

Gridiron Gold Sheet Football Newsletter

\$15

**5 NCAA & 4 NFL BEST BETS + PICKS FOR ALL GAMES
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Dennis Stagliano's Best Bets Gridiron Gold Sheet Football Newsletter

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CFB Week 12, 2025

NCAA Football Landscape:

IT WAS A WIN OR WILT WEEKEND IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL. Seasons teetered on a knife's edge, and you could feel the tension with every snap. Second-ranked Indiana refused to lose in an instant classic against Penn State. Texas Tech laid the smack down on previously undefeated BYU, cementing its status as the Big 12 team to beat. Texas A&M rolled over Missouri to stay undefeated. And Oregon outlasted Iowa on a rainy, nasty day in Iowa City. It was the kind of weekend that reminded us what November football's all about: survival.

Indiana "refused to lose" in an instant classic in Happy Valley. Early in the fourth quarter of Saturday's showdown between Indiana and Penn State, the momentum was overwhelming. The Nittany Lions intercepted Indiana quarterback Fernando Mendoza. The Penn State run game was breaking off one bruising run after another. And quarterback Ethan Grunkemeyer was finding open receivers and moving the chains. Penn State sent the collective college football viewership community scrambling for their remote controls when the Nittany Lions took a late lead and looked poised for an upset.

Then something amazing happened, and Mendoza got his Heisman Trophy moment. Down four points with their backs against the wall, Indiana refused to relent. Mendoza marched the Indiana offense down the field on a 10-play, 80-yard drive, culminating in—and I cannot emphasize this enough—one of the most jaw-dropping, greatest touchdown catches I've ever seen when Omar Cooper Jr. toe-tapped in the back of the end zone for the go-ahead score.

It was a play that not only won Indiana the game but also gave Mendoza his Heisman Trophy moment. It's the type of play we'll see on a loop again and again and will live in Indiana Football lore forever. In the postgame interview, Indiana head coach Curt Cignetti said it best: "We refused to lose."

The Hoosiers moved to 10-0 with the 27-24 victory, maintaining their place in the College Football Playoff picture. Penn State, on the other hand, saw what would've been a landmark victory slip through its fingertips. Football can be cruel like that.

Texas Tech bullies BYU to claim the Big 12's top spot - On Saturday afternoon, No. 8 Texas Tech flexed the best roster money can buy, and previously undefeated BYU spent four quarters paying the price in Lubbock. This one was a no-doubter beat down. Texas Tech used a punishing run game and a stifling defense to squeeze the life out of previously undefeated BYU in a 29-7 win. It was the Red Raiders' ninth win by 20+ points this season.

Texas Tech's offense did some nice things on Saturday afternoon, but the main story is how effective the defense was. Outside linebacker David Bailey made his presence felt all afternoon. Linebacker Jacob Rodriguez led the team with 14 tackles and struck the Heisman pose. All in all, this unit held

the Cougars to 3-of-14 on 3rd down, forced three turnovers, and limited BYU to just 2.5 yards per carry. It was a masterclass defensive performance in every sense of the word.

Had the Red Raiders actually been able to capitalize on some of those early drives and possessions, the final score would've been much more lopsided. With the win, Texas Tech officially becomes the team to beat in the Big 12 Conference title and College Football Playoff race. I also suspect the Big 12 is only going to be a one-bid league this year. BYU got knocked down a peg, and it'll be interesting to see how the Cougars respond down the stretch of the season.

Oregon ousts the Hawkeyes in Iowa City - When the wind blows hard and the sky turns black, ducks fly together. After a late rally from the Hawkeyes, Oregon looked down for the count. Behind the backdrop of a wet and windy afternoon in Iowa City, the Ducks found themselves in a tough spot, desperately in need of a big drive and some points. And that's exactly what they got.

Despite not having his best day, Oregon quarterback Dante Moore delivered when his team needed him most. After going down by one point, Moore laced a couple of crucial throws that put the Ducks in field goal position. Then, with the game on the line, kicker Atticus Sappington stepped up and drilled a game-winning 39-yard field goal to secure the 18-16 victory.

Iowa's defense deserves a ton of credit for how it made life hard for the Oregon offense. And quarterback Mark Gronowski, despite his struggles from game to game, made a couple of monster plays, including the go-ahead touchdown run. But man oh man, this one is going to hurt if you're a Hawkeyes fan. You had 'em where you wanted 'em, and you just failed to slam the door shut.

Oregon has a tricky slate the rest of the way, which made this game that much more crucial. With the win, the Ducks stay afloat in the Big Ten and College Football Playoff races. Iowa looks like a flawed but difficult-to-play-against 8-4 kind of team.

Texas A&M trounces Missouri to stay undefeated - Texas A&M looked every bit like an undefeated team on Saturday against Missouri. The Aggies ran for over 200 yards. Quarterback Marcel Reed did Marcel Reed things, putting his stamp on the game from start to finish. And the defense got stops when it needed to, despite allowing 200 yards on the ground. Mike Elko's group comfortably defeated Missouri 38-17 to keep the undefeated train rollin' for another week.

In a year where almost every team looks capable of losing, A&M just has everything required to compete at the highest level of the sport. This is not the same old 8-4 Texas A&M team we've grown accustomed to. Instead, Elko has built a high-powered machine, and right now, this team is firing on all cylinders.

The Aggies still have a tough close to the season with games against South Carolina and Texas remaining. But count out this team at your own risk. This feels like an SEC-title caliber team that can make some real noise in the College Football Playoff.

The Walking Dead Took a Bite Outta Washington - What a weird one for Jedd Fisch and company to lose. Wisconsin looked like a dead team walkin'. Even with the Wisconsin AD announcing head coach Luke Fickell would be back in 2026, the team, before Saturday night, had shown few signs of life. And yet here we are.

