Volume 36 Issue 10

October 25, 2017

CFB PICKS 27-12-1 69%
$100 BETTORS + $1380

DOG PICKS 6-2 75% ATS

Barkley totals 161 yards and 3 TD's as Happy Valley Nittany Lions feast on Wolverines 42-13.

College Football Recap

Wisconsin continues to fly a little bit under the radar, as they're 7-0 SU and a Top 5 team. They have alternated covers and non-covers in each outing this season. They picked up a 38-13 win against Maryland at home, their first cover over the past four games at Camp Randall. ... Notre Dame abused Southern California in South Bend in the shadows of 'Touchdown Jesus', winning 49-14 as four-point favorites. It was a battle of one-loss teams, and some tabbed the game as a playoff elimination game, with USC now having two losses and no chance at the four-team tournament. ... Texas Christian topped Kansas 43-0 as 37-point favorites, as the Horned Frogs were the largest favorite on the board to cover. For the first time this season they have covered in consecutive games.

-- Alabama remains the class of the country, rolling past another SEC foe. This time it was Tennessee taking the punch from the Tide, 45-7. The Tide slapped the brakes on an 0-2 ATS skid while improving to 2-3 ATS in five games at Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa. The 'over' is 3-1 in Alabama's past four at home.

-- Michigan State topped Indiana by a 17-9 score, as the Spartans are proving that they're back. That's four in a row for Sparty, as they improved to 6-1 SU and 5-2 ATS. They'll look to keep it going against Northwestern next week in a road game. The Wildcats picked up a big win against Iowa 17-10 in OT, moving to 4-3 SU/ATS. The Wildcats are now 4-1 ATS over their past five outings.

-- UCF posted their first 6-0 start in school history, topping Navy by a 31-21 score. The only thing that didn't go right was the Knights pushed on a 10-point line at most shops, their first non-cover of the season. UCF is now 5-0-1 ATS in six outings.

-- Miami-Florida earned another close win, topping giant killer Syracuse by a 27-19 count as 17 1/2-point favorites. After opening the season 3-1 ATS, the Hurricanes are 0-2 ATS over the past two outings while winning their past three games by an average of 4.3 PPG. The 'under' has connected in four in a row for Miami. Next up is a trip to North Carolina, and they'll be heavy favorites.

-- Boston College continues their bounce back season, as they rolled to a 41-10 win at Virginia for their second straight road victory. The Eagles have covered in five straight outings, too. ... Virginia Tech blasted UNC by a 59-7 count, as the Hokies are now 4-3 ATS. It was their first covered inside the conference in three tries. ... UNC slipped to 1-7 SU/ATS, as the injuries have been brutal for coach Larry Fedora's side. ... It's been a tale of two seasons for Duke, as they started 4-0 SU/ATS, but they have now gone 0-4 SU/0-3-1 ATS over the past four outings.

-- Rutgers surprised Purdue 14-12, winning their second consecutive game. Don't look now, but the Scarlet Knights are now 4-1 ATS over their past five outings. ... The Hawkeyes have dropped three of their past four, starting with their close call loss at home Sept. 23 against Penn State. Iowa is now just 1-2 SU and 0-3 ATS in three games away from Iowa City this weekend. ... Speaking of Penn State, they completely dismantled Michigan by a 45-14 score. The Nittany Lions are now an impressive 5-1-1 ATS in seven outings this season.
Texas picked up another cover against favored Oklahoma State, but they came up short again. This time, they fell 13-10 to the Cowboys in overtime. Since their non-cover in Week 1, the Longhorns are 5-0-1 ATS over the past six outings, but they have just three wins in seven outings straight-up. The 'under' is 5-1 over the past six for Texas, too. ... Oklahoma held on for a 42-35 win at Kansas State, but they failed to cover for the fourth consecutive game. The 'over' is 4-1 in the past five for the Sooners. ... Baylor rallied for 23 points in the fourth quarter, losing 38-36 against West Virginia. The Bears picked up the backdoor cover, moving to 3-1 ATS over the past four.

