



PossessionPointsSM

Points Of The Week

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Week in Review

Notable Games and Moments

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PossessionPoints was **12-4** in our straight up picks this week with our ATS being **10-6** and our Green Selections **2-1**. We always say watch out for us starting Week 3 when we have two weeks of real data under our belts. This week, we saw some upsets, but for the most part the teams that did win, should have won. We did notice that while some games were tight in scores, they were boring to watch because the teams seemed to possess a lack of drive or sense of urgency. Most notably today was the Redskins-Cardinals game which we will go into detail below. However, the biggest offender of this “I don’t care attitude” belongs to the Detroit Lions who seem to think they are only obligated to score in the second half when the game is out of their reach. To the Lions we say, “You appear *in* and deserve to be *in* the bottom five of our PossessionPoints Performance Rankings.”

Let’s get down to the games and see who scored victories and
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Fantasy Land – Patience Needed

We have spent the last two weeks talking about the curveballs that injury and weather can throw at your Fantasy lineup. This week, we want to talk about the unexpected poor performance by your line-up’s star. There were several instances of this phenomenon during Week 3. Perhaps your wide receiver was TO, who only had 19 yards and no TD’s for only 1.9 Fantasy points. Or maybe your had WRs Andre Johnson with just 2.9 points or Calvin Johnson with only 4.0 points. Was your pick Brian Westbrook who injured his ankle early in the game with Pittsburgh and only earned 1.2 points or Willie Parker who played the whole game and earned only 2 points? Did you have even Adrian Peterson who managed a humanlike 7.7 points?

Relax, the worst thing you could do would be to have a knee-jerk reaction. If the player is a quality player on a quality team, stick with him. You need to have patience and evaluate each week. You may want to think twice if you are starting a Running Back against the Eagles, Ravens or Titans, even a superstar Running Back. But, don’t dump that superstar for one bad performance. Injury and underperforming teams may be a reason to rework your squad. If you have Westbrook, you will need to find out how bad his ankle injury is. If you have Andre or Calvin Johnson you have to wonder if their opportunities might be limited by the lack of performance of the Lions and Texans. While both of these teams are in our “bottom 5” of performance rankings, we think the Texans have a better chance than the Lions to climb out of this group.

Dogs of the Week

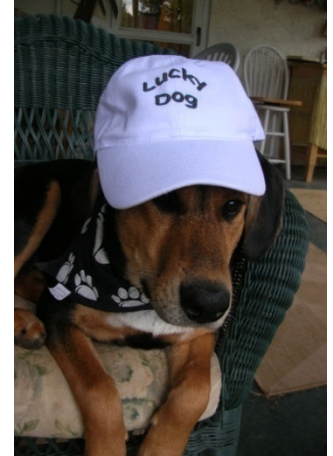
Lucky Dog of the Week

Team that Wins with the Fewest Offensive PossessionPoints

This week's winner: Baltimore Ravens

The Ravens are the Lucky Dog for the second time this season (and they have only played two games). What is their secret? A Defense that scores. The only Green on the Ravens' chart this week was on the Defensive side of the ball, but at least their Offense got out of the Red with 79 Yellow PossessionPoints. The same cannot be said for the Browns who appear to be a team in total disarray. The Ravens' Defense held them to 48 PossessionPoints and only 10 points on the scoreboard. The Ravens could become a great powerhouse if their Offense would step up to the plate. The Ravens' Defense appears to be returning to their 2006 form when they walked away with the Division title. .

Final Score: Ravens 28 Browns 10



The Ravens are Lucky again!
That must be what happens
when there is little offense.!

Unlucky Dog of the Week

Most PossessionPoints for a losing team for the week

And the winner is: The New Orleans Saints

Despite earning a solid Green 149 PossessionPoints, the Saints came up short in their attempt to catch the fast-starting Broncos. New Orleans had a solid performance by Drew Brees who threw for more than 400 yards and Reggie Bush who had more than 140 all purpose yards and two touchdowns. However, the early fury by the Broncos was too much to overcome even though the Saints had a chance to win this game had Martin Grammatica's field goal attempt had not missed wide right. The Broncos totaled 126 PossessionPoints which made this game a Green-Green shootout in PossessionPoints land.

