

Gridiron Gold Sheet Football Newsletter

Only \$1.25
Per Pick

68 NFL Previews & Picks
68 CFB Previews & Picks

Since 1981

Best Value Football Newsletter in the Nation



Dennis Stagliano's Award Winning Football Newsletters

[Click Here](#)

Volume 42 Issue 6

NFL Week 4, 2023



COLORADO GETS CRUSHED FSU ELIMINATES CLEMSON
LUCK OF THE IRISH MISSED GOOD WASHINGTON TEAMS

NCAA LANDSCAPE:

The first three weeks of the season came with some genuine drama, some true upsets and roughly a billion stories about Coach Prime, but it was all little more than an appetizer to Week 4 -- a Bloomin' Onion to Saturday's 64-ounce sirloin.

This was a day with six matchups between ranked teams. This was a day in which Deion Sanders would finally be tested, Florida State could assert its place atop the ACC, and Alabama's masked defensive coordinator would finally be revealed.

Week 4 gave us big-boy football.

Ohio State toppled Notre Dame by about an inch and a half with one second left on the clock.

Florida State survived a heavyweight battle in overtime.

Penn State delivered a statement that it was a true contender in the Big Ten, and James Franklin was officially removed from Brian Ferentz's Christmas card list.

Washington State won the battle of the last two remaining Pac-12 teams, which we're pretty sure earns it a trophy of some sort. It might just be the old Civil Conflict trophy with a Beaver duct-taped to the top, but a trophy nonetheless.

Nick Saban proved once again that Lane Kiffin might win every news conference, but he's got no hope of toppling Alabama on the field.

Saturday gave us Dan Lanning's takedown of Coach Prime, a shootout in Baton Rouge, a near-perfect performance from Spencer Rattler, a left-handed touchdown pass from Drake Maye.

In South Bend, Sam Hartman and a methodical ground game had Ohio State on the ropes and Notre Dame oh-so close to a signature win. It was not to be. Kyle McCord led a 15-play drive, hit Emeka Egbuka for a 21-yard pickup to the 1 on third-and-19, then helped push Chip

Trayanum just barely over the goal line with a second left to play. If the Big Ten has given us myriad 17-14 games over the years that felt like watching paint dry,

In Clemson, the Tigers looked as dynamic and intimidating as they have in three years, and it still wasn't enough to upend ascendant Florida State. Jordan Travis and Kalen DeLoach, two players who arrived under Willie Taggart's doomed tenure, rallied the Seminoles to a come-from-behind win in overtime.

In Tuscaloosa, the Crimson Tide's offensive woes continued, but Saban proved he -- or someone -- still knows how to design a defense. After Kiffin promoted the conspiracy theory that Saban had secretly changed defensive playcallers a week ago, the Tide held Ole Miss to just 3-of-14 on third down, 301 total yards, and 10 points.

On the Palouse, Washington State fended off a late push by Oregon State to survive 38-35. It marked yet another in a long run of Oregon State hoping for a last-minute reprieve, only to face certain relegation to the Mountain West. It also served as a reminder that Cougars QB Cameron Ward is one of the nation's best. He threw for 404 yards (averaged 11.9 per pass on 34 attempts) and four touchdowns in the win.

FSU, Clemson go the extra mile. The story began with a man on the beach, just hoping to enjoy his last few weeks before starting a new job. It was a story Dabo Swinney, quite presciently, predicted would either be "great or terrible."

Alas, Saturday was the latter for Clemson. The Tigers, in need of help in the kicking game, brought in Jonathan Weitz on Monday to take over the starting job. Weitz had been Clemson's backup for four years. The story began like a Shakespeare play, with Weitz drilling his first kick to give Clemson an early 3-0 lead, but it ended in tragedy, with Weitz missing a chip shot from 29 yards out with 1 minute, 45 seconds to play.

Florida State survives Clemson in OT to remain undefeated. Florida State moves to 4-0 on the season as it gets help from a Clemson missed field goal and clutch play in overtime.

The miss left the game tied, and in overtime, Florida State prevailed 31-24 thanks to the second touchdown of the day from receiver Keon Coleman. It will certainly not be lost on frustrated Clemson fans that it was one of FSU's transfers who proved to be the difference. Swinney has notoriously shied away from the portal. The beach, of course, is another story.

It's hard to imagine that anyone at Clemson envisioned the story of the Tigers' 2023 campaign to look like this either. After a shocking loss to Duke in the opener, Clemson is 0-2 in ACC play for the first time since 2010, Swinney's second full season on the job. The Tigers have won at least 10 games every year since.

Jordan Travis, playing with a wounded left arm, gutted out 289 yards and three touchdowns on a day when the running game offered just 22 yards for the Seminoles. Two years ago, he'd nearly quit football. Saturday, he presided over Florida State's biggest win since at least 2016.

All 289 yards of passing offense for the Seminoles came via transfers. It was a treatise on how to win in this new age of college football.

For the Seminoles, Saturday's game was a statement. Their time is now. For Clemson, the ending was less definitive.

On Saturday, however, Oregon head coach Dan Lanning gave voice to all those coaches too uneasy to speak their own minds on Coach Prime.

"The Cinderella story's over, men," Lanning said in a fiery pregame speech. "They're fighting for clicks; we're fighting for wins." Lanning: Colorado's fighting for clicks; we're fighting for wins. Dan Lanning fires his team up pregame with a couple of shots at Colorado.

The important takeaway is Lanning and the Ducks put their money where their mouths were, walloping Colorado 42-6, an abrupt ending to the season's biggest storyline.

Bo Nix accounted for four touchdowns, and Oregon's defense was dominant. Many of the cracks in the 3-0 façade finally played havoc with the Buffaloes, with the ground game managing next to nothing, the O-line struggling badly, and the suspect secondary getting burned early and often. In the end, the Colorado die-hards, many of whom have lived and died with this team for upward of four weeks now, were given a cold dose of reality.

More than the on-field issues, however, Lanning's speech underscored the frustration so many coaches have trying to compete with Deion Sanders, whose big personality and unconventional approach to program building threaten to upend the status quo. In other words, fans love Colorado for the same reason coaches hate the Buffs.

Don't expect Saturday's struggles to completely end the Cinderella story, however. Colorado has USC next week, a chance to jump-start the bandwagon. But the Buffs have already exceeded most reasonable expectations, and the buzz around Coach Prime isn't new and won't dissolve with a loss or two.

Did you say 'Utes'? The most overlooked team in the country through four weeks? That might be Utah. The Utes are 4-0. They've beaten two ranked opponents. And they've done it without their starting QB.

