



PossessionPointsSM

Points Of The Week

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Week in Review

Notable Games and Moments

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Why is it that some teams start each game as if they have all the time in the world to score points (Chargers) while other teams come out fast and fade just as fast (Raiders)? We believe that neither scoring philosophy is beneficial to teams or fans. With that said, let's look at the highlights of the week and see who came to play in Week 4 and who just went through the motions.

Titans Prove their Might over the Vikings

Although they are doing ever so quietly, the Titans are becoming a force to be reckoned with in the NFL. Tennessee is now 4-0 with this win over the Vikings. While this week was not an impressive PossessionPoints win as both teams finished in the Yellow, the Titans are in the top five of our Performance Rankings. Their talent and

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Fantasy Land

If you had Brett Favre as your Fantasy QB this week, then you were very lucky. Favre threw for 6 touchdown passes - three of them to Laveranues Coles. So, if you had the Favre-Coles connection, you truly had a wonderful week. Not to be outdone on the other side of the ball, Kurt Warner threw for 472 yards with two touchdowns. On the negative side, Warner also threw three interceptions. The interceptions were a key factor in Warner not producing the same number of Fantasy points as Favre. The Cardinals have found themselves way behind playing catch up a couple of times this season, and while Fantasy players like the points catch up play provides, Cardinals' fans must be experiencing a lot of frustration.

While all leagues differ, we want to note the often overlooked member of your Fantasy lineup may well be the "Defense/Special Teams" unit. This year, if your league scores like the "Rotohog" league, you would be happy if you had the Titans' defense. So far this season, Tennessee has amassed 78 points. That is more points than any player other than QBs Favre, Cutler and Rivers. That's right - more points than every Wide Receiver, Running Back, Tight End or Kicker. Will the Titans be able to keep up this pace? It's doubtful but with a quarter of the season gone, it has been a pleasant surprise if you happen to have the Titans' defense.

Dogs of the Week

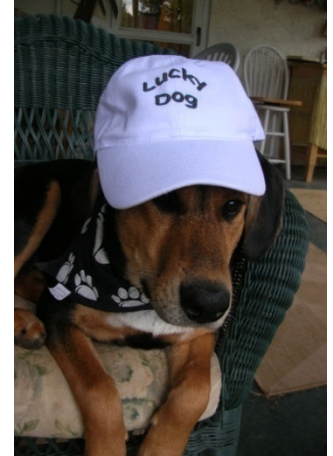
Lucky Dog of the Week

Team that Wins with the Fewest Offensive PossessionPoints

This week's winner: Chicago Bears

The Bears may have been missing in action last week, but this week they came to play and to defeat the Philadelphia Eagles. We don't know what it was with Illinois teams playing Pennsylvania teams this week, but they loved the no-huddle offense. The University of Illinois used it on Penn State with some success while the Chicago Bears had better luck and a home field crowd helping them out. Although the Bears posted this win, they did not outplay the Eagles. By PossessionPoints standards, the Bears won with the fewest PossessionPoints of the week with a Yellow 65 while the Eagles totaled a Yellow 80. We have to note that had the usually consistent David Akers hit two of the field goals he missed in this game, the score and the game might have gone the Eagles' way.

Final Score: Bears 24 Eagles 20



Da Bears got lucky against the Birds!

Unlucky Dog and Top Dog of the Week

Most PossessionPoints for a losing team for the week AND the most PossessionPoints for the week

And the First winner in this combined category: The Houston Texans

Well, the Texans made PossessionPoints history this week. Houston became the first team ever to be not only Top Dog but Unlucky Dog as well. The Texans posted a whopping 201 very Green PossessionPoints yet still managed to lose their game by a field goal in Over Time to the Jaguars who had an almost equally impressive Green 186 PossessionPoints – which was the third highest number of PossessionPoints during the week. This is one we call a PossessionPoints shoot out. Unfortunately for Houston, they lost this gunfight.

Final Score: Jaguars 30 Texans 27



What? We are Top Dog and Unlucky Dog? And we lost? Dang Over Time!

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potential is no secret to us.

During this game, the Titans produced 94 PossessionPoints to the Vikings 87. As we said before, the Offensive performances were not outstanding, but the Titans earned PossessionPoints to get the win.

