

Gridiron Gold Sheet Football Newsletter

Dennis Stagliano's Gridiron Gold Sheet
An Award Winning Football Newsletter Since 1981



For the first time ever a sports service went the entire season without a single losing week. Ron Sataloff, President Sports Features Syndicate

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UNC blows out Hurricanes, rushes for 550+ yards

CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK
GUARANTEED PICK PACK
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CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

FEATURED FOOTBALL PICKS

Guaranteed picks from our expert handicappers.

Friday Night

Marshall vs. UAB (CUSA Championship Game) | 7 p.m. | CBSSN

Washington at USC (Pac-12 Championship Game) | 8 p.m. | FOX

Saturday

Ohio State vs. Northwestern (Big Ten Championship Game in Indianapolis, Indiana) | 12 p.m. | FOX

Iowa State vs. Oklahoma (Big 12 Championship Game in Arlington, Texas) | 12 p.m. | ABC

Louisiana at Coastal Carolina (Sun Belt Championship Game) | 3:30 p.m. | ESPN

Notre Dame vs. Clemson (ACC Championship Game in Charlotte, North Carolina) | 4 p.m. | ABC

San Jose State vs. Boise State (Mountain West Championship Game) | 4:15 p.m. | FOX

Alabama vs. Florida (SEC Championship Game in Atlanta, Georgia) | 8 p.m. | CBS

Tulsa at Cincinnati (AAC Championship Game) | 8 p.m. | ABC

[Above games will be available in our guaranteed pick packs and as single game guaranteed picks.](#)

GET PICKS

Recap

Week 15 of the college football season provided a lot of twists and turns. What did we learn from the latest slate of games?

The final regular season week of the 2020 season will be remembered simply as “the shoe” for Gator fans. Florida’s surprising 37-34 loss to LSU on Saturday ended any shot the Gators may have had to sneak their way into the College Football Playoff.

While that may have been the biggest headline of the week in terms of national importance, there were other exciting games with big story lines coming out of Saturday.

We saw two North Carolina running backs do what no other duo has done in college football history. Then, there was the Coastal Carolina fighting off a scare from Troy. Also, the Heisman conversation should look a lot different after Saturday’s slate of games.

Don't you think that DeVonta Smith should be a Heisman front-runner?

We learned on Saturday that DeVonta Smith should be the leading vote-getter for the Heisman Trophy this season. He finished Saturday’s game against Arkansas with six catches for 133 yards and a touchdown but it was Smith’s dazzling 84-yard punt return that stole the show for the Crimson Tide.

Before his punt return, the Alabama offense only scored three points on their first two possessions. After his return, the Tide would go on to score touchdowns on their next six drives. That punt return not only showed Smith’s versatility as a playmaker, but it also exemplified his ability to ignite the Alabama offense.

Whenever Smith touches the ball, he can take it to the house. His performance on Saturday coupled with him leading the Power Five in receiving yards and touchdowns should make him the favorite to win the Heisman.

This opinion of course, was helped by the fact that Florida blew an opportunity to play in the College Football Playoff.

The Florida Gators are likely out of the College Football Playoff discussion.

Florida entered Saturday’s home game against LSU as the overwhelming favorite. The Gators left the game wishing they hadn’t played it at all.

During the press conference after his team 37-34 loss, Dan Mullen suggested that it would have been better for his team not to have played so many games this year, because he feels other teams are being rewarded for not playing 10-11. He may have a point, however no one wants to hear that, after his team lost to an LSU team in turmoil that were barely able to field 50 scholarship players on Saturday.

What makes this loss even more agonizing for Mullen is that his defense forced a fourth down late in the fourth quarter, and were in position to get the ball back with enough time to score, but cornerback Marco Wilson decided to throw a LSU player’s shoe across the field, leading to a personal foul penalty. That penalty helped set LSU up for a game-winning field goal.

Even if Florida is able to win the SEC championship, their hopes of a playoff appearance are likely over after Saturday.

North Carolina has the best running back duo in the country.

We learned on Saturday that North Carolina has the best duo at running back in the country. The Tar Heels made everything look easy at Miami on Saturday during their 62-26 victory. But it was Javonte Williams and Michael Carter who made the Canes’ defense look absolutely silly on Saturday.

Williams rushed for 236 yards on 23 carries and three touchdowns while Carter added 308 yards on 24 carries and two touchdowns. Their combined total of 544 rushing yards is the most in NCAA history by two backs on the same team. What made their performance even more impressive was the way they ran right through Miami defenders and then past them. It was truly the best performance by two teammates in college football history.

Don't you think Coastal Carolina deserves a NY6 bowl if they win Saturday?

We learned on Saturday that Coastal Carolina could be in play for a New Year’s Six bowl bid. Yes, I know that Cincinnati is ranked higher than Coastal and only the highest ranked Group of Five team will make the New Year’s Six but in my mind, Coastal Carolina should be in discussion for that opportunity as well.

With their narrow 42-38 victory against Troy on the road Saturday, Coastal Carolina finished the season a perfect 11-0.

The Sun Belt title game will be played this week against Louisiana, in a rematch from earlier this season. If Coastal is able to beat the 17th ranked Ragin' Cajuns again look for them to sneak into a New Year's Six bowl.

Their resume is too strong to over look at this point with wins over BYU, Louisiana and Big 12 foe Kansas. If not, I expect Coastal to play in the Myrtle Beach Bowl at home to end their historic 2020 season.

Jimbo Fisher has a big smile down in College Station.

Texas A&M may very well be in the CFP. Now, anything can happen in college football so I preface my statement with that. But, the likely scenario to conference championship week will be Ohio State winning the Big Ten title, Alabama winning the SEC and Notre Dame defeating Clemson for the ACC title.

In that scenario I can see Texas A&M getting into the playoff.

However, Clemson could easily defeat Notre Dame which would make the CFP committee have to choose between a one-loss Notre Dame and a one-loss Texas A&M team. In this scenario I wouldn't be surprised if the committee chose Texas A&M because they would not want the possibility of Notre Dame and Clemson playing for a third time.

Everything so far this season has played into Jimbo Fisher's hands and now he might get another shot at the Crimson Tide.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Utah - 10 Over Washington St. by 17

The UL Monroe Warhawks need a win here to prevent a brutal 0-11 season. The UL Monroe Warhawks hThe Washington State Cougars will try to finish their season on a high note after sitting at 1-2 with their last matchup against Cal cancelled due to COVID-19. Jayden de Laura has thrown for 682 yards, 4 touchdowns and 3 interceptions on 60.4% passing while Deon McIntosh leads the Cougars in rushing with 304 rushing yards and a pair of touchdowns. Renard Bell leads Washington State's receiving group with 27 grabs for 294 yards and a pair of touchdowns while Travell Harris has 275 receiving yards and a pair of scores as well. On defense, Daniel Isom has a team-high 23 total tackles including 15 solo tackles while Ron Stone Jr. and Brennan Jackson each have 1.5 sacks for Washington State this season.

The Utah Utes will look to finish the season above .500 after improving to 2-2 with back-to-back wins following a 38-21 win over Colorado last time out. Jake Bentley has thrown for 729 yards, 5 touchdowns and 5 interceptions on 63.6% passing while Ty Jordan leads the Utes in rushing with 443 rushing yards and 3 TDs. Brant Kuithe leads Utah with 175 receiving yards and 19 catches while Bryan Thompson has 155 receiving yards and Britain Covey has 130 receiving yards with a pair of touchdowns. On defense, Devin Lloyd and Nephi Sewell each have a team-high 24 solo tackles while Lloyd leads Utah with 38 total tackles and Sewell has a pair of interceptions. Vonte Davis also has a pair of INTs for the Utes while Mika Tafua and Hauati Pututau each have a pair of sacks for Utah this season.

Washington State is 2-6 ATS in their last 8 road games and 1-5 ATS in their last 6 games overall while the under is 12-5-1 in their last 18 games following a loss. Utah is 10-4 ATS in their last 14 games overall and 5-2 ATS in their last 7 home games while the under is 5-1-1 in their last 7 games against a team with a losing record. Washington State is 4-1 ATS in the last 5 meetings between these two teams.

Yeesh. I was surprised when I saw Washington State is 4-1 ATS in the last 5 meetings between these two teams. That may seem weird to say about a Utah team. The Utes are at home after winning back-to-back games. They knocked off a very good team in Colorado last week. But there's something that makes me a bit queasy when Jake Bentley is your starting QB and anyone who watches SEC football probably knows what I'm talking about. Washington State has had their fair share of cancellations, but the Cougars do have a nice up and coming QB in Jayden de Laura. The operative words are up and coming. I'm not backing an up and coming against Utes HC Whittingham. **The win against Colorado showed me that the Utes have it all together now. Lay the 10 points.**

Projected Score: Utah 37, Washington St. 20

Indiana - 12 Over Purdue by 2

Friday Night Game

The Purdue Boilermakers need a win here to snap a four-game losing streak. The Purdue Boilermakers have split their last two road games. Aidan O'Connell is completing 64.7 percent of his passes for 916 yards, seven touchdowns and two interceptions. O'Connell and Jack Plummer have combined for 15 touchdowns and four interceptions. David Bell and Milton Wright have combined for 930 receiving yards and 10 touchdowns while Zander Horvath has 30 receptions. The Purdue Boilermakers ground game is averaging 81.5 yards per contest, and Zander Horvath leads the way with 442 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, Purdue is allowing 29.8 points and 399 yards per game. Derrick Barnes leads the Purdue Boilermakers with 54 tackles, George Karlaftis has two sacks and Cam Allen has two interceptions.

The Indiana Hoosiers look for another victory to end the season with an impressive 7-1 record. The Indiana Hoosiers have won six of their last seven home games. Michael Penix Jr. is completing 56.4 percent of his passes for 1,645 yards, 14 touchdowns and four interceptions. Penix has seven touchdown passes in his last three games. Ty Fryfogle and Whop Philyor have combined for 1,101 receiving yards and 10 touchdowns while Miles Marshall has 17 receptions. The Indiana Hoosiers ground game is averaging 100.1 yards per contest, and Stevie Scott III leads the way with 462 yards and eight touchdowns. Defensively, Indiana is allowing 19.4 points and 361.7 yards per game. Micah McFadden leads the Indiana Hoosiers with 52 tackles, Jerome Johnson has four sacks and Jaylin Williams has four interceptions.

