**UFC Fight Night 157 or UFC on ESPN+ 15 DK and Fight Breakdowns**

***Women's Strawweight Jéssica Andrade (c) vs. Weili Zhang***

While I consider Zhang a good fighter, I expect Andrade to roll here. Andrade’s power, strength, volume, cardio, and toughness are huge X factors for her in this weight class. Zhang is the more technical fighter, in my opinion, but she is a bit too comfortable when it comes to absorbing strikes (even got rocked by Danielle Taylor in her UFC debut). Ultimately, I think Andrade’s volume, pressure, takedowns, and power will win her rounds and earn the decision win if not a TKO finish.

**FOR DK: I believe this fight will be very popular, but I prefer Andrade. She can pay off her price tag even in a 5 decision & be the highest scoring fighter on the card due to her high-volume wrestling, excessive significant strikes, and non-stop cardio. Zhang will surely pay off her price tag in a win, but I just to not envision her winning this bout.**

Welterweight Li Jingliang vs. Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos

This bout has FOTN written all over it. Both of these sluggers have shown to be two of the better finishers in the division. IF Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos finishes Li Jingliang via strikes, he will be the first to do so. Jingliang has been rocked several times in recent fights, but has shown a tremendous ability to recover almost instantly. IF Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos does not knock out Jingliang, I expect this fight to be competitive for the most part. Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos excels at kicking range; whereas Jingliang is a better fighter boxing in the pocket. Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos is the better credentialed BJJ practicioner, but he has not shown good wrestling in the UFC. I do not believe he can take down Jingliang unless Jingliang is rocked and dos Santos goes for the takedown. I will lean towards Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos due to the possibility of the finish, but if this fight hits the cards, I could see Jingliang taking it in China.

**For DK: This is one of the better fights to target and rightfully so. I recommend exposure to both fighters with 6 + lineups. I like Elizeu Zaleski dos Santos for DK, but do not love him as a play at $9,200. Without a finish, it’s tough for me to see him paying off that price tag. For Jingliang, I see him paying off his $7,000 salary in a decision with the potential to land takedowns (dos Santos not a good defensive wrestler – was taken down repeatedly by Ahkmedov and Nakamura) and lands a decent amount of significant strikes.**

Flyweight Kai Kara-France vs. Mark De La Rosa

Two flyweights that have a common opponent in Elias Garcia are featured in this bout. Both Kara-France and De La Rosa looked good in their respective bouts versus Garcia, but versus each other I expect some more resistance in terms of grappling and wrestling. De La Rosa will (on paper) hold the advantage on the mat has he is a high-level BJJ practitioner, but I do not believe he has the offensive wrestling capabilities to take down Kara France. If Kara-France would like to get takedowns, I believe he can land them and avoid submissions in top position, but I believe he will keep the fight standing where he will hold the striking advantage. Kara-France is more technical, more varied, more aggressive, and more defensively sound than De La Rosa when it comes to striking. I feel confident picking Kara-France to win this bout.

**For DK: I do not like this fight as I believe it will take place on the feet majority of the time. While I do believe Kara-France wins, I do not believe he makes for a good DK play at $9,100 especially with Ibragimov and dos Santos priced in his tier of $9,000 + fighters considering I do not believe he is likely to finish nor land several takedowns here.**

Welterweight Kenan Song vs. Derrick Krantz

If dos Santos vs. Jingliang does not win FOTN, I believe this fight has a decent chance to. Both fighters have proven to be finishers in their MMA careers. Keenan is more UFC experienced, more KO power, is more technical, and more varied. Krantz best chance to win this fight is to take it to the mat where he holds a BJJ black belt. However, Krantz does not go for takedowns much and even when he does, he’s shown poor offensive wrestling. I believe we get a standup battler her where I favor Song. Krantz has been finished via strikes a few times and is open defensively (can be countered) when striking.

**FOR DK: This is a great fight to target. It is priced in the mid-range and is not likely to hit the cards. I like Song more as a play as I believe he wins and gets the finish, but exposure to both sides is warranted here even with a few lineups.**

Women's Catchweight (129 lbs.) Wu Yanan vs. Mizuki Inoue

Two women that prefer to grapple will be featured in this bout. Inoue to me looks like the more technical and skilled grappler, but Yanan looked much bigger at weigh ins. In my opinion, the facet of MMA that matters the most when it comes to strength/size is grappling (i.e. Manny Bermudez versus Casey Kenney on UFC 241). Even if one fighter is more skilled than the other, the size can make things much closer than it’d otherwise be. That being said, I do believe this can play out on the feet for some time where I believe Inoue is the better striker of the two. I lean towards Inoue here.

**For DK: I would prefer to target the majority of the other fights on this card as I do not see fantasy point potential here.**

Middleweight Anthony Hernandez vs. Jun Yong Park

I am glad to see Anthony Hernandez get another exciting matchup. In his debut, Hernandez did not get the win, but I do believe he will have more success in this matchup versus Park. Hernandez is fast, athletic, has power in his hands, and has some offensive grappling too. Park on tape seems like a brawler. Park is less technical than Hernandez, more hittable, and can also be taken down easily. Hernandez prefers to strike, but I do believe he can land takedowns if he tries. Overall, I favor Hernandez here as he has more striking advantages and can take the fight to the mat if he chooses.

