINGS +7'	6-6 / 4-2 / 10 pts	Special K Sports specialksports@aol	Utah St +5'	8-4 / *3-3 / 12 pts
Marc Lawrence PlaybookSports.com	Minnesota +5'	8-4 / 3-3 / 11 pts	TD Tony tdtony@hotmail	Arizona St +28'	8-4 / 3-3 / 11 pts
Marco D'Angelo marco@wagertalk.com	RAVENS -3'	5-7 / 5-1 / 10 pts	Victor King vic@playbooksports.com	LAC-KC UND 50.5	7-5 / 4-2 / 11 pts

To view the entire Wise Guys standings, including Triple, Double and Single plays, visit www.PLAYBOOK.com and cash in this weekend for only \$15!

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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 \$89.00. Sent via email on Tuesdays. Call the PLAYBOOK offices to get on the 2023 "Totals Train"! ***This week's GAME 7 Playbook O/U TREND play: Commanders @ Giants 'UNDER' the TOTAL'**

2023 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE – WEEK SEVEN

GAME MATCHUPS	KEY OVER/UNDER STATS
Jacksonville (Open: 42.5) NEW ORLEANS	8-1 OU bef Pit... 4-1 OU aft div HG... but 0-5 OU L5 vs NFC South... 0-4 OU on Thursdays... 1-4 OU Game 7 4-0 OU Game 7... 6-3 OU aft non-conf RG... but 1-11 OU on Thursdays... 1-5 OU L6 non-conf HG... 2-6 OU bef Colts
Atlanta (41) TAMPA BAY	8-2 OU L10 vs TB (56.8)... 4-1 OU in 1st of BB RG... but 0-3 OU away vs div LY... 1-4 OU Game 7... 1-3 OU aft Wash 8-4 OU L12 div HG... 6-3 OU bef Thur gm... but 1-5 OU bef non-conf RG... 1-4 OU Game 6... 1-4 OU in 2nd of BB HG
Las Vegas (46.5) CHICAGO	5-1 OU bef Mon gm... 5-2 OU L7 vs NFC North... but 1-7 OU in 1st of BB RG... 1-3 OU Game 7... 3-7 OU aft NEng 4-0 OU L4 non-conf HG... 4-1 OU aft Min... 3-1 OU aft div HG... but 1-8 OU Game 7... 2-5 OU in 2nd of BB HG
Cleveland (42.5) INDIANAPOLIS	2-0 OU L2 vs Ind (57.0)... 7-1 OU Game 6... but 0-5 OU aft non-conf HG... 0-3 OU bef Sea... 1-4 OU in 1st of BB RG 4-0 OU bef NOR... 7-2 OU L9 vs AFC North... but 0-5 OU aft div RG... 2-7 OU aft Jack... 2-4 OU Game 7
Detroit (45) BALTIMORE	10-3 OU aft TB... 3-1 OU bef Monday gm... 3-1 OU Game 7... but 0-5 OU L5 vs AFC North... 1-5 OU L6 non-conf RG 0-3 OU aft Ten... 1-5 OU non-div HF's 4 < pts... 2-7 OU bef non-conf RG... 3-8 OU L11 non-conf HG... 3-7 OU Game 7