Arizona State posted a 30-10 win at Utah for their second straight win outright as a double-digit underdog. They have covered four in a row, and the 'under' is now 6-1 for the Sun Devils overall. ... The talk about Oregon being back was a little premature, as they have now dropped three in a row. UCLA beat them 31-14, as the Ducks are now 0-3 SU/ATS over the past three outings. They have had a power outage on offense, too, averaging just 10.3 PPG. As such, the 'under' is 3-0 over the past three outings.

Mississippi State swatted Kentucky 45-7, winning for the second straight outing. The Bulldogs are 5-2 SU/ATS in seven games overall with the 'under' cashing in five of their seven. The 'under' has cashed in five of seven for Kentucky, too. ... Louisiana State has been on fire since their wake-up call loss to Troy on Sept. 30, winning three in a row. They rolled past Mississippi 40-24, covering in consecutive games for the first time this season. ... Missouri posted a 68-21 win over Idaho for their third consecutive cover and fourth straight 'over' result. The Tigers have yielded at least 20 points in all seven of their games this season.

South Florida picked up the 34-28 win at Tulane, but it was their first non-cover in five games dating back to Sept. 2. (see bad beats below) ... East Carolina posted a 33-17 win against Brigham Young, their first victory since Sept. 24, and first overall at home this season. The Pirates entered 1-6 ATS in the first seven outings. ... Connecticut topped Tulsa 20-14, as the Huskies have won consecutive games for the first time this season. After opening 0-5 ATS in the first five outings, UConn is 2-0 ATS over the past two.

Florida Atlantic scored on their first 11 possessions, running past North Texas 69-31. Lane Kiffin's bunch improved to 4-3 SU, including 3-0 in Conference USA, and they have covered five of their past six. ... Texas-San Antonio won 20-7 over Rice for their first victory since Sept. 23. They have failed to cover in three in a row. ... The resurgence continues for Southern Mississippi, as they won at Louisiana Tech 34-27 in overtime. The Golden Eagles have won and covered three in a row, and USM is an impressive 6-1 ATS overall.

Toledo rolled past Akron 48-21 for their third consecutive win. It's also the first time the Rockets have covered in back-to-back games this season. Their only loss is a 52-30 setback at Miami-Florida, a game they were leading at halftime. ... Northern Illinois spanked Bowling Green 48-17, winning for the third straight week. However, after a 4-0 ATS start they're just 1-2 ATS over the past three outings. ... Kent State lost 48-3 at Ohio, their fifth game in eight outings with three or fewer points.

Wyoming hung on for the cover at Boise State, but they lost 24-14 as 15 1/2-point underdogs. After opening 0-3 ATS, the Cowboys are a perfect 4-0 ATS over the past four outings. ... Fresno State has rattled off victories in four in a row, and they're now an impressive 6-0-1 ATS through seven games this season. ... New Mexico made side bettors very happy on Friday night against Colorado State, unless of course you were holding a ticket with the Rams laying the 9 1/2.

Bad Beats

USF entered the fourth quarter leading 34-14 as 10-point favorites at Tulane, but the Green Wave outscored them 14-0. Dontrell Hilliard was the culprit, ripping off a 24-yard touchdown reception with 7:40 to go, and a 16-yard touchdown run with 2:45 left for the backdoor cover.

UNM scored with :24 left in regulation for the backdoor cover, spoiling what would have been a nice cover for Rams bettors. Truthfully, the Lobos were covered all night until 5:05 to go in the game. So Colorado State bettors can't be too upset with the result.

West Virginia entered the fourth quarter with a 38-13 lead as a 10 1/2-point favorite, but they completed punched themselves in the bag, getting outscored 23-0 in the final 14:31 of regulation. Baylor attempted a two-point conversion with :17 left in regulation, trying to tie the game and force overtime. Regardless, that touchdown pushed the total 'over' at all shops, if it wasn't already over with 6:07 to go. It was a tough result after things looked positive through 45 minutes.