Final Score: Titans 30 Vikings 17

Bucs Green Sweep Packers

In the Battle of the Bay Cities, the game appeared close, but PossessionPoints could pick out Tampa Bay's victory even as they trailed the Packers because the Bucs' PossessionPoints turned Green and the Packers' did not. Tampa Bay earned a total of 145 PossessionPoints to the Packers' 46 – which is dismal red in PossessionPoints Land.

Final Score: Bucs 30 Packers 21

Jets Destroy Cardinals

What a travesty of a football game this was! While the media is using this game again as still another tool to make the tiresome comparisons between Brett Favre and Aaron Rodgers, we are going to stick to the facts about this specific contest. The Cardinals slept throughout the entire first half. Their whole performance consisted of turnovers and miscued plays. The Jets seized the opportunity to score on the Cardinals' mistakes and thus a high-scoring game was born. It is true that in the second half, the Cardinals put up quite a few points, but they were useless points as the Jets under Favre managed to earn a very green 186 PossessionPoints. When it was all said and done, the Cardinals totaled a Green 115, but these points as well as those on the scoreboard came way too late to matter. As we head into Week 5, we hope the media can finally let go of the Rodgers comparisons. Let's face it: it is old news.

Final Score: Jets 56 Cardinals 35

New Orleans Easily Defeats San Francisco

This was a game that seemed never in doubt either on the scoreboard or in PossessionPoints. Although not a Green Sweep, the Saints did manage to post Green Offensive PossessionPoints as well as a Green Net, but they earned only Yellow in Defense. The Saints totaled 157 PossessionPoints to the 49ers 70.

Final Score: Saints 31 49ers 17

Denver Sleeps through Trip to Kansas City

Perhaps, it was the long trip to Kansas City or perhaps it was that the Broncos believed too much of their own press. Whatever the case, Denver went into this game looking a little too overconfident, and they got beat. The Chiefs came on early and never let up. Denver managed to score some points, but never really threatened the Chiefs. In PossessionPoints, the Chiefs posted a Green 139 while the Broncos posted a Yellow 84.

Final Score: Chiefs 33 Broncos 19

Falcons Fall To Panthers

This was a game where our Alter Rule had kicked in, but we decided to override it: That is our bad! The Alter Rule usually comes into play at the very beginning and very end of the season, so we thought it was a false reading. It only goes to show, we have to follow our own rules!. Anyway, the Panthers posted 94 Yellow PossessionPoints to the Falcons' miserable 29. This game

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was never in doubt, as the Panthers dominated the entire way.

Final Score: Panthers 24 Falcons 9

Cleveland Takes Battle of Ohio

The Bengals had to do without Carson Palmer in this game, and his absence was sorely missed. Cleveland earned their first victory of the season and their second Green PossessionPoints grade. The Browns totaled 106 PossessionPoints to the Bengals' 67. The points on the scoreboard made it seem like a closer contest, but in the end it was the Browns' game alone.

Final Score: Browns 20 Bengals 12.

St. Louis Quits in Game with Buffalo

The Rams started out well, and actually held a lead, but their mistakes caught up with them and then apathy set in. Buffalo is now sitting pretty at 4-0 while the Rams' future and that of their Coach remains uncertain at best. In PossessionPoints, the Bills totaled a Green 109 PossessionPoints to the Rams' 55.

Final Score: Bills 31 Rams 14

Cowboys Suffer Loss at Home

What happened to the mighty Cowboys? Just as everyone (except us) has anointed them Super Bowl favorites, the Cowboys managed to fall off their pedestal. What is worse than that fate? They fell because of the efforts of their division rivals, the Washington Redskins. While this was a close game on the scoreboard, it was not in PossessionPoints. This loss will also cause the Cowboys to fall severely in our Performance Rankings this week. Washington earned 169 PossessionPoints to Dallas' 65. We knew by the end of the third quarter that Dallas was probably not going to survive this game because the PossessionPoints told us so.