The Boilermakers are 5-1 ATS vs. a team with a winning record and 0-5 ATS in their last 5 games overall. The Hoosiers are 7-0 ATS in their last 7 conference games and 14-3 ATS in their last 17 games overall. The under is 13-6 in Boilermakers last 19 road games. The over is 7-3 in Hoosiers last 10 conference games. The Boilermakers are 3-1-2 ATS in their last 6 meetings in Indiana and 4-0 ATS in their last 4 meetings.

The Purdue Boilermakers haven't been the same team since starting the season 2-0, as they're riding a four-game losing streak. However, all four of Purdue's losses this season have been decided by 10 or less points.

The Indiana Hoosiers have quietly been one of the biggest surprises this season, and their only loss was a seven-point contest against playoff contender Ohio State. Indiana should be favored and should win this game. However, Purdue is a grind it out style team that doesn't allow games to get away from them, and they do just enough to hang around. You should expect similar with this being a rivalry game. Look ahead possibility in this spot with Indiana. **Give me Purdue and a dozen points.**

Projected Score: Indiana 28, Purdue 26

UCLA - 7 Over Stanford by 12

The Stanford Cardinal look for a fourth straight win to improve to 4-2 on the season. The Stanford Cardinal have won three straight road games. Davis Mills is completing 65.3 percent of his passes for 1,076 yards, four touchdowns and zero interceptions. Mills has one touchdown pass in his last four games. Simi Fehoko and Michael Wilson have combined for 615 receiving yards and one touchdown while Brycen Tremayne has 10 receptions. The Stanford Cardinal ground game is averaging 133.8 yards per contest, and Austin Jones leads the way with 458 yards and seven touchdowns. Defensively, Stanford is allowing 28.6 points and 429.8 yards per game. Curtis Robinson leads the Stanford Cardinal with 38 tackles, Thomas Schaffer has three sacks and Malik Antoine has one interception.

The UCLA Bruins look for a win to get a game above a .500 record. The UCLA Bruins have won two of their last three home games. Dorian Thompson-Robinson is completing 65.1 percent of his passes for 1,055 yards, 12 touchdowns and four interceptions. Thompson-Robinson has five touchdown passes in his last two games. Greg Dulcich and Kyle Philips have combined for 788 receiving yards and four touchdowns while Demetric Felton has 22 receptions. The UCLA Bruins ground game is averaging 220.5 yards per contest, and Felton leads the way with 668 yards and five touchdowns. Defensively, UCLA is allowing 27.8 points and 384.8 yards per game. Stephan Blaylock leads the UCLA Bruins with 40 tackles, Caleb Johnson has 5.5 sacks and Quentin Lake has one interception.

The Cardinal are 2-7-1 ATS in their last 10 road games and 2-6-1 ATS in their last 9 games overall. The Bruins are 1-4 ATS vs. a team with a winning record and 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games overall. The over is 5-1 in Cardinal last 6 games on grass. The under is 4-1 in Bruins last 5 home games. The Cardinal are 4-0-1 ATS in

their last 5 meetings in UCLA and 5-1-1 ATS in their last 7 meetings.

The Stanford Cardinal have turned their season around and are very well coached, but their offense still has issues finishing drives and their defense gets gashed through the air more times than not. Stanford has also had issues covering numbers. The UCLA Bruins are 4-2 against the spread this season and are far more trustworthy offensively, which includes being 16th in rushing yards and 32nd in points scored. This could be a back and forth contest but eventually UCLA will break the trend and cover. **I'll lay the touchdown.**

Projected Score: UCLA 35, Stanford 23

Army + 2½ Over Air Force by 7

The Air Force Falcons look for a third straight win to improve to 4-2 on the season. The Air Force Falcons have split their last two road games. Haaziq Daniels is completing 60 percent of his passes for 326 yards, two touchdowns and zero interceptions. Daniels enters this game with 40 career pass attempts under his belt. Kyle Patterson and Ben Peterson have combined for 213 receiving yards and two touchdowns while Brandon Lewis has eight receptions. The Air Force Falcons ground game is averaging 336 yards per contest, and Brad Roberts leads the way with 378 yards and five touchdowns. Defensively, Air Force is allowing 16 points and 306 yards per game. Elisha Palm leads the Air Force Falcons with 30 tackles, George Silvanic has 2.5 sacks and Corvan Taylor has two interceptions.

The Army Black Knights look to stay hot after winning six of their last seven games. The Army Black Knights have won all seven home games this season. Jemel Jones is completing 47.4 percent of his passes for 156 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions. The Army Black Knights have 10 touchdown passes dating back to last season. Tyrell Robinson and Michael Roberts have combined for 223 receiving yards and three touchdowns while Reikan Donaldson has four receptions. The Army Black Knights ground game is averaging 280.4 yards per contest, and Tyhier Tyler leads the way with 440 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, Army is allowing 14.7 points and 272.1 yards per game. Jon Rhattigan leads the Army Black Knights with 71 tackles, Arik Smith has 3.5 sacks and Jabari Moore has two interceptions.

The Falcons are 5-1 ATS in their last 6 games in December and 5-2 ATS in their last 7 games overall. The Black Knights are 7-2 ATS in their last 9 home games and 7-15-1 ATS in their last 23 vs. MWC. The under is 4-1 in Falcons last 5 road games. The under is 17-5 in Black Knights last 22 games in December. The Falcons are 9-1 ATS in their last 10 meetings in Army and 10-4 ATS in their last 14 meetings. Air Force has won seven of the last 10 meetings against Army.

It's fair to say the Black Knights have been the better football team. Air Force has had issues playing a consistent schedule and their three wins were against teams with a combined 6-17 record. Army is 6-1 straight up since October and has held three of its last six opponents to single digit points while pitching two shutouts overall this season. We're getting free points with the better team. It's always tough to argue with that side.

GO ARMY! Beat Air Force. Give me my Army comrades and the 2½ points.

Projected Score: Army 23, Air Force 16

Missouri - 1 Over Mississippi St. by 9

The Missouri Tigers look to stay hot after winning five of their last seven games. The Missouri Tigers have lost two of their last three road games. Connor Bazalak is completing 68.5 percent of his passes for 2,141 yards, five touchdowns and three interceptions. Bazalak and Shawn Robinson have combined for six touchdown passes and three interceptions. Keke Chism and Damon Hazelton have combined for 758 receiving yards and one touchdown while Tyler Badie has 25 receptions. The Missouri Tigers ground game is averaging 139 yards per contest, and Larry Rountree III leads the way with 851 yards and 12 touchdowns. Defensively, Missouri is allowing 30.2 points and 403.8 yards per game. Nick Bolton leads the Missouri Tigers with 88 tackles, Trajan Jeffcoat has six sacks and Jarvis Ware has one interception.

The Mississippi State Bulldogs could use a win here to snap a three-game losing streak. The Mississippi State Bulldogs have lost three of their last four home games. K.J. Costello is completing 64.7 percent of his passes for 1,283 yards, six touchdowns and 10 interceptions. Costello and Will Rogers have combined for 13 touchdowns and 16 interceptions. Jaden Walley and Osirus Mitchell have combined for 1,020 receiving yards and four touchdowns while Austin Williams has 37 receptions. The Mississippi State Bulldogs ground game is averaging 23.2 yards per contest, and Jo'quavious Marks leads the way with 170 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Mississippi State is allowing 27.9 points and 384.6 yards per game. Erroll Thompson leads the

Mississippi State Bulldogs with 86 tackles, Tyrus Wheat has 3.5 sacks and Emmanuel Forbes has two picks.

The Tigers are 7-19 ATS in their last 26 road games and 5-11 ATS in their last 16 games overall. The Bulldogs are 0-4 ATS in their last 4 home games and 2-6 ATS in their last 8 games overall. The under is 20-7 in Tigers last 27 games overall. The under is 7-1 in Bulldogs last 8 games overall.

The Missouri Tigers were on a roll before getting waxed by Georgia last week, and they have an offense that's been rather impressive during their recent winning streak. The Mississippi State Bulldogs put up a lot of yards through the air, but they struggle to finish drives and have scored no more than 24 points in each of their last eight games. Missouri is simply the better team here and should get a victory. First team to 24 points should win this game. Bulldogs simply can't win at home with no fans and cow bells.

I'll lay the small chalk with Missouri on the road.

Projected Score: Missouri 30, Mississippi St. 21

Wisconsin - 12½ Over Minnesota by 1

The Minnesota Golden Gophers look for a third straight win to get a game above a .500 record. The Minnesota Golden Gophers have won two of their last three road games. Tanner Morgan is completing 58.9 percent of his passes for 1,214 yards, five touchdowns and four interceptions. Morgan has one or less touchdown passes in six straight games. Rashod Bateman and Chris Autman-Bell have combined for 869 receiving yards and three touchdowns while Daniel Jackson has eight receptions. The Minnesota Golden Gophers ground game is averaging 199.5 yards per contest, and Mohamed Ibrahim leads the way with 925 yards and 15 touchdowns. Defensively, Minnesota is allowing 31.8 points and 431.5 yards per game. Mariano Sori-Marin leads the Minnesota Golden Gophers with 47 tackles, Boye Mafe has 4.5 sacks and DeAngelo Carter has one interception.

The Wisconsin Badgers need a win here to snap a three-game losing streak. The Wisconsin Badgers have split their last two home games. Graham Mertz is completing 60.9 percent of his passes for 976 yards, eight touchdowns and five interceptions. Mertz has one touchdown pass in his last three games. Jake Ferguson and Chimere Dike have combined for 394 receiving yards and five touchdowns while Kendrick Pryor has eight receptions. The Wisconsin Badgers ground game is averaging 171 yards per contest, and Jalen Berger leads the way with 267 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Wisconsin is allowing 15.4 points and 251 yards per game. Jack Sanborn leads the Wisconsin Badgers with 36 tackles, Isaiahh Loudermilk has two sacks and Titus Toler has one interception.

