

Jim Barnes Journal

March 15, 2019

Duke-Carolina Collide for Third Time, Blue Devils and Williamson Favored

North Carolina has beaten Duke twice this season. The first engagement is when the Devils lost All-Everything Zion Williamson before the game had much of a start.

His sneaker split, resulting in a knee sprain that kept him on the sideline until last night.

During his absence Duke fell from No.2 down to No 8, a rebound to either 1 or 2 in the polls is next.

The Blue Devils barely covered an 11-point line last night, edging Syracuse 84-72. Williamson was colossal in the opening half, tiring as the contest ended.

Carolina revenged a home court rout by Louisville earlier in the season, stopping the Cardinals 84-72. (The Heels were favored by eight.)

As a seven point underdog, Nebraska pinned Maryland 69-61 and Minnesota (a small dog) surprised Penn State 77-72.

Iowa State was impressive in an 83-66 romp over Baylor, beating the spread by 14-points.

West Virginia opened a giant lead over Big-12 co-champ Texas Tech, then had to scramble in the closing minute for a 79-44 upset win. Tech was a 14-point pick and Vegas pegged the Red Raiders to

coast to a 75-61 triumph.

(Yes, I turn Vegas odds into a projected final. This is one of the major improvements in the ODI process. Conversion is very easy, only brainless people are unable to follow the steps - such as one White House occupant. I won't focus on names because that would be "uncouth" as a journalist.)

In an SEC survival game, Florida is still in the Final Four picture after a 66-50 victory over Arkansas. Today might not be as good.

Washington was far from impressive in its 78-75 conquest of Southern Cal, and Utah State's offense exploded for 91 points in its eight point margin win versus New Mexico.

Two lesser games were dynamic one-siders.

UL-Monroe was picked to defeat Coastal Carolina 77-76, winning 80-57 or covering the line by 29.

As an eight point choice, Northern Colorado was grounded by Southern Utah 83-64; this is 27-points better than anticipated.

A four game card in the American Athletic begins at noon with Houston expected to down Connecticut.

Here is a breakdown on forecasts for remainder of games.

AMERICAN ATHLETIC

Houston 74 Connecticut 61
Central Florida 76 Memphis 69
Cincinnati 73 Sou. Methodist 60
Temple 68 Wichita State 67

ATLANTIC COAST

Virginia 69 Florida State 63
North Carolina 75 Duke 73

ATLANTIC TEN

Va. Commonwealth 68 R. Island 60
St. Bonaventure 64 Geo. Mason 60
Davidson 75 St. Joseph's 72
Dayton 69 St. Louis 67

BIG EAST

Villanova 70 Xavier 68
Marquette 73 Seton Hall 67

BIG SKY

Weber State 75 Montana 75
East. Wash. 75 Southern Utah 71

ATLANTIC TEN

Michigan St. 76 Ohio State 61
Wisconsin 80 Nebraska 58

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Purdue 78 Minnesota 63
Michigan 71 Iowa 57

BIG-12

Iowa State 65 Kansas St. 63
Kansas 78 West Virginia 68

BIG SKY

Santa Barbara 72 Fullerton 66
Weber State 75 Montana 75

CONFERENCE USA

UA-Birmingham 66 Old Dominion 63
Southern Miss 72 W. Kentucky 64

MID-AMERICAN

Buffalo 89 Central Michigan 77
Bowling Green 76 Northern Illinois 74

MID-EASTERN

Norfolk St. 80 Howard 75
NC. Central 67 N. C. A&T 67

MOUNTAIN WEST

Nevada 77 San Diego St. 66
Utah State 73 Fresno St. 70

PACIFIC-12

Washington 67 Colorado 65
Oregon 68 Arizona State 66

SOUTHEASTERN

Louisiana St. 70 Florida 67
Auburn 78 South Carolina 70
Kentucky 75 Alabama 64
Tennessee 76 Mississippi St. 71

SOUTHLAND

Sam Houston 71 New Orleans 66
SE Louisiana 67 Abilene Christian 6

SW ATHLETIC

Prairie View 74 Grambling 70
Texas Southern 82 Alabama St. 73

SUN BELT

South Alabama 72 Texas St. 69
UL-Monroe 80 Ga. Southern 77

WESTERN ATHLETIC

New Mexico St. 75 Rio Grande 65
Utah Valley 74 Grand Canyon 73

The size of **The Journal** is dependent on the number of games being played on any given day.

The current thought running through my mind is updating on a daily basis only during football and basketball season. Baseball is easy to track but has little interest as far as I can tell.

This would permit advanced information and analysis to be published on a monthly basis - and not tied to any single sport.

The website acts as a store front and entering will get you to products that I either supplying, creating or exist only in wishful thinking.

Dallas Keuchel Not Close to Terms, Still Wants More than 1-Year Pact

Starting free agency hurler Dallas Keuchel has a problem, not only is he seeking top dollar but also a longer term contract than has been tendered to date. Keuchel realizes owners are reluctant to offer much when a pitcher is on the wrong side of 30 and has a fastball under 90 mph.

Relief pitcher Craig Kimbrel, with more to offer, may wait until June before talking seriously about a signing. He appears to be in no hurry.

NBA Today

San Antonio is seeking its seventh victory when the Spurs face the Knicks tonight. In spite of seven wins in 10-games, San Antonio is still 7.5-games behind Western Conference leader Golden State. New York is in dreaded slump, only two wins in 10-outings.

Milwaukee expects to beat Miami tonight, increasing their 2.5-game lead to three over idle Toronto.

The Bucks are winning 75% of their games, the best start of any I franchise in the NBA.

LA Lakers 112 Detroit 102
Philadelphia 119 Sacramento 108
Washington 117 Charlotte 114
Houston 119 Phoenix 105
Portland 120 New Orleans 116
Milwaukee 113 Miami 106
San Antonio 116 New York 100
LA Clippers 120 Chicago 108

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