Ouch! Newsletter Best Bets Go 0-5, VIP Top Picks Go 5-7
Week 2 CFB Best Bets Pg 3, Week 1 NFL Best Bets Pg 7

Week 1 News and Notes!

For those of you that are new, in this section we'll recap what happened last week specifically, the misleading finals, the key injuries, the bad beats and the line moves. We'll include most of these recaps here, therefore you don't have to waste time reading about them in my game-by-game write-ups for the upcoming week. Without further adieu, here's a run down of what happened last week in the world of CFB.

Week 1 Trends

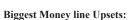| Favorites-Dogs	
Straight Up	70-14
ATS	39-42-3
Home-Away	
Straight Up	60-18
ATS	38-37-3
Totals (O/U)	
Over-Under	47-44-4

Largest Favorites to Cover:
Toledo (-48.5) vs VMI, 66-3
Miss St (-47.5) vs Stephen F. Austin, 63-6
Texas A&M (-46.5) vs NWestern St, 59-7
Florida (-43) vs Charleston Southern, 53-6
Ohio St (-40) vs Oregon St, 77-31

Biggest Money line Upsets:
Cincinnati +450 won 26-17 at UCLA (+14.5)
Villanova +450 won 19-17 at Temple (+14.5)
Hawaii +425 won 59-41 vs Navy (+13.5)
North Carolina A&T +400 won 28-23 at East Carolina (+13)
BYU +320 won 28-23 at Arizona (+11)

Notre Dame led by QB Brandon Wimbush upset Michigan as 3-point underdogs 24-17 on Saturday night. It was the biggest Week 1 line move as Notre Dame actually opened up as a 7-point favorite. All the big money on Michigan turned out to be wrong.

ATS Notables

Teams receiving less than 40% of the bets went 23-12-1 ATS last weekend.

The SEC West had a great first week as the teams were 7-0 SU/ATS with an average cover of 10 ppg. Overall, the SEC went 13-1 SU/11-3 ATS.

Two games were canceled last Saturday due to inclement weather including Akron/Nebraska and South Dakota St/Iowa St. The debut of Nebraska head coach Scott Frost will have to wait another week. There are no plans to make up either contest.

Misleading Finals

While **Connecticut (+24) lost 56-17 to UCF** last Thursday, the Huskies did pile up 486 yards of offense but were done in by 3 TO's all in UCF territory. The Huskies were also stopped on downs twice in UCF territory.

Army (+13.5) lost at Duke 34-14 but were only out-FD'd 19-18 and out-gained 381-365. The Knights were done in by a pair of TO's and two missed FG's.

SMU (+3) trailed North Texas 36-0 entering the 4Q before scoring 23 points. The Mustangs only had one first down in the first three quarters.

Kentucky (-17) had 27-11 first down and 427-255 yard edges but were -4 TO's in their non-covering 35-20 win over Central Michigan.

UNLV (+27) only trailed USC 19-14 entering the 4Q. UNLV fumbled on their first play of the game (USC got a FG off the TO) and also missed a FG in the 2Q otherwise the Rebels would have been leading entering the final stanza.

Houston (-25) outscored Rice 28-3 in the second half in their 45-27 win. The Cougars benefited from 3 missed Rice FG's.

Ohio was +4 in TO's and still only beat Howard 38-32 as 30.5-point favorites.

Fresno St (-24.5) hammered Idaho 79-13 but the Bulldogs were +7 in TO's and had 3 non-offensive TD's including not one, but two blocked FG return TD's (both 10-point swings).

Major Injuries

Baylor QB Charlie Brewer left last week's game with a back injury but has been upgraded to probable for this week's game at UTSA. His replacement was NC State transfer Jalan McClendon who threw for 173 yards and 2 TD's.

Mississippi St QB Nick Fitzgerald has served his one-game suspension and will play in this week's game at Kansas St.

Oregon St QB Jake Luton suffered a concussion in the Beavers' loss at Ohio St last week. He is questionable for this week's game vs Southern Utah.

San Jose St top RB Tyler Nevens suffered a possible concussion and is questionable for this week's game at Washington St.

Texas Tech QB McLane Carter injured his ankle and was carted off the field last week. He has been downgraded to doubtful for this week's game vs Lamar.

UCLA QB Wilton Speight suffered a back injury in last week's game vs Cincinnati. His replacement was true frosh Dorian Thompson-Robinson who was 15 of 25 for 117 yards. Speight is questionable for this week's game vs Oklahoma.

UTEP is suffering from some cluster injuries on the offensive line as projected starters **C Derron Gatewood and LT Greg Long** are both out for the season. The Miners had to start a pair of frosh in the loss to Northern Arizona.

Recapping Week One Best Bets

It was a disastrous start to the season for the Powers' Pack going 0-5 with none of the bets close to the final score. The top play Northern Illinois +10.5 only trailed 3-0 at halftime to Iowa as the Huskies missed 2 first half FG's.

Both FAU and UMass were crushed from start to finish. The Wyoming final was a bit misleading as Wyoming actually led 19-13 late 3Q and Texas shockingly was outright upset to Maryland for a second year in a row.

It was a double-whammy for us as we also had early bets on the two biggest week one line moves (Florida St PK to -7.5) and Michigan (+7 to -3) and despite getting a head of the line by a combined 16.5-points both turned out to be losers. Ouch!

CFB and NFL Schedules with Vegas and Brad Powers Lines Week 2 September 6th-10th

NFL Wk 1 Thursday, Sept 6th	Line	BP
451 ATLANTA (NBC, 8:20 p.m.)	45	44
452 PHILADELPHIA	-2	-2

Friday, September 7th	Line	BP
301 TCU (ESPN2, 8:00 p.m.)	-22	-20
302 SMU	58.5	62

Saturday, September 8th	Line	BP
303 LIBERTY (CBS College, 12:00 p.m.)	58.5	58
304 ARMY	-9.5	-10
305 UAB (7:00 p.m.)	-10	-8
306 COASTAL CAROLINA	55	60
307 GEORGIA TECH (ESPN2, 12:00 p.m.)	-3	-10
308 SOUTH FLORIDA	60.5	58
309 WESTERN MICHIGAN (FOX Sports 1, 12:00 p.m.)	56.5	56
310 MICHIGAN	-28	-30
311 APPALACHIAN ST (6:00 p.m.)	-14	-13
312 CHARLOTTE	50	53
313 EASTERN MICHIGAN (Big Ten, 12:00 p.m.)	55	57
314 PURDUE	-16.5	-17
315 NEW MEXICO (Big Ten, 12:00 p.m.)	61	61
316 WISCONSIN	-35	-35
317 AIR FORCE (CBS College, 2:00 p.m.)	67	66
318 FLORIDA ATLANTIC	-9.5	-10
319 FIU (7:30 p.m.)	-1	-1
320 OLD DOMINION	51.5	55
321 DUKE (ESPNU, 12:00 p.m.)	48.5	49
322 NORTHWESTERN	-3	-3
323 MISSISSIPPI ST (ESPN, 12:00 p.m.)	-9.5	-7
324 KANSAS ST	54	55
325 ARIZONA (ABC, 12:00 p.m.)	72	-1
326 HOUSTON	-4.5	67
327 NEVADA (SEC Network, 12:00 p.m.)	63	64
328 VANDERBILT	-9	-10
329 GEORGIA ST (FOX, 1:00 p.m.)	57	54
330 NC STATE	-25.5	-22
331 UCLA (FOX, 1:00 p.m.)	64	61
332 OKLAHOMA	-30	-27
333 NEW MEXICO ST (8:00 p.m.)	62	57
334 UTAH ST	-24	-23
335 KANSAS (3:00 p.m.)	51.5	51
336 CENTRAL MICHIGAN	-4.5	-3
337 UTEP (9:00 p.m.)	55.5	57
338 UNLV	-23.5	-23
339 MEMPHIS (CBS College, 3:30 p.m.)	-6.5	-6
340 NAVY	70	68
341 NORTH CAROLINA (ESPNU, 3:30 p.m.)	-16.5	-17
342 EAST CAROLINA	60	59
343 RUTGERS (Big Ten, 3:30 p.m.)	61.5	63
344 OHIO ST	-35	-35
345 BUFFALO (3:30 p.m.)	51.5	51
346 TEMPLE	-5	-9
347 GEORGIA (CBS, 3:30 p.m.)	-10	-7
348 SOUTH CAROLINA	55	55
349 BAYLOR (7:00 p.m.)	-15	-16
350 UTSA	50.5	50
351 ARKANSAS ST (ESPN2, 3:30 p.m.)	66.5	59
352 ALABAMA	-36.5	-31
353 COLORADO (ABC, 3:30 p.m.)	66.5	63
354 NEBRASKA	-4.5	-3
355 UL-MONROE (7:00 p.m.)	68	67
356 SOUTHERN MISS	-6	-7
357 BALL ST (NBC, 3:30 p.m.)	62.5	61
358 NOTRE DAME	-34.5	-35
359 IOWA ST (FOX, 5:00 p.m.)	47	51
360 IOWA	-4	-5
361 MARYLAND (6:00 p.m.)	-16	-16
362 BOWLING GREEN	65.5	64
363 MASSACHUSETTS (6:00 p.m.)	62.5	61
364 GEORGIA SOUTHERN	-3	-1

