MESH MADNESS

NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 — Daily Edge Report

Thursday, March 26, 2026 | 4 games | 50,000 simulations per game

Four games. Two regions. The Sweet 16 gets real tonight.

There are **2** actionable plays tonight.

© Game of the Day: TEX (+240) — The simulation gives TEX 36.0% to win; the market prices them at 28.2%. That is a +7.8 percentage-point gap.

ARK to win outright (+310) — The simulation gives ARK **30.0%** to win; the market prices them at **23.4%**. In the most likely scenario — Tight baseline game (24.9% of games) — the game is close enough for ARK to be in it. That is a **+6.6 percentage-point** gap the market has not priced.

■ Trap — IOWA (+110) — The market prices IOWA at **45.6%** to win. The simulation gives them **36.0%**. In the most likely scenario — Nebraska offensive-ceiling shotmaking (22.2% of games) — NEB wins. Backing IOWA here means paying a premium for an outcome the simulation thinks is less likely than the market does.

Tonight's edges come from the simulation pricing underdogs higher than the market does. The plays are on the moneyline, not the spread.

Today's Mesh Highlights

Top edges + the flip game where Mesh disagrees with market on the winner

© GAME OF THE DAY
Winner: PUR (64.0%) | Mesh Edge: TEX (+7.8%)

(2) Purdue vs (11) Texas | 7:10 PM ET | TBS | West Region

Win Prediction (Mesh)

PUR 64.0%	36.0% TEX	Toss-up: 12.0%

TEX Edge = Mesh 36.0% − Market 28.2% = **+7.8%**

The verdict: In the most likely scenario — Purdue structural control (26.7%) — PUR wins by ~16, which covers 6.5. But the simulation still gives Texas 36.0% to win outright (market: 28.2%). **Best play: TEX ML (+240) (Medium confidence).**

Winner: ZONA (70.0%) | Mesh Edge: ARK (+6.6%)

(1) Arizona vs (4) Arkansas | 9:45 PM ET | TBS | West Region

Win Prediction (Mesh)

ZONA 70.0%	30.0% ARK	Toss-up: 12.0%

ARK Edge = Mesh 30.0% − Market 23.4% = **+6.6%**

The verdict: In the most likely scenario — Tight baseline game (24.9%) — ZONA wins by ~2 points, well short of 8.5. The simulation gives Arkansas 30.0% to win outright (market: 23.4%). **Best play: ARK +8.5 (High confidence).**

Winner: HOU (66.0%) | Mesh Edge: ILL (-6.6%)

(2) Houston vs (3) Illinois | 10:05 PM ET | CBS | South Region

Win Prediction (Mesh)

| HOU 66.0% | 34.0% ILL | Toss-up: 12.0% |

ILL Edge = Mesh 34.0% – Market 40.6% = **-6.6%**

The verdict: In the most likely scenario — Houston defensive-possession squeeze (26.0%) — HOU wins by ~15, which covers 3.5. But the simulation still gives Illinois 34.0% to win outright (market: 40.6%). **Best play: ILL +3.5 (Low confidence).**

Game Predictions

Sweet 16 | 4 games | Bidirectional bars: left = favourite, right = underdog

Time	Matchup		Market	Mesh	Market vs Mesh	Edge
7:10 PM ET	**(2) PUR**	vs (11) TEX	72/28	**64/36**		+8% TEX
7:30 PM ET	**(4) NEB**	vs (9) IOWA	54/46	**64/36**		**-10% IOWA**
9:45 PM ET	**(1) ZONA**	vs (4) ARK	77/23	**70/30**		+7% ARK
10:05 PM ET	**(2) HOU**	vs (3) ILL	59/41	**66/34**		**-7% ILL**

Recommended Bets

Spread bets where the likely margin falls well short of the line. Win/loss plays where the simulation significantly disagrees with the market.

Arkansas +8.5 -110   **1u**

+13pp · 65.4% probability · Medium confidence

Arizona is an 8.5-point favourite. In the most likely scenario — a tight baseline game (24.9% of simulations) — Arizona wins by around 2 points. In the second most likely — Arizona depth-and-frontcourt grind (22.4%) — Arizona wins by around 10. The most common script doesn't come close to covering, and the game is competitive in nearly half of all outcomes.

Texas +6.5 -102   **0.75u**

+8pp · 52.0% probability · Low confidence

Purdue is a 6.5-point favourite. The most likely scenario — Purdue structural control (26.7%) — has Purdue winning by 16, which covers. But the second most likely — close game (16.7%) — has Purdue by 4, which doesn't. Mixed signals on the spread; the ML captures the real value.

