



BOTH RATING 5 KEYS WIN LAST WEEK

NELLY'S PHONE SERVICE FALLS TO 19-9 IN THE NFL, 68%

POINT TRAIN 10-UNIT NCAA GAME OF THE YEAR THIS WEEKEND

2012 GREEN SHEET:

The newsletter won both Rating 5 Key Selections last week as Keys ended up 6-5-1 for the week. Overall the picks had a poor issue as favorites dominated both the college and NFL cards last weekend and we are generally holding a slight underdog tilt.

NELLY'S PHONE SERVICE:

Our phone service had a huge month of October but we opened November with our worst weekend of the season. We won our 3* College Top Play but unfortunately were on the short end in several close games. We've certainly caught some breaks in our red hot NFL season and Sunday was just our second losing NFL Sunday in nine weeks of the season. We are still 19-9 on the NFL season for over 68% and our phone service clients are still well into the black for the year. Unfortunately there will be a few losing weekends every season and we had been fortunate to avoid a substantial losing weekend in the first two months of the season. We'll look to bounce back this week with our second NFL 3* Top Play of the season this week – winning easily in our first NFL 3* two weeks ago. Cost is \$35 Pay only after the game wins, posted Friday at 3 PM CT.

2012 ELIMINATOR CONTEST:

The Eliminator Contest is entering a very dramatic finish as seven contestants remain and every one has at least eight points. There is no margin for error this week and we should get the best picks posted from this group of seven finalists. We will release the picks at www.nellysports.com and on our Free Pick phone line (608) 283-3132 each Thursday. The set of double plays is just \$9 per week.

FEATURED HANDICAPPERS:

Through our office and at www.nellysports.com phone service selections from four excellent featured handicappers are available:

BOBBY DALTON:

The Big Dog Bobby Dalton maintains solid clips in the NFL and college football, riding a 21-12 run in his last 33 picks going back to October 20. He has been excellent in primetime picks going 46-28 in Monday and Thursday NFL picks the last 2+ seasons. Don't miss his picks this week!

BIG E SPORTS TICKET:

The BEST is on a remarkable run the last few weeks as he has hit seven straight 15* and higher selections. Join the Big E for his 20* Conference USA Conference Game of the Year this week for \$20.94 and get his November NFL 15* Game of the Month for \$15.94. Complete weekend package for \$44.94 this week. College Hoops starts this weekend!

POINT TRAIN:

Point Train will be featuring his 10-Unit College Game of the Year this Saturday (\$39.99 pay after you win). Point Train won his 9-unit pick last Saturday as part of a 5-1 day and he is on a 17-7-1 NCAA run. Check out a full weekend offer with Point Train as well.

MAXIMUM SPORTS:

Maximum Sports won his 15* College Game of the Year last weekend for a huge top play win. Maximum was 6-2 with a huge card on Saturday and he backed it up with a strong 3-1-1 day in the NFL on Sunday. Join Maximum for his weekend package for just \$50 this week and don't miss a 10* Top Play for \$30 Pay Only After the Game Wins.

Between the Lines...

Each week in the newsletter we will provide a brief column with interesting notes and insights on the previous and future weeks in this Between the Lines column.

Chalk struck back last week as favorites went 32-22-2 ATS in the college schedule and 9-4 ATS in the NFL schedules heading into Monday night. It was a good week to lay big numbers as college favorites of 20 or more went 7-2 and double-digit favorites in the NFL went 2-0. College favorites still have a slight losing record for the season and NFL underdogs are still hitting over 58 percent on the season despite the big shift last week.

There were no changes in the college top 4 last week but all four teams received very tough games. Alabama and Kansas State were both out-gained despite wins, Oregon allowed 51 points despite talk of being an elite defensive team this season, and Notre Dame held off defeat in several instances to win in three overtimes.

The polls never make much sense but it seems silly to penalize LSU with a big bump down in the rankings despite out-playing and nearly beating the clear #1 team in the nation. Teams 5 through 8 are in the SEC and it seems apparent that Georgia will likely win the SEC East though most would rate Florida or South Carolina as the better team. While Notre Dame is rightfully taking some heat for some good fortune last week they did post huge yardage numbers and they will be big favorites the next two weeks leading up to the USC game. Oregon's schedule will be getting a boost in the coming weeks and Alabama will get Texas A&M and the SEC East champion to boost the numbers so the top two should be set if they win out. Kansas State has three decent teams left on the schedule but the Wildcats will likely get passed by Oregon and Kansas State could have even bigger issues if Collin Klein misses time. If Klein does miss time his Heisman candidacy will be an interesting case, his numbers are staggering enough that he can probably survive missing one game, but maybe not two.

If the playoffs ended today we would be lined up for a heck of a wild card weekend. Seattle would head to San Francisco and Green Bay would head to New York. In the AFC the Steelers would head to New England and the Colts would head to Denver, for some very intriguing storylines involving Peyton Manning and Andrew Luck. It would be an interesting year as it does not seem clear that the top teams are warranting full support yet as there are some legitimate doubts around the Falcons and Bears, as well as the Texans and Ravens but those teams would hold the four protected seeds right now. Kansas City and Jacksonville appear to be ready to fight for the #1 pick in the draft though Matt Barkley and Geno Smith don't look as promising as Luck and Robert Griffin did last season.

The success of rookie quarterbacks this season makes picking one high an easy call however. The five teams with a rookie QB are a combined 19-24, and that would be an even .500 mark if you took out a Cleveland team with a lot of other issues. There has been a big regression for the once promising crop of 2nd year starting QBs however as the five teams opening the year with sophomore starters sit a combined 14-28 with only Christian Ponder leading a winning team, and his results have been very poor in recent weeks. Despite all the attention on Luck and Griffin, and to a lesser extent Russell Wilson, the offensive rookie of the year might not be a quarterback as Tampa running back Doug Martin is 3rd in the NFL in rushing and has seven touchdowns. Best of Luck, on to this week's slate...

We rank our Key Selections in order of preference, grading them on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being a top selection. This does not mean we recommend you wager 5 times more on a 5 rating than on a 1 rating. Our Phone Service works that way, but not the newsletter. Lines listed are as of early in the week and could be considerably different by game time. For games that are not key selections, the farther our difference from the line, the stronger the opinion. Remember to stay conservative because it is a long season. Weekend Phone Selections are available every Friday, 3:00 pm Central. Call us toll-free at 1-800-33-NELLY. Our address is Nelly's Sportsline / P.O. Box 6433 / Madison, WI 53716-0433, or contact us through www.nellysports.com.

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COLLEGE KEY SELECTIONS

RATING 5 NORTH CAROLINA (-9) over Georgia Tech
RATING 4 PENN STATE (+7) over Nebraska
RATING 3 NC STATE (-9½) over Wake Forest
RATING 2 OKLAHOMA STATE (-7½) over West Virginia
RATING 2 OREGON STATE (+5½) over Stanford
RATING 1 TULSA (-2½) over Houston
RATING 1 UAB (+3) over Marshall

ALL TIMES ARE LISTED IN CENTRAL TIME AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE
 Home teams listed in CAPS, all lines are obviously subject to change
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

TOLEDO (-6½) Ball State 7:00 PM

These teams have combined to score 195 points in the last three meetings with Toledo winning each time. The Rockets have won eight straight games after losing the opener in overtime against Arizona but it appears the MAC West title will get decided next week with Toledo heading to Northern Illinois. Looking ahead to that game is a possibility but Ball State is a formidable foe, looking to earn a bowl trip. The Cardinals have six wins but they probably need another to boost the postseason chances and the Cardinals are posting 473 yards per game, more than the Rockets put up. Ball State has played the tougher schedule and the Cardinals will compete well. **TOLEDO BY 4**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2012

OHIO (-3½) Bowling Green 7:00 PM

These teams are tied in the MAC at 4-1, both sitting behind 5-0 Kent State in the East. They will each get a shot at the Flashes in the next two weeks but the game may only be relevant to the winner of this game. Ohio has won three in a row in this series but the games have been close and after a great start to the season the Bobcats have been struggling in the middle part of the schedule. Bowling Green has won five straight and the defense has been impressive, allowing just 33 points over the last five games combined. Ohio has been the superior offensive team but both teams have played an extremely weak schedule which leaves question marks but Bowling Green is capable of getting more stops on defense. Ohio's dream season keeps slipping away and they remain a team to fade. **BOWLING GREEN BY 3**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2012

Florida State (-13½) VIRGINIA TECH 6:30 PM

The Hokies are in an unfamiliar position of being 4-5 and playing at home as a heavy underdog. Florida State has a bad loss on the resume but the Seminoles have been on cruise control since, hoping for a chance to play their way back into the national conversation. The Hokies are 4-0 at home as every loss has come on the road this season and this will be the biggest home underdog spread for Virginia Tech in over a decade. The advantages on both sides of the ball look substantial for Florida State but the Seminoles have featured a very light schedule and this team is 0-3 ATS on the road. This will still be a big game for Florida State having lost to Virginia Tech in the 2010 ACC Championship game the last time these teams met but the Hokies will be up for this opportunity. **FLORIDA STATE BY 10**