Saturday, September 8th	Line	BP
365 CLEMSON (ESPN, 7:00 p.m.)	-12.5	-11
366 TEXAS A&M	54	51
367 WYOMING (ESPNU, 7:00 p.m.)	52	54
368 MISSOURI	-18	-16
369 VIRGINIA (Big Ten, 7:30 p.m.)	51.5	52
370 INDIANA	-6.5	-4
371 KENTUCKY (SEC Network, 7:30 p.m.)	49	54
372 FLORIDA	-14	-14
373 UTAH (ESPN News, 7:30 p.m.)	-11	-11
374 NORTHERN ILLINOIS	47.5	51
375 FRESNO ST (FOX Sports 1, 7:30 p.m.)	47.5	50
376 MINNESOTA	-2.5	-2
377 ARKANSAS (CBS College, 7:30 p.m.)	-13	-13
378 COLORADO ST	69.5	67
379 CINCINNATI (Paul Brown Stadium, 8:00 p.m.)	50.5	-1
380 MIAMI, OH	-1	53
381 TULSA (8:00 p.m.)	61	62
382 TEXAS	-23	-28
383 SOUTH ALABAMA (8:00 p.m.)	63	65
384 OKLAHOMA ST	-32	-31
385 PENN ST (ABC, 8:00 p.m.)	-8.5	-9
386 PITTSBURGH	56	57
387 USC (FOX, 8:30 p.m.)	56.5	56
388 STANFORD	-5	-10
389 CALIFORNIA (ESPN2, 10:15 p.m.)	46.5	-1
390 BYU	-3.5	47
391 CONNECTICUT (ESPNU, 10:15 p.m.)	64	65
392 BOISE ST	-31	-31
393 MICHIGAN ST (ESPN, 10:45 p.m.)	-6.5	-4
394 ARIZONA ST	55	58
395 SAN JOSE ST (Pac-12, 11:00 p.m.)	65.5	65
396 WASHINGTON ST	-34.5	-31
397 RICE (12:00 a.m.)	71.5	71
398 HAWAII	-17.5	-17

NFL Wk 1 Sunday, Sept 9th	Line	BP
453 PITTSBURGH (CBS, 1:00 p.m.)	-4	-3
454 CLEVELAND	44	39
455 SAN FRANCISCO (FOX, 1:00 p.m.)	46	46
456 MINNESOTA	-6	-10
457 CINCINNATI (CBS, 1:00 p.m.)	48.5	-1
458 INDIANAPOLIS	-3	47
459 BUFFALO (CBS, 1:00 p.m.)	40.5	38
460 BALTIMORE	-7	-10
461 JACKSONVILLE (FOX, 1:00 p.m.)	-3	41
462 N.Y. GIANTS	43.5	-1
463 TAMPA BAY (FOX, 1:00 p.m.)	49.5	50
464 NEW ORLEANS	-9.5	-10
465 HOUSTON (CBS, 1:00 p.m.)	51	57
466 NEW ENGLAND	-6.5	-3
467 TENNESSEE (FOX, 1:00 p.m.)	-1.5	43
468 MIAMI	45	-1
469 KANSAS CITY (CBS, 4:05 p.m.)	48	49
470 L.A. CHARGERS	-3.5	-3
471 SEATTLE (FOX, 4:25 p.m.)	43	43
472 DENVER	-3	-3
473 DALLAS (FOX, 4:25 p.m.)	43	38
474 CAROLINA	-3	-4
475 WASHINGTON (FOX, 4:25 p.m.)	44	43
476 ARIZONA	-1	-3
477 CHICAGO (NBC, 8:20 p.m.)	47.5	49
478 GREEN BAY	-7.5	-7

NFL Wk 1 Monday, Sept 10th	Line	BP
479 N.Y. JETS (ESPN, 7:10 p.m.)	45	41
480 DETROIT	-6.5	-7
481 L.A. RAMS (ESPN, 10:20 p.m.)	-4	-1
482 OAKLAND	49.5	47

All Times Eastern

THE POWERS' PACK

3★ Georgia Tech (-3) over SOUTH FLORIDA
3★ STANFORD (-5) over Usc
2★ Arizona (+4.5) over HOUSTON
2★ TEXAS (-23) over Tulsa
2★ California (+3.5) over BYU

Games in Rotation Order   *HOME TEAM IN CAPS*
Friday, September 7th

Tcu 41 SMU 21. Last week SMU (+3) trailed North Texas 36-0 entering the 4Q before scoring 23 points. Remarkably, the Mustangs only had one first down in the first three quarters. SMU has lost 6 straight in this series and none of the last 5 losses have come by closer than 19 points. TCU does have a big game vs Ohio St on deck. We're passing on the side and leaning with the OVER here.

Saturday, September 8th

ARMY 34 Liberty 24. Last week, Liberty had the biggest cover of the weekend as they were +5.5 at home vs Old Dominion and won 52-10 covering the spread by 47.5 points! The Flames did outscore the Monarchs 38-0 in the second half. On the other side, Army is off a misleading 20-point loss at Duke. The Knights were only out-FD'd 19-18 and out-gained 381-365. Army was done in by a pair of TO's and two missed FG's and remarkably the Knights passed the ball 21 times. Army has not been a good home favorite going 4-9 ATS the last three years and Liberty head coach Turner Gill should know how to defend the option considering he was an option QB at Nebraska. With that being said, our power ratings are very strong on Army here (see page 6). We're passing.

Uab 34 COASTAL CAROLINA 26. Last week Coastal Carolina was crushed by South Carolina while UAB crushed FCS Savannah St 52-0. Those disparate results probably gives us a little value on the home dog here. Keep in mind, just last year UAB was a 1.5-point home dog to Coastal Carolina, now they're laying doubles on the road. Also lean OVER.

3★ Georgia Tech 34 SOUTH FLORIDA 24. Both teams come in off easy wins over FCS teams but overall we think USF is overrated this year. They lose arguably their best player in school history in QB Quinton Flowers, their Top 2 RB's, leading receiver and top 3 tackles. On the other side, Georgia Tech is flying under the radar off a losing season and the last two times head coach Paul Johnson came off a losing season, the Yellow Jackets went 9-4 the next season. Keep an eye on new Georgia Tech D.C. Nate Woody who was one of the more underrated hires of the off-season. The Yellow Jackets got a shut-out win in the opener.