Buffalo (43.5) NEW ENGLAND	3-1 OU aft non-conf HG... 4-2-1 OU L7 vs NE (43.3)... but 0-5 OU aft NYG... 0-4 OU L4 div RG... 0-3 OU Game 7 4-1 OU bef div RG... 10-3 OU aft LV... 4-1 OU Game 7... but 1-4 OU in 1st of BB div gms... 3-9 OU bef Mia
Washington (42.5) NY GIANTS	0-5 OU L5 as div RF's... 1-4 OU Game 7... 1-4-1 OU L6 vs NYG (40.3)... 2-6 OU bef div HG... 2-5 OU bef Phil 0-7 OU Game 7... 1-8 OU aft non-conf RG... 1-7 OU home off BB RG... 2-8 OU I10 div HG... 1-3 OU bef Jets
Arizona (46.5) SEATTLE	3-0 OU 2nd of BB RG... 6-1 OU bef non-conf HG... but 0-4 OU L4 away vs Sea (38.3)... 1-5 OU aft Rams... 3-6 OU Game 7 4-1 OU as favs 5 > pts... but 0-5 OU bef non-conf HG... 1-8 OU L9 div HG... 2-6 OU aft Cin... 2-4 OU Game 7
Pittsburgh (42.5) LA RAMS	3-0 OU aft Balt... 3-1 OU L4 non-conf RG... but 0-10 OU Game 6... 1-6 OU off dog win... 2-5 OU aft Bye... 3-7 OU aft div HG 6-0 OU in 3rd straight HG... but 0-5 OU vs opp off Bye... 0-3 OU L3 vs Pit (24.7)... 1-8 OU Game 7... 1-7 OU L8 non-conf HG
La Chargers (52) KANSAS CITY	11-0 OU vs opp allowed < 10 pts last gm... 4-1 OU aft Mon gm... but 0-4 OU 1ST meeting vs KC... 0-7 OU vs opp off Thur gm 6-1 OU aft allow < 10 pts... 92 OU in 2nd of 3 straight div gms... 4-1 OU aft Den... but 2-9 OU L11 HG... 1-4 OU off Thur HG
Green Bay (45.5) DENVER	14-3 OU vs opp scored < 10 last gm... but 0-6 OU bef Min... 0-4 OU Game 6... 1-5 OU L6 non-conf RG... 1-4 OU aft Bye 6-0 OU aft KC... 5-0 OU L5 vs NFC North... but 0-7 OU aft Thur gm... 0-5 OU L5 as non-conf HD's... 1-3 OU Game 7
Miami (52.5) PHILADELPHIA	4-0 OU off BB DD wins... 9-2 OU L11 road gms (56.4)... 8-3 OU bef NEng... 8-3 OU w/ OU line 49.0 > pts 6-0 OU L6 non-conf HG... 6-0 OU aft non-conf RG... 4-1 OU L5 vs .666 > opp... 7-2 OU as HF's < 4 pts... 5-2 OU bef Wash
San Francico (47) MINNESOTA	6-1 OU conf RF's > 4 pts... 5-1 OU L6 vs NFC North... 3-1 OU Mondays... 3-1 OU Game 7... but 1-5 OU in 2nd of BB RG 6-1 OU aft div RG... 4-1 OU aft Chi... 4-1 OU bef GB... but 0-4 OU Mondays... 1-4 OU as non-div HD's... 1-3 OU L4 vs SF (40.0)
Carolina	Bye Week
Cincinnati	Bye Week
Dallas	Bye Week
Houston	Bye Week
NY Jets	Bye Week
Tennessee	Bye Week