ARKANSAS STATE (-6½) UL-Monroe 6:00 PM

The race in the Sun Belt has turned very interesting with three teams tied at 4-1, with these teams among them. Monroe had been the conference's most impressive team in the early season action but last week the Warhawks were destroyed at home, losing by 16 and out-gained by 200 yards against Louisiana-Lafayette. Losing QB Kolton Browning to injury certainly was a factor. Arkansas State has quietly won four in a row including three of four on the road in conference play. Arkansas State won 24-19 in a tight game in this match-up last season. Statistically these teams mirror each other but the Red Wolves are the superior rushing team. It has taken some time but Arkansas State appears to be hitting its stride on offense. **ASU BY 14**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2012

Pittsburgh (-3½) CONNECTICUT 7:00 PM

The Panthers were so close to a monumental upset last week and it will be difficult to bounce back, especially on a short week. Pittsburgh is now just 4-5 with bowl hopes slipping away and they will face one of the better defenses in the nation. Connecticut is just 3-6 but opponents are posting only 290 yards per game against the Huskies. The offense has posted just over 16 points per game however. Connecticut has lost all four games in Big East play while failing to top 14 points in any of those games. Pittsburgh is facing a second straight road game and third road game in four weeks to add difficulty to the letdown spot. The home team has won each of the last three years in this match-up and at home Connecticut is 2-2 with both losses coming by just three points. **CONNECTICUT BY 3**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012

MICHIGAN (-11) Northwestern 11:00 AM

Michigan is 4-1 in the Legends division but they will need Nebraska to lose to have a chance at getting to the Big Ten title game. Denard Robinson did not play last week but Devin Gardner filled in admirably. Michigan's offense has been well below the pace of the last two years in terms of production but the defense has excelled this season, allowing less than 289 yards per game. Northwestern does not have great numbers but the Wildcats keep winning, now at 7-2 and sitting with two weeks to prepare for one of their biggest games of the season. The road team has won outright in five of the last seven meetings in this series and the Wildcats have covered as underdogs in three of the last four meetings. Michigan has not been a great home favorite in recent years and this could be a tight game. **MICHIGAN BY 7**

CLEMSON (-31) Maryland 2:30 PM

Clemson won't likely have a chance to win the ACC but the Tigers have been playing impressively in recent weeks, posting five straight wins and featuring one of the best scoring offenses in the nation with nearly 43 points per game. Clemson has only lost ATS in one FBS game this season but this will be one of the biggest spreads they will face. Maryland has been excellent defensively with only 301 yards per game allowed but the injury riddled offense has struggled. Maryland has a very limited running game and now is playing with a #3 QB. Maryland did not have a great offense last year and still put up 45 points against Clemson as the defense can be vulnerable. This is homecoming for Clemson and while there are more alluring match-ups coming, this is not a team that is letting off the gas. **CLEMSON BY 35**

NC STATE (-9½) Wake Forest 2:00 PM

NC State's horribly flat effort last week can't be viewed as too big of surprise given the way that they lost the previous week. This should be a bounce-back opportunity as the Wolfpack are still short of bowl eligibility despite being the only team to beat Florida State. The bowl hopes are still alive for Wake Forest after winning last week against Boston College. The Demon Deacons will likely be dogged in the remaining games however. The home team has won nine of the last 10 years in this match-up and Wake Forest might have a hard time keeping up in this game as the offense for NC State has been much more productive aside from last week. **NC STATE BY 17**

RUTGERS (-18) Army 11:00 AM

Rutgers is still undefeated in Big East play and three critical conference games will follow up this contest. The last game was a similar less meaningful non-conference game at home and Rutgers lost to Kent State. Rutgers allowed a season high 35 points in that game but six turnovers greatly aided the cause for Kent State. On the season Rutgers has allowed just 14 points per game on defense and Army will take its rush offense that averages 375 yards per game against a defense that is allowing just 88 rushing yards per game. These teams have played each of the five years with Rutgers winning each time but the last three meetings have all been decided by 17 or fewer points. Given the nightmare off-week for the Knights players and families this could be a difficult game. **RUTGERS BY 14**

Louisville (-2½) SYRACUSE 11:00 AM

The Cardinals are not getting a great deal of respect despite being 9-0. The schedule has not proven to be overly difficult and there have been a few close calls. Louisville's three road wins all have come against losing teams and this will be a critical game as Syracuse has the ability to put up a lot of points and the Orange are still holding on to bowl hopes. Syracuse played a high quality non-conference schedule and they have won three of five conference games. This will be the final home game for the Orange and while the recent numbers as a home underdog are not strong the recent games in this series have mainly been very tight. **LOUISVILLE BY 4**

Miami, FL (-1½) VIRGINIA 11:00 AM

Virginia earned its first cover of the season last week and they did so emphatically with a 33-6 win at NC State as a double-digit underdog. Virginia has out-gained each of its last five opponents as this is a team that was due for a breakout game if they could avoid turnovers. Miami enters this game off a huge primetime win over Virginia Tech. The Hurricanes have a suspect defense and has been out-gained in five straight games despite a 4-1 ATS mark in that span. Miami is also in the driver's seat for the ACC Coastal title at 4-2 with two conference games remaining and every other eligible team sitting with three losses. Virginia has won as big underdogs each of the last two seasons in this series and statistically the Cavaliers look like the far better team despite the contrasting records. **VIRGINIA BY 3**

Minnesota (-3) ILLINOIS 2:30 PM

The Gophers had a strong start against Michigan last week but they couldn't keep pace, falling to 5-4 on the season. The Gophers need one more win to be bowl eligible after back-to-back 3-9 seasons and this will be by far the best opportunity with two tough games to close out the year. Illinois has lost six straight games and this has been a disappointing team. The offense has scored just 60 points in five Big Ten games and while the schedule has been tough Illinois has lost by at least 14 in the last three at home. Minnesota has been better on both sides of the ball and while the Gophers are a shaky road favorite this will be a huge game for the team. **MINNESOTA BY 10**

Wisconsin (-6½) INDIANA**11:00 AM**

The notion that Indiana might be able to represent the Big Ten Leaders in the conference championship game seemed laughable early in the year but if the Hoosiers win they will be in great shape for the title spot, tying Wisconsin at 3-3. Value may be on Wisconsin as the Badgers were favored by 37½ in this match-up last season and has won by 63 and 52 in the last two years of this series. This Wisconsin team has struggled to score however and the Badgers are back with Danny O'Brien at QB. Indiana's offense has gained about 85 more yards per game than the Badgers but the Wisconsin defense should have a big advantage in this game. Indiana has been out-rushed in all but one game this season so Wisconsin could have opportunities to get the ground game back on track. Indiana has won two in a row and four losses have come by four or fewer points but the Hoosiers won't surprise anyone any more as their play warrants respect. **WISCONSIN BY 14**

IOWA (-4) Purdue**11:00 AM**

Purdue opened the season 3-1 with the lone loss coming against highly ranked Notre Dame by three points. The wheels have fallen off with a 0-5 record in the Big Ten and three of four losses came by lopsided margins. The one close loss came in overtime against undefeated Ohio State so this is a team that still has some potential. Iowa has lost three in a row and the Hawkeyes have incredibly lost three home games this season. Iowa has won five of the last six in this series and the defensive advantage should be there for the Hawkeyes though this is not the great Iowa defense of past years. Purdue is allowing 193 rushing yards per game. **IOWA BY 8**

MISSISSIPPI (-3) Vanderbilt**7:00 PM**

These two teams generally have finished at the bottom of the SEC in recent years but the winner of this game will be bowl eligible. The loser will still have two more cracks to get there but the competition will be tougher, particularly in the case for Ole Miss. Last week's loss was just the second ATS loss for the Rebels all season and Ole Miss actually had the early lead before turnovers turned the game out of hand. Vanderbilt has won 89-7 the last two games combined but the competition has been light. This will be a second straight road game and the strong Vanderbilt defensive numbers will likely take a hit against a much more capable offense. **OLE MISS BY 13**

NORTH CAROLINA (-9) Georgia Tech**11:30 AM**

Going 5-0 in home games North Carolina has outscored foes 49-15. Georgia Tech is fighting back into the postseason picture after steamrolling a good Maryland defense last week but the Yellow Jackets have a tough schedule ahead. Georgia Tech has won six of the last seven meetings between these teams but the Tar Heels have been the superior team on both sides of the ball this season. Georgia Tech has not defeated a team with a winning record this season and having been off last week is a huge advantage for North Carolina as the extra time is very helpful in helping to prepare the defense for the unique triple-option offense. **NORTH CAROLINA BY 21**

Central Michigan (-2½) EASTERN MICHIGAN**12:00 PM**

The Chippewas lost a tough game last week to Western Michigan and it will be basically impossible for Central Michigan to make a bowl game at this point. Central Michigan has been out-gained in all eight FBS games this season but this team won in Iowa City earlier this year. Eastern Michigan has endured a very disappointing season and the defense has been atrocious, allowing nearly 500 yards per game. Eastern Michigan has been more respectable at home, beating Army and losing by just five against Toledo while Central Michigan has allowed at least 50 points in every MAC road game. It is tough to back a 1-8 team but this is not a favorable situation for Central Michigan and Eastern Michigan has had two extra days. **EM BY 3**