Want to hear the most ridiculous part of it all? Wisconsin beat Washington 13-10 with its PUNTER as its leading passer on the night. Punter Sean West was 1-for-1 for 24 yards and led the Badgers in passing. You can't make this stuff up. With the loss, the Huskies are officially out of the College Football Playoff race. Farewell, fellas.

Vanderbilt lives to fight another day - In what was arguably one of the day's most entertaining games, Vanderbilt needed overtime to outlast a Hugh Freeze-less Auburn Tigers team 45-38.

This game had a little bit of everything. Auburn wide receiver Cam Coleman made a handful of ridiculous one-handed catches, finishing with 10 grabs for 143 yards and one touchdown. Vanderbilt quarterback Diego Pavia tripped over his own feet on a crucial fourth-down play. And both teams combined for over 1,000 yards of offense. In the end, it was Pavia and the Commodores that got the crucial score and stop in overtime to move to 8-2 on the season.

With the win, Vanderbilt's slim College Football Playoff chances live on. I, for one, think it would be very cool to see a team like Vanderbilt make the CFP. A date with Tennessee looms, but the Commodores can almost taste it.

If you're an Auburn fan, you have to feel good about how this team played a week after your coach got fired. I'll be curious to see if Auburn does the dumb thing (hire DJ Durken) or does the smart thing (hire literally anyone else). Remember, this is Auburn we're talking about.

The ACC cannibalizes itself - No. 14 Virginia has been living on the edge the entire season. Saturday night, the Hoos stepped over the edge, dropping a 16-9 home game to the newly bowl-eligible Wake Forest for its first ACC loss of the season.

This was a bit of a scrappy, strange game. UVA out gained Wake Forest by over 120 yards and limited the Demon Deacons to just 203 total yards. The game changed drastically when UVA starting quarterback Chandler Morris went down with an injury in the second quarter and did not return. Not long after the Hoos went down.

Cal took down No. 15 Louisville, 29-26 in overtime. Cal quarterback Jaron-Keawe Sagapolutele continues to impress. He cooked the Cardinals' secondary for 323 yards on 30 completions, including the game-winning touchdown in overtime. There are now a whole handful of ACC teams with one or two conference losses. We're going to desperately need help to figure out some tie-breakers in the near future.

Tulane flips the American Conference title race on its head - Tulane went on the road and knocked off American Conference title favorite Memphis, 38-32, adding yet another wrinkle to a fascinating race. Tulane walloped the Tigers out of the gate, jumping out to a beefy 35-17 first-half lead. Quarterback Jake Retzlaff had arguably his best game of the year, finishing with 332 yards and three touchdowns. Memphis rallied with a late flurry of points but ultimately came up short in the fourth quarter.

Navy and North Texas currently sit atop the league with one conference loss apiece, with USF and Memphis close behind. Navy has a few high-profile games remaining, which means North Texas might be the favorite here. **Let's get the Mean Green boys from Denton to the College Football Playoff!**



COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BETS

Virginia Cavaliers at Duke Blue Devils — 3:30 PM ET

Line: Duke -3.5, O/U 58

Duke has quietly turned into one of the more complete teams in the ACC, and this matchup sets up well for them on both sides of the ball. The Blue Devils are strong at the line of scrimmage and generally win early downs, which forces opponents like Virginia into long-yardage passing situations where their offense is far less comfortable. Duke's offense is balanced enough to lean on the run when it has favorable boxes, yet still push the ball downfield against a Cavaliers defense that struggles to hold up for four quarters. Add in Wallace Wade Stadium's edge and Duke's tendency to play cleaner, lower-penalty football at home, and the ingredients are here for a methodical pull-away rather than a coin-flip finish.

TAKE: Duke -3.5

Kansas State Wildcats at Oklahoma State Cowboys — 12:00 PM ET

Line: Kansas State -21, O/U 54

Kansas State is being asked to win by nearly three touchdowns on the road against an Oklahoma State team that still has some bite, especially in its own building. The Cowboys may not be as explosive as some recent editions, but they're capable of stringing together physical, clock-chewing drives that shorten the game and limit possessions — exactly what you want from a sizeable home underdog. Defensively, Oklahoma State can still generate pressure and the occasional havoc play, and Kansas State's offense has shown stretches of inconsistency when it's forced into obvious passing situations. In a game where the underdog has home field, a workable rushing attack, and enough defensive competence to force a couple of key third-down stops, this number looks inflated. The Wildcats can absolutely win, but asking them to do it by three touchdowns away from home is too rich.

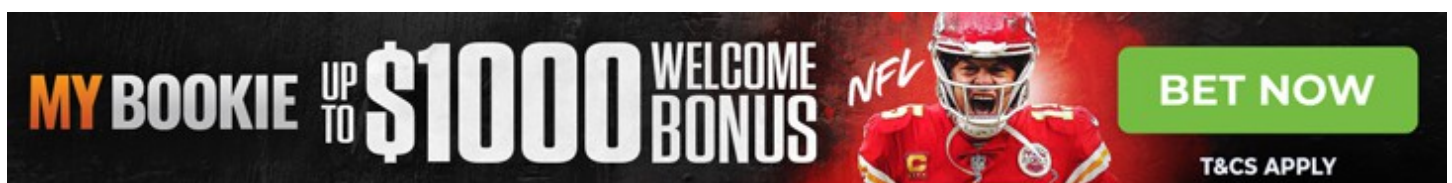
TAKE: Oklahoma State +21

Purdue Boilermakers at Washington Huskies — 7:00 PM ET

Line: Washington -16.5, O/U 56

This matchup features a Washington offense that can light up the scoreboard versus a Purdue team that will likely struggle to keep pace, but the total is still asking a lot. The Huskies' defense is underrated and capable of dominating the line of scrimmage against a Boilermaker front that can be pushed around, especially on the road. Purdue's best path involves controlled tempo and trying to protect its defense by staying on the field, which naturally burns clock and reduces the number of possessions. Washington is fully capable of building a comfortable lead, but if it leans on its ground game in the second half while Purdue grinds through long, low-yield drives, the game script starts to favor a result that falls short of the posted number.

