THE PLATINUM SHEET

FRIDAY UPDATE: AUGUST 31, 2012

One of the resources utilized by handicappers is the public betting information offered by a variety of sources. Leading the way is Sportsbook.com, which offers up this data on both its .net and .com Web sites. Boasting massive sports betting customer databases, Sportsbook.com is able to present statistics that are accurately reflective of public sentiment, and hence useful to the handicapper studying them. These betting trends tell what percentage of bets is being placed on each side of a point spread and total.

This data can be used to profit from. Most "sharps," when given the option, choose to be on the side of the bookmaker, or opposite that of the betting public. However, that side doesn't always win, and some bettors believe in the theory that there is "strength in numbers"—that group would rather follow the big money. By following these betting trends consistently, you'll be able to form your own opinion. Here's a look at some of this week's college football line movement and betting trends so that you can see which way the public is leaning heading into the weekend.

08/31/2012 7:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
151 TENNESSEE U	-4	-3	57%	51%
152 NORTH CAROLINA STATE	53	51½	43%	49%

08/31/2012 8:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
153 BOISE STATE	45½	46½	33%	77%
154 MICHIGAN STATE	-7	-7	67%	23%

08/31/2012 10:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
155 SAN JOSE STATE	52	51	8%	63%
156 STANFORD	-25½	-24	92%	37%

09/01/2012 9:00 AM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
157 NOTRE DAME	-16½	-15	44%	5%
158 NAVY	57	55	56%	95%

09/01/2012 12:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
159 MARSHALL	64½	68	6%	93%
160 WEST VIRGINIA	-24	-25½	94%	7%

09/01/2012 12:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
161 OHIO	44½	44½	14%	56%
162 PENN STATE	-7	-6½	86%	44%

09/01/2012 12:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
163 NORTHWESTERN	-1	53½	80%	89%
164 SYRACUSE	54	PK	20%	11%

09/01/2012 12:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
165 MIAMI OHIO	48	48½	11%	92%
166 OHIO STATE	-22½	-24½	89%	8%

09/01/2012 12:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
167 WESTERN MICHIGAN	50½	50	22%	18%
168 ILLINOIS	-9½	-10	78%	82%

09/01/2012 3:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
169 TULSA	-1	-1½	27%	13%
170 IOWA STATE	52	50½	73%	87%

09/01/2012 3:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
171 NEVADA	55½	57	23%	88%
172 CALIFORNIA	-11½	-11	77%	12%

09/01/2012 3:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
173 SOUTHERN MISS	52½	53	19%	79%
174 NEBRASKA	-17½	-19½	81%	22%

09/01/2012 3:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
175 MIAMI FLORIDA	44	-2½	87%	11%
176 BOSTON COLLEGE	-1	44	13%	89%

09/01/2012 3:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
177 IOWA	-6½	-10	85%	14%
178 NORTHERN ILLINOIS	50½	50	15%	86%

09/01/2012 4:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
179 COLORADO	-5	-6½	88%	61%
180 COLORADO STATE	47	47	12%	39%

09/01/2012 7:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
189 CLEMSON	-3	-3½	47%	41%
190 AUBURN	55½	55½	53%	59%

09/01/2012 8:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
193 MICHIGAN	45½	47	43%	64%
194 ALABAMA	-12	-14	57%	36%

09/01/2012 8:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
195 RUTGERS	-17½	-20½	88%	42%
196 TULANE	48	48	12%	58%

09/01/2012 10:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
197 OKLAHOMA	-31	-30	91%	92%
198 UTEP	62½	62½	9%	8%

09/01/2012 10:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
199 TOLEDO	61	62	48%	86%
200 ARIZONA U	-10½	-11	52%	14%

09/01/2012 10:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
201 SAN DIEGO STATE	60½	56½	4%	22%
202 WASHINGTON U	-14½	-14½	96%	78%

09/01/2012 12:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
203 TROY	-5½	-6	91%	79%
204 UAB	62½	62½	9%	21%

09/01/2012 7:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
205 FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	53	54	56%	85%
206 DUKE	-4	-2½	44%	15%

09/02/2012 3:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
211 KENTUCKY	42½	42	44%	30%
212 LOUISVILLE	-14½	-13	56%	70%

09/02/2012 6:30 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
213 SMU	58	58	49%	83%
214 BAYLOR	-11	-9	51%	17%

09/03/2012 8:00 PM EDT	Open	Current	Side	Total
215 GEORGIA TECH	48½	48½	54%	39%
216 VIRGINIA TECH	-7½	-7	46%	61%

KEY:

Open Opening Line Current Current Line

Side % of bets on each side of line

Total Top line = % of bets on over

KEY INJURIES

ALABAMA WR Amari Cooper is nursing a foot injury but is expected to play Saturday against Michigan . . . RB Eddie Lacy, the new front-runner in the backfield following Trent Richardson's departure to the NFL, is recovering from a sprained ankle and knee but is expected to play . . . WR Bradley Sylve broke his hand during practice and is considered questionable . . . WR Chris Black suffered a shoulder injury during practice earlier this month that required surgery, which will sideline him until mid-November

... MICHIGAN WR Roy Roundtree is recovering from recent knee surgery but is expected to play against Alabama . . . ARIZONA CB Jonathan McKnight is nursing a minor shoulder injury and is expected to play against Toledo . . . DL Dan Pettinato sustained a leg injury during the teams first scrimmage and is considered questionable . . . DL Kirifi Taula is dealing with an undisclosed injury and is considered questionable . . . John Werner of the Waco Tribune-Herald posted to his Twitter account on Tuesday afternoon that **BAYLOR** projected starting nose guard Kaeron Johnson will miss the upcoming season after back surgery after missing most of training camp trying to get back into the lineup, a development the San Antonio Express stated "could have seismic effects for Baylor this season" . . . BOSTON COLLEGE featured tailback Rolandan Finch, the team's leading rusher last season, sustained a sprained left foot in practice earlier this month and is considered questionable to play Saturday against Miami . . . COLORADO WR Paul Richardson decided on Wednesday to be a redshirt rather than rush back from a knee injury suffered in the spring . . . PENN STATE TE Garry Gilliam is nursing a lower-leg injury but is expected to play Saturday against

... TULANE RB Orleans Darkwa sustained an injured ankle during practice and has been sidelined for much of fall practices with a high ankle sprain; he is considered questionable for Saturday's game against Rutgers... SYRACUSE WR Alec Lemon says he plans to be on the field Saturday against Northwestern despite being limited in practice for most of this month because of an unspecified leg ailment (Lemon set a single-season receptions mark for the Orange in 2011 with 68.)

Ohio . . . WR Shawney Kersey is dealing with a left ankle injury but is expected to play