Kent State (-6) MIAMI, OH**12:00 PM**

Kent State has moved 8-1 and with a perfect record in MAC play the Flashes are in control of the East division. Two tough games are waiting the next two weeks however and Miami was the team that beat Ohio two weeks ago. Statistically it doesn't add up for the Flashes as Kent has been out-gained by 20 yards per game on average but they will have an opportunity to change that against a Redhawks defense that is allowing 480 yards per game. Miami is undefeated at home but they have faced a road-heavy schedule and Miami won 9-3 when these teams met last season despite posting just 166 yards in the game. Kent has already won four road games this season, all by double-digit margins and they have been excellent at creating turnovers this season, something the pass heavy Miami offense can provide. **KENT BY 14**

BYU (-37) Idaho**9:15 PM**

BYU broke out with a huge 41 point effort in the last game to beat Georgia Tech but the scoring has not been reliable for this team. The schedule has been tough and BYU has won convincingly in every game in which they were heavily favored in. Idaho has already changed coaches and while last week the Vandals played tough early the end result was a familiar heavy loss. Idaho has won just once this season and the offense will have a very tough time against an elite BYU defense that is allowing just 264 yards per game and just over 14 points per game. BYU has four losses but they will be favored the rest of the way and last season the Cougars won 42-7 at home in this match-up, posting double the yardage that Idaho managed. This is a huge number but supporting Idaho would be difficult. **BYU BY 42**

AKRON (-16) Massachusetts**1:00 PM**

Massachusetts is winless on the season but the last three weeks will feature more reasonable match-ups after this team has lost by a combined score of 136-7 the last three games. Akron has been more competitive this season but like last season they lack a FBS win and there are only two games to go. This is the final home game for the Zips and while these defenses have similarly terrible numbers the Akron offense has actually been quite productive, putting up 437 yards per game. Injuries have greatly added to the challenge for the Minutemen in this transition season and the schedule doesn't help with a third straight road game. **AKRON BY 20**

Western Michigan (-3) BUFFALO**2:30 PM**

Buffalo is just 2-7 on the season but the Bulls have been pretty competitive. Statistically the Bulls are actually out-gaining foes by a few yards per game on average and this team has played superior teams tough at home, losing close games with Kent State, Pittsburgh, and Toledo. Western Michigan scored a big rivalry win last week and while a bowl game won't likely be calling if the Broncos win out to reach 6-6 that will be the goal. This has been a disappointing season for a team that was expected to contend for the MAC title and this will be a second straight road game. **BUFFALO BY 3**

ALABAMA (-13½) Texas A&M**2:30 PM**

The Crimson Tide was certainly fortunate to escape Death Valley undefeated last week as they were mostly out-played by LSU. In a clear potential letdown spot a surging Texas A&M team provides a dangerous opponent. Texas A&M is facing a very challenging scheduling spot as well however, coming off a big win last week. The Aggies are playing a fifth road game in six weeks and this will be the third consecutive week on the road. Texas A&M has some of the best offensive numbers in the nation but QB Johnny Manziel has had some mistakes this season against the top defenses. The Aggies are allowing 377 yards per game on defense as well so the Alabama offense will be able to control this game. The Aggies have been very impressive in their first year in the SEC as they were a team few gave a shot to compete and this is a great opportunity but likely too difficult of a spot for the Aggies to come up with the upset. **ALABAMA BY 17**

Georgia (-15) AUBURN**6:00 PM**

The Bulldogs have been all over the map this season but if they win this game they will be the SEC East champions. Georgia won 45-7 in this match-up last season but the defense for the Bulldogs has regressed significantly this season despite the improved record. It has been a disastrous season for Auburn and a coaching change may be on the way, less than two years after the Tigers were holding up a BCS Championship trophy. Auburn did get on track last week against New Mexico State and in fairness the home schedule has been brutally difficult for the Tigers this season. Auburn did nearly beat LSU at home but Georgia has too much on the line to have a flat effort in this game even though the home team has won three in a row. **GEORGIA BY 21**

NEBRASKA (-7) Penn State**2:30 PM**

The Cornhuskers are now 7-2 and in line to win the Legends division but there has been some good fortune. Nebraska is 4-1 in the Big Ten but they have won by slim margins in three games and got the fortune of facing a back-up QB in the other win. Statistically Nebraska is an impressive squad but this team has started slow in several games this year. Penn State is also 4-1 in Big Ten play and the Lions have put together a very solid season despite great obstacles. Penn State is 3-0 in conference road games with huge margins of victory in every game and this is a key revenge spot after a three-point loss at home in this match-up last season. Nebraska has the look of an overrated team that has snuck out a few wins and while Penn State has not defeated elite teams, they have been impressive doing it. **PSU BY 3**

Notre Dame (-18½) BOSTON COLLEGE**7:00 PM**

The Irish caught some breaks to maintain the perfect start last week with an incredible comeback win. While Notre Dame probably should have lost, they did out-gain Pittsburgh by 214 yards and the Irish have out-gained all but one opponent on the season. Notre Dame has not played many great passing teams but they have allowed just 194 passing yards per game and Boston College attacks primarily through the air. It has been a rough season for the Eagles sitting at 2-9 but this is always a big game on the schedule. This will be just the third true road game for the Irish and while they have played marvelously in both previous games this will be a different scenario as a heavy favorite and it might be tough to pull away. **NOTRE DAME BY 17**

USC (-9½) Arizona State**2:30 PM**

One of the popular national championship contenders already has three losses as USC could not keep up with Oregon last week. USC is just 2-7 ATS on the season but they are catching a Sun Devils team also on a slide. Arizona State has lost three in a row after a promising start to the season and after back-to-back tough losses this will be a challenging match-up for a defense that is banged up. Arizona State won 43-22 in this match-up last season and the Sun Devils have covered in six of the last seven meetings. The defensive numbers for Arizona State have been eroding in the Pac-12 schedule and USC possesses one of the top passing attacks in the nation. A second straight road game against a focused and motivated team with superior talent could be problematic. **USC BY 14**

Utah (-1½) WASHINGTON**9:30 PM**

The Huskies won a sloppy Friday night game with Cal to move to 5-4 and the only loss for UW in Seattle came in a tight game with USC. Washington has been out-gained in five consecutive games however as the offense has taken a big step back this season. The defense has improved however including allowing just 30 points the last two games after the disastrous trip to Tucson. Utah lost four straight to open the conference season but the Utes have snapped back with consecutive convincing wins. Both wins were at home and Utah is 0-4 S/U on the road this season. Washington won last season in Salt Lake City and while the Utah defense has better numbers Washington has played the toughest schedule in the nation. **WASHINGTON BY 7**

NEW MEXICO (PK) Wyoming**2:30 PM**

After three straight 1-11 seasons New Mexico has emerged as one of this season's surprise bowl contenders. At 4-6 the Lobos need to win out and that means three straight wins with a 13-game schedule for playing in Hawaii. The Lobos have lost three straight and last week's loss at then 1-8 UNLV was concerning, being out-gained by 180 yards. Wyoming picked up a win last week, just the second of the season. Statistically these teams have fairly similar overall profiles but the Lobos are likely to have a big rushing edge in this evenly-lined game. The home team has won four straight in this series and this a bounce back spot for the Lobos. **NEW MEXICO BY 7**

San Jose State (-22½) NEW MEXICO STATE**2:30 PM**

The Spartans have started the season 7-2, two years removed from an ugly 1-12 season. While San Jose State will be in the bowl picture they are still in the running for the WAC title if they get some help. The Spartans are passing for nearly 30 yards per game and they get to face a terrible New Mexico State defense. The Aggies have not won since a FCS win in August and every loss but one has come by double-digits. San Jose State is facing a second straight road game after winning as a road favorite last week but the Spartans will be tough to keep up with. **SJSU BY 31**

Oregon (-27½) CALIFORNIA**9:30 PM**

Last week's game was certainly the biggest of the season for Oregon and while the Ducks won with 62 points and an impressive offensive display, the defense was also lit up in the air as USC posted 51 points. This will be a second straight road game with long travel but California has struggled with three straight losses. After an ugly performance against Stanford the Bears have out-gained the last two opponents but the Bears don't have a promising defense in this difficult match-up. Cal nearly won at home against Oregon two years ago as big underdogs and with a bowl game already out of the question this is the final home game and will be the last shot at a big win. Oregon meanwhile has two challenging games ahead the next two weeks making this a potentially tricky spot on the schedule. **OREGON BY 23**