It's not quite a bad beat, but 'over' (49) bettors felt like things were in pretty good shape in Marshall-Middle Tennessee, with the Thundering Herd up 31-10 at halftime. There were just seven total points in the second half and the 'under' cashed by one. Ouch.

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PRES COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BET

Florida State - 2.5 Over BOSTON COLLEGE By 13

The Seminoles can blame their offense all they want, but everyone knew this was going to be a drag of a season from the point that Deondre Francois went down with a torn patellar tendon. It was up to the defense to hold the fort to get this team back to its winning ways. That said, the 'D' has now allowed two game-winning scoring drives in the team's last three games, and it just barely did enough to hold off both Wake Forest and Duke.

Steve Addazio was sitting on a really toasty seat a couple weeks ago. All of a sudden, though, Boston College looks like a winning program that could still make a bowl game. The Eagles have won back-to-back games against Louisville and Virginia, and in the process, they've scored 40+ points in consecutive ACC games for the first time in their history. The Eagles have done this in two different ways for sure against the Cards and Cavaliers. They ran for 364 yards against Louisville; Anthony Brown threw for 275 yards and three touchdowns against Virginia.

You hate to pin all of this for FSU on James Blackman, but we keep wanting him to stop turning the ball over. It was his crucial fumble that took away what might have been the game-winning scoring drive last week, and that's now seven turnovers in six games for Blackman, and those turnovers seem to be coming at crucial times in games. Boston College's defense hasn't been fantastic, but it does have 14 forced turnovers this season, including a whopping 12 interceptions.

The Seminoles might be 0-3 at home this year, but they're 2-0 when they're out on the road. At some point, you have to wonder just how much more this Florida State team can take mentally before it checks out for the season like Notre Dame and Michigan State did last year. That said, Jimbo Fisher, for all of the flaws that he has seen in his team this year, keeps finding ways to bounce back from losses and puts the team in the right mindset to challenge on the road.

If the Seminoles want to ultimately reach a bowl game this year, this is a game they can't afford to lose. The oddsmaker knows that Florida State has the better team, and that's why it's still a road favorite, in spite of the fact that this game might mean the season to Boston College.

The Florida State defense doesn't have any ridiculous athletes like Lamar Jackson to worry about this week. That could be the key to coming up with a nice road victory to keep the team on track to go bowling in December.

Projected Score: Florida State 27, Boston College 14

DJ COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BET

Texas -7 Over BAYLOR by 17

The good news for the Bears is that they are clearly improving. They had their shot against West Virginia last week at home and couldn't quite finish the job, a similar story to what we saw against both Oklahoma and Kansas State. The offense is improving under Zach Smith, but he still has a lot of problems with his offensive line and the rest of his skill position players. The Bears are No. 115 in the nation in sacks allowed per game at 3.14, and their ground game is averaging just 4.0 yards per carry this year.

You'd like to think that Texas will be able to take advantage of this, especially with the way that its defense has played since Week 1 against Maryland. The Longhorns only rank No. 66 in total defense and No. 47 in scoring, but you have to remember the context here. Texas hasn't played against an FCS team this year, its three non-conference games came against Maryland, San Jose State and USC, and it has yet to play either Baylor or Kansas in conference play. Simply put: The Longhorns are underachieving for sure at 3-4, and they're only about 60/40 to reach bowl eligibility this year, but they're better than their record would indicate.

Sam Ehlinger had a learning moment last week against Oklahoma State. A game that he played poorly in overall was there for the winning in overtime thanks to his defense. Yet facing a 13-10 deficit in the second half of the first overtime period, Ehlinger made a bonehead decision to loft a ball into the end zone on 3rd and 4 that was picked off to end the game. Ehlinger admitted after the game that it was a silly decision on his part, as he tried to win the game instead of taking the sure three points that would have been had on the next down to send the game to a second overtime. Now is where we see how the kid is set to respond. Ehlinger has shown some good wheels, and his arm is more than capable of leading the Longhorns.