Final Score: Broncos 34 Saints 32



When will the Saints come
marching in? We are waiting.

Dogs of the Week

Top Dog

Most PossessionPoints for the week

And the winner is: The Seattle Seahawks

Seattle was one of our ATS Green Selections, so a big margin of victory is exactly what we were expecting!

The Seahawks win this week's award for Top Dog. Seattle amassed a remarkable 210 PossessionPoints to the Rams' 81. Granted, the Seahawks were playing the Rams, but they looked like the Seahawks of old and the Rams do appear to be somewhat better than they were last year, so this win was not a hollow victory. Seattle was one of our ATS Green Selections, so a big margin of victory is exactly what we were expecting. The Seahawks were able to produce a solid running attack with Julius Jones who rushed for 140 yards and one touchdown. TJ Duckett also rushed for 79 yards and two touchdowns. When a team has this type of strength on the ground, they become very tough to beat.

Final Score: Seahawks 37 Rams 13

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who scored duds

The Bills Green Sweep the Raiders

Who would have thought that the Bills would be 3-0 this season? Even more surprising is that Buffalo posted a Green Sweep victory with only a one-point margin on the scoreboard. The Bills came back from a 10-point deficit and won a nail biter against the Raiders. In PossessionPoints, the Bills had a very powerful 136 while the Raiders posted a red 50. We would like to note here that so far this season, there have been nine PossessionPoints Green Sweeps, and all the teams that earned those Green Sweeps have gone on to victory. In past seasons, the Green Sweep percentage has hovered around 92 percent. So far this season, it is 100 percent.

Final Score: Bills 24 Raiders 23

Surprise! Surprise! Dolphins Green Sweep Patriots

It is starting to look as if New England is a one-man team and without that one man, the Patriots are ineffective. This is not a slam on Matt Cassel who has proven competent. But we must ask what happened to the Patriots' play makers and just as important, what happened to their Defense? Perhaps, with New England showing some weakness, other teams are seeing an opportunity for some emotional payback for humiliating defeats last season. In today's game, the Dolphins totaled a whopping and near top-dog 205 PossessionPoints to the Patriots' red 57.

Final Score: Dolphins 38 Patriots 13

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Washington Eases Past Cardinals

Washington came away with this win, but for much of the game, it looked as if neither team really cared who posted the victory. There was no spark on either bench or in the crowd for that matter. It seemed like four quarters of two teams trying to give each other the game. When all was said and done, The Redskins managed a win posting a Green 116 PossessionPoints to the Cardinals Yellow 92. This game also highlighted the new NFL rule that allows teams that win the coin toss to defer the decision to receive the ball until the second half. The Redskins took advantage of the Cardinals decision to defer and marched down the field for a touchdown on their first possession putting the Cardinals in an immediate hole. While deferring may be a fine strategy in college ball, we wonder about it at the pro level except in circumstances where weather may be a factor during the game.

Final Score: Redskins 24 Cardinals 17

Giants Eke Past Bengals in PossessionPoints Shoot Out

The Giants are posting victories – albeit not pretty ones. In this contest, the Giants totaled 146 PossessionPoints to the Bengals 138. This was a Green-Green shootout which may just mean both Defenses stunk. Needless to say, this game not only came down to the wire but over it, and the Giants had to take the win in OT. This type of game is becoming commonplace for the Giants who are winning, but struggle in each game. This could be a warning flag for New York. On the other hand, New York remains in our top ten in Performance Rankings. Despite their 0-3 record, the Bengals actually showed some sign of life today forcing the Giants into OT. There is potential, but the Bengals need to make improvements especially in their play clock management skills.

Final Score: Giants 26 Bengals 23

Vikings Green Sweep Panthers in Decisive Win

With a new Quarterback at the helm, the Vikings came alive - in the second half – to post a win over the Panthers. Unfortunately for the Panthers, there was no miracle Hail Mary Pass in their game plan today. The Vikings managed to total 121 PossessionPoints to the Panthers 52. The new Quarterback change may have been a key factor in the Vikings' surge to victory and renewed life.

