Cancelled/Rescheduled Bouts

- David Martinez (1-0 UFC) was supposed to fight Carlos Vera.
    - Vera pulled out, and he accepted Quang Le (1-2 UFC).
    - Now Martinez is fighting Rob Font in the co-main event.
    - Quang Le is now fighting short notice debutant Santiago Luna.
- Rob Font (12-7 UFC) was supposed to fight Raul Rosas Jr. (5-1 UFC)
    - Raul Rosas Jr. is no longer on the card.
    - Rob Font is now fighting David Martinez (1-0 UFC)
- Alessandro Costa (2-2 UFC) was supposed to fight Edgar Chairez (2-2 UFC)
    - Edgar Chairez is no longer on the card.
    - Now Alessandro Costa is fighting UFC debutant Alden Coria.

Fighters from Texas (potential hometown bias)

- Alexander Hernandez (San Antonio, where the fight takes place)
- Diego Ferreira (Trains in Dallas at Fortis, lives in McAllen, Texas)
- Zach Reese (From Shiner, Texas; 3-0 Fury FC)
- Alden Coria (Trains out of 4Oz Fight Club in Houston, Texas; 5-1 Fury FC)

Fighters who train/claim Mexico (potential UFC Noche bias)

- Montserrat Rendon (Lives and trains in Mexico)
- Jesus Aguilar (Lives and trains in Baja California, Mexico)
- Tatiana Suarez (Mexican-American heritage, lives and trains in the US)
- Santiago Luna (Trains at Entram Gym in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico)
- Kelvin Gastelum (Mexican-American heritage, lives and trains in the US)
- Rafa Garcia (Fighting out of Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico)
- David Martinez (Fighting out of Bonebreakers MMA in Mexico City, Mexico)
- Diego Lopes & Alessandro Costa (Fighting out of Legacy / Brazilian Warriors in Guadalajara & Lobo Gym also in Mexico; training at Oklahoma State this camp)

I don't think the above narratives should matter much, just providing context.

Background Info:

- Neither fighter has ever been finished before. Three combined losses, all DECs.
- Both fighters have at least one win by all methods of victory.
- Donchenko is ~3.5 years younger (24 vs. 27) & 2" taller (5'9 vs. 5'11).
- Line opened -250 on Donchenko, sunk as low as -170, now back to -230.
- Rebooked fight. Rumor mill says there was an ankle injury on Sezinando, unclear to me if that was the real reason the fight was pulled from original August date.

Money Line Side:

- IMHO Sezinando +185 or better has to be the side. They're giving him < 35% chance to win a volatile middleweight fight where he could have the takedown, control time, and submission upside. Sezinando is Nova Unaio Black Belt in BJJ. He is training his wrestling at DC MMA Academy.
- The market and the DFS community are all loving Donchenko here, so you can consider Sezinando for leverage, for salary relief, and for an underdog click.

Props:

- Sezinando SUB +700 / DEC +550 (DraftKings)
    - I think Sezinando's path to winning is landing a meme bonk (less likely) or process grappling his way to a submission or a decision. Sezinando is unlikely to want to exchange with Donchenko, so he will probably force the issue early and often. Donchenko is tough, but he might be outclassed in the grappling.
- Donchenko KO1 +500 / KO2 +750 / KO3 +1100 / DEC +390 (FanDuel)
    - I think Donchenko's path to winning this fight is to landing a big shot that hurts Sezinando, landing a cutting elbow that forces the doctor to intervene, or landing enough damage that he negates control time.

Background:

- Pereira is only 19 years old. She has been having fraudulent fights against bottom of the barrel competition on the Brazilian regional scene.
- Pereira looks the part, looks athletic, big for the division (+3" reach advantage).
- Massive 17 age gap. 19yo vs. 36yo.
- Rendon is slow as molasses. Relies on takedowns. 1-1 in the UFC. Fought the much better level of competition. Pretty harmless. 7/7 Pro Fights GTD.

Money Line Side:

- I think this is a total pass on the money line. If pressed I would say favorite or pass just because Pereira looks like she will have a speed advantage on the feet and she normally gets takedowns of her own by being more physical than her opponents. Rendon got 3 takedowns and nearly 5 minutes of control against Tamires Vidal (1-3 UFC) and only managed to eke out a split decision. She also got 3 takedowns against Zhelzenyakova (2-1 UFC) and more than a round of control time and lost a unanimous decision, only managing 25 significant strikes in 15 minutes. I just can't buy into a fighter like Rendon at her age. She lacks athleticism, she moves slow, & she doesn't hit very hard. No UFC SUB attempts.