Texas ML (+240) +240   **0.5u**

+8pp

Simulation gives Texas 36.0% to win; market implies 28.2%. 11-seed Cinderella energy at plus-money. Size down — Purdue is the better team in most simulations.

Arkansas ML (+310) +310   **0.5u**

+7pp

Simulation gives Arkansas 30.0% to win outright; market implies 23.4%. Plus-money on a team with Darius Acuff — legitimate upset path through creator-and-arc surge. Size down.

Win% from Many-Worlds perturbation histogram bins split at tilt=0 (always sums to 100%). Edge = Mesh Win% – Market no-vig implied. Not financial advice.

MESH EDGE REPORT

(2) Purdue vs (11) Texas | Sweet 16 | West Region

7:10 PM ET | TBS

50,000 mesh simulations | Prior SD: 0.094 | Unmapped: 4.4%

Win Prediction (Mesh)

Purdue

Texas

64.4%

35.6%

Mesh Win%

Win prediction
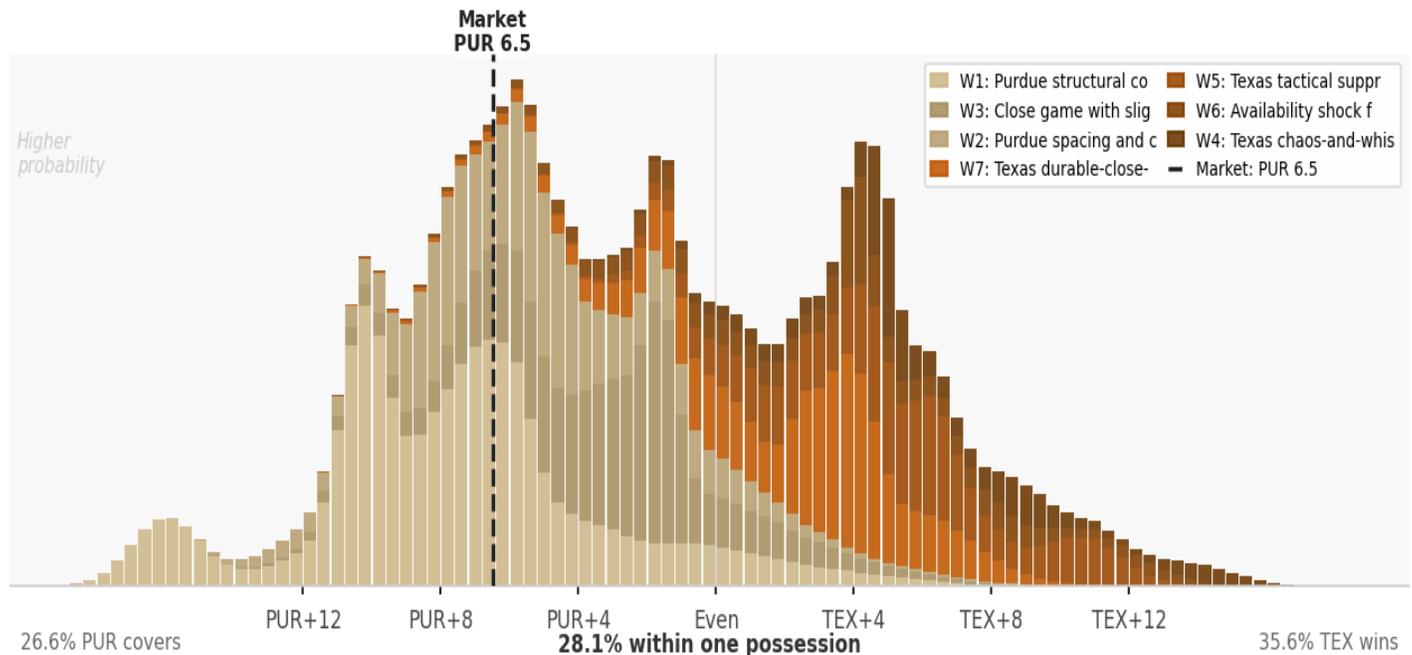
PUR 64.4%	35.6% TEX

Toss-up scenarios: 12.5%

Mesh Edge: TEX +7.5% (Mesh 35.6% vs Market 28.2%)

Distribution of simulated outcomes

Each bar = 2M simulated outcomes from perturbation ensemble, colored by scenario
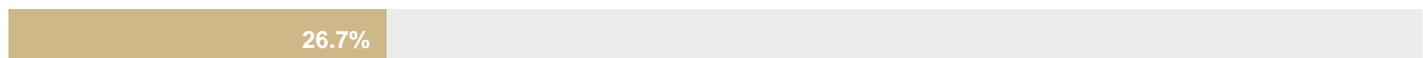

