

ShoresteinSays.com 2019 - NFL Week 10

"The Money Zone": Games that have a "Calculated vs. Actual" difference of between 2 and 6 points are considered The Money Zone. Since 2015, games that fall within this tier have hit ~55% on a sample of over 500 games. I consider games in this tier to have a statistical advantage in the long run. This is a completely objective calculation that does not account for injuries, roster changes, weather etc. However, I believe the smartest investment is to make small bets on each one of these games and slowly increase them over time if you are successful.

2019 Week 10					
Away	Home	Calculated Spread	Actual Spread	Calculated vs Actual	Projected Winner ATS
Buffalo	Cleveland	9.93	(3.00)	12.93	Buffalo
Miami	Indianapolis	(18.83)	(10.50)	8.33	Indianapolis
LA Rams	Pittsburgh	(2.60)	3.50	6.10	Pittsburgh
Kansas City	Tennessee	0.47	5.50	5.03	Tennessee
Detroit	Chicago	1.80	(2.50)	4.30	Detroit
LA Chargers	Oakland	(2.53)	1.00	3.53	Oakland
Arizona	Tampa Bay	(7.73)	(4.50)	3.23	Tampa Bay
Seattle	San Francisco	(3.20)	(6.00)	2.80	Seattle
Minnesota	Dallas	(5.77)	(3.00)	2.77	Dallas
NY Giants	NY Jets	0.90	2.50	1.60	NY Jets
Carolina	Green Bay	(6.63)	(5.50)	1.13	Green Bay
Atlanta	New Orleans	(12.50)	(13.00)	0.50	Atlanta
Baltimore	Cincinnati	10.30	10.00	0.30	Baltimore

The Week 9 Money Zone Picks are Tennessee, Detroit, Dallas, Seattle, Oakland, & Tampa Bay.

****2019 Money Zone picks are 20-37 ATS. All Time they are 292-254 (53.47%)****

"Shorestein Says" Picks of the Week: Each week I select between 3-5 of my favorite games and do additional analysis on them. I've highlighted the "Shorestein Says" picks of the week in yellow. Read below for my in-depth analysis. ****2019 "Shorestein Says" Picks of the Week are 16-20 ATS. 57-45 since last season (55.88%)****

Seattle +6 @ San Francisco: I really like Seattle as a significant underdog in this divisional matchup. I'm not sure if there has ever been a situation in NFL history for a quarterback to be a 6 point underdog where he has posted a 118 passer rating this late into the year.

Wilson's track record as an underdog is excellent. The Seahawks are 13-7 (65%) ATS when they are underdogs since 2015. I just think that when Wilson is on the field, the game is never over. How many times has he led improbable comebacks on the prime time stage?....

Here are some of Wilson's heroic underdog performances in the last couple of years:

Russell Wilson Underdog Heroics				
<u>Season</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Spread</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>QB Rating</u>
2019	Pittsburgh	4.00	28-26 (W ATS)	131.00
2018	LA Rams	10.00	31-36 (W ATS)	123.20
2018	Carolina	3.00	30-27 (W ATS)	128.30
2018	Detroit	3.00	28-14 (W ATS)	158.30

The bottom line here is that when your quarterback posts a healthy QB rating into the triple digits, it's almost impossible to get blown out. Wilson is on that type of tear, as his TD/Int ratio is a ridiculous 22/1.

The 49ers defense has been one of the best units in the league so far in 2019. In year's past, I would be very concerned about Seattle's protection against an elite defensive line. However, it has been greatly improved this year, and they have continued an efficient running game to compliment that.

<u>Season</u>	<u>Sack % Allowed</u>	<u>Rank</u>
2019	6.98%	18th
2018	10.28%	31st

Historically, Wilson would be running for his life in a game like this, but it feels like they should have the ability to at least slow down the pass rush, and keep them slightly off balanced with their running game. The Cardinals showed that the 49ers defense can be moved on last Thursday night. Chris Carson should be able to run with similar effectiveness.

Defensively, Seattle has been up and down. The 49ers average the most rushing attempts in the league this season. While Seattle has struggled with its run defense, I'm confident they have the talent in the front seven to improve. I think Seattle's best bet is to dedicate resources to contain the run first, and force Garoppolo to win his second consecutive game by airing it out. He has shown that he's willing to throw a few balls up for grabs per game. Seattle has taken the ball away at the 5th highest rate this year and could have some opportunities for INT's. I wouldn't be surprised to see Jereveon Clowney have a big game given all the media hype around the 49ers defensive line.

Minnesota @ Dallas -3: "Fade Kirk Cousins on the road against solid defense" is another Shorestein Staple. I think this gets more evident in the prime-time slots as well. If this sounds familiar, it should. I talked about this concept in week 4, before his game at Chicago and it went exactly how I thought it would:

Kirk Cousins Track Record vs. Strong Competition				
<u>Season</u>	<u>Scenario</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>QB Rating</u>	<u>Turnovers</u>
2019	At Chicago	L 6-16	91.60	1.00
2018	At New England	L 10-24	70.40	2.00
2018	At Chicago	L 20-25	76.50	2.00
2018	At Seattle	L 7-21	89.00	1.00

It was nice to have a chart for this one already!...

