



# MLB Slugfests Dominate Thuuz Sports Most Exciting Rankings For September

High Scoring Pac-12 Showdown and Close NFL Matchups Also Top the List

**PALO ALTO, Calif. - Sep. 6, 2019** - Thuuz Sports, the most powerful automated video highlights production platform for worldwide sports, today announced the August Top 10 most exciting games. With the MLB post-season approaching and the much-anticipated kick-off of College Football, this month's list will not disappoint.

Using custom-designed algorithms to measure real-time event excitement, Thuuz provides a unique look into what games have gotten fans the most excited and engaged.

Game excitement ratings are measured on a 0 to 100 scale and take into consideration game pace, team parity, play novelty, momentum shifts, social buzz, and historical context. The algorithms behind the excitement ratings are statistically calibrated to ensure the appropriate distribution of ratings across the duration of a season or course of a tournament.

## **1. UCLA 67, WSU 63 (NCAAF): 9/21**

This early candidate for game of the year featured 130 points, a quarterback throwing nine touchdown passes and losing, and a 32 point, second-half comeback for UCLA. Down 32, UCLA scored 50 (!!!) points in the second half led by six touchdowns from their sophomore quarterback Dorian Thompson-Robinson. He threw the game-winning touchdown with just over a minute left to cap the ultimate comeback. In a losing, but stunning, effort, Cougars' quarterback Anthony Gordon threw for 570-yards and the aforementioned record nine touchdowns including four of them to receiver Easop Winston Jr. It was UCLA's first win of the season.

## **2. Mets 10, Nationals 11 (MLB): 9/3**

In an NL East September ballgame that had postseason implications, the Nats scored seven runs in the bottom of the ninth to pull off a stunning ninth-inning comeback to defeat the Mets. At 5-4 entering the top of the ninth, the Mets scored five runs to give them a seemingly insurmountable six-run lead, as MLB teams had been 274-0 entering the ninth inning with a six-plus run lead up to this game throughout the 2019 season. It was not to be, as Kurt Suzuki capped the memorable inning with a three-run home run off of Mets' closer Edwin Diaz.

### **3. Cardinals 9, Cubs 8 (MLB): 9/21**

These two rivals played in a back-and-forth affair with seven lead changes throughout the game. With the Cubs holding a slim 8-7 lead entering the ninth inning, Chicago brought in their closer Craig Kimbrel to try to hold onto the lead. His first pitch of the inning was ambushed by Cards captain, Yadier Molina, for a game-tying home run. His next pitch was annihilated for the game-winning home run by Paul DeJong, as the Cardinals would go on to sweep the Cubs and basically knock them out of playoff contention.

### **4. Timbers 2, Revs 2 (MLS): 9/25**

Before Portland and New England reached the MLS playoffs with favorable outcomes on "Decision Day", they played in this 2-2 thriller in Portland. It was 0-0 at the half before two second-half goals by Jeremy Ebobisse giving the Timbers a 2-0 lead. The Revs pulled one back in the 87th minute before some late drama gave the Timbers a penalty kick opportunity. In the sixth minute of stoppage time, after there was only supposed to be four such minutes, the Revs were the beneficiaries of a VAR review, as Carles Gil stepped up and slotted in the penalty kick to end the match in a 2-2 draw.

### **5. Texans 28, Saints 30 (NFL): 9/9**

In the first NFL game in New Orleans since the devastating NFC Championship non-call pass interference loss, the Saints pulled off a dramatic last-second comeback win over the Texans to begin 2019 with a win. Up 24-21 at the two-minute warning, NO ran the clock down to 50-seconds before kicking a field goal to go up by six. Two big plays later, Houston tied up the game with a touchdown pass, with a chance to take a one-point lead with the field goal. After missing the initial try, a penalty gave Houston a second try which they converted successfully to gain a 28-27 lead. It didn't last, as the Saints drove down before kicker, Will Lutz, converted a 58-yard field goal at the buzzer to give the Saints the victory.

### **6. Giants 9, Cardinals 8 (MLB): 9/4**

A four-run third inning staked the Giants to an early 4-0 lead before St. Louis began to battle back. They scored a run in the third, the fourth, and two in the fifth inning to tie the game at four apiece. The game got weird in the sixth, when, with two outs and a runner on first, the Cardinals induced a normal ground ball. Shortstop Paul DeJong looked to second, decided to throw to first, but at the last minute throwing back to second base, where the second baseman was not ready to receive the ball. Brandon Crawford made the Cardinals pay with a three-run home run in his next at-bat to give the Giants a 7-4 lead. The Cardinals would go on to score four runs in the bottom of the inning to lead 8-7, but an eighth-inning two-run homerun from Kevin Pillar put the Giants up 9-8.

### **7. Colts 24, Chargers 30 (NFL): 9/8**

With Melvin Gordon sitting out the first few weeks of the season, Chargers' backup running back, Austin Ekeler, scored three touchdowns, including the game-winning touchdown in overtime to secure a win in the season opener for the Chargers. Meanwhile, this was the first game for the Colts since the shocking retirement announcement from a former franchise quarterback, Andrew Luck. Quarterback, Jacoby Brissett, responded with 190 passing yards and two touchdowns, including the game-tying touchdown with 38-seconds left after an eight-minute drive.

### **8. Astros 2, Blue Jays 0 (MLB): 9/1**

Astros ace Justin Verlander punctuated a dominant regular season by throwing his third career no-hitter in a 2-0 win over Toronto. With the game tied 0-0 entering the ninth inning, the Astros young, backup, third baseman Abraham Toro hit a two-run home run to put the Astros in front and set the stage for a dramatic ninth inning. And in fitting fashion, Verlander's final out was a ground ball that went to Toro, who

threw across the diamond in time to secure Verlander's third, and the Astros' 13th career franchise no-hitter.

#### **9. Athletics 4, Yankees 5 (MLB): 9/1**

The A's and the Yankees seemed to be sitting at a standstill at 0-0 until the A's scored three runs in the seventh inning and another run in the eighth. In an attempt to catch up to the A's, the Yankees bounced-back in the bottom of the eighth inning, scoring three runs. With the score 4-3 entering the bottom of the ninth inning, the A's believed they were on track to win the game. Unfortunately for Oakland, that's not how it went as their closer Liam Hendriks blew it in the ninth inning giving up back-to-back home runs, ending the game with a Yankees celebration.

#### **10. Daniil Medvedev vs Rafael Nadal 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4**

A final that looked like it may be one-sided turned out to be a thrilling match as Rafael Nadal ultimately secured the years final Grand Slam by defeating Daniil Medvedev in five sets. Nadal dominated early to go up two sets to none, but after an impressive summer, Medvedev battled back by winning the next two sets. Nadal secured a double-break to lead the fifth set 5-2 with the serve. Medvedev battled back and won Nadal's serve and his own before holding multiple breakpoints to even the final set at five. He couldn't capitalize, and finally, on his third championship point, Nadal was able to secure his 19th Grand Slam trophy.

#### **ABOUT Thuuz Sports**

Leveraging its automation platform, Thuuz Sports enables Personalized Clips, Highlight Reels, and Condensed Games: any duration, any perspective, involving any set of plays, players, fantasy rosters, narratives, and themes. Thuuz Sports also offers a Subjective Sports Metadata Service that enables its customers to deliver sports apps and guides that deliver a truly personalized experience to their fans based on leveraging Thuuz Sports excitement ratings, dynamic headlines, and real-time notifications. Thuuz Sports customers reach well over 150 million sports fans worldwide and include some of the biggest names in the industry.

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