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WILL FLORIDA STATE WAKE UP OR ARE THEY A FUGAZI TEAM

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Florida State + 6½ Over WAKE FOREST by 3

The Florida State Seminoles need a win after losses to Notre Dame and Jacksonville State. The Wake Forest Demon Deacons look for another win after beating Old Dominion and Norfolk State.

The Florida State Seminoles haven't won a road game since November of 2019. McKenzie Milton is completing 60.5 percent of his passes for 181 yards, one touchdown and one interception. Ja'Khi Douglas and Keyshawn Helton have combined for 133 receiving yards and one touchdown while Darion Williamson has four receptions. The Florida State Seminoles ground game is averaging 233 yards per contest, and Jashaun Corbin leads the way with 253 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, Florida State is allowing 30.5 points and 392 yards per game. Jermaine Johnson II leads the Florida State Seminoles with 18 tackles, Keir Thomas has one sack and Travis Jay has one interception.

The Wake Forest Demon Deacons look for two 3-0 starts in the last three years. Sam Hartman is completing 67.3 percent of his passes for 432 yards, four touchdowns and zero interceptions. Jaquarii Roberson and A.T. Perry have combined for 243 receiving yards and three touchdowns while Donald Stewart has five receptions. The Wake Forest Demon Deacons ground game is averaging 162.5 yards per contest, and Christian Beal-Smith leads the way with 134 yards and three touchdowns. Defensively, Wake Forest is allowing 13 points and 304 yards per game. Luke Masterson leads the Wake Forest Demon Deacons with 13 tackles, Luiji Vilain has 1.5 sacks and Caelen Carson has one interception.

The Seminoles are 2-8-1 ATS in their last 11 road games and 4-10 ATS in their last 14 games overall. The Demon Deacons are 7-3 ATS in their last 10 home games and 0-4 ATS in their last 4 games overall. The over is 7-3 in Seminoles last 10 games overall. The under is 5-2 in Demon Deacons last 7 home games. The Seminoles are 1-3-1 ATS in their last 5 meetings in Wake Forest and 1-3-1 ATS in their last 5 meetings.

Right when you thought Florida State was on the right track after taking Notre Dame to overtime, the Seminoles lose to Jacksonville State in the most bizarre, heartbreaking way possible. Florida State hits the road following that rock bottom upset loss to Jacksonville State. By no means do I think the Seminoles are a good football team. And there's every chance they could be in the toilet for the season if they take another loss here. At the very least, Mike Norvell figures to have his team prepped to play after what looms as a very intense week of practice. The good news is FSU is not exactly facing a powerhouse in Wake Forest. The

Demon Deacons are 2-0 but they haven't looked particularly sharp in dispatching a terrible Old Dominion entry and FCS Norfolk State. One thing that's set is that McKenzie Milton is now the starting QB for FSU. Norvell made that clear as he released his depth chart for the game this week.

I like the fact it's not going to be a situation where it's not clear who's getting the first team reps in practice. More than anything, I am betting this on numbers. My power ratings do not radically adjust off one result and my ratings have this game Wake Forest -1. That's a pretty good differential on a line that's a TD. I'm generally going to play based on value, particularly with an underdog. I can pretty much guarantee that if the Noles fail here, you won't see them in my newsletter again anytime soon. Nevertheless, I'm going to take them in this spot. We will find out in this game which one of these teams is a fugazi. FSU plus the points is the wager.

Projected Score: Florida State 33, Wake Forest 30

ARMY - 32½ Over UCONN by 41

The UConn Huskies need a victory here after losing their first three games. The Army Black Knights look for another win after beating Georgia State and Western Kentucky.

The UConn Huskies look to avoid their first 0-4 start since the 2013 CFB season. Jack Zergiotis is completing 44.6 percent of his passes for 235 yards, three touchdowns and three interceptions. Keelan Marion and Cameron Ross have combined for 120 receiving yards and two touchdowns while Heron Maurisseau has five receptions. The UConn Huskies ground game is averaging 82.7 yards per contest, and Kevin Mensah leads the way with 107 yards on 40 carries. Defensively, UConn is allowing 44 points and 490 yards per game. Jackson Mitchell leads the UConn Huskies with 28 tackles, Travis Jones has two sacks and Jeremy Lucien has one interception.

