



Marc Lawrence's Weekly
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Volume 39, Issue 2

January 20-26, 2024

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- *Best Bets and Key Plays*
- *Awesome Angle & Tremendous Trends*
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THIS WEEK IN BASKETBALL – JANUARY 20-26, 2024



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Due to various circumstances beyond our control – such as a reliable basketball schedule that covers more than just three days' worth of games – we'll be presenting a "meat and potatoes" version of our weekly basketball newsletter until the start of the NCAA Tournament. Each week we'll provide write-ups and analysis on the games that stand out the most, including three Best Bet releases on each of the College, NBA, and NBA Over/Under cards. For margins on all other games on the weekly card, we suggest you refer to Kenny White's Power Ratings, along with Victor King's NBA rankings, in determining sides on the remaining portion of the daily hoops' lineup. We are sorry for any inconvenience, but rest assured the isolated contests we feature contain write-ups on the games that would normally appear in the regular version of the PLAYBOOK Basketball Newsletter. Thanks for your continued support.

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AWESOME ANGLE OF THE WEEK

PLAY ON Michigan State from Game 20 out when they are seeking conference revenge with 3 or more days of rest.

**Play On:
MICHIGAN STATE (1/26)**

IZZO TIME

ATS W-L Record
Since 1996:

**34-12-1
(74%)**

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, January 20

Usc over ARIZONA STATE by 17

Expectations were high for USC this season with 3 starters returning from a team that finished 22-11 overall last year. The Trojans landed at the No. 21 spot in this year's AP Top 25 preseason poll and the Blue Ribbon College Basketball Yearbook. However, a 5-2 start to the current campaign proved to be misleading as a disastrous December saw Andy Enfield's squad win only ONE of six games. Even so, USC was hanging on with an 8-7 record until two weeks ago, but three straight losses since have dropped them down to next-to-last place in the conference race. The invading Sun Devils have followed a similar script this season, but with only 1 starter back from a 23-13 team, few expected Bobby Hurley's boys to be in a 3-way tie for second place behind league-leading Oregon in mid-January. However, ASU takes the court here on a 0-2 SUATS slide, most recently falling at home to UCLA by just 2 points in a bitter triple-revenge defeat. So, which one of today's contestants can stop the bleeding? We're going with the Trojans, who were upset by the Sun Devils in the opening round of last year's Pac-12 Tournament, and the Trojans just so happen to own a **6-0 ATS** mark in this series when seeking revenge. That should provide plenty of incentive for a team with Big Dance aspirations who is languishing around the Mendoza line as we come up on February. It helps too that Arizona State is just 2-4 SUATS versus conference foes seeking Pac-12 tourney revenge. Enfield and company simply cannot afford another loss with UCLA and Oregon on deck after this one, so take a shot with the Travelin' Trojans.

ARIZONA over Ucla by 6

Sticking with the Pac-12 here as No. 11 Arizona is one of the three aforementioned teams currently in a logjam behind first-place Oregon. The Wildcats have won 3 of their previous four games by an average of 27 points per game, meaning we should get a nice price on the Bruins this afternoon at the McKale Center. That's right, we're taking sides with a struggling 8-10 UCLA squad against 13-4 Arizona. What's the deal, you ask? A hunka hunka burnin' revenge, baby! The Wildcats beat the top-seeded Bruins, 61-59, in the finals of last season's Pac-12 tourney and the well-oiled machine reminds us that Zona is a money-burning 7-22-1 ATS against Pac-12 foes with an LTKO revenge chip on their shoulder, including a brutal **2-18-1 ATS** as a favorite of 7 or more points. Feel better now? The Bruins may be down a tad this season, but rest assured they will be fully focused here. We wrap things up with this from the Well-Oiled Machine: UCLA is 9-2 SU and ATS with revenge in this series, including **5-0 SUATS** when the Wildcats own a sub .840 win percentage.

**NOTE: Home team is shown in ALL CAPS.
PLAYBOOK selection is Underlined and Bold.**

INCREDIBLE STAT OF THE WEEK

***The Utah Utes are 1-20 SU
against Oregon since 2013,
including 0-5 SUATS as a favorite.***

4★ BEST BET

UNC-WILMINGTON over Charleston by 14

Part of the enjoyment of handicapping the day's card comes when we get past the Top 25 matchups that scream for attention and take time to examine the underbelly of the schedule in hopes of discovering a money-making gem. Today's search takes us to the Coastal Athletic Conference and a battle between schools in North and South Carolina, separated by a four-hour drive. The Cougars of Charleston currently sit alone in second place behind Drexel in the conference race while UNCW is tied for third with a whopping eight other squads. With 4 starters back from a team that reached the conference championship game last year, the Seahawks opened 4-0 but hit a rugged patch when they dropped five of their next ten games. They've turned the corner since, riding a three-game win skein entering this contest. Some payback will also be in order today: The Cougars dropped the hammer on Wilmington three times last season, including a win in the CAA title game. Charleston was tripped up as double-digit chalk on Thursday night against Towson, and the Cougars are a weak 3-8 ATS coming off SU favorite loss, including **0-3 ATS** this season when coming off a SU favorite loss. Considering that the Seahawks have not lost on their home court this campaign, we hand it over to **THE CLINCHER: UNCW is 19-4 ATS in this series, including 14-1 ATS when they sport a sub .750 win percentage.**

Sunday, January 21

Oregon over UTAH by 8

After starting conference play with a string of five straight wins, Oregon looked like it might just run the table in the Pac-12's final season. That notion was immediately put to bed on Thursday night in Colorado when Tad Boyle's Buffaloes laid a convincing 86-70 whipping on the dazed Ducks. Speaking of dazed, the Utes are right there as well after watching their promising 11-2 start to the season dissipate by dropping three of their last four contests entering this game. That's not good news for a Utah team that's forgotten how to win a game in this series (see this week's **INCREDIBLE STAT** on page 2). Neither are the Utes' **1-7 ATS** failures after squaring off against Stanford and their 6-17 SU and 6-15-2 ATS mark against foes that own the better record. Must give a coaching edge to Oregon here as Utah's 3rd-year HC Craig Smith has to match wits with the veteran Dana Altman, now in his 14th season with the Ducks and the 39th year of his career. Altman is **3-0 ATS** off a loss this season, so you know the state and the team we'll be lining up with today. Ducks get off the mat to hand Utah its first home loss of the campaign.