Utah's offense was far from electric in a 14-7 win over UCLA, but Nate Johnson -- starting for the injured Cameron Rising -- did enough to win, while the defense was absolutely dominant, including holding the Bruins to 3-of-17 on third-down tries.

The lack of offensive fireworks is probably one reason the Utes have largely been overlooked. In a Pac-12 defined by QB play, Utah has now won games while scoring 24, 20 and 14 and has a total of three touchdown passes in four games -- something Caleb Williams or Michael Penix Jr. manage before halftime most weeks.

But credit Kyle Whittingham, who is 23-6 in the past two calendar years. That's a better record than Clemson, Notre Dame or Oregon and trails only Georgia, Michigan, Ohio State and Alabama in that span.

Ugly win for the Gators. Florida welcomed Biff Poggi and Charlotte to The Swamp in Week 4,

and we can only assume the 49ers head coach felt right at home in jean shorts and a sleeveless sweatshirt.

On the field, Charlotte looked pretty comfortable, too, largely stifling Florida's offense that didn't find the end zone after an early first-quarter score.

Instead, the highlight for the Gators was Ricky Pearsall's utterly ridiculous one-handed grab. Florida WR Ricky Pearsall needs just one hand to make a spectacular catch for a first down. Pearsall finished with six catches for 104 yards, but the bulk of the offense came from kicker Trey Smack, who booted five field goals in the game.

Rock, chalk, unranked Jayhawks. A blind résumé comparison through Week 3 Team A: 3-0, +11 points-per-game margin, a win over a bad Mountain West team and a win over a solid but underwhelming Power 5 opponent. It played an undefeated opponent in Week 4.

Team B: 3-0, +16.3 points-per-game margin, a win over a bad Mountain West team and a win over a solid but underwhelming Power 5 opponent. It played an undefeated opponent in Week 4.

Team A, you might have guessed, is Colorado. The Buffaloes were the toast of college football and entered Week 4 ranked 19th nationally.

Team B, you might not have guessed, is Kansas, a team largely ignored thus far despite playing extremely well.

So what happened in Week 4? Colorado was blown out by undefeated Oregon. Kansas easily beat previously undefeated BYU behind three TD throws from Jalon Daniels. On offense, Kansas has topped 30 points in five straight games dating to last season. The Jayhawks' D held BYU to 9 -- 9! -- total rush yards and had three takeaways in the triumph. In other words: **Rank the Jayhawks!**

Heisman Five

Week 4 marks our first Colorado-free Heisman Five. The Buffs will be missed, but we also assume Deion Sanders will take offense to this and earn his revenge at a date to be determined.

1. Washington QB Michael Penix Jr.

The level of competition has not been elite thus far, but a quick recap of what Penix and the Huskies have done ...

Week 1: 28-12 Washington with four Penix TD passes

Week 2: 22-3 Washington with two Penix TD passes

Week 3: 35-0 Washington with four Penix TD passes

Week 4: 45-12 Washington with three Penix TD passes

Oh, we're sorry. That's what Penix and the Huskies have done this season ... in the first half!

2. USC QB Caleb Williams

Arizona State made things interesting, and it was far from a world-beater performance for USC; but ultimately, Williams still emerged with two passing TDs, two rushing scores and more than 300 yards of offense. Next week, he gets his real challenge though: Stealing the show from Coach Prime.

3. Oregon QB Bo Nix

Nix had four total touchdowns in a dominant win over Colorado and, as we all know, when you defeat Coach Prime, you absorb his powers. That's just science.

4. Florida State QB Jordan Travis

Travis said after the game he felt disrespected because Clemson played so much man defense against him and his cadre of top-tier wide receivers. Dabo Swinney insisted that wasn't true. He just was too afraid of Travis' legs to worry about his arm. And that, in a nutshell, is why the Seminoles are so dangerous.

5. North Carolina QB Drake Maye

OK, his numbers might not exactly be Heisman-worthy at this point, but you throw a touchdown left-handed, you make the list. Drake Maye pulled out his best Patrick Mahomes impression and throws a left-handed touchdown.

Under-the-radar play of the week. Louisville's 4-0 start under Jeff Brohm is so exciting, it has the Cardinals players doing cartwheels. Or something like that.

On what appeared to be a trick play, Louisville's Willie Tyler -- a 6-foot-7, 320-pound offensive lineman -- lined up in the slot and attempted to distract Boston College by waving his arms and then doing a cartwheel. It didn't exactly work, as Jack Plummer and the rest of the offense flubbed away their part of the ruse, but points to Tyler for some serious skill.

Having said that, it was hardly an effective distraction. Everyone knows if you want to distract someone from Boston, you just yell, "Brady sucks!" and then let them throw empty Sam Adams cans at each other for the next 45 minutes.

Under-the-radar game of the week. If you enjoyed Miami vs. Miami in Week 1, then Week 4 had just the matchup for you.

In Houston (a city named for Sam Houston) on Saturday, Houston (a school named after the city named for Sam Houston) faced off against ... Sam Houston (a school named for Sam Houston but not the city of Houston because it's actually located Huntsville, Texas, which, of course, is named for famed frontiersman Tiberius K. Huntsville).

Certainly it seemed like Houston was the better team, but then, Sam Houston had 100% of the Sam in this one. As it turned out, Houston (the team) was entirely too much for Sam Houston (the team, not the man), winning 38-7 behind 105 yards and three rushing TDs from

Parker Jenkins. Also, believe it or not, Sam Houston (the man) was actually born in Virginia.

Harbaugh's return. Michigan's long wait for the return of its head coach came to an end Saturday. Yes, Jim Harbaugh had to pack up his model trains, put away the ham radio and sign out of Netflix with four seasons of "The Big Bang Theory" left to watch and get back to the business of embarrassing Rutgers.

In his absence, Michigan won all three games -- all vs. lesser competition, all in convincing, if not entirely satisfying, fashion.

So, what happened with Harbaugh back on the sideline? A win against lesser competition in convincing, if not entirely satisfying, fashion -- this time 31-7. Rutgers scored first on a 69-yard touchdown pass from Gavin Wimsatt to Christian Dremel, and Michigan's offense largely puttered through the first half, leading just 14-7 at the break.

But like Harbaugh's three-week relaxation retreat, the fun had to come to an end eventually, with the Wolverines' D netting a pick-six and running back Blake Corum finishing the job. J.J. McCarthy averaged better than 10 yards per throw, Corum scored twice, and the defense held Rutgers to 3-of-13 on third and fourth down. It was, like each of the Wolverines' games so far, fine. And given that Michigan's next five games are also against lesser competition, fine is likely more than enough to keep it chugging.

