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Volume 40 Issue 4

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SMASHMOUTH BIG 10 GAME NEBRASKA at MICHIGAN STATE SPARTANS CRUNCH HUSKERS

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

PURDUE - 11 Over Illinois by 21

The Illinois Fighting Illini have lost three straight road games. Artur Sitkowski is completing 56.9 percent of his passes for 611 yards, six touchdowns and one interception. Isaiah Williams and Deuce Spann have combined for 347 receiving yards and three touchdowns while Daniel Barker has eight receptions. The Illinois Fighting Illini ground game is averaging 144.8 yards per contest, and Chase Brown leads the way with 122 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Illinois is allowing 30.3 points and 481.5 yards per game. Jake Hansen leads the Illinois Fighting Illini with 30 tackles, Jer'Zhan Newton has two sacks and Kerby Joseph has one interception.

The Purdue Boilermakers have lost four of their last six home games. Jack Plummer is completing 72.2 percent of his passes for 745 yards, seven touchdowns and zero interceptions. David Bell and Payne Durham have combined for 522 receiving yards and six touchdowns while Jackson Anthrop has 16 receptions. The Purdue Boilermakers ground game is averaging 110.7 yards per contest, and King Doerue leads the way with 126 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Purdue is allowing 16 points and 309.7 yards per game. Jalen Graham leads the Purdue Boilermakers with 16 tackles, Lawrence Johnson has one sack and Cam Allen has one interception.

The Fighting Illini are 0-4 ATS in their last 4 games on grass and 2-5 ATS in their last 7 games overall. The Boilermakers are 0-5 ATS in their last 5 conference games and 2-6 ATS in their last 8 games overall. The over is 3-1-1 in Fighting Illini last 5 conference games. The under is 4-0 in Boilermakers last 4 games overall. The road team is 5-2 ATS in their last 7 meetings.

The one trend that matters in this game is that Illinois is 1-5 against the spread in its last six games as a double-digit underdog. Illinois hasn't looked good since its opening week win over Nebraska. Purdue is off to a good start this season, hung around with Notre Dame last week and has shown a balanced attack. The Purdue Boilermakers are currently 14th in college football in passing yards per game thanks to Jack Plummer completing 72.2 percent of his passes this year. Now he throws into one of the worst defensive teams in the country, especially against defending the pass. Purdue should roll here. Lay the lumber and back the Boilers.

Projected Score: Purdue 38, Illinois 17

DUKE - 15½ Over Kansas by 28

The Kansas Jayhawks QB Jason Bean is completing 56.1 percent of his passes for 409 yards, three touchdowns and zero interceptions. Kwamie Lassiter II and Luke Grimm have combined for 211 receiving yards on 18 catches while Trevor Wilson has seven receptions. The Kansas Jayhawks ground game is averaging 130 yards per contest, and Bean leads the way with 221 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, Kansas is allowing 36 points and 432.7 yards per game. Kenny Logan Jr. leads the Kansas Jayhawks with 23 tackles, Kyron Johnson has 1.5 sacks and O.J. Burroughs has one pass deflection.

The Duke Blue Devils have split their last six home games. Gunnar Holmberg is completing 71 percent of his passes for 812 yards, two touchdowns and one interceptions. Jake Bobo and Jalon Calhoun have combined for 435 receiving yards on 41 catches while Mataeo Durant has eight receptions. The Duke Blue Devils ground game is averaging 241.7 yards per contest, and Durant leads the way with 398 yards and seven touchdowns. Defensively, Duke is allowing 23.7 points and 383 yards per game. Shaka Heyward leads the Duke Blue Devils with 32 tackles, RJ Oben has one sack and Lummie Young IV has one interception.

The Jayhawks are 20-43-1 ATS in their last 64 road games and 5-16 ATS in their last 21 games overall. The Blue Devils are 37-15-1 ATS in their last 53 non-conference games. The over is 16-5-1 in Jayhawks last 22 games overall. The over is 9-3 in Blue Devils last 12 games overall.

Kansas is still struggling to win or cover numbers and that's all we care about in this business. Duke is 12-2-1 against the spread in its last 15 games as a double-digit favorite. The Blue Devils in the win last week used 2 quarterbacks who combined for 350 yards and a touchdown and a pick while going 32/45. Gunnar Holmberg is completing 71 percent of his passes and Duke has a dominant offensive player in Mataeo Durant and is currently 13th in college football in total yards per game. The Jayhawks haven't won a road game since Sept. of 2019. I'm all over the efficient Blue Devils in what I project to be a comfortable cover against the spread.

