

The Vegas Scoop
NFL Week 3

Saints +3 (2 units)

Saints +135 (2 units)

Saints TT O 24.5 (1 unit)

Redskins +.5 1Q (1 unit)

Redskins +1 1H (2 units)

Redskins +2.5 (1 unit)

Redskins +120 (1 unit)

Panthers TT U 23.5 (1 unit)

Under 44 CAR/CIN (.5 unit)

Under 21.5 1H (1 unit)

Bengals +3 (1 unit)

NO @ ATL

-The Saints are now 1-9 SU & ATS in the first two weeks since 14' (via @RJinVegas) and will look to duplicate what they did a season ago in Week 3 after their typical slow start (34-13 Win @CAR). The NO OFF is in a momentum carryover spot after scoring 18 fourth-quarter points vs. CLE and will now be facing an ATL DEF missing two valuable starters (LB Deion Jones & DB Keanu Neal). Dan Quinn's scheme funnels passes to opposing RB's (allowed the most receptions to RBs the last two seasons with 125 via @AdamLevitan) and is fresh off allowing 14 receptions to Christian McCaffrey a week ago in their first game without Jones. The replacement to Jones (Corey Nelson) has now been ruled out after suffering a calf injury. I'm expecting Alvin Kamara to exceed his career high in touches that he set a week ago (19), and do all sorts of wonderful things with them. A season ago Kamara had 7 receptions in the 10 point victory over ATL and was on his way to shattering that number in the second meeting (3 catches 25 yards on the opening drive) before he left with an injury and didn't return (ATL 20-17, TNF). The Falcons offense is fresh off a Red Zone explosion (4/4) but will be without one of their best lineman (LG, A. Levitre, IR). In the playoffs a season ago facing the Rams they were without a starting a lineman for the first time all year and it happened to be Levitre. Thanks to back to back special teams blunders from the Rams the Falcons prevailed 26-13, but Donald and the Rams lived in the ATL backfield (11 interior pressures). The Saints DL (28th in sacks & QB hits via @EvanSilva, perpetual slow starters) should be much more energized for this marquee affair vs. a division rival (flat as big favorites week 1 & 2, were stout vs. the run) and will ultimately decide whether this becomes a classic shootout or if the ATL faithful transforms from Dirty Birds to Boo Birds. More talented healthier team catching three, sign me up. I'd be shocked if this line didn't close under three. Saints to win SB +1800 if you're not already on it.

Saints TT O 24.5 (1 unit), Saints +135 (2 Units) Saints +3 (2 units)

*Underdog 7-2 ATS last 9 meetings in this matchup

*Saints 10-5 ATS last 15 games on the road

*Tak McKinley has been ruled OUT (2nd best pass rusher, struggling unit)

*Through 2 weeks Rush DEF efficiency DVOA (NO #1) (ATL #31)

GB @ WSH

-Outside of exploiting injury situations that lineup with the matchup, my favorite handicapping angle is the Perfect Storm of Spots. After back to back thrilling & exhausting home games for the Packers to start 2018 (24-23 vs. CHI & 29-29 vs. MIN), they now have to travel to Landover Maryland for their first road game of the season to take on a sneaky talented Redskin team in a Bounceback Buy Low High Energy Spot. Before getting to the state of the Redskins and more importantly the health of Rodgers, we first need to address the effect a tie has on the human psyche. First off, all ties are not created equal and the effect it leaves is often unique. The tie to Minnesota in what felt as close to a playoff game as a regular season game can certainly left the Pack feeling as unsatisfied as Teddy KGB after Mikey came in for his quickie. As Romo and Dez once were on that same very field the Packers were robbed by the zebras when they handed Minnesota a free set of downs on a roughing the passer call on Clay Matthews after a game-sealing INT. On Sunday in the nation's capital, I am expecting to see the effect of the brutal finish especially early with a sluggish GB. On the contrary, I think we get a locked in Washington team out of the gate looking to avoid back to back home losses (lost 21-9 vs. Indy in Week 2). Through two weeks no team in the NFL has more explosive runs than the Redskins who have put up 9 (via @PayneInsider), and that is due in large part to an offensive line that is finally healthy (3rd unhealthiest OL in 17' via Football Outsiders AGL). I am expecting the execution for Washington to be much crisper after a lackluster performance vs. a