Garrett Shrader threw for a touchdown and ran for one -- his sixth straight multi-TD game -- while the Syracuse defense frustrated Army's option en route to a 29-16 win.

Syracuse is now 4-0 in consecutive seasons for the first time in 63 years. Back then, Syracuse traveled to road games via the Erie Canal, and Varsity Pizza had just been promoted from the freshman pizza team to JV.

Up next for the Orange is Clemson, a team they had on the ropes a year ago with a 7-0 start to the season in their sights. In that game, however, the Tigers marched back from a 21-7 deficit and won 27-21 after holding the Orange scoreless in the second half, and Syracuse dropped six of its final seven games.

Johnson emerges for A&M. Fun fact: Max Johnson is still playing college football. Yes, he somehow feels older than his Super Bowl champion dad, Brad, but that's only because time moves differently at Texas A&M thanks to Jimbo Fisher's offense breaking the space-time continuum. Nevertheless, it's good for the Aggies that Johnson is still around because they desperately needed someone who could sling it against Auburn on Saturday.

After two early field goal drives, A&M's offense went three-and-out on three straight drives to end the half. Starting QB Conner Weigman went down with an injury. Instead, Johnson came on and tossed touchdown passes on consecutive drives to open the second half, and a 67-yard scoop-and-score put the game out of reach early in the fourth. The Aggies won 27-10.

On the flip side, Auburn's passing game was a complete mess. Payton Thorne, Robby Ashford and Holden Geriner all took snaps and finished a combined 9-of-23 passing for just 56 yards, with Auburn's lone TD coming via the defense.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Mid Tenn St at WESTERN KENTUCKY Over 60 by 12 Thursday Night Game 7:30 ET

Week 5 college football action gets started on Thursday night with Middle Tennessee traveling to take on Western Kentucky in Conference-USA action.

Austin Reed was the nation's leading passer in 2022, and is putting up massive numbers yet again for the Hilltoppers pass-happy offense. The team will face Middle Tennessee, who has stumbled out of the gate this season amidst a difficult schedule.

Can Western Kentucky's defense justify its standing as a decent sized favorite at home on a short week after falling to 2-2 last week? Let's take a look at this matchup as WKU hosts 1-3 Middle

Middle Tennessee State. QB Nicholas Vattiato has the Blue Raiders passing the ball at a top 30 percentage this season, and Vattiato has done a decent job in his first full year as the starter despite playing two SEC defenses. The quarterback is completing 71% of his passes, but the team is struggling down-to-down to move the ball down field as he is averaging less than six yards per drop back.

Western Kentucky and Austin Reed: is fourth in pass rate this season, led by the 2022 national passing leader. Reed may not top the country this year, but the Hilltoppers will likely enjoy the drop in talent on the opponent's defense after facing Ohio State and Troy the past two weeks. MTSU struggles to stop the pass and Reed had little issue last season, passing for 278 yards in a 35-17 win against the Blue Raiders.

This game is shaping up to be high scoring based on how both defenses have fared so far.

Both teams have really struggled to stop elite teams on the schedule, and while conventional wisdom may say we don't have a good gauge for how these two teams will fare against one another, more apt competition, I disagree.

Western Kentucky's defense is in dire straits, the team is 125th in EPA/Play, which includes allowing more than seven yards per play to FCS foe Houston Baptist at home. While I don't rate the Middle Tennessee offense that highly, Vattiao has been able to make plays in this pass-first offense and also leads the team in rushing yards.

He has been smart with the ball, fine checking the ball down if the first read isn't there, and if his accuracy does dip, the clock will be stopped due to incompletions.

Trends for this game: Western Kentucky is 2-2 against the spread (ATS) this season. Middle Tennessee is 1-3 ATS this season.

On the other side, this should be another big game for Reed, who gets to face a MTSU defense that struggled against an air-raid style offense last week, allowing Colorado State to score 31 points on a 0.43 EPA/Dropback, which grades out as an 87th percentile passing game when compared to 1st season.

Both teams are weak on defense with prolific passing attacks. A lot of clock stoppage and a lot of big plays from two very good QB's. Both teams are average in terms of pace, but both defenses are going to be scrambling to slow down the aerial attack of both teams, leading to a higher scoring game. Therefore, my pick on this game is on the total points. Take Over 60

Projected Score: W. Kentucky 38, MTSU 34

OREGON ST - 2½ Over Utah by 10
Friday Night Game 9:00 ET

Oregon State, a trendy pick to win the PAC-12 this season, suffered an opening loss to league play, but can get back on track at home on Friday night against the class of the conference in recent years in Utah, who shut down UCLA's high powered offense in a Week 4 win.

The Beavers are small home favorites as we await further news about Cam Rising's knee injury after he didn't make his anticipated return last week.

The Beavers couldn't slow down the Washington State passing game on the road against the Cougars as the team couldn't overcome a 14-0 first quarter deficit.

However, I don't believe the Utah passing game can challenge the Oregon State secondary that gave me some pause heading into the season as a PAC-12 title contender after losing two NFL-caliber cornerbacks.

The Utes are hoping that Cam Rising will make his long awaited return from his torn ACL suffered in January and give a jolt to its quarterback play. Rising is a decorated passer, passing for over 5,500 yards over the last two seasons.

But backup Nate Johnson hasn't been a threat at all in the passing game as the Utes have leaned on its stifling defense to get to 4-0 on the year.

Utah is 108th in EPA/Play on offense thus far while running the ball at a top 10 rate given the team's inability to move the ball downfield with the rush first Johnson.

If Johnson gets the nod, I don't believe the Utes will challenge the weak point of the Oregon State defense while I also question Rising effectiveness if he suits it up in his potential first start on the road against the Beavers.

I give full credit to Utah for shutting down a vaunted UCLA offense and freshman quarterback Dante Moore, limiting the Bruins to -0.50 EPA/Play (1st percentile amongst games in 2022). However, the team will face a better Beavers offensive line in Oregon State, who are top 15 in offensive line yards.

I'm banking on Utah not being able to hit a 75-yard touchdown pass on the opening play (like against Florida), or a pick-six (like against UCLA) and struggle to play from behind.

This line has ticked up by more than a point from its open, which suggests there is not much faith in the Utes to pull off a road victory. Utah is 3-2 ATS and 2-3 S/U as an underdog since 2021, but the Utes have won six of the last seven meetings.

With or without Cam Rising, we still think Oregon St is set up for a Beavers cover. Give me the home town Beavers as a small home favorite.