Projected Score: Duke 42, Kansas 14

MICHIGAN ST - 4 Over Nebraska by 14

The Nebraska Cornhuskers will look to rebound from a narrow 23-16 loss to Oklahoma in their last game. Adrian Martinez has thrown for 1,017 yards, 5 touchdowns and an interception on 65.7% passing while also rushing for a team-high 290 yards and 4 touchdowns. Markese Stepp has 128 rushing yards while Gabe Ervin Jr. has 107 rushing yards and a pair of touchdowns. Samori Toure has a team-high 16 catches for 333 yards and a pair of touchdowns while Austin Allen, Omar Manning, Xavier Betts and Oliver Martin all have 100+ receiving yards so far this year. Defensively, Nick Henrich has a team-high 30 total tackles while Luke Rimer has 27 total tackles with 14 solo tackles. JoJo Domann and Deontai Williams each have 23 total tackles with Domann logging a team-best 15 solo tackles while Williams has a pair of interceptions and Pheldarius Payne's got a pair of Nebraska's 4 sacks this season.

The Michigan State Spartans will attempt to built off of their huge 38-17 win over Miami last time out. Payton Thorne's thrown for 726 yards and 9 touchdowns on 62.3% passing while Kenneth Walker III leads the Spartans with 493 rushing yards and 5 touchdowns and Jordan Simmons has 132 rushing yards this season. Jayden Reed leads MSU's receiving group with 12 catches for 277 yards and 3 TDs while Jalen Nailor and Tre Mosley each have 100+ receiving yards with Nailor logging 10 grabs for 141 yards and 3 scores of his own. Defensively, Xavier Henderson leads Sparty with 25 total tackles including a team-high 17 solo tackles and a pair of sacks while Jeff Pietrowski and Drew Beasley also have a pair of sacks respectively this season.

Nebraska is 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games overall and 2-6 ATS in their last 8 games following a win while the under is 6-0 in their last 6 games as a road underdog. Michigan State is 8-18-1 ATS in their last 27 games overall and 5-15 ATS in their last 20 conference games while the over is 4-1 in their last 5 as a home favorite.

Well that's why they say to keep your words short and sweet in case you have to eat them later and I was wrong about both of these teams. Nebraska took Oklahoma to the limit and Michigan State's unbeaten and could potentially challenge for a spot in the Big Ten title game. With that said, I like the Spartans more than I do Nebraska. I don't trust Adrian Martinez and the one man Husker offense. Sparty's defensive backfield picked off two last week against Miami and they may do the same against Martinez. I'm backing Sparty and their well balanced offense. Give me Sparty and home cooking here.

Projected Score: Michigan State 31, Nebraska 17

ARIZONA ST - 14 Over Colorado by 24

The Colorado Buffaloes dropped to 1-2 following a 30-0 loss to the Minnesota Golden Gophers last week. Quarterback Brandon Lewis passed for just 55 yards, while running back Drew Carter gained only nine yards. Colorado was held to just 63 yards of total offense and six first downs.

Colorado quarterback Brandon Lewis has passed for 246 yards with one touchdown and one interception, while running back Jarek Broussard has rushed for 153 yards and two touchdowns. The leading receiver is Daniel Arias with 45 yards. On defense, linebacker Nate Landman has 27 tackles to lead the Buffaloes.

Arizona State dropped to 2-1 following a 27-17 loss to the BYU Cougars last week. Arizona State gained 426 yards of total offense but turned the ball over four times. Quarterback Jayden Daniels passed for 265 yards but was intercepted twice, while running back Daniyel Ngata rushed for 82 yards and one touchdown. Wide receiver Rachaad White had 66 yards receiving.

Arizona State quarterback Jayden Daniels has passed for 572 yards with two touchdowns and three interceptions. The leading rusher is Rachaad White with 219 yards and five touchdowns and White is also the leading receiver with 117 yards, while Andre Johnson has 115 yards receiving. Arizona State linebacker Darian Butler is the leader in tackles with 20.

Jayden Daniels went 21/29 for 265 yards, zero touchdowns, and two interceptions last week. He has been playing good but the turnovers are diminishing the production of the offense. Colorado nearly beats Texas A&M and then gets clobbered by Minnesota last week. Does that tell you that the Big 10 is stronger than the PAC 12. I don't think so because the Pac 12 has fared well against Big 10 opponents this year. Trying to figure out Colorado and Texas A&M this year has been taxing. We have more confidence in backing the Sun Devils at home against an underachieving Colorado squad. Lay the points and take Arizona St.