TAKE: Under 56



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Utah Utes at Baylor Bears — 7:00 PM ET

Line: Utah -11, O/U 60

Utah is built around toughness and defense, but this is a tricky spot traveling into a Baylor environment that still gives the Bears a tangible boost. Baylor's offense is inconsistent, yet when it's at home and allowed to lean into tempo, it can put stress on opposing secondaries and manufacture explosives that flip field position in a hurry. Utah's style — physical front, conservative offense, and an emphasis on winning field position — generally leads to grind-it-out games rather than blowouts against competent power-conference opponents. As long as Baylor can avoid an early avalanche of mistakes, its passing game should create just enough big plays to stay attached on the scoreboard. Getting more than a full touchdown plus the hook with a live home underdog is too much to pass up.

TAKE: Baylor +11

Penn State Nittany Lions at Michigan State Spartans — 3:30 PM ET

Line: Penn State -6.5, O/U 50

Penn State brings a clear edge in physicality and depth, especially along the defensive line, where it should control this game against a Michigan State offense that has struggled to consistently block quality fronts. The Spartans are at their best when they can stay balanced and ahead of schedule, but the Nittany Lions' run defense often forces opponents into predictable passing situations where pressure ramps up and mistakes follow. On the other side, Penn State's offense doesn't need to be spectacular to cover this number; methodical drives, a solid run game, and a few well-timed shot plays are usually enough against a Spartan defense that wears down late. Special teams and field position also tilt toward Penn State, which matters in a game with a modest spread and a total that doesn't project a total track meet. Over four quarters, the Nittany Lions' superiority in the trenches should show up on the scoreboard.

TAKE: Penn State -6.5

COLLEGE FOOTBALL QUICK PICKS

Kent State Golden Flashes at Akron Zips — Tuesday, 7:30 PM ET

Line: Akron -5.5, O/U 48

Kent State has been a disaster on the road, dropping game after game away from home and struggling to generate much offensive consistency. Akron has quietly been more reliable in its own building, and both defenses have had trouble preventing chunk plays and getting off the field. With two leaky units, a rivalry-style feel, and some history of higher-scoring meetings, this number on the total looks a bit light.

TAKE: Over 48

Ohio Bobcats at Western Michigan Broncos — Tuesday, 8:00 PM ET

Line: Ohio -1.5, O/U 48

Ohio brings the more balanced attack into this midweek MAC showdown, with enough run game to keep Western Michigan honest and a passing game that can pick on single coverage. Western Michigan tends to sputter when it falls behind schedule on early downs, and the Bobcats' defense is sturdy enough to force those tough third downs. In a tight spread game, the edge at quarterback and

in situational football leans toward Ohio.

TAKE: Ohio -1.5

No Illinois Huskies at Massachusetts Minutemen — Wednesday, 7:00 PM ET

Line: Northern Illinois -10.5, O/U 42

Northern Illinois prefers to lean on its ground game and defense, and that combination often produces lower-possession, lower-scoring contests. UMass has had trouble sustaining drives and protecting its quarterback, which doesn't inspire much confidence against a Huskies defense that can muddy things up in the backfield. If NIU gets a lead, it's more likely to lean into the run and bleed clock rather than push for style points.

TAKE: Under 42

Toledo Rockets at Miami (OH) RedHawks — Wednesday, 7:00 PM ET

Line: Toledo -3.5, O/U 44

Toledo brings the more explosive profile, but Miami (OH) at home tends to drag games into a more physical, grind-it-out style that neutralizes some of the Rockets' speed. The RedHawks' defense is capable of forcing Toledo into longer drives, and the home offense is comfortable playing field-position football as long as it stays within one score. In what projects as a close MAC battle, grabbing more than a field goal with a tough home dog has value.

TAKE: Miami (OH) +3.5

Buffalo Bulls at Central Michigan Chippewas — Wednesday, 7:00 PM ET

Line: Central Michigan -2.5, O/U 44

Both Buffalo and Central Michigan have shown they can move the ball in spurts, but each defense has a knack for giving up big plays at bad times. That combination often leads to higher-scoring games than the market expects, especially when short fields come into play via special teams or turnovers. With neither unit trustworthy to consistently get stops and both sides capable of hitting explosives, the total looks a bit low.

TAKE: Over 44

Troy Trojans at Old Dominion Monarchs — Thursday, 7:30 PM ET

Line: Old Dominion -10.5, O/U 54

Old Dominion gets the home field, but Troy's defense and physicality travel well, and double digits is a big ask in what should be a competitive game. The Trojans are usually stout against the run and do a good job limiting explosive plays, forcing opponents to string together long drives to score. That kind of defensive profile is exactly what you want backing a sizeable underdog.

TAKE: Troy +10.5

Clemson Tigers at Louisville Cardinals — Friday, 7:30 PM ET

Line: Louisville -3.5, O/U 52

Louisville's offense has a nice blend of balance and explosiveness, and at home it typically plays with more rhythm and tempo. Clemson's defense is still tough, but the Tigers' offense doesn't always capitalize on the opportunities that unit creates, especially in red-zone situations. In what may be a tight game for three quarters, Louisville's ability to generate chunk plays and finish drives tilts the edge to the home side.

TAKE: Louisville -3.5

Minnesota Golden Gophers at Oregon Ducks — Friday, 9:00 PM ET

Line: Oregon -24, O/U 46

Minnesota wants to slow things down and play ball-control football, but Oregon's speed and depth can blow up that script quickly in Autzen. The Ducks have a big advantage at the skill positions and along the line, and if they get out to an early lead, the Gophers don't have the passing game to mount a realistic comeback. Over four quarters, Oregon's offense is simply capable of putting up points in bunches, even if Minnesota manages a stop or two early.