Herman knows that his Longhorns can't afford to let Baylor hang around in this game and gain some confidence. Matt Rhule is still a great head coach, and he's going to get the best that he can out of his depleted roster week in and week out. That said, I don't like this matchup for the Bears. This feels too hard-hitting for their liking. The games they've stuck around in have largely been finesse games and ones where defense was remotely optional on both sides of the ball.

For all of the flaws the Longhorns have shown, holding Oklahoma and Oklahoma State to 42 total points in two games is a massive accomplishment. So long as Ehlinger doesn't make more silly mistakes, I can't see Texas not winning by double-digits to beat the odds. Hookem Horns!

Projected Score: Texas 37, Baylor 20

We've Got All The Bases Covered Take Me To Guaranteed World Series Picks
SAMMY COLLEGE FOOTBALL BEST BET

San Diego State - 8 Over HAWAII by 17

I saw the collapse for San Diego State coming. The Aztecs were only -4 against Boise State and -6.5 against Fresno State, meaning had either game been played on the road, they would have been underdogs. We're talking about a team that was an underdog at Arizona State and was a sizeable 8.5-point pup at home to Stanford. What about being -1.5 at Air Force or just -9.5 at home against Northern Illinois? You get the point. This team was never as good as it was cracked up to be. The good news is that the rest of the coast is relatively clear for the Aztecs. The rest of the Mountain West shouldn't theoretically be all that challenging, even with these next two games coming on the road at Hawaii and San Jose State.

Hawaii hasn't covered a spread since Week 1 of the season when it went on the road and upset UMass 38-35. Since then, the results have been mixed, though it's hard to say any of it was unexpected. The Rainbow Warriors have largely done what they're supposed to do, winning three of their four games as favorites and losing all three of their games as underdogs. The Rainbow Warriors are hanging in due to the fact that Diocemy Saint Juste is having one of the best seasons a Hawaii tailback has ever had. He carried the ball 39 times last week against San Jose State, a school-record.

With John Ursua out for the rest of the season with a knee injury, the Hawaii passing attack was somewhat suspect last week against San Jose State. Dru Brown hasn't had a great season, but he went just 12-for-23 for 173 yards and a touchdown. Numbers like that are probably going to be good enough to stay competitive in this game, but in the end, turn that one touchdown into an interception, and the start looks like a disaster. Outside of a 56-yard pass play to Keelan Ewaliko, the Nick Rolovich's passing attack was rather dull. With Ursua out, there isn't an obvious No. 1 receiver on this team, and that could be a big problem in a game like this one. Hawaii has only kicked one field goal this entire season, and that remains as their only cover of the season. The loss also definitively ended the Heisman Trophy hopes for Sam Darnold. He was picked off again by Notre Dame, and he now has 10 interceptions in just seven games. Darnold is, of course, fighting to become the No. 1 pick in the NFL Draft, and throwing for just 229 yards and finishing the game against Notre Dame on the bench won't help his draft stock any.

The Trojans don't have much to play for, and they're state of mind will not match the upstart Sun Devils. Expect to see Arizona State to continue playing with high emotion, as Darnold and the men of Troy end up with another bitter loss.

CONSENSUS COLLEGE FOOTBALL
UNDERDOG BEST BET

OKLAHOMA - 20 Over Texas Tech by 10

The Sooners are hanging on right now by the hair of their chinny, chin, chin. They trailed Kansas State for much of the game last week, and it wasn't until they took the lead with 0:07 left on Rodney Anderson's 22-yard touchdown run that the game was finally sealed. It was the third straight game Oklahoma was in a position to lose late on, though it should be noted after the loss to Iowa State, the team rallied for victories over Texas and K-State.