Props:

- Takedown props either girl:
    - Pereira got a lot of regional TDs based on physicality.
    - Rendon 3TDs in each of her first two UFC appearances.
    - If this fight GTDs, I wouldn't be stunned to see both girls get multiple TDs. Pereira doesn't prioritize top control, she stands out of guard sometimes.
- Pereira KO +4xx (DK) or better or DEC +150 or better (FanDuel)
    - Speed kills when striking. I think Pereira is faster and she probably hits harder too.
- Rendon DEC +240 (FanDuel) or SUB +800 (DraftKings)
    - Path is wrestling for top position or throwing up a SUB off her back against a super inexperienced fighter. Rendon is a BJJ Purple belt who has won a lot of Mexican national titles.

Background Information:

- Costa is 2-2 in the UFC with 2 quality losses and 2 wins that are just okay.
- Costa was supposed to fight Edgar Chairez (2-2 UFC), now he is getting a short-notice Texas regional fighter.
- Coria has solid boxing and a good training environment at 4 Oz Fight Club. Spars Van, coached by Pineda.
- Coria is used to fighting on the Texas regional scene, 5-1 in Fury FC.
- The crowd might be behind Coria.
- Coria is 4" taller, reach parity.

Money Line Side:

- Coria has to be the side for me +300 or better. He has been submitted before and he can be outworked to a decision, but he has very solid boxing and we saw Amir Albazi box circles around Costa and put him down badly.
- Costa is talented but he has a kill or be killed style in a lot of his fights. Takes big risks in the pocket.

Props:

- Coria KO +800 (DK) / DEC +850 (Bovada)
- Costa SUB +370 (FD) / KO +330 (CloudBet)
- Under 2.5 Rds. -105 (Fanatics)

Background Information:

- Dumas has been arrested, dealt with personal tragedy, and posted his bank account with $13 dollars in it.
- Reese is 3-2 in the UFC with 2 losses via brutal KO. He got taken down by Jose Medina and controlled for 1 minute. I worry about his chin/cardio.
- Reese should be the better prepared athlete. He is also from Shiner, Texas.
- Dumas is incentivized to take risks here. Could use an extra 50K.
- If Dumas' personal situation wasn't so bad and his recent tape wasn't so uninspiring, he would be the clear side to me at these prices.

Money Line Side:

- Money line is a pass IMHO. I would never feel comfortable clicking Reese -2xx and Dumas doesn't feel like a trustworthy commodity at this point.
- The thing I like about Reese is he is reliable to attempt offense. Dumas aggression is hit & miss.
- High variance fight IMHO. Have to pick Reese in the context of the fight.

Props:

1. Under 1.5 Rounds -135 (Fanatics) / GTD +380 (Fanatics)
    - I think this fight either ends violently early or it becomes a gross drag out DEC.
    - Reese GTD in 2/3 UFC fights.
    - Reese U1.5 in 2/4 UFC/DWCS.
    - Dumas GTD in 3/3 UFC wins.
    - Dumas 3/3 UFC L's were R1/2.
2. Dumas KO +520 (Fanatics) / R1 +700 (BOL) / DEC +800 (Bovada)
    - Showed head kicks and 4 regional KOs. All 4 R1/2.
    - 3/3 UFC wins via DEC.
3. Reese SUB +300 (FanDuel) / DEC +772 (CloudBet)
    - Reese SUB on DWCS. Nearly subbed Cody Brundage in R1.
    - Fremd's only UFC SUB vs. Dumas.
    - Reese should be ahead on the strike count if it's 15 minutes of Kickboxing.
4. SDEC props could be big #, both guys are a bit sloppy & gas when extended.

Background Information:

- Gurule is 0-1 in the UFC but he fought Ode Osbourne who is bigger, fast twitch, and has more experience.
- Aguilar is 3-2 in the UFC but he has had some good fortune (Mendonca DEC) and he has never defeated an opponent with a UFC win.
- Aguilar's losses are against two quality wrestlers/grapplers in Taira/Estevam. Gurule is a very good wrestler as well.
- Gurule goes from being the smaller man in his first fight to the bigger man in this fight. +1" height & +2" reach.
- Aguilar is the social media A-Side.

Money Line Side:

- I think Gurule is the side here because Aguilar is probably guillotine, close DEC, or bust in this spot. I also think passing to see how Gurule responds to his KO loss is a fair approach.

Props:

- Gurule KO +380 / DEC +140 / SDEC +1000.
- Aguilar SUB +600 or better / ITD +400 or better / DEC +450 / SDEC +1400.

Background Information:

- Lemos has been way more active over the last 5 years. She is also older.
- Suarez should have grappling/wrestling superiority, but she has looked physically diminished in recent years after serious health struggles.
- Suarez is ~3 years younger, 1" taller, 1" reach adv.
- Lemos is the bigger hitter by far. Clear favorite in a pure Kickboxing fight.