Tuesday, January 23

Kentucky over SOUTH CAROLINA by 13

Travel back in time with us if you will, back to last year right after UK went on the road to battle a highly rated Alabama squad and limped back to Lexington after being destroyed by the Tide, 78-52. Then, in one of the most shocking setbacks of head coach John Calipari's 14-year run with the Wildcats, 8-8 South Carolina – the same South Carolina that lost by 43 in its previous outing against Tennessee – upset UK, 71-68, at Rupp Arena, snapping the Wildcats' 28-game home win streak, which had been the longest active streak in the SEC. "Are fans mad? They should be," Calipari said during his postgame press conference. "We lost at home. I expect fans to be mad." It's never hard for us to get behind Coach Cal when it comes to his team on a humiliating revenge prowl and losing as -19.5-point chalk at home to the Gamecocks last year certainly qualifies. The high from that upset has long since faded – South Carolina finished the season 11-21 after getting bounced in the first round of the SEC Tournament – but the Columbia

Cocks are 14-3 this campaign (check Saturday's result at Arkansas) and dangerous. They seem a little less dangerous, though, after Calipari trots out his 95-68-4 ATS when seeking revenge, including 14-5-2 ATS versus greater than .750 opponents. Meanwhile, South Carolina is just 8-19 SU and 11-16 ATS home of late, including **0-3 SUATS** with a win percentage of .800 or greater. It's not often you find home dogs of this size sporting this sort of win percentage – but it's there for a reason. If you're going to back road chalk, you can't do much better than backing the highest scoring team in the nation, No. 8 Kentucky.

CREIGHTON over Xavier by 20

Ranked No. 9 in the preseason polls, Creighton hit the skids in mid-December with a 1-3 SU and 0-4 ATS dump. But head coach Greg McDermott churns out 20-win seasons in Omaha like Gene Takavic bakes up Cinnabons, so the Bluejays regrouped to win 4 straight before falling at No. 1 UConn last Wednesday. Now 13-5 overall and occupying the No. 18 slot, a victory at Seton Hall (check Saturday result) and a steamroll win here gets them back to where they need to be. This has not been a vintage season for the X-men. Despite winning 3 of their last five games, they were just 9-8 this season at press time and must pay the piper here for knocking the Bluejays out in the semifinals of last year's Big East Tournament. That's because Creighton stands 5-1 SU and 5-2 ATS with LTKO revenge while Xavier is just 2-4 ATS against foes with LTKO. The Jays also own a 5-2 ATS mark in the series with the Musketeers when playing with revenge. The killer, though, is this beauty from the Well-Oiled Machine: Xavier is **4-38 ATS** in games they lose on the scoreboard as underdogs against avenging conference foes. You know what to do.

AP MEN'S BASKETBALL TOP 25 POLL

TEAM	SU / ATS	TEAM	SU / ATS
1. UConn	15-2 / 11-7	14. Illinois	12-4 / 10-5-2
2. Purdue	15-2 / 11-6-1	15. Oklahoma	13-3 / 10-7
3. Kansas	14-2 / 7-8-1	16. Utah State	16-1 / 9-7
4. North Carolina	13-3 / 10-7	17. Marquette	11-5 / 8-9
5. Houston	14-2 / 9-7-1	18. Creighton	13-4 / 9-9
6. Tennessee	12-4 / 7-10	19. TCU	13-3 / 10-7
7. Duke	13-3 / 9-7	20. BYU	13-3 / 12-5
8. Kentucky	12-3 / 11-5	21. Dayton	13-2 / 8-7-1
9. Baylor	14-2 / 11-5	22. Ole Miss	15-1 / 9-8
10. Memphis	15-2 / 7-11	23. Florida Atlantic	13-4 / 9-9
11. Wisconsin	13-3 / 10-7	24. Iowa State	13-3 / 11-6
12. Arizona	12-4 / 12-5	25. Texas Tech	14-2 / 8-9
13. Auburn	14-2 / 11-6		

Updated 01/19/24

Wednesday, January 24

Florida over MISSISSIPPI STATE by 8

Both of tonight's contestants have followed similar tracks the last six weeks. Mississippi State won 5 straight to finish January at 5-1 but the Bulldogs quickly backed up with 3 losses in their last four contests. Florida recorded a perfect 6-0 January then went off the rails with a 1-3 follow-up. Thus, one of these teams needs to step up and steady things with a win. Florida's 11-6 record at press time has been a far cry from last year's disastrous 16-17 campaign under then first-year head coach Todd Golden. In fact, if it weren't for a loss to the Bulldogs in the 'donkey round' of the SEC tourney, the season would have been considered a success! UF is 12-5 ATS away with LTKO revenge, including **9-1 ATS** against foes coming off a win (check MSU result on Jan 20 versus Vandy). Mississippi State counters with a feeble 1-4 SU record the last five versus SEC foes with LTKO revenge. The Starkville Bulldogs also have a quintuple revenger with No. 13 Auburn on deck and they're an ineffective 1-5 ATS before facing Aubbie. We rest our case by noting that Florida averages 85 points per game (MSU 75 PPG) and the Gators have cashed in 5 of the last seven matchups in this series. A solid take.

3★ BEST BET

GEORGIA over Lsu by 11

Like Florida above, the Bulldogs finished the season with 16 victories while failing to produce a winning campaign. So, while the Georgia football team was basking in the glow of a second straight CFP Championship, head coach Mike White took over what can best be described as "a threadbare roster" from the ousted Tom Crean, who was just 6-26 (1-17 in the SEC) during the 2021-2022 season. White had managed to lead Florida to an 11-6 record this year at press time and thanks to the fact that the Bulldogs were booted in the 'donkey round' in last year's SEC tourney, they enter this contest as yet another LTKO revenger. That could prove lethal to LSU considering Georgia is in the midst of an extraordinary **11-1 SU** run over the last 12 games, with the only loss coming to Tennessee by 6 points (Dawgs cashed the ticket at +7.5). The Tigers are on a nice 5-1 run of their own but they're **0-3 SUATS** the last three years against SEC LTKO seeking avengers. LSU is coming off a game with Texas A&M and the Tigers are just 1-7 ATS after facing the Aggies, UGA is 9-5-1 ATS in this series, including **5-1-1 ATS** with a .575 or greater win percentage. With that, we hand it off to **THE CLINCHER: Georgia is 11-4 ATS with SEC tourney revenge, including 5-1 ATS with a .667 or greater winning percentage.**