Market
PUR 6.5

Higher probability

Legend:
- W1: Purdue structural co
- W3: Close game with slig
- W2: Purdue spacing and c
- W7: Texas durable-close-
- W5: Texas tactical suppr
- W6: Availability shock f
- W4: Texas chaos-and-whis
- — Market: PUR 6.5

PUR+12　PUR+8　PUR+4　Even　TEX+4　TEX+8　TEX+12

26.6% PUR covers　　**28.1% within one possession**　　35.6% TEX wins

World Distribution

50,000 Monte Carlo runs

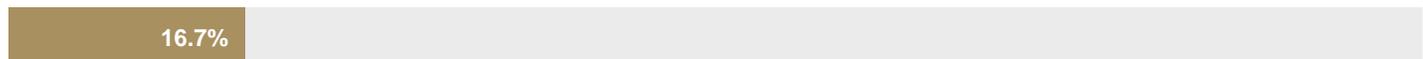**W1 Purdue structural control**　　　　　　　　　　Favors Purdue

26.7%

Purdue dominates the paint and structure for a comfortable win.

W3 Close game with slight Purdue edge　　　　　　Favors Purdue

16.7%

Purdue wins a tight, tactical game by a slim margin.

W2 Purdue spacing and continuity separation   Favors Purdue

15.5%

Purdue pulls away through superior shooting and ball movement.

W7 Texas durable-close-game upset   Favors Texas

13.5%

Texas hangs tough and wins a close, competitive game.

W5 Texas tactical suppression and cold-spacing upset   Favors Texas

11.2%

Texas locks down Purdue's offense and wins going away.

W6 Availability shock flips the baseline   Favors Texas

6.3%

An unexpected availability issue changes the game's structure.

W4 Texas chaos-and-whistle upset   Favors Texas

5.7%

Texas wins through foul trouble and chaotic game flow.

Unmapped: 4.4%

Analysis

Texas +6.5. Secondary: Texas ML (+240).

The simulation gives Texas **36.0%** to win; the betting line implies **28.2%**. That is a **+7.8 percentage-point** gap. In the most common scenario — Purdue structural control (**26.7%**) — Purdue wins by ~**16** points. Covers **-6.5**. In the second most common — close game with slight Purdue edge (**16.7%**) — Purdue by ~**4**. Does not cover. Together those two worlds account for **43.4%** of all simulations.

Take the win probability, not the number.

Edge Table

Bet	Line	Market	Mesh	Edge	Confidence	Verdict
Texas +6.5	-102	50.0%	68.7%	**+18.7%**	Strong	**Best Bet**
Texas ML	+240	28.2%	35.6%	**+7.5%**	Slight	**Lean**
Purdue ML	-300	71.8%	64.4%	**-7.5%**	Slight	**Avoid**

>6% strong | 3–6% moderate | 1–3% slight | negative = avoid

Recommended Bets

Texas +6.5 -102
+8pp · 52.0% probability · Low confidence

0.75u

Purdue is a 6.5-point favourite. The most likely scenario — Purdue structural control (26.7%) — has Purdue winning by 16, which covers. But the second most likely — close game (16.7%) — has Purdue by 4, which doesn't. Mixed signals on the spread; the ML captures the real value.

Texas ML (+240) +240
+8pp

0.5u

Simulation gives Texas 36.0% to win; market implies 28.2%. 11-seed Cinderella energy at plus-money. Size down — Purdue is the better team in most simulations.

Live-Betting Playbook

When	Watch For	Signal	Meaning	Action
First half	**Purdue interior touches**	**High**	Paint access = structural control, cover path.	Monitor — High
First 10 min	**Texas defensive intensity**	**High**	Texas disrupting Purdue = suppression upset path.	Monitor — High

Caveats

1. Market spread: 6.5 points. Modal world margins are listed in the world distribution above.

2. Prior SD = 0.094. P05–P95 range: -8.5 to 11.1 pts.

3. Multi-match rate 62.0% — worlds overlap, not mutually exclusive.

4. Unmapped rate 4.4%.

5. Win% from histogram bins split at tilt=0. Not calibrated probabilities.

6. Mesh does not model stat lines, exact foul counts, or possession-level outcomes.

7. Key unresolved: game-day availability, referee crew.

8. This is analysis only. Not financial advice.

For informational purposes only. Not financial advice.