Final Score: Vikings 20 Panthers 10

Falcons Soar Over Chiefs in another Victory

Confidence is growing in the Peach State as the Falcons may have already exceeded many experts' expectations for their team this season. In this game against the hapless Chiefs, Atlanta earned 138 PossessionPoints while the Chiefs posted a mere 63.7. Rookie Quarterback Matt Ryan has definitely provided a spark to the once-beleaguered Falcons.

Final Score: Falcons 38 Chiefs 14

Tampa Bay Gets Win in Over Time Duel over Bears

Can Goldilocks even find her Bears? The Bears and the Bucs traded scoreboard points throughout this entire game. It took OT for the Bucs to finally put an end to this ordeal. Even in OT, the struggle continued as both teams had to punt at least once before the Bucs finally managed to mount a scoring drive. The Bucs totaled 95 PossessionPoints to the Bears 119 which almost made the Bears our Unlucky Dog.

Final Score: Bucs 27 Bears 24

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San Francisco Has Impressive Green Sweep Win over Winless Detroit

This season, the Lions seem to not show up until the second half of their games. They allow their opponents to take the game out of reach before they make an effort to get on the score board. It is no surprise then that Detroit posted their third loss of their so far miserable season. Maybe this is some bizarre coaching plot to throw competition off guard. Maybe it's just plain bad coaching strategy. In this game, San Francisco totaled an impressive 146 PossessionPoints to the Lions' Red 54. It's safe to say that Detroit did not leave their heart in San Francisco. How could they when they didn't bring it with them from Michigan. Detroit is looking forward to their bye week as it is a sure thing they won't post a loss .

Final Score: 49ers 31 Lions 13

Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Battle it Out in Slug Fest in Pennsylvania

When all was said and done, Ben Roethlisberger, Brian Westbrook, Donovan McNabb, Tony Hunt and numerous others all spent time with their respective medical staffs. This game was a physical contest that kept fans on the edge of their seats until the very end. Roethlisberger was sacked nine times while McNabb fell three times. In PossessionPoints, the Steelers totaled a mere, very red 25 to the Eagles very Yellow 87. This is what is known as Defensive struggle. In the end, the Eagles took home the win, but both teams will be feeling the physical effects of this game for weeks to come.

Final Score: Eagles 15 Steelers 6

Manning Magic Muffled at Game's End

Peyton Manning attempted a fourth quarter, come from behind victory, and came - oh so close- to making the Jaguars the Unlucky Dog of the Week. With only a little more than a minute left in the game, a hand off to Joseph Addai resulted in a touchdown for the Colts and a 21 to 20. Lead. Alas, Indianapolis' Defense without Bob Sanders had little bark and no bite. The Jaguars were able to use that little time to get into distant field goal range. Their kicker, Josh Scobee, managed to land a 51-yard field goal and take the lead with three seconds left on the clock. We don't care how magical Peyton Manning is, he was not coming back to win that game! How weird is the AFC this year in that the Pats, Colts and Chargers are all on the short end of the stick? As far as PossessionPoints go, the Jaguars earned 144 while the Colts posted 71.

Final Score: Jaguars 23 Colts 21

Dallas Dances to Victory in Lambeau Field

This game was closer in PossessionPoints than it was on the scoreboard. Under the able leadership of Aaron Rodgers, the Packers posted an amost Green 91PossessionPoints. Alas, this was not good enough to beat the Cowboys who earned a total of 101 PossessionPoints. As you know we have been following Fantasy data this year, and this game had an unusual twist for those who have Terrell Owens on their team. He managed to a very disappointing 1.7 Fantasy points on just 17 receiving yards. Was this T.O.'s doing or just good Defensive play by the Packers to keep him away from the ball? One thing for sure, future Defenses will look at this tape to see what the Packers did to shut down the potent Romo to T.O. combo.