With Baker Mayfield hobbling, Trey Sermon seemingly falling out of favor and Abdul Adams out of the fold, it was Rodney Anderson who stepped up big for the Sooners last week. He rumbled for 147 yards and the game-winning touchdown, capitalizing on the most substantial playing time in his career.

To his credit, Mayfield had another spectacular day, throwing for 410 yards and rushing for 69 more. He accounted for four total touchdowns, giving him 22 in seven games this year between his arm and his legs.

Texas Tech hit rock bottom last week with a 31-13 loss to suddenly stingy Iowa State. The Red Raiders couldn't get anything going aerially, as Nic Shimonek finished with just 207 yards on 31 completions. For a man who averaged at least 7.1 yards per pass attempt in every game this season to date, it was a shock to see him average just 5.0 yards per attempt against ISU.

If Texas Tech can't find its offensive stride, this game could get tremendously ugly.

This spot on the schedule is just flat out awful for Oklahoma. The team had to survive a real war with Kansas State last week, a game where the defense looked exhausted trying to chase after Alex Delton the entire night.

Now, the Sooners have to play against a Texas Tech team that is going to spread you out and throw the ball all over the field.

Worse for Oklahoma? The game against Oklahoma State is up next, and the duel with TCU follow that. Lose any of those games, and there's a good shot that both the National Championship dream and the hope of playing in the revival of the Big XII Championship Game will be up in smoke.

This is one of these games where Oklahoma is going to have to be mentally strong, and we're not so sure the club has it in it.

These Oklahoma/Texas Tech games are always meaningful to Mayfield. He transferred from Texas Tech after his freshman campaign and has been hated by the Red Raiders since that point. All Mayfield did last year in his return to Lubbock was throw for 545 yards and seven touchdowns (and he needed every single one of those yards since Patrick Mahomes threw for 734 yards and five touchdowns.)

The best news for the Red Raiders? Joe Mixon and Dede Westbrook combined for 594 yards between them in last year's game, and they're not walking through those doors in Norman on Saturday.

Texas Tech got caught napping last week by the Cyclones, just as Oklahoma did a few weeks prior. We think that game was more of a blip on the radar instead of a disturbing trend waiting to manifest.

Though Oklahoma will probably find a way to survive this game merely due to the fact that it has a knack for winning close calls while Texas Tech has a knack for losing them, we're still taking the points. It's going to be hard fading the Sooners with their depressed betting lines, but we still think it's the right play in what should be a closer than expected game.

It's the Red Raiders as our underdog pick of the week. Take Texas Tech +20, as they will fight to the bitter end in this Big 12 battle and cover the spread.

Projected Score: Oklahoma 41, Texas Tech 31

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NFL ROUNDUP

-- The Arizona Cardinals, Denver Broncos and Indianapolis Colts were each shut out in last week. The number equaled the number of total shutouts for the entire 2016 season, and it was the first time since Dec. 16, 2012 that three teams were blanked in the same weekend in the National Football League. Points were also at a premium in the Tennessee Titans-Cleveland Browns game, which featured seven field goals and no touchdowns. The game between the Carolina Panthers-Chicago Bears featured 20 total points. While the Bears defense accounted for a pair of back breaking touchdowns.

QB Matt Moore rallied his team back from 14 down for the 31-28 win. He is the Fish QB Thursday Night.

In fact, Bears rookie S Eddie Jackson recorded a 75-yard fumble return for touchdown and a 76-yard interception return for score, becoming the first rookie in NFL history to post two 75-yard defensive touchdowns in a season. He is also the first player in franchise history with two defensive TD's in a game since 1948, and the first to turn the trick since 2012.

-- If you've been following along the past few weeks, you'll know that the Jacksonville Jaguars continue to win and covered in odd-numbered weeks, and lose and post non-covers in even-numbered weeks. The trend continued with their 27-0 road victory in Indianapolis. The streak is uncanny, as they are now a perfect 4-0 SU/ATS in odd-numbered weeks, and 0-3 SU/ATS in even-numbered weeks. We'll see if the betting or football gods are confused when the Jags are off in Week 8. They resume play in Week 9 against the Cincinnati Bengals when they'll try to continue their odd-week success.

