Thursday, May 25, 2023

VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS @ DALLAS STARS

Game Time: 8:00 PM EST

Broadcast: TNT

Game Pick: MONEY LINE

VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS -110

Greetings friends !!!

For our Dr. Alan 2023 NHL Stanley Cup hockey playoff special release, we are going to back the Vegas Golden Knights -110 vs. the Dallas Stars in this Game # 4 Western Conference Final Stanley Cup playoff game.

With the NHL playoffs, it's a brand-new season. However, we'll still look for VALUE in the money line, puck line or the total line, and we'll still take into account & factor into our handicapping how a team played during the regular season, and at how the teams are playing in the post season. And of course, we'll look for elements of our 5 main criteria - fundamental match ups / head coaching match ups, schedule, historical / situational, public betting splits / line movement & Dr. Alan psychological motivation.

Let's take a look below at some of the "key points" that support a wager on the Vegas Golden Knights -110

DR. ALAN'S GAME ANALYSIS

- > The Vegas Golden Knights finished with 111 points in the regular season, and they are the Western Conference # 1 seed.
 - The Dallas Stars finished with 108 points in the regular season, and they are the Western Conference # 4 seed.
- ➤ The Golden Knights are up 3-0 in this series due to back-to-back home OT wins, then followed up by a dominant 4-0 win at Dallas in Game # 3.

 Thus, this is an elimination game for the Stars.
- ➤ There are 4 teams in NHL history who came back from an 0-3 deficit to win the playoff series. (Unlike the NBA where it has never been done before. In MLB it has been done 1 time) Those 4 NHL teams are as follows:
 - the 1942 Toronto Maple Leafs
 - the 1975 New York Islanders
 - the 2010 Philadelphia Flyers
 - the 2012 Los Angeles Kings

In MLB it was the 2004 Boston Red Sox

The first 2 games were of course very close, but Vegas found a way to win both of them. In Game # 3 Vegas seized control early in the first period, going up 1-0 and then Stars captain Jaime Benn received a 5 minute game misconduct penalty.

The Golden Knights added 2 more goals, and they lead 3-0 after 1 period of play. Vegas added another goal in the 2nd period to make it 4-0 and coasted to an easy.

We'll look for the Golden Knights to bring that + positive.

- Stars goalie Jake Oettinger was pulled in the 1st period.
 That is the 3rd time he has been pulled during the playoffs.
 He will be in goal again tonight, and that's a good sign for Vegas, as I suspect that his confidence is not very high right now.
- ➤ **The goalie match-up** tonight features the Golden Knights Adin Hill and the Stars Jake Oettinger.

Aiden Hill has started 7 straight games since taking over the net from the injured Laurent Brossoit.

In 4 of those games, he has surrendered 2 goals or fewer, including giving up ZERO goals in last games shutout !!!

The Golden Knights clearly have goalie advantage.

- > Stars' Captain Jaime Benn will be suspended for this game and will not be on the ice for the Stars.
 - This is a big loss for the Stars, as he is a "key player" for them, he has contributed 11 points this postseason (3 goals & 8 assists)
- ➤ In the NHL playoffs, historically SWEEPS ARE RARE.

 From the NHL founding through the 2022 season there have been 741 7 game playoff series, and there have been 127 sweeps which is approx. 17 %.

 There have been zero sweeps this year.
- > Over the past 35 seasons, there have been 75 sweeps out of 525 7 game series, which is approx. 14 %.
- > Breaking it down specifically to the Conference Finals, there have 6 sweeps in the approx. 24 %
- ➤ Thus, history is on the side of the Stars to extend the series to a Game # 5
 However, even thou history is on the side of the Stars, I am still confident in backing the Golden Knights tonight as they are showing why they are the # 1 seed.

 The Golden Knights overall body of work is far superior to the Stars in the playoffs, and they clearly have the goalie advantage, and an advantage with Stars Captain Jaime Been being out tonight, as he is a "key" player for them !!!
- ➤ The Golden Knights are 8-2 in their 10 playoff games, and 13-3 overall in the playoffs !!!

 On the flip side, the Stars are 4-6 in their last 10 playoff games, and 8-8 overall in the playoffs !!!
- ➤ In regard to my **Dr. Alan psychological handicapping**, this game sets up well for the Golden Knights.
 - Of course, the Stars will be motivated to win this game in front of their home fans and extend the series.
 - However, I just feel that Vegas smells blood in the water tonight and that they have shown that they are overall better team, and they will be HIGHLY MOTIVATED to end this series tonight!!! I expect that the Golden Knights will play with MAXIMUM EFFORT & URGENCY!!!
- So tonight, we are going to take the Golden Knights -110 in Game # 4 Western Conference Final matchup between the Vegas Golden Knights vs. the Dallas Stars down in Big D!!!

We back our selections with REAL MONEY.

Late injuries and/or illnesses ruling out players can result in big swings in the line and could be announced at any time - even as close as minutes before the start of the game. We at wizardraceandsports.com have no control over these line changes. The line which we get when our wager is placed is what we use to grade our selections on wins and losses. This is the criteria we adhere to, which shows transparency in our weekly records.

Any questions or comments can be sent to: wiz@wizardraceandsports.com

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