The Army Black Knights look for their first 3-0 start since the 2016 CFB season. Christian Anderson is completing 75 percent of his passes for 117 yards, two touchdowns and zero interceptions. Braheam Murphy and Tyrell Robinson have combined for 117 receiving yards and three touchdowns while Sean Eckert has one reception. The Army Black Knights ground game is averaging 300 yards per contest, and Anderson leads the way with 174 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Army is allowing 22.5 points and 327 yards per game. Julian McDuffie leads the Army Black Knights with 10 tackles, Andre Carter II has 4.5 sacks and Jabari Moore has one interception.

The Huskies are 14-36-2 ATS in their last 52 road games and 14-37-2 ATS in their last 53 games overall. The Black Knights are 9-3 ATS in their last 12 home games and 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games overall. The under is 5-2 in Huskies last 7 games in September. The over is 6-2 in Black Knights last 8 games overall.

This is a lot of lumber with Army and their ground pounding time ticking offense. But we're talking about a UConn team that is a total mess. When Army gets ahead, they'll be defending against a QB with a 44% completion rate. This they'll defend easily. The UConn Huskies have been shutout in two of their first three games and they've been awful on both sides of the ball. UConn also hasn't covered numbers in years, and Army has covered four of its last five games as favorites of at least 30 points. Lima Charlie it's Army in a blowout.....Hooah

Projected Score: Army 48, UConn 7

TOLEDO - 13 Over Colorado St by 24

Colorado State is coming off a matchup versus Vanderbilt. In that game, the Rams took a tough three-point defeat. As for the Rockets, they played Notre Dame in their second game of the year. Toledo lost by three points in that one.

Colorado State fell behind South Dakota State 21-10 at the break in their opener, and things didn't get much better in a 42-23 blowout loss. Quarterback Todd Centeio finished on 304 yards and a score, while Trey McBride caught 13 balls for 116 yards.

In game two versus Vanderbilt, Colorado State had a 14-7 halftime lead vanish in a 24-21 defeat. Centeio had 238 yards with two touchdowns and an INT on 20-of-38 passing there, while McBride had another good game on 114 yards and a score from eight grabs.

Over on the Toledo side, they matched up against Norfolk State in their 2021 opener. The Rockets cruised in that one with a 49-10 victory. Toledo QB Carter Bradley had 183 yards and a score, while DeQuan Finn led the rushers with nine carries for 82 yards and a TD.

The Rockets played Notre Dame this past weekend for game two. Toledo had a 16-14 halftime lead but couldn't hang on in a tough 32-29 defeat. Bradley had 213 yards on 17-of-27 passing there, while Bryant Koback put up 122 yards with a TD from 21 carries.

The Rams are 3-8 ATS in their last 11 as a road underdog and 0-4 ATS in their last four overall. Colorado State is 0-4 ATS in their last four on the road as well.

Meanwhile, Toledo is 4-1 ATS in their last five in September and 4-1 ATS in their last five non-conference games. The Rockets are also 1-5 ATS in their last six after an ATS win.

The Rockets played Notre Dame straight-up, compiling 353 yards of total offense with 5.6 yards per play. Toledo gave up 449 yards on the other side with 27 first downs, but also forced three turnovers. As for Colorado State, they out-gained Vanderbilt 445-342 but had trouble staying on the field with a 24:33 time of possession and a 4-of-15 mark on third downs.

Carter Bradley has 396 passing yards (198.0 ypg) to lead Toledo, completing 64.1% of his passes and throwing one touchdown pass this season.

Bryant Koback's team-high 174 rushing yards (87.0 per game) have come on 30 carries, with three touchdowns this year. He's also added 43 yards (21.5 per game) on five catches.

The Rams do not match up well here. The Rams top rusher, David Bailey, has carried the ball 19 times for only 46 yards and that spells trouble against a defense that stood up the Fighting Irish. The Rockets should fire on all cylinders at home against a lesser opponent. The Rockets will win and cover this game going away.

Projected Score: Toledo 41, Colorado St 17

Stanford - 10½ Over VANDERBILT by 21

The Stanford Cardinal defied the oddsmakers in Week 2 with a 42-28 win over No. 14 USC despite being a 17-point underdog. This week Stanford will reverse roles as a double-digit favorite.