Wynn LAS VEGAS
AVOID THE LONG LINES, WAGER ON OUR MOBILE RACE & SPORTS APP - INQUIRE AT SPORTS COUNTER
STRAIGHT BET
1 BET(S) @ $550.00
Sep 08 COLLEGE FB
NCAA FB
[307] GEORGIA TECH   -2½-110
TICKET COST: $550.00
TO WIN: $500.00
TO COLLECT: $1,050.00
LI66384   Sep 02 2018 15:02:35

MICHIGAN 43 Western Michigan 13. Remarkably, after a 19-3 SU start, Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh is just 9-9 SU in his last 18 games and is on a 7-14 ATS run. Last week despite getting a ton of money in the market place (Wolverines closed -3 at ND), they lost outright 24-17. Do note that in the first 8 minutes, ND had a 171-22 yard edge but in the last 52 minutes Michigan had a 285-131 yard edge. On the other side, Western Michigan fell behind Syracuse 34-7 at halftime last week but had a good showing in the second half. Still, this isn't a good spot for them taking on an angry Michigan team. Slight lean on the Wolverines.

Appalachian St 33 CHARLOTTE 20. This isn't a great spot for Appalachian St on back-to-back road games off a near upset of Penn St. The Mountaineers rallied to score 28 4Q points and nearly pulled a stunner before losing in OT. Now they're asking to lay 2 TD's plus vs an improved Charlotte team off an easy win over an FCS opponent last week at home. Pass.

PURDUE 37 Eastern Michigan 20. Eastern Michigan is on a 11-1 ATS run as an away underdog. However, we're not bucking a Purdue team off a misleading loss to Northwestern last week as the Boilers were done in by 3 TO's in the first half. After getting down 14-0, Purdue was the better team. Obviously we got in front of a big line move here.

Wynn LAS VEGAS
AVOID THE LONG LINES, WAGER ON OUR MOBILE RACE & SPORTS APP - INQUIRE AT SPORTS COUNTER
STRAIGHT BET
1 BET(S) @ $550.00
Sep 08 COLLEGE FB
NCAA FB
[314] PURDUE   -13½-110
TICKET COST: $550.00
TO WIN: $500.00
TO COLLECT: $1,050.00
LI66384   Sep 02 2018 15:02:46

WISCONSIN 48 New Mexico 13. Last week, a banged up Wisconsin team "only" managed a 34-3 win over Western Kentucky. Even after the non-cover, the Badgers are 20-10-1 ATS overall in their last 31 games. Meanwhile, New Mexico crushed FCS Incarnate Word 62-30 (-35.5). Pass.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC 38 Air Force 28. Air Force is 7-2 ATS as a road dog since 2015. Still, this line looks like it has been over-adjusted since week one because of disparate results. While Air Force crushed Stony Brook 38-0 (-15), FAU was pounded by Oklahoma 63-14 (+18.5) much to our dismay. We're passing for now but the power ratings are strong on FAU here.

Florida International 28 OLD DOMINION 27. Old Dominion suffered the worst ATS loss of week one losing 52-10 at Liberty as 5.5-point road favorites. That result has shifted this line big time especially considering FIU had a solid performance in a loss to Indiana last week. Pass.

NORTHWESTERN 26 Duke 23. Northwestern enters on a 9-game winning streak (2nd longest in country). Northwestern has revenge for a blowout loss to Duke last year. It was total domination as Duke had a 538-191 yard edge. Last week both teams had somewhat misleading wins and covers. First, Northwestern beat Purdue 31-27 (+1) but benefited from a +3 TO margin. Meanwhile, Duke only out-FD'd Army 19-18 and out-gained the Knights 381-365 in a 20-point win as Army was done in by a pair of TO's and two missed FG's. We're passing.

Mississippi St 31 KANSAS ST 24. Kansas St head coach Bill Snyder is 27-9 ATS (75%) as an underdog in the regular season since 2011. Last week Kansas St had to rally from a 24-12 deficit to beat South Dakota as QB's Delton and Thompson struggled. Keep in mind, the Wildcats were -4 in TO's. Meanwhile, Mississippi St got an easy win and cover over Stephen F. Austin despite playing several back-ups. Their QB Nick Fitzgerald returns from suspension. Will there be some rust after he was injured at the end of last season? We lean with the home underdog.

2★ Arizona 34 HOUSTON 33. Arizona has revenge for a home loss to Houston last year (before QB Khalil Tate took over). The Wildcats come in off a shocking home loss to BYU as double-digit favorites. Keep in mind, new head coach Kevin Sumlin got his start here at Houston (head coach from 2008-2011). Meanwhile, the Cougars are off a misleading 18-point win over Rice last week as they scored the game's final 28 points and benefited from 3 missed Owl FG's. We like the disrespected "Power 5" dog here.

VANDERBILT 37 Nevada 27. We're kicking ourselves for not releasing Vanderbilt on these pages last week. It was the same exact scenario as a year ago when we cashed on them vs Middle Tennessee as once again the market drove down the number. The Dores won 35-7. On the flip side, Nevada's 72-19 (-28) win over Portland St is definitely an eye-brow raiser. We're passing.

NC STATE 38 Georgia St 16. Both teams come in off relatively close wins over Top 10 FCS teams. Georgia St is on a 20-6 ATS run as a road underdog since 2012. The Wolf Pack could be looking ahead to a big home game vs West Virginia next week. We lean with the dog here.

OKLAHOMA 44 Ucla 17. Classic overreaction to week one disparate results. Oklahoma is off a big blowout win over FAU (embarrassing loser on these pages) while UCLA is off a loss as a 2-TD home favorite vs Cincinnati. Keep in mind, FAU was just +18.5 at close in Norman last week. Meanwhile, UCLA with better players is now getting +30?!? The Game of the Year line at West Gate this summer was just Oklahoma -21. We lean with Bruins but can't bet them until we get further clarification on the QB situation (see page 1).

UTAH ST 40 New Mexico St 17. Utah St with near immediate revenge for a 26-20 OT loss to New Mexico St in last year's Arizona Bowl. The Aggies from Las Cruces, NM are off to a 0-2 SU/ATS start getting blown out in back-to-back weeks vs Wyoming and at Minnesota. Meanwhile, the Aggies from Logan, UT are fresh off a near upset win at Michigan St last week. We're passing.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN 27 Kansas 24. Kansas has lost an NCAA-record 46 straight road games dating back to 2009. The Jayhawks are just 13-32-1 ATS (29%) in those games. Also the Jayhawks are just 12-23-2 ATS in 3-plus years under head coach David Beaty. Last week was another embarrassing loss as Kansas fell to FCS Nicholls St. On the other side, while Central Michigan covered at Kentucky, the Wildcats had 27-11 first down and 427-255 yard edges but were -4 TO's. We lean with the disrespected road dog here.

UNLV 40 Utep 17. Last week UNLV had a misleading 43-21 loss at USC. The Rebels (+27) only trailed USC 19-14 entering the 4Q. UNLV fumbled on their first play of the game (USC got a FG off the TO) and also missed a FG in the 2Q. Otherwise the Rebels would have been leading entering the final stanza. On the other side, UTEP was overwhelmed in a 30-10 loss to FCS Northern Arizona last week. Off a 0-12 season (2-10-1 ATS in their last 13 games) and with a new coach, the Miners are clearly the worst team at the FBS level. UNLV is in their largest favorite role ever vs an FBS opponent (-23.5 hosting UTEP). Keep in mind, there were no lines on Rebels' games until 1996. Pass.

Memphis 37 NAVY 31. Last week the Navy defense was blitzed by a "Run and Shoot" Hawaii offense to the tune of 59 points. While it's always tempting to back the Middies as a home dog especially after a poor performance, we're not sure we want to back them here vs a more talented Memphis offense.