OKLAHOMA STATE (-7½) West Virginia**2:30 PM**

The Mountaineers have lost three straight after grabbing national attention early in the season and last week's one-point loss will certainly sting. West Virginia is allowing 482 yards per game and going against an incredibly productive Oklahoma State team will be a great challenge. Despite some youth the Cowboys are putting up huge numbers and the while this team has lost three times they have only been out-gained once. The numbers are staggering for the Cowboys in home games and this could be a long trip for the Mountaineers as they try to snap their streak. West Virginia has been a very credible underdog in recent years but this is one of the toughest places to play in the nation with a suspect defense. West Virginia has the potential to force a shootout and QB Wes Lunt is likely out of action for Oklahoma State but the OSU defense can step up at home. **OSU BY 17**

Kansas State (NL) TCU**6:00 PM**

The injury to Heisman favorite Collin Klein could spoil the dream season for the Wildcats. Kansas State is 9-0 with only one ATS loss but the Wildcats have been out-gained the past two weeks, showing some vulnerability. TCU has lost three of the last five games but having to revolve through three QBs has certainly contributed. Last week's win should provide great momentum for the Horned Frogs and this is a dangerous team as a home underdog. Statistically these teams have pretty similar numbers with TCU actually featuring the stronger defense. This is a season-making opportunity for TCU and if Klein is not 100 percent there may be an opportunity. Kansas State won big at West Virginia but the other two road wins came by very slim margins and TCU has been a strong home underdog. **K-STATE BY 7**

Cincinnati (-11) TEMPLE**11:00 AM**

The Owls have dropped three in a row as Big East play is taking a toll. Temple has been out-gained by at least 180 yards in each of those games and the Owls have not out-gained an opponent all season long. Cincinnati got back in the win column last week but the last three games have been challenging for a team that started 6-0. Both losses for the Bearcats came on the road and Cincinnati does not have a road win. The Cincinnati offense has been very productive, posting 454 yards per game but the defense can be scored upon. Temple did beat South Florida at home earlier this season but the offense is posting just 296 yards per game on the season. Temple has historically been excellent in the home underdog role in recent years but Cincinnati has the potential to post a big score here. **CINCINNATI BY 14**

TENNESSEE (-3) Missouri**11:20 AM**

Tennessee is incredibly 0-5 in SEC play and a coaching change appears imminent. The Volunteers are still in the bowl picture with three games to play but allowing 721 yards last week against Troy does not provide great promise moving forward. Missouri has struggled offensively this season with just 319 yards per game now playing with a back-up at QB but the defense has kept the Tigers in most games. Missouri is also 4-5 but could still climb into the postseason with a strong finish. Missouri has out-gained six of nine opponents despite the losing record while Tennessee has been out-gained in five consecutive games and in every SEC game. After nearly beating Florida last week this might be a tough trip for the Tigers however and with its back against a wall the Volunteers will put up big numbers. **TENNESSEE BY 10**

TEXAS (-10) Iowa State**11:00 AM**

Texas is 7-2 but has not been a quality team. The Longhorns are allowing 447 yards per game despite expecting to have an elite defense this season. Last week Texas did play perhaps its best game of the season in a win at Texas Tech however. Iowa State has been a promising underdog in many recent situations and the Cyclones played commendably despite losing against Oklahoma last week. Iowa State needs one more win to reach bowl eligibility and they have been the superior defensive team in this match-up statistically. The Iowa State offense has been inconsistent but Texas also had problems consistently moving the ball and most of the big production came in a couple of shootouts. Texas has not proven it can be consistent in consecutive weeks and the Longhorns still get overvalued. **TEXAS BY 3**

SAN DIEGO STATE (-9½) Air Force**2:30 PM**

The Aztecs have quietly won five straight games and last week's upset over Boise State dramatically changes the picture in the Mountain West race. Fresno State owns the tiebreaker but they have to play at Nevada this week. Air Force lost by 20 to Army last week in a surprising result and the Falcons have failed ATS in four of the last five games. The Falcons are always a candidate to be an underdog with a rushing edge but San Diego State is rushing for 217 yards per game this season. After long travel out east last week this could be a tough trip for Air Force heading on another long trip. San Diego State has covered in three straight in this series and the Aztecs have a lot to play for with a possible conference title lining up. **SDSU BY 18**

SMU (-12) Southern Miss**6:00 PM**

Southern Miss moved to 0-9 last week despite leading 16-0 at one point. From Conference USA champion to a possible winless season is a steep fall but there have been some competitive efforts for the Golden Eagles. SMU has a limited margin for error sitting at 4-5. The Mustangs lost badly last week in Orlando but the offense has shown improvement in recent weeks. Southern Miss won 27-3 last season in this match-up but a lot has changed for both teams. SMU is hard to trust as a heavy favorite as this is a team that has benefited from turnovers in a couple wins and has allowed over 28 points per game on defense this season. Southern Miss has continued to fail but this is a team that is not far away from putting it together. **SMU BY 10**

Marshall (-3) UAB**3:30 PM**

Marshall won 59-14 when these teams met last season but the Thundering Herd has never been the same team on the road. Marshall is just 4-5 on the season despite averaging over 530 yards per game as the defense is allowing over 41 points per game. UAB picked up just its second win last week and the first over a FBS team. UAB has lost several tight games this season as the Blazers are likely a better team than the record shows. UAB has only been slightly out-gained on average for the season and the passing attack can keep pace with Marshall. The Blazers have been an outstanding ATS home underdog in recent years. Marshall is just 5-12 S/U on the road since Coach Holliday took over the team. **UAB BY 6**

Tulsa (-2½) HOUSTON**4:00 PM**

Tulsa played commendably last week at Arkansas in a four-point loss and the Golden Hurricane has some room to work with holding a two-game lead in the Conference USA West standings. They are yet to play SMU but Houston is the only other team in the running with only two conference losses. Houston crushed Tulsa last season in a critical late season game that decided the division title so this will be a payback spot and a lot has changed with the Houston program. Houston has rallied for wins in four of the last six games after a tough start to the year but this might be a game the Cougars need to get back into the bowl picture. This could be a challenging homecoming game for a Houston team that is allowing 471 yards per game on defense and faces a great balanced Tulsa offense. **TULSA BY 13**

Unlv (-2½) COLORADO STATE**6:00 PM**

UNLV is just 2-8 but this is a team that has competed well and has now covered in four straight games. Last week everything was working with a blowout win over New Mexico but winning on the road will be a tougher challenge. Colorado State is just 2-7 on the season but the Rams have been a stronger defensive team in this match-up. The home team has won four in a row in this series but the Rams are banged up on defense and the two wins for Colorado State have both come against very poor quality teams. UNLV has defeated two decent teams and four other losses came by eight or fewer points as the Rebels could easily have a stronger record. **UNLV BY 7**

Boise State (-29) HAWAII**6:00 PM**

Boise State has had several close calls but they finally got caught last week in a rare home loss against San Diego State. A trip to the islands should be a good remedy as a rebuilding Hawaii squad continues to struggle. The Warriors have just one win on the season and that came against a FCS foe but the Warriors have had to play four of the last five on the road. Statistically Hawaii has not been quite as bad as the record suggests and Boise State is only scoring 27 points per game this season, making this huge spread perhaps a challenge for the defense-oriented squad. **BOISE BY 24**

Ucla (-14½) WASHINGTON STATE**9:30 PM**

With USC losing again last week the door is open for UCLA to win the Pac-12 South. UCLA hosts the Trojans next week in what will likely be the deciding game. Washington State has not been competitive for the most part in conference play sitting at 0-6 in what has been a disappointing season with all the excitement that Mike Leach's arrival brought. Washington State is the worst rushing team in the nation and the defense has been among the worst in the conference as well. UCLA has been an inconsistent group but with three straight wins the Bruins appear to be back on track. This is a series that UCLA has oddly struggled in however and looking ahead to next week is surely a possibility after last week's blowout win over Arizona. Washington State has been more competitive in home games and this may be a good opportunity to surprise. **UCLA BY 13**

Central Florida (-12½) UTEP**6:00 PM**

UCF has won five straight games posting at least 35 points in every game. The defense has not been quite as strong as expected but the Knights have out-gained all but two foes this season. Last season UCF won 31-14 in this match-up with a big rushing edge but UTEP has had two weeks to prepare for this game. The Miners are 2-2 at home this season but both wins came in relatively close games against lousy teams and UCF is the class of Conference USA when motivated. A bigger game with Tulsa is on deck and the Knights could face a bit of a homecoming hangover as well with long travel for this game so the points may be worth a look. Central Florida is the best team in the conference but this may be a tough spot in a venue that can be challenging later in the year with cooler weather. **UCF BY 10**

ARIZONA (NL) Colorado**12:30 PM**

The huge win over USC was backed up with a disastrous performance in a blowout loss against UCLA last week for Arizona. The Wildcats should get to bowl eligibility this week and that would make for a promising first season for Rich Rodriguez, despite the inconsistency. Colorado is enduring an epically bad season, sitting with one win and being out-gained by 205 yards per game on average. Colorado has not topped 17 points in any of the last five Pac-12 games but the Buffaloes did beat Arizona 48-29 last season as double-digit underdogs. Matt Scott may again be a question mark this week but Arizona has been very good at home this season and should be able to bounce back even with a massive spread. **ARIZONA BY 35**