Thursday, January 25

Appalachian State over GA SOUTHERN by 21

A visit to the Sun Belt Conference finds us on the 5-returning starter Mountaineers, who arrive with a lofty **8-1 SU and 7-2 ATS** mark in this series when they own a winning record. They've also been hotter than the recent lava flows in Iceland, winning 13 of their last 15 games on the scoreboard to improve to 14-4. As for Georgia Southern, first-year head coach Charlie Henry's Eagles appear to be anything but the "sleeper team" they were tabbed to be. Instead, they look more like roadkill after nodding off to a dreadful 3-15 record this season at press time (0-15 outside the Sun Belt). ASU sent these birds packing when they laid a "hat trick" on them last season and we don't see this group of Eagles being able to do anything about that tonight. Lay the wood with the boys from Boone as GSU's nightmare season continues.

GONZAGA over San Francisco by 6

Are we witnessing the end of a college basketball dynasty? It could be happening right now with Gonzaga. When was the last

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time the Zags were spotted with FIVE losses in January? Last year they dropped six games for the first time since the 2015 campaign and they'll most certainly surpass that number before the end of this regular season. They've also fallen out of the AP Top 25 for the first time in eight years. Yes, the questions are mounting for head coach Mark Few, now in his 25th season with the Bulldogs as he looks to make his 24th appearance in the Big Dance. Stepping into the turmoil are the 15-4 San Francisco Dons, who have almost become an annual call on these pages when clashing with the Zags. This year Frisco checks in with a 15-8-1 ATS log in conference tourney revenge losses (fell to the Zags in the semis of last year's West Coast conference event) and they're currently riding a red-hot **7-0 SU and 6-1 ATS** train. A concern is USF's 0-2 SUATS slide in this series when they own the better record, but they are **12-1 SU** and 9-4 ATS in games at press time this season in which they boast the better record. With the Zags 8-1 SU at home this season, we can't call for an outright win but their **1-5 ATS** effort against foes coming off consecutive wins this campaign says you should grab the points with an avenging squad that just may be the better team.

Friday, January 26

5★ BEST BET

Michigan State over WISCONSIN by 10

If you're a reader of these pages, you know we're big fans of Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo, and it's getting to be 'Izzo time' where he shines in games during the second half of the season when seeking revenge (see Marc's **AWESOME ANGLE** on page 2 for more on this). He'll have that in spades here as the Spartans fell 70-57 as a -5.5-point home favorite to the Badgers in an earlier meeting back on December 5. What would make this win even sweeter for Izzo is the fact that Wisconsin will still be sitting atop the Big Ten should they defeat Indiana and Minnesota before facing Sparty, so knocking off the conference leader would look really good for a Michigan State squad that struggled to a 4-5 start to the season. The Badgers have not fared well in this series recently, going 8-17 SU and 9-16 ATS, including **1-7 ATS** as a favorite, so we're getting in line to see Izzo do his thing. You should too.

NBA BASKETBALL

Saturday, January 20

3★ BEST BET

MINNESOTA over Oklahoma City by 13

The top two teams in the Western Conference lock horns in the Twin Cities tonight, where the Timberwolves will be anxious to make amends from a 23-point beatdown they suffered in Oklahoma the day after Christmas. That sets the table for this rematch as the Well-Oiled Machine notes that Minnesota is **5-1 ATS** at home when looking to even up a 20-point same-season loss. With it, the Wolves enter with the top-scoring defense in the loop, while also ranking No. 5 in Defensive field Goal Percentage. Given the Thunder's paltry 0-9 SU and 2-6-1 ATS mark in road games after usurping Utah, we'll ride the Big KAT – Karl-Anthony-Towns - to the pay window. **THE CLINCHER: Minnesota is 12-3 SU and 10-5 ATS this season with same-season revenge, including 4-0 SUATS versus .600 or greater foes.**

Monday, January 22

4★ BEST BET

Cleveland over ORLANDO by 14

Don't look now, but the young Cavs have found their stride once again this season. Following a lethargic 13-11 SU and 10-13-1 ATS start to the season, The Land has rebounded and will carry an 11-3 SU and 10-3-1 ATS mark into Mickey's City, where they will look to extract a healthy measure of revenge from a 10-point loss in Orlando when they last met in mid-December. They bring the league's No. 2 Scoring Defense and No. 5 Defensive Field Goal Percentage into this fray; knowing they catch the Magic off a double revenger from the night before on the same floor against Miami. On the other side of the court, the Magic bring a measly 1-4 SUATS record in the game as an unrested host coming off a home contest. We seal the deal with **THE CLINCHER: Cleveland is 6-1 SUATS this season in games with same-season revenge this season, including 5-0 SUATS versus sub .770 foes.**

Tuesday, January 23

5★ BEST BET

LA CLIPPERS over LA Lakers by 15

An important game for bragging rights in La La Land and playoff seeding tips off tonight as the Clippers will be anxious to avenge a pair of earlier losses suffered this season at the hands of their despised neighbor. The good news for Tyronn Lue, whose troops have developed a measure of cohesion, winning 20 of 26 games after a six-game losing streak, and 15 of their past 18 games. When James Harden joined the team in November, Erik Spoelstra said he didn't know exactly how Harden would fit alongside Paul George, Kawhi Leonard, and Russell Westbrook, but had faith Lue would find a way. And he has. As a result, they are now the T-Lue Clippers, currently resting a game behind the Denver Nuggets for the third spot in the Western Conference playoff chase. Despite dropping the last two games in the series to King James and company, the Clips bring an 11-3 SUATS overall mark in Lakers showdowns the past four seasons. However, we save the best for last, compliments of **THE CLINCHER: The Clippers are 9-0 ATS at home in this series when taking the court with same-season double revenge-exact.**

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Thursday, January 25

Philadelphia over INDIANA by 10

The Sixers figure to be fully focused tonight after having had its seven-game series streak snapped in an earlier meeting this season in Philly. Look for Joel Embiid to play a classic "What's Good for the Goose is Good for the Gander" in this payback as the Sixers will take the court with a 21-7 ATS mark as a favorite this season (at press time). With the Pacers in the middle of a brutal stretch in their schedule – off Denver and Phoenix with Phoenix and Memphis coming up, don't be surprised to see them 'rode hard an put away wet' during this span. You know what to do.