North Carolina 38 EAST CAROLINA 21. East Carolina is just 6-18-1 ATS in 2-plus years under head coach Scottie Montgomery. While it's tempting to back North Carolina here, the Tar Heels are on back-to-back road trips after a long trip to the West Coast a week ago. Plus, the market usually throws teams that lost to FCS opponents (ECU fell to N.C. A&T 28-23 on Sunday) in the trash. We're passing.

OHIO ST 49 Rutgers 14. Last week without Urban Meyer a fired up Buckeyes team put up 77 points and remarkably covered as a near 40-point favorite over Oregon St. Now Ohio St faces a Big Ten bottom-feeder in Rutgers that did get a nice cover over Texas St last week. Note Ohio St is a perfect 4-0 SU/ATS vs Rutgers since the Scarlet Knights joined the Big Ten with an average score of 55-6. It's tempting to lay the 35 here but note that TCU is on deck for OSU.

TEMPLE 30 Buffalo 21. We like Temple here who is embarrassed of an upset loss to FCS Villanova last week (Owls were outgained by 154 yards). Routinely the market throws teams who lose to FCS schools in the trash and we often find value playing on those teams the following week. Meanwhile Buffalo got a lot of love in the market place this summer (season win total was bet up a full win) and are fresh off a blowout win over a very weak FCS team in Delaware St. The Bulls are taking a big step up in class here.

Georgia 31 SOUTH CAROLINA 24. Both teams off easy wins a week ago but how does an inexperienced Georgia team fare in their first road start. South Carolina is 51-14 SU their last 65 home games (underrated home edge) and this is the biggest home game in years for South Carolina. South Carolina did go to an up-tempo offense this year. Keep in mind, conservative play kept them in last year's game (only lost 24-10). More plays and possessions could give Georgia the advantage this year (more opportunities to show their superiority). South Carolina is on a 8-1 ATS run as an underdog with 5 outright upsets.

Baylor 33 UTSA 17. Baylor QB Charlie Brewer left last week's game with a back injury but has been upgraded to probable for this game. His replacement was NC State transfer Jalan McClendon who threw for 173 yards and 2 TD's. While the Bears offense impressed, their defense allowed 466 yards. On the other side, UTSA was feeble in a blowout loss at Arizona St. We're passing.

ALABAMA 45 Arkansas St 14. The Crimson Tide moved to 10-1 ATS in season openers under head coach Nick Saban after their 51-14 blowout win over Louisville. However, this is a sandwich game for them with the SEC opener at Ole Miss on deck and they are just 1-11 ATS laying 28 or more at home in non-conference action. The Tide are taking on a dangerous Arkansas St team that according to *Marc Lawrence's Playbook*, has lost only one of their last 159 games by more than 37 points. We like the Red Wolves and the UNDER here.

NEBRASKA 33 Colorado 30. Nebraska's canceled game last week vs Akron (thunderstorms) gives the advantage to Colorado who has the game under belt advantage after crushing Colorado St a week ago (Sunday Night Owl top play winner on the Buffs). Keep in mind, Nebraska is already a young team with new schemes on both sides of the ball and will be starting a true freshman at QB. Certainly, Nebraska would have preferred game reps. With that being said, this should be a frenzied crowd for new head coach Scott Frost in his debut. If Colorado can handle it early they could be a live dog.

SOUTHERN MISS 37 UL-Monroe 30. Last week ULM nearly lost outright as a 3-TD favorite (34-31) to F SE Louisiana. On the other side, Southern Miss got a 55-7 blow out win over FCS Jackson St. The Eagles did get a pair of non-offensive TD's. QB Jack Abraham did look good in his debut (4 TD passes). We're passing.

NOTRE DAME 48 Ball St 13. Notre Dame has only been a 30-point or more favorite one time since the Lou Holtz era ended in 1996 (2005 Syracuse) so this is one of their biggest favorite roles in the last 20-plus seasons. It is deserved after the Irish had a very impressive upset win over Michigan last week. QB Brandon Wimbush looked improved as a passer and the offense held up vs a stout Michigan defense. Speaking of improved, the Cardinals are one of the most improved teams in the country and last week destroyed FCS Central Connecticut 42-6. While our power ratings say ND is the play here (see page 6), we think they could be a little flat.

IOWA 28 Iowa St 23. 5 of the last 7 in the series have been decided by 6 points or less. Last year's game saw Iowa pull the dramatic come-from-behind win in OT 44-41. Iowa St's canceled game last week gives an advantage to the home team here. Also note that the Hawkeyes have several suspended players back after missing last week. It was an impressive 33-7 win over Northern Illinois that crushed our top play on these pages. However, do note that Iowa only led 3-0 at halftime (NIU missed 2 FG's). Iowa didn't show much of a passing attack as QB Stanley was only 11 for 23 for 108 yards. We lean OVER.

Maryland 40 BOWLING GREEN 24. Last week Maryland pulled the shocking upset over Texas 34-29 (+13.5). Maryland true frosh Jeshaun Jones was a big-play threat as he threw a TD pass (20-yards), caught a TD pass (65-yards) and ran for a TD (28-yards). He was the first freshman to do that in a game since Marcus Mariota for Oregon in 2014. On the other side, Bowling Green is off a blowout loss to Oregon and the Falcons are just 7-18 ATS in 2-plus years under head coach Mike Jinks. Still this is a flat spot for the Terps. Pass.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN 31 Massachusetts 30. Big time revenge here for Georgia Southern as last year UMass compiled a school-record 670 yards in a 55-20 win. The Minutemen actually led 48-17 at halftime. It's also a tough spot for UMass on back-to-back road trips after a blowout loss to Boston College which was yet another embarrassing loser for us on these pages last week. On the other side, Georgia Southern is off a 37-6 win over FCS South Carolina St. Slight lean on the dog here off a blowout loss.

Clemson 31 TEXAS A&M 20. New Texas A&M head coach Jimbo Fisher knows the Clemson personnel well from his days as the Florida St head coach going 4-4 SU vs Dabo Swinney. Both teams are fresh off blowout wins over FCS foes. The star for Texas A&M was RB Williams who rushed for 240 yards. On the other side, Clemson will be

playing two QB's here and we're wondering if super talented true frosh Trevor Lawrence will show nerves in his first hostile environment. We lean with the home team here but obviously picked off a bigger number.

MISSOURI 35 Wyoming 19. Last week we came away very disappointed with Wyoming in their 41-19 loss at home to Washington St that was another loser on the pages. The Cowboys did lead 19-13 in the middle of the 3Q but were outscored 28-0 down the stretch. Meanwhile, Missouri is off a blowout win over FCS UT-Martin. We're passing.

INDIANA 28 Virginia 24. Last year Indiana QB Peyton Ramsey came off the bench and hit 16 of 20 passes with 2 TD's in the Hoosiers' 34-17 win at Virginia. Last week the Cavaliers were one of our top FBS vs FCS VIP picks and they cruised to a 42-13 (-14.5) win over Richmond. Virginia ran for 301 yards and limited the Spiders to only 225 total yards. We like Virginia here.

FLORIDA 34 Kentucky 20. Florida has won 31 straight games over Kentucky, the longest active streak in college football. UF is 20-11 ATS and only once has Kentucky been a favorite (-1 in 1988!). Last year it looked like the streak would finally come to an end but Kentucky blew a 24-14 lead in the final minute. Last week Kentucky (-17) had 27-11 first down and 427-255 yard edges but were -4 TO's in their non-covering 35-20 win over Central Michigan. We lean with the OVER here especially with the new and improved Gators' offense led by QB Franks who threw for 5 TD passes last week.

Utah 31 NORTHERN ILLINOIS 20. Last week, Utah's 41-10 win over Weber St was much more dominating than the final indicated as the Utes had 25-3 FD and 587-59 yard edges but were -4 TO's. On the other side, Northern Illinois collapsed in the second half vs Utah after trailing only 3-0 at halftime. Utah does have a big home game vs Washington on deck which makes the side a pass for us. However, we do lean with the OVER.