Projected Score: Oregon St 27, Utah 17

Texas A&M - 6 Over Arkansas by 14

On Saturday, the Texas A&M Aggies got a win in their SEC opener against Auburn, but they also suffered a big loss. Connor Weigman, their sophomore quarterback went out with an injury and was replaced by Max Johnson who led the Aggies to 3-1 on the year. Johnson is capable, but the Aggies will want Weigman back on the field this weekend for their matchup with KJ Jefferson and the 2-2 Arkansas Razorbacks at Jerry's World.

Arkansas nearly pulled off a big upset in Week 4 with a three-point loss to the No. 13 LSU Tigers in Death Valley. They need a win in conference play soon or the season will start to slip away. This Week 5 matchup will be crucial.

Texas A&M Max Johnson, QB: It's worth monitoring the situation all week because Texas A&M's starting quarterback, Connor Weigman, left their win over Auburn on Saturday with an injury and was replaced by backup Max Johnson. Johnson threw for 123 yards and two touchdowns on 7/11 passing in relief of Weigman. Johnson has a lot of experience, he started multiple games for the Aggies last season and was the starting QB at LSU in 2021.

Arkansas KJ Jefferson, QB: On Saturday, Jefferson did what he could to keep the Razorbacks in the game against LSU, but it wasn't quite enough. He went 21/31 passing for 289 yards and three touchdowns while running for 48 yards on 16 carries, but he had two interceptions in the three-point loss.

Sure, this past weekend, Arkansas was able to make it very close against LSU, but in the process they revealed that they're going to have a very tough time stopping SEC offenses this season.

In Week 4, LSU gained 8.8 yards per play against Arkansas and ended the game with 509 yards. The game was played at a relatively slow pace with LSU putting up 34 points on only 58 plays.

The A&M offense has been a lot better this season under Bobby Petrino. Last week, with Johnson playing at quarterback for much of the game they were able to gain 6.9 yards per play and for the season they rank 33rd in yards per play averaging 6.5.

That's a really positive indicator for this team going forward and with their bevy of receiving talent, their 18th ranked passing offense won't fall off even if the backup has to go against the Razorbacks.

Evan Stewart is the No. 1 receiver, but they are absurdly deep with pass-catching weapons with Ainias Smith, Jahdae Walker, Noah Thomas, and even Moose Muhammad III who is seventh in the team in receiving yards after finishing with 610 yards on 38 catches last season.

The A&M defense also dominated last week. That unit is only surrendering 273.8 yards per game which ranks 14th and just 13.0 pass completions per game which is fourth best in all of college football.

Razorback's QB Jefferson has a lot on his shoulder and nothing will come easy through the air this week. The Aggies had a tough loss to Miami, but they have covered in their other three games, all as a favorite.

This game is at a neutral site in my favorite stadium, Jerry's World in Arlington, Texas. Texas A&M looked like they got their offense cranked up. Petrino has his offense improving weekly and we expect even more improvement this week. Arkansas is coming off a very physical game against LSU last week and are coming into this game banged up. Top two running backs are questionable including star running back Raheim Sanders. Starter AJ Green only logged three carries at LSU and appeared to be favoring his shoulder at one point coming off the field. That's why I'm taking Texas A&M minus the one touchdown.

Projected Score: Texas A&M 35, Arkansas 21

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

MEMPHIS - 3½ Over Boise St by 14

While Memphis couldn't knock off an SEC foe in Missouri, this is a nice landing spot for the Tigers to score a home victory. I rate the Tigers considerably better than the Broncos, who have struggled on defense after losing four of five key players in the secondary, among others.

The Broncos are 110th in terms of EPA/Play this season. While the team has played a more difficult strength of schedule against the likes of Washington, UCF and even San Diego State, I don't believe that is making the visitors undervalued going on the road to face a potent passing game, headlined by veteran quarterback Seth Henigan.

Henigan had little issue passing on Missouri's stout defense, totaling 316 yards and three touchdowns, but the Tigers couldn't slow down wide receiver Luther Burden, who hauled in 10 catches for 177 yards. Boise State lacks a wide receiver to take advantage like the future NFL player Burden, rating 120th in EPA/Pass this season.

Boise State continues to receive credit in the market after entering the season as the Mountain West favorites, but the team hasn't lived up to its billing. Meanwhile, Memphis has some serious upside on offense that can outpace the Broncos lackluster offense that is underwhelming under a first year offensive coordinator

Projected Score: Memphis 37, Boise St 23

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Clemson at SYRACUSE UNDER 52 by 12

The Clemson Tigers fell in overtime to Florida State last week, 31-24, and had a chance to win it at the end of regulation, but missed a short field goal. The loss has all but taken them out of consideration for the College Football Playoff.

The Tigers are 0-2 in ACC play and will face the Syracuse Orange who have not yet played a conference game.

Syracuse is 4-0 after beating Army in Week 4, but has played a questionable level of competition so far. The Orange are home underdogs in Week 5.

Cade Klubnik, QB and Clemson's offense has a big issue, it's not necessarily the quarterback, but it's what he's being asked to do. Klubnik is averaging just 6.7 yards per attempt while completing 66.2% of his passes. That means everything is underneath and this offense has very little threat of a verticle passing game. If the Tigers are going to make a run after a 2-2

start they need to let Klubnik throw downfield.

Syracuse LeQuint Allen, RB against Army last week gave them a little of their own medicine. It was Syracuse that was pounding the rock. Allen ran it 20 times for 104 yards and a touchdown. On the year he has rushed for 311 yards on 61 carries, which is the second most rushing yards on the Orange to their QB, Garrett Shrader.

Syracuse hasn't played the toughest competition so far this season. Purdue has been the team's toughest opponent and it handled the Boilermakers 35-20. That being said, what the Orange are accomplishing defensively is still very impressive.

Syracuse is second in yards per play, only allowing 4.0. It also is 15th in total defense, ninth in yards per rush, and 16th in yards per pass attempt. It's just so hard to know what about its start to the season is real because of the level of competition.

Clemson on the other hand has had a pretty tough start to the season with Duke and Florida State beating them. Clemson actually out gained Florida State 429-311 in Week 4 and held the Seminoles to 22 yards rushing. The Tigers are ninth in yards per play and are only giving up 2.7 yards per rush.

Syracuse will have a very tough time running the ball against Clemson's defensive front that features Tyler Davis and Xavier Thomas, but Clemson will struggle to push the ball downfield against Syracuse because Garrett Riley's offense is built on short completions.

The under is 8-2 in the last 10 meetings between these two ACC opponents, and that will be my bet this week.