Friday, January 26

UPSET GAME OF THE WEEK UPSET

TORONTO over LA Clippers by 8

The Raptors catch the Clippers in an ideal scheduling spot tonight, and they'll be happy to oblige. For openers, the Clips arrive off a monster double revenge showdown at home against the Lakers on Tuesday, with yet another same-reason avenger on tap at Boston tomorrow from a 37-point home loss they suffered against the Celtics two days prior to Christmas. Hence, it's no surprise to learn they are 1-4 SU and 0-5 ATS in post-Laker operatives, while just 18-26 SU and 18-24 ATS away before Beantown bashes. With the Dinosaurs 16-8-1 ATS as a host in this series, including **5-1 ATS** when taking points, we're all over this like white on rice.

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THIS WEEK'S BEST BETS

A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT
★ RATED BEST BET SELECTIONS

WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024		3★ BEST BET	4★ BEST BET	5★ BEST BET
	COLLEGE	GEORGIA (Wednesday 1/24)	UNC-WILMINGTON (Saturday 1/20)	MICHIGAN STATE (Friday 1/26)
	NBA	TIMBERWOLVES (Saturday 1/20)	CAVALIERS (Monday 1/22)	LA CLIPPERS (Tuesday 1/23)
	NBA O/U	HEAT UNDER (Wednesday 1/24)	PISTONS OVER (Saturday 1/20)	PACERS OVER (Thursday 1/25)

Rnk: Overall rank in NFL • PWR: Numerical team power rating • HF: Numerical home field value

Rnk	Team	Conf/Div	PWR	HF	Rnk	Team	Conf/Div	PWR	HF	Rnk	Team	Conf/Div	PWR	HF
2024 NBA POWER RATINGS														
23	Atlanta Hawks	EAST / SE	99	4	24	Indiana Pacers	EAST / CNT	97	3.5	12	N.Y. Knicks	EAST / ATL	104	3
1	Boston Celtics	EAST / ATL	110	4.5	6	L.A. Clippers	WEST / PAC	106	3	3	OK City Thunder	WEST / NW	108	2.5
18	Brooklyn Nets	EAST / ATL	101	3.5	16	L.A. Lakers	WEST / PAC	101.5	4	13	Orlando Magic	EAST / SE	102.5	3
27	Charlotte Hornets	EAST / SW	92	3	21	Memphis Grizzlies	WEST / SW	100	3.5	2	Philadelphia 76ers	EAST / ATL	109.5	4.5
25	Chicago Bulls	EAST / CNT	96	3.5	9	Miami Heat	EAST / SE	105	4.5	6	Phoenix Suns	WEST / PAC	106	4.5
15	Cleveland Cavaliers	EAST / CNT	102	3.5	5	Milwaukee Bucks	EAST / CNT	107	5	26	Portland T Blazers	WEST / NW	93.5	3.5
10	Dallas Mavericks	WEST / SW	104.5	4	8	Minnesota T'wolves	WEST / NW	105.5	3	19	Sacramento Kings	WEST / PAC	100.5	3
4	Denver Nuggets	WEST / NW	107.5	5	10	N Orleans Pelicans	WEST / SW	104.5	3	28	San Antonio Spurs	WEST / SW	91	3.5
30	Detroit Pistons	EAST / CNT	90	2.5	Power Ratings courtesy of KennyWhiteSports.com									
13	Golden St Warriors	WEST / PAC	102.5	4.5	12	Washington Wizards	EAST / SE	91	2.5					
19	Houston Rockets	WEST / SW	100.5	3	16	Utah Jazz	WEST / NW	101.5	4.5					

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2024 NCAA BASKETBALL POWER RATINGS

Rnk: Overall rank nationally (358 teams) • PWR: Team power rating • HC: Home court value • Power Ratings courtesy of KennyWhiteSports.com