MINNESOTA 26 Fresno St 24. Both teams were very impressive in week one. Minnesota got a blowout win over New Mexico St (winner on the Sunday Night Owl update) as the Gophers had a 295-38 rushing yard edge. Meanwhile Fresno St crushed Idaho 79-13. However, it should be noted that the Bulldogs were +7 in TO's and had 3 non-offensive TD's including not one, but two blocked FG return TD's (both 10-point swings). This game should go down to the wire as we're leaning with the OVER here.

Arkansas 40 COLORADO ST 27. No team in the country has been downgraded more than Colorado St after back-to-back extremely disappointing results. First a loss to Hawaii at home as 17-point favorites and then last week in a rivalry game, the Rams were crushed from start to finish vs Colorado (The Buffs were our top play on the Sunday Night Owl report). On the other side, the Chad Morris era got off to a good start for Arkansas as they beat Eastern Illinois 55-20 (-34.5). Still, this is a unique road trip for the Hogs to the altitude and we're passing.

† Cincinnati 27 Miami, Oh 26. @*Paul Brown Stadium in Cincinnati.* Cincinnati has won 12 straight games (7-5 ATS) in this rivalry. Prior to last season, the Bearcats had been an average favorite of 18 ppg but this is now the second year in a row, they find themselves in the underdog role. It's a bad spot for them off a big outright upset over UCLA on the West Coast last week and now face a Miami, Oh team that is playing back-to-back home games. However, the RedHawks are now 5-19 straight up under head coach Chuck Martin in games decided by 9 points or less. Is that bad luck or bad coaching? We think it's coaching. Note that we feel we're catching some value here with Miami, Oh listed as the home team. We expect more Cincy fans in the stands.

2★ TEXAS 45 Tulsa 17. Last year after an upset loss to Maryland in week one, the Horns crushed San Jose St 56-0. Obviously we were extremely disappointed with Texas last week in their upset loss to Maryland. On the other side, we expected Tulsa to be much improved but last week they trailed FCS Central Arkansas in the middle of the 4Q. This is the first time these two have played but in the last 10 years, Tulsa has played Big 12 Oklahoma/Oklahoma St and only once in 9 times did they come within 3 TD's. In the preseason we thought this could be a flat spot for Texas off a revenge game vs Maryland and a home revenge spot vs USC on deck. However, after the loss last week, we think Tulsa gets an "A" effort. Note that Sunday Night Owl customers got Texas at -20.5 and now the line is 23. Regardless we're giving the Horns one more chance on these pages.

OKLAHOMA ST 48 South Alabama 17. Oklahoma St won last year's game 44-7 (-28) on the road. Last week the Cowboys cruised to a 58-17 win over Missouri St and have a couple extra days to prep here having played last Thursday. Meanwhile, South Alabama lost to Louisiana Tech 30-26 in head coach Steve Campbell's debut. last Saturday. The Jaguars only managed 91 yards passing on 7 completions. Pass.

Penn St 33 PITTSBURGH 24. Last year's 33-14 Penn St win was a bit misleading as Pitt out gained the Nittany Lions 342-312. Pittsburgh has a history of playing well vs big foes (wins over No. 3 Clemson and No. 2 Miami, FL the last two years). This is an underdog series at 8-1 ATS and Pitt is 7-2 ATS the last 9 games. Normally we would be all over the home dog here but it seems as though we've had a bit of an overreaction to last week as Penn St nearly lost to Appalachian St at home as a 3-TD plus favorite. The Nittany Lions were leading by 2 TD's in the 4Q. Keep in mind, the game of year line was Penn St -13. Pass for now.

4

3★ STANFORD 33 Usc 23. Stanford has revenge for a pair of losses to USC a year ago (Cardinal still on a 9-4 ATS run in series). This will be the first road start for USC true frosh QB J.T. Daniels. Last week, the Trojans had a misleading 43-21 win over UNLV as it was only 19-14 entering the 4Q and at that time, UNLV gift-wrapped an early USC score by fumbling on their first play from scrimmage and the Rebels also missed a FG in the second quarter. Meanwhile, Stanford, despite having six players suspended and despite Bryce Love having a career-worst, still got a win and cover over a solid San Diego St team. USC head coach Clay Helton is 17-0 SU at home but only 10-10 SU/6-14 ATS away from home Revenge is sweet!

2★ California 24 BYU 23. After last week's surprising 28-23 upset win at Arizona, we've seen this line move significantly as Cal was a 5-point road favorite in the Game of the Year lines at West Gate. Keep in mind, BYU was playing a first year head coach in Arizona's Kevin Sumlin who was installing new schemes. First-year head coaches didn't have a good week one (see Chip Kelly, Willie Taggart, Jeremy Pruit, etc). Considering the Bears played pretty close to the spread vs North Carolina, we think an 8.5 point upgrade for BYU is a little steep after just one week. California was 7-3 ATS as an underdog last year under Justin Wilcox.

BOISE ST 48 Connecticut 17. While Connecticut (+24) lost 56-17 to UCF last Thursday, the Huskies did pile up 486 yards of offense but were done in by 3 TO's all in UCF territory. The Huskies were also stopped on downs twice in UCF territory. Boise St is just 13-32 ATS on the Blue Turf since 2010 and while the Broncos crushed Troy last week, note that they only had a 416-387 yard edge as they benefited from 4 Troy TO's while also scoring two non-offensive TD's. This line has come down a few points. Pass.

Michigan St 31 ARIZONA ST 27. The game of year line between these two saw Michigan St as a 10-point favorite at West Gate. However, after the Spartans nearly lost outright at home to Utah St and Arizona St dominating over UTSA, we've seen a good-size adjustment. Please note that Michigan St is 1-8 ATS as a road favorite the last 3 years and Arizona St is a perfect 10-0 SU at home vs current Big Ten teams. A 10:45pm ET kickoff and the desert heat may not be a good look for a Michigan St team we were high on this season.

WASHINGTON ST 48 San Jose St 17. San Jose St has been a total dumpster fire under Brent Brennan including last week's loss to UC Davis. Meanwhile, Washington St got a surprising 41-19 blowout win over Wyoming last week. Please note that the Cougars actually trailed 19-13 in the middle of the 3Q of that game. Slight lean on the ugly road dog.

HAWAII 44 Rice 27. Hawaii has arguably been the biggest surprise of the 2018 season so far winning outright as a double-digit underdog in both games. In fact, if you had bet $100 on Hawaii on the money line in week one and rolled over the winnings and bet them on the money line in week two, you'd have $3,000! QB Cole McDonald has been the story as last week he was 30 of 41 for 428 yards and 6 TD's in the 59-41 win over Navy (Sunday Night Owl customers got Hawaii +17!). Meanwhile, Rice had a misleading 18-point loss to Houston as they missed 3 FG's and were out-scored 28-3 in the second half. At the start of this season, this line probably would have saw Hawaii around a 6-point favorite. Now they're laying 17.5! We're passing.