TAKE: Oregon -24

Notre Dame Fighting Irish at Pittsburgh Panthers — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Notre Dame -10.5, O/U 56

Notre Dame has the clear talent edge and should control both trenches, but Pittsburgh usually plays with pride at home and can force opponents into some uncomfortable third-down situations. The Irish offense has enough firepower to hit big plays and their tempo has trended toward more possessions and more scoring chances. Pitt's offense is inconsistent but capable of a few splash plays that help the scoreboard.

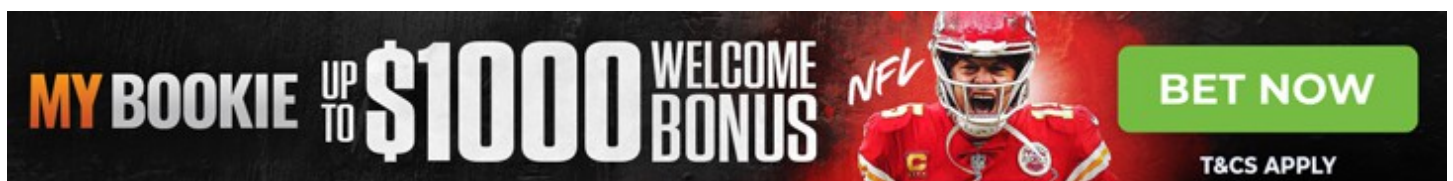
TAKE: Over 56

South Carolina Gamecocks at Texas A&M Aggies — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Texas A&M -18.5, O/U 48

Texas A&M's defense is built to smother one-dimensional offenses, and South Carolina has often been forced into predictable passing situations behind an under-pressure line. The Aggies should be able to win the line of scrimmage on both sides, creating short fields and extra possessions. Even if A&M builds a comfortable lead, its offense has enough balance to keep the scoring going rather than sitting entirely on the ball.

TAKE: Over 48



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Michigan Wolverines vs Northwestern Wildcats — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Michigan -10, O/U 42

Playing at Wrigley gives this one a neutral-site feel, and Northwestern's defense is typically scrappy enough to avoid being completely overwhelmed. Michigan is the better team and likely to control the run game, but its style on offense is often conservative once it gets a lead. With a relatively low total and a Wildcats team that can ugly things up, asking the Wolverines to win by multiple scores feels ambitious.

TAKE: Northwestern +10

Wisconsin Badgers at Indiana Hoosiers — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Indiana -30.5, O/U 44

This is an enormous number for an Indiana team that, even when playing well, hasn't been built to blow out conference opponents on a weekly basis. Wisconsin's offense has its issues, but the Badgers are typically physical enough on defense and special teams to avoid completely collapsing. In a game where both teams prefer to lean on the ground and the clock figures to move, the underdog has enough paths to stay within a big margin.

TAKE: Wisconsin +30.5

Arizona Wildcats at Cincinnati Bearcats — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Cincinnati -6.5, O/U 56

Both Arizona and Cincinnati have the ability to move the ball through the air and push the pace when game state calls for it. Neither defense is particularly reliable when it comes to stopping explosive plays, especially once fatigue sets in during the second half. With two offenses capable of trading haymakers and special teams that can create short fields, the total points projection feels a bit conservative.

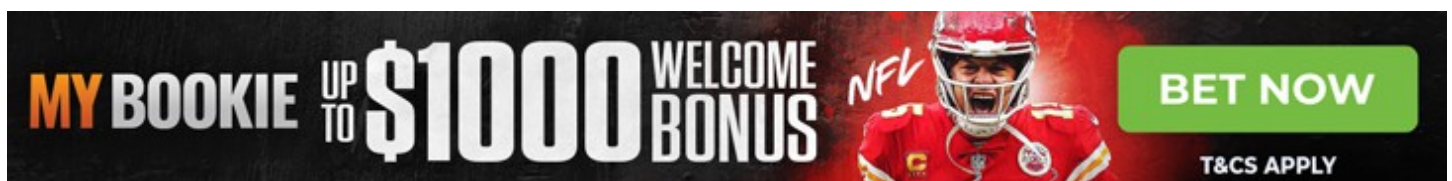
TAKE: Over 56

Air Force Falcons at Connecticut Huskies — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Connecticut -7.5, O/U 64

Air Force's option-heavy approach can be difficult to prepare for, but Connecticut has the advantage of playing at home and has enough size up front to at least make the Falcons work for yardage. On offense, the Huskies should be able to exploit an Air Force defense that isn't as stout when it gets spread out and forced to tackle in space. With the home crowd behind them and a more dynamic passing game, UConn has multiple paths to winning by more than one score.

TAKE: Connecticut -7.5



South Florida Bulls at Navy Midshipmen — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: South Florida -10.5, O/U 64

South Florida's offense is explosive, but Navy's option attack is designed to shorten games and limit possessions, grinding clock and keeping opposing offenses on the sideline. The Midshipmen are comfortable in long, methodical drives that end in either points or punts that flip field position, which naturally suppresses total scoring. If Navy can avoid early turnovers, this has the feel of a game that doesn't quite live up to its high total.

TAKE: Under 64

UTSA Roadrunners at Charlotte 49ers — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: UTSA -17.5, O/U 60

UTSA is the more complete team, but Charlotte has shown enough competitiveness at home to make this number feel a bit steep. The 49ers' offense is capable of putting together a few scoring drives, and even a modest defensive effort can be enough to keep a game inside three scores. Road favorites in this range always flirt with backdoor-cover risk late.

TAKE: Charlotte +17.5

Eastern Michigan Eagles at Ball State Cardinals — Saturday, 12:00 PM ET

Line: Eastern Michigan -2.5, O/U 50

Eastern Michigan's style — physical, fundamentally sound, and comfortable in tight games — travels well, and Ball State hasn't consistently shown the firepower to take advantage of the Eagles' conservative tendencies. EMU usually wins the turnover and field-position battle in matchups like this, and a small spread gives them multiple avenues to cover. If they control the line of scrimmage as expected, they should be the ones dictating the terms of this contest.