Projected Score: Clemson 23, Syracuse 17

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICKS

USC - 21.5 at Colorado - USC scores at least 42 points every week, and even on the road Caleb Williams will be an unsettling challenge for Colorado. The line has dropped a point, suggesting there is some bounce-back appeal for the Buffaloes at home. This will be Deion Sanders' largest spotlight game for the remainder of the regular season. He'll take advantage of it with a more competitive performance. USC is 2-3 ATS as an away favorite under Lincoln Riley. **TAKE: Colorado + 27**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Oregon at Stanford 62 - The Ducks hammered Colorado. Stanford has lost three in a row and averages 15 points per game in a pair of Pac-12 losses to USC and Arizona. Oregon is operating at the same high-functioning level as the Trojans. Those teams rank No. 1 and No. 2 in scoring offense. The Ducks improve to 5-0 ATS with another road victory. I this is a letdown spot against the Cardinal. Ducks will waddle through this game with much less emotion than last week. **TAKE: Under 62**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Iowa St at Oklahoma 49 - Oklahoma has been kind to us and our bettors this season – and they are coming off back-to-back road games. Home cooking will be good against the Cyclones, who are 2-6 S/U against the Sooners but have never lost any of those games by more than 20 points. That under is tempting (48.5), against an Iowa State defense that allows 16.5 points per game. **TAKE: Under 49**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Washington – 18 at Arizona - We have picked Washington's to cover each of the last four weeks. The Huskies have made us money going 3-1 ATS with an offense that averages 49.8 points per game. Arizona has allowed just 16 points per game and is at home – where the Wildcats are 5-4 ATS as a home underdog with Jedd Fisch. Washington wins but fails to cover. **TAKE: Arizona + 18**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Nevada at Fresno St – 24 Fresno State beat Nevada 41-14 last year, and the Wolf Pack is one of five winless teams left in the FBS after blowing a 17-point lead against Texas State. The Bulldogs are 3-1 ATS and quarterback Mikey Keene has been fantastic with 12 TDs and two interceptions.

TAKE: Fresno St - 24

GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET RESOURCES

CLICK TO LAUNCH THESE POPULAR GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET RESOURCES

[CFB TV SCHEDULE](#)

[NFL TV SCHEDULE](#)

[CFB WEATHER REPORT](#)

[NFL WEATHER REPORT](#)

[COLLEGE FOOTBALL ODDS](#)

[NFL FOOTBALL ODDS](#)

[COLLEGE FOOTBALL BETTING BLOG](#)

[NFL FOOTBALL BETTING BLOG](#)

STATS CENTER:

[COLLEGE & PRO FOOTBALL MATCHUP STATS](#) + [COLLEGE & PRO POWER RATINGS](#)
+ [COLLEGE & PRO INJURY REPORTS](#) + [COLLEGE & PRO TEAM STATISTICS & MORE](#)

THIS WEEKS GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET BEST BETS

	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet
CFB	MTSU Ov 60	Oregon St -2½	Texas AM - 6	Memphis -3½	Clemson Un 52

THIS WEEKS GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET PREFERRED PICKS

CFB	Colorado +21.5	Oregon Un 62	Iowa St Un 49	Arizona + 18	Fresno St - 24
-----	----------------	--------------	---------------	--------------	----------------



Gridiron Gold Sheet Football Newsletter

Only \$1.25
Per Pick

68 NFL Previews & Picks
68 CFB Previews & Picks

Since 1981

Best Value Football Newsletter in the Nation



Dennis Stagliano's Award Winning Football Newsletters

[Click Here](#)



Cardinals Shock The Cowboys; Steelers Hold Off The Raiders; Packers Rally From 17-0 Deficit; Bills' Defense Dominates; Patriots' Defense Helps Bill Belichick Win

NFL LANDSCAPE:

On Thursday, the NFL Week 3 schedule kicked off with the 49ers handling Daniel Jones and the Giants.

The slate continued with 13 games Sunday, highlighted by two legacy franchises getting together on Sunday Night Football, with the Steelers beating the Raiders in Sin City.

In the early slate, we saw the Dolphins score 70 points on the overwhelmed Broncos, while the Desperation Bowl between the previously 0-2 Chargers and Vikings ended in utter chaos. Finally, Jordan Love made the most of his first start at Lambeau Field, rallying the Packers from a 17-point deficit to beat the Saints.

In the late games, we had two games expected to be blowouts. One followed the script with the Chiefs pummeling the Bears. However, the Cardinals handled the Cowboys with relative ease, giving Dallas its first loss of the season.

Here's the instant analysis for each of the games last week, and what the result for every team means moving forward.

Cardinals 28, Cowboys 16 - What it means for Cowboys: Dallas needs to figure out its offense. The Cowboys scored 40 points against the Giants in Week 1 but only totaled 265 yards. Last week, Dallas notched 30 points on the Jets, but Dak Prescott threw for 6.7 yards per attempt while the rushing game went for 3.0 yards per carry. Now, they only produced 16 points against Arizona. If the Cowboys are a Super Bowl team, the offense must be better.

What it means for Cardinals: Jonathan Gannon has Arizona buying in. Gannon's hire was much maligned in many corners, but he's led a Cardinals' team light on talent to fight to the end against the Commanders and Giants, before pulling a stunning upset of the Cowboys. Also, Joshua Dobbs has been very solid under center. Against Dallas, Dobbs completed 17-of-21 for 189 yards and a touchdown.

Steelers 23, Raiders 18 - What it means for Steelers: When Kenny Pickett doesn't turn the ball over, Pittsburgh can ride its defense and a solid ground game to victory. Against the Raiders, Pickett completed 16 passes for 235 yards and two scores, didn't throw an interception (although Marcus Peters will have nightmares of his dropped pick-six) and walked out of Las Vegas with a victory.

What it means for Raiders: Josh McDaniels is the weakest link or a weak chain. Trailing 23–15 with 2:22 remaining and facing fourth-and-4 at Pittsburgh's 8-yard line, McDaniels opted for a field goal. Since starting 6–0 with the Broncos as a head coach, McDaniels is now 12–30. The Raiders don't have a ton of talent, and the issues are exacerbated by who stands on the sideline.

Chiefs 41, Bears 10 - What it means for Bears: It's time to go back to basics. Chicago had about the worst week possible with defensive coordinator Alan Williams resigning, along with Justin Fields's presser. With the 0–3 Broncos coming to Soldier Field, coach Matt Eberflus needs to sell a reset and start anew.

What it means for Chiefs: Everyone will talk about the offense, but the defense is becoming a beast. Fields was held to 42 passing yards (2.6 yards per attempt) and an interception while notching three sacks until Kansas City pulled many of its starters. And the Chiefs were without star linebacker Nick Bolton, who missed the game with a sprained ankle. The offense was always going to be top notch, but the defense has been dominant.