Rnk	School	Con	PWR	HC	Rnk	School	Con	PWR	HC	Rnk	School	Con	PWR	HC	Rnk	School	Con	PWR	HC
224	Abil Christian	WAC	95.8	2.0	26	Florida	SEC	116.6	5.5	262	Middle Tenn	CUSA	92.9	5.0	286	San Diego	WCC	90.9	3.5
198	Air Force	MWC	97	3.5	323	Florida A&M	SWAC	87.4	1.0	230	Milwaukee	Horz	95.2	3.0	49	San Diego St	MWC	112.4	6.0
94	Akron	MAC	106.2	4.5	25	Florida Atlantic	Amer	116.8	4.0	64	Minnesota	B10	110.8	5.0	69	San Francisco	WCC	110	4.0
9	Alabama	SEC	121.7	4.5	229	Fla Gulf Coast	Asun	95.2	4.5	55	Mississippi	SEC	112.1	5.0	186	San Jose St	MWC	98.2	4.0
340	Alabama A&M	SWAC	85.2	1.5	233	Florida Int'l	CUSA	94.6	3.5	39	Mississippi St	SEC	113.9	4.5	136	Santa Barbara	BW	101.3	3.5
144	Ala Birm	Amer	100.7	4.0	80	Florida St	ACC	108.8	5.0	361	Miss Valley St	SWAC	75.6	1.5	107	Santa Clara	WCC	104	4.0
288	Alabama St	SWAC	90.8	2.0	147	Fordham	A10	100.4	4.0	68	Missouri	SEC	110.4	4.0	142	Seattle	WAC	100.7	2.5
251	Albany	AE	93.7	4.0	160	Fresno St	MWC	99.5	4.0	123	Missouri St	MVC	102.2	4.0	65	Seton Hall	BE	110.5	5.0
300	Alcorn St	SWAC	89.7	1.5	200	Fullerton St	BW	96.9	3.0	238	Monmouth	CAA	94.3	4.5	357	Siena	MAAC	80.4	4.5
249	American	Pat	93.7	2.5	119	Furman	SC	102.5	4.0	124	Montana	BSky	102.1	4.0	166	South Alabama	SB	99.1	3.5
76	Appalachian St	SB	109.2	3.0	185	Gardner Webb	B5th	98.2	4.0	240	Montana St	BSky	94.2	3.5	82	South Carolina	SEC	108.5	5.0
4	Arizona	P12	124.3	5.0	112	George Mason	A10	103.9	4.5	177	Morehead St	OVC	98.7	4.0	341	SC State	MEAC	84.9	2.5
83	Arizona St	P12	108.1	4.5	163	Geo Washington	A10	99.4	4.5	347	Morgan St	MEAC	83.2	2.0	310	SC Upstate	B5th	88.7	3.0
29	Arkansas	SEC	115.8	5.0	127	Georgetown	BE	101.8	5.0	195	MT Saint Mary's	MAAC	97.1	3.0	313	South Dakota	Sum	88.4	4.0
268	Ark-Little Rock	OVC	92.5	4.0	108	Georgia	SEC	104	5.0	192	Murray St	MVC	97.4	3.5	134	S Dakota St	Sum	101.5	4.0
316	Ark-Pine Bluff	SWAC	88.2	1.0	322	Georgia Sou	SB	87.6	4.0	315	Navy	Pat	88.3	3.0	115	South Florida	Amer	103.6	3.5
203	Arkansas St	SB	96.8	4.0	228	Georgia St	SB	95.3	4.5	48	Nebraska	B10	112.8	4.5	355	SE Missouri St	OVC	80.4	2.5
349	Army	Pat	82.6	4.0	99	Georgia Tech	ACC	105.1	4.0	250	Neb Omaha	Sum	93.7	4.0	274	SE Louisiana	Sld	92.2	3.0
7	Auburn	SEC	121.8	5.0	16	Gonzaga	WCC	118.6	6.0	51	Nevada	MWC	112.3	4.5	256	Southern	SWAC	93.4	3.5
254	Austin Peay	Asun	93.5	2.5	325	Grambling St	SWAC	87.4	1.5	75	Nev Las Vegas	MWC	109.4	3.0	52	Sou California	P12	112.3	5.0
257	Ball St	MAC	93.4	4.0	66	Grand Canyon	WAC	110.5	4.0	255	New Hampshire	AE	93.5	4.0	131	So Illinois	MVC	101.6	4.0
12	Baylor	B12	120.1	5.5	298	Green Bay	Horz	90	4.0	346	New Jersey Tech	AE	83.6	4.0	253	SIU Edwards	OVC	93.6	2.5
269	Bellarmine	Asun	92.5	3.5	327	Hampton	CAA	86.9	2.0	23	New Mexico	MWC	117.4	4.0	343	So Indiana	OVC	84.3	3.5
184	Belmont	MVC	98.3	4.5	239	Harvard	Ivy	94.2	4.5	236	New Mexico St	CUSA	94.5	4.5	62	So Methodist	Amer	111.2	5.0
344	Beth-Cookman	SWAC	84.1	1.5	162	Hawaii	BW	99.5	3.0	305	New Orleans	Sld	89.1	3.0	217	Southern Miss	SB	96.2	3.0
293	Binghamton	AE	90.4	3.0	174	High Point	B5th	98.9	2.5	312	Niagara	MAAC	88.5	3.0	263	Southern Utah	WAC	92.9	2.0
61	Boise St	MWC	111.2	5.0	138	Hofstra	CAA	101.1	4.5	266	Nicholls St	Sld	92.6	2.0	70	Stanford	P12	109.9	4.5
84	Boston College	ACC	108	3.5	362	Holy Cross	Pat	74.5	4.0	205	Norfolk St	MEAC	96.7	2.5	151	S.F. Austin	WAC	100.2	4.0
292	Boston U	Pat	90.5	3.5	3	Houston	B12	124.7	5.0	246	North Alabama	Asun	93.9	1.0	173	Stetson	ASun	99	2.5
223	Bowling Green	MAC	95.8	4.0	354	Houst Christian	Sld	81.5	3.5	6	North Carolina	ACC	122.1	6.0	351	Stonehill	NEC	81.9	2.5
109	Bradley	MVC	103.9	3.0	242	Howard	MEAC	94.1	3.0	359	NC A&T	CAA	79.6	1.5	221	Stony Brook	CAA	96	3.0
13	Brigham Young	B12	119.6	5.0	308	Idaho	BSky	88.8	3.5	214	NC Asheville	B5th	96.3	4.0	102	Syracuse	ACC	104.3	5.0
211	Brown	Ivy	96.5	3.5	296	Idaho St	BSky	90.2	3.0	283	NC Central	MEAC	91.5	4.0	220	Tarleton St	WAC	96	3.5
172	Bryant	AE	99	2.5	14	Illinois	B10	119.5	5.0	113	NC Greensboro	SC	103.9	4.0	179	Temple	Amer	98.6	4.5
303	Bucknell	Pat	89.3	4.5	140	Illinois Chicago	MVC	100.8	3.5	74	NC State	ACC	109.4	5.0	5	Tennessee	SEC	122.2	5.0
342	Buffalo	MAC	84.6	4.5	218	Illinois St	MVC	96.1	4.5	114	NC Wilmington	CAA	103.7	4.5	244	Tenn Martin	OVC	94.1	3.5
86	Butler	BE	107.4	5.5	339	Incarinate Word	Sld	85.4	2.5	273	North Dakota	Sum	92.4	4.0	216	Tennessee St	OVC	96.3	4.5