MESH EDGE REPORT

(4) Nebraska vs (9) Iowa | Sweet 16 | South Region

7:30 PM ET | CBS

50,000 mesh simulations | Prior SD: 0.067 | Unmapped: 1.9%

Win Prediction (Mesh)

Nebraska

Iowa

63.8%

36.2%

Mesh Win%

Win prediction
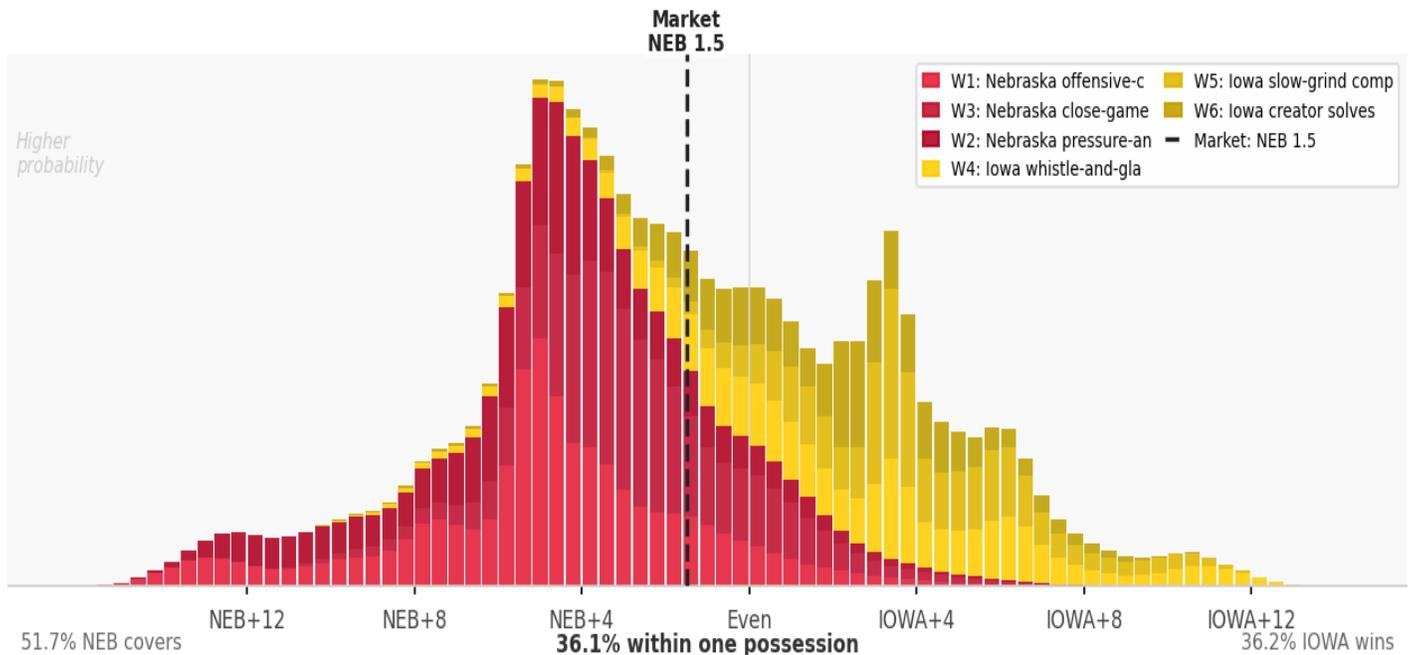
NEB 63.8%	36.2% IOWA

Toss-up scenarios: 18.4%

Mesh Edge: IOWA -9.4% (Mesh 36.2% vs Market 45.6%)

Distribution of simulated outcomes

Each bar = 2M simulated outcomes from perturbation ensemble, colored by scenario

Market NEB 1.5

Higher probability

W1: Nebraska offensive-c
W3: Nebraska close-game
W2: Nebraska pressure-an
W4: Iowa whistle-and-gla
W5: Iowa slow-grind comp
W6: Iowa creator solves
Market: NEB 1.5

NEB+12　　NEB+8　　NEB+4　　Even　　IOWA+4　　IOWA+8　　IOWA+12

51.7% NEB covers

36.1% within one possession

36.2% IOWA wins

World Distribution

50,000 Monte Carlo runs

W1 Nebraska offensive-ceiling shotmaking

Favors Nebraska

22.2%

Nebraska's offense clicks from deep and pulls away.

W3 Nebraska close-game edge

Favors Nebraska

20.4%

Nebraska wins a tight grind by a small margin.

W2 Nebraska pressure-and-pace control   Favors Nebraska

| 16.9% |

Nebraska dictates tempo and pressure for a clear win.