The Golden Gophers are 8-2-1 ATS in their last 11 road games and 11-5 ATS in their last 16 games overall. The Badgers are 0-5 ATS in their last 5 games following a straight up loss. The over is 9-4 in Golden Gophers last 13 games overall. The under is 4-0 in Badgers last 4 games in December. The Golden Gophers are 4-1-1 ATS in their last 6 meetings in Wisconsin and 1-3-1 ATS in their last 5 meetings.

The Minnesota Golden Gophers aren't as good as they were a year ago, but they're playing their best football of the season right now and have shown they can win on the road and even in Camp Randall Stadium. They have a successful ground game that allows them to suck the life out of an opponent. The Wisconsin Badgers are in complete struggle mode, as they've scored no more than seven points in each of their last three games. Wisconsin is still the better team here, but after they screwed me last week, I'm not laying double-digit chalk with the Badgers and their inept offense. **Give me the road warrior Gophers and the points.**

Projected Score: Wisconsin 24, Minnesota 23

Penn State - 13½ Over Illinois by 21

Illinois sits at 2-5 so far. The Illini had consecutive wins going, but have lost their last two games to Iowa and Northwestern. As for Penn State, they're 3-5 this season. The Lions have won their last three straight games versus Michigan, Rutgers and Michigan State.

Illinois has been a mixed bag this year, and they've had the misfortune of playing two great teams in their last pair. The Illini started with three straight losses to Wisconsin, Purdue and Minnesota, then got wins over Rutgers 23-20 and Nebraska 41-23. Two more losses followed for Illinois after that: 35-21 to Iowa and 28-10 to Northwestern.

In the loss to the Wildcats this past weekend, Illinois quarterback Isiah Williams posted 86 pass yards with a TD and also rushed for 38 yards. Brian Hightower was the top Illini receiver with 60 yards and a score from two

catches, and Chase Brown had 14 carries for 70 yards.

Over on the Penn State side, they came out of the gate with some tough matchups, falling in five straight games to Indiana (OT), Ohio State, Maryland, Nebraska and Iowa. Since then it's been a nice three-game win streak for the Lions, taking out Michigan 27-17, Rutgers 23-7 and Michigan State 39-24.

In the win over the Spartans last weekend, Penn State quarterback Sean Clifford posted 232 yards with two touchdowns passing, and also rushed for 48 yards and a score on nine carries. Jahan Dotson had a nice outing receiving, leading the way on eight catches for 108 yards.

Illinois is 5-2 ATS in their last seven road games and 0-4 ATS in their last four games in December. The under is 5-2 in Illinois' last seven games in December and 7-3 in the last 10 road games.

Meanwhile, the Nittany Lions are 7-0 ATS in their last seven games in December and 3-9 ATS in their last 12 games after an ATS win. Penn State is 1-5 ATS in their last six on grass and the under is 7-1 in the last eight versus a team with a losing record.

Illinois has had a few solid performances this season, but they've also been quite inconsistent with some very flat outings. There also is no love anymore for Lovie Smith as he packs his bags. The Illini have also let a handful of games get wild on defense, giving up 28 or more points in five of seven games so far. As for Penn State, they've looked good during this three-game win streak, and have held opponents to 24 or fewer points in each. I like that they reinstalled Sean Clifford at QB. The Illini will be down without their head coach. So, the

Nittany Lions keep it going and bang out a nice cover here.

Projected Score: Penn St 31, Illinois 10

Mississippi at L.S.U. Under 79½ by 8½

Ole Miss comes into this one at 4-4 so far. The Rebels are riding a three-game winning streak, taking out Vanderbilt, South Carolina and Miss State in that trio. As for LSU, they're 4-5 this season. The Tigers had lost consecutive games to Texas A&M and Alabama but got a win over Florida last weekend.

Ole Miss had the misfortune of facing some tough teams in their first five games (Florida, Alabama, etc.) but over the last three outings the Rebels have been able to show their stuff. Mississippi beat Vanderbilt 54-21 on Halloween, and in the two games since it's been wins over South Carolina 59-42 and Miss State 31-24.

In the win over the Bulldogs, Mississippi quarterback Matt Corral posted 385 yards with two touchdowns and Jerrion Early led the rush with 93 yards and a TD from 18 carries. Elijah Moore had a great day receiving for the Rebels with 12 receptions for 139 yards.

Over on the LSU side, they've suffered from the same problem in tough matchups. There have been a handful of blowouts and a couple of tight losses as well. The Tigers lost consecutive games to Texas A&M 20-7 and Alabama 55-17 but got a great victory over Florida 37-34 this past weekend.

In the win over the Gators, LSU's Max Johnson threw for 239 yards with three touchdowns on a 21-of-36 line. Kayshon Boutte was the top receiver for the Tigers on five catches, 108 yards and a TD, while Chris Curry led the rush on 64 yards from 17 carries.

The Rebels are 4-1 ATS in their last five after an ATS loss and 4-1 ATS in the last five after a straight-up win. Ole Miss is 5-2 ATS in their last seven road games and the over is 6-1 in their last seven after a straight-up win.

Meanwhile, the Tigers are 5-1 ATS in their last six games in December and 5-2 ATS in their last seven home games. LSU is 9-4 ATS in their last 13 overall and the over is 5-0 in their last five at home.

This game should be a pretty darn good matchup, and a fun game to watch. The Tigers had scored more than 17 points just once in their previous four games before the win against Florida, but looked really solid all around in that outing. That said, Mississippi can put up the points when they get going, and they've hit 31 or more in each of the last three. I would have to flip a coin to come up with a side pick. Instead, this one shows all the signs of a high-scoring affair. Therefore, I'm going to fade the public and call for a lower scoring game. I will be doing a rain dance but make the field conditions poor. **I'm taking Under 79½.**

Projected Score: L.S.U. 36, Mississippi 35

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ALLEN FENDS OF STEELERS BILLS BASH STEELERS INTO SECOND STRAIGHT LOSS BILLS RISE TO AFC ELITE

Giants Harassed Russell Wilson all Game Long

Recap

Rams 24, Patriots 3

The Rams absolutely dominated the rematch of Super Bowl LIII, as this game was effectively decided with a 14-point swing in the opening half. New England was down 10-0 when the defense made a huge play with a Jared Goff pick-six. Safety Myles Bryant wrestled the ball away from the intended receiver and ran the other way for six, but replay review showed that he was down by contact.

Rather than seeing the deficit trimmed to 10-7, the Patriots took over in Los Angeles territory with a chance to score. However, Cam Newton felt heavy pressure on one play and panicked. He heaved a careless pass, which was picked and taken back for six. And just like that, a potential 10-7 score turned into a 17-0 advantage for the Rams, which the Patriots couldn't recover from, especially when Newton was stuffed on a fourth-down run near the goal line.

The Patriots had two major problems in this game. The first was Newton's incompetence. The pass protection wasn't very good, but Newton really struggled to complete routine passes for the most part. It didn't help that Newton's awful receivers couldn't get open, but he labored through every throw, bouncing balls at his receivers' feet on too many occasions. He gave the Patriots no hope of moving the chains.

Newton finished 9-of-16 for 119 yards and his pick-six to go along with seven scrambles for 16 rushing yards. He was ultimately benched early in the fourth quarter. Newton seems like a lost cause at this point, so the Patriots might as well find out what they have in Jarrett Stidham to close out the season, especially now that they're 6-7.

The second major problem was the Patriots' inability to stop the run. Los Angeles' offensive line blasted open huge lanes for Cam Akers despite missing left tackle Andrew Whitworth. It's truly remarkable how they haven't missed a beat without Whitworth, save for their home loss to the 49ers a couple of weeks ago.

Akers rushed for 171 yards on 29 carries, and he also caught two passes for 23 receiving yards. Make no mistake about it: Akers has finally established himself as the primary back in Los Angeles, as there were only two other carries in this game, taken by Darrell Henderson (2-5). Akers showed some great patience and vision during his runs.

Akers' great running ability opened up nice play-action opportunities for Goff. Bill Belichick never had a chance to confuse Goff, who was gifted this win on a silver platter. Goff went 16-of-25 for only 138 yards, one touchdown and the interception, which, as mentioned, easily could've been a pick-six. Goff made a few nice throws, but he would have been in big trouble had he been tasked to beat Belichick's schemes.

With Goff barely doing anything, no Ram player logged more than 34 receiving yards. That distinction belonged to Tyler Higbee, who got there on two catches. Cooper Kupp (5-33) caught Goff's sole touchdown, while Robert Woods (5-32) dropped a pass.

The New England receivers barely did anything as well, with N'Keal Harry leading the way with three grabs for 49 yards, thanks to an impressive, 30-yard leaping grab in the third quarter. He barely outgained Damiere Byrd

(5-48) and Jakobi Meyers (4-47).

The Patriots couldn't run as much as they wanted to because of the constant deficit. Damien Harris gained 50 yards on 11 carries, while James White (3-16) handled four touches for some reason. It's unclear why White wasn't more involved on offense.

Stidham, as mentioned, saw some action in the fourth quarter. He was very pedestrian, going 5-of-7 for only 27 yards. He took two of the six sacks the Patriots surrendered in this contest.

Bears 36, Texans 7

Mitchell Trubisky and Deshaun Watson were chosen 10 picks apart in the 2017 NFL Draft, so this was the ultimate test to see if the Bears made the correct decision by selecting the former No. 2 overall. Based on this result alone, general manager Ryan Pace looked like a genius, as his quarterback began the game 8-of-8 and completed the opening half with a stat line of 18-of-21 for 178 yards and three touchdowns. Watson, conversely, had fewer yards and was responsible for a safety after being sacked in the end zone.

As you can see, Trubisky is clearly the better quarterback. Because of exactly how things transpired in this game.

Or, perhaps this result was a by product of Watson not having any viable players at his disposal, save for Duke Johnson and Keke Coutee. Watson was playing without Will Fuller, Brandin Cooks, Randall Cobb and David Johnson, so his skeleton-crew supporting cast couldn't exactly keep up with the Bears, who had a very easy matchup against the worst defense in the NFL.

Houston's defensive incompetence was apparent at the very start of this game when David Montgomery scored on an 80-yard touchdown. He wouldn't do much else - he was given just 10 other carries for some reason - but he was still able to accumulate 113 yards and that score on 11 attempts. He also caught three balls for 42 receiving yards.