Seahawks 37, Panthers 27 - What it means for Panthers: The offensive line remains an enormous problem. Carolina gave up three sacks and 11 quarterback hits, all while totaling 44 rushing yards (3.1 YPC). While Andy Dalton had a 300-yard day, there were far too many negative plays. If coach Frank Reich can't figure out the front, the Panthers will be giving the Bears a terrific pick come April.

What it means for Seahawks: The offense is officially back. After scoring only 13 points in the season opener against the Rams, Seattle has now scored 37 each of the past two weeks, both wins. As for Geno Smith, one of 2023's best stories has averaged 312 passing yards in those victories after posting 112 yards against Los Angeles. All good news with the Giants on deck.

Packers 18, Saints 17 - What it means for Packers: Green Bay could be really scary when it's finally healthy. The Packers have been without a litany of stars—either all or part of the season—including corner Jaire Alexander, receiver Christian Watson, running back Aaron Jones and left tackle David Bakhtiari, yet are 2–1. With a young quarterback in Jordan Love, Green Bay is surviving without ideal conditions. That's an excellent sign.

What it means for Saints: New Orleans is going to be a tough out every week because of the defense, but this is a horrible loss. The Saints only totaled 252 yards, the third consecutive week where the offense hasn't manufactured much. While the defense is terrific, it's being asked almost single-handedly to win games. Now, where are we at with Derek Carr's injured shoulder?

Colts 22, Ravens 19 - What it means for Colts: Despite being without rookie quarterback Anthony Richardson and running back Jonathan Taylor all year, the Colts are 2–1 and have been in all three games. Looks like Shane Steichen is a terrific coach, and the team is buying into his message. Indianapolis should be very excited about its future.

What it means for Ravens: With a slew of starters out, Lamar Jackson took over the game. The 2019 MVP totaled 303 yards and two touchdowns, consistently picking up key third downs. Still, it wasn't enough to avoid the upset. Until Baltimore gets left tackle Ronnie Stanley, center Tyler Linderbaum and receiver Odell Beckham Jr. back, we might see more of the same, with uneven results.

Bills 37, Commanders 3 - What it means for Bills: Buffalo has quietly been fantastic defensively, showing what it can do even without Von Miller. Against Washington, the Bills forced Sam Howell into four interceptions and nine sacks in an easy win. In three games, Buffalo has only given up 29 points while racking up seven takeaways and 12 sacks.

What it means for Commanders: Burn the tape and move on. Washington's defense tied for the league lead in sacks with 10 before Sunday's disaster. The Commanders aren't ready to compete with top teams such as the Bills, but they have enough talent to compete most weeks largely because their front four is excellent. Sometimes, you're outclassed, and Washington was outclassed by Buffalo.

Dolphins 70, Broncos 20 - What it means for Broncos: The defense is officially a huge problem. The Broncos aren't getting pressure, generating four sacks in three games while entering Sunday with the 31st-ranked pressure rate in the league. This despite coordinator Vance Joseph being noted for his blitz-heavy schemes with a single-high look. It's not only failing, it's historically awful through three weeks.

What it means for Dolphins: Tua Tagovailoa is in the MVP lead. In the first half alone, he was 16-of-16 for 206 yards and two touchdowns, helping Miami take a 35–10 lead at the break and finished with 309 yards passing and four touchdowns. Nobody has a more prolific offense than the Dolphins, who amassed 726 yards against the Broncos and look to make a statement next weekend against the Bills in Orchard Park.

Patriots 15, Jets 10 - What it means for Patriots: New England might be 1–2, but expect it to stay in the playoff chase because of a terrific defense. The Patriots only allowed 251 yards and 18 offensive points to the Eagles, and then limited Miami to 24 points in Week 2. New England's offense is slow and methodical, but the defense is going to win some games by itself. Like this win.

What it means for Jets: It's time to end the Zach Wilson experiment after watching him go 18-of-36 with 157 yards. The problem is: Who replaces him? New York could sign Carson Wentz or elevate backup Tim Boyle, but what does that do for the Jets' ceiling? At this juncture, coach Robert Saleh can't allow this to continue. He risks the rest of his team starting to fracture if he does so.

Texans 37, Jaguars 17 - What it means for Texans: C.J. Stroud looks fantastic, with Houston getting its first win of the Stroud era Sunday. Stroud now has 906 passing yards and four touchdowns through three games, including 280 yards and two scores against Jacksonville. The Texans need to find more weapons beyond running back Dameon Pierce and rookie receiver Tank Dell, but there's reason to believe in Stroud and, by extension, the future.

What it means for Jaguars: Jacksonville hasn't had a good performance this season. The Jaguars needed a rally to beat the Colts, and then lost to the Chiefs despite Kansas City committing 12 penalties and three turnovers. At 1–2, it's far from season ending, but Jacksonville has to get right with international games coming up against the Falcons and Bills. The talent is there.

Browns 27, Titans 3 - What it means for Titans: Malik Willis and Will Levis should at least be warming up. Ryan Tannehill was 20-of-24 in Week 2's win over the Chargers but has been hideous in the two defeats. Tennessee's offensive line is doing him no favors, as the Titans ran for 26 yards Sunday while allowing 13 sacks through three games.

What it means for Browns: Cleveland's offense is always going to be run-heavy with a dose of Deshaun Watson, limiting its ability to score in bunches. However, the defense is elite. The Browns held Cincinnati to three points before surrendering 12 to Pittsburgh (not including two offensive touchdowns). Tennessee then was held without a touchdown. Jim Schwartz has proven to be a terrific hire at defensive coordinator.

Lions 20, Falcons 6 - What it means for Falcons: Atlanta is going to see a ton of eight-man fronts in the near future. Desmond Ridder doesn't threaten defenses despite having quality weapons in tight end Kyle Pitts and receiver Drake London. In their first two games, the Falcons ran for 341 yards and three scores in victories. On Sunday, only 44 yards on 2.2 yards per carry. Stop the run, stop Atlanta.

What it means for Lions: Detroit should be beaming over its rookie class. With running back David Montgomery inactive, Jahmyr Gibbs stepped up and ran for 80 yards on 17 carries, while second-round tight end Sam LaPorta caught eight passes for 84 yards, including a 45-yard touchdown. Once receiver Jameson Williams returns, Detroit has a host of young weapons.

Chargers 28, Vikings 24 - What it means for Chargers: Los Angeles saved its season with a win, largely because coach Brandon Staley relied heavily on Justin Herbert. Herbert threw for 405 yards and three touchdowns on 8.6 yards per attempt. He targeted Keenan Allen 20 times, connecting on

18 occasions for 215 yards. Allen also threw a 49-yard touchdown. With Mike Williams injured, Allen and Herbert will need to be special for the Chargers to keep winning.