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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					
54	Air Force	Mountain West	101.5	4.5	NCAA										51	Rutgers	Big Ten	102	4
125	Akron	Mid-American	83	2											126	Sam Houston St	Conference USA	82.5	3.5
9	Alabama	Southeastern	121	6	69	James Madison	Sun Belt	99.5	2.5	105	San Diego St	Mountain West	90	4.5					
78	Appalachian St	Sun Belt	96	4	24	Kansas	Big 12	110	3.5	88	San Jose St	Mountain West	94.5	3					
37	Arizona	Pac-12	106	4.5	18	Kansas St	Big 12	113.5	5	46	SMU	American Athletic	103	4					
84	Arizona St	Pac-12	95	4	132	Kent St	Mid-American	79.5	4.5	63	South Alabama	Sun Belt	100.5	2.5					
28	Arkansas	Southeastern	108.5	4.5	31	Kentucky	Southeastern	108	4	36	South Carolina	Southeastern	106.5	5					
122	Arkansas St	Sun Belt	84	3.5	77	Liberty	Conference USA	96.5	4	114	Southern Miss	Sun Belt	86.5	4					
83	Army	Independent	95.5	3.5	105	Louisiana Tech	Conference USA	90	3	94	Stanford	Pac-12	93	4.5					
28	Auburn	Southeastern	108.5	5	33	Louisville	Atlantic Coast	107.5	4.5	41	Syracuse	Atlantic Coast	105	4.5					
118	Ball St	Mid-American	85.5	2.5	8	LSU	Southeastern	121.5	5.5	23	TCU	Big 12	110.5	5					
42	Baylor	Big 12	104.5	4.5	88	Marshall	Sun Belt	94.5	4	114	Temple	American Athletic	86.5	2.5					
59	Boise St	Mountain West	101	5	27	Maryland	Big Ten	109	4.5	15	Tennessee	Southeastern	115.5	5.5					
74	Boston College	Atlantic Coast	97	4.5	47	Memphis	American Athletic	102.5	3	5	Texas	Big 12	122	5					
122	Bowling Green	Mid-American	84	2	20	Miami (FL)	Atlantic Coast	112	4	14	Texas A&M	Southeastern	118.5	6					
120	Buffalo	Mid-American	85	3	78	Miami (OH)	Mid-American	96	2.5	91	Texas St	Sun Belt	94	3					
54	BYU	Big 12	101.5	5	3	Michigan	Big Ten	123.5	5	42	Texas Tech	Big 12	104.5	5					
47	California	Pac-12	102.5	4	51	Michigan St	Big Ten	102	5	54	Toledo	Mid-American	101.5	3.5					
99	C Michigan	Mid-American	91.5	2.5	109	Middle Tenn	Conference USA	89	3	47	Troy	Sun Belt	102.5	4					
124	Charlotte	American Athletic	83.5	2.5	63	Minnesota	Big Ten	100.5	4.5	37	Tulane	American Athletic	106	2.5					
63	Cincinnati	American Athletic	100.5	5	15	Mississippi	Southeastern	115.5	4.5	101	Tulsa	American Athletic	91	4					
17	Clemson	Atlantic Coast	115	5.5	45	Mississippi St	Southeastern	103.5	5	101	UAB	American Athletic	91	4					
72	Coastal Carolina	Sun Belt	97.5	3.5	28	Missouri	Southeastern	108.5	4.5	31	UCF	Big 12	108	4					
47	Colorado	Pac-12	102.5	4.5	109	Navy	American Athletic	89	4	21	UCLA	Pac-12	111	3.5					
101	Colorado St	Mountain West	91	4.5	63	NC State	Atlantic Coast	100.5	4.5	74	UL-Lafayette	Sun Belt	97	3.5					
118	Connecticut	Independent	85.5	3	59	Nebraska	Big Ten	101	5	130	UL-Monroe	Sun Belt	80.5	2.5					
35	Duke	Atlantic Coast	107	3.5	131	Nevada	Mountain West	80.5	4.5	131	UMass	Independent	81.5	2.5					
105	East Carolina	American Athletic	90	4	128	New Mexico	Mountain West	82	2	99	UNLV	Mountain West	91.5	2					
116	E Michigan	Mid-American	86	2	113	New Mexico St	Conference USA	87	2	5	USC	Pac-12	122	4					