Meanwhile, Trubisky continued to torch the Texans mercilessly. Houston was not able to make any halftime adjustments for him, as Trubisky finished 24-of-33 for 267 yards and three touchdowns. Pace can go to sleep tonight knowing that he made the correct decision.

Of course, that would mean that Pace is as clueless as ever. Watson did what he could with the diminished supporting cast, going 21-of-30 for 219 yards and a touchdown. He appeared to score on the ground in the second half, but replay review overturned the play. Adding injury to insult, Watson took a hit to his "no-no special place" on the next snap, prompting play-by-play guy Kevin Harlan to remark, "Watson took a jackhammer up the middle!" Watson had to miss the next play, a fourth down, which resulted in an A.J. McCarron sack, preventing Houston from getting back into the game.

Watson's lone touchdown was thrown to Coutee, who caught three passes for 24 yards. Houston's leading receiver was Chad Hansen, who secured all seven of his targets for 56 yards. Jordan Akins (3-20) had a chance for a touchdown, but dropped the ball despite being wide open in the end zone.

Duke Johnson was expected to have a heavy workload with everyone else sidelined, but he handled just 10 touches, running for 26 yards on eight carries. Perhaps this had to do with a lost fumble of his in the opening half. Special-teams star Buddy Howell led Houston in rushing with 42 yards on 11 attempts. Howell is someone who impressed me in previous preseason games, but with David Johnson bound to return soon, it's not like Howell can be added to fantasy rosters.

Closing out the stats, Allen Robinson had a huge game for the Bears with nine catches for 123 yards and a touchdown. Jimmy Graham (4-23) and Darnell "Mad Eye" Mooney (2-22) caught Trubisky's other touchdowns.

Chiefs 33, Dolphins 27

Patrick Mahomes entered this game with just two interceptions on the season, which made it very surprising that he tossed two picks in the opening quarter alone. Mahomes' first interception was the result of a deflected

pass, though the Dolphins couldn't capitalize because of a missed 45-yard field goal. The second pick was the result of an overthrow. Mahomes also nearly had a third turnover when there was a fumble on a botched snap that he covered up. Making matters worse, Mahomes took a 30-yard sack - yes, a 30-yard sack - to get his team pinned near its own goal line. A short punt later gave the Dolphins a quick touchdown, as Tua Tagovailoa hit Mike Gesicki in the end zone. This helped Miami establish a 10-0 lead.

And then, everything went south for the Dolphins. Tagovailoa threw his first interception on a deep shot, resulting in a touchdown for Travis Kelce. Miami then surrendered a punt return touchdown to Mecole Hardman, and Tagovailoa made things worse by taking a safety on an ensuing possession. With the Chiefs finally clicking, the Dolphins' 10-0 lead suddenly was erased, becoming a 30-10 deficit. The game effectively ended at that point, but some late Tagovailoa drives, along with Mahomes' third interception - an underthrown pass and a one-handed Xavien Howard pick - resulted in a back-door score for Miami.

Mahomes ended the game with a great stat line if the picks are ignored, as he went 24-of-34 for 393 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions. He had a hideous first quarter, but really rebounded with a tremendous performance the rest of the game. Mahomes was 11-of-15 for 221 yards, two touchdowns and a pick following halftime. The Dolphins clearly missed linebackers Kyle Van Noy and Elandon Roberts.

Speaking of the Miami linebackers, their absences allowed Travis Kelce to have a huge game. Kelce caught eight of his 10 targets for 136 yards and a touchdown. Tyreek Hill didn't catch as many passes - three receptions, 79 yards - but he scored twice, once through the air, and another time on the ground via a 32-yard rush.

Hill, on that one carry, tied for the team lead in rushing, as Clyde Edwards-Helaire continued to disappoint. The rookie mustered just 32 yards on 16 carries, with his running struggles allowed the Dolphins to creep back into the game.

Tagovailoa finished 28-of-48 for 316 yards, two touchdowns and his first interception of the year. Tagovailoa struggled mightily in the second and third quarters, but really picked up his play late in the game. I like what the Miami Herald's Armando Salguero said of Tagovailoa; that the rookie quarterback performs better when playing quickly and not thinking about anything. Sure, Tagovailoa was going up against a prevent defense late in the game, but he made some incredibly accurate throws while trying to engineer a comeback.

Both of Tagovailoa's scores went to Mike Gesicki, who caught five passes for 65 yards. Unfortunately, he suffered a shoulder injury in the fourth quarter. Gesicki only trailed Lynn Bowden (7-82) and Mack Hollins (5-66) on the stat sheet, as Davante Parker didn't catch either of his two targets, but only because he also suffered an injury. DeAndre Washington got the start because the Dolphins were down their top three running backs. He was a disappointment, mustering just 35 yards on 13 carries.

Cardinals 26, Giants 7

The Giants caught fire in the weeks leading up to this game, as Daniel Jones (and Colt McCoy versus Seattle) did a good job of limiting turnovers. That quickly changed in this game, as Jones was strip-sacked on the opening drive when he obviously held on to the ball forever. Kick returner Dion Lewis must have been watching Jones closely because he committed a fumble on his own during a kickoff return after that. He gave the Cardinals a second first-and-goal opportunity off defense/special teams, and a Kyler Murray touchdown to Dan Arnold gave Arizona a 13-0 lead early in the second quarter.

With the Giants offering zero threat offensively, the Cardinals ran away with this game. Murray continued to play well, especially in the second half. He was 10-of-13 for 109 yards following intermission. Murray also ran quite a bit for the first time since suffering a shoulder injury in the second matchup against the Seahawks. He scrambled 13 times for 47 rushing yards to go along with his passing numbers: 24-of-35, 244 yards, one touchdown. There was a scary moment in the second quarter when Murray got up slowly after falling down on his own to avoid a sack, but he turned out to be just fine.

DeAndre Hopkins was happy to see Murray return to his former self. Hopkins snatched nine of his 11 targets

for 136 yards. He didn't score, as the lone touchdown went to Arnold (2-27), who was second on the team in receiving.

Kenyan Drake also scored, rushing for 80 yards on 23 carries in the process. Chase Edmonds' work paled in comparison (7-32), but he chipped in with four receptions for 21 yards.

Wayne Gallman didn't get a chance to run as often as Drake for obvious reasons. Gallman gained 57 yards on 12 carries, and to make things worse for those who started him, Lewis ran into the end zone on the Giants' lone touchdown.

Jones, meanwhile, was very lackluster, going 11-of-21 for 127 yards and the lost fumble. He coughed up the ball a second time, but was lucky it bounced back to him. Jones didn't scramble once, probably because his hamstring was bothering him. He clearly should not have played in this game, though it ultimately probably wouldn't have mattered.

With Jones laboring through his hamstring woes, Golden Tate, with his lone reception, led the team in receiving yardage with 39 yards. He was just one yard shy of the goal line. Sterling Shepard (3-35) and Darius Slayton (3-31) posted pedestrian numbers.

Buccaneers 26, Vikings 14

If you were to just watch the first quarter of this game, you would assume that the Vikings not only pulled the upset; but demolished the Buccaneers in the process. Minnesota had great success moving the chains, including a 14-play, 79-yard drive that culminated with a Dalvin Cook touchdown. Meanwhile, the Buccaneers couldn't do anything offensively. Tom Brady didn't look like he could complete basic passes, as he overthrew targets, including Antonio Brown, who was wide open with no one around him at all. Brady sailed the pass a mile over Brown's head, which was just embarrassing.

And yet, everything changed after that. The Vikings missed two field goals and an extra point, so they couldn't extend their lead beyond 6-0, and the Buccaneers took advantage with Brady finally catching fire. Brady heaved a 48-yard bomb to Scotty Miller to get on the board and then some pass interference penalties in the end zone allowed the Buccaneers to score 10 total points. Add in a touchdown to open the third quarter, and the Buccaneers were able to score 24 unanswered points to establish the huge lead the Vikings thought they would possess.

Brady finished 15-of-23 for 196 yards and two touchdowns. He played well in the final three quarters following his ugly start, and he missed out on some potential scores with the aforementioned interference penalties in the end zone. Still, a better stat line was expected against a defense missing seven starters.

Evans turned out to be Brady's leading receiver with three grabs for 56 yards and the interference flag in the end zone. Brown (5-49) and Chris Godwin (2-25) were disappointments, considering the positive matchup.

The only Buccaneer fantasy player who didn't disappoint was Ronald Jones, which was predictable because Leonard Fournette was benched as a coach's decision prior to kickoff. Jones handled most of the workload well, rushing for 80 yards and a touchdown on 18 carries.

The Vikings ran very well, too, at least in the opening half. Cook rumbled for 78 yards prior to intermission, but didn't do much following the break. He ultimately gained 102 yards and a touchdown on 22 carries, as Tampa's top ground defense clamped down later in the game.

Kirk Cousins was a disappointment, going 24-of-37 for 225 yards and a touchdown. He moved the chains well in between the 20s, but often bogged down in the red zone, frequently taking bad sacks to make his terrible kicker try longer field goals than necessary. Dan Bailey can't be happy, as he whiffed on all three tries and an extra point.

With Cousins struggling, neither Justin Jefferson nor Adam Thielen accomplished much. They both logged 39 receiving yards, catching four and three passes, respectively. Irv Smith Jr., seeing more action with Kyle Rudolph sidelined, led the Vikings in receiving with four receptions for 63 yards and a touchdown. Broncos 32, Panthers 27

Despite the high point total in this game, this was a defensive struggle for most of the afternoon. The halftime score was 13-7 Denver, as 13 total points came on defensive and special teams touchdowns. The Broncos got on the board first with a punt return score, and then a Drew Lock strip-sack set up a short rushing touchdown to Mike Davis. At the break, the two teams combined for just 225 net yards.

Everything changed following halftime, as Lock caught fire. Lock has been incredibly inconsistent in his second season, thriving on some occasions and looking dreadful at times as well. We got a mix of both in this contest, with Lock torching Carolina's secondary mercilessly in the second half. He misfired just twice following intermission. Lock was 9-of-11 for 195 yards and three touchdowns in the second half alone!