Stanford stands at 1-1 with an impressive win on the road at a ranked USC team, which followed an ugly 24-7 loss to Kansas State on a neutral field in the season-opener. The newly released spread is the first time Stanford has been a double-digit favorite since the program was favored by 24.5 points in a 2018 meeting against Oregon State.

Vanderbilt has also had highs and lows in a short amount of time. The head coach Clark Lea era opened with an embarrassing 23-3 loss at home to FCS program East Tennessee State. Vanderbilt then went on the road and snapped an 11-game losing streak at Colorado State by a score of 24-21. Colorado State had also fallen to an FCS program in Week 1 by a lopsided margin.

Stanford has not dropped a game as a double-digit favorite since 2015. The Cardinal fell 16-6 in the 2015 season opener against Northwestern as a 10-point favorite. Since then, Stanford has won 18 consecutive games as a double-digit favorite. Stanford has covered the spread in 11 of those wins - but only four of the last 10.

On the other side, Vanderbilt has rarely been able to overcome a double-digit spread in recent years. Vanderbilt has been a double-digit underdog 15 times just since 2019. They delivered one upset, a 21-14 win over Missouri as 21.5-point underdogs. Vanderbilt beat the spread in six of those 15 games.

Stanford looks to keep momentum rolling after Saturday's win. The offense was led by sophomore quarterback Tanner McKee in his first career start and won the starting QB job. The Cardinals have to fly from the west coast to Tennessee. It's a night game and that an advantage for the Cards for time adjustment. Vandy has played E Tenn St and Colorado St whereas S UCLA over Stanford has played Kansas St and USC. The Cards are dropping down in class and the Doors are going up in class. It will be tougher for the Doors to move and it will be easier for the Cards to score. Note that the PAC-12 has been crushing non-conference foes this year i.e.; Oregon over Ohio St, UCLA over LSU, Cal even with TCU etc. Stanford covers the spread in Music City.

Projected Score: Stanford 34, Vanderbilt 13

Tulane at MISSISSIPPI Over 73 by 9

The Green Wave are coming off a game versus Morgan State. In that one Tulane notched a blowout 49-point win. As for Ole Miss, they just finished up against Austin Peay last weekend. The Rebels bagged a huge victory as well in week two.

Tulane fought back from a 23-point deficit in their opener against Oklahoma, turning it into a respectable (but disappointing) 40-35 loss. Quarterback Michael Pratt put up 296 yards with three touchdowns, and Tyrick James had 93 yards with six receptions.

In game two versus Morgan State, Tulane posted 35 points in the second quarter alone on the way to a big 69-20 victory. Justin Ibieta put up 166 yards and two scores with two picks, and Iverson Celestine had 77 yards with 13 carries.

Over on the Mississippi side, they played Louisville in their first game. The Rebels jumped out to a 26-0 lead at the break and cruised to a 43-24 result. QB Matt Corral put up 381 yards with one TD, and Jarod Conner had 60 yards and two scores on eight rushes.

The Rebels played Austin Peay this past weekend. In that one, Ole Miss posted a 37-7 halftime edge en route to a 54-17 blowout win. Corral had 281 yards and five touchdowns in the victory, and Dontario Drummond posted 107 yards and two scores on six grabs.

The Green Wave are 4-1 ATS in their last five non-conference games and 4-1 ATS in their last five on grass. Tulane is also 5-2 ATS in their last seven after an ATS win.

Meanwhile, the Rebels are 3-0-1 ATS in their last four non-conference games and 6-13-1 ATS in their last 20 after a straight-up win. The over is also 5-1 in Ole Miss' last six in September.

The Rebels had their offense working overtime in week two, rumbling to 630 total yards, 336 rush yards and 7.7 yards per play. Ole Miss was also great on fourth downs, going four-of-six. As for the Wave, they managed 584 total yards with 7.0 yards per play in week two and had a nice mix of run and pass (294 to 290).

Two very good quarterbacks in a shootout are what I expect. Offense is the strength of both teams and defense is the weak link for both teams. Rebels and Wave should light up the scoreboard barring any bad weather. Check our college football weather report for weather status. If you like offensive football, this is a must watch because the pigskin will be flying often. Ole Miss and Tulane to go over the posted total points of 73 is the bet.

Projected Score: Ole Miss 48, Tulane 35





NFL WEEK 2

NFL Top Performers Last Week

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

TAMPA BAY - 12½ Over Atlanta by 20

Atlanta is coming off a bad week one loss to the Eagles. As for the Buccaneers, they played the Cowboys in their first game, ultimately eking out a three-point victory.