154	Cal Baptist	WAC	100	3.5	58	Indiana	B10	111.8	5.5	234	N Dakota St	Sum	94.5	4.0	317	Tennessee Tech	OVC	88.2	3.5
222	Cal Davis	BW	95.9	3.0	54	Indiana St	MVC	112.1	4.0	278	North Florida	Asun	91.9	3.0	56	Texas	B12	112	5.0
90	Cal Irvine	BW	107	4.0	213	Iona	MAAC	96.3	4.0	77	North Texas	Amer	109.1	3.5	30	Texas A&M	SEC	115.3	4.5
345	Cal Poly	BW	83.6	3.5	35	Iowa	B10	114.3	5.0	212	Northeastern	CAA	96.5	4.5	329	Texas A&M Com	Sld	86.4	2.5
235	Cal Riverside	BW	94.5	2.5	10	Iowa St	B12	121	5.0	290	No Arizona	BSky	90.8	2.0	248	Texas A&M CC	Sld	93.7	4.0
252	CS Bakersfield	BW	93.7	4.0	193	IPFW	Horz	97.2	3.0	287	No Colorado	BSky	90.8	3.5	181	Texas Arlington	WAC	98.5	5.0
226	CS Northridge	BW	95.7	3.5	356	IUPUI	Horz	80.4	4.0	241	No Illinois	MAC	94.1	4.0	21	Texas Christian	B12	117.7	5.0
96	California	P12	105.6	5.0	261	Jackson St	SWAC	93.1	3.5	103	No Iowa	MVC	104.2	4.5	190	Texas El Paso	CUSA	97.6	3.0
289	Campbell	CAA	90.8	2.5	266	Jacksonville	Asun	91.9	3.5	176	No Kentucky	Horz	98.7	4.0	279	Texas RGV	WAC	91.8	2.5
215	Canisius	MAAC	96.3	4.0	210	Jacksonville St	CUSA	96.5	4.0	60	Northwestern	B10	111.5	5.0	294	Tex San Antonio	Amer	90.3	3.0
335	C Arkansas	Asun	86.1	1.5	81	James Madison	SB	108.6	3.0	334	N'western St	Sld	86.2	4.0	287	Texas Southern	SWAC	90.1	3.5
270	C Conn State	NEC	92.5	1.5	11	Kansas	B12	121	6.5	188	Notre Dame	ACC	97.8	5.0	232	Texas St	SB	95	2.5
73	C Florida	B12	109.6	4.5	291	Kansas City	Sum	90.6	4.0	149	Oakland	Horz	100.2	4.5	36	Texas Tech	B12	114.2	5.0
299	C Michigan	MAC	89.9	4.5	53	Kansas St	B12	112.3	5.0	167	Ohio	MAC	99.1	4.0	146	Toledo	MAC	100.6	4.0
331	Charleston Sou	B5th	86.4	3.0	199	Kennesaw St	Asun	97	2.5	34	Ohio St	B10	114.4	5.0	206	Towson	CAA	96.6	4.0
135	Charlotte	Amer	101.5	3.0	128	Kent St	MAC	101.8	3.5	27	Oklahoma	B12	116.6	5.0	170	Troy	SB	99	4.0
207	Charlotteooga	SC	96.5	5.0	24	Kentucky	SEC	117	6.5	117	Oklahoma St	B12	103.9	5.5	104	Tulane	Amer	104.2	3.0
259	Chicago St	ind	93.2	2.0	321	Lafayette	Pat	87.7	2.0	237	Old Dominion	SB	94.5	4.5	159	Tulsa	Amer	99.7	4.5
33	Cincinnati	B12	114.4	5.0	275	Lamar	Sld	92	3.0	152	Oral Roberts	Sum	100.2	4.0	165	UC San Diego	BW	98.3	2.5
271	Citadel	SC	92.5	2.0	196	LaSalle	A10	97.1	4.5	42	Oregon	P12	113.5	5.0	105	UCLA	P12	104.2	5.5
15	Clemson	ACC	118.9	5.5	302	Lehigh	Pat	89.6	4.5	158	Oregon St	P12	99.8	2.0	40	Utah	P12	113.7	5.0
175	Cleveland St	Horz	98.8	3.0	330	LeMoyn	NEC	86.4	2.5	336	Pacific	WCC	86	3.5	67	Utah St	MWC	110.5	3.0
280	Coastal Caro	SB	91.7	3.5	93	Liberty	CUSA	106.3	3.0	88	Penn St	B10	107.2	4.5	285	Utah Tech	WAC	91.1	4.0
121	Colgate	Pat	102.3	3.0	350	Lindenwood	OVC	82.4	2.5	171	Pennsylvania	Ivy	99	4.5	201	Utah Valley	WAC	96.9	3.0
116	Coll of Chas'ton	CAA	103.5	4.5	156	Lipscomb	Asun	100	4.0	209	Pepperdine	WCC	96.5	3.0	307	Valparaiso	MVC	88.8	4.5
18	Colorado	P12	118.2	4.5	130	Long Beach St	BW	101.7	4.0	46	Pittsburgh	ACC	113.1	5.0	148	Vanderbilt	SEC	100.3	4.5
44	Colorado St	MWC	113.4	4.0	352	Long Island	NEC	81.8	2.5	231	Portland	WCC	95.1	3.5	126	Vermont	AE	101.9	4.5
225	Columbia	Ivy	95.7	3.0	187	Longwood	B5th	98.1	2.0	191	Portland St	BSky	97.6	3.5	31	Villanova	BE	114.9	6.0
1	Connecticut	BE	130.8	5.0	157	Lou Lafayette	SB	99.9	4.5	304	Prairie View	SWAC	89.2	2.0	59	Virginia	ACC	111.7	6.0
360	Coppin St	MEAC	78.8	1.0	309	Lou Monroe	SB	88.7	3.5	314	Presbyterian	B5th	88.4	3.0	89	VCU	A10	107	5.0
133	Cornell	Ivy	101.6	3.0	97	Louisiana Tech	CUSA	105.5	4.0	85	Princeton	Ivy	107.4	4.5	353	Virginia Military	SC	81.8	3.0
8	Creighton	BE	121.7	5.5	182	Louisville	ACC	98.3	3.0	72	Providence	BE	109.7	5.0	71	Virginia Tech	ACC	109.9	5.0
328	Dartmouth	Ivy	86.6	3.0	120	Loyola Chicago	A10	102.5	4.5	2	Purdue	B10	127.7	5.5	311	Wagner	NEC	88.6	3.5
129	Davidson	A10	101.7	5.0	324	Loyola MD	Pat	87.4	3.0	243	Queens	ASun	94.1	2.5	50	Wake Forest	ACC	112.3	5.0
57	Dayton	A10	112	5.0	118	Loyola Mary	WCC	103.1	4.0	258	Quinnipiac	MAAC	93.3	2.5	47	Washington	P12	113	4.5
178	Delaware	CAA	98.7	2.5	78	LSU	SEC	109	4.5	141	Radford	B5th	100.7	3.0	79	Washington St	P12	108.9	3.5
319	Delaware St	MEAC	88.1	1.5	202	Maine	AE	96.8	2.0	183	Rhode Island	A10	98.3	5.0	125	Weber St	BSky	101.9	4.5
227	Denver	Sum	95.4	4.0	337	Manhattan	MAAC	85.7	4.0	194	Rice	Amer	97.2	4.5	132	West Virginia	B12	101.6	6.0
155	DePaul	BE	100	4.0	189	Marist	MAAC	97.6	2.5	95	Richmond	A10	105.6	4.5	161	W Carolina</			