**For DK: I like this fight. I prefer Hernandez though as I believe he is more live to earn the win and finish due to his offensive striking still and Park’s lack of striking defense. He should be low owned too coming off a loss and Park receiving some betting action.**

Bantamweight Mudaerji Su vs. Andre Soukhamthath

A bout on paper that appears to be a striker’s battle, but will it come to fruition for the whole fight? Andre Soukhamthath made a camp change to American Top Team for this fight, so I am expecting them to come in with a good game plan versus Mudaerji who has shown weakness to defensive grappling. He was taken down, had his guard passed, and submitted by Louis Smolka in his UFC debut who I do not consider to be a better athlete than Soukhamthath. Mudaeji prefers to fight at range where his output is low and does not throw in combination. I am hopeful Soukamthath wrestles in this bout considering he has done so more in his recent bouts and also due to the glaring flaw in Mudaerji’s game. Although there is not a ton of footage of it, Soukamthath has shown glimpses of a solid submission game. Soukhamthath I also believe can land takedowns if he attempts them which I believe will lead him to victory if he chooses to do so. I would favor Andre striking as well.

**For DK: I would prefer to play Soukamthath or pass on this fight completely. If Soukhamthath does not choose to grapple, this fight will not produce hardly any DK points since they will both be fighting at range (i.e. Jon Jones versus Thiago Santos zzzzzzz….) with a finish unlikely to occur.**

Light Heavyweight Da Un Jung vs. Khadis Ibragimov

A true striker versus grappler/wrestler matchup here. Da Un Jung looks good on tape. He looks like a decent athlete, is big for the weight class, is technical, throws in combination, and is measured BUT he can be taken down very easily and that’s where Ibragimov poses a huge threat in this matchup. Ibragmiov, I believe, will be at a striking disadvantage in this matchup, but I believe he can land takedowns when he attempts them. I did notice a size advantage in favor of Jung at weigh ins, but his takedown defense on tape has shown to be too poor for me to believe he will defend takedowns in this spot. This is a tough one to call, but I will side with Ibragimov despite the short notice call here. He can land takedowns, hold position on the ground, and potentially threaten Jung with a submission.

**FOR DK: I like this fight. Both fighters have the capability of exposing the other in their respective strengths. Ibragimov can land several takedowns, pass guard, and earn a finish on the ground and Jung can earn a KO/TKO finish while the fight is standing as Ibragimov has shown susceptible striking defense and questionable risk management.**

Lightweight Damir Ismagulov vs. Thiago Moises

Thiago Moises is a high-level submission grappler, but will be at a wrestling disadvantage versus high-level prospect Damir Ismagulov. Ismagulov has technical and defensively sound striking. He is also a high-level wrestler and fighter in general. I believe Ismagulov will have the takedown defense to keep this fight standing where he will hold the advantage. I do not expect a finish, but due to the wide striking disparity in favor of Damir, I would not be surprised to see the fight end that way.

**FOR DK: I do not like this fight on DK as I believe it will be a lower output striker’s battle.**

Bantamweight Batgerel Danaa vs. Heili Alateng

Odds value alert! This fight is the toughest fight to call on the entire card by a decent bit (the other one in contention being Inoue versus Yanan). Both have shown they can be technical in some footage, but in other areas have shown questionable risk management. Alateng is more experienced and arguable more technical, but his output is low. Danaa is more aggressive and a bit more likely to go for takedowns, but I do not believe that will be his primary game plan. I am okay with saying I do not know for this one, but….(please see below).

**FOR DK: One of the beautiful things about playing DraftKings is that we do not need to predict winners we just like high point totals in our lineups. This fight has the potential to be a brawl, so for that reason, both fighters are in play, but Alatang is my preferred play due to the current odds value (-105 per 5Dimes at 8:08pm CST) at his cheap DK price tag ($7,700). Danaa is a solid play to throw in a couple lineups if making 10 or more lineups.**

Women's Bantamweight Karolline Rosa Cavedo vs. Lara Fritzen Procopio

Odds value alert again! Karolline Rosa Cavedo is currently a favorite per 5dimes at -120 only being priced at $7,800 on DK. Also, I do believe she wins the fight from a stylistic matchup perspective. On tape, Rosa Cavedo is a much better striker and wrestler. Rose Cavedo is technical, defensively sound, athletic, a good wrestler, and has good fundamentals. All these things qualities I like when researching a fighter. Fritzen Procopio’s best strength is her grappling. She does not look comfortable when striking and she will also be at a wrestling disadvantage in this bout (Rosa Cavedo also looked more physical at weigh ins). I feel confident picking Rosa Cavedo. As long as she does not get caught in a submission on the ground from Fritzen Procopio’s guard, I believe she wins comfortably.

**FOR DK: I like Rosa Cavedo. She is has odds value, but I do not believe she will be as popular as Alateng or other reasonable odds value underdogs. I believe Rosa Cavedo wins and can put up a decent to good score in a decision (assuming she wrestles offensively).**

**AJ’s Flash Knockdown Picks**:

**Lock HER in (cash games):**

* Jessica Andrade $8,700

**High priced fades:**

* ~~Damir Ismagulov $9,000~~
* ~~Kai Kara-France $9,100~~

**Low-owned live underdogs:**

* Da Un Jung $6,900
* Karolline Rosa Cavedo $7,800

**Underdogs to consider in cash games:**

* Weili Zhang $7,500
* Karolline Rosa Cavedo $7,800

**Low-owned tournament plays:**

* Anthony Hernandez $8,800
* Khadis Ibragimov $9,300