hungry Indy group a week ago. A season ago in Capers system the Packers DEF was 27th vs. the pass (29th vs. RBs & 21st vs. TEs) and now under new DC Mike Pettine, it hasn't improved very much (17th vs. pass, 24th vs. RBs, & 17th vs. TEs). Alex Smith could be in store for a big day throwing the ball to his underappreciated set of weapons (Reed, Thompson, Doctson, & Richardson) to put a hobbled Rodgers in a similar situation as he was in Week 1 (17-0 at halftime). As Rodgers pointed out himself this week the injury is likely to only get worse and it's very clear that he is far from being his normal self out there. If he didn't play I wouldn't be shocked. I also think there is a solid chance he starts the game and doesn't finish it if they fall behind. Either way, this handicap is about a sneaky talented roster being in a great spot, scoop with the skins. **Redskins 1Q +.5 (1 unit) 1H +1 (2 units) +2.5 (1 unit) ML +120 (1 unit)**

*Road Teams coming off a tie in the NFL 0-13 (via @FezzikSports)

*Sneaky revenge game for the city after playoff loss vs. Rodgers (led 11-0, 35-18 Final) (Reed 9/120/1)

CIN @ CAR

-A year after a lifeless 0-2 start the Bengals head into week 3 in a much different situation this season, but there is some reason for concern. The offense will be without RB Joe Mixon and Center Billy Price, but with capable backups in Giovani Bernard and Trae Hopkins (allowed 1 pressure on 36 dropbacks vs. BAL via @PFF), the offense should eventually get it going as long as the Red Rifle maintains his aim. My concern for Cincinnati is that after backpedaling into a win vs. BAL (6 second-half points) they will start slow after getting the weekend off (Complacency Spot). The Panthers DEF has a different feel at home and the numbers back that up (over the last 3 years they give up 3.5 fewer points per game at home). Look for Luke Kuechly to be extra jacked up against his hometown team (former St. Xavier Bomber) and for the rest of the CAR DEF to look more like they did in Week 1 at home vs. DAL as opposed to what we saw @ATL in week 2. I'm expecting the Cincy rushing attack that has been a pleasant surprise (54% success rate, 4.4 yds/att) to take a step back in this one putting more of an onus on Dalton to deliver. The Panthers offensively are going to struggle this season when they face talented defensive fronts as we saw vs. DAL when Cam was under duress all day long. Going into the season they only had two above-average starters on the line (Williams & Turner) after deciding to let one of the best Guards in pro football Andrew Norwell walk in free agency to Jacksonville. In Week 3 vs. Geno Atkins and company it could get ugly when they will be without RT Williams (IR, knee), RG Turner (concussion), LT Matt Kalil (IR, knee) as well as TE Greg Olsen (Foot) who plays a big role in pass protection as well as helping move the chains with receptions. It's a Classic Cluster Injury Situation for Carolina at positions that's it tough to find competent starters let alone backups (Talent Scarcity for OL in the NFL). In the end, I expect the Bengals to win an ugly close one. If an opportunity to get the Bengals live at +4.5 or better happens I will likely pounce for another unit. Marvin & Dalton disappoint under pressure, this is a freeroll spot. **CAR TT U 23.5 (1 unit). Under 21.5 1H (1 unit) Under 44 CAR/CIN (.5 Unit) Bengals +3 (1 unit)**

*In one-score games in 2017 Carolina was 8-1 (regress to the mean)

*Rookie starting corner Donte Jackson is also OUT for Carolina (John Ross big play coming)

*Double Cluster Injuries for Carolina at key units (Secondary & OL). LB T. Davis suspended

TEN @ JAC

-The Titans and Jaguars both enter Week 3 coming off of big-time emotional victories. I expect the familiar foes to play an ugly first half with or without Mariota suiting up. I will be looking to play a 1H under and possibly full game under once the lines are released. Stay tuned.