2024 NBA POWER RATINGS & DAY TO DAY TRENDS

BY VICTOR KING

NBA POWER RATINGS • HOME COURT VALUE • HOME & AWAY OVER / UNDER RATINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
TEAM	PWR	HCV	H O/U	A O/U	TEAM	PWR	HCV	H O/U	A O/U
BOSTON	8.5	2.5	234	232	MINNESOTA	7.5	2.5	215	223
PHILADELPHIA	6	2.5	231	228	OKLAHOMA CITY	7	3	240	233
MILWAUKEE	5	1.5	244	242	DENVER	6	2.5	236	226
NEW YORK	4.5	2.5	218	227	LA CLIPPERS	6	2.5	228	233
INDIANA	4.5	2	243	249	NEW ORLEANS	5.5	2.5	227	230
CLEVELAND	4	2	224	220	SACRAMENTO	4	2	241	227
ORLANDO	3.5	2.5	220	224	DALLAS	3.5	2	236	233
MIAMI	2.5	1.5	225	214	UTAH	3	3.5	239	234
TORONTO	1	2	230	240	LA LAKERS	2	2	224	232
ATLANTA	1	1	249	240	HOUSTON	2	2.5	221	228
CHICAGO	1	3.5	219	223	PHOENIX	2	1.5	232	227
BROOKLYN	0.5	2.5	227	228	GOLDEN STATE	1	1.5	236	239
WASHINGTON	-4	1.5	239	235	MEMPHIS	0	1	216	223
CHARLOTTE	-4.5	2	223	226	PORTLAND	-3	1.5	225	222
DETROIT	-5	1	234	242	SAN ANTONIO	-3.5	1.5	236	229

All results are ATS (Against The Spread) unless otherwise noted. Legend as follows:

A: Away • AFT: After • BB: Back to Back • BEF: Before • CONF: Conference • Dog: Underdog • DD: Double Digit • Fav: Favorite • Gm: Game • H: Home • HD: Home Dog • HF: Home Favorite • HG: Home Game • HS: Home Stand • L: Last • O: Over • OPP: Opponent • RD: Road Dog • Res: Rest • RF: Road Favorite • RG: Road Game • RT: Road Trip • SS: Same Season • SIT: Situation • SU: Straight Up • TY: This Year • U: Under • V: Versus • Vst: Visiting Team • w/: With • Y: Year • /: After • >: More Than • <: Less Than

All ATS ties omitted. O/U trends are ATS and / or in 'OVER' (First) and 'UNDER' (Second) sequence.

SAT 1/20... Milwaukee @ DETROIT – 4* **Best Bet 'OVER'** – Milw: 4-0 OU L4 vs Det (255.0) / 6-1 OU L7 vs .250 < opp / 8-2 OU as div RF's // Det: 8-1 OU L9 conf games / 5-1 OU on Saturdays / 4-1 OU in 2/2 rest sit... **San Antonio @ WASHINGTON** – San: 1-5 in 0/1 rest sit, 7-0 OU L7 away vs Wash (258.0) / Wash: 4-0 OU home w/ HG next day... **Philadelphia @ CHARLOTTE** – Phil: 4-1 L5 vs Char, 2-8 OU in 0/0 rest sit / Char: 0-4 OU in 0/0 rest sit... **Toronto @ NEW YORK** – Tor: 6-0 OU L6 vs NY (235.8), 1-5 in 1/1 rest sit vs div / Ny: 5-1 in 1/1 rest sit vs div... **Cleveland @ ATLANTA** – Clew: 4-1 L5 vs Atl, 5-1 in 2/0 rest sit / Atl: 0-4 home w/ no rest... **Utah @ HOUSTON** – Utah: 6-1 on Saturdays, 2-10 OU in 1/2 rest sit / Hous: 1-4 OU on Saturdays... **Oklahoma City @ MINNESOTA** – Okc: 1-7 OU away vs div, 2-6 OU L8 vs Min / Min: 0-6 OU L6 div HG... **Memphis @ CHICAGO** – Mem: 2-9 in 1/1 rest sit vs non-conf / Chi: 10-2 in 1/1 rest sit vs non-conf, 2-6 OU L8 vs Mem.

SUN 1/21... Brooklyn @ LA CLIPPERS – Brk: 8-1 L9 vs LAC, 6-1 OU vs opp w/ 4 days rest / LAC: 1-9 w/ 4 days rest, 1-4 on Sundays... **Denver @ WASHINGTON** – Den: 4-0 L4 vs Wash, 5-1 in 1/0 rest sit / Wash: 0-5 home w/ no rest, 2-9 OU on Sundays... **Miami @ ORLANDO** – Mia: 3-7 L0 div RG, 2-7 OU aft div HG / Orl: 12-2 home vs .600 < conf opp, 11-3 on Sundays... **Boston @ HOUSTON** – Bos: 7-1 L8 vs Hou, 0-4 OU on Sundays TY / Hou: 2-10 home in 0/1 rest sit, 1-5 OU L6 vs Bos... **Indiana @ PHOENIX** – Ind: 0-4 OU L4 vs Pho, 1-5 OU away vs PAC Div / Phoe: 1-6 on Sundays, 1-5 OU home vs CEN Div... **Portland @ LA LAKERS** – Por: 5-1 on Sundays / LAL: 1-5 on Sundays, 5-1 OU L6 vs .300 < opp.