Money Line Side:

- Has to be Lemos or pass for me at these prices. She struggles against the best wrestlers & grapplers, but that is being priced in. She boxed the ears off #1 contender MacKenzie Dern.
- I would rather take props on Suarez with upside or click her in DFS than lay big chalk.

Props:

- Suarez SUB +174 (CloudBet) / R1 +280 / R2 +470 (FD) / ITD -115
- Suarez SUB1 +420 / SUB2 +650 / SUB3 +1000.
- Lemos KO +1000 (Bovada) / DEC +800 DK / KO1 +2200

Background Information:

- Puelles coming back off a long layoff.
- UFC losses are very justified IMHO
    - Lost to Hooker (top 5 / top 10)
    - Lost to Ziam (fringe top 15)
- Silva is 36, took a lot of damage, has some power & some jiu jitsu but his cardio and takedown defense are sus.
- Seems like Silva is taking more than 60% of dollars and tickets but he is still sitting at underdog Odds.
- Puelles 7 years younger, 2" taller, 3" reach advantage.

Money Line Side:

- I think Puelles is the sharp side. Passing is fine based on his long layoff, or clicking the DEC only market at small chalk to avoid a bonk.

Props:

- Puelles DEC +260 (Bovada) / DEC Only / Takedown Ladder / SUB +350
- Silva KO +650 (CloudBet) / ITD +320 (DK)

Background Information:

- Both men enter on 3 fight losing streaks.
- Zero evidence that Medina is a UFC level fighter. Outlanded, outwrestled, & outdamaged in all UFC/DWCS fights.
- Dusko has lost mostly to solid competition and he has UFC level wins, but he suffered a serious knee injury and he has no momentum which is hard to trust at big prices.
- Dusko is 1" taller, 3 years younger, more pro & UFC experience.

Money Line Side:

- If Medina had shown us any proven offense in the UFC, I would say he is the ML side. For me, it's a total pass. Dog or pass in theory, but I have to see something offensive to believe you can win a UFC fight. Medina's last win pre-UFC was a regional SDEC.

Props:

- FDGTD -110 / Under 2.5 +110 (MGM)
- Dusko SUB +500 (Bovada) / ITD +160
    - Should have a huge BJJ edge. Also Medina gave up 11 TDs.
- Medina KO +900 (DraftKings)
    - Medina 8/11 wins by KO
    - Dusko 4/6 losses via KO

Background Information:

- Le was supposed to fight David Martinez, now Martinez is in the co-main event.
- Luna accepted his UFC debut on 2 weeks notice. First ammy fight was in 2022.
- Le's first amateur fight was in 2015, professional since September of 2021.
- Luna has only had 9 fights pro-am. Le has had 11 pro fights & 11 ammy fights.
- Luna will be 2" taller, 4" longer in reach, and 12 years younger (21 vs. 33).

Money Line Side:

- The market is all over Luna despite him being less proven, being on short notice, and having fought a significantly lower level of competition.
- I think this is a dog or pass situation. Books not respecting the flood of Luna $.

Props:

- Le DEC +350 (FD) / SDEC +1000 (DK) / KO +900 (Multiple)
- Luna KO +400 / ITD +230 (Bovada) / SDEC +900 (DK)
- Ends Split DEC +450 (DK) / Fight Ends Rd. 3 +700

Background Info:

- Hernandez has been much more active in recent years
    - 12 fights since 2020 for Hernandez, just 7 for CDF.
    - 10 fights since 2021 for Hernandez, just 6 for CDF.
    - 8 fights Since 2022 for Hernandez, just 3 for CDF.
- Hernandez is ~8 years younger (32 vs. 40), equal amount of experience.
- CDF lost to Grant Dawson in January, just 2-4 in his last 6 fights.
- Hernandez is on a 3-fight win streak since returning to lightweight.
- Both fighters from Texas, Hernandez born and raised in San Antonio (home site).

Money Line Side:

- I think Hernandez is the side as the younger, more athletic fighter with KO power, a 73% takedown defense rate, and a comparable level of experience at a +$ price tag. Fighters over 38 are more prone to KO losses, CDF cardio is sus too.

Props:

- Hernandez KO +325 (Rivers) / KO1 +800 (Rivers) / DEC +300 (FD) / SDEC +900
- Ferreira SUB +650 (DraftKings) / ITD +320 (DK) / Rd. 3 +1600 (DK)

Background Information:

- Gastelum is a class above in terms of quality competition, but he missed weight by 6 pounds, I find it hard to believe he takes his training seriously.
- Stoltzfus is pretty mid, but he is the bigger man (height and reach), these fighters are at age parity, and Stoltzfus seems more disciplined and motivated.
- Gastelum is a Mexican-American. The crowd is likely to get behind him. A-Side.
- Gastelum TDD could be aided by his huge weight miss, cardio by not cutting.
- Stoltzfus, probably outgunned on the feet, needs to get to his TDs or SUB game.

