College Basketball

BOOK CONVICTION SPREADS

Spreads | Totals →

Friday, November 13, 2026 · generated 5:02 PM ET ·

9	0	0	9
GAMES SCREENED	OFFICIAL PICKS	STILL OPEN	LOCKED AT TIP-OFF

What Book Conviction measures — feeds, filters and scoring

A book that holds most of the money on one side should move its number *toward* that side. When it does the opposite — shading the price to make the popular side cheaper while already carrying that exposure — it is telling you its own number disagrees with its customers. That is what **Book Conviction** measures: how hard a book is leaning against its own money, priced in the margins that actually decide games.

Method. Three free feeds, none of them paid for and none of them interchangeable:

- **Action Network** — consensus % of money and % of tickets, plus a timestamped history of *both the number and the price*, at seven books individually rather than only the consensus.
- **DraftKings** — DraftKings' own handle % and bet %, independent of the consensus above, which is what makes agreement between them worth anything.
- **Pinnacle** — the sharp reference price. It takes sharp action and moves on it instead of shading to balance a public book's exposure, so it answers a different question: not where the money is, but where the number should be.

What gets flagged. A game needs at least 3,000 tracked bets — on thin markets the two splits feeds disagree by a median of roughly 30 points of money share, so their percentages there cannot be trusted — and both feeds must agree on which side holds the money, with at least **66% of the money** on it in each feed. At 51/49 a book holds no meaningful exposure either way: it is balanced and collecting vig from both sides, so moving the number "against the money" there is not a statement, it is noise. Then either the number moved against that money in the last 3 days, or the *price* did by at least half a point's worth: a book shades the vig before it moves the line, and a spread sitting still at −3 while the price runs −110 to −125 has moved. **What scores it.** The move is scored point for point: college basketball margins do not cluster, so there are no key numbers to weight it by. It is then scaled by how lopsided the money is, how much of it there is, whether the play is getting a better number than Pinnacle, and whether several books moved together within half an hour — the market being hit in parallel rather than one book drifting. That produces the 0–10 Conviction score. **The best 5 at 2.5 or above are official picks**, each decided as its game tips; everything else is listed and graded but kept out of the headline record.

Official picks — Top 5 · 2.5+

No official pick today. 1 spread cleared both filters but none reached 2.5 conviction, so none of them count towards the record. They are listed below.

Also flagged — outside the official 5

Real signals that did not make the official 5, either because they fell short of 2.5 or because 5 stronger plays were ahead of them when they tipped. Listed and graded, but they do not count towards the headline record.

Virginia Cavaliers at Maryland Terrapins

FINAL · LOCKED

Spread · tip-off 8:00 PM ET · 8,436 bets tracked

MD +5.5

Bettors have put **67%** of the money on UVA (Action Network) and **70%** at DraftKings, yet the book moved its number **1 pt** against the flow. The book is pricing UVA -5.5 cheaper while already holding most of that side's money. **3 books** moved together inside thirty minutes, 23h ago — coordinated action, not one book wandering.

OPEN → NOW	MONEY %	TICKET %	MOVE 3D / 1D	SOURCES AGREE	PINNACLE	STEAM
4.5 → 5.5	67 / 70	80 / 81	+1 / -1	Yes	6 (-0.5)	3 books · 23h ago

Nov 12 · 6 | Nov 12 · 6.5 | Nov 12 · 6 | Nov 12 · 5.5 | Nov 13 · 6.5 | Nov 13 · 5.5

Tipped off — frozen at the last pre-tip reading, 2026-11-14 00:01 UTC. This is the record of the pick.

Board changes

Plays that moved on or off the board between the first time they fired and tip-off. The board is re-read every hour, and a play that fell short of the filters by its last pre-tip reading is not a pick: it is shown here with how it would have done, but **not counted** in any record.