Atlanta managed a field goal in both the first and second quarters in week one, but couldn't find the end zone otherwise. The Falcons were down 15-6 at the break and didn't do anything on the scoreboard from there in a 32-6 loss to the Eagles.

In the week one defeat, Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan put up 164 yards on 21-of-35 passing. Cordarrelle Patterson was the top rusher on 54 yards from seven carries, and Calvin Ridley led the Atlanta receivers with five catches for 51 yards.

Over on the Bucs' side, they fared better in their week one game versus the Cowboys last Thursday, but the game was still tense. Tampa Bay had a 21-16 lead at halftime and had to hang on for an eventual 31-29 victory thanks to a fourth-quarter field goal.

Tampa Bay quarterback Tom Brady posted 379 yards with four touchdowns and two interceptions on 32-of-50 passing in the win. Leonard Fournette put up 32 yards on nine carries, and Antonio Brown had 121 yards and a score off five catches.

There's not much to like about the Falcons' week one loss. Atlanta put up just 136 passing yards and 4.1 yards per play against Philly, giving up three sacks and notching 12 penalties. The Bucs defense is just as ornery as the Eagles and you can expect Ryan to be passing a bunch of times.

As for Tampa, they gave up 451 yards of offense to the Cowboys in their first game along with 30 first downs and a 5.9-yard average. The Bucs will need to clean up penalties (11) and turnovers (four) as well. That said, this is probably a spot for Tampa to grab an early lead and cruise to a win and cover. Lay the lumber with Bucs.
Projected Score: Tampa Bay 37, Atlanta 17

Denver - 6 Over JACKSONVILLE by 14

Denver is coming off a week one game versus the Giants. The Broncos were able to pull off a 14-point win to kick the season off with a victory. As for the Jaguars, they couldn't handle the Texans in a 16-point defeat.

Denver had a slim 10-7 lead at halftime in their opener game versus the Giants, but then outscored New York 17-6 from there in a 27-13 victory. Denver put up 420 yards of total offense during the win.

Broncos quarterback Teddy Bridgewater put up 264 yards with two scores on a 28-of-36 line in week one. Melvin Gordon led the rush with 101 yards and a TD on 11 carries, and Jerry Jeudy had 72 yards with six grabs to lead the receivers.

Over on the Jaguars' side, their week one experience didn't go so well. Jacksonville limped into the break with a 27-7 deficit and things didn't get much better from there. Despite two second-half TDs the Jags fell 37-21 to the Texans for their first loss.

Jaguars QB Trevor Lawrence was a mixed bag with 332 yards, three TDs and three interceptions on a 28-of-51 line. Carlos Hyde notched 44 rushing yards on nine carries, and DJ Clark had 86 yards and a score on

three grabs.

Denver looked pretty good on the ground as they protected their lead in week one, notching 165 rushing yards and 24 first downs with a nice 3-for-3 on fourth-down tries. The Broncos only punted twice as well. Teddy Bridgewater was very efficient and he very seldom makes mistakes. That means the Jags will not get any easy interception points.

As for the Jaguars, they were playing from behind most of the game and couldn't catch a well-rounded Houston offensive attack. The good news is that Jacksonville only allowed one sack, but the mistakes (three picks, 10 penalties, etc.) were too much to overcome. This game will be much tougher for Trevor Lawrence and I expect more sacks and interceptions. Hey Urban, you're playing Alabama every week now instead of playing Illinois with a loaded team against a lightweight. Tough being on the other side but you will take your lumps this year. Denver shuts down the Jags offense and covers the spread by a few touchdowns and PAT's.
Projected Score: Denver 30, Jacksonville 16

LA RAMS - 4 Over Indianapolis by 11

The Los Angeles Rams will be looking to build on their 34-14 win over the Chicago Bears in the debut of the Matt Stafford era in their last game. Stafford threw for 321 yards and 3 touchdowns on 20 of 26 passing while Darrell Henderson Jr. had 16 carries for 70 yards and a score on the ground. Cooper Kupp led the Rams with 7 grabs for 108 yards and a TD and Van Jefferson had 80 receiving yards with a score. Tyler Higbee added 5 catches for 69 yards while Robert Woods added a touchdown reception as well in the win. Defensively, Jordan Fuller led the Rams with 11 total tackles including 6 solo tackles while Taylor Rapp and Kenny Young each had 10 total tackles and Justin Hollins had a pair of sacks. David Long Jr. added an interception and Aaron Donald chipped in a sack of his own in the opener.