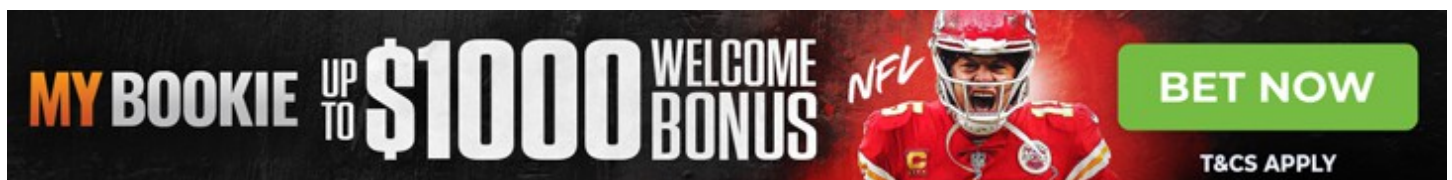
TAKE: Eastern Michigan -2.5

Arkansas Razorbacks at LSU Tigers — Saturday, 12:45 PM ET

Line: LSU -5.5, O/U 56

Arkansas brings a rugged mindset into Baton Rouge, and its defense is typically good enough to keep games from becoming complete shootouts against quality opponents. LSU has plenty of offensive talent but may find scoring in chunks more difficult against a Razorback front that can hold its own. With both teams leaning on the run at times and drives that might feature long, methodical marches, the total feels a touch high.

TAKE: Under 56



Oregon State Beavers at Tulsa Golden Hurricane — Saturday, 1:00 PM ET

Line: Oregon State -1, O/U 50

Oregon State's physical style is usually an advantage, but Tulsa at home is no pushover and can exploit opposing secondaries when given time. The Golden Hurricane often plays up to the level of their competition in their own building, and a near pick'em line suggests the market respects that. In what looks like a coin-flip tilt, siding with the home team that can push the ball downfield makes sense.

TAKE: Tulsa +1

West Virginia Mountaineers at Arizona State Sun Devils — Saturday, 1:00 PM ET

Line: Arizona State -11.5, O/U 48

Arizona State has a clear edge in speed and offensive versatility, especially at home where the Sun Devils tend to play faster and looser. West Virginia's offense often bogs down when forced into passing situations, and ASU's defense is good enough to take away the Mountaineers' preferred early-down looks. If the Sun Devils can jump out early, West Virginia isn't built to chase multi-score deficits efficiently.

TAKE: Arizona State -11.5

Marshall Thundering Herd at Georgia State Panthers — Saturday, 2:00 PM ET

Line: Marshall -7, O/U 62

Marshall's defense is usually the strength of the team, but Georgia State's offense can stress a unit vertically and horizontally when it gets rolling. Both defenses have shown vulnerability to big plays, which points to a track-meet potential once the game opens up. With tempo, explosive capability on both sides, and a relatively modest total in the 60s, the scoring outlook leans higher.

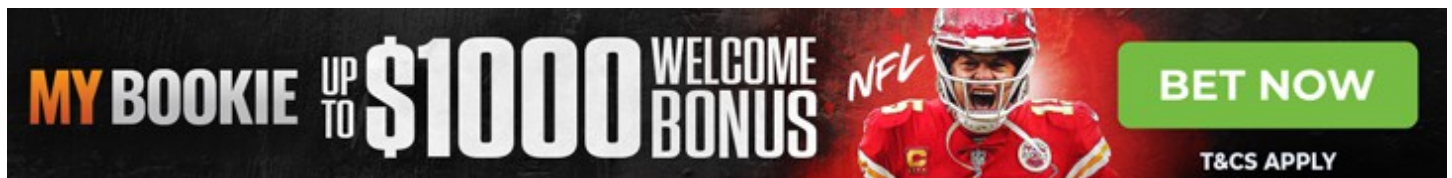
TAKE: Over 62

North Texas Mean Green at UAB Blazers — Saturday, 2:00 PM ET

Line: North Texas -18, O/U 70

North Texas has the more explosive offense and a knack for turning games into shootouts, which is bad news for a UAB defense that has had trouble getting stops. The Mean Green can hit big plays on the ground and through the air, and the Blazers don't have the same type of scoring punch to answer if this gets away from them. Even with the potential for late points, North Texas should be in control early enough to push this margin past the number.

TAKE: North Texas -18



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The advertisement features a black background with white and orange text. On the right, there is a green button with white text that says 'BET NOW'. Below the button, it says 'T&CS APPLY'. In the center, there is a small image of a football player in a red jersey and helmet, with the letters 'NFL' written above him.

UTEP Miners at Missouri State Bears — Saturday, 3:00 PM ET

Line: Missouri State -4.5, O/U 50

Missouri State's offense is far from perfect, but at home it has enough rhythm and balance to attack a UTEP defense that can be soft against both the run and the pass. The Miners' own offense rarely sustains drives for four quarters, which often leaves their defense on the field too long. Over time, that kind of snap imbalance tends to favor the home team pulling away.

TAKE: Missouri State -4.5

Colorado State Rams at New Mexico Lobos — Saturday, 3:00 PM ET

Line: New Mexico -14.5, O/U 54

Neither Colorado State nor New Mexico is known for offensive consistency, and both have leaned on the run game and conservative play-calling in key spots. The Lobos may own an edge on the ground, but they are not typically built to run away and hide on the scoreboard against competent opponents. In a contest that could bog down into field-position and red-zone battles, the total appears a bit ambitious.

TAKE: Under 54

Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets at Boston College Eagles — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Georgia Tech -16.5, O/U 58

Georgia Tech has made strides, but asking the Yellow Jackets to win by more than two touchdowns on the road is still a big step. Boston College is usually feisty at home and has just enough offensive punch to make any extended defensive lapse by Tech costly. With the Eagles likely able to scratch out a few scoring drives, the margin becomes harder to stretch.