MATCHUP	TIMELINE (ET)	OUTCOME
OSU @ CONN	5:01 PM **Flagged** OSU +12.5 (1.3, money 72% / 92%) 6:01 PM **Off** — money under 66% (AN 65% / DK 83%)	**OSU +12.5** LOSS not counted
UVA @ MD	12:01 PM **Flagged** MD +6.5 (1.9, money 70% / 86%) 4:01 PM **Official** MD +6.5 (2.8, money 76% / 80%) 5:01 PM **Flagged** MD +6.5 — score fell to 2, under 2.5 6:01 PM **Off** — money under 66% (AN 71% / DK 65%) 7:01 PM **Flagged** MD +5.5 (2.4, money 67% / 70%)	WIN on the board at tip-off
ARIZ @ AUB	2:01 PM **Flagged** AUB +2.5 (2, money 68% / 77%) 4:01 PM **Off** — money under 66% (AN 63% / DK 54%)	**AUB +2.5** LOSS not counted
DEP @ NW	5:01 PM **Official** DEP +1.5 (2.6, money 73% / 86%) 6:01 PM **Off** — money under 66% (AN 64% / DK 86%)	**DEP +1.5** WIN not counted

Results — spreads

MATCHUP	MARKET	PICK	CLV	FINAL	RESULT
UVA @ MD	spread	**MD +5.5**	+0.37 (+1 line / -0.63 price)	87-83	WIN

Graded against the number frozen before tip-off, not a later one. This slate: **1W - 0L (100%)** · **1 of 1** beat the close, averaging **+0.37** points.

By conviction

BAND	CONVICTION	PICKS	RECORD	BEAT THE CLOSE
High	5.5 +	2	0W - 2L (0%)	0/2 (-0.15)
Medium	3.5 – 5.5	3	2W - 1L (67%)	1/3 (+0)
Low	under 3.5	6	5W - 1L (83%)	2/6 (+0.26)

These bands are the test, and they are not the board. Closing line value is readable within hours, so if conviction means anything the **5.5+** band should beat the close more often than the **under 3.5** one — an answer available in weeks, where win/loss at this volume would take seasons. The cutoffs sit near the thirds of where the score actually lands, so the three groups are comparable in size; they were cut on football's record and want recutting once this sport has one of its own.

Which picks get **published** is a separate question: the best 5 confirmed plays of each slate at 2.5 or above are official, decided as each game tips. Everything else is still listed and still graded.

CLV is closing line value: how far the market moved *after* the play fired, in points, from the side taken. Positive means the market came to the play and a reader acting on it got a better bet than the market settled on. It is the more honest measure of this screen — win/loss on a handful of games says nothing either way, while consistently beating the close is what an edge actually looks like.

It is measured in two halves, because a market moves two ways. **Line** is the number itself. **Price** is the juice on that number, converted to points at the same rate the screen uses to read a price move as a line move — roughly 3.6 points of implied probability to a point of spread, and 2.4 to a point of total. A pick taken at −3 −110 that closes −3 −125 cost the book a dime, and counting only the line would score that as nothing at all.

The close is DraftKings' actual closing number, and both ends of the comparison are read from the same book — the standing gap between two books is not closing line value. Entries marked ***** are measured against this screen's own last pre-tip reading instead, which is a proxy for the close rather than the close. Picks recorded before this was tracked show "—".

Full board — spreads

MATCHUP	ET	BETS	OPEN	NOW	MONEY ON	AN $%	AN T%	DK $%	DK T%	7D	3D	1D		
ARIZ @ AUB	9:00	9,683	-1.5	**2.5**	AUB	53	41	32	33	+4	+4	0		FINAL
UVA @ MD	8:00	8,436	4.5	**5.5**	UVA	67	80	70	81	+1	+1	-1	2.4	FINAL
OSU @ CONN	7:30	7,487	-8.5	**-12.5**	CONN	65	64	90	78	-4	-4	-2		FINAL
UGA @ UNC	7:00	6,750	-3.5	**-3.5**	UGA	52	50	14	29	0	0	+1		FINAL
GTWN @ CLEM	6:00	5,487	-4.5	**-4.5**	GTWN	59	60	33	45	0	0	-1		FINAL
DEP @ NW	9:00	5,139	1.5	**-1.5**	DEP	65	64	13	38	-3	-3	-3		FINAL
XAV @ MSST	9:00	4,887	1.5	**3.5**	XAV	56	42	86	80	+2	+2	0		FINAL
PITT @ BUT	6:30	4,781	-2.5	**-3**	PITT	73	60	61	60	-0.5	-0.5	+0.5		FINAL
HALL @ ALA	9:00	3,387	-13.5	**-17.5**	ALA	62	70	92	77	-4	-4	-1		FINAL

Movement columns are the change in the home spread over each window. Teal = moved against the money (the signal); orange = moved with it. **AN** = Action Network consensus, **DK** = DraftKings. Percentages are for the side named in "Money

on”.