-- Sunday Night Football was not the shootout everyone expected. In a rematch of Super Bowl LI, the New England Patriots hosted the Atlanta Falcons in what was supposed to be a high-scoring affair, with a total closing at 57. Like last season's championship game, neither team scored in the first quarter. However, a fog rolled into Foxboro, and defense also reigned supreme in a surprisingly defensive battle. Unlike the Super Bowl, there was no monster comeback or overtime, either, as the Patriots won 23-7 to cover a three-point number.

-- The game with the lowest total on the board -- Baltimore-Minnesota (37.5) ended up inching ‘over’ in the worst way possible. With no time remaining in regulation, and the game already decided, the Ravens scored a touchdown on the final play of the game, falling 24-16. While the line for the game wasn't affected, although perhaps a teaser or two could have been ruined, the total was flipped for the worst bad beat of the week.

-- The Tampa Bay-Buffalo (46.5) game appeared to be headed for an ‘under’ result, with the Bills leading 17-13 after three quarters. With 13:31 to go, the Bills got a 52-yard field goal from Stephen Hauschka to push their lead to 20-13. The game was tied on a 33-yard touchdown at the 10:08 mark, as the Bucs knotted the game 20-20. Things were looking pretty good for the next six-plus minutes until turnovers tilted the field. The Bucs scored with 3:14 to official push the total over, 27-20. The Bills added 10 points in the final 2:28 to not only snatch a win, and cover or push at some shops.

-- The ‘Over’ is 12-10 (54.5%) through the first 22 primetime games of the 2017 season with Monday's game between the Washington Redskins-Philadelphia Eagles (49) went pending. Officially, the ‘over’ finished 27-24 (52.9%) through 51 games under the lights in 2016. In 2015, the over finished 20-28-1 (41.7%) in 49 primetime games. In 2014, the over went 33-17 (66%) in primetime games, and the over was 28-22 (56%) in 2013.

Injury Report

-- Cardinals QB Carson Palmer (arm) suffered a broken arm in the game against the Rams in London and he will require corrective surgery, costing him at least eight weeks of playing time, if not the remainder of the season.

-- Dolphins QB Jay Cutler (chest) was forced from the game against the Jets due to a chest injury, although it might have been addition by subtraction. QB Matt Moore rallied his team back from 14 down for the 31-28 victory. Reports indicate Cutler will not be ready for the Week 9 game on Thursday in Baltimore, so Moore is expected to start.
Minnesota at CLEVELAND Under 39 Total By 9

Vikings Sam Bradford, and its second-round pick, Dalvin Cook, have landed on IR with a torn-up knee. Bradford looks like his season is over with, and Case Keenum has had to scratch and claw to put this team in the win column. But in the win column is where the Vikings have been more often than not. They're winners of three consecutive games and should be feeling good about improving to 6-2 to close out the first half of the season with this game against Cleveland.

The Browns, meanwhile, are still trying to figure out whether they have a legitimate quarterback on the roster. First it was DeShone Kizer. Then it was Kevin Hogan. Then it was Kizer again. Then it was Hogan again. Then it was Kizer again and Hogan again then Kizer one last time. Now, it's Cody Kessler's turn. Kessler, who was the incumbent from the end of last season, was probably Cleveland's most effective pivot coming into training camp. Not only was he not thrilled by the addition of Brock Osweiler, but Kessler also started off the year third on the depth chart even after Osweiler was released. Not that any of this really matters. The Browns easily lead the NFL in interceptions thrown, and no matter who has been under center for largely the last 18 years, the results have been pathetic.

If you want to know why the Browns can't get over the hump, this is the reason for it. The Crow has yet to score a touchdown this season, and he has yet to have a game with more than 60 rushing yards. That might be all fine and dandy for some teams, but the ineffectiveness of the Cleveland ground game is making matters even worse for the quarterbacks. Worse still is the fact that it sounds like Joe Thomas won't be making the trip to England after suffering a triceps injury last week. His missed time was notable; he had taken 10,363 consecutive snaps for the Browns before getting injured.