Lock's overall numbers were 21-of-27 for 280 yards and four touchdowns. The Panthers had no answer for him after intermission, as their horrible secondary allowed Lock's receivers to get open at will.

Speaking of those receivers, K.J. Hamler led the team in receiving despite catching just two passes. Those two receptions both resulted in touchdowns for a combined 86 yards. Lock's other scores went to Tim Patrick (3-36) and Nick Vannett (4-20). Jerry Jeudy was a disappointment with just two catches for 42 yards and a pair of drops. Noah Fant left the game early with some sort of an illness.

I expected the Broncos to run well with monstrous run-stuffer Zach Kerr sidelined. Melvin Gordon mustered just 68 yards on 13 carries, including a stuff on third-and-1. Phillip Lindsay was far worse with just 24 yards on 11 attempts.

The Panthers had more success scoring on the ground, with Davis finding the end zone twice while running for 51 yards on 11 carries. Teddy Bridgewater was also able run into the end zone, scrambling thrice for 31 yards.

As a passer, Bridgewater posted a fine stat line, going 30-of-40 for 283 yards. However, Bridgewater had trouble maintaining drives because his offensive line couldn't protect him. Bridgewater took four sacks in this game. That said, he held the ball longer than he should have in the pocket on numerous occasions, and he was responsible for a delay-of-game penalty in the red zone in the middle of the fourth quarter. He was also lucky that he wasn't intercepted just prior to halftime when he heaved a pass into double coverage. Two Denver defenders collided with each other instead of making the pick.

Robby Anderson led the Panthers in receiving with eight catches for 84 yards. Curtis Samuel wasn't too far behind with seven grabs for 68 yards.

Titans 31, Jaguars 10

A.J. Brown decided to wear a Julio Jones jersey during pre-game warmups, which would be an indication of how he would play against the miserable Jaguars. Brown dominated a Jacksonville secondary missing three cornerbacks from the very start of the game. He caught the first touchdown of the afternoon, which was a one-handed grab on a 37-yard flea flicker. A couple of drives later, Brown made a strong catch along the sideline to move the team into the red zone. In the first half alone, Brown caught four passes for 73 yards and a touchdown.

Brown looked like he was going to have a monstrous second half when he made a diving catch and then a leaping grab on the opening drive, but he went down awkwardly on the second reception and hobbled off the field. Brown had six catches for 95 yards and a touchdown at that stage of the game, so he was on his way to have a huge performance. Brown returned later to finish with a 7-112-1 line.

Of course, all hope wasn't lost for the Titans because of Brown's injury. Derrick Henry ripped off a 47-yard run

on the very next play to set up a touchdown to give the Titans an insurmountable 24-3 lead. Henry was also responsible for the previous score, sprinting 36 yards into the end zone just prior to halftime. The Jaguars could do nothing to stop Henry, who rushed for a ridiculous 215 yards and two touchdowns on 26 carries. May God have mercy on your soul if you played against him in the opening round of the fantasy playoffs.

With Henry going off, Ryan Tannehill didn't have to do very much. Still, he was sharp on his connections to Brown and his other receivers, as he misfired on just five connections. Tannehill finished 19-of-24 for 212 yards and two touchdowns.

Tannehill's touchdowns went to Brown and Geoff Swaim (3-34), who had the same exact stat line as Corey Davis. This was a disappointing performance for Davis in a great matchup, and that's without even factoring in his lost fumble that set up a Jacksonville field goal. Jonnu Smith (2-20) also underwhelmed. Speaking of disappointments, Jacksonville's offense somehow mustered only 10 points against a Tennessee defense missing six starters. This was truly embarrassing, as Mike Glennon was a hideous 13-of-23 for 85 yards. Glennon should not be allowed to play again this year.

Somehow, Gardner Minshew was available to play, yet the Jaguars started Glennon instead. Perhaps this was a clever ploy to lose on purpose to secure Justin Fields (as seen in the 2021 NFL Mock Draft.) Minshew was predictably far better than Glennon, going 18-of-31 for 178 yards and a touchdown. He was so close to leading two more touchdown drives to cover the spread, but got bogged down in the red zone on both occasions.

Jacksonville's receivers should have gotten open easily against a secondary missing three cornerbacks and a safety. Instead, D.J. Chark caught just two of his nine targets for 16 yards. Keelan Cole (7-67) led the team in receiving and caught a touchdown. Laviska Shenault snatched six balls for 49 yards.

James Robinson had a disappointing output as well, as he was limited to 67 yards on 12 carries. He had a touchdown run wiped out by a ticky-tack procedural penalty that shouldn't have been called. He also had a 44-yard gain negated by an infraction.

Cowboys 30, Bengals 7

This Andy Dalton revenge game predictably was a win for Dallas, as the injury-ravaged Bengals were no chance. With Dallas now at 4-9 and Cincinnati sitting at 2-10-1, this meaningless game actually penalized the Cowboys in terms of draft positioning. The Bengals losing this game improves their grip on the third-overall pick of the 2021 NFL Draft, which is a great spot to be in for potential trade-down with a team wanting a quarterback or for the Bengals to land a franchise left tackle like Oregon's Penei Sewell to protect Joe Burrow.

In the first minute of the game, a rare sight occurred when Giovani Bernard fumbled the ball away, getting stripped by Demarcus Lawrence. It was Bernard's first fumble in 830 attempts, a staggering amount for a NFL back, and it snapped the longest active streak in the NFL. On the ensuing Dallas possession, the Bengals got their first sack in three games to force a field goal. Shortly later, Cincinnati gifted more points when Trayveon Williams ran into his left tackle and lost the ball. Aldon Smith scooped up the loose ball and returned it 78 yards for a touchdown.

The Bengals drove inside the Cowboys' 20 midway through the first half, but ball security killed them again, as Cowboys safety Darian Thompson forced a fumble from Adam Erickson that Dallas recovered. Dalton started moving the ball down the field using Amari Cooper, CeeDee Lamb (2-46), and Michael Gallup (2-23). The drive finished with Dalton hitting a slant to Cooper for an 11-yard touchdown. With just seconds remaining before halftime, Brandon Allen found A.J. Green on a short touchdown pass to cut the Cowboys' lead to 17-7 at the half.

Tony Pollard ran the opening kickoff of the third quarter back past midfield to set up Dallas with good field position. Dalton then threw a few strikes, including a pass to Dalton Schultz (3-34) for about 15 yards to move inside the five, but the Cowboys settled for a 20-yard field goal. After Dallas added another field goal to go up 23-7, Allen led a fourth-quarter drive that neared the Cowboys' end zone, but a goal-line stand led to a turnover on downs that clinched the win for Dallas. In garbage time, Dalton added a seven-yard touchdown pass to

Pollard for the 30-7 victory.

Dalton was 16-of-23 for 185 yards and two touchdowns. Ezekiel Elliott ran for 48 yards on 12 carries with two receptions for 11 yards. Cooper caught four passes for 51 yards and a touchdown. Brandon Allen was 27-of-36 for 217 yards with a touchdown. Trayveon Williams led the Bengals on the ground with 12 carries for 49 yards and a fumble. A.J. Green had six receptions for 62 yards and a touchdown. Tee Higgins (5-49) and Tyler Boyd (5-43) helped move the ball, but both were kept out of the end zone.

Packers 31, Lions 24

The Packers picked up their 10th win of the season in Detroit, and with the Saints losing to the Eagles, Green Bay takes over as the No. 1 seed in the NFC thanks to holding the tie-breaker over New Orleans. The No. 1 seed is even more valuable this year with the new playoff format because the top seed is the only team that will have a first-round bye, and home-field advantage through the playoffs is a huge bonus for frigid Green Bay. The Lions' long-shot wild-card hopes were dealt a blow, but in the grand scheme of things, improving their draft positioning is a better result.

Matthew Stafford moved the ball on the opening drive of the game, hitting a key conversion to Mohamed Sanu (2-37) on a dig route and then connecting with other receivers before a goal-line shovel pass to T.J. Hockenson (6-43-1) gave Detroit a 7-0 lead. The lead didn't last long, with Davante Adams burning the Lions secondary on a 56-yard touchdown. Early in the second quarter, Rodgers lofted in a short back-shoulder touchdown pass to Marquez Valdes-Scantling (6-85-1) for the lead. Stafford led a drive inside the five late in the first half, and D'Andre Swift powered through three Packer defenders from there to cross the goal line for a tie game at the intermission.

Rodgers got Green Bay moving midway through the third quarter, and he used his legs from a few yards out to run the ball into the end zone for a 21-14 lead. Quickly, the Packers got the ball back and early in the fourth quarter, Rodgers put Detroit on the ropes with a short scoring toss to Robert Tonyan (5-36-1).

Stafford put his team on his back midway through the fourth quarter, driving the ball down the field before Kerryon Johnson powered into the end zone from a few yards out. On the previous play, however, Stafford took a hard hit from Kenny Clark while trying to run the ball into the end zone, and that hit ended Stafford's day.

A smoke screen to Adams went for about 30 yards into Detroit territory with a few minutes later, and that was a huge play for the Packers. Mason Crosby tied his career-long with a 58-yard field goal to go up by 10 with 3:30 remaining. Jamal Agnew returned the ensuing kickoff 75 yards, and Chase Daniel entered the game in place of Stafford. A completion to Marvin Jones in zone coverage moved the ball to the nine-yard line, but the Lions settled for a Matt Prater field goal. Their onside kick failed, and a first-down pass to Tonyan clinched the win for Green Bay.

Rodgers completed 26-of-33 passes for 290 yards with three touchdowns, plus rushed for a touchdown. Aaron Jones ran for 68 yards on 15 carries. Adams caught seven passes for 115 yards and a touchdown.

Stafford completed 24-of-34 passes for 244 yards and a touchdown. Swift was Detroit's leading rusher despite getting only seven carries for 24 yards and a touchdown. Danny Amendola was the Lions' leading receiver with six receptions for 66 yards.

Colts 44, Raiders 27

I like the broadcasting tandem of Ian Eagle and Charles Davis, but they said something I disagreed with during the first half of this telecast. While the Colts and Raiders were exchanging scores in the early stages of the afternoon, they remarked that the Colts and Raiders are very similar teams.