Below the minimum — not screened

Games that never reached 3,000 tracked bets before tip-off. For a game that has started, the count is the last one before tip-off.

GAME	TIP-OFF ET	STATUS	TRACKED BETS
UWF @ CLEV	3:00 PM	Final	2,090
AMCC @ FSU	5:00 PM	Final	1,443
UNA @ MIA	5:00 PM	Final	2,014
BRY @ RUTG	6:00 PM	Final	1,221
APP @ CHAR	7:00 PM	Final	1,979
CBAP @ UTM	7:00 PM	Final	0
CHAT @ ELON	7:00 PM	Final	2,211
CLMB @ BUCK	7:00 PM	Final	1,489
FIU @ FGCU	7:00 PM	Final	1,252
HARV @ GW	7:00 PM	Final	1,852
IONA @ HOF	7:00 PM	Final	2,150
KSU @ EKY	7:00 PM	Final	0
LIU @ FOR	7:00 PM	Final	1,115
MBU @ VMI	7:00 PM	Final	0
MRMK @ FLA	7:00 PM	Final	2,302
MRST @ LEH	7:00 PM	Final	974
MSM @ VT	7:00 PM	Final	1,135
NAU @ UK	7:00 PM	Final	1,539
OHIO @ PUR	7:00 PM	Final	2,181
PV @ VAN	7:00 PM	Final	1,317
SHSU @ ILL	7:00 PM	Final	2,499
TNST @ TENN	7:00 PM	Final	2,635
TROY @ NCST	7:00 PM	Final	807
UNI @ MSU	7:00 PM	Final	2,973
YALE @ NE	7:00 PM	Final	2,852
NCCU @ LIB	7:30 PM	Final	711
SDAK @ DRKE	7:30 PM	Final	1,605
SEMO @ MTU	7:30 PM	Final	949
ALCN @ TARL	8:00 PM	In progress	812

CARK @ ARK	8:00 PM	In progress	2,090
FDU @ OKLA	8:00 PM	In progress	676
GASO @ UCF	8:00 PM	In progress	1,408
ILST @ NDSU	8:00 PM	In progress	2,433
MILW @ TCU	8:00 PM	In progress	1,141
SIUE @ DUKE	8:00 PM	In progress	2,186
TXSO @ MURR	8:00 PM	In progress	984
USM @ TXST	8:00 PM	In progress	1,625
WRST @ SAM	8:00 PM	In progress	2,776
LINW @ NEOM	8:45 PM	In progress	1,161
BALL @ SMU	9:00 PM	In progress	797
CORB @ EWU	9:00 PM	In progress	0
CP @ IDHO	9:00 PM	In progress	2,206
STAN @ UNLV	9:00 PM	In progress	2,221
ULM @ ASU	9:00 PM	In progress	2,059
CHS @ USD	9:30 PM	In progress	1,625
MVSU @ ORST	9:30 PM	In progress	918
ETAM @ PORT	10:00 PM	Started	923
UCSD @ USU	10:00 PM	Started	1,999
UIC @ SMC	10:00 PM	Started	2,271
ARPB @ CBU	10:30 PM	Upcoming	1,307

How much to trust it

- **Most days produce nothing, and that is the screen working.** Thin markets are dropped before they are screened, both money feeds have to agree, and the line has to have moved against that money. A light board clears none of that: most nights in a thin early-season week produce no pick at all. A screen that always finds something is not a screen.
- **The edge is modest.** The underlying move — reverse line movement — is a real but heavily degraded signal — books price it in now. This screen finds where a market is behaving oddly; it does not establish that the odd behaviour is wrong.
- **Splits are a snapshot,** not a history. Percentages are read at generation time and will drift before tip-off.
- **Ticket shape can conflict.** Where one feed shows money concentrated in few tickets and the other shows it spread across many, the sharp reading is weaker. The per-game cards show both so the disagreement stays visible.
- **Totals move spreads.** A falling total mechanically compresses a spread, so part of a spread move can be a total move wearing a disguise.
- **Check the news.** A line moving against the money is often just an injury the percentages have not caught up with yet.

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