



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2004 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Alexandra E. Stone	Project Number J1220
Project Title Do Odds-Makers Make Accurate Predictions?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals The objective of my project was to determine if odds-makers# predictions about sporting events were accurate and if they improved throughout the season. Methods/Materials The published scoreboard from the Union Tribune was used to develop a data table where I tracked fourteen through sixteen games per week the predicted point spread, and the predicted point total. After the games were played I recorded the actual point spread and the actual point total. With this information I computed the difference between predicted point spread and actual point spread and the difference between the predicted point total and actual point total. At the end of my experiment I analyzed the data so I could draw conclusions about the accuracy of the predictions. Results The winners were correctly predicted approximately 63% of the time. There was not a pattern with predicting total points throughout the season. Conclusions/Discussion The predictions improved slightly, though not significantly, over the course of the season.	
Summary Statement My porject is about the predicted odds and how it compares to what actually happens.	
Help Received My father helped me recieve all my information, and my science teacher guided me through the science fair project.	