Again, I don't think there's any reason to over think this. The Cowboys have been stellar at home for 2 straight seasons (8-4-1 since last year ATS), and their defense is getting stronger.

Dallas Regaining Defense Swagger			
Points Allowed Per Game	Opp Yards / Point	Yards / Pass Att	Takeaways
17.80 (5th)	17.90 (8th)	6.1 (5th)	1.50 (11th)

I think the pass rush has the potential to get a lot better with the addition of Michael Bennett. He gives them more depth to go along with Robert Quinn and Demarcus Lawrence. This line can take over games, and Cousins has shown that he is often more than willing to comply. I see a lot of similarities to the Sunday Night game in which Dallas hosted Philly a few weeks ago, and I wouldn't be surprised to see the same type of results. The Dallas offensive line is healthy again and remains one of the NFL's best. Zeke should have one of his typical monster games on the big stage.

Carolina +5.5 @ Green Bay: I'm taking another shot at Carolina after a brief hiatus. I was shocked at how they were thoroughly dismantled by San Francisco coming off a bye. They honestly just weren't ready to play against a better team. I think this week, however, is a more favorable matchup with virtually the same line set by Vegas. Green Bay has outperformed expectations for much of the season, but I think we are starting to see that the defense is not nearly as good as it was advertised in the first month.

They were dominated by a pedestrian Chargers team, and Matt Moore carved them up for much of the previous game at Kansas City. In yards / play they are in the basement of the NFL at 6.1, only the dregs that you would expect (Bengals, Dolphins, & Raiders) have put up poorer statistics. As far as I'm concerned, they've got two solid pass rushers and a bunch of unproven commodities that surround them. Christian McCaffery should run wild in this game, like he has in every other game besides the loss at San Francisco.

Rodgers continues to make questionable decisions in terms of holding onto the ball. He's reluctant to take check downs and easy yardage, and the amount of unnecessary sacks he takes would drive a Cheese Head to insanity. He will see lots of pressure in this game, as the Panthers still boast the 2nd best sack % in the NFL at 10.18% (a phenomenal numbers to have at this point in the season). They've had problems against the run at times, but the Green Bay offense hasn't shown that they are committed to running the ball, as they only average 24 attempts per game (21st). The Packers have a great talent in Aaron Jones, but I still don't think they know how to use him properly.

Like Seattle, Carolina has enjoyed great success as an underdog they are 15-9 (62.5%) ATS in these situations since 2016. However, unlike the Seahawks, the Panthers generally cover games with effective running and tough defense as opposed to elite quarterback play. Hopefully, this week they will come through.

LA Rams @ Pittsburgh +3.5: I'm starting to believe that Jared Goff has that Kirk Cousins-type composure when faced with an aggressive defense. That is not a compliment, Jared...

The Steelers defense has been special this year. A lot of people wrote off Pittsburgh (including me) once Roethlisberger hit the deck, but this defense is keeping them afloat.

Steelers Defense Continues to Impress			
Yards / Pass Att	Yards/ Rush Att	Takeaways	Sack %
6.6 (11th)	3.90 (8th)	2.80 (2nd)	9.45% (4th)

The sack % increases to 13.61% when games are played at Heinz field. When Goff has faced this kind of pressure, he has folded in dramatic fashion. Here are some of his recent performances that have brought heavy pass rushers:

Goff vs. Aggressive Fronts				
Season	Opponent	Yards/ Pass Att	QB Rating	Result
2019	San Francisco	3.25	60.80	L 7-20 (Loss ATS)
2018	New England	6.03	57.90	L 3-13 (Loss ATS)
2018	Chicago	4.09	19.10	L 6-15 (Loss ATS)

The Steelers have been one of the best teams as far as protecting their own quarterback. I think they have the resources inside to contain Aaron Donald. Points may come at a premium in this game, but it would not shock me to see Pittsburgh score another defensive touchdown. In these situations, I love backing the home underdog with the stronger defense.

Random Thoughts:

- It felt great to finally get the picks of the week on the winning track again.... I honestly hadn't felt as good about Baltimore and Buffalo going into a game in a long time....
- Money Zone continuing its struggle. Hopefully, as the data compiles, it will improve into the second half of the year. But it's been a brutal performance to date.
- No 19-0 season for the Patriots..... They've got a very interesting slate of games in the next 4-5 weeks. Let's keep an eye on that defense to see if it's really as good as everyone as hyped it up to be. I'm still not sure yet.
- Jets/Giants... wow what a terrible time to be a New York football fan, fortunately I am not one. Not sure what to think of that debacle.
- After all the Ravens excitement, I wouldn't be totally shocked if they lost this week. Seems like a very Raven-esque thing to do after a big win.
- All the numbers in the world point to Buffalo this week. The betting public still likes Cleveland for whatever reason, and they continue to disappoint. The Bills defense could continue to give Baker Mayfield nightmares, so I think it's a solid play.

Good Luck Everyone!



ShoresteinSays.com

All picks and information are for entertainment purposes only. Therefore, we are not liable nor responsible for any bets that you make. If you wish to opt out of this email, please notify me directly. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. We are not affiliated with the NFL in anyway and we are not a gambling site. Thank you!

Follow us on Twitter

@n_Shorestein

