

ShoresteinSays.com 2019 - NFL Week 13

"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 13					
Away	Home	Calculated Spread	Actual Spread	Calculated vs Actual	Projected Winner ATS
Tampa Bay	Jacksonville	(8.40)	(1.00)	7.40	Jacksonville
LA Chargers	Denver	(4.40)	2.50	6.90	Denver
New England	Houston	9.40	3.00	6.40	New England
Cleveland	Pittsburgh	(4.03)	2.00	6.03	Pittsburgh
Tennessee	Indianapolis	2.60	(2.50)	5.10	Tennessee
Washington	Carolina	(14.53)	(10.00)	4.53	Carolina
Buffalo	Dallas	(4.30)	(7.00)	2.70	Buffalo
LA Rams	Arizona	0.57	3.00	2.43	Arizona
New Orleans	Atlanta	4.77	7.00	2.23	Atlanta
Green Bay	NY Giants	4.43	6.50	2.07	NY Giants
San Francisco	Baltimore	(4.47)	(6.00)	1.53	San Francisco
Chicago	Detroit	1.67	3.00	1.33	Detroit
Oakland	Kansas City	(11.03)	(10.00)	1.03	Kansas City
Minnesota	Seattle	(3.83)	(3.00)	0.83	Seattle
Philadelphia	Miami	8.73	9.50	0.77	Miami
NY Jets	Cincinnati	3.03	3.50	0.47	Cincinnati

The Week 13 Money Zone Picks are Tennessee, Carolina, Buffalo, Arizona, Atlanta, & NY Giants.

****2019 Money Zone picks are 30-46 ATS. All Time they are 302-263 (53.45%)****

"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 22-26 ATS. 63-51 since last season (55.26%)****

Washington @ Carolina -10: The Haskins fade is back! In fact, I've come up with a new metric that I'm calling the Haskins Ratio: (total number of sacks + total number of INT's)/ Total Pass Attempts. Basically, it's the percentage of pass plays that result in sacks or interceptions. Here is how he compares to the rest of the league, and to some quarterbacks that are having terrible seasons:

Haskins: King of Bad Quarterbacks				
Quarterback	Total Times Sacked	Total Interceptions	Total Pass Attempts	Haskins Ratio
Dwayne Haskins	17.00	6.00	108.00	21.30%
Jameis Winston	36.00	20.00	434.00	12.90%
Jared Goff	18.00	12.00	412.00	7.28%
Mitchell Trubisky	25.00	6.00	323.00	9.60%
Daniel Jones	33.00	8.00	333.00	12.31%
All Other Quarterbacks Combined	894.00	272.00	12,240.00	9.53%

I think he's taken bad quarterback play to the next level. I'm even more confident this week based on his reaction to getting his first career win when he was in the crowd taking Selfies while the game wasn't over yet. Also, keep in mind that this was a game where he completed 44% of his passes, averaged 5 yards per attempt, and posted a QB rating of 47.5. In 4 out of his 5 games this season, he's posted a rating below 80. You simply cannot be competitive in NFL games with these awful performances.

Carolina still ranks 6th in defensive passer rating at about 84. The only way Washington can remain remotely competitive is if they are able to run the ball against the at times vulnerable run defense. I don't think this is likely as Carolina has been gashed primarily by elite running backs on the road (San Francisco, Green Bay). Washington is not nearly as dynamic.

Tennessee +2.5 @ Indianapolis: The Titans have quietly righted the ship with consistent play from Ryan Tannehill and explosive running by Derrick Henry. Taylor Lewan's return at tackle has made a noticeable difference in pass protection as they are no longer getting destroyed by pass rushers. They are 4-1 since Tannehill has taken over as the starter and he has posted 100+ QB ratings in 4 out of the 5 games.

Ryan Tannehill's Performances			
Opponent	Result	QB Rating	Yards / Attempt
Chargers	W 23-20	120.10	10.76
Bucs	W 27-23	109.80	5.85
Panthers	L 20-30	82.30	8.49
Chiefs	W 35-32	133.90	9.53
Jaguars	W 42-20	155.80	14.39

I'm confident that the Titans' run defense can handle the Colts offensive line and running game. Brissett doesn't look like the same quarterback since his MCL sprain, and they are not nearly as dynamic running with Marlon Mack out of the lineup. In fact, the more dangerous run team over the past month has been the Titans. The last 3 games, the Titans are averaging an astounding 7.1 yards per carry which is league best for that time frame. The Colts rank in the middle of the pack in run defense.

This is a very important divisional matchup, and I think the Titans are the stronger, healthier team at the moment. The 3 most important players to the Colts offense are all nursing injuries (TY Hilton, Jacoby Brissett, and Marlon Mack). I think Tennessee is in an advantageous position as underdogs.