Money Line Side:

- Not trusting fat, lazy Gastelum at steep chalk against anyone these days. 2-3 to the SUB prop in the UFC, just 8-7 to the DEC. Dog or pass above +2xx IMHO.

Props:

- Stotlzfus SUB +1100 | DEC +300 (FanDuel) | SDEC +1200 (BOL)
- Gastelum Rd. 2 +750 | Rd. 3 +1200 | SDEC +900 (BOL)
- Ends SDEC +500 (BOL)

Background Information:

- Jared Gordon is ~6 years older (37 vs. 31)
- Gordon has the much better body of work in the UFC.
- Garcia has no wins over a fighter currently on the roster.
- Garcia is a Mexican fighter, could get the crowd pop.
- Gordon has only been finished by Dawson/Oliveira since 2019.

Money Line Side:

- I think Gordon is a deserved favorite in this matchup, but 65% implied seems fair. Anything above +185 is probably small value on Rafa Garcia based on youth, cardio, crowd, & Gordon fighting to his level of competition.
- ML Pass is probably the right play. Any Garcia value has been extracted IMHO.

Props:

- Gordon ITD +450 (DK) / DEC +119 (CloudBet) / SDEC +650 (BOL)
- Garcia ITD +500 (DK) / DEC +400 (FanDuel) / SDEC +1100 (Bovada)
- Ends SDEC +400 (BOL)

Background Information

- Font was being brought in to fight Raul Rosas Jr., Martinez was supposed to fight Quang "Bang" Le.
- Now Font (12-7 UFC) gets to fight David Martinez (1-0 UFC); less experience.
- Martinez is ~11 years younger (27 vs. 38).
- Font is the larger man. He will be 3" taller (5'8 vs. 5'5) & 4" longer (71" vs. 67")
- Font is on a two fight win streak over higher quality opponents than Martinez has been fighting. Matsumoto and Kyler Phillips are fringe top 15/25 talents.
- Font has never been KO'd but he has been hurt badly; absorbed 5 KDs.

Money Line Side:

- I think Font is the side in the current market at near pick (-115) but I think that Martinez was the side at big +$ earlier in the week. Font should be favored on length, skills, and experience, but the durability, dangerous striking, and the crowd dynamic could be difference makers for Martinez.

Props:

- Font via SUB +2000 (DK) / ITD +600 (DK) / DEC +140 (FD) / SDEC +700 (BOL)
- Martinez via KO +500 (FD) / DEC +215 (BOL) / SDEC +900 (BOL)
- Font TD Ladder? 1TD +215 / 2TD +650.

Background Information:

- Lopes is in a classic let down spot coming off a loss in a World Title Fight.
- Lopes seems to be the crowd favorite. Represents Brazil, trains/lives in Mexico.
- Silva has the momentum. 5-0 UFC, all 5 wins via stoppage. 13-fight win streak.
- Silva has KO power, he showed he can manage a DEC vs. Vallejos on DWCS.
- Lopes has KO power, less craft on the feet. More proven BJJ.
- Wrestling could be an X-Factor. Lopes has been training at OKST (D1 Wrestling).
- Lopes output over 5 was not sufficient against Volkanovski.

Money Line:

- Money Line Pricing feels like a dog or pass situation. Lopes has either won his fight, scored a knockdown, or was credited with a submission attempt in every UFC appearance. Lopes normally gives himself a chance to win.
- Passing or prop hunting is fine; hard to lay 70% on a med. volume power hitter.

Props:

- Silva KO +109 (CloudBet) / Rd. 2 +650 (FD) / Rd. 3 +873 / Rd. 4 +1396 (Cloud)
- Lopes SUB +875 (CloudBet)
- Lopes DEC +700 (FD) / SDEC +1800 (DK)
- Silva DEC +500 (CloudBet) / SDEC +1200 (BOL)
- GTD +240 / Ends SDEC +800 (DK)
-
- Lopes Takedown Ladder? 1+ TD +155 (FD), 2+ +600 (DK), 3+ 1000 (DK)

- If Fight Goes DEC, could be close. Could be moments vs. minutes, could be takedowns/control vs. damage, could be back and forth rounds, etc.
- Silva cardio not proven in the UFC over 5. Lopes only went 5 in the UFC once.
- Silva should have the KO upside, more varied striking, better reads, more power.
- Lopes should have the SUB upside, proven SUBs vs. UFC-level blackbelts.