MON 1/22... Milwaukee @ DETROIT – Mil: 6-1 in 3rd straight div gm, 8-2 OU on Mondays / Det: 1-6 in 2nd of BB div gms... **San Antonio @ PHILADELPHIA** – San: 1-7 on Mondays, 0-4 OU last game of 4+ RT / Phil: 7-1 home vs .250 < opp, 5-1 Monday HG... **Cleveland @ ORLANDO** – Clew: 1-6 Monday RG, 1-4 OU away vs unrested opp / Orl: 0-6 OU L6 non-div HG, 0-5 OU Monday HG... **Memphis @ TORONTO** – Mem: 0-6 OU L6 away vs Tor, 1-5 OU Monday RG / Tor: 0-4 OU home vs SW Div... **Charlotte @ MINNESOTA** – Char: 1-5 OU away vs NW Div / Min: 1-13 OU home vs .300 < opp, 1-4 OU aft OKC... **Boston @ DALLAS** – Bos: 8-1 OU w/ no rest vs non-conf opp / Dal: 1-5 Monday HG, 8-0 OU In 2/0 rest sit vs non-conf... **Chicago @ PHOENIX** – Chi: 5-1 OU L6 vs Pho, 5-1 OU in 1/0 rest sit vs non-conf / Phoe: 4-1 OU home vs < .500 non-conf opp... **Atlanta @ SACRAMENTO** – Atl: 0-7 OU L7 vs Sac, 2-8 OU in 1/3 rest sit vs non-div opp / Sac: 1-4 OU in 3/1 rest sit.

TUE 1/23... Denver @ INDIANA – Den: 1-5 OU away vs CEN Div / Ind: 7-0 on Tuesdays, 1-5 OU home vs NW Div... **New York @ BROOKLYN** – Ny: 8-1 OU away w/ 2 days rest / Brk: 1-5 L6 div HG, 5-1 OU in 1/2 rest sit... **Utah @ NEW ORLEANS** – Utah: 6-0 L6 vs NORl, 5-1 OU vs opp w/ 3 days rest / NORl: 4-1 OU w/ 3 days rest... **Portland @ OKLAHOMA CITY** – Port: 2-9 L11 div RG / OKC: 9-1 L10 vs Por, 6-1 home in 2/1 rest sit... **La Lakers @ LA CLIPPERS** – Lal: 9-1 OU on Tuesdays, 6-1 OU away in 1/1 rest sit / LAC: 11-3 L14 vs LAL, 9-3 OU w/ div revenge.

WED 1/24... Minnesota @ WASHINGTON – Min: 10-3 away in 1/2 rest sit / Wash: 10-1 OU L11 vs Min, 2-15 in 2/1 rest sit... **Charlotte @ DETROIT** – Char: 0-4 OU L4 vs Det / Det: 1-6 L7 as home favs, 1-4 OU home vs .250 < opp... **Memphis @ MIAMI** – 3* **Best Bet 'UNDER'** – Mem: 1-4 OU L5 vs Mia / 1-4 OU on Wednesdays / 1-4 OU away in 1/2 rest sit // Mia: 1-5 OU vs .400 < non-conf opp / 1-4 OU w/ HG next day / 1-4 OU bef Boston... **Portland @ HOUSTON** – Port: 0-4 OU away w/ no rest, 1-7 OU L8 away vs Hou / Hou: 1-5 OU L6 vs NW Div... **Cleveland @ MILWAUKEE** – Clew: 2-8 OU L10 as div RD's / Milw: Series host 6-1, 7-1 in 4th straight div gm... **Oklahoma City @ SAN ANTONIO** – Okc: 5-0 L5 vs San, 4-1 as conf RF's w/ no rest / San: 1-5 home vs unrested conf opp... **Phoenix @ DALLAS** – Phoe: 8-2 OU away vs SW Div / Dal: 4-1 L5 vs Phoe, 5-1 home in 1/1 rest sit vs non-div opp... **Atlanta @ GOLDEN STATE** – Atl: 1-4 OU vs opp w/ 4 days rest / GSt: 5-1 w/ 4 days rest.

THU 1/25... Utah @ WASHINGTON – Utah: 5-1 away vs unrested opp, 8-2 Thursday RG / Wash: 7-1 OU L8 vs Utah... **Philadelphia @ INDIANA** – 5* **Best Bet 'OVER'** – Phil: 5-0 OU L5 vs Indy (265.6) / 8-1 OU as non-div conf RF's 8 < pts / 5-1 OU away w/ 2 days rest // Ind: 5-0 OU w/ HG next day / 9-1 OU Thursday HG / 15-2 OU home vs > .600 opp... **Boston @ MIAMI** – Bos: 8-1 in 2/0 rest sit / Mia: 1-9 home w/ no rest, 4-1 OU Thursdays... **Denver @ NEW YORK** – Den: 4-1 Thursday RG / NY: 0-4 on Thursdays... **Minnesota @ BROOKLYN** – Min: 9-2 L11 vs Brk, 13-2 OU away w/ no rest / Brk: 2-8 home in 1/0 rest sit... **Sacramento @ GOLDEN STATE** – Sac: 6-0 Thursday RG, 7-1 OU in 2/0 rest sit / GSt: 1-7 home in 0/2 rest sit... **Chicago @ LA LAKERS** – Chi: 5-0 OU I5 vs LAL, 5-1 away in 2/1 rest sit / LAL: 2-8 home in 1/2 rest sit.

FRI 1/26... Dallas @ ATLANTA – Dal: 2-10 away w/ game next day / Atl: 10-3 home off BB RG vs non-conf opp... **Houston @ CHARLOTTE** – Hou: 1-4 OU in 1/1 rest sit vs non-conf / Char: 9-1 in 1/1 rest sit vs non-conf... **Phoenix @ INDIANA** – Phoe: 2-10 on Fridays / Indy: 4-1 Friday HG, 9-2 OU home w/ no rest... **La Clippers @ TORONTO** – Lac: 1-4 away vs .400 < non-conf opp / Tor: 7-1 OU on Fridays, 9-3 OU home vs PAC Div... **Orlando @ MEMPHIS** – Orl: 0-4 w/ 3 days rest, 1-4 OU vs < .400 non-div opp / Mem: 12-4 vs opp w/ 3 days rest... **Oklahoma City @ NEW ORLEANS** – Okc: Series visitor 6-0, 6-1 in 1/2 rest sit / NORl: 1-7 in 2/1 rest sit... **Cleveland @ MILWAUKEE** – Clew: 0-4 OU on Fridays / Milw: 1-4 Friday HG... **Portland @ SAN ANTONIO** – Port: 4-1 L5 vs San / San: 5-1 OU L6 vs Por / 6-1 OU home w/ game next day.