This could be said of the offenses, as both teams block very well for accurate, veteran quarterbacks with talented tight ends at their disposal. However, the defenses couldn't be more different. This was apparent when the Colts stopped the Raiders from barely doing anything offensively following intermission. Indianapolis' great

defensive play late in this game actually began in the second quarter when Derek Carr threw an underthrown pass to Darren Waller in the end zone. Cornerback Kenny Moore picked off the pass with a great, leaping catch. This sparked some great play from the Colts after the break, which doesn't even include Khari Willis' pick-six, which was a byproduct of a dropped pass by Jalen Richard.

Meanwhile, Indianapolis' offense never slowed down in the second half. The Colts trampled the Raiders, as Jonathan Taylor had a number of great runs, including a 62-yard score where he blew past the defense with the help of a huge running lane. Taylor dashed for 150 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries. He wasn't alone in trampling the Raiders, with Nyheim Hines rushing for 58 yards on just seven attempts. The great rushing attack allowed Philip Rivers to have some easy passing opportunities. The result was Rivers misfiring on just nine occasions, as he went 19-of-28 for 244 yards and two touchdowns.

Rivers continued to show some great chemistry with T.Y. Hilton after the two failed to connect during the first half of the season. Hilton caught both of Rivers' touchdowns, snatching five balls for 86 yards in the process. Jack Doyle (3-44) and Michael Pittman (2-42) also contributed. Pittman had a chance at a touchdown in the first quarter, but a Raider defender deflected the ball at the last second.

As for the Raiders, Carr posted some great numbers, but they were a bit misleading because he had some nice garbage yardage, which included a late touchdown. It got Carr above the 300-yard level, as he finished 31-of-45 for 316 yards, two touchdowns and a pair of interceptions. One of the give-aways was the aforementioned pick-six that wasn't Carr's fault. The other was also discussed, with the ball being underthrown toward Waller into the end zone. Carr is lucky he wasn't picked a third time when he launched a pass into double coverage.

Speaking of Waller, he had a big statistical performance with seven catches for 75 yards. He finished behind only Nelson Agholor, whose five grabs went for 100 yards and a touchdown. Fabian Moreau (1-47) also caught a Carr touchdown, thanks to a ghastly tackling attempt by safety Julian Blackmon.

Josh Jacobs started this game after missing last week's contest even though he announced prior to kickoff that he wouldn't play. Perhaps he really didn't, as he faltered in a very difficult matchup, with the Colts restricting him to 49 yards on 13 carries. Jacobs also dropped a pass.

Seahawks 40, Jets 3

How lopsided was this game? Russell Wilson was relegated to the bench because this lead was so big - in the third quarter! Geno Smith took the field when Seattle was up 37-3 in a complete blowout.

This was another instance in which Wilson rebounded greatly off a loss. He was excellent, misfiring on just six occasions. He went 21-of-27 for 206 yards, four touchdowns and an interception, which was an outstanding play by Marcus Maye on a shot to the end zone. This game was still close at the time, so there was some drama attached to the pick. Wilson, however, bounced back with three more touchdowns after that.

Wilson's touchdowns went to D.K. Metcalf (6-61), Will Dissly (2-23), Freddie Swain (2-22) and David Moore (2-6), who dropped a deep pass. Tyler Lockett didn't find the end zone, but he contributed with five catches for 52 yards.

The Seahawks also had success pounding the ball against the inept Jets. Chris Carson gained 76 yards and a touchdown on 12 carries, numbers that would have been far more impressive had Carson actually played into the fourth quarter.

Meanwhile, there's nothing positive to say about the Jets' offense. Sam Darnold was atrocious, and the numbers - 14-of-26, 132 yards - aren't even an indication of how poorly he played. Darnold had three potential interceptions that were dropped, including one by Jamal Adams in the middle of the field. One of the dropped picks looked like it could have gone back for six. Fortunately for the Jets, they're now three losses away from securing Trevor Lawrence, as seen in the 2021 NFL Mock Draft.

Frank Gore was cleared from his concussion prior to kickoff, which was good news for the Jets' losing prospects. Gore, who is not as good as Ty Johnson or Josh Adams, was limited to 23 yards on eight carries. He lost a fumble to set up a Seattle field goal.

Jamison Crowder was also cleared to play prior to the start of this game, but he did nothing, catching only two balls for seven yards. Braxton Berrios (3-49) and Breshad Perriman (3-26) led the team in receiving. Eagles 24, Saints 21

Using a second-round pick on a quarterback didn't make any sense when a young starter received a massive contract. Still, the Eagles looked like a completely different team with Jalen Hurts under center. They ran all over the Saints, thriving mostly on third and fourth downs in this regard. They moved the chains four times on the ground on third and fourth down.

Still, this game was more about the Eagles and Hurts, who threw a great back-shoulder touchdown pass to Alshon Jeffery in the opening half. Hurts was inconsistent as a passer overall, but his running ability bailed out the offense; specifically, the poor blocking. Hurts scrambled for 106 yards on 18 rushing attempts.

Hurts, however, made some mistakes. He lost a fumble late in the game while trying to run out the clock. Hurts also missed some open receivers, including one instance where the Saints dropped a potential pick-six in which Hurts telegraphed his throw on a third-down throw early in the fourth quarter. Hurts threw mostly short passes, but was able to connect on some nice intermediate strikes. Hurts had a positive debut overall, going 17-of-30 for 167 yards and a passing score to go along with his great rushing numbers. However, it's fair to question if the Saints were fully focused in this matchup with the Chiefs on the horizon, and if so, they paid the price with their lethargy.

Hurts being inconsistent as a passer when not checking down would explain why two Eagles had more than 21 receiving yards. Those were Jalen Reagor (2-46) and Dallas Goedert (4-43), who made a nice juke to avoid a defender to pick up a first down on a lengthy drive.

Miles Sanders said he was excited about Hurts' presence because it would open up some running opportunities for him. Sanders was correct, as he ended up rushing for 115 yards and two touchdowns on 14 carries, including an 82-yard burst for a score. He also caught four passes for 21 receiving yards.

The Saints didn't have nearly as much success running the ball. Alvin Kamara had some nice rushes, but was limited to just 50 yards and a touchdown on 11 carries. He also caught seven passes for 44 receiving yards.

Taysom Hill, meanwhile, scrambled just five times, which was very curious. Hill's runs went for 33 yards. He was also inconsistent as a passer, going 28-of-38 for 291 yards, two touchdowns and an interception that occurred because he was hit as he released the ball. Hill also lost a fumble on a fourth-down try because he held on to the ball too long, resulting in a strip-sack. He also missed Emmanuel Sanders for a potential touchdown.

Sanders still managed to score, as his three catches went for 48 yards. He finished behind Michael Thomas (8-84) and Tre'Quan Smith (3-60) on the box score even though Smith dropped a pass on third down.

Chargers 20, Falcons 17

When two teams that have no idea how to win clash, what do you get? Absolute shenanigans! That's what we saw at the end of this game, though we got a preview right before halftime. The Chargers put together a nice drive to move into a goal-to-go situation, but with no remaining timeouts, they opted to run on third down and failed to convert. With 15 seconds remaining on a fourth-and-1, the Chargers looked like they wanted to spike the ball, but then ran off the field when Anthony Lynn sent in the field goal unit. The kick was good, but the players running off the field couldn't reach the sideline in time, resulting in a penalty to end the half.

Fast forward to the end of the game, the Chargers and Falcons took turns killing themselves with mistakes.

Matt Ryan moved his team into field goal range to win, but fired an interception, with safety Jahleel Addae showing great anticipation. Justin Herbert then moved into kicking range, but tossed a pick on a third down behind Keenan Allen. Ryan was given the chance to redeem himself, but heaved an interception along the sideline when pressured by Joey Bosa. This ruined yet another field goal try. The Chargers, taking over deep in their own territory, could have easily settled for overtime, but Herbert came through in the clutch with some nice throws. This gave Michael Badgley a chance to win the game. I'm sure everyone expected Badgley to whiff, but he connected to win this contest for the Chargers.

Herbert dinked and dunked for most of this game, going 36-of-44 for 243 yards, two touchdowns and the aforementioned interception. Herbert was forced into short throws because right tackle Bryan Bulaga went down with an injury early in the game, and then Mike Williams exited with an injury.

Besides, can you blame Herbert for checking down frequently with Austin Ekeler at his disposal? Ekeler saw nine targets and caught all of them for 67 receiving yards. Ekeler also was a big part of the running game, gaining 79 yards on 15 carries.

It shouldn't surprise anyone that Keenan Allen racked up lots of receptions once again. He equaled Ekeler's catch count with nine grabs for 52 yards and a touchdown. Hunter Henry snatched six passes for 55 yards and a score. He got hurt on a Herbert overthrow in his direction just before halftime, but was able to return to the field later in the game.

With Williams leaving the game early, someone named Tyron Johnson stepped up with six grabs for 55 yards and a touchdown. He'll need to be added in fantasy leagues if Williams is sidelined in Week 15.

The leading receiver in this game was Calvin Ridley, who didn't continue the trend of disappointing when Julio Jones is sidelined. Ridley hauled in eight balls for 124 yards and a touchdown. He and Russell Gage (5-82) were the only Falcons with more than 12 receiving yards.

Ryan did a good job of moving the chains in between the 20s, but had a poor game overall because of his mistakes when in field goal range. In addition to the two aforementioned interceptions, Ryan also had a third pick on a third-quarter toss into the end zone, and he was nearly intercepted on a fourth occasion when he heaved a dumb pass downfield into double coverage. Ryan finished 21-of-32 for 224 yards, one touchdown and the three interceptions.

The Falcons barely tried to run the ball, with Todd Gurley mustering only 19 yards on six carries. Ito Smith (11-42) handled most of the workload for some reason.

Redskins 23, 49ers 15

Alex Smith has locked up NFL Comeback Player of the Year, but perhaps Dwayne Haskins can become the NFL Comeback Player Within the Year if the Redskins reach the playoffs. Smith took a hit to his surgically repaired leg on a sack and had to have it wrapped up in the second quarter. He then walked gingerly into the locker room before intermission and never returned to the field after the break.