SOUTH CAROLINA (-14) Arkansas**11:00 AM**

Arkansas has endured a very challenging season but the Razorbacks have won three of the last four games. To reach a bowl game Arkansas will need to win two of the final three games and the competition is steep. South Carolina has had two weeks to prepare for this game and while the Gamecocks have an excellent team the season has slipped away with two losses and the injury to star RB Marcus Lattimore. The Gamecocks are 5-0 at home however and after a 44-28 loss last year and a 41-20 loss two years ago in Columbia this will be a huge game for South Carolina. The defense for Gamecocks should be at a significant advantage in this match-up and this spread should probably be higher. **SOUTH CAROLINA BY 24**

TEXAS TECH (-25) Kansas**11:00 AM**

The Red Raiders had a very promising start to the season but with back-to-back losses in big games it can't help but to be a disappointment. Kansas has not won since a FCS win in the opening week of the season and after nearly upsetting Texas the Jayhawks were blown out at Baylor last week. This will be a second straight road game and a third road game in four weeks for Kansas. Statistically the Red Raiders have dominant numbers on both sides of the ball and the Red Raiders have covered in the last three meetings between these teams. This is a big spread but Texas Tech is capable of playing much better than last week and Kansas is already looking ahead to next season with several young players getting significant looks in the second half of the season. **TEXAS TECH BY 31**

Louisiana Tech (-20) TEXAS STATE**6:00 PM**

The Bulldogs are 8-1 and the one loss came by two points against Texas A&M, a team that has looked like one of the better teams in the SEC. Louisiana Tech has played just three conference games so far and the two biggest games of the conference season are in the next two weeks against Utah State and San Jose State. Texas State has been a competitive team at home this season, winning the only other WAC home game easily. It will be a great challenge to stop the Bulldogs offense that is posting 571 yards per game but Louisiana Tech is allowing 34 points per game on the season. Even against awful teams Louisiana Tech has allowed a lot of points, giving up at least 24 in all but one game and the schedule has been light. **LT BY 17**

OKLAHOMA (-20½) Baylor**2:30 PM**

The Sooners got back in the win column last week and while the margin of victory was modest at just 15 points Oklahoma out-gained Iowa State by over 300 yards. Baylor stunned Oklahoma last season as an over two-touchdown underdog so this is a match-up that will get serious attention from the Sooners even though bigger games remain. Baylor is scoring nearly 44 points per game without RGIII as this is still an explosive offense but the defense has struggled. Oklahoma has been a dominant ATS performer as a home favorite despite being just 2-2 in that role this season with two S/U losses and the Sooners should break out on offense. **OU BY 24**

Tulane (-1½) MEMPHIS**6:00 PM**

Tulane has played better in recent weeks but the Wave has had awful results in this series over the years including Memphis covering in six straight meetings. Tulane has covered each of the last five weeks but there won't be as many points offered this week. Memphis has lost four in a row and the Tigers only have one win on the season but this is a team that has shown some improvement and has out-rushed four of the last five foes. The edge on the ground should carry Memphis to a win. **MEMPHIS BY 4**

STANFORD (-5½) Oregon State**2:00 PM**

It looks like Oregon will be very tough to beat in the Pac-12 North but these teams will both get a shot. The Oregon game will only be relevant to the winner of this game in terms of the Pac-12 race as these teams both already have a conference loss. Stanford has won in dominant fashion the last two seasons in this match-up but Oregon State is a greatly improved team that has been more impressive statistically through a very tough schedule. Stanford has actually been out-gained in five games this season despite the 7-2 record. Stanford is coming off three straight wins but they have faced three of the weakest teams in the conference and the big win over USC no longer seems like that big of a deal. **OREGON STATE BY 4**

LSU (-14) Mississippi State**6:00 PM**

The Tigers had the #1 team on the ropes last week but faded in the final minute for a very tough loss. It won't be easy for LSU to bounce back this week and Mississippi State will be highly motivated after a pair of blowout losses. The Bulldogs have not competed well the last two weeks, exposed for the weak early schedule but this team has played LSU tough in recent years. The LSU offense is certainly tough to rely on for a strong scoring output and the Bulldogs are better than they have looked the last two weeks as Alabama and Texas A&M are very good teams. **LSU BY 10**

Fresno State (-2½) NEVADA**9:30 PM**

This is a huge game in the Mountain West standings as Boise State was brought back to the pack last week. Fresno State is in the driver's seat but not many teams win in Reno. Nevada has won four in a row in this series but the last two years have been very tight games. Nevada has been on an awful ATS run and after back-to-back losses the Wolf Pack may be a defeated team and the defense will struggle to compete. **FRESNO BY 10**

WESTERN KENTUCKY (-16½) Florida Atlantic**12:00 PM**

Florida Atlantic has been a very profitable 2-7 team with seven consecutive ATS wins. The Owls will be dogged again this week but Western Kentucky is reeling after very tough losses two of the last three weeks, likely costing the Hilltoppers a shot at the Sun Belt title. After being robbed of a bowl bid last season Western Kentucky has work to do and several of the covers on the win streak for Florida Atlantic have been flukes. **WKU BY 21**

Navy (PK) TROY**2:30 PM**

After a slow start to the season Navy is rolling with five straight wins. The Midshipmen have not had huge offensive numbers but the defense has been playing reasonably well. Troy had Tennessee on the ropes last week and while this game is at home Troy has failed to cover in three of four home games this season. The rushing team with the better defense should have an edge in this match-up and Troy has ASU on deck. **NAVY BY 6**

NORTH TEXAS (-9½) South Alabama**4:00 PM**

South Alabama has covered in every road game this season but this will be the first of those instances not as an underdog of more than 20 points. North Texas has lost back-to-back games after getting two Sun Belt wins in a row and it will be tough for the Mean Green to match last year's solid 5-7 record with two tough road games the final two weeks. This is the final home game of the season and despite losing by 18 last week against Arkansas State the yardage was pretty even. **NORTH TEXAS BY 16**

FLORIDA (-26) UL-Lafayette**11:20 AM**

This is an awkward non-conference game for the Gators and with Georgia playing Auburn this week the Gators can basically concede the East title. Florida has a great defense but the offense has posted just 333 yards per game on the season while scoring just 26 points per game. Louisiana Lafayette put up 24 points on Oklahoma State earlier this season and the Ragin' Cajuns almost beat Arizona last season as they will take this marquee non-conference game seriously. UL-L has been on a terrific ATS run in road games and this is a big spread for a Florida team that has been unreliable on offense. While this is homecoming there could be flat efforts this week and next week gearing up for the finale with Florida State since the conference title game is likely out the window. **FLORIDA BY 20**

NFL KEY SELECTIONS

RATING 5 TAMPA BAY (-3) over San Diego

RATING 4 HOUSTON (+1½) over Chicago

RATING 3 OAKLAND (+7½) over Baltimore

RATING 2 MIAMI (-6) over Tennessee

RATING 1 CINCINNATI (+4) over NY Giants

ALL TIMES ARE LISTED IN CENTRAL TIME AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Home teams listed in CAPS, all lines are obviously subject to change

BYE WEEK: Arizona, Cleveland, Green Bay, Washington

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2012

Indianapolis (-3) JACKSONVILLE (42½) 7:25 PM

Jacksonville has been the least productive team in the NFL, posting barely 250 yards per game on offense with just over 14 points per game scored. The Colts are coming off a huge game from Andrew Luck and this is starting to look like a viable playoff team. Only one of the five wins has come on the road however and Jacksonville won the first meeting in Indianapolis. Indianapolis still has a very poor rush defense and Jacksonville has endured a tougher schedule at the halfway point. This line is high for a tricky short week road game even though Jacksonville is tough to support. **COLTS BY 1**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012

NEW ENGLAND (-11) Buffalo (51) 12:00 PM

The Bills have lost four of the last five games with the only win coming in overtime. The defense has been one of the worst in the league and the great early season rushing numbers have not held up. This is a huge division game after the Bills lost 52-28 at home in the first meeting. It was a bit of a misleading final as the score was tied entering the 4th quarter and the Bills have covered in two of the last three trips to Foxboro. The Patriots enter this game off the bye week and the Patriots have one of the worst pass defenses in the NFL. New England only has one win against a winning team so this may be an overvalued squad and Buffalo will score points. **PATRIOTS BY 10**

NY Giants (-4) CINCINNATI (48½) 12:00 PM

The Giants have a commanding lead in the NFC East but after a tough loss and a traumatic two weeks this will be a tough game heading into a needed bye week. The Bengals lost a 4th straight game last week to fall off the map in the AFC picture but the losses have all come in close games. Four of Cincinnati's five losses this season have come against 4-4 or better teams in a tough early schedule. Other than the big win in San Francisco the Giants don't have anything too impressive on the resume and the defense ranks 25th in yards allowed per game. New York has been able to sneak out a few narrow wins this season but that has hidden some flaws with this squad and this is an absolutely critical game for Cincinnati. **BENGALS BY 3**