Final Score: Redskins 26 Cowboys 24

Chargers Come Alive in Second Half to Win Against Oakland

It's getting to be a habit: the Chargers don't show up until the second half and rely on their athleticism and a lot of luck to help them come from behind and win games. Even though Lady Luck turned against San Diego in the first two games, she came to their aid in this game. The best part of this win to fans: no one had to listen to Norv Turner whine again. The Chargers posted a Yellow 91 PossessionPoints to the Raiders 65. While the Chargers will be celebrating this win, Lane Kiffin might be contemplating unemployment.

Final Score: Chargers 28 Raiders 18

Ravens Lose In OT to Steelers

Upon further review, the Ravens did make their very first touchdown. The Ref called it out of bounds, and we assume that rookie Coach John Harbaugh, did not want to throw the challenge flag so early in the game. Bad mistake! The Ravens settled for a field goal which was not enough in the end to beat the Steelers, and Baltimore lost in OT. In PossessionPoints, it looked as if the Ravens would get the game in that they posted 102 to the Steelers' 87. Ill-timed penalties and one or two key plays could have easily sent this game the other way. Hey, that is football!

Final Score: Steelers 23 Ravens 20

Season PossessionPoints Standings – Week 4

Season Totals (Rank By Offense)						
Place	Team	W	L	Offense		Defense
				Effect / game	Net / game	Effect / game
1	Chargers	2	2	134.80	37.35	97.46
2	Broncos	3	1	131.35	3.62	127.73
3	Giants	3	0	127.80	48.11	79.69
4	Cardinals	2	2	126.73	17.88	108.84
5	Cowboys	3	1	124.24	1.66	122.58
6	Seahawks	1	2	118.77	28.75	90.02
7	Saints	2	2	116.00	21.68	94.31
8	Texans	0	3	115.84	-46.97	162.81
9	Jaguars	2	2	115.48	-0.49	115.97
10	Dolphins	1	2	113.43	17.03	96.41
11	Eagles	2	2	112.24	39.77	72.47
12	Bills	4	0	111.39	53.00	58.39
13	Jets	2	2	107.30	-16.60	123.90
14	Redskins	3	1	104.34	23.79	80.55
15	49ers	2	2	104.10	-21.83	125.93
16	Vikings	1	3	100.16	34.68	65.48
17	Patriots	2	1	98.08	-18.13	116.21
18	Bucs	3	1	97.83	15.94	81.89
19	Steelers	3	1	92.45	2.47	89.98
20	Packers	2	2	91.45	-16.52	107.97
21	Falcons	2	2	90.66	4.02	86.65
22	Titans	4	0	88.32	38.63	49.68
23	Browns	1	3	84.12	-5.69	89.81
24	Panthers	3	1	82.50	2.80	79.70
25	Bears	2	2	80.63	0.80	79.83
26	Raiders	1	3	77.89	-29.59	107.48
27	Chiefs	1	3	76.60	-38.78	115.39
28	Ravens	2	1	76.48	29.20	47.28
29	Lions	0	3	68.72	-71.55	140.27
30	Bengals	0	4	62.54	-35.58	98.12
31	Colts	1	2	60.68	-37.09	97.77
32	Rams	0	4	60.31	-95.03	155.34

Top Five – First, we need to point out that there are 16 teams who are averaging “green” offensive performances this year, and none of them are the Colts or Patriots. But with the stellar offensive numbers come “red” defensive numbers, and there are many teams in the red there. There is only 1 team “green” across the board and that is the “Bills”. They currently rank first in our Performance Rankings while they are just 12th here. Offensively, the top 5 teams this week are the same as last week, the Chargers, Broncos, Giants, Cardinals and Cowboys. However, the Broncos, Cowboys and Cardinals need to work on their defense.

Big Movers – Despite their loss, the Texans moved from 26th to 8th on the offense list. However, they are still “red” in net which will keep them in the bottom 5 of our Performance Rankings and accounts for their 0-3 record. The Saints with their win moved from 14th up to 7th. This year, it seems teams are still “finding themselves” so there is a fair amount of movement.

Bottom Five – The bottom 5 are truly offensively challenged although one team, the Ravens, by virtue of their strong defense has a very positive net, and therefore, a good Performance Ranking. The remainder of the bottom 5 have only 1 win amongst them. They are the Lions, Bengals, Colts and Rams.

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.