FBS vs FCS Matchups Lines Courtesy of 5Dimes.eu

Saturday, September 8th	Line
399 Towson	
400 Wake Forest	-30.5
401 Holy Cross	
402 Boston College	-44
403 William & Mary	
404 Virginia Tech	-39
405 Portland St	
406 Oregon	-48.5
407 Morgan St	
408 Akron	-38
409 Howard	
410 Kent St	-6.5
411 Wagner	
412 Syracuse	-43.5
413 Southern Illinois	
414 Mississippi	-29.5
415 East Tennessee St	
416 Tennessee	-37.5
417 Lamar	
418 Texas Tech	-43
419 North Dakota	
420 Washington	-45
421 Savannah St	
422 Miami, FL	-54
423 South Carolina St	
424 Central Florida	-46.5
425 Youngstown St	
426 West Virginia	-32.5
427 Eastern Kentucky	
428 Marshall	-28

Saturday, September 8th	Line
429 UT-Martin	
430 Middle Tennessee	-19.5
431 Indiana St	
432 Louisville	-44.5
433 Florida A&M	
434 Troy	-37.5
435 Southern	
436 Louisiana Tech	-35.5
437 Texas Southern	
438 Texas St	-28.5
439 SE Louisiana	
440 LSU	-38.5
441 Samford	
442 Florida St	-33.5
443 Western Illinois	
444 Illinois	-8
445 Maine	
446 Western Kentucky	-9.5
447 Alabama St	
448 Auburn	-50.5
449 Incarnate Word	
450 North Texas	-41
491 Nicholls State	
492 Tulane	-14.5
493 Southern Utah	
494 Oregon State	-11
495 Sacramento	
496 San Diego State	-26

Updated College Football Power Ratings for Week 2

Rank	Team	Pre	9/4	Rank	Team	Pre	9/4	Rank	Team	Pre	9/4	Rank	Team	Pre	9/4
1	Alabama	96.80	98.30	34	Georgia Tech	78.86	78.36	67	Vanderbilt	67.74	69.74	100	Oregon State	59.11	59.11
2	Clemson	96.04	96.04	35	Iowa State	78.31	78.31	68	USF	69.65	69.65	101	SMU	62.70	58.70
3	Ohio State	94.53	94.53	36	Duke	77.90	77.90	69	UCLA	73.53	69.53	102	Southern Miss	58.35	58.35
4	Georgia	93.18	93.18	37	Northwestern	77.89	77.89	70	Marshall	68.90	69.40	103	Hawaii	48.33	58.33
5	Oklahoma	91.33	92.83	38	Louisville	79.18	77.18	71	Toledo	68.34	68.84	104	Georgia Southern	58.22	57.72
6	Auburn	90.27	90.27	39	NC State	77.90	76.40	72	Appalachian State	65.65	68.65	105	Kansas	60.47	56.97
7	Washington	90.26	90.26	40	Ole Miss	74.30	76.30	73	Tennessee	70.55	68.55	106	New Mexico	55.41	56.41
8	Notre Dame	87.75	89.25	41	Memphis	76.26	76.26	74	Virginia	66.53	68.03	107	FIU	55.74	56.24
9	Wisconsin	90.14	88.64	42	Purdue	75.25	74.75	75	Arkansas State	66.96	66.96	108	UL-Monroe	58.48	55.98
10	Michigan	90.01	88.01	43	Washington State	72.19	74.69	76	Ohio	69.61	66.61	109	Akron	55.98	55.98
11	Stanford	86.18	85.68	44	California	75.81	74.31	77	North Texas	63.26	66.26	110	Central Michigan	56.40	55.90
12	Penn State	88.57	85.57	45	Arizona State	72.77	74.27	78	Northern Illinois	67.55	66.05	111	Western Kentucky	55.14	55.64
13	Mississippi State	85.77	85.27	46	Fresno State	72.57	74.07	79	Louisiana Tech	66.45	65.95	112	Bowling Green	55.68	55.18
14	LSU	82.24	85.24	47	Wake Forest	76.55	74.05	80	Army	66.23	65.73	113	Colorado State	60.55	54.55
15	Michigan State	87.55	84.55	48	Pittsburgh	74.93	73.93	81	Middle Tennessee	67.58	65.58	114	UL-Lafayette	51.29	54.29
16	USC	84.38	82.88	49	Nebraska	74.17	73.67	82	Navy	69.00	65.50	115	Ball State	51.27	54.27
17	Miami (FL)	85.86	82.86	50	Maryland	70.54	73.54	83	Temple	67.98	64.98	116	Liberty	47.65	53.65
18	Virginia Tech	80.28	82.78	51	Kansas State	76.46	73.46	84	Wyoming	65.38	64.88	117	UTSA	55.05	53.55
19	TCU	82.01	82.01	52	Arizona	78.38	73.38	85	Tulane	72.69	64.19	118	Georgia State	53.10	53.10
20	Oregon	81.48	81.98	53	Florida Atlantic	76.83	73.33	86	Rutgers	63.45	63.95	119	South Alabama	52.48	52.98
21	West Virginia	79.44	81.94	54	Texas Tech	75.56	73.06	87	Cincinnati	59.73	63.73	120	New Mexico State	56.14	52.14
22	Texas A&M	81.73	81.73	55	Baylor	74.94	72.94	88	Troy	64.82	63.32	120	Old Dominion	57.14	52.14
23	Utah	81.16	81.66	56	San Diego State	72.49	72.49	89	Nevada	61.62	63.12	122	Connecticut	52.42	51.42
24	Boston College	79.57	81.57	57	Minnesota	70.83	71.83	90	Air Force	61.10	63.10	123	Charlotte	50.83	51.33
25	Florida State	84.04	81.54	58	Kentucky	71.27	71.77	91	Miami (OH)	63.53	63.03	124	East Carolina	53.84	50.84
26	Oklahoma State	81.99	81.49	59	Arkansas	73.15	71.65	92	Western Michigan	63.47	62.97	125	Coastal Carolina	51.35	50.35
27	Boise State	80.43	81.43	60	Indiana	72.63	71.63	93	Illinois	63.73	62.23	126	Kent State	48.22	49.22
28	Florida	81.18	81.18	61	Colorado	69.52	71.52	94	UAB	61.07	62.07	127	Rice	49.46	48.96
29	South Carolina	80.47	80.97	62	North Carolina	71.19	71.19	95	UNLV	59.65	61.65	128	Texas State	48.82	48.32
30	Texas	83.93	80.93	63	BYU	65.88	70.88	96	Buffalo	62.12	61.62	129	San Jose State	48.25	45.75
31	Missouri	80.05	80.05	64	Houston	71.76	70.76	97	Eastern Michigan	60.29	60.79	130	UTEP	45.98	42.98
32	UCF	78.16	79.16	65	Syracuse	69.42	69.92	98	Tulsa	60.24	59.74				
33	Iowa	77.70	78.70	66	Utah State	66.88	69.88	99	Massachusetts	59.87	59.37				

Biggest Movers Since Preseason

Team	Pts
Hawaii	+10.0
Liberty	+6.0
BYU	+5.0
Cincinnati	+4.0
North Texas	+3.0
LSU	+3.0
Utah St	+3.0
UL-Lafayette	+3.0
Appalachian St	+3.0
Ball St	+3.0
Maryland	+3.0
Michigan St	-3.0
Ohio	-3.0
Texas	-3.0
Miami, FL	-3.0
East Carolina	-3.0
Kansas St	-3.0
Penn St	-3.0
Temple	-3.0
Florida Atlantic	-3.5
Navy	-3.5
Kansas	-3.5
UCLA	-4.0
New Mexico St	-4.0
SMU	-4.0
Old Dominion	-5.0
Arizona	-5.0
Colorado St	-6.0

Week 2 Computer Projected Lines for Every CFB Game

For the past couple of seasons we have posted computer projected lines at pregame.com. **Games where there was of difference of more than 3 points saw our computer lines actually beat the Vegas line at a 155-129-7 (55%) clip the last two years.** That's pretty solid and actually better than our own handicapping (much to our dismay). **Last wek's plays went a disappointing 1-3.** Keep in mind, these computer lines don't take into consideration off-the-field factors like revenge or flat spots. They are basically a power-rating number difference between the two teams that also takes into consideration the home field advantage.

Of the 5 games where our computer is off more than 3 points compared to the Vegas line (highlighted), our favorite team this week to back would be Arizona +4.5.

The Comp column is the computer projected line and the Diff column is the difference between the Vegas line and the Computer line. "+" numbers in the difference column say back the underdog. "-" numbers in the difference column say back the favorite. Let us know if you have questions.

