

Free Picks – August 26th Weekend

We've got two baseball plays and one football play for you this week, and both of them have excellent value. Be sure to check out the promotion from GoSportsBet below, where our players can get part of their wager rebated if they play these picks at GoSportsBet and they lose.

The Philadelphia Phillies head to Arizona tonight to face a team that is coming off a four-game sweep at the hands of the Mets. The Diamondbacks figure to be at a low point emotionally, and Dbacks starter Brad Halsey has been downright awful against the Phillies this year. The summary of the game on MLB.com pretty much sums everything up: "Philadelphia started [Halsey] on his month-long skid in June when he scored six runs in six innings against him in Philly. Brett Myers, on the other hand, comes into the game on the heels of a strong performance. The righty tossed a complete game six-hitter against Pittsburgh on Saturday, allowing just one run in the process." In addition, Philadelphia is coming off a rest day and two wins before that, so their bats should be awake and ready to take advantage of a Diamondbacks team that is reeling. All signs point to the Phillies in this one. **Take Philadelphia.**

The Seattle Mariners send teenage phenom Felix Hernandez to the hill to take on El Duque and the White Sox tonight in Seattle. Chicago has lost the last three of El Duque's starts, posting a 5.21 ERA over that stretch, whereas Hernandez has put up a shocking 0.56 ERA at Safeco Field since his major league debut. Four earned runs in 29 innings? Eight innings per game in each of his last three starts? This kid is starting to remind baseball fans of Dwight Gooden in the 80s. Take him while he's hot. The Mariners would almost never be favorites against the White Sox, but today, they're worth it, especially at home. **Take the Mariners.**

Finally, we turn to the gridiron, where plenty of emotional factors go into our decision to back Tampa Bay against Miami on Saturday. First of all, it seems strange to lay points on a team that is 0-3 in the preseason as the Dolphins are. The Fish have been evaluating their quarterbacks and will need to find success in their passing game considering that they managed a paltry 43 rushing yards last week against the Steelers. Call it bad luck that just when they have a home game and need to pass well, a hurricane comes through to mix things up. Conditions could be less than stellar, which will only help the Bucs. Lastly, coach Jon Gruden has said that his starters will play at least a half, and after that, the game will be decided by the players in roster battles for playing time. Look for a keen desire to win coming from Tampa Bay. This team wants to prove to the world that they need to be taken seriously. **Take Tampa, plus the points.**

GoSportsBet continues the promotion they launched last week for our subscribers where if you play these weekly picks at their site and lose, they will give you a partial rebate of your wager. Check out <http://www.gosportsbet.com/promos/specials/insiders5.php> for more info.

As always, these tips are merely suggestions and are meant for entertainment purposes.