For as bad as Cleveland has been, we have to be realistic that the Vikings are holding this together with nothing but spit and glue at the moment. Sure, this defense is great, but you've got to be able to score some points as well.

I suspect both teams will find it difficult putting points on the board. If Kessler can move the ball enough to balance out field position, I think there's enough defense here to at least keep the total under the posted line of 38.5.

Projected Score: Minnesota 20, Cleveland 10

Atlanta - 4 Over NY Jets By 14

The Atlanta Falcons won the first three games of this season, and everything looked to be going good, and there didn’t seem to be any hangover from losing in the Super Bowl. But since that point they have lost three games a row, and all three of them were really heartbreaking losses. Two games ago against Miami they jumped out to a 17-0 lead. The offense couldn’t do anything the rest of the game though, and the defense struggled and they allowed the Dolphins to score 20 unanswered points and lose the game. In the last game they had the big rematch of the Super Bowl, but the only problem was the offense forgot to show up. Matt Ryan threw for 233 yards and one touchdown, but otherwise the offense had issues finishing drives and that led to a 23-7 defeat. The Falcons need to figure out a way to get the offense rolling again. If the offense struggles the defense isn’t good enough to carry this team. They need to try and go back to what worked last year for Matt Ryan and hope he can start clicking and get the offense on a roll.

On the other side of this match up is the New York Jets who have had a very up and down season so far. After losing the first two games of the year, they were able to win three straight games. But in the last two games they have lost, and both of those games they could have won. In the last game against the Dolphins they hopped out to a big lead, but the defense really struggled in the second half and let them climb back into the game. The Dolphins kicked a field goal with less then a minute left to go to win the game.

A big issue this team looks like it has is they don't feel comfortable winning games. When they get up in games they play like they are shocked they have the lead. If they want to win this game they need to get out to a big lead, and then play well with it. The defense needs to step up and make life rough on Matt Ryan all afternoon. If they can do that they will have a chance to win this game.

The Jets are 4-0 ATS in their last 4 home games. The Jets are also 6-0 ATS in their last 6 home games vs. a team with a winning road record. The Jets are 5-0 ATS in their last 5 games in October. The Jets are 4-0 ATS in their last 4 games overall. Conversely, the Falcons are 9-2 ATS in their last 11 road games. The Falcons are 5-2 ATS in their last 7 games following an ATS loss. The Falcons are 4-10 ATS in their last 14 games following a straight up loss.

I think this is the week the Falcons finally figure it out and get their explosive offense back in gear. I expect them to come out motivated and Matt Ryan will target his great receivers and the offense is going to run up the score. This one should be an easy victory and a cover as the Falcons fly higher than the Jets.

Projected Score: Atlanta 31, NY Jets 17
BUFFALO Over Oakland By 9

The Raiders were on the brink of a complete disaster last week. They needed five shots from inside the Kansas City 10-yard line to finally score what would end up being the game-winning touchdown on TNF. Instead of falling to 2-5, Oakland is now 3-4 and right back in the thick of the fight in the AFC.

Buffalo is 4-2 this year and has played in nothing but games decided by 10 points or fewer. The Bills have already beaten the Broncos and Falcons this year as underdogs, and they fended off a really tough challenge from a hungry Tampa Bay team last week at home. The question is whether all of this can continue. Buffalo ranks No. 27 in the NFL in total offense and No. 21 in total defense. There's no way that a team like that should be anywhere near the playoff discussion, let alone in a spot to legitimately challenge the best team in the NFL for its division title, but just the fact that the Bills are still in it at the halfway point of the campaign is impressive.

Amari Cooper absolutely went off against Kansas City last week. The seemingly lost receiver through much of September and October produced 11 catches, 210 yards and two touchdowns. Without Cooper, the Raiders don't beat the Chiefs last week. It's possible that we could be saying the same thing a few days from now.