Friday, September 7th

Game	Line	Comp	Diff
301 TCU			
302 SMU	+22	+20.3	+1.7

Saturday, September 8th

Game	Line	Comp	Diff
303 Liberty			
304 Army	-9	-15.1	-6.1
305 UAB			
306 Coastal Carolina	+10	+9.2	+0.8
307 Georgia Tech			
308 USF	+3.5	+5.5	-2.0
309 Western Michigan			
310 Michigan	-28	-29.8	-1.8
311 Appalachian St			
312 Charlotte	+14	+15.1	-1.1
313 Eastern Michigan			
314 Purdue	-16.5	-16.7	-0.2
315 New Mexico			
316 Wisconsin	-35	-37.5	-2.5
317 Air Force			
318 Florida Atlantic	-9.5	-13.0	-3.5
319 FIU			
320 Old Dominion	+1	+0.6	+0.4
321 Duke			
322 Northwestern	-3	-3.5	-0.5
323 Mississippi St			
324 Kansas St	+9.5	+7.3	+2.2
325 Arizona			
326 Houston	-4.5	-1.4	+3.1
327 Nevada			
328 Vanderbilt	-9	-9.9	-0.9
329 Georgia St			
330 NC State	-25.5	-27.1	-1.6
331 UCLA			
332 Oklahoma	-30	-28.6	+1.4
333 New Mexico St			
334 Utah St	-24	-21.7	+2.3
335 Kansas			
336 Central Michigan	-4.5	-2.2	+2.3
337 UTEP			
338 UNLV	-23.5	-21.4	+2.1
339 Memphis			
340 Navy	+6.5	+6.3	+0.2
341 North Carolina			
342 East Carolina	+16.5	+17.1	-0.6
343 Rutgers			
344 Ohio St	-35	-35.8	-0.8
345 Buffalo			
346 Temple	-5	-6.9	-1.9
347 Georgia			
348 South Carolina	+10	+8.0	+2.0

Game	Line	Comp	Diff
349 Baylor			
350 UTSA	+15	+16.6	-1.6
351 Arkansas St			
352 Alabama	-36.5	-36.8	-0.3
353 Colorado			
354 Nebraska	-4.5	-6.4	-1.9
355 UL - Monroe			
356 Southern Miss	-6	-5.6	+0.4
357 Ball St			
358 Notre Dame	-34.5	-39.7	-5.2
359 Iowa St			
360 Iowa	-4	-4.9	-0.9
361 Maryland			
362 Bowling Green	+16	+15.6	+0.4
363 Massachusetts			
364 Georgia Southern	-3	-1.9	+1.1
365 Clemson			
366 Texas A&M	+12.5	+10.1	+2.4
367 Wyoming			
368 Missouri	-18	-18.9	-0.9
369 Virginia			
370 Indiana	-6.5	-6.8	-0.3
371 Kentucky			
372 Florida	-14	-13.9	+0.1
373 Utah			
374 Northern Illinois	+11	+11.6	-0.6
375 Fresno St			
376 Minnesota	-2.5	-1.3	+1.2
377 Arkansas			
378 Colorado St	+13	+13.4	-0.4
379 Cincinnati			
380 Miami, OH	-1	+1.2	+2.2
381 Tulsa			
382 Texas	-23	-25.2	-2.2
383 South Alabama			
384 Oklahoma St	-32	-33	-1.0
385 Penn St			
386 Pittsburgh	+8.5	+7.9	+0.6
387 USC			
388 Stanford	-5	-7.8	-2.8
389 California			
390 BYU	-3.5	-1.1	+2.4
391 Connecticut			
392 Boise St	-31	-33.8	-2.8
393 Michigan St			
394 Arizona St	+6.5	+6.3	+0.2
395 San Jose St			
396 Washington St	-34.5	-32.9	+1.6
397 Rice			
398 Hawaii	-17.5	-12.4	+5.1

Top 20 CFB ATS Trends for Week 2

1. Eastern Michigan is on a 11-1 ATS run as an away underdog. This week the Eagles are +16.5 at Purdue.

2. Kansas St head coach Bill Snyder is 27-9 ATS (75%) as an underdog in the regular season since 2011. This week the Wildcats are 9.5-point home underdogs to Mississippi St.

3. Georgia St is on a 20-6 ATS run as a road underdog since 2012. This week they are +24.5 at NC State.

4. Kansas has lost an NCAA-record 46 straight road games dating back to 2009. The Jayhawks are just 13-32-1 ATS (29%) in those games. This week Kansas is a 4.5-point dog at Central Michigan.

5. Kansas is just 12-23-2 ATS in 3-plus years under head coach David Beaty.

6. UTEP is just 2-10-1 ATS in their last 13 games. This week the Miners are +23.5 at UNLV.

7. This week UNLV is in their largest favorite role ever (-23.5 hosting UTEP) vs an FBS opponent. Keep in mind, there were no lines on UNLV games until 1996.

8. East Carolina is just 6-18-1 ATS in 2-plus years under head coach Scottie Montgomery. This week the Pirates are 16.5-point home underdogs to North Carolina.

9. South Carolina is on a 8-1 ATS run as an underdog with 5 outright upsets. This week the Gamecocks are 9.5-point home underdogs to Georgia.

10. Per *Marc Lawrence's Playbook*, Arkansas St has lost only one of their last 159 games by more than 37 points. This week the Red Wolves are +36.5 at No. 1 Alabama.

11. Notre Dame has only been a 30-point or more favorite one time since the Lou Holtz era ended in 1996 (2005 Syracuse). This week, the Irish are 33.5-point favorites vs Ball St.

12. Bowling Green is just 7-18 ATS in 2-plus years under head coach Mike Jinks. This week the Falcons are 16-point home underdogs to Maryland.

13. Florida has won 31 straight games over Kentucky, the longest active streak in college football. In those games the average score is Florida 40-16 with an average line of Florida -19. UF is 20-11 ATS and only once has Kentucky been a favorite (-1 in 1988!).

14. After their blowout loss to Colorado last week, Colorado St has now failed to cover in 9 straight games. This week the Rams are +13 at home to Arkansas.

15. Cincinnati has won 12 straight games (7-5 ATS) over their rival Miami, Oh. However, this week, the Bearcats are 2.5-point underdogs.

16. Tulsa is just 1-10 ATS in their last 11 games vs Big 12 opponents. This week the Golden Hurricane are +23 at Texas.

17. Pittsburgh is 11-0-1 ATS as home dogs of 8 or more points. This week the Panthers are +8.5 at home vs rival Penn St.

18. Boise St is just 13-32 ATS at home since late 2010. This week the Broncos are 31-point favorites on the Blue Turf vs Connecticut.

19. Michigan St is 1-8 ATS as a road favorite the last 3 years. This week, the Spartans are -6.5 at Arizona St.

20. Arizona St is a perfect 10-0 SU at home vs current Big Ten teams. This week the Sun Devils are +6.5 at home to Michigan St.

Games in Rotation Order   HOME TEAM IN CAPS
Thursday, September 6th

PHILADELPHIA 23 Atlanta 21. Battle of the last two NFC Champs as this line has plummeted all summer long with the sharps pounding the Falcons. The Eagles will start Nick Foles at QB here with Carson Wentz still recovering from ACL surgery. This is a rematch of last year's Divisional playoff game but keep in mind, the Falcons were 3-point road favorites and could've won the game in the final moments. However, Philadelphia is 15-3 SU/13-5 ATS at home the last two years. Pass.

Sunday, September 9th

3★ UNDER 44 Pittsburgh 21 CLEVELAND 18. Cleveland is getting the love from both the pros and the joes. This line opened Pittsburgh -7 and now has been bet down to -4. Pittsburgh traveled here a year ago in the opener and only won by 3 (just 1-5-1 ATS in their last 7 season openers). New Cleveland O.C. Todd Haley will have familiarity with the Steelers having served as O.C. for them the last 6 years. The Browns will be much improved this season especially with Tyrod Taylor at QB as Taylor has the lowest INT rate in the NFL while last year's starter DeShone Kizer threw 28 picks. Totals' players note the UNDER is 8-0-1 in Pittsburgh's last 9 road games. Le'Veon Bell is now officially doubtful for the Steelers and weather could play a major factor here. In the last 15 years, when the average wind speed is 10 mph or stronger and the over/under is 50 or fewer points, the under has gone 403-324-8 (55%). Right now, kickoff weather is 59 degrees, 80% chance of rain and winds Southeast at 20 mph. UNDER!