With Kyle Allen also injured, there was no one else remaining, save for Haskins, who took the field to begin the third quarter. Haskins, who was benched earlier in the year for committing too many turnovers, looked solid right away with a nice drive. That quickly changed, however, as Haskins reverted to his usual, terrible self. He struggled with his accuracy and was very lucky that he didn't throw an interception when a high pass of his on a third down with five minutes remaining appeared to be picked, but replay review showed the ball hit the ground. Haskins then showed poor awareness on the final offensive drive by not waiting long enough to kneel, giving the 49ers one final chance.

While Haskins was not much worse than Smith in this contest, he was terrible and nearly cost the Redskins the game. Haskins finished 7-of-12 for only 51 yards. He continued to display poor pocket awareness and mechanics, as he has seemingly learned nothing during his hiatus. Smith, by the way, went 8-of-19 for 57 yards and an interception on an underthrown pass. All he did was loft weak downfield floaters until he was knocked out of the game.

With both Redskin quarterbacks performing poorly, the team was able to prevail because of the defensive line. Chase Young was an animal. He created major havoc in San Francisco's backfield, logging a sack and a big tackle for loss on Jeff Wilson Jr., which resulted in a lost fumble. Young later scoop and scored a forced fumble by Da'Ron Payne.

Young forced Nick Mullens into many poor throws, as Mullens went 25-of-45 for 260 yards, one touchdown, an interception and a lost fumble - a stat line enhanced by some garbage time. Mullens' interception was a pick-six, which he telegraphed. He also had another potential interception that was dropped. Mullens had several ugly overthrows in this contest, as it looked like he was rattled by Young.

It didn't help Mullens' cause that Deebo Samuel suffered an injury to start the game. With Samuel out, Brandon Aiyuk was the clear receiving leader with 10 grabs for 119 yards. Kendrick Bourne (3-42) had a huge gain in the fourth quarter negated by a holding penalty. He also dropped a pass for a substantial gain in the second quarter.

Raheem Mostert and Wilson Jr. once again split the workload, getting 14 and 11 carries, respectively. Mostert outgained Wilson, 65-31, but Wilson scored a touchdown.

The Redskins also split the touches with their backs, as Peyton Barber edged out J.D. McKissic in carries, 12-11. However, it was McKissic who outgained Barber by a wide amount, 68-37. McKissic didn't do much as a receiver out of the backfield - two catches, 18 yards - because Haskins opted to throw terrible passes downfield rather than check the ball down to his talented back. McKissic ended up as the third-leading receiver on the Redskins, trailing Logan Thomas (6-43) and Terry McLaurin (2-24).

Bills 26, Steelers 15

The Steelers aren't quite falling apart with their two recent losses, but they continued to kill themselves with mistakes. They came into this game with 13 drops in their previous two contests, and yet they committed two drops on just as many drives to open the night. Both drops were courtesy of Diontae Johnson, who was pulled from the game until the second half.

Despite Johnson's hands of stone, it was clear that Ben Roethlisberger missed his top receiver because he began making mistakes without Johnson on the field. Leading 7-3, Roethlisberger telegraphed an interception, allowing Taron Johnson to jump the route and take the pick back for six. Roethlisberger later launched a deep pass downfield toward James Washington, which the fast receiver didn't exactly fight for. Roethlisberger threw 37 times, but accumulated just 187 yards on 21 completions. He threw two touchdowns, but only one came in non-garbage time. The Steelers can fix this, but there's also a chance they'll continue to shoot themselves in the foot.

Conversely, the Bills made a huge statement victory. Josh Allen began the game slowly, going just 10-of-23 for 76 yards and an interception in the opening half. The pick wasn't his fault - his arm was hit upon release - but Allen missed some throws he's been converting this year. He also fumbled on a strip-sack, but a teammate of his recovered the loose ball. In the early stages of this affair, it looked like Allen was a bit nervous or anxious to play in this big game.

Allen, however, looked like a completely different quarterback in the second half. He was 14-of-20 for 152 yards and two touchdowns following intermission, allowing him to finish with a great stat line (24-of-43, 238 yards, 2 TDs, INT.) He torched the Steelers with accurate throws, many of which he launched downfield to Stefon Diggs.

Speaking of Diggs, the Bills' No. 1 receiver enjoyed a dominant performance. He had a quiet first half, much like Allen, but he managed to haul in 10 of his 14 targets for 130 yards and a touchdown. Diggs was a monster, and the Joe Haden-less Pittsburgh secondary had no answer for him.

Elsewhere in the Buffalo receiving corps, Gabriel Davis (3-19) caught a touchdown, but also dropped a pass.

Cole Beasley (5-41) was second on the team in receiving.

Devin Singletary handled the majority of the workload last week. Naturally, Zack Moss was awarded with more touches this week. Moss mustered 43 yards on 13 carries, while Singletary tallied 32 yards on seven tries. Singletary is the best running back on Buffalo's roster, so the rushing usage on this team makes very little sense.

Both Singletary and Moss outgained James Conner, who was limited to just 18 yards on 10 carries. He also fumbled, but a teammate of his recovered the ball. Buffalo's run defense has improved exponentially with Matt Milano back on the field, but it's worth noting that the Steelers really missed talented guard Matt Feiler, who suffered a shoulder injury in the opening half.

JuJu Smith-Schuster led the Steelers in receiving with six grabs for 55 yards and a touchdown, edging out Diontae Johnson (4-40), who made a triumphant return to the field in the fourth quarter.

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

LA Chargers + 4 Over Las Vegas by 3

The Los Angeles Chargers could use a win after losing five of their last seven games. But they clicked as our Private Gold Pick of the Week. [Check out Dennis' Private Gold Records](#). The Los Angeles Chargers have lost five straight road games. Justin Herbert is completing 66.3 percent of his passes for 3,467 yards, 25 touchdowns and 10 interceptions. Herbert has two or more touchdown passes in eight of their last nine games. Keenan Allen and Mike Williams have combined for 1,547 receiving yards and 12 touchdowns while Hunter Henry has 55 receptions. The Los Angeles Chargers ground game is averaging 112.6 yards per contest, and Austin Ekeler leads the way with 407 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Los Angeles is allowing 27.8 points and 337.1 yards per game. Kenneth Murray Jr. leads the Los Angeles Chargers with 88 tackles, Joey Bosa has 7.5 sacks and Michael Davis has three interceptions.

The Las Vegas Raiders need a win here after splitting their last 12 games. The Las Vegas Raiders have lost four of their last five home games. Derek Carr is completing 68.2 percent of his passes for 3,343 yards, 24 touchdowns and seven interceptions. Carr has two or more touchdown passes in nine of his last 12 games. Darren Waller and Nelson Agholor have combined for 1,452 receiving yards and 14 touchdowns while Hunter Renfrow has 47 receptions. The Las Vegas Raiders ground game is averaging 117.9 yards per contest, and Josh Jacobs leads the way with 831 yards and nine touchdowns. Defensively, Las Vegas is allowing 30.1 points and 384.2 yards per game. Johnathan Abram leads the Las Vegas Raiders with 77 tackles, Maxx Crosby has six sacks and Jeff Heath has three interceptions.

The Chargers are 4-1 ATS in their last 5 Thursday games and 1-6 ATS in their last 7 games overall. The Raiders are 2-6 ATS in their last 8 games in December and 5-2 ATS in their last 7 vs. AFC. The over is 8-2 in Chargers last 10 road games. The over is 9-3-1 in Raiders last 13 games overall. The Chargers are 4-1 ATS in their last 5 meetings in Las Vegas. The road team is 9-3 ATS in their last 12 meetings.

The Los Angeles Chargers have had issues finishing games all season long and all four of their wins have come against teams with losing records. The Las Vegas Raiders have lost three of their last four games and have allowed 28 or more points in each game during that stretch. The Raiders have also played their worst football at home this season. The Chargers will probably blow another lead and lose this game, but I'm not laying chalk with the Raiders in their current form. After the Chargers gave me a Private Gold winner last week, I'm coming right back for more. The points may come in handy here. **Give me the Chargers and the points.**
Projected Score: LA Chargers 27, Las Vegas 24

Tampa Bay at Atlanta Over 50 by 7

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers will look to add another notch to their 8-5 belt after picking up a 26-14 win over Minnesota last time out. Tom Brady has thrown for 3,496 yards, 30 touchdowns and 11 interceptions on 64.8% passing while Ronald Jones II leads the Bucs in rushing with 900 rushing yards and 6 TDs. Mike Evans leads Tampa Bay's receiving group with 669 receiving yards and 11 touchdowns on 51 catches while Chris Godwin also has 51 catches for 587 yards and Rob Gronkowski has 38 catches for 507 yards and 5 scores. Scotty

Miller has 462 receiving yards and Antonio Brown has 217 receiving yards while five other pass-catchers for Tampa Bay have at least 100+ receiving yards this season. On defense, Devin White leads the Bucs with 118 total tackles including a team-high 77 solo tackles and 5 sacks while Jason Pierre-Paul has a team-high 9.5 sacks and Shaquil Barrett has 8 sacks and Ndamukong Suh has 5 sacks this season. Carlton Davis also leads Tampa Bay with 4 interceptions as well this season.

The Atlanta Falcons will simply try to get a confidence builder win after dropping to 4-9 on the year after a 20-17 loss to the Los Angeles Chargers last time out. Matt Ryan has thrown for 3,660 yards, 19 touchdowns and 11 interceptions on 63.7% passing while Todd Gurley II leads Atlanta in rushing with 645 rushing yards and 9 TDs and Brian Hill has 337 rushing yards with a touchdown as well this season. Calvin Ridley leads Atlanta's receiving group with 67 catches on 108 targets for 1,029 yards and 8 touchdowns. Julio Jones has 771 receiving yards with 3 scores and Russell Gage has 605 yards while Hayden Hurst has 475 receiving yards for the Falcons this year. On defense, Foyesade Oluokun leads the Falcons with 97 total tackles including a team-high 66 solo tackles and 3 sacks while Deion Jones has a team-high. Grady Jarrett, Steven Means and Charles Harris all have 3 sacks for the Falcons this year.

