

Gridiron Gold Sheet Football Newsletter

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

OHIO ST. -28 Over Western Michigan By 19

Last week, No Illinois gave the Buckeyes all they could handle and they escaped with a narrow 20-13 win. The Buckeyes have been shaky the last two weeks and QB Cardale Jones has 4 TO's in three games.. The Buckeyes haven't beaten huge spreads in consecutive weeks against No Illinois and Hawaii and they opened at -28.5.

The Broncos have an undersized defensive front seven, and that plays right into the hands of a team that would rather pound the rock more than pass. The size advantage of the offensive line for the Buckeyes is massive. The WMU Huskies are allowing 224 rushing yards per game, and now they face the Buckeyes looking to blow someone away. Even though Buckeye star running back E. Elliott hasn't been dominating in terms of yards per carry of late, he still has three 100+ yard rushing games to show for his work in his junior season.

We don't expect a QB change by Urban Meyer. JT Barrett has performed much better in the past two weeks than Cardale Jones. If so it makes the running game weaker. Even if Barrett doesn't start, we expect him to play later in the game and he and Elliot can run wild. The Buckeye offensive line will dominate an undersized WMU front seven, and Elliot may notch a 200 yard game. If our prediction is right, the clock will be ticking fast.

Only concern is WMU will be flinging it all over the yard and must be concerned with TO,s resulting in multiple scores.

Ohio State has yet to blow anyone away and until then we'll take the huge pointspread.

Projected Score: Ohio State 29, Western Michigan 10 WINNE!

AUBURN -2.5 Over Mississippi St. By 12

Miss St. QB Dak Prescott had a great team around him last season, and he had a season which was Heisman Trophy like. This year, all of his skill position players around him are gone, which leaves him with an incredibly inexperienced team. Prescott is averaging 0.8 yards per pass attempt less than he did last season, and he only has five passing touchdowns and two on the ground after accounting for 41 total touchdowns last year. He also isn't running the ball as much as he has the last two seasons because his offensive line isn't giving him the holes to do so.

Auburn Tiger QB Jeremy Johnson has to flat out stop turning the ball over. Six picks in three games is awful, and it feels like he is digressing every time he steps on the field. Gus Malzahn wants to run one of the fastest offenses in America, but over the course of the last couple weeks, this unit has just looked flat and out of sync. Once again, we're looking for a QB change to backup Sean White, who has the skills to pick up a dormant offense. Whoever starts, the Tiger QB should have success against an overrated Bulldog defense based on their stats of giving up only 16.7 points per game.

The Auburn Tigers are on the longest ATS losing streak in the country at eight in a row. If Auburn's offense is clicking on all cylinders; **the tigers break their losing streak SU and ATS.**

Projected Score: Auburn 32, Miss St. 20 LOSER!

COLLEGE FOOTBALL LEANERS

309 BYU

12:00 PM EDT

310 MICHIGAN -5.5

Paul Perkins ran through the UCLA defense for 219 yards in BYU's last game, but the Cougars still lost a 24-23 decision at Rose Bowl. UNLV didn't make much of a game of it last time out, losing to the Wolverines as Michigan blasted them 28-7 in Week 3 action.

Projected Score: Michigan 26, BYU 21

315 CENTRAL MICHIGAN

12:00 PM EDT

316 MICHIGAN STATE -27

Michigan State will be shooting for their seventh straight SU win when they host the Central Michigan Chippewas at Spartan Stadium on Saturday afternoon and it should be an easy 28th SU but too much to cover.

Projected Score: Michigan St. 42, CMU 17

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

CAROLINA - 3 Over New Orleans by 13

Drew Brees injured his rotator cuff in a disappointing loss to the Buccaneers and he's likely to miss some time as a result. Obviously, anytime a team loses their starting quarterback, that's a major blow, but few teams rely on their QB as much as New Orleans, so this is exceptionally troubling for the gold and black. In addition to Brees, Dannelle Ellerbe is questionable for the game as are Jerricho Cotchery, Luke Kuechly and Star Lotulelei for the Panthers. The line opened at Panthers -3 and all the wiseguys banged it hard. Hence, it was taken off the board quickly and pending further news out of Nawlins.

Cam Newton provides a threat on the ground. The Panthers rank seventh in the league with 138.5 yards per game through their first 2 games. Newton and Jonathan Stewart have combined for 229 yards. The team also has Mike Tolbert to offers a bit of variety in rushing style. He's only gotten 6 attempts, but is averaging 7.2 ypc.

On the other side of the gridiron, the Saints are near the bottom of the league in rush defense, allowing 259 rushing yards and a pair of rushing touchdowns in their first two games. The absence of Brees is huge. The rushing attack behind Mark Ingram and Khiry Robinson is marginal at best and while C.J. Spiller is a dynamic player with the ability to be a game changer, he hasn't really been a factor. Brees is the one that keeps this offense going. The veteran quarterback has top receiver Brandin Cooks and veteran Marques Colston, but otherwise lacks many top end targets. He's still able to make the passing game work, but backup quarterback Luke McCown is not nearly as skilled, leaving it likely that the struggling offense gets even worse rather than better. Tampa Bay looked like the worst team in the league in Week 1, but came into Week 2 and got the win over the Saints. And that was with Brees under center. The New Orleans defense couldn't stop the Bucs and will continue to let teams score and now we presume the offense has lost their best weapon.

Whether or not Brees plays is an important factor, but even with him, the team has yet to win a game in either the regular season or preseason this year and has—including the preseason—dropped eight straight games ATS. Over their last six September games, the Saints are 1-5 ATS and are 0-4 ATS in their last four against the NFC South. The Panthers, on the other hand, have gotten off to a solid start this year and are now 18-7-1 ATS in their last 26 games against teams with a losing record. They're also 12-5-1 ATS in their last 18 home games. **The Panthers ground game should be enough to lead the Panthers to the easy win and take them to 3-0 SU and ATS.**

Projected Score: Carolina 26, New Orleans 13 WINNER!

PRO FOOTBALL LEANER

461 PITTSBURGH STEELERS - 1

1:00 PM EDT

462 ST. LOUIS RAMS - 47

In last week's game, St. Louis fell to Washington 24-10. Jared Cook had a quality performance in the loss, grabbing five receptions for 47 yards. Pittsburgh is looking to repeat last week when it easily got past San Francisco 43-18. Antonio Brown had a great game for the Steelers, pulling in nine receptions for 195 yards. Ben Roethlisberger also had a great game with 369 yards and three TDs through the air. Rams a tough nut to crack at home. This will be close.

Projected Score: Pittsburgh 24, St Louis 20

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