Projected Score: Arizona St 34, Colorado 10

OREGON - 27½ Over Arizona by 38

The Arizona Wildcats lost despite being 26.5-point home favorites. Arizona lost to a win less FCS program plummeting its own football program even further down in the rankings. Arizona gained 363 yards of total offense but committed three turnovers.

Arizona quarterback Will Plummer has passed for 310 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions. Michael Wiley is the leading rusher with 143 yards and Stanley Berryhill II is the leading receiver with 243 yards and two touchdowns. Linebacker Anthony Pandy is the leading tackler with 26 and lineman Kyon Barrs is the leader in quarterback sacks with 2.5.

Oregon continued its winning ways on last week with a 48-7 victory over Stony Brook. Oregon improved to 3-0 with the lopsided victory. Quarterback Anthony Brown passed for 159 yards and one touchdown, while Travis Dye rushed for 87 yards and one touchdown and Dont'e Thornton caught two passes for 60 yards and one touchdown. Oregon's defense held Stony Brook to 271 yards of total offense.

Anthony Brown has passed for 567 yards with four touchdowns, while the leading rusher for Oregon is CJ Verdell with 266 yards and three touchdowns and the leading receiver is Johnny Johnson III with 121 yards and one touchdown reception. On defense, cornerback Mykael Wright is the leading tackler with 16, while end Bradyn Swinson is the leader in quarterback sacks with 2.5.

Oregon will easily defeat a disappointed and struggling Arizona squad. Oregon held its last opponent Stony Brook to just seven points and 271 yards of total offense and Arizona lost its last outing to Northern Arizona. This is a mismatch in all categories. Arizona is 1-6 ATS in its last 7 against the spread. Ducks in a blowout.

Projected Score: Oregon 45, Arizona 7

Top



Rated

Guaranteed Picks: "If You Don't Win, You Don't Pay"



A GUNSLINGERS SHOOTOUT IN KANSAS CITY'S ARROWHEAD AS HERBERT FACES MAHOMES

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

LA Chargers at KANSAS CITY Over 55 by 13

The Los Angeles Chargers and the Kansas City Chiefs meet in an AFC West division matchup. It's Justin Herbert facing off against Patrick Mahomes in Arrowhead Stadium.

The Los Angeles Chargers will look to rebound from their 20-17 loss to the Dallas Cowboys in their last matchup. Justin Herbert threw for 338 yards, a touchdown and 2 interceptions on 31 of 41 passing while Austin Ekeler had a team-high 54 rushing yards. Ekeler also had a team-high 9 catches for 61 yards while Keenan Allen had a team-best 108 receiving yards and Mike Williams had 7 catches for 91 yards and the Chargers' lone touchdown. Defensively, Nasir Adderley led the Chargers with 9 total tackles including 8 solo tackles while Asante Samuel Jr. recorded an interception for the Chargers in the victory.

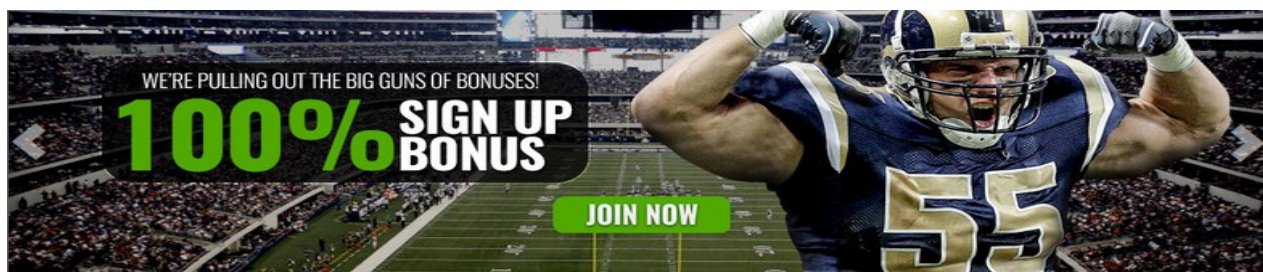
The Kansas City Chiefs will look to rebound from a heart-wrenching 36-35 loss to Baltimore on Sunday night football last time out. Patrick Mahomes threw for 343 yards, 3 touchdowns and an interception on 24 of 31 passing while Clyde Edwards-Helaire had 46 rushing yards and Darrel Williams added a touchdown carry as well in the loss. Travis Kelce led the Chiefs with 7 catches for 109 yards and a touchdown while Byron Pringle had 63 receiving yards with a score and Demarcus Robinson chipped in a touchdown catch as well. Defensively, Anthony Hitchens led the Chiefs with 12 total tackles including a team-high 9 solo tackles while Daniel Sorensen had 10 total tackles with 7 solo tackles and a sack. Nick Bolton had 9 total tackles with 8 solo tackles and Tyrann Mathieu chipped in a pair of interceptions including a pick-six in the defeat.