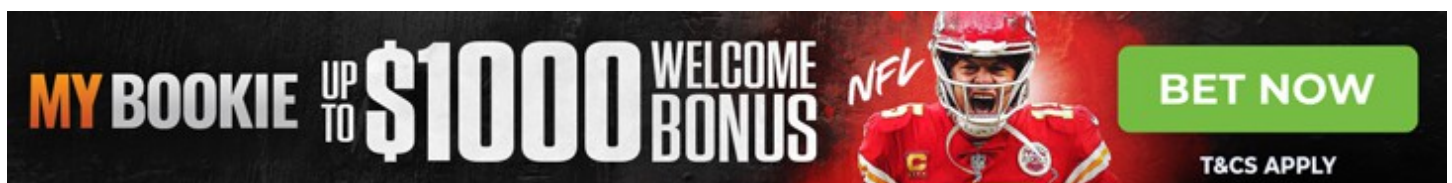
TAKE: Boston College +16.5

North Carolina State Wolfpack at Miami Hurricanes — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Miami -14.5, O/U 56

Miami's talent edge is obvious, especially at the skill positions, but North Carolina State usually plays disciplined defense and rarely gives anything away for free. The Wolfpack offense is methodical rather than explosive, yet that can actually help them hang around inside big numbers by avoiding quick three-and-outs. If NC State can force Miami to drive the length of the field rather than scoring on chunk plays, this spread starts to look too large.

TAKE: North Carolina State +14.5

A promotional banner for MyBookie.com. On the left, the text "MY BOOKIE" is in orange and white, followed by "UP TO \$1000 WELCOME BONUS" in white. In the center is a red and white NFL football player helmet. On the right, there is a green button with the text "BET NOW" in white, and below it, "T&CS APPLY" in small white text.

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Iowa Hawkeyes at USC Trojans — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: USC -6.5, O/U 50

USC wants to turn every game into a track meet, while Iowa prefers rock fights, and the total sits in between those identities. The Hawkeyes' defense and special teams are good enough to generate points on their own and set up short fields, which can push scoring above what their plodding offense might imply. USC's own offense is comfortable pushing tempo and taking vertical shots.

TAKE: Over 50

Oklahoma Sooners at Alabama Crimson Tide — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Alabama -7, O/U 46

Alabama's defense has gradually returned to its identity as a physical, suffocating unit, and this matchup should feature plenty of trench warfare. Oklahoma's offense is dangerous but may find sustained drives difficult against the Tide's front, especially in a hostile road environment. Both teams have enough respect for each other's explosiveness that they're likely to lean on field position and conservative red-zone decisions.

TAKE: Under 46

Maryland Terrapins at Illinois Fighting Illini — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Illinois -14, O/U 54

Maryland's passing game can be dangerous in the right circumstances, but Illinois has the edge up front and should be able to dictate terms with its physicality. The Illini defense is usually sound against the run and solid in the red zone, which can force drives to stall out for field goals instead of touchdowns. Combined with an Illinois offense that is comfortable grinding clock, total scoring may not quite reach the lofty mark.

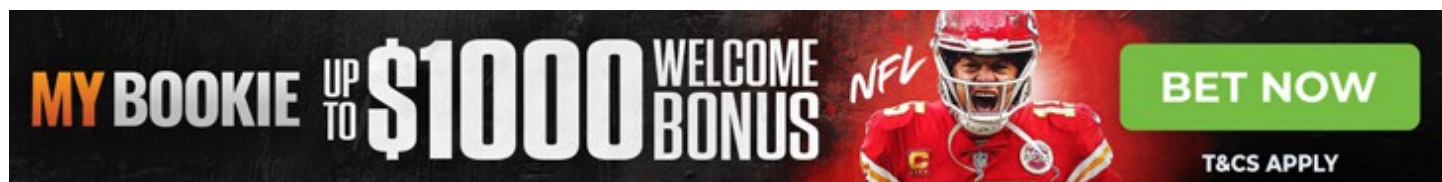
TAKE: Under 54

UCF Knights at Texas Tech Red Raiders — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Texas Tech -23.5, O/U 48

Texas Tech's offense comes alive at home, and UCF's defense has struggled at times when asked to repeatedly defend short fields and quick-change situations. The Red Raiders can score in bunches, but UCF's own offense is competent enough to contribute to the tally if the game opens up. With the potential for quick possessions and explosive plays on both sides, this looks like a spot where the total can be exceeded.

TAKE: Over 48

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Mid Tennessee Blue Raiders at W Kentucky Hilltoppers — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Western Kentucky -13.5, O/U 56

Western Kentucky's passing game is built for fireworks, and Middle Tennessee's defense has struggled to contain efficient aerial attacks. The Blue Raiders have had difficulty generating a consistent pass rush, which is bad news against a Hilltopper offense that thrives when the quarterback stays clean. Playing at home in a favorable matchup, Western Kentucky is set up to build and maintain a multi-score cushion.

TAKE: Western Kentucky -13.5

San Jose State Spartans at Nevada Wolf Pack — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: San Jose State -8.5, O/U 52

San Jose State brings the more organized defense and a balanced offense into this matchup, but Nevada's limitations on offense stand out even more. The Wolf Pack often struggle to finish drives and rely on occasional big plays just to stay competitive. With the Spartans capable of controlling tempo and limiting explosive breakdowns, total points could fall short of expectations.

TAKE: Under 52

South Alabama Jaguars at Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: South Alabama -4, O/U 52

South Alabama is the more complete team on paper, with a defense that usually holds its own and an offense that can move the ball through multiple avenues. Louisiana-Monroe, however, has a knack for ugly games where drives stall and field position turns into a tug-of-war. That overall profile suggests more grinding than fireworks.