What it means for Vikings: At 0–3, Minnesota has ample issues. The defense allowed 475 yards, giving up one easy completion after another to Herbert. The Vikings also had an ideal opportunity to win the game on their final drive, but quarterback Kirk Cousins didn't execute. He allowed more than 10 seconds to elapse before snapping the ball and throwing an interception. For Minnesota to rebound, the offense can't make major mistakes. So far, it has nine turnovers in three games.

49ers 30, Giants 12 - What it means for Giants: New York simply doesn't have enough difference-makers on offense. Jones is an average quarterback who is surrounded by poor skill players and a bad offensive line, especially when left tackle Andrew Thomas isn't healthy. The Giants threw for 4.3 yards per attempt and ran for 29 yards. General manager Joe Schoen should be aggressive before the trade deadline.

What it means for 49ers: Nobody has a more complete roster than San Francisco. The Niners held New York to 150 total yards on 3.7 yards per play, while the offense saw Deebo Samuel rack up 129 receiving yards, with George Kittle contributing 90. People can criticize quarterback Brock Purdy, but all he has to do is avoid mistakes.

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BET

Jacksonville - 3 Over Atlanta by 10

The first International game of the 2023 NFL season will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday in week 4 of the NFL season when the Atlanta Falcons take on the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Atlanta is coming off its first loss of the season while Jacksonville is 1-2 on the year.

The Atlanta Falcons enter this game with a record of 2-1 after losing on the road against the Detroit Lions by a score of 6-20 while failing to cover the 3.5-point spread as a road underdog in week 3 of the NFL season. Atlanta scored 6 points while compiling a total of 183 total yards offensively which included 201 passing yards and 44 rushing yards while allowing 20 points and 358 total yards defensively which included 243 passing yards and 115 rushing yards.

Deshaun Watson led the team in passing, completing 21 of 38 attempts for 201 yards while adding three rushing yards.

Bijan Robinson led the team in rushing with 10 carries for 33 yards while adding four receptions for 27 yards. Kyle Pitts led the team in receiving, catching five of nine targets for 41 yards.

Jacksonville enters this game with a record of 1-2 following a 17-37 loss at home against the Houston Texans while failing to cover the 7.5-point spread as a home favorite in week 3 of the NFL season. The Jaguars scored 17 points while compiling 404 total yards offensively which included 288 passing yards and 116 rushing yards while allowing 37 points and 366 total yards defensively which included 280 passing yards and 86 rushing yards.

Trevor Lawrence led the team in passing, completing 27 of 40 attempts for 279 yards with a touchdown and an interception while adding 12 rushing yards.

Travis Etienne led the team in rushing with 19 carries for 88 yards while adding four receptions for 50 yards. Evan Engram led the team in receiving, catching seven of eight targets for 67 yards.

Atlanta has won five of the eight games all-time while Jacksonville has won two of the last three matchups by an average margin of 6 points per game in those contests.

Atlanta is 1-2 ATS overall and 0-1 ATS as an underdog this season while the Jacksonville Jaguars are 1-2 ATS overall and 1-1 ATS as a favorite on the year.

Atlanta enters this game with a better record, however, Jacksonville has been the better team most

recently in the series, winning two of the last three games.

The Jaguars have won by an average margin of 6 points per game over the last three games in the series. A trip over the pond may be just the thing to get them off the snide. Big QB advantage for the Jaguars and that's why I'm backing them in London.

Projected Score: Jacksonville 27, Atlanta 17

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Denver at CHICAGO Over 46 by 12

The bad news is that both of these teams are 0-3 to start the season while the good news is one of these teams will get their first win of the 2023 NFL season when the Denver Broncos travel to take on the Chicago Bears on Sunday afternoon in week 4 of the NFL season.

The Denver Broncos allowed the 2nd-most points in NFL history in a 20-70 loss against the Miami Dolphins on the road while failing to cover the 6-point spread as a road underdog in week 3 of the NFL season.

Denver scored 20 points while compiling 363 total yards offensively which included 306 passing yards and 69 rushing yards while allowing 70 points and 726 total yards defensively which included 376 passing yards and 350 rushing yards.

Russell Wilson led the team in passing, completing 23 of 38 attempts for 306 yards with a touchdown and an interception.

Javonte Williams led the team in rushing with 11 carries for 42 yards while adding two receptions for 23 yards.

Courtland Sutton led the team in receiving, catching eight of 11 targets for 91 yards and a touchdown.

Chicago enters this game with a record of 0-3 following a 10-41 loss on the road against the Kansas City Chiefs while failing to cover the 12.5-point spread as a home dog in week 3 of the NFL season.

The Bears scored 10 points while compiling 203 total yards offensively which included 99 passing yards and 116 rushing yards while allowing 41 points and 456 total yards defensively which included 303 passing yards and 153 rushing yards.

Justin Fields led the team in passing, completing 11 of 22 attempts for 99 yards with a touchdown and an interception while also leading the team in rushing with 47 yards.

D.J. Moore led the team in receiving, catching three of six targets for 41 yards and a touchdown.

The teams have split the last ten games in the series while Chicago has outscored Denver by an average of 20.4 to 17.6 points per game while the Broncos have won two of the last three games by an average margin of 1 point per game.

Denver is 0-3 ATS overall, 0-1 ATS on the road, and 0-2 ATS as a favorite this season while the Chicago Bears are 0-3 ATS overall, 0-1 ATS at home, and 0-2 ATS as an underdog on the year.

Neither team has won a game this season and neither has covered the spread this year with Denver and Chicago both going 0-3 ATS overall. Both teams have struggled defensively on the year with the Broncos allowing an average of 40.67 points per game and Chicago allowing an average of 35.33 points per game. Take over 46 total points.

Projected Score: Denver 31, Chicago 27

A promotional banner for MyBookie.com. On the left, it says 'MY BOOKIE' in large orange and white letters, with 'PROMOCODE GRIDIRONGOLD' in smaller white text below it. In the center, it says 'UP TO \$1000 WELCOME BONUS' in large white letters. On the right, there is a green button with the text 'BET NOW' in white. The background features a green and black color scheme with a football player in a helmet and jersey on the right side.

PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

BUFFALO - 2½ Over Miami by 10

The Miami Dolphins scored the 2nd-most points in a game in NFL history in week 3 of the NFL season while winning by a score of 70-20 after losing in week 1 against the Jets.

The Bills have won back-to-back games including a 37-3 win against the Washington Commanders.

This is the biggest game of the year thus far for the AFC East division crown. Which team will win this matchup with these two AFC East rivals.

