

MLB Predictions: Chicago Cubs vs Arizona Diamondbacks

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MLB Predictions Preview … The Chicago Cubs hope to avoid being swept out of Arizona when they play the Arizona Diamondbacks at Chase Field tonight. Chicago has seen its two-game lead in the NL Central Division disappear losing two straight to the D-Backs while the surging Milwaukee Brewers have closed the gap to tie atop the standings by taking two straight from the Cardinals. The Cubs send left handed pitcher Ted Lilly to the mound in search win No 10. Lilly is 9-6 this season with a 4.49 ERA. Lilly's opponent in this one will be Doug Davis. The Diamondbacks lefthander has a 4.13 ERA to go along with a 3-4 record this season.

MLB Predictions Betting Line …The Cubs are installed as -115 money line favorites in this game with a 9-run total, according to oddsmakers at online sportsbook SBGglobal.com . Money line odds on the Diamondbacks are -105.

Lilly bounced back from his shortest outing of the season in his last start before the All-Star break with one of his best starts of the season Friday night at Houston. Though he wasn't involved in the decision, Lilly went seven innings, allowing just one run on a Carlos Lee homer and just six hits total. He is 1-2 with a 2.73 ERA in five career appearances against the D-backs, including 0-1 with a 3.00 ERA in one start at Chase Field. He beat Arizona at Wrigley Field on May 9, allowing one earned run on three hits over seven innings in a 3-1 Cubs victory.

Davis had his shortest outing of the year the last time out, but was given a great deal of run support against the Dodgers. Pitching on a full week's rest, he lasted just three innings, giving up five runs (four earned) on five hits and three walks. He didn't factor into the decision. Against the Cubs, Davis is 7-5 with a 3.39 ERA in his career in 13 starts.

Conor Jackson went 3-for-5 with a big fly and three runs batted in, as the Diamondbacks ripped the Cubs 9-2 on Tuesday night.

Arizona cashed in as a -110 home pick 'em as the game played over the 9.5-run total listed by oddsmakers.

Orlando Hudson went yard for the Diamondbacks, while Yusmeiro Petit gave up one run over five innings to get the win for Arizona.

Daryle Ward hit a pinch-hit homer for Chicago, as losing pitcher Jason Marquis allowed three runs over six innings for the Cubs.

MLB Game Prediction: Look for Lilly to establish dominance and get it done for the Cubs. Chicago at ML -115 is the best betting value.