Final Score: Cowboys 27 Packers 16

Titans Green Sweep Texans

Not even the Texans' speedy Steve Slaton could keep the Tennessee Defense from doing their

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job. In this game, the Texans earned 108 PossessionPoints to the Texans 54. The story in this game was the Titans' Defense that made off with three interceptions – one of which was returned 99 yards by Cortland Finnegan for a touchdown

Final Score: Titans 31 Texans 12

Chargers Pummel Jets

It was not Brett Favre's night in that he had two passes intercepted and sacked three times. This should have come as no shock to the Jets who knew they were facing a Chargers' team desperate for a win and looking for redemption from last week's bad ref call. On the plus side for Favre, he did throw for 271 yards and three touchdowns. The Chargers had 188 PossessionPoints to the Jets 76. Although not a Green Sweep, their victory was pretty much assured by halftime as they earned a Green Net as well.

Final Score: Chargers 48 Jets 29

Season PossessionPoints Offensive Performances – Week 3

Season Totals (Rank By Offense)						
Place	Team	W	L	Offense		Defense
				Effect / game	Net / game	Effect / game
1	Chargers	1	2	149.25	41.22	108.03
2	Broncos	3	0	147.04	23.29	123.75
3	Cowboys	3	0	143.86	36.79	107.07
4	Cardinals	2	1	130.59	47.55	83.04
5	Giants	3	0	127.80	48.11	79.69
6	Eagles	2	1	122.99	48.11	74.88
7	Seahawks	1	2	118.77	28.75	90.02
8	49ers	2	1	115.42	-0.15	115.57
9	Dolphins	1	2	113.43	17.03	96.41
10	Bills	3	0	112.13	52.62	59.51
11	Falcons	2	1	110.95	27.02	83.93
12	Packers	2	1	106.60	10.94	95.66
13	Vikings	1	2	104.43	48.58	55.85
14	Saints	1	2	102.32	-0.04	102.36
15	Patriots	2	1	98.08	-18.13	116.21
16	Steelers	2	1	94.25	8.49	85.76
17	Jaguars	1	2	91.95	4.29	87.66
18	Titans	3	0	86.29	49.17	37.12
19	Bears	1	2	85.76	5.98	79.78
20	Redskins	2	1	82.74	-2.86	85.60
21	Bucs	2	1	82.14	-11.72	93.86
22	Raiders	1	2	81.94	-30.88	112.82
23	Jets	1	2	80.99	-45.83	126.82
24	Panthers	2	1	78.41	-17.92	96.33
25	Browns	0	3	76.67	-20.43	97.10
26	Texans	0	2	73.32	-77.87	151.18
27	Lions	0	3	68.72	-71.55	140.27
28	Ravens	2	0	63.40	36.00	27.40
29	Rams	0	3	62.06	-108.67	170.73
30	Bengals	0	3	60.74	-34.59	95.34
31	Colts	1	2	60.68	-37.09	97.77
32	Chiefs	0	3	55.58	-70.18	125.76

Top Five – The hard luck Chargers have moved to the top of our Offensive Performance chart. Many people talk about how they “could” be 3-0, and the PossessionPoints performance charts capture that and they are our number 1 offense. (However, on our Performance Rankings which is based on net they are 7th so their defense needs work). Joining the Chargers in the top 5 are the Broncos, Cowboys, Cardinals, and Giants. Three of those teams have been in the top 5 since week 1.

Big Movers – The Patriots who last season were a constant at number 1 tumbled from 8th down to 15th. It isn't that they lost, it is how they lost that is troublesome. The Steelers fell from 6th to 16th, the Eagles really put a dent in the Steelers' offensive numbers. While the Steelers caused the Eagles to fall out of the top 5, they only fell to 6th. On the plus side, the Dolphins vaulted from 25th to 9th with their near Top dog 200+ PossessionPoints performance this week.

Bottom Five – As strange as it is to not see the Patriots in the top 5, it is even stranger to see the Colts in the bottom 5. While they are not in the “red”, they are 31st in the league which won't win many games. It is hard to believe that they were almost 2-1 this week. Joining the Colts in the bottom 5 offenses are the Ravens, Rams, Bengals and Chiefs. The Ravens are 2-0 but their defense is number 1 so their net is a very solid 36 making them 9th on our Performance Ranking Chart this week.

Make sure that you check PossessionPoints.com website for the weekly performance rankings where we will list the teams based on the “net” effect column. We also show the teams ranked by defense.