

Free Picks – December 15th Weekend

Last week our NFL play with the Miami Dolphins as underdogs won outright against the Patriots. The NFLTopPicks team is now 7-2-1 in the last nine weeks. This week we keep it simple with the two strongest plays on the menu - an NFL and an NBA pick.

We admit the New Orleans Saints are good and their resurgence is the sports story of the year. They are winning and winning big. We believe this is another case of a team just getting too much hype. There has to be a letdown at some point and we think this weekend against the Washington Redskins will be the time they falter.

Support for the Saints has never been higher following last Sunday's huge win over the Cowboys and all this talk of Sean Payton for coach of the year and Drew Brees for MVP means the public will be all over them. But they still have one of the worst run defenses in NFL (ranked 24th). The run-stuffer Hollis Thomas's suspension is the key issue for their defense. Redskins running back Ladell Betts has been pretty good lately, averaging 143 yards rushing during the last three games. Joe Gibbs will give the ball to Betts all day and let him grind this game out.

Although the Saints' pass defense is ranked 5th, there is a good possibility that Jason Campbell will have another big game coming back to SEC-land. New Orleans is 1-3 ATS when they are favored at home this season.

Play Washington Redskins, ATS.

Thanks to the efforts of Carlos Boozer and Deron Williams, the surprising Utah Jazz have jumped out to the best record in the NBA. They look to continue their dominance at home when they meet the slumping Sacramento Kings on Friday night.

The Jazz have won four of their last five overall and own the league's best home record at 11-1 (7-5 ATS). The Kings, meanwhile, are 2-7 (3-6 ATS) on the road this season and have lost their last four games away from home. The Jazz are shooting 50.1% in five games this month. They are also one of the best rebounding teams in the league, averaging 44.1 a contest.

The Kings suffered their sixth loss in seven games Tuesday against Golden State. Sacramento allowed the Warriors to shoot 53.1% from the floor and their opponents are making 46.2% of their 3-pointers in the last seven games. The Kings defense will have tough time to stop the dominant Jazz offence.

We strongly expect the Jazz to win this one big. Easy winner here.

Play Utah Jazz, ATS

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