New Orleans @ Atlanta +7: Ah, those frustrating Falcons... They are at the top of just about everyone's DO NOT BET List. I'm removing them from the list just for one more night... here's why:

This is the Falcons Super Bowl. They are cooked for the year, and Dan Quinn is all but gone. But they HATE New Orleans and would be thrilled to ruin their playoff position. And surprisingly, they've fared well against New Orleans over the past several seasons particularly at home:

Matt Ryan vs New Orleans at Home			
Year	Result	QB Rating	Yards / Att
2018	L 37-43	148.10	10.69
2017	W 20-17	55.20	8.19
2016	W 38-32	139.90	9.19

All of these performances would qualify as a cover on Thanksgiving night. I'd like to see them look for Calvin Ridley. He's had some monster games against the Saints in his brief career.

Defensively, the Falcons should have an advantage at pass rush. New Orleans will likely be without two pro bowl lineman Thursday night, as Terron Armstead and Andrus Peat are both injured. The Armstead injury is significant, as he was an all-pro last year and is widely considered their best lineman. Just a few weeks ago, this same Falcons defense sacked Brees 6 times and held that offense to 9 points, and that was with a significantly better lineup.

Surprisingly, the Falcons rank 6th in the league in rush yards allowed / carry at 3.9. That is a positive sign going against the Saints explosive runners. Desmond Trufant is a solid matchup for Michael Thomas who has been virtually unstoppable this season. If he can just slow him down slightly, consider that a win.

Well, it's been two straight years of backing the Falcons vs. the Saints on Thanksgiving night... Let's hope it works out better this time!

Minnesota @ Seattle -3: Seattle in Prime-Time games at home has been nearly impossible to beat. You can basically mark it down that these things will happen on Monday night:

- 1) Head-scratching, controversial referee decision that benefits the Seahawks
- 2) Russell Wilson defies football logic and makes an impossible throw/run to score a TD/huge play.
- 3) Pete Carroll chuckles on the sidelines.
- 4) Seahawks win.

I've seen it way too many times. And it even happened between these two teams at around this same time last season. I have no reason to believe it won't happen again.

Seattle is very much alive in the NFC West as they continue their chase of San Francisco. Wilson has been phenomenal this year, and the play-calling which I questioned at the beginning of the season has been a pleasant surprise. I think they've run effectively, and they mix in down field shots with the best deep ball throwing quarterback in the game.

Minnesota is built around Dalvin Cook and the running game. While Seattle has had issues stopping the run throughout the season, they have shown that they can stop elite running teams when they game plan around it. I'd expect to see a similar plan to what they did vs. San Francisco. They stacked the box and forced Garoppolo to beat them. I would expect them to do the same vs. Cousins. Clowney is expected to be back in the lineup after a week off. He was an absolute monster against the 49ers in the last time he was on a prime time stage. We all know what Kirk Cousins looks like when he's faced with significant pressure. I've also noticed that Cousins has not been the same guy when he's outdoors:

Kirk Cousins Outdoor Trend			
Opponent	Result	Rating	Yards / Att
Kansas City	L 23-26	94.20	5.79
NY Giants	W 28-10	138.60	11.33
Chicago	L 6-16	91.60	6.47
Green Bay	L 16-21	52.90	7.19
Seattle	L 7-21	89.00	6.30
New England	L 10-24	70.40	4.57
Chicago	L 20-25	76.50	5.70

He's 1-6 in his last 7 outdoor road games and he's not even close to the same quarterback that he's been at home. They're averaging just over 15 points in these games. I think this week will make it 1-7.

Random Thoughts:

- Lamar Jackson.... Wow. All I can say. They are the best team in football right now, and it's honestly not very close. The spread against the 49ers feels high, but you'd be crazy to fade Baltimore right now. I also think the San Francisco defense is great, but it's built to stop the pass. Their all world defensive line will be off guard as they likely won't be flying up field to pass rush. If any QB were to rattle, I'd expect it to be Garoppolo.
- Lamar Jackson was the Anti-Haskins on Monday Night. He threw TOUCDOWNS! on 25% of his passes.
- The Oak/KC spread feels a little high. Although KC has dominated this matchup for the last 5 years, the Raiders should have the recipe to keep it close with the strong running attack.
- Bill O'Brien always comes up short against the Patriots... is this finally the year he changes that??? I doubt it.
- Chicago/Detroit is a completely useless game. I'll make sure I'm eating during that one.
- Buffalo/Dallas is a bit more interesting. Again, the spread feels high for Dallas, and Buffalo has been great to me lately. But It honestly just feels like a throwback Zeke game. Ball control, and 1st downs. I think Josh Allen is due to make some mistakes.
- Arizona has quietly been one of the best teams against the spread. I honestly have no idea how. They don't really play any defense.
- Philip Rivers a favorite at Denver... I don't see it. I'm going to reference my theory that you should always fade Rivers as a favorite and bet him as a dog. Or just sit back and watch him throw interceptions for entertainment purposes.

Good Luck Everyone!



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