The Miami Dolphins enter this game with a record of 3-0 following a 70-20 win at home against the Denver Broncos while covering the 6-point spread as a home favorite in week 3 of the NFL season.

Miami scored 70 points while compiling a total of 726 total yards offensively which included 376 passing yards and 350 rushing yards while allowing 20 points and 363 total yards defensively which included 306 passing yards and 69 rushing yards. Tua Tagovailoa led the team in passing, completing 23 of 26 attempts for 309 yards and four touchdowns. De'Von Achane led the team in rushing with 18 carries for 203 yards and two touchdowns while adding four receptions for 30 yards and two touchdowns. Tyreek Hill led the team in receiving, catching 9 of 11 targets for 157 yards and a touchdown.

Buffalo enters this game with a record of 2-1 following a 37-3 win on the road against the Washington Commanders while covering the 5-point spread as a road favorite in week 3 of the NFL season. The Bills scored 37 points while compiling a total of 386 total yards offensively which included 218 passing yards and 168 rushing yards while allowing 3 points and 230 total yards defensively which included 170 passing yards and 105 rushing yards. Josh Allen led the team in passing, completing 20 of 32 attempts for 218 yards with a touchdown and an interception while rushing for 46 yards and a touchdown. James Cook led the team in rushing with 15 carries for 98 yards while adding two receptions for 14 yards. Stefon Diggs led the team in receiving, catching eight of 12 targets for 111 yards.

Miami is 3-0 ATS overall, 2-0 ATS on the road, 1-0 ATS as an underdog, and 1-0 ATS in division games this season while the Buffalo Bills are 2-1 ATS overall, 1-0 ATS at home, 2-1 ATS as a favorite, and 0-1 ATS in division games this season.

Both teams have started the season off strong. Miami enters this game with a better record while Buffalo has been the better team in the series, winning nine of the last ten and two of the last three games. The Bills have won by an average margin of 13.9 points per game over the last ten in the series.

The Bills are glad that Miami scored tons of points last week. The Bills will have a rabid crowd, and weather conditions to their liking. Bills hand the Dolphins their first loss.

Projected Score: Buffalo 31, Miami 21



PRO FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Minnesota - 3 Over CAROLINA by 10

The Minnesota Vikings and Carolina Panthers enter this game looking for their first win of the season when the Minnesota Vikings travel to take on the Carolina Panthers.

The Minnesota Vikings enter this game with a record of 0-3 following a 24-28 loss at home against the Los Angeles Chargers while failing to cover the 1.5-point spread as a home underdog in week 3 of the NFL season. Minnesota scored 24 points while compiling a total of 475 total yards offensively which included 367 passing yards and 130 rushing yards while allowing 28 points and 475 total yards defensively which included 454 passing yards and 30 rushing yards.

Kirk Cousins led the team in passing, completing 32 of 50 targets for 367 yards with three touchdowns and an interception while adding ten rushing yards.

Alexander Mattison led the team in rushing with 20 carries for 93 yards while adding five receptions for 32 yards.

Justin Jefferson led the team in receiving, catching seven of 13 targets for 149 yards and a touchdown.

Carolina enters this game with a record of 0-3 following a 27-37 loss on the road against the Seattle Seahawks while failing to cover the 4.5-point spread as a road underdog in week 3 of the NFL season.

The Panthers scored 27 points while compiling a total of 378 yards offensively which included 361 passing yards and 44 rushing yards while allowing 37 points and 425 total yards defensively which included 296 passing yards and 146 rushing yards.

Minnesota has won six of the last ten including the previous three matchups in a row while

Carolina has outscored Minnesota by an average of 19.6 to 17.3 points per game in the last ten while the Vikings have won the last three matchups by an average of 7.67 points per game.

Minnesota is the more talented team this season and has been the better team in the series, winning six of the last ten including the previous three matchups in a row.

The Vikings have won by an average margin of 7.67 points per game over the last three games in the series.

The Carolina secondary got torched last week and they will not find it easier this week going up against Justin Jefferson and his compadres. Ask yourself this question. Would I rather have my money on Kirk Cousins or a banged up rookie QB or the alternative, a seasoned old pro with no legs.

As a result, I am taking the Minnesota Vikings -3 for this matchup on Sunday.

Projected Score: Minnesota 27, Carolina 17



PRO FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Tampa Bay at New Orleans (41.5) - Monitor Derek Carr, who suffered a sprained AC joint against Green Bay in Week 3. This might turn into a battle between former Heisman Trophy winners Jameis Winston and Baker Mayfield. That screams defensive struggle. **Take: Under 41.5**

PRO FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Washington at Philadelphia (44.5) - These teams split last year, and Washington has won two of the last three at Philadelphia. The Commanders are coming off a 37-3 reality check against the Bills. Washington run defense has allowed more than 5.0 yards per carry the last two weeks. Jalen Hurts and D'Andre Swift will enjoy success against that defense. **Take: Over 44½**

PRO FOOTBALL PREFERRED PICK

Baltimore at Cleveland (43.5) - The Browns' defense under Jim Schwartz, which ranks first in the league in total defense (163.7) and points per game (10.7), is legit. The Baltimore defense is not too shaggy either. This one looks like a smashmouth defensive battle. **Take: Under 43½**



UP TO
\$1000

WELCOME
BONUS



BET NOW

GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET RESOURCES CLICK TO LAUNCH THESE POPULAR GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET RESOURCES

<u>CFB TV SCHEDULE</u>	<u>NFL TV SCHEDULE</u>
<u>CFB WEATHER REPORT</u>	<u>NFL WEATHER REPORT</u>
<u>COLLEGE FOOTBALL ODDS</u>	<u>NFL FOOTBALL ODDS</u>
<u>COLLEGE FOOTBALL BETTING BLOG</u>	<u>NFL FOOTBALL BETTING BLOG</u>
STATS CENTER: <u>COLLEGE & PRO FOOTBALL MATCHUP STATS + COLLEGE & PRO POWER RATINGS</u> + <u>COLLEGE & PRO INJURY REPORTS</u> + <u>COLLEGE & PRO TEAM STATISTICS & MORE</u>	

[GUARANTEED COLLEGE FOOTBALL PICKS](#)

[GUARANTEED NFL PICKS](#)

THIS WEEKS GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET BEST BETS

	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet	Best Bet
NFL	Jaguars - 3	Bears Ov46	Bills - 2½	Vikings - 3	

THIS WEEKS GRIDIRON GOLD SHEET PREFERRED PICKS

NFL	Bucs Un 41½	Eagles Ov 44½	Ravens Un 43½		
-----	-------------	---------------	---------------	--	--