W4 Iowa whistle-and-glass leverage   Favors Iowa

| 14.8% |

Iowa wins the rebounding and foul battle.

W5 Iowa slow-grind compression   Favors Iowa

| 12.4% |

Iowa slows the game down and grinds out a win.

W6 Iowa creator solves pressure and closes   Favors Iowa

| 11.4% |

Iowa's playmakers overcome Nebraska's pressure.

Unmapped: 1.9%

Analysis

Pass. Nebraska is the right side but the spread is too thin for meaningful edge.

The simulation gives Iowa **36.0%** to win; the betting line implies **45.4%**. That is a **-9.6 percentage-point** gap — Iowa is overpriced by the market. In the most common scenario — Nebraska offensive-ceiling shotmaking (**22.2%**) — Nebraska wins by ~**13**. Covers **-1.5**. In the second most common — Nebraska close-game edge (**20.4%**) — Nebraska by ~**5**. Also covers. Together those two worlds account for **42.6%** of all simulations and Nebraska covers both.

The market is giving Iowa too much credit after the Florida upset. Nebraska is the better team.

Edge Table

Bet	Line	Market	Mesh	Edge	Confidence	Verdict
Iowa +1.5	-104	50.0%	50.2%	**+0.2%**	Strong	**Lean**
Iowa ML	+110	45.6%	36.2%	**-9.4%**	Slight	**Avoid**
Nebraska ML	-132	54.4%	63.8%	**+9.4%**	Slight	**Avoid**

>6% strong | 3–6% moderate | 1–3% slight | negative = avoid

Live-Betting Playbook

When	Watch For	Signal	Meaning	Action
First half	**Nebraska three-point shooting**	**High**	NEB hot = shotmaking ceiling world, likely covers.	Monitor — High
First 10 min	**Iowa offensive rebounding**	**High**	Iowa on the glass = whistle-and-glass upset path.	Monitor — High

Caveats

1. Market spread: 1.5 points. Modal world margins are listed in the world distribution above.

2. Prior SD = 0.067. P05–P95 range: -6.6 to 9.5 pts.

3. Multi-match rate 60.0% — worlds overlap, not mutually exclusive.

4. Unmapped rate 1.9%.

5. Win% from histogram bins split at tilt=0. Not calibrated probabilities.

6. Mesh does not model stat lines, exact foul counts, or possession-level outcomes.

7. Key unresolved: game-day availability, referee crew.

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MESH EDGE REPORT

(1) Arizona vs (4) Arkansas | Sweet 16 | West Region

9:45 PM ET | TBS

50,000 mesh simulations | Prior SD: 0.072 | Unmapped: 2.8%

Win Prediction (Mesh)