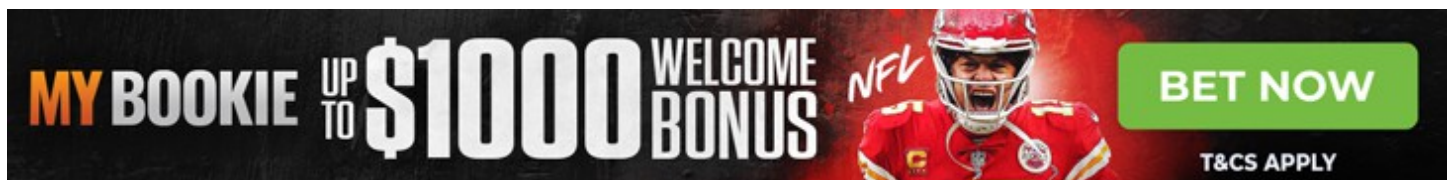
TAKE: Under 52

Appalachian St Mountaineers at James Madison Dukes — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: James Madison -19.5, O/U 54

James Madison has been one of the more dominant mid-majors, with a defense that consistently chokes off opponents' run games and an offense that capitalizes on short fields. Appalachian State can be dangerous, but its offensive line is likely to be under siege for long stretches of this contest. If the Dukes build an early lead, their balanced attack can keep the pressure on and avoid letting App State in through the back door.

TAKE: James Madison -19.5

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Texas State Bobcats at Southern Miss Golden Eagles — Saturday, 3:30 PM ET

Line: Southern Miss -6.5, O/U 65

Southern Miss plays its best football at home, and Texas State's defense doesn't always travel well, especially against teams that can pound the ball and hit timely play-action shots. The Golden Eagles should own an edge along the line of scrimmage and have the offensive diversity to exploit it. Over four quarters, that usually translates to separation on the scoreboard.

TAKE: Southern Miss -6.5

Memphis Tigers at East Carolina Pirates — Saturday, 4:00 PM ET

Line: East Carolina -3, O/U 60

Memphis can push the pace and is comfortable in shootout environments, while East Carolina's defense has shown cracks against offenses that spread the field and attack vertically. The Pirates' offense can score, but they're also prone to stalled drives and turnovers that give opponents short fields. With both teams capable of moving the ball but neither defense truly trustworthy, the number on the total looks a bit inflated relative to likely efficiency.

TAKE: Under 60

Florida Atlantic Owls at Tulane Green Wave — Saturday, 4:00 PM ET

Line: Tulane -16.5, O/U 64

Tulane has built a strong home-field edge behind a physical run game and a defense that usually tightens up in the red zone. Florida Atlantic's offense is erratic enough that long stretches without points are very much on the table, particularly if the Owls fall behind and become one-dimensional. The Green Wave should be able to lean on their ground attack and pull away while their defense limits FAU's scoring chances.

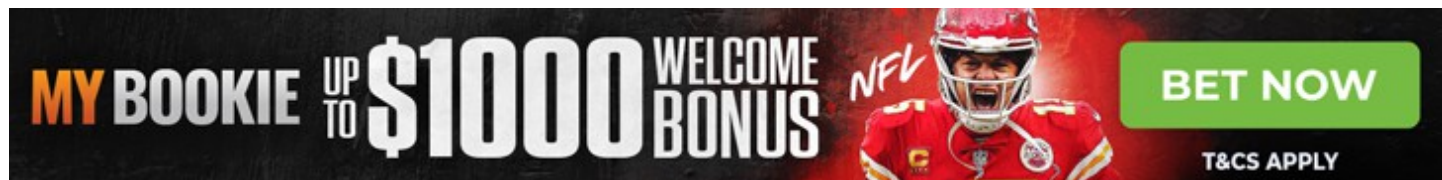
TAKE: Tulane -16.5

New Mexico State Aggies at Tennessee Volunteers — Saturday, 4:15 PM ET

Line: Tennessee -39.5, O/U 62

Tennessee's up-tempo offense can overwhelm overmatched opponents, and New Mexico State's defense is in dangerous territory here against SEC-level speed. The Volunteers are capable of putting this away by halftime if they execute reasonably well, and their depth allows them to keep scoring even when backups enter. While the number is massive, the Aggies may not have enough firepower to threaten the margin late.

TAKE: Tennessee -39.5



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No Carolina Tar Heels at Wake Forest Demon Deacons — Saturday, 4:30 PM ET

Line: Wake Forest -6, O/U 40

Both North Carolina and Wake Forest have shown vulnerability on defense and enough offensive creativity to exploit mistakes. Even with a modest total, the matchup suggests opportunities for explosive plays on both sides, especially once adjustments are made and scripted drives are out of the way. If either team seizes momentum for a quarter, the scoreboard can climb faster than expected.

TAKE: Over 40

Liberty Flames at Florida International Panthers — Saturday, 5:00 PM ET

Line: Liberty -3, O/U 54

Liberty's offense is generally more potent, but Florida International's defense has shown it can at least slow down one-dimensional attacks by preventing explosives. The Panthers' offense is limited, which tends to keep their games from becoming full shootouts. With both teams likely to lean on the ground at times, total possessions may be a bit lower than the market implies.

TAKE: Under 54

Coastal Carolina Chanticleers at Georgia Southern Eagles — Saturday, 6:00 ET

Line: Georgia Southern -2.5, O/U 60

Georgia Southern's passing game can stress secondaries, particularly at home where crowd energy helps the offense maintain tempo. Coastal Carolina can certainly punch back, but its defense has been inconsistent when asked to defend the full field for four quarters. In a game likely to feature plenty of scoring chances, backing the home team with the slightly better offensive profile feels right.

