

## Free Picks – January 20th Weekend

YET AGAIN, another winning week – if you've been paying attention, we're on quite a tear in January. If you listened to us, you'd have known that the Carolina / Chicago total was WAY too low, and banged the over. We also predicted that the Atlanta Thrashers would go to town on the pitiful St. Louis Blues, which they did, winning by two goals and giving you great value.

If there's any sixth seed that can win three consecutive road games, it's the Pittsburgh Steelers. This gritty bunch, led by the fearsome Bill Cowher, will throw a diabolical array of blitzes at the Broncos, which we expect will harass a QB who has only completed 50% of his passes on the season when he's in the pocket. Let's remember that the Broncos are nowhere near as deep at receiver as the Colts – Rod Smith, Ashley Lelie, and that's it. Look for the Broncos to run, and look for the Steelers to show the kind of defense that only allowed 85.5 run yards this season. We're liking a team that's been here before, and coming off a huge emotional road win at Indy, will carry that momentum through to the Super Bowl – **Play the Steelers, + 3.5.**

We're liking the Dallas Mavericks, winners of their last three, against the LA Clippers Friday night. These Mavericks have impressed a lot of people in the Western Conference, and have played extremely well on the road this season, where they're 14-6. The Clippers had a huge let down against Phoenix, where they blew a chance to show they're among the true contenders in the West. Nowitzki has been playing great against the western conference this season, and we predict he'll have a big night against the Clip Ship. **Play Dallas.**

We're on another roll with our Puckline Poundings, as Atlanta has banked two goal wins in each of our last two plays. We're feeling extremely confident this week, as we bank against one of our favorite targets, the St. Louis Blues. The Blues, never a team to feel confident about, took an emotional OT loss last night, and have to be discouraged as the head into Columbus for a back-to-back. Columbus has shown signs of life recently, beating the Florida Panthers and the New York Rangers, whereas the Blues have just one win in their last ten games. We're going to go with the rested home team in this one. **Play Columbus on the Puckline.**

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