The Raiders still have a lot of problems right now. Marshawn Lynch has been suspended for this game, pending appeal. The Oakland ground game is fruitless without Lynch, and the passing game really needs both Cooper and Michael Crabtree to shine on the same night to be effective. Even still, can Derek Carr really sit in the pocket and throw the ball 30 times to his top two wide outs without ultimately getting picked on far too often by an opportunistic defense that can really rush the passer?

The Bills have gotten to 4-2 for a reason. I think it's borderline disgrace that the oddsmaker is pinning them as being on de facto level terms with the Raiders. I think the Bills can control the tempo with LeSean McCoy. I think the Bills are the right side to cash our bets.

Projected Score: Buffalo 26, Oakland 17

LA Chargers at NEW ENGLAND Over 48 Total By 12

Over the first month of play, the Bolts lost all four games but only did so by an average of 5.3 points per game. When you omit the 24-10 home loss to division rival Kansas City, that average drops all the way down to 2.3 points per game. Los Angeles wasn't nearly as bad as its record indicated heading into Week 5, so it comes as no surprise that Anthony Lynn's squad has won some games recently. Last Sunday, the Chargers avenged their Week 1 defeat at Denver by skunking the Broncos 21-0 in a game they opened as short favorites but closed as a 1-point dog. Rivers did just enough in completing 15 of 26 passes for 183 yards and 2 touchdowns, but it was the defense that rose to the occasion holding Denver to 251 total yards of offense and notching three takeaways. LA enters this spot in search of a third straight road win.

Since dropping a shocking 33-30 decision at home to the Carolina Panthers, Bill Belichick's squad has gotten back to playing its type of ball. In doing so, the defending champs have rattled off three straight wins over the Buccaneers, Jets, and most recently, the Falcons. After giving up an average of 32 points per game in the first month of the season, Matt Patricia's stop unit has allowed a grand total of 38 points over the last three weeks.

The unit was expected to revert back to its porous ways last Sunday night, but that hardly proved to be the case. Atlanta combined for only 343 total yards of offense, and Matt Ryan was held to just one touchdown pass which came in garbage time with the game well in hand. If the defenses turnaround is truly for real, it will give those that hammered the champs on the Super Bowl LII futures odds a more sound sense of security.

Anchored by one of the best passing attacks the league has to offer, the running game has still been unable to truly get going. Dion Lewis has however done his best to rectify that situation. He had split carries with Mike Gillislee the last couple weeks, but proved to be the bell cow against the Falcons after getting 13 attempts to Gillislee’s eight. He turned those opportunities into 76 yards. Run defense has proved to be the weak link of the Bolts defense with it allowing over 140 yards per game ( No. 31 ). It does however excel defending the pass, so the Patriots’ ground attack will likely play a large role in this matchup. As good as Lewis has been running of late, this is a great opportunity for him to have his biggest outing of the season.

The betting public has flocked to the Patriots in early betting, but the totals line has seen little line movement with the number now at flat 48. Philip Rivers vs Tom Brady shootout is likely. I believe the defensive efforts by both teams last week has this total number set very low. Do you think both teams have a chance to score 20 points. Do you think both teams have a chance to score 30 points. I answered yes to both, therefore, I'm taking the Over 48.

Projected Score: New England 34, LA Chargers 26
# College & Pro Football Leaner Picks Against the Spread

Note: Teams in Bold are the selection ATS. If game not listed it's a pass or not a leaner pick.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Team</th>
<th>Away Team</th>
<th>Spread</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tulane</td>
<td>Memphis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td>SMU</td>
<td>-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
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<td>-3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Raven</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Saints</td>
<td>Under 50</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lions</td>
<td>Over 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broncos</td>
<td>Chiefs</td>
<td>Under 44</td>
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<td>NFL Las Vegas Odds &amp; Scores</td>
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