



PossessionPointsSM

Points Of The Week

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Week in Review

Notable Games and Moments

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So far in 2008, 74 games have been played. There have been 65 times when the Offensive numbers of teams have turned Green in PossessionPoints. Seventy-Five percent of the time, teams with the Green Offensive Effect have won. There have been 50 times when the Defensive Effect has stayed Green. Teams with Green Defensive numbers have won 94 percent of the time. There have been 43 games where teams have achieved a Green Net Effect. Ninety-five percent of the time, teams with the Green Net Effect won their games. So far this season, 15 Green Sweeps have occurred, and in all 15 instances, the teams with the Green Sweep won their games. The Offensive percentage is exactly consistent with the 2007 and 2006 numbers while all the percentages are running slightly better than the past two seasons. So, as an in-game stat, PossessionPoints is still tops as an

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Fantasy Land

As byes and injuries mount in the middle of the season, adjustments will be plentiful. Fantasy players should be looking at teams whose bye weeks have passed for their team choices. If your league is such that you can get at only sleeper players, the Texans' Steve Slaton (who we have been watching since his high school days) appears to be the real deal. Slaton continued to get significant carries this week even with the return of Ahman Green. While Dominick Hixon of the Giants will get less play with the return of Plaxico Burress, he has impressed his coaching staff and plenty of Fantasy Players with the time he has played this season. So, look for him to be used in different situations with the Giants. He can be a good number 3 receiver or a bye week replacement for one of your top receivers.

Dogs of the Week

Lucky Dog of the Week

Team that Wins with the Fewest Offensive PossessionPoints

This week's winner: Tennessee Titans

In this defensive struggle, we figured that whoever won this game would probably be this week's Lucky Dog. The Titans managed a respectable 76 Yellow PossessionPoints while holding the Ravens to 67 PossessionPoints. This was a very close game both on the scoreboard and from a PossessionPoints point of view. The Titans move to an unbelievable 5-0 on the season leading the AFC South mostly on the strength of a fine Defense. The Titans have a bye week next week which is fairly well timed, and they have to be thinking that they are well positioned to unseat the Colts as the best team in the AFC South. .

Final Score: Titans 13 Ravens 10



Wow, these Titans really know how to play Defense.

Unlucky Dog of the Week

Most PossessionPoints for a losing team for the week

And the winner is: The Houston Texans

In what seemed like an instant, the Houston Texans went from a sure victory to a shocking defeat. Ahead 27-10 late in the 4th quarter, the Texans were almost ready to kneel down (and perhaps they should have) to close out the game. Instead, in an effort to make a play, Sage Rosenfels scrambled, hurdled and lost the ball. The Colts picked it up and returned it for a touchdown. On the very next possession, Rosenfels dropped back for a pass and again had the ball stripped from his hands. Peyton Manning quickly turned this mistake into a game winning touchdown. This all occurred in a 4-minute span.

As far as PossessionPoints go, the Texans totaled a very Green 161 PossessionPoints to the Colts' Green 102. This game only proves the old saying, "It ain't over until the fat lady sings" or in this case when your Quarterback makes the decision to kneel on the ball. From PossessionPoints point of view, we still stand by this pick. Two stupid plays by their backup QB turned this sure victory into a loss.

Final Score: Colts 31 Texans 27



Dodge, duck and dive!
Someone needs to teach this to the Texans' QB.

Dogs of the Week

Top Dog

Most PossessionPoints for the week

And the winner is: The Arizona Cardinals

There was never any doubt in this game that the Cardinals would take the win.

This week, the Cardinