

Bad Break/Good Break Log & explanation

Overall (2-15-1)

Week 2 (0-2)

Utah – SJSU

Utah outgained SJSU 499-291 (we called for a 400-266 advantage), but suffered some horrible luck. In the 1st half alone Utah coughed it up twice, missed 2 FGs, and turned it over on downs when they failed to punch it in the end zone on 4th and goal at the 1. Utah won by 10 (as a 13.5 pt), so any one of those 5 things (in the 1st half alone) would have pushed us over the number.

Oregon State – UNLV

Oregon State looked pretty good leading 20-3 late in the 3rd quarter, before giving up two 4th quarter TDs to barely escape with the victory. OSU's defense allowed only 310 yards (we projected 353) and allowed 30% of those in two drives (13 plays) in the 4th quarter, protecting a 3 score lead.

Week 3 (0-1)

BG-Marshall

Got a little unlucky in the BG game. Marshall ripped off a 1 play 80 yard rush, followed by a BG fumble on their 1st possession (after the kick off) setting Marshall up on BGs 17 (led to a FG). BG totaled 393 yds offense (4.8 yppl which is exactly what we projected), which is near impossible to equate to only 10 pts. That is a Yards per point (yppt) ratio of 39:1...the national average is closer to 15:1 (which would have yielded closer to 24-28 pts). Marshall totaled only 346 yards, if you remove the 80 yard run they totaled only 266 yards (which based on 57 total plays (less the 1 big hitter) yielded 4.67 yppl (we projected 4.7 yppl). Given all this, these teams performed nearly identical to what we expected, and on the average should have yielded a score closer to what we projected.

Week 5 (0-2)

Memphis-UCF

Memphis was down 1 in the in the 4th Q and missed a FG to take the lead. That was followed by an INT two drives later giving UCF the ball inside the Memphis 35 (for the 2nd time that game), and a TO on downs the next drive. Those 4 events (two INTs inside their own 40, the missed FG, and TO on downs) led to 13 UCF points and -3 Memphis points, or a 16 point swing(which would have made the game 17-16 Memphis).

NMSU - SDSU

SDSU scored 17 points in the final 7 minutes of the game to win 34-17 despite having just a 252-234 total offense advantage. On top of that NMSU turned the ball over 4 times (to one for SDSU) including one fumble that was returned for a SDSU.

Week 6 (0-1-1)

How on earth either Arizona or Purdue not only didn't win, but by a big margin is dumbfounding. For those of you who aren't night owls or subscribers to the Big Ten network, here is how it all went down...if you can fault us after reading this so be it.

Purdue-Minnesota

Purdue lost to Minnesota 35-20 despite outgaining them by a 402-281 yard margin (we predicted 412-337)...we were ultimately done in by this comedy of errors:

1. Purdue throws an INT that was returned to the 2 yd line setting up a TD (2 Yd drive)
2. Purdue had a 7 YD punt (set up a TD on 31 yd drive)
3. Purdue had a fumble on a kick return (set up a TD on a 30 YD drive)
4. Purdue had a blocked FG returned for a TD (Special Teams TD)

That gave them 28 points on exactly 63 yards offense. To give you a sense of how bad they really were in this game, Minnesota had TWO drives all game of over 5 plays, and only ONE drive all game of over 40 yards. After LWs Purdue showing (6TOs) I was a little worried about some turnovers, but even this is a little much for me.

Arizona - Washington

And to top that off, Arizona outgains Washington 461-256 (we predicted 424-340). Washington scores 2 touchdowns in the final 3 minutes to win, including a Pick 6 off a deflected foot? You have got to be kidding me...

That brings our total record on bad luck games to 0-6-1 this year...which has to turn around sometime. We are now 19-13-1 (58%), and if we just went 50-50 on those bad luck games should be 22-10-1, which would be 67%.

Week 7 (1-3)

1. Kansas -10 - #4 – Kansas outgained Colorado 423 (5.6yppl) – 322 (4.7 yppl) which is pretty close to what we anticipated (482 & 6.7yppl for KU and 308 & 4.3 yppl for CU). The difference was ultimately two 2nd Quarter KU TOs that set Colorado up on the KU 4 and 1 yd line...14 pts on 5 yards total offense.
2. UCF 14 - #4 – UCF missed a 30 yard FG on the opening drive, and threw an INT on 3 and GL from the 6 (Miami scored a FG on the ensuing possession) which ultimately did us in. We were dead on in our assessment calling for 28-30 for Miami (380yds) with Miami scoring 27 on 363 yards. We also called for 17-20 for UCF which had converted some points on those two drives above would have been nearly dead on (6-10 points for a 13-17 final).

3. North Texas – pk - #4- The NTU QB goes down for the game in Q2, 4 NTU fumbles (2 lost) led to an 80-60 play advantage and a 30 point 2nd quarter point explosion...Despite a -20 play disadvantage and a back up QB NTU was still in the game, NTU scored the go ahead midway thru the 4th and looked in good shape until an FAU score late in the 4th. We projected a 6.5-6.0 yppl advantage for NTU. The actual was an 8.6-6.6 advantage for NTU, so we were right that NTU should have more success moving the football. To give you some perspective, Ohio who won 28-7 owned a 2.3 yppl advantage over Mi(Oh) (6.1-3.8 yppl), and cruised. I can't think of another game I've ever seen with such a disparity in production fail to translate to the final score
4. Fresno St – 19.5 - #3 – We escaped with the W, despite only 421 yards offense (we projected 500+), and frankly where a bit lucky to escape with the W

Week 8 (0-2)

ULM - UK

ULM outgains UK 377-330 (we called for a slight UK edge of 362-349), and were pretty accurate in our call for 33 from UK (they had 36). I am still scratching my head as to how ULM manages only 13 points despite the similar production to UK and what we projected. The below is what happened,

Legitimate ULM Scoring Drives ended with no points

Q1 – TO on downs at the UK 10 after a 10 play sustained drive

Q2 - End of the half, ULM moves it down to the UK 4, and misses a could End zone shots and mismanages the clock to not even get a FG attempt

Q3- ULM misses a FG attempt after stalling a drive at the UK 16

Q4 – two meaningful INTs in UK territory (UK 37 & 36). They threw another INT to end the game, but wasn't meaningful at that point.