37	Florida	Southeastern	106	5	19	North Carolina	Atlantic Coast	113	4.5	101	USF	American Athletic	91	3					
84	Florida Atlantic	American Athletic	95	3	108	North Texas	American Athletic	89.5	3	24	Utah	Pac-12	110	4.5					
128	Florida Int'l	Conference USA	82	2.5	97	No Illinois	Mid-American	92.5	4	88	Utah St	Mountain West	94.5	4					
10	Florida St	Atlantic Coast	120.5	5	97	Northwestern	Big Ten	92.5	3.5	120	UTEP	Conference USA	85	3					
74	Fresno St	Mountain West	97	4.5	11	Notre Dame	Atlantic Coast	119.5	5	54	UTSA	American Athletic	101.5	3					
2	Georgia	Southeastern	124	6	1	Ohio State	Big Ten	125.5	6	78	Vanderbilt	Southeastern	96	4					
84	Geo Southern	Sun Belt	95	2.5	71	Ohio U	Mid-American	98.5	3.5	94	Virginia	Atlantic Coast	93	4.5					
84	Georgia St	Sun Belt	95	2	11	Oklahoma	Big 12	119.5	5	70	Virginia Tech	Atlantic Coast	99	5					
78	Georgia Tech	Atlantic Coast	96	4.5	51	Oklahoma St	Big 12	102	5	63	Wake Forest	Atlantic Coast	100.5	4.5					
126	Hawaii	Mountain West	82.5	5.5	109	Old Dominion	Sun Belt	89	2.5	13	Washington	Pac-12	119	4.5					
72	Houston	Big 12	97.5	4.5	5	Oregon	Pac-12	122	5	33	Washington St	Pac-12	107.5	4.5					
59	Illinois	Big Ten	101	4.5	21	Oregon St	Pac-12	111	5	44	West Virginia	Big 12	104	5					
92	Indiana	Big Ten	93.5	4.5	4	Penn St	Big Ten	123	5	78	W Kentucky	Conference USA	96	4.5					
40	Iowa	Big Ten	105.5	5	63	Pittsburgh	Atlantic Coast	100.5	4.5	116	W Michigan	Mid-American	86	3.5					
59	Iowa St	Big 12	101	5	54	Purdue	Big Ten	101.5	4.5	26	Wisconsin	Big Ten	109.5	5.5					
109	Jacksonville St	Conference USA	89	4.5	94	Rice	American Athletic	93	2.5	92	Wyoming	Mountain West	93.5	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					
32	Arizona Cardinals	NFC West	92	2.5	NFL										12	Minnesota Vikings	NFC North	99.5	3
13	Atlanta Falcons	NFC South	99	2.5											29	New England Pats	AFC East	95	3
7	Baltimore Ravens	AFC North	104.5	3	17	Houston Texans	AFC South	98	2.5	17	New Orleans Saints	NFC South	98	3					
1	Buffalo Bills	AFC East	108.5	3.5	17	Indianapolis Colts	AFC South	98	3	31	N.Y. Giants	NFC East	94	3					
26	Carolina Panthers	NFC South	96	2.5	11	Jacksonville Jaguars	AFC South	100.5	2.5	23	N.Y. Jets	AFC East	97.5	2					
29	Chicago Bears	NFC North	95	2.5	1	Kansas City Chiefs	AFC West	108.5	3.5	5	Philadelphia Eagles	NFC East	105.5	3					
15	Cincinnati Bengals	AFC North	98.5	3	26	Las Vegas Raiders	AFC West	96	2.5	23	Pittsburgh Steelers	AFC North	97.5	3					
15	Cleveland Browns	AFC North	98.5	2.5	9	L.A. Chargers	AFC West	103	2	1	San Francisco 49ers	NFC West	108.5	3					
5	Dallas Cowboys	NFC East	105.5	3	26	L.A. Rams	NFC West	96	2.5	10	Seattle Seahawks	NFC West	102.5	3.5					
17	Denver Broncos	AFC West	98	3	4	Miami Dolphins	AFC East	106.5	2.5	17	Tampa Bay Bucs	NFC South	98	2.5					
8	Detroit Lions	NFC North	104	3	Subscribe to the Playbook Football Newsletter Today!										13	Tennessee Titans	AFC South	99	2.5
17	Green Bay Packers	NFC North	98	3											25	Wash Commanders	NFC East	97	2.5

