

**DFS Tournament Three And Out Week 17**

**By Bob Harris**

Here we go! It's Week 17. It's season-long championship weekend! You might or might not be in one of those. If not, there's nothing like some tournament action to keep you on top of your game while you're watching the games on Sunday. Also, if so, there's nothing like some tournament action to keep you on top of your game while you're watching the games on Sunday. Okay. I like tournaments. What about it? And as I'm building my tournament lineups this weekend, I want some specific components: Some super-high end potential (even if expensive and chalky); some matchup-based upside (that comes with a bit of momentum); and a low-priced option in a spot to outproduce his price. Is that asking too much? I don't think so. I also want to avoid pricey pieces in unfavorable situations. And guess what? I have found one of all of those things. It's the DFS Tournament Three and Out! Get some!

**I'm In:**

**Christian McCaffrey, RB, San Francisco 49ers (\$9,600 on DraftKings; \$11,000 on FanDuel)**

In a Christmas night game that saw the 49ers struggle in general, McCaffrey delivered once again. He rushed for 103 yards on 14 carries and added six catches for 28 yards. McCaffrey moved into a tie for the NFL lead with Raheem Mostert with his 21st touchdown and leads the NFL with 1,932 yards from scrimmage. He set a franchise record with his eighth straight game with at least 100 yards from scrimmage. This week, the 49ers head to Washington to take on a Commanders defense that's been among the most generous in the NFL. While the perception is -- and it's not incorrect -- this defense is especially beneficial to opposing passing attacks, it's easy to overlook how it's laid down for opposing running backs as well. As NBC Sports' Mark Garcia suggested, the field might not realize the Commanders have allowed an RB1 score in seven consecutive weeks, with six of those returning top five production. Nick Brinkerhoff of The Sporting News put it like this: "McCaffrey is the best and most consistent weapon in fantasy. He's facing a Commanders' defense that has the deadly combination of being bad and also checked out." In fact, Breece Hall just smashed them for 191 total yards and two touchdowns on a day when an otherwise moribund Jets offense put up 30 points. Expensive and chalky? Yes. Also, I'm paying up to eat this chalk in a game where the Niners have an implied total of 30 points.

**Derek Carr, QB, New Orleans Saints (\$5,500 on DraftKings; \$7,000 on FanDuel)**

As Associated Press sports writer Brett Martel noted, excluding some clutch situations when the Saints needed drive-sustaining conversions, the passing game has functioned fairly well in recent weeks. Against the Rams, Carr exceeded 300 yards passing for the sixth time this season -- putting him in tie for the most 300-yard passing games in the NFL this year. He also tossed three scoring strikes, giving him six touchdowns over the last two weeks (and multiple passing touchdowns in each of his last three). On Sunday, he gets a matchup against a Buccaneers defense that has surrendered the most passing yards per game on the season (264.1) and over the past three games (289.0). Garcia

notes that Tampa is allowing the third most DraftKings points per game to opposing wide receivers, primarily struggling to defend alpha-type perimeter receivers. That's good news for Chris Olave and Carr, making the QB a great value with a plus matchup.

**Demarcus Robinson, WR, Los Angeles Rams (\$4,600 on DraftKings; \$6,400 on FanDuel)**

As they go up against the Giants on Sunday, it's safe to say the Rams will be very popular plays this weekend. There will be a focus on Kyren Williams coming off a 22-carry, 104-yard, 1-touchdown outing against the Saints last Thursday. It was the fourth time in five games Williams went for more than 100 rushing yards -- meaning he's done it in all but one game so far since his Week 12 return from an ankle injury.

Meanwhile, with Williams keeping the offense on schedule and opposing defenses honest, Matthew Stafford is taking fewer hits behind an improved offensive line. Thanks to that, he has put together a string of outstanding performances with 14 TD passes in the past five games against one interception -- none in four straight games. Puka Nacua's latest massive night -- nine catches for 164 yards and a TD -- against New Orleans made him the first rookie in the Super Bowl era with four 150-yard receiving games, and he would've had a second score if Stafford hadn't overthrown him while wide open. Cooper Kupp remains a viable play even in a season that won't be remembered as his best. All the aforementioned are great plays this week. But so is Robinson, who had a season-high 82 yards receiving with a TD last Thursday. In fact, Robinson now has a touchdown in each of last four games. I expect the opportunities to continue this week and I'm not alone. "The Giants are simply playing out the string and were victimized by big plays against the Eagles," Brinkerhoff wrote. "Keep riding the wave as Robinson continues to be discounted despite the role he's playing."

**I'm Out:**

**Evan Engram, TE, Jacksonville Jaguars (\$5,700 on DraftKings; \$7,000 on FanDuel)**

Engram continues to get the job done for season-long fantasy managers. Last week, he pulled in 10 of his 15 targets for 95 yards. As 4for4.com's Neil Dutton notes, this was Engram's third double-digit reception game of the season and he has caught four or more balls in every single game in 2023. He has career highs in receptions (98) and receiving yards (824) this season. All of which might be appealing to DFS investors, except. ... Trevor Lawrence's shoulder issue might sideline him for Week 17, in which case backup C.J. Beathard, a much less effective passer, would get the call. And the Panthers are really good at defending opposing tight ends. As ESPN.com's Tristan Cockroft noted, the Panthers have allowed only three tight ends to score 10-plus PPR fantasy points all season, holding Jake Ferguson (Week 11), T.J. Hockenson (Week 4), Cole Kmet (Week 10), Kyle Pitts (Weeks 1 and 15) and Dalton Schultz (Week 8) beneath that number. With Engram being the third-highest price TE on DraftKings and the second-highest on FanDuel, I'll go ahead and look elsewhere for upside this week.