TAMPA BAY (-3) San Diego (48) 12:00 PM

Led by rookie running back Doug Martin and a resurgent Josh Freeman, the Buccaneers are looking formidable with wins in three of the last four weeks and 36 points scored per game in that stretch. No loss has come by more than seven points this season as this is a team that could make a run in the second half of the season. The Chargers snapped a three-game losing streak last week but the four wins for this team have come against three teams that are a combined 7-17. While in past years San Diego often produced a mediocre record with great statistics, this year's team is posting lousy numbers while still featuring some of the same game-killing mistakes. The defense has respectable numbers but against a light slate. **BUCS BY 10**

Denver (-4) CAROLINA (48) 12:00 PM

While the Broncos are getting a lot of positive attention, they hold just a one-game lead in a weak AFC West and this will be a second straight road game with long travel. Carolina is just 2-6 but the Panthers have proven to be a dangerous squad, taking a few top teams to the limit. The Panthers are only -31 in point differential on the season but statistically this has been an average team that has also been plagued by turnovers. Carolina has battled one of the toughest schedules in the league at this point however. Denver is 2-2 on the road but they were pretty fortunate to sneak out both wins. This should be a huge game for Coach Fox. **BRONCOS BY 6**

MIAMI (-6) Tennessee (44½) 12:00 PM

In what could prove to be a critical game in the playoff picture the Dolphins fell short in Indianapolis last week. Miami's run defense has been excellent but there are certainly some concerns in the passing game after being lit up last week. The offense has been encouraging and the Dolphins should continue to be a competitive team. Miami is 0-2 ATS as a favorite this season and this is a team that seems likely to play a close game most weeks. Tennessee was blown out at home last week, sparking a verbal lashing from ownership and the numbers are ugly for the Titans. Five of six losses have come by 20 or more so Tennessee could fall further. **DOLPHINS BY 13**

BALTIMORE (-7½) Oakland (46) 12:00 PM

The Raiders face cross country travel after a home loss and this team will likely be even more reliant on the pass with Darren McFadden injured last week. Baltimore's defense is 26th in the league in yards allowed per game so Carson Palmer could have another big game in this match-up. The Ravens are also a below average offensive team and Joe Flacco continues to fail to make plays with a very poor game last week despite Baltimore escaping with a win. While Baltimore has been a strong home favorite in past years the Ravens have failed in three straight at home and five of the last six games ATS before the lucky win and cover last week in Cleveland. **RAVENS BY 3**

Atlanta (NL) NEW ORLEANS 12:00 PM

Monday's result might determine whether the Saints still have a shot to reclaim the season or if they will be a team on the verge of giving up. The Falcons survived another close call to move to 8-0 and it is the Buccaneers, not the Saints standing as the only remaining threat in the NFC South. Atlanta obviously has some talent on offense but this team looks vulnerable and has played a very weak schedule. The Atlanta passing attack should find some success against the struggling New Orleans defense on a short week however and while the Falcons will get caught at some point they will be up for this game given the recent history between these teams. **FALCONS BY 9**

Detroit (-2) MINNESOTA (47) 12:00 PM

While the Vikings have to be pleased with what Adrian Peterson and the running game have produced, Christian Ponder and the passing game have featured dreadful numbers in recent games. Minnesota had its chances last week but fell short in a tough road venue and the Packers have passed the Vikings in the standings. Minnesota's hot start folds to .500 if they can't beat Detroit for a second time. Minnesota caught some breaks in the early season win over the Lions and Detroit is playing much better defensively at this point in the season. The Lions have regressed on offense and while the Vikings are 4-1 at home this is a critical game for a Lions team that is now riding some positive momentum for the first time all season. **LIONS BY 6**

SEATTLE (-6½) NY Jets (38½) 3:05 PM

The Seahawks are 4-0 at home but the wins have come by very slim margins for the most part. Russell Wilson had an outstanding game last week but the offense has been very inconsistent. The Seattle defense will be tested against a rested Jets team with its back against the wall. This game features long travel in what has been a difficult bye week in the NY area but this is a team that still could come together to produce better results. Seattle is a very tough team to fade given one of the toughest home venues in the league but the schedule gets easier for the Jets in the coming weeks and this is a team that has played New England and Houston very tough and could bounce back from its worst performance of the season. **SEAHAWKS BY 4**

PHILADELPHIA (NL) Dallas 3:25 PM

Both of these teams will face steep uphill roads back to playoff contention after very disappointing starts. Philadelphia plays Monday in a game that could determine whether or not some big changes get made. Dallas continues to produce solid numbers but turnovers, penalties, and coaching mistakes are the norm for this squad. This is the first meeting of the season between these teams and Philadelphia has held the recent edge in this series. Statistically this has been a top 6 team in terms of yardage on both sides of the ball and the Cowboys have excelled in the underdog role despite the narrow miss last week. **COWBOYS BY 3**

SAN FRANCISCO (-11½) St. Louis (38½) 3:25 PM

The 49ers and Rams were both off last week and the situation should feel more urgent for St. Louis after an ugly loss to New England in London. The 49ers lead the NFC West but Seattle is doing its best to stay in the picture. San Francisco will be overvalued at home but the Rams have struggled in this series and the 49ers are on a roll in the home favorite role. St. Louis has improved to a league average defensive team but the offense has struggled at times and is averaging just 316 yards per game and this will be a tough match-up for a breakout performance. **49ERS BY 14**

CHICAGO (-3) Houston (42) 7:30 PM

Every week the Bears continue to get extra points on defense as the scoring numbers for this team are very misleading. Chicago is ranked 25th in the league in yards per game, yet this team is scoring almost 30 points per game. Houston is better statistically on defense but both of these teams is likely a bit overrated right now as the schedules have been weak on both sides. Houston has two wins against winning teams while the Bears just have one, beating the Colts in the opening week. Chicago's run defense will be tested in this match-up and there may not be any free points. **TEXANS BY 4**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012

PITTSBURGH (-12½) Kansas City (43) 7:40 PM

Pittsburgh has won three straight to climb out of a 2-3 start to the season and the defense and running game are re-emerging. It has been a nightmare season for the Chiefs, incredibly sitting at -20 in turnovers through eight games. It won't be easy to improve those numbers against Pittsburgh on the road and the Steelers are 3-0 at home this season including winning by double-digits in both games as solid favorites. **STEELERS BY 17**

Last Week's College Stats										
Match-Up	Line	Final	FD	Rushing	Passing	TO				
Eastern Michigan	58.5	14	17	52	182	9	21	138	1	
Ohio	-16	45	25	42	304	19	28	255	2	
Virginia Tech	-1.5	12	24	45	222	19	37	199	3	
Miami, FL	57.5	30	15	28	157	14	30	190	0	
Mid Tenn State	56	34	19	50	224	11	17	118	0	
Western Kentucky	-9.5	29	24	32	155	19	31	283	2	
Washington	51.5	21	20	39	174	16	29	235	4	
California	-4	13	23	42	249	17	36	201	4	
Penn State	-3.5	34	25	38	185	22	37	321	0	
Purdue	49.5	9	22	26	87	33	62	288	1	
Air Force	-7	21	21	43	103	17	29	235	5	
Army	62.5	41	23	76	314	4	6	100	0	
Akron	61.5	24	23	32	130	30	42	312	1	
Kent State	-19	35	18	40	261	14	19	103	0	
Vanderbilt	-7	40	29	50	227	18	30	220	2	
Kentucky	46	0	15	31	101	13	35	159	0	
Massachusetts	58	0	23	46	114	20	37	153	4	
Northern Illinois	-35	63	28	49	332	20	26	278	1	
Temple	54	17	17	43	255	6	16	54	4	
Louisville	-16.5	45	25	32	170	22	33	338	0	
Boston College	53	14	22	21	12	30	51	369	4	
Wake Forest	-3.5	28	22	32	116	39	57	293	1	
Houston	-3	28	16	11	28	22	51	341	2	
East Carolina	68.5	48	31	54	245	31	44	305	2	
Iowa	54.5	21	17	30	96	21	34	249	2	
Indiana	-2	24	24	30	67	31	49	406	2	
Georgia Tech	-7.5	33	19	56	370	2	4	31	2	
Maryland	45	13	17	44	144	9	18	115	2	
Clemson	-12	56	34	52	339	21	29	379	4	
Duke	67.5	20	21	33	85	24	44	257	0	
Tulsa	63	15	17	36	106	22	37	222	1	
Arkansas	-9	19	18	33	135	21	31	272	2	
New Mexico State	49	7	15	32	83	17	31	222	2	
Auburn	-24	42	19	45	311	9	17	164	1	
Stanford	-27.5	48	25	39	206	25	35	230	0	
Colorado	51.5	0	6	21	-21	12	23	97	3	
Texas State	53	7	9	31	82	10	23	76	1	
Utah State	-26.5	38	24	47	268	21	28	325	3	
Alabama	-8	21	18	25	166	14	27	165	2	
LSU	38	17	22	49	139	25	36	296	0	
Colorado State	52.5	31	21	26	125	16	32	387	3	
Wyoming	-6.5	45	32	57	228	20	34	240	0	
Virginia	53	33	23	48	248	20	35	198	1	
NC State	-11	6	17	24	19	23	46	197	5	
Arizona State	55.5	26	19	32	150	22	41	153	1	
Oregon State	-3.5	36	19	39	157	14	33	267	2	
Missouri	41	7	23	35	99	24	51	236	4	
Florida	-17.5	14	11	33	170	12	23	106	1	
Nebraska	44	28	23	40	313	16	36	160	3	
Michigan State	-1	24	19	43	238	9	27	123	2	
TCU	69	39	17	45	126	13	30	279	3	
West Virginia	-4	38	21	35	78	32	55	260	2	
Illinois	51	22	15	32	74	19	34	96	1	
Ohio State	-25.5	52	32	57	330	13	22	237	2	
Pittsburgh	47.5	26	13	33	144	19	29	164	0	
Notre Dame	-16.5	29	34	51	231	29	53	291	3	
TX-San Antonio	72	27	25	33	124	23	41	314	0	
Louisiana Tech	-30.5	51	33	39	180	31	40	357	0	
San Jose State	-21.5	42	21	29	85	27	39	328	4	
Idaho	54	13	12	37	81	17	37	207	2	
SMU	50	17	16	31	126	16	29	133	1	
Central Florida	-9.5	42	25	39	241	12	17	155	1	
Connecticut	46.5	6	20	31	43	24	38	284	3	
South Florida	-7	13	17	34	81	20	32	202	1	
Western Michigan	-1.5	42	24	30	151	23	33	362	1	
Central Michigan	61	31	26	27	123	26	41	383	1	
Miami, OH	54	24	21	33	98	25	44	242	1	
Buffalo	-3	27	21	39	215	14	25	137	2	
Mississippi	62.5	10	12	29	46	17	28	188	3	
Georgia	-13.5	37	23	45	149	21	28	384	2	
Syracuse	56.5	24	24	41	193	23	47	286	2	
Cincinnati	-5.5	35	23	53	263	16	27	207	3	