THIS WEEK'S BEST BETS

A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT STAR-RATED BEST BET SELECTIONS

FOR WEEK ENDING MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023		3★ BEST BET	4★ BEST BET	5★ BEST BET
	COLLEGE	ARMY	USC	CLEMSON
	NFL	PATRIOTS	RAMS	CHARGERS
	UPSET GAME	MARSHALL	SUBSCRIBE TO PLAYBOOK TODAY 800.752.9266	

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2023 COLLEGE & PRO FOOTBALL - OCTOBER 17-23

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, OCTOBER 17															
				333	BAYLOR 12:00 PM			371	TEXAS TECH 7:00 PM	4	10	409	S CAROLINA 3:30 PM		
				334	CINCINNATI B12	2	8	372	BYU FS1			410	MISSOURI SEC	6'	1
301	MIDDLE TENN 7:00 PM			335	S FLORIDA 3:30 PM	3'		373	HAWAII 6:00 PM			411	NORTH TEXAS 3:30 PM		
302	LIBERTY CBSSN	13'	17	336	UCONN CBSSN		1	374	NEW MEXICO	2	3	412	TULANE ESPN2	20	25
303	W KENTUCKY 7:30 PM	7	3	337	MICHIGAN 7:30 PM	24	19	375	COLORADO ST 7:00 PM			413	ARMY★ 7:30 PM		
304	JAX STATE ESPNU			338	MICHIGAN ST NBC			376	UNLV	7	13	414	LSU SEC	30	17
305	SOUTHERN MISS 7:30 PM			339	OKLAHOMA ST 3:30 PM			377	NEVADA 9:00 PM			SUBSCRIBE TO PLAYBOOK TODAY: 800.752.9266			
306	S ALABAMA ESPN2	17	20	340	W VIRGINIA ESPN	3	5	378	SAN DIEGO ST FS2	13'	10	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22			
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18															
				341	DUKE 7:30 PM			379	UCLA 10:30 PM	16'	11				
				342	FLORIDA ST ABC	13'	6	380	STANFORD ESPN						
307	FLORIDA INT'L 7:00 PM			343	RUTGERS 12:00 PM	5	8	381	UTAH 8:00 PM			451	ATLANTA 1:00 PM		3
308	SAM HOUST CBSSN	5	7	344	INDIANA BTN			382	USC★ FOX	5'	14	452	TAMPA BAY FOX	2'	
309	NEW MEXICO ST 9:00 PM	2'	10	345	CHARLOTTE 2:00 PM			383	ARIZONA ST 10:30 PM			453	LAS VEGAS 1:00 PM	3	
310	UTEP ESPN2			346	E CAROLINA ESPN+	7'	4	384	WASHINGTON FS1	28	19	454	CHICAGO FOX		1
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19															
				347	UTSA 6:00 PM	3	1	385	WASHINGTON ST 3:30 PM			455	CLEVELAND 1:00 PM	1'	1
				348	FLA ATLANTIC			386	OREGON ABC	20	16	456	INDIANAPOLIS CBS		
311	JACKSONVILLE 8:15 PM PRIME			349	AIR FORCE 12:00 PM	10	6	387	UTAH ST CBSSN		1	457	DETROIT 1:00 PM		1
312	NEW ORLEANS	Pk	6	350	NAVY CBS			388	SAN JOSE ST	5		458	BALTIMORE FOX	2'	
313	JAMES MADISON 7:00 PM	3'		351	UL MONROE ESPN+			389	UCF			459	BUFFALO CBS	9'	
314	MARSHALL★ ESPN		8	352	GA SOUTHERN	16'	21	390	OKLAHOMA ABC	18'	24	460	NEW ENGLAND★		1
315	RICE 7:00 PM			353	APP STATE NFL	6'	10	391	COASTAL CARO 7:00 PM	9	11	461	WASHINGTON 1:00 PM	2'	
316	TULSA ESPN2	3	8	354	OLD DOMINION			392	ARKANSAS ST			462	NY GIANTS CBS		3
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20															
				355	C MICHIGAN 3:30 PM	3'	6	393	TEXAS 4:00 PM	22'	17	463	ARIZONA 4:05 PM		
				356	BALL ST ESPN+			394	HOUSTON FOX			464	SEATTLE FOX	8	11
321	SMU 7:00 PM	17'	23	357	AKRON ESPN+			395	MISSISSIPPI ST 12:00 PM			465	PITTSBURGH 4:05 PM		
322	TEMPLE ESPN2			358	BOWLING GREEN	8'	4	396	ARKANSAS ESPN	7	13	466	LA RAMS★ FOX	3'	13
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21															
				359	BUFFALO 3:30 PM	7	11	397	TCU 7:00 PM		1	467	LA CHARGERS★		6
				360	KENT ST ESPN+			398	KANSAS ST ESPN2	7'		468	KANSAS CITY CBS	5'	
323	PITTSBURGH 3:30 PM			361	TOLEDO ESPNU	1		399	TENNESSEE 3:30 PM			469	GREEN BAY 4:25 PM	1	6
324	WAKE FOREST ACC	2	6	362	MIAMI OHIO		5	400	ALABAMA CBS	9	14	470	DENVER CBS		
325	PENN STATE 12:00 PM			363	W MICHIGAN 12:00 PM			401	MEMPHIS 12:00 PM	4'	1	471	MIAMI NBC		
326	OHIO STATE FOX	4'	1	364	OHIO CBSSN	15'	20	402	UAB ESPN2			472	PHILADELPHIA	2'	10
327	CLEMSON★ 8:00 PM	2'	13	365	WISCONSIN 3:30 PM	4	10	403	OLE MISS 7:00 PM	6		MONDAY, OCTOBER 23			
328	MIAMI FLA ACC			366	ILLINOIS FS1			404	AUBURN ESPN		3				
329	VIRGINIA 6:30 PM			367	E MICHIGAN 3:30 PM			405	GEORGIA ST ESPNU		3	473	SAN FRANCISCO 8:15 PM	7	3
330	N CAROLINA CW	23'	20	368	NO ILLINOIS ESPN+	11'	15	406	UL LAFAYETTE	2'		474	MINNESOTA ESPN		
331	BOSTON COLLEGE 12:00 PM		3	369	MINNESOTA 3:30 PM		3	407	NORTHWESTERN 3:30 PM			NFL BYES THIS WEEK: CAROLINA, CINCINNATI, DALLAS, HOUSTON, NY JETS, TENNESSEE			
332	GA TECH ACC	5		370	IOWA NBC	5'		408	NEBRASKA BTN	13	17				