Tampa Bay is 6-2 ATS in their last 9 games as a road favorite and 1-5 ATS in their last 6 games following a win while the over is 8-1 in their last 9 division games. Atlanta is 2-5 ATS in their last 9 home games and 2-6 ATS in their last 8 games against the NFC while the under is 4-0 in their last 4 division games. The underdog is 4-1 ATS in the last 5 meetings between these two teams.

I'd like to give the Falcons at home a shot here as tempting as it may to stick it to their division rival in the playoff race, and a home dog is always appealing to me. Nevertheless, I feel more comfortable in what I see as a typical high scoring game. The Bucs are 8-1 to the over in last 9 vs. NFC South games. I have confidence that there will be close to 600 yards passing in this game. I'll stick with the trend and pull for both QB's to light it up. **I'll take over 50 and trust the trend is my friend.**

Projected Score: Tampa Bay 31, Atlanta 26

New England + 3 Over Miami by 3

The New England Patriots will try to bounce back after falling to 6-7 on the year with a 24-3 loss to the Los Angeles Rams in their last game. Cam Newton has thrown for 2,172 yards, 5 touchdowns and 10 interceptions on 66.1% passing while also rushing for 451 yards and 11 touchdowns as well. Damien Harris leads the Patriots with 691 rushing yards and a pair of touchdowns while Damiere Byrd leads New England's receiving group with 566 receiving yards. Jakobi Meyers has 505 receiving yards and Julian Edelman has 315 yards while N'Keal Harry and James White each have 250+ receiving yards this season. On defense, Adrian Phillips leads New England with 94 total tackles including a team-high 64 solo tackles while Chase Winovich has 3.5 sacks and J.C. Jackson has a team-high 7 interceptions for the Patriots this season.

The Miami Dolphins will look to build off of a 33-27 loss to Kansas City last time out, falling to 8-5 on the year in the process. Ryan Fitzpatrick has thrown for 1,909 yards, 12 touchdowns and 8 interceptions on 68.5% passing while Tua Tagovailoa has thrown for 1,214 yards, 9 touchdowns and a pick on 62% passing. Myles Gaskin leads Miami's rushing attack with 477 rushing yards while DeVante Parker has a team-high 56 catches for 677 yards and 4 touchdowns. Mike Gesicki has 44 grabs for 602 yards and 6 scores and Jakeen Grant has 330 receiving yards while Gaskin and Preston Williams each have 250+ receiving yards this season. On defense, Jerome Baker leads the Dolphins with 89 total tackles in addition to 5 sacks while Eric Rowe has a team-high 56 solo tackles and Kyle Van Noy has 6 sacks near the top of the list. Emmanuel Ogbah leads the Dolphins with 8 sacks while Xavien Howard leads the Dolphins with 9 interceptions this season.

New England is 2-5 ATS in their last 7 road games and 38-18-3 in their last 59 games as an underdog while the under is 5-0 in their last 5 games overall. Miami is 5-0 ATS in their last 5 home games and 5-1 ATS in their last 6 division games while the over is 7-2 in their last 9 games following a loss. New England is 2-6 ATS in the last 8 meetings between these two teams in Miami.

Miami needs this win a lot more to keep in the running in the playoff race for the AFC and the Dolphins have had a history of success against the Patriots in Miami. That's why this line looks off to me and I smell a rat. I may be paranoid, but Belichick will throw up a defense to slow Tua. He has a history of shutting down rookies. My hypothesis is a tight, hard hitting battle. Therefore, I recommend that you wait for +3 or buy a half a point if necessary to get to +3. **I'm going to bet New England + 3.**

Projected Score: New England 23, Miami 20

LA Rams - 16½ Over NY Jets by 24

The New York Jets are still looking for their first win of the season and first win overall since December 29 of last year. The New York Jets have lost six straight road games. Sam Darnold is completing 58.4 percent of his passes for 1,560 yards, five touchdowns and nine interceptions. Darnold and Joe Flacco have combined for 11 touchdowns and 12 interceptions. Jamison Crowder and Breshad Perriman have combined for 910 receiving yards and eight touchdowns while Denzel Mims has 19 receptions. The New York Jets ground game is averaging 103.7 yards per contest, and Frank Gore leads the way with 546 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, New York is allowing 30.2 points and 399.6 yards per game. Neville Hewitt leads the New York Jets with 112 tackles, Quinnen Williams has six sacks and Pierre Desir has three interceptions.

The Los Angeles Rams have a chance to win double-digit games for the third time in the last four years. The Los Angeles Rams have won five of their last six home games. Jared Goff is completing 68.2 percent of his passes for 3,509 yards, 18 touchdowns and 11 interceptions. Goff has one or less touchdown passes in five of his last six games. Cooper Kupp and Robert Woods have combined for 1,665 receiving yards and eight touchdowns while Josh Reynolds has 40 receptions. The Los Angeles Rams ground game is averaging 128.9 yards per contest, and Darrell Henderson Jr. leads the way with 564 yards and five touchdowns. Defensively, Los Angeles is allowing 18.9 points and 285.8 yards per game. John Johnson III leads the Los Angeles Rams with 88 tackles, Aaron Donald has 12.5 sacks and Darious Williams has four interceptions.

The Jets are 1-5 ATS in their last 6 road games and 4-9 ATS in their last 13 games overall. The Rams are 5-2-1 ATS in their last 8 home games and 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games overall. The under is 4-1 in Jets last 5 road games. The under is 8-2 in Rams last 10 games overall. The over is 4-1 in the last 5 meetings.

I've bashed the New York Jets all season long and mentioned Adam Gase as the worst head coach in NFL history, and this team is easily one of the worst on both sides of the ball and they're 4-9 against the spread. The Los Angeles Rams have had extra time to prepare for this game and are 8-5 against the spread with possibly the best defense in the NFL. The Jets are 1-5 against the spread in their last six games as a double-digit underdog, while the Rams are 7-2 against the spread in their last nine games as a double-digit favorite. I'm not the chalk eater and I almost always pass on numbers like this, but **it's the Rams in a blowout win.**
Projected Score: LA Rams 34, NY Jets 10

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	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet
CFB	Utah - 10	Purdue + 12	UCLA - 7	Army + 2½
CFB	Missouri - 1	Minnesota + 12½	Penn St - 13½	L.S.U. Under 79½
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NFL	Chargers + 4	Bucs Over 50	Patriots + 3	Rams - 16½

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**Gridiron Gold College Football Line Sheet
December 17 – 19, 2020**

Date/ET	Rot	Team	Line
12/18 4:00 ET	207 208	Nebraska Rutgers	-5 56.5
12/18 7:00 ET	195 196	UAB Marshall	41 -5.5
12/18 7:30 ET	197 198	Ball State Buffalo	66.5 -11.5
12/18 7:30 ET	209 210	Purdue Indiana	55 -11
12/18 8:00 ET	199 200	Washington Southern Cal	58.5 -6.5
12/19 12:00 ET	203 204	Florida State Wake Forest	68 -7
12/19 12:00 ET	229 230	Northwestern Ohio State	58.5 -20.5
12/19 12:00 ET	231 232	Oklahoma Iowa State	-6 58
12/19 12:00 ET	233 234	Louisiana-Lafayette Coastal Carolina	54.5 -4.5
12/19 12:00 ET	243 244	Texas AM Tennessee	-13.5 51.5
12/19 1:30 ET	219 220	Washington State Utah	57.5 -10
12/19 3:00 ET	205 206	Air Force Army	-2 38
12/19 3:30 ET	247 248	Mississippi LSU	75 -1.5
12/19 3:30 ET	249 250	Missouri Mississippi State	49.5 -1
12/19 4:00 ET	211 212	Minnesota Wisconsin	47.5 -11.5
12/19 4:00 ET	235 236	Clemson Notre Dame	-10.5 61.5
12/19 4:15 ET	241 242	Boise State San Jose State	-7 55
12/19 4:30 ET	265 266	Southern Methodist Texas-San Antonio	71.5 -8
12/19 5:30 ET	213 214	Illinois Penn State	50.5 -15
12/19 7:00 ET	215 216	Michigan Iowa	53.5 -14

12/19 7:30 ET	217 218	Michigan State Maryland	48.5 -2
12/19 8:00 ET	221 222	Stanford UCLA	57.5 -6.5
12/19 8:00 ET	237 238	Tulsa Cincinnati	47.5 -15.5
12/19 8:00 ET	239 240	Alabama Florida	-17 75
12/19 10:30 ET	225 226	Arizona State Oregon State	-7 57.5



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GRIDIRON GOLD NFL LINE SHEET

December 17-21, 2020

Date/ET	Rot	Team	Line
12/17	301	Los Angeles Chargers	54.5
8:20 ET	302	Las Vegas Raiders	-3.5
12/19	345	Buffalo Bills	6.5
4:30 ET	346	Denver Broncos	50
12/19	151	Carolina Panthers	50
8:15 ET	152	Green Bay Packers	8.5
12//20	341	Houston Texans	52.5
1:00 ET	342	Indianapolis Colts	-7
12/20	347	Detroit Lions	53
1:00 ET	348	Tennessee Titans	10.5
12//20	351	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	-5.5
1:00 ET	352	Atlanta Falcons	50.5
12//20	353	New England Patriots	41.5
1:00 ET	354	Miami Dolphins	-2
12//20	355	Seattle Seahawks	-5.5
1:00 ET	356	Washington Football Team	44
12//20	357	Chicago Bears	46
1:00 ET	358	Minnesota Vikings	-3.5
12//20	359	Jacksonville Jaguars	46
1:00 ET	360	Baltimore Ravens	13
12//20	367	San Francisco 49ers	-2.5
1:00 ET	368	Dallas Cowboys	45.5
12//20	349	New York Jets	44.5
4:05 ET	350	Los Angeles Rams	-16.5
12//20	363	Philadelphia Eagles	48.5
4:05 ET	364	Arizona Cardinals	-6.5
12//20	365	Kansas City Chiefs	-3.5
4:25 ET	366	New Orleans Saints	51.5
12//20	361	Cleveland Browns	-3.5
8:20 ET	362	New York Giants	-45.5
12/21/20	369	Pittsburgh Steelers	-12.5
8:15 ET	370	Cincinnati Bengals	40.5

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