2★ MINNESOTA 28 San Francisco 18. After 5 straight wins to close last season, the 49ers are getting a lot of love thanks to Jimmy G who boasts that 7-0 SU/6-1 ATS mark as a starter. However, the Vikings have arguably one of the best rosters in the NFL. They upgraded at QB with Kirk Cousins and their defense was in the Top 3 in every major category. Counting the preseason, Minnesota's Mike Zimmer is incredibly 59-29 ATS (67%) in his entire head coaching career and the Vikings are 14-1 ATS as a non-division favorite. Jimmy G suffers his first loss.

Cincinnati 24 INDIANAPOLIS 23. Andrew Luck is back for the Colts but he didn't exactly set the world on fire in the preseason as the Colts didn't test his shoulder too much in the vertical pass game. The Colts roster has been upgraded in the last two years. On the other side, Cincinnati is off back-to-back losing seasons for the first time since 2007-2008. Obviously, Marvin Lewis is on the hot seat. Note that the Colts are just 1-7 SU/ATS in their last 8 season openers but have a new head coach in Frank Reich. We like the Bengals outright.

BALTIMORE 24 Buffalo 14. The Bills fresh off their first playoff season in 18 years have had more money bet against them this off-season than any other team in the NFL. It makes sense considering they have one of the worst rosters in the league and have arguably the worst starting QB in Nathan Peterman. On top of that, they were a "phony" 9-7 team. On the other side, it's tough laying more than 4 points with this Ravens' offense but we simply can't back Buffalo here.

N.Y. GIANTS 21 Jacksonville 20. Obviously, one of the bigger stories here is the return of Tom Coughlin to N.Y. The Jags come in fresh off their AFC Championship game appearance while the Giants had a dismal 2017. Things are looking up for the G-Men in 2018 with an upgraded coaching staff, a healthy WR Beckham and an instant impact rookie in RB Saquon Barkley. It's tough laying a FG on the road with Jacksonville QB Bortles who is just 6-24 SU in his career away from home. We lean with the home dog here but liked it more when Barkley was 100% healthy (he is dealing with a hamstring).

NEW ORLEANS 30 Tampa Bay 20. Obviously, Jameis Winston is suspended for the first three games of the season and Ryan Fitzpatrick will get the start here for the Bucs. In our opinion, Fitzpatrick is about a 1.5-2 point downgrade and the market agrees with that assessment. The Saints have revenge from a Week 17 loss to Tampa a year ago and the Saints have upgraded their roster especially on the defensive side. Not often that we lean with the biggest favorite on the board but that is the case here.

NEW ENGLAND 30 Houston 27. Last year the Patriots were shocked in week one by the Chiefs and it could happen again this year vs a much improved Houston team. The Texans get back QB Watson from injury along with their outstanding pass rushers (Watson, Mercilus and Clowney). The Patriots have a rebuilt receiving corps and while he is hasn't shown any signs of slowing down, Tom Brady at 41 years old is going up against the unbeaten "Father Time". Keep in mind, last year a Watson-led Texans team only lost 36-33 here as in his second career start Watson had 301 passing yards. We lean with the OVER and the Dog. Super Bowl losers are just 2-15 ATS in season-opening games since 2001.

2★ MIAMI 23 Tennessee 20. Tennessee comes in off a playoff season but they have a new coach in Mike Vrabel. Meanwhile, the Dolphins overhauled their roster in the off-season but should be improved thanks to the return of QB Ryan Tannehill. It's tough laying points on the road with a team that looked awful in the preseason. Per *Marc Lawrence's Playbook*, teams that went 0-4 in the preseason and are favored in week one are just 5-16 ATS. Keep in mind, Tennessee QB Marcus Mariota had a 5-11 TD-to-INT ratio on the road last year. We like the Dolphins who are a respectable 10-5 at home under Adam Gase and note that this will be one of the hottest and most humid games of the season. Miami is 4-1 SU/5-0 ATS in season openers the last 5 years.

L.A. CHARGERS 26 Kansas City 23. The Patrick Mahomes era begins here for the Chiefs and it's been a series dominated by Kansas City as they have won 8 straight (6-2 ATS). The Chargers are getting some love in the off-season markets as they closed last season on a 9-3 SU run However, can you really trust them in a close game? This game is a pass for now.

DENVER 23 Seattle 20. These two franchises look far different than the ones that met in the Super Bowl 4-plus years ago. While Pete Carroll and Russell Wilson remain, Seattle has gone from having one of the best rosters in the NFL to one of the worst in the last 3 years or so. This became apparent in the preseason as the Seahawks, who routinely were one of the best in the exhibition season went "0-fer" for the first time under Carroll. Meanwhile, Denver closed last season on a 2-10 SU/ATS run. They have upgraded at QB by getting Case Keenum but was his 2017 season in Minnesota just a career outlier? Too many questions to get involved here. Note that Seattle is just 1-12 ATS in season road openers.

CAROLINA 21 Dallas 17. The Cowboys looked like hot garbage in the preseason as they are dealing with cluster injuries on their offensive line. They also have question marks in their pass game this year following the departures of long-time staples TE Witten and WR Bryant. On the other side, the Panthers are also dealing with some injuries on their offensive line. We lean UNDER.

ARIZONA 23 Washington 20. First game for new Arizona head coach Steve Wilks who was the Carolina D.C. The Cardinals should be improved this year thanks to an upgrade at QB with Bradford and a healthy RB Johnson who missed most of last season with injury. Meanwhile the Redskins shipped off QB Cousins and got the reliable Alex Smith in return. The Redskins are 0-4 SU/ATS in season openers under head coach Jay Gruden while the Cardinals are on a 7-3 SU/ATS run at home. We lean with the home team here.

GREEN BAY 28 Chicago 21. The Packers are on a 17-3 SU/15-5 ATS run in the series. Obviously, there is a lot of excitement in Chicago after acquiring elite pass rush specialist Khalil Mack from Oakland. But on the other side, the Packers have to be enthusiastic with the return of the $134 Million-Dollar QB Rodgers from injury. Note that the Packers are 9-1 U/8-1-1 ATS in home openers but the Bears are too much of an unknown under first-year head coach Matt Nagy. Pass.

Monday, September 10th

DETROIT 24 N.Y. Jets 17. It's a new era for both teams as the Lions welcome in new head coach Matt Patricia who is trying to become one of the rare Belichick disciples that has success as a head coach. He should be quite familiar with the Jets personnel after serving as a long-time D.C. for the Patriots. The Lions are 6-1 SU/5-2 ATS in season openers. Meanwhile the Jets have a new franchise QB in Sam Darnold who will become the youngest starting QB in the NFL since the merger in 1970! Tough laying nearly a TD with a brand new head coach for the Lions. However, it's tough backing a rookie in first road start. Lean UNDER.

L.A. RAMS 24 Oakland 23. The Jon Gruden Version 2 era begins in Oakland after a decade in the broadcast booth. It's been an eventful off-season for both teams as the Raiders have now the oldest roster in the league and traded away their best player in DE/LB Khalil Mack. Meanwhile, the Rams have been off-season darlings thanks to several acquisitions and the return of RB Gurley and DL Donald not to mention 2nd-year HC McVay. This could be the most hostile atmosphere of week one and note that Monday Night Home dog in Week one are on a 15-5 ATS run.

Just missed the cut: Cincinnati +3, Baltimore -7, N.Y. Giants +3 and Houston +6.5