Los Angeles is 7-3-1 ATS in their last 11 road games and 5-1 ATS in their last 6 games overall while the under is 8-0 in their last 8 September games. Kansas City is 10-1 ATS in their last 11 week 3 matchups and 1-5-1 ATS in their last 7 division games while the under is 4-1 in their last 5 games following a loss.

All the trends point toward an under game but we don't see it that way. The Cowboys Dak Prescott tore up the Chargers secondary last week. If he can do it, you know that Patrick can too. Chiefs put up crooked numbers against the stingy Ravens this past week. This is going to be a high-octane game with the magnificent receiver corps on both teams. This is going to be an absolute must watch for offensive football aficionados. This game may be as entertaining as last weeks Ravens Chiefs game.

We don't really have a side favorite in this matchup but what we do have is an over pick based on both teams fantastic QB's and receivers. Mahomes is pitching it at 76% and Herbert at 71%. Mahomes 333 passing yards per game and Herbert at 323 passing yards per game. No way am I watching this game and squeezing for these teams not to score. I'm not saying the Chargers win this outright, but we think you're looking at a shootout that may be very close to the spread whereas the total eclipses 55. GO OVER!

Projected Score: Kansas City 37, LA Chargers 31



Arizona - 7 Over JACKSONVILLE by 17

Arizona played the Vikings in their last outing, pounding out a one-point victory. As for the Jaguars, they played the Broncos in their last outing, falling by 10 and falling to 0-2 on the year.

Arizona opened their year against the Titans. The Cardinals had a 24-6 lead at halftime in that one, cruising to a 38-13 victory. QB Kyler Murray finished with 289 yards, four touchdowns and a pick, while Chase Edmonds had 63 yards on 12 carries.

Game two was a much tighter affair for the Cardinals as they eked out a 34-33 win over the Vikings. Murray had 400 yards with three touchdowns and two interceptions on 29-of-36 passing. Rondale Moore led the receivers with 114 yards and a score off seven catches.

Over on the Jaguars' side, they didn't have much hope in week one versus the Texans after falling behind 27-7 at the break. Jacksonville ultimately fell 37-21. QB Trevor Lawrence put up 332 yards in his first pro game with three touchdowns and three interceptions.

The Jaguars lost again in game two to the Broncos, allowing Denver to score in every quarter during a 23-13 result. Lawrence posted just 118 yards with one TD and two picks in that one, with Marvin Jones leading the receivers on 55 yards and a score from six grabs.

The Cardinals are 11-5-2 ATS in their last 18 road games. Cards travel extremely well and are road warriors. Meanwhile, the Jags are 3-7 ATS in their last 10 after an ATS loss and 1-4 ATS in their last five at home.

I'm on these high flying Cardinals. The Cardinals did well offensively against a Vikings last week, posting 371 passing yards, 21 first downs and 7.9 yards per play.

As for the Jags, they coughed up 398 yards of offense to the Broncos, accumulating just 189 total themselves. Jacksonville had just 12 first downs but allowed just one sack. I think the Jaguars will play a better game here but it's probably still the Cardinals' cover to take.

Projected Score: Arizona 34, Jacksonville 17

Baltimore - 9 Over DETROIT by 19

The Baltimore Ravens look for another win to get a game above a .500 record. The Detroit Lions need a win to prevent their first 0-3 start since the 2015 NFL season.

The Baltimore Ravens have won five of their last eight road games. Lamar Jackson is completing 66.1 percent of his passes for 474 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions. Marquise Brown and Sammy Watkins have combined for 322 receiving yards and two touchdowns while Mark Andrews has eight receptions. The Baltimore Ravens ground game is averaging 220 yards per contest, and Jackson leads the way with 193 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, Baltimore is allowing 34 points and 448 yards per game. Patrick Queen leads the Baltimore Ravens with 17 tackles, Odafe Oweh has one sack and Anthony Averett has one pick.