Last Week's College Stats										
Match-Up	Line	Final	FD	Rushing	Passing	TO				
Washington State	49	6	14	13	-4	27	54	259	2	
Utah	-11	49	24	43	205	22	26	248	1	
UAB	63.5	27	25	46	207	17	29	228	3	
Southern Miss	-3.5	19	16	38	183	10	26	112	3	
Memphis	64	28	21	52	141	22	32	231	2	
Marshall	-20	38	24	27	92	34	44	341	1	
Michigan	-9	35	18	41	155	12	18	234	1	
Minnesota	45.5	13	21	38	128	14	31	147	1	
Oklahoma State	68.5	30	26	24	87	27	47	417	5	
Kansas State	-8	44	25	43	191	21	28	290	0	
Texas	67.5	31	18	39	163	11	19	264	0	
Texas Tech	-6.5	22	25	28	112	26	44	329	0	
Texas A&M	-6	38	36	58	361	32	39	332	1	
Mississippi State	62	13	15	27	98	19	30	212	1	
Kansas	70	14	17	41	246	11	26	96	2	
Baylor	-17	41	32	49	299	26	42	367	0	
Oklahoma	-13	35	34	40	188	32	45	405	2	
Iowa State	51.5	20	19	24	99	20	40	191	1	
Oregon	-9	62	37	60	426	20	23	304	1	
USC	72	51	31	26	131	35	54	484	3	
Rice	-7	49	25	65	211	13	21	271	2	
Tulane	63.5	47	20	14	0	28	49	476	5	
Hawaii	61	10	17	34	79	21	38	221	3	
Fresno State	-32	45	18	44	151	18	33	329	1	
Arizona	71.5	10	18	40	121	17	30	136	3	
UCLA	-3	66	36	63	308	25	30	303	0	
New Mexico	54	7	22	65	307	3	6	43	1	
UNLV	-2	35	21	24	241	17	27	289	3	
San Diego State	49.5	21	14	43	164	12	18	105	1	
Boise State	-16.5	19	18	30	112	20	31	164	1	
Florida Atlantic	51.5	17	17	32	118	25	36	205	1	
Navy	-17	24	20	51	246	8	15	147	1	
Florida Intl	-3.5	28	20	46	181	9	19	153	1	
South Alabama	51.5	20	22	38	188	19	38	270	4	
Troy	69.5	48	34	39	225	38	60	496	0	
Tennessee	-18.5	55	35	29	188	29	47	530	1	
Arkansas State	-4.5	37	22	33	146	25	32	328	0	
North Texas	59	19	23	30	84	28	49	316	2	
UL-Lafayette	60.5	40	28	49	234	23	32	373	2	
UL-Monroe	-9	24	19	20	74	23	38	333	2	

Last Week's NFL Stats										
Match-Up	Line	Final	FD	Rushing	Passing	TO				
49ERS	-7	24	15	29	113	18	19	204	0	
CARDINALS	37.5	3	16	9	7	32	52	258	1	
CHIEFS	41	13	21	30	113	19	29	176	4	
CHARGERS	-7	41	18	26	123	18	20	216	2	
BRONCOS	-5.5	31	20	26	68	27	35	291	2	
BENGALS	47.5	23	22	25	91	26	42	275	1	
CARDINALS	43.5	17	16	18	54	23	46	286	2	
PACKERS	-10.5	31	20	39	176	14	30	208	1	
DOLPHINS	-2	20	20	18	84	22	38	281	0	
COLTS	43.5	23	27	26	97	30	48	419	0	
RAVENS	-3.5	25	18	37	137	15	24	145	0	
BROWNS	43.5	15	17	27	116	20	37	174	2	
BILLS	48	9	17	16	78	25	38	230	1	
TEXANS	-11.5	21	21	32	118	19	27	256	0	
PANTHERS	48.5	21	18	27	129	13	23	201	0	
REDSKINS	-3	13	24	32	151	23	39	186	0	
LIONS	-6	31	26	34	149	22	33	285	0	
JAGUARS	44	14	19	20	64	27	38	215	2	
BEARS	-5	51	21	36	160	19	26	198	1	
TITANS	43.5	20	12	18	159	20	35	174	5	
VIKINGS	38	20	16	27	243	11	22	44	2	
SEAHAWKS	-4.5	30	28	45	195	17	25	190	0	
BUCCANEERS	47	42	23	32	278	18	30	237	1	
RAIDERS	-1	32	25	11	22	40	62	402	3	
STEELERS	48.5	24	22	35	158	21	30	191	2	
GIANTS	-3.5	20	13	22	68	10	24	114	1	
COWBOYS	48	13	18	18	65	25	35	312	0	
FALCONS	-4	19	21	26	123	24	34	330	0	
EAGLES										
SAINTS										

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COLLEGE PICKS WENT 5-1 LAST WEEK

10/10: 20* C-USA Conference Game of the Year

10/11: 15* November NFL Game of the Month

2012 ELIMINATOR CONTEST – Picks posted Thursdays at (608) 283-3132 & www.nellysports.com

WEEK 8 LEADERS – Final 7 Contestants – Anyone's Game!

'OVER'/'UNDER's OF THE WEEK

NCAA: 'UNDER' Boise State at Hawaii

In the last five games Hawaii has averaged less than 15 points per game and while a shutout loss against BYU is included, none of the other opponents have been great defensive teams. After a stunning home loss this should be a focused Broncos team and the 21 points allowed last week was the most allowed in a game by Boise State since September. Boise State is a limited offensive team however and even in favorable match-ups they have not posted big scores.

BONUS TOTAL: 'OVER' Kansas State at TCU

NFL: 'UNDER' Detroit Lions at Minnesota Vikings

The 'under' is 12-6 in the last 18 meetings between these teams in Minneapolis and while Detroit has high scoring potential, the Lions have reemerged as a viable team in recent weeks thanks to defense. After allowing 94 points in the first three weeks, no Detroit foe has topped 24 points in the last five games as the Lions have evened up at 4-4. The Vikings are heading in the wrong direction with little confidence in the passing game.

BONUS TOTAL: 'OVER' Oakland at Baltimore

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NCAA SYSTEM OF THE WEEK

Heavy Road Chalk Streak

PLAY ON: Any road favorite of 20 or more that won and covered as a road favorite in the previous game.

33-20, 62.3% since 1993

PLAY ON: San Jose State

Tighten It: If the team was favored by 20 or more the previous game
8-4, 66.7% since 1993

Applies to: San Jose State

NFL SYSTEM OF THE WEEK

Road Chalk Road Trip

PLAY ON: Any NFL road favorite that won and covered as a road favorite the previous game.