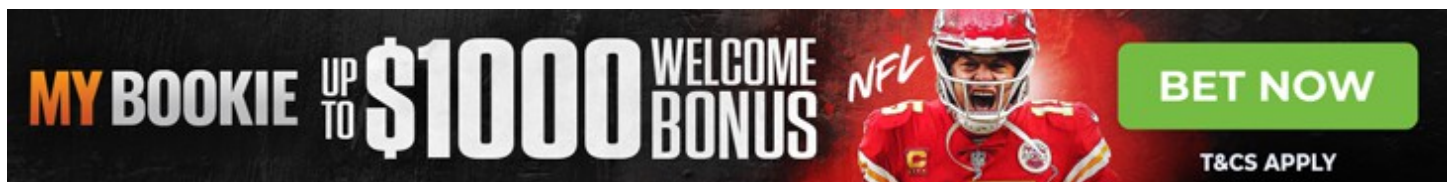
TAKE: Georgia Southern -2.5

Florida Gators at Ole Miss Rebels — Saturday, 7:00 PM ET

Line: Ole Miss -15.5, O/U 54

Ole Miss boasts one of the more explosive offenses in the country, and at home the Rebels usually find a way to generate big plays through tempo and spacing. Florida's defense has had trouble against teams that can spread the field and punish missed tackles in space, which is a bad recipe in Oxford. If the Rebels grab an early lead, they have the offensive horsepower to keep the Gators at arm's length all night.

TAKE: Ole Miss -15.5



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Delaware Fightin' Blue Hens at Sam Houston Bearkats — Saturday, 7:00 PM ET

Line: Delaware -8.5, O/U 56

Both Delaware and Sam Houston have enough offensive juice to turn this into a higher-scoring contest, and neither defense is immune to breakdowns. Special teams miscues and turnovers could easily set up short fields and quick points in a matchup like this. With the potential for a back-and-forth game and limited defensive resistance, the total appears reachable.

TAKE: Over 56

Utah State Aggies at UNLV Runnin' Rebels — Saturday, 7:00 PM ET

Line: UNLV -4.5, O/U 71

UNLV has become one of the more entertaining teams in terms of offensive output, but a total this high still demands near-perfect efficiency from both sides. Utah State's offense is capable, yet it doesn't always finish drives cleanly and can stall out in the red zone. If either team goes through a dry spell, the number suddenly looks lofty.

TAKE: Under 71

UCLA Bruins at Ohio State Buckeyes — Saturday, 7:30 PM ET

Line: Ohio State -31.5, O/U 48

Ohio State's talent edge is obvious, especially on offense, where the Buckeyes can score quickly and from anywhere on the field. UCLA's defense is likely to be stretched to its limit, and even if the Bruins manage a few stops, sustained resistance feels unlikely across four quarters. The Bruins' offense is also good enough to contribute some points once the game loosens up.

TAKE: Over 48

Virginia Tech Hokies at Florida State Seminoles — Saturday, 7:30 PM ET

Line: Florida State -13, O/U 55

Florida State's combination of speed on offense and physicality on defense makes life difficult for visiting teams, and Virginia Tech has struggled to consistently move the ball against better fronts. The Seminoles can dictate terms with their run game, then strike with play-action against an overextended Hokie secondary. If they get ahead early, their defense is built to close the door on comeback attempts.

TAKE: Florida State -13

Texas Longhorns at Georgia Bulldogs — Saturday, 7:30 PM ET

Line: Georgia -6.5, O/U 48

Both Texas and Georgia have high-end offensive talent and the ability to hit explosive plays, especially in high-leverage, nationally spotlighted matchups. The Longhorns' passing game can

stress even Georgia's stout defense, and the Bulldogs' offense is more than capable of answering with long drives and big shots of its own. With two units that can score in bunches and plenty of motivation to make a statement, this total feels a bit conservative.

TAKE: Over 48

Mississippi State Bulldogs at Missouri Tigers — Saturday, 7:45 PM ET

Line: Missouri -7, O/U 52

Missouri's defense has been the more reliable unit, and Mississippi State's offense has struggled to find a consistent identity against better opponents. Both teams can lean on the ground when needed, and neither is likely to want a pure shootout in this spot. Field-position and red-zone execution could matter more than raw yardage totals.

TAKE: Under 52

Kennesaw State Owls at Jacksonville State Gamecocks — Saturday, 8:00 PM ET

Line: Kennesaw State -2.5, O/U 52

Kennesaw State's option-heavy attack can chew up clock and grind down opposing fronts, while Jacksonville State's defense tends to respond with physicality of its own. Both sides would prefer to win at the line of scrimmage and avoid putting too much on their passing games. That style naturally limits possessions and opportunities for quick scoring bursts.

TAKE: Under 52

Louisiana Tech Bulldogs at Washington State Cougars — Saturday, 10:00 PM ET

Line: Washington State -7.5, O/U 48

Louisiana Tech has enough offensive skill to threaten downfield, and Washington State's defense has been inconsistent when it comes to tackling and coverage discipline. The Bulldogs should be able to hang around by hitting a few big plays and moving the chains through the air. With a spread over a touchdown, there's room for a competitive effort to cash.

TAKE: Louisiana Tech +7.5

TCU Horned Frogs at BYU Cougars — Saturday, 10:15 PM ET

Line: BYU -5.5, O/U 52

TCU's defense still has playmakers and can create havoc that flips the script on the road, even if the Horned Frogs' offense hasn't been as explosive as in past years. BYU tends to play grind-it-out games at home, leaning on physicality and field position. That combination often leads to margins that stay within one score either way.

TAKE: TCU +5.5

Boise State Broncos at San Diego State Aztecs — Saturday, 10:30 PM ET

Line: San Diego State -2.5, O/U 42

San Diego State prefers a defensive struggle, and Boise State's offense has had enough ups and downs that a slugfest is very much on the table. Both teams want to run the ball, control clock, and avoid high-risk throws that could lead to turnovers. In that kind of game script, points become a scarce resource.

TAKE: Under 42

Wyoming Cowboys at Fresno State Bulldogs — Saturday, 10:30 PM ET

Line: Fresno State -4.5, O/U 40

Wyoming brings its usual brand of physical defense and a run-centric offense that shortens games and limits possessions. Fresno State can move the ball, but it may find it difficult to consistently finish drives in the red zone against a Cowboy defense that tightens up near the goal line. In a low-total game with a tough, disciplined dog, taking the points is attractive.

TAKE: Wyoming +4.5

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