The Detroit Lions have lost five straight home games. Jared Goff is completing 68.8 percent of his passes for 584 yards, five touchdowns and two interceptions. TJ Hockenson and D'Andre Swift have combined for 269 receiving yards and three touchdowns while Quintez Cephus has seven receptions. The Detroit Lions ground game is averaging 112 yards per contest, and Jamaal Williams leads the way with 79 yards and one touchdown. Defensively, Detroit is allowing 38 points and 382.5 yards per game. Alex Anzalone leads the Detroit Lions with 14 tackles, Tracy Walker III has one sack and Jeff Okudah has one pass deflection.

The Ravens are 11-5 ATS in their last 16 road games and 8-2 ATS in their last 10 games overall. The Lions are 8-3 ATS in their last 11 games in September and 2-6 ATS in their last 8 games following a ATS win. The under is 6-2 in Ravens last 8 road games. The over is 4-1 in Lions last 5 games overall.

The Ravens are head and shoulders the better team here and have covered four straight games when favored by seven or more points. The Detroit Lions are better than many give them credit for, and they just competed with the Packers, but they're also 3-7 against the spread when an underdog of seven or more points. The Lions play hard and may have a chance at a backdoor cover, but I have more confidence in the Ravens.

Projected Score: Baltimore 35, Detroit 16

LA RAIDERS - 4 Over Miami by 14

The Miami Dolphins will look to move past a 35-0 beat down loss at the hands of the Buffalo Bills in their last matchup. Jacoby Brissett threw for 169 yards and an interception on 24 of 40 passing in relief of Tua Tagovailoa who left the game after just 4 pass attempts due to an injury. Myles Gaskin led the Dolphins with 25 rushing yards while Malcolm Brown added 21 rushing yards. Jaylen Waddle led the Dolphins' receiving group with a team-high 6 catches for 48 yards while DeVante Parker had 5 grabs for 42 yards and Mike Gesicki added 41 receiving yards as well. Defensively, Brandon Jones led the Dolphins with 6 total tackles including 5 solo tackles while Zach Sieler had 6 total tackles with 4 solo tackles as well and Xavien Howard recorded an interception for Miami in the defeat.

The Las Vegas Raiders will be looking to build on their 26-17 win over the Pittsburgh Steelers last time out. Derek Carr threw for 382 yards and a pair of touchdowns on 28 of 37 passing while Peyton Barber led the Raiders with 32 rushing yards on 13 carries. Henry Ruggs III led the Raiders with 5 grabs for 113 yards and a score while Darren Waller, Hunter Renfrow and Kenyan Drake each had 5 catches for 40+ yards and Foster Moreau had a touchdown grab as well in the victory. Defensively, Denzel Perryman led the Raiders with 12 total tackles including 6 solo tackles while Johnathan Abram and Trayvon Mullen Jr. each had 6 solo tackles as well. Mullen Jr. also had an interception while Solomon Thomas had both of Las Vegas' sacks as a team in the win.

Miami is 6-1 ATS in their last 7 games as an underdog and 6-0 ATS in their last 6 games following a loss while the under is 7-1 in their last 8 September games. Las Vegas is 0-4 ATS in their last 4 games as a favorite and 4-1 ATS in their last 5 games following a win while the over is 5-0 in their last 5 home games.

Well, here we go again, will the trends be your friend? What is the status of Tua going into this game? What will the Dolphins do with Tua out or banged up, especially when the Raiders have looked really good early on this year both offensively and defensively.

The Raiders always raise the hopes of their faithful and then they fall flat on their face. This year feels a bit different. Let me say this a different way to emphasize. Derek Carr threw for *"382 yards and a pair of touchdowns on 28 of 37 passing against the Steelers defense"* last week. I'm jumping on the Chuckie and Carr train and ride this Raider train until it runs off the tracks. Las Vegas looks really good. I'll lay it and play it with the Raiders here.

Projected Score: LA Raiders 30, Miami 16

THIS WEEKS GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET BEST BETS

	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet
CFB	Purdue - 11	Duke - 15½	Michigan St - 4	Arizona St - 14	Oregon - 28
NFL	LA/KC Over 55	Arizona - 7	Baltimore - 9	LA Raiders - 4	