49-30-4, 62.0% since 1997

PLAY ON: Detroit Lions, Denver Broncos

Tighten It: If the team is playing with revenge from the last recent meeting.
17-9, 65.4% since 1997

Applies to: Detroit Lions

NCAA SEASON TRENDS

Includes games vs. FCS foes

Home teams are 281-302-10 (24-30-2 last week)

Favorites are 295-298-10 (32-22-2 last week)

Double-Digit Favorites are 161-163-3 (14-9 last week)

Favorites of 20 or more are 88-81-2 (7-2 last week)

Favorites of 30 or more are 35-46 (2-1 last week)

Home Favorites are 200-212-7 (19-17-2 last week)

Road Favorites are 88-80-3 (13-5 last week)

NFL SEASON TRENDS

The Monday game is still pending

Home teams: 76-54 S/U, 55-72-3 ATS (Last Week: 6-7 S/U, 6-7 ATS)

Favorites: 81-49 S/U, 53-74-3 ATS (Last Week: 9-4 S/U, 9-4 ATS)

Home Favorites: 56-29 S/U, 32-51-2 ATS (Last Week: 5-3 S/U, 5-3 ATS)

Road Favorites: 24-20 S/U, 20-23-1 ATS (Last Week: 4-1 S/U, 4-1 ATS)

-3 Favorites: 11-15 S/U, 7-18-1 ATS (Last Week: 0-1 S/U, 0-1 ATS)

-7 Favorites: 12-2 S/U, 7-5-2 ATS (Last Week: 1-0 S/U, 1-0 ATS)

Double-Digit Favorites: 11-1 S/U, 6-6 ATS (Last Week: 2-0 S/U, 2-0 ATS)

NFC vs. AFC: 23-13 S/U, 20-16 ATS (Last Week: 3-1 S/U, 3-1 ATS)

Over/Unders: 63/62/5 (Last Week: 7/6)

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HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

Some pointspreads have been estimated and may not be accurate by game time

DD=double-digit, R=road, H=home, F=favorite, D=dog, L=last, S/U=straight-up

NCAA: Ball State is 8-4 vs. Toledo since '00 – Toledo is 38-21 as a home favorite since '98
Bowling Green is 10-3 vs. Ohio since '98 – Ohio is 5-10 the last 15 as a favorite
Florida St is 15-19 as a road fav since '03 – Virginia Tech is 16-6-1 as a home dog since '85
UL-Monroe is 5-2 vs. Arkansas State since '05 – Arkansas State is 35-28 at home since '98
Pittsburgh is 23-11-1 on the road since '06 – Connecticut is 27-15-2 at home since '05
Northwestern is 22-17 as an underdog since '07 – Michigan is 19-28-2 as a home fav since '04
Maryland is 8-4 vs. Clemson since '00 – Clemson is 11-6 the last 17 as a favorite
Wake Forest is 10-5 vs. NC State since '97 – NC State is 15-22 as a home favorite since '02
Army is 1-8 vs. Rutgers since '97 – Rutgers is 2-8 as a double-digit favorite since '09
Louisville is 2-5 vs. Syracuse since '05 – Syracuse is 6-14-1 as a home underdog since '07
Miami, FL is 2-5 vs. Virginia since '05 – Virginia is 3-9 the last 12 as a home underdog
Minnesota is 11-5 vs. Illinois since '92 – Illinois is 24-33 at home since '03
Wisconsin is 6-12 as a road favorite since '07 – Indiana is 9-4 the last 13 at home
Purdue is 17-26 as a road underdog since '97 – Iowa is 14-20-1 as a home favorite since '06
Vanderbilt is 10-2-1 vs. Ole Miss since '99 – Ole Miss is 8-12 the last 20 home games
Georgia Tech is 2-5-1 vs. North Carolina since '04 – North Carolina is 9-3 at home since '11
Central Michigan is 14-8-2 as a R/F since '99 – Eastern Michigan is 11-20-1 at home since '06
Kent State is 4-0 the last four as a road favorite – Miami, OH is 4-8-1 the last 13 as a dog
Idaho is 14-28 as a dog of 20 or more since '00 – BYU is 8-2 the last 10 as a double-digit fav
Massachusetts is 2-7 this season – Akron is 23-31 the last 54 as a favorite
Western Michigan is 5-1 the last six as a road favorite – Buffalo is 9-18-1 at home since '08
Texas A&M is 21-37-1 as an underdog since '01 – Alabama is 26-14 as DD favorite since '08
Georgia is 12-19 vs. Auburn since '81 – Auburn is 8-4 as a home dog since '01
Penn St is 7-15-1 as an underdog since '06 – Nebraska is 15-22 as a home favorite since '07
Notre Dame is 7-12 vs. BC since '87 – Boston College is 12-8 the last 20 as a home dog
Arizona State is 27-23-1 as a DD dog since '80 – USC is 37-25-1 as a home favorite since '02
Utah is 45-36-1 on the road since '98 – Washington is 8-2 the last 10 home games
Wyoming is 7-12 vs. New Mexico since '89 – New Mexico is 19-24-1 at home since '05
San Jose St is 13-3 as a road favorite since '98 – New Mexico St is 13-19 as a H/D since '05
Oregon is 2-4 vs. Cal since '06 – California is 5-12 as a home underdog since '01
West Virginia is 21-10 as an underdog since '02 – Oklahoma St is 34-16-1 as a H/F since '99
Kansas State is 3-11-1 as a road favorite since '04 – TCU is 10-3 the last 13 as a home dog
Cincinnati is 5-2 the last seven as a road favorite – Temple is 18-8 as a home dog since '04
Missouri is 16-8 in road games since '07 – Tennessee is 2-8 the last 10 home games
Iowa State is 8-3-1 the last 12 as an underdog – Texas is 6-2 the last eight as DD favorite
Air Force is 5-10 vs. San Diego St since '96 – San Diego State is 46-39-1 as a H/F since '82
Southern Miss is 34-25-1 on the road since '03 – SMU is 6-16 as a home favorite since '07
Marshall is 5-2 vs. UAB since '05 – UAB is 18-9-2 as a home underdog since '99
Tulsa is 12-3 the last 15 road games – Houston is 4-8 the last 12 as a home underdog
UNLV is 13-37-2 on the road since '04 – Colorado State is 14-11 at home since '08
Boise State is 35-23-1 as a road favorite since '00 – Hawaii is 4-2 vs. Boise State since '05
UCLA is 2-9 vs. Washington St since '01 – Washington State is 22-17 as a home dog since '99
Central Florida is 2-5 the last seven as a R/F – UTEP is 12-6 the last 18 as a home underdog
Colorado is 3-17 as a DD underdog since '10 – Arizona is 17-28 as a home favorite since '99
Arkansas is 14-5-1 vs. South Carolina since '92 – South Carolina is 20-13-2 as a H/F since '05
Kansas is 3-6 vs. Texas Tech since '96 – Texas Tech is 8-2 the last 10 as a DD favorite
Louisiana Tech is 5-2 the last 7 as a road favorite – Texas State is 5-3 this season
Baylor is 6-3 vs. Oklahoma since '03 – Oklahoma is 25-13-1 as a home favorite since '06
Tulane is 2-15-1 vs. Memphis since '87 – Memphis is 5-10 the last 15 home games
Oregon State is 10-5 vs. Stanford since '96 – Stanford is 20-9 at home since '08
Mississippi State is 4-16 vs. LSU since '92 – LSU is 13-21-1 as a home favorite since '07
Fresno State is 8-4-1 vs. Nevada since '99 – Nevada is 1-6-1 the last eight home games
Florida Atlantic is 7-0 the last seven as a dog – Western Kentucky is 3-6 as a H/F since '08
Navy is 37-21 on the road since '01 – Troy is 3-11 the last 14 home games
South Alabama is 4-0 on the road this season – North Texas is 14-22 at home since '06
UL-Lafayette is 17-5 the last 22 road games – Florida is 2-4 the last six as a home favorite
NFL: Indianapolis is 7-14 vs. Jacksonville since '02 – Jacksonville is 12-24 at home since '08
Buffalo is 14-26-3 vs. New Eng. since '91 – 'Over' is 17-6 if New England is a H/F since '10
NY Giants are 15-6 as a road favorite since '06 – Cincinnati is 12-7 the last 19 as a home dog
San Diego is 7-13 on the road since '10 – Tampa Bay s 12-23 at home since '08
Denver is 5-7 as a road favorite since '07 – Carolina is 9-13-1 the last 23 as an underdog
Tennessee is 30-21-2 as a dog since '06 – Miami is 10-32-1 as a home favorite since '03
Oakland is 11-6 the last 17 as a dog of 7 or more – Baltimore is 51-31-3 as a H/F since '00
Atlanta is 12-5 the last 17 as a road favorite – New Orleans is 25-38-1 vs. Atlanta since '80
Detroit is 3-8-3 vs. Minnesota since '05 – Minnesota is 5-10-2 the last 17 home games
NY Jets are 3-7-1 the last 11 on the road – Seattle is 31-13-2 at home since '07
Dallas is 11-19-1 vs. Philadelphia since '97 – Philadelphia is 8-13 at home since '10
St. Louis is 21-40-2 vs. San Francisco since '81 – San Francisco is 11-3 the last 14 as a H/F
Houston is 7-2 the last nine road games – Chicago is 11-5 the last 16 as a favorite
Kansas City is 6-11 vs. Pittsburgh since '82 – Pittsburgh is 12-6 the last 18 as a home favorite

TRENDS OF THE WEEK

NCAA: Texas is 8-15 the last 23 games as a home favorite

NFL: New Orleans is 5-22 hosting Atlanta since 1984