The Indianapolis Colts will try to bounce back from a 28-16 loss to Seattle last time out. Carson Wentz threw for 251 yards and a pair of touchdowns on 25 of 38 passing while Jonathan Taylor rushed for 56 yards and Nyheim Hines had 34 rushing yards as well. Taylor led the Colts in receiving with 6 grabs for 60 yards while Hines had 6 receptions of his own for 48 yards and Zach Pascal added 4 grabs for 43 yards. Defensively, Khari Willis and Bobby Okereke each had 7 total tackles with Willis logging 6 solo tackles.

Los Angeles is 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games as a favorite and 9-2 ATS in their last 12 September games while the under is 7-2 in their last 9 games as a road favorite. Indianapolis is 0-4 ATS in their last 4 home games and 1-4 ATS in their last 5 games overall while the over is 6-0 in their last 6 games against a team with a winning record.

This should be a highly-entertaining game with these two quarterbacks. Both teams are solid defensively, but these are also two teams that are more than capable of putting points up in bunches, especially the Rams like we saw on Sunday night. Matthew Stafford's trade to LA must feel like he died and went to heaven. He looked very comfortable slinging it for the Rams with two over 50-yard TD passes. The Colts are not a pushover and the Rams are on a short week, but it just feels like the Rams are in a good spot now whereas, the Colts are still trying to find their mojo. Give me the high scoring Rams in this spot.

Projected Score: LA Rams 28, Indianapolis 17

New Orleans - 3 Over CAROLINA by 13

The New Orleans Saints will be out to build on their 38-3 romp over the Green Bay Packers in their opening game. Jameis Winston threw for 148 yards and 5 touchdowns on 14 of 20 passing while Alvin Kamara rushed for a team-high 83 yards on 20 carries and Tony Jones Jr. had 11 carries for 50 yards. Deonte Harris led the Saints with 72 receiving yards and a score and Juwan Johnson had a pair of receiving TDs while Chris Hogan and Kamara each had a touchdown reception as well. Defensively, Zack Baun led the Saints with 5 total tackles while Marcus Williams and Paulson Adebo each had an INT for New Orleans in the win.

The Carolina Panthers will look to add to their 19-14 win over the New York Jets in their last game. Sam Darnold threw for 279 yards and a touchdown on 24 of 35 passing while Christian McCaffrey had 98 rushing yards on 21 carries. McCaffrey also added a team-high 9 receptions for 89 yards while DJ Moore had 6 grabs

for 80 yards and Robby Anderson’s lone reception went 57 yards for a score. Defensively, Shaq Thompson had a team-high 10 total tackles including a sack and 5 solo tackles. Haason Reddick had 1.5 sacks and Thompson had an interception as well as Carolina’s defense was impressive, combining for 6 sacks as a team in the win.

New Orleans is 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games overall and 8-2 ATS in their last 10 games following a win while the under is 4-0 in their last 4 games against the NFC. Carolina is 5-2 ATS in their last 7 games overall and 3-9-1 ATS in their last 13 home games while the under is 6-1 in their last 7 games following a win.

The key trend is Carolina is 3-9-1 ATS in their last 13 home games and now they face an explosive offense at home. Sam Darnold got a bit of sweet revenge in downing his prior team last week. But this week he will not have revenge on his mind and will have to deal with the Saints defense that embarrassed Aaron Rodgers and the pack by holding them to a measly 3 points. Saints have to deal with McCafferty but the Panthers have to deal with a boatload of offensive stars on the Saints. Add that Jameis Winston threw 5 TD passes last week and seems to be handling the offense mistake free. Saints lost their home game last week and it didn’t phase them one bit. The Saints come marching home with two in a row on the road.

Projected Score: New Orleans 30, Carolina 17

THIS WEEKS GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET BEST BETS					
	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet
CFB	Florida St + 6½	Army - 32½	Toledo - 13	Stanford - 10½	Ole Miss Ov 73
NFL	Tampa Bay - 12½	Denver - 6	LA Rams - 4	New Orleans - 3	

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