That is a 3 drives in the red zone that equated to 0 points. The most you would expect is 21, the least 9. Give them 1 TD and 2 FGs, and that is 13 points left on the field (not including the 2 Q4 INTs) and this game ends 36-26 (we called for 33-26, which if you consider the impact of the Punt Return for a TD for UK, means this should have been closer to a 29-26 game). A loss is a loss, but I am not sure how I could have expected the above to occur, and am pretty confident as skewed as the final score was, we were on the right side in this game.

UAB – Marshall

When I first looked at this score I just assumed we were off in our analysis, than I looked at the box score and drive logs (something I'd recommend everyone do every week to determine for themselves where they were correct in their analysis and got unlucky or incorrect in their analysis and got lucky).

UAB outgained Marshall 7.1 yppl-5.9 yppl, and was only outgained in total yards 450-432. UAB had 3 drives end on downs in scoring territory (inside the Marshall 35), and was penalized for 135 yards, which

is nearly unheard of (average per game is in the 30-50 yards range depending on the teams (even the most penalized teams LY averaged only 75yppg in penalties).

I am still not sure how you can compile 432 yards @ 7.1 yppl and manage just 7 points. As a comparison, one of our Recommended play Oregon, totaled 416 yards @ 6.7 yppl and racked up 42 points, or a couple others not quite as similar: Idaho 494 @ 8.1 yppl = 45 points or Cincinnati (Free play) 468 @ 8.2 = 41 points).

Week 9 (0-1)

We were 4-3 on this week's recommended plays, which could have been a little better had it not been for an INT returned for a TD with 1:20 left to go in the ULM-Troy game. UL-M (+14) held Troy to just 50 yds rushing and was only outgained 428-396 (including holding a 22-21 1st down advantage and 7 minute time of possession advantage), but lost 42- 21 largely b/c of a -3 TO margin (including the INT with 1:20 to go that was returned for a TD cause the L). We called for a 32-26 game (459-394 advantage for Troy) which if you take away the pick 6 was pretty close (would have been 35-21, which if you consider the likely affects of the additional 3 TOs means we were nearly dead on).

Week 10 (1-3)

It was a frustrating week going just 2-4 on our recommended plays, and again being the beneficiary of some horrible luck. We had an easy winner on our #1 recommended play as Nevada destroyed SJSU 62-7, outgaining them 655-258 (including over 500 on the ground, which we called for them to top 400 yds rushing). We again suffered some horrible luck this week on our 4 Losses:

1. #2 recommended play TAMU (-3): TAMU was up 21-10 at half (which should have been more as they had a TAMU turnover on downs at the 1 yard line on the 1st drive of the game), and up 6 with 3 minutes to go in the game despite a 2nd half that included 1 missed FG and two stalled drives in the red zone that settled for FGs (one of which on the 3 yd line).
2. #3 recommend play Army (+17): AF wins 35-7 despite only 292 yards (of which 75 came on one play). The game was 7-7 with AFs only points coming via a punt return TD, long pass play (75yd) and some really unfortunate short field possessions (AF gained 4.7 yppl which if you take out the one long pass play was much worse, 3.6 yppl), which is very close to our projections of 262 yds @ 4.0 yppl. Army gained 236 yds (4.0 yppl) which is actually better than the 213 (3.7 yppl) we projected. To give you a sense of how unusual 35 pts on just 292 yds total offense is, here are the production of a couple other of our recommended plays this week:
 - a. SJSU: 7 pts – 258 yds (4.9 yppl)
 - b. UNC: 19 pts – 311 yds (3.9 yppl)
 - c. Oklahoma -3 pts – 325 yds (3.7 yppl)

Oklahoma should have had a little more (probably close to 13-17), but all in all I think it is pretty obvious our analysis was correct, and we were on the right side, just horribly unlucky

3. #4 recommend play Duke (+10)- we were in great shape with a 6-6 score late in the 3rd quarter before this comedy of errors occurred:
 - a. Duke picks off UNC returning it to the UNC 37, looking good to go up at least 9-6 heading into the 4th quarter. 2 plays later Duke throws a pick that is returned to the INT sets up 20, 3 and out later – UNC FG and 9-6 UNC lead to end the 3rd quarter...at minimum a 6 point swing
 - b. Duke TO on downs at the UNC 41 which leads to a TD
 - c. UNC Punt return to the Duke 28 yard line which leads to a FG with less than 4 minutes to go in the game to push it over the 10 pt total.

We feel very confident in our analysis of this game, and that we were on the correct side and with any justice should have been up 9-6 heading into the 4th.

We did get a little fortunate in the Nebraska game as their O struggled much more than we anticipated, however the D held up as we suspected. OU missed 3 FGs, although all 3 where 40+ attempts with 2 of the 3 being from 45+ so they were anything but certain. OU also had 5 Int, however 3 of them occurred in the 4th Q w/ Nebraska already up 10-3. The two other INTs set up Nebraska on short field leading to their 10 points, but to be fair Nebraska also fumbled the ball on the OU 21 which effectively erased at least 3 maybe 7 points as well, so the net effect of TOs wasn't as bad as one might think.