Arizona

Arkansas

70.3%

29.7%

Mesh Win%
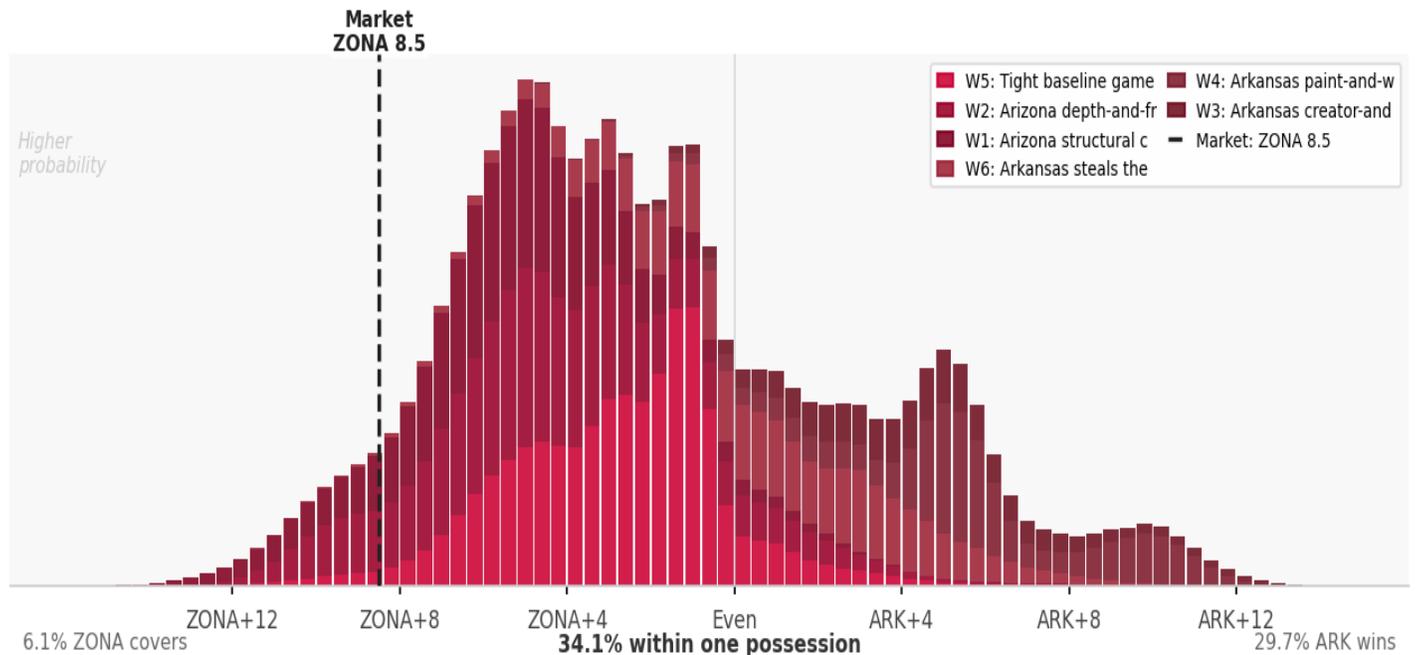
Win prediction

ZONA 70.3%	29.7% ARK

Toss-up scenarios: 13.9%

Mesh Edge: ARK +6.3% (Mesh 29.7% vs Market 23.4%)

Distribution of simulated outcomes

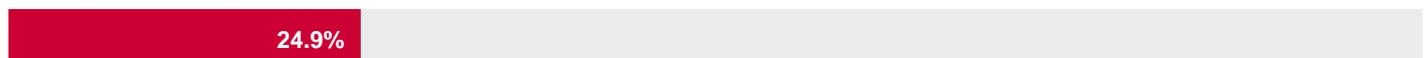*Each bar = 2M simulated outcomes from perturbation ensemble, colored by scenario*

Higher probability

Market ZONA 8.5

Legend:
- W5: Tight baseline game
- W2: Arizona depth-and-fr
- W1: Arizona structural c
- W6: Arkansas steals the
- W4: Arkansas paint-and-w
- W3: Arkansas creator-and
- Market: ZONA 8.5

ZONA+12   ZONA+8   ZONA+4   Even   ARK+4   ARK+8   ARK+12

6.1% ZONA covers

34.1% within one possession

29.7% ARK wins

World Distribution

50,000 Monte Carlo runs

W5 Tight baseline game   Favors Arizona
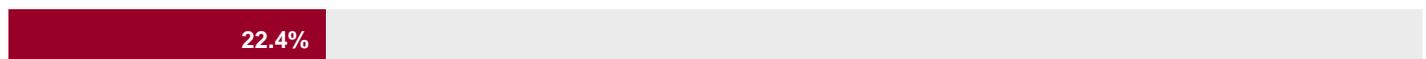
24.9%

A close, competitive game where Arizona holds a slight edge throughout.

W2 Arizona depth-and-frontcourt grind   Favors Arizona

22.4%

Arizona wears down Arkansas with superior depth and size.

W1 Arizona structural control   Favors Arizona

| 18.9% |

Arizona controls the game on both ends for a comfortable win.

W6 Arkansas steals the finish   Favors Arkansas

| 13.8% |

Arkansas closes strong in a game that was competitive throughout.

W4 Arkansas paint-and-whistle upset   Favors Arkansas

| 10.5% |

Arkansas wins the physical battle inside and at the free-throw line.

W3 Arkansas creator-and-arc surge   Favors Arkansas

| 6.6% |

Darius Acuff goes off and Arkansas buries Arizona from deep.

Unmapped: 2.8%

Analysis

Arkansas +8.5. Secondary: Arkansas ML (+310).

The simulation gives Arkansas **30.0%** to win; the betting line implies **23.4%**. That is a **+6.6 percentage-point** gap. In the most common scenario — tight baseline game (**24.9%**) — Arizona wins by ~**2** points. Does not cover **-8.5**. In the second most common — Arizona depth-and-frontcourt grind (**22.4%**) — Arizona by ~**10**. Barely covers. Together those two worlds account for **47.3%** of all simulations. The underdog covers in **65.4%** of simulated outcomes.

Arizona probably wins — they just don't win by 8.5.

Edge Table

Bet	Line	Market	Mesh	Edge	Confidence	Verdict
Arkansas +8.5	-110	50.0%	76.6%	**+26.6%**	Strong	**Best Bet**
Arkansas ML	+310	23.4%	29.7%	**+6.3%**	Slight	**Lean**
Arizona ML	-400	76.6%	70.3%	**-6.3%**	Slight	**Avoid**

>6% strong | 3–6% moderate | 1–3% slight | negative = avoid

Recommended Bets

Arkansas +8.5 -110

+13pp · 65.4% probability · Medium confidence

1u

Arizona is an 8.5-point favourite. In the most likely scenario — a tight baseline game (24.9% of simulations) — Arizona wins by around 2 points. In the second most likely — Arizona depth-and-frontcourt grind (22.4%) — Arizona wins by around 10. The most common script doesn't come close to covering, and the game is competitive in nearly half of all outcomes.

Arkansas ML (+310) +310

+7pp

0.5u

Simulation gives Arkansas 30.0% to win outright; market implies 23.4%. Plus-money on a team with Darius Acuff — legitimate upset path through creator-and-arc surge. Size down.

Live-Betting Playbook

When	Watch For	Signal	Meaning	Action
First 10 min	**Arizona interior offense**	**High**	ZONA dominating paint = depth grind or structural control.	Monitor — High
First half	**Darius Acuff scoring**	**High**	Acuff going off = Arkansas creator-and-arc surge path.	Monitor — High

Caveats

1. Market spread: 8.5 points. Modal world margins are listed in the world distribution above.

2. Prior SD = 0.072. P05–P95 range: -7.0 to 8.9 pts.

3. Multi-match rate 60.0% — worlds overlap, not mutually exclusive.

4. Unmapped rate 2.8%.

5. Win% from histogram bins split at tilt=0. Not calibrated probabilities.

6. Mesh does not model stat lines, exact foul counts, or possession-level outcomes.

7. Key unresolved: game-day availability, referee crew.

8. This is analysis only. Not financial advice.

MESH EDGE REPORT

(2) Houston vs (3) Illinois | Sweet 16 | South Region

10:05 PM ET | CBS

50,000 mesh simulations | Prior SD: 0.087 | Unmapped: 4.5%

Win Prediction (Mesh)

Houston

Illinois

66.4%

33.6%

Mesh Win%

Win prediction

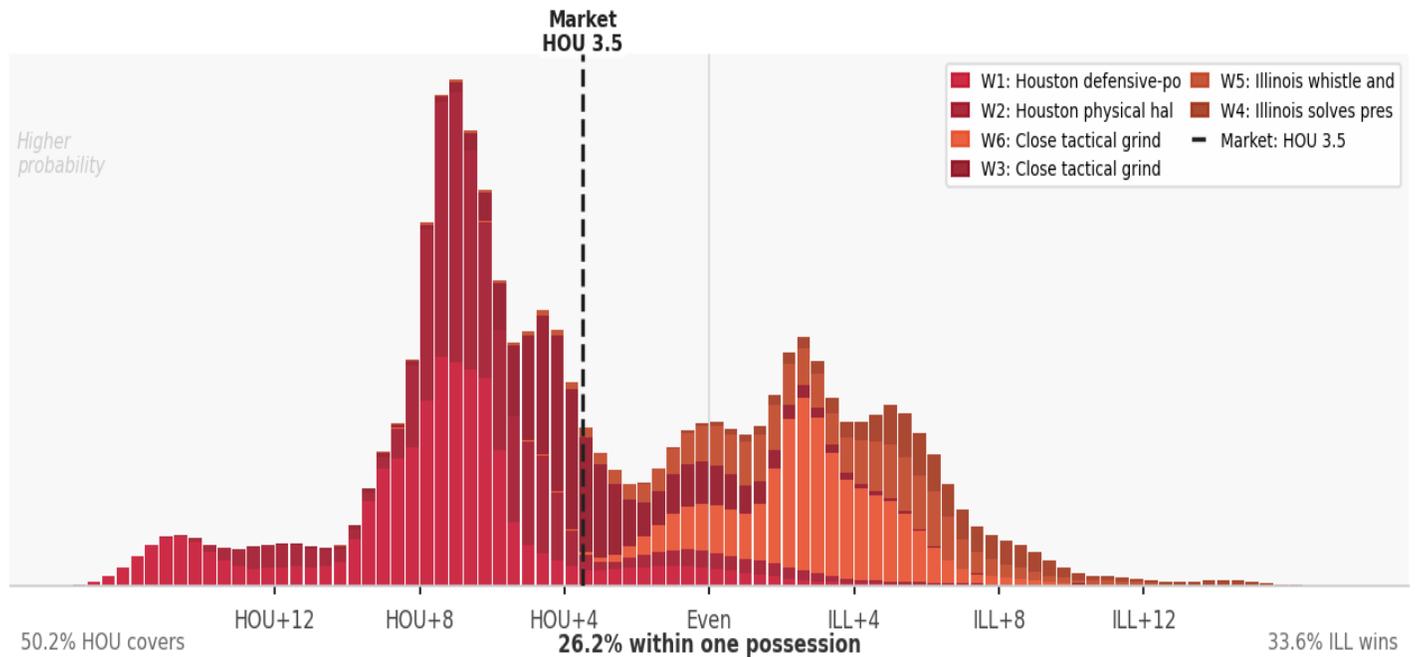| HOU 66.4%	33.6% ILL

Toss-up scenarios: 9.1%

Mesh Edge: ILL -7.0% (Mesh 33.6% vs Market 40.6%)

Distribution of simulated outcomes

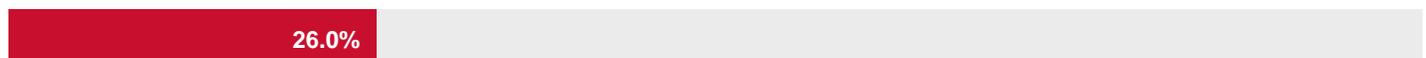*Each bar = 2M simulated outcomes from perturbation ensemble, colored by scenario*

World Distribution

50,000 Monte Carlo runs
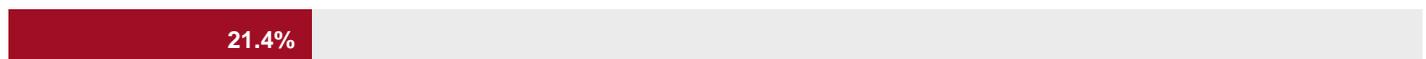
W1 Houston defensive-possession squeeze   Favors Houston

26.0%	

Houston's elite defense suffocates Illinois' offense.

W2 Houston physical half-court and offensive-glass control   Favors Houston

21.4%	

Houston wins the physical battle and controls second-chance points.

W6 Close tactical grinder with Illinois late-game conversion   Favors Illinois

| 16.6% |

Illinois solves Houston's defense late and wins a tight game.

W3 Close tactical grinder with Houston slight edge   Favors Houston

| 14.7% |

Houston holds a narrow lead in a back-and-forth tactical game.

W5 Illinois whistle and interior-leverage flip   Favors Illinois

| 11.0% |

Illinois gets to the line and wins the game inside.

W4 Illinois solves pressure and unlocks offensive ceiling   Favors Illinois

| 5.8% |

Illinois breaks through Houston's defense for a convincing win.

Unmapped: 4.5%

Analysis

Pass. Houston is the right side but the spread is close to fair value.

The simulation gives Illinois **34.0%** to win; the betting line implies **40.6%**. That is a **-6.6 percentage-point** gap — Illinois is overpriced. In the most common scenario — Houston defensive-possession squeeze (**26.0%**) — Houston wins by ~**15**. Covers **-3.5**. In the second most common — Houston physical half-court control (**21.4%**) — Houston by ~**12**. Also covers. Together those two worlds account for **47.3%** of all simulations and Houston covers both. Note: Houston is playing at home in Houston — the 'neutral site' advantage is real.

This is the best game of the Sweet 16, but the simulation says it is not close. Houston's defense is the difference.

Edge Table

Bet	Line	Market	Mesh	Edge	Confidence	Verdict
Illinois +3.5	-115	50.0%	54.0%	**+4.0%**	Strong	**Lean**
Illinois ML	+136	40.6%	33.6%	**-7.0%**	Slight	**Avoid**
Houston ML	-164	59.4%	66.4%	**+7.0%**	Slight	**Avoid**

>6% strong | 3–6% moderate | 1–3% slight | negative = avoid

Live-Betting Playbook

When	Watch For	Signal	Meaning	Action
First 10 min	**Houston defensive pressure**	**High**	HOU locking down = defensive squeeze world.	Monitor — High
First half	**Illinois three-point shooting**	**High**	ILL shooting well = offensive ceiling path.	Monitor — High

Caveats

1. Market spread: 3.5 points. Modal world margins are listed in the world distribution above.

2. Prior SD = 0.087. P05–P95 range: -6.7 to 11.7 pts.

3. Multi-match rate 62.0% — worlds overlap, not mutually exclusive.

4. Unmapped rate 4.5%.

5. Win% from histogram bins split at tilt=0. Not calibrated probabilities.

6. Mesh does not model stat lines, exact foul counts, or possession-level outcomes.

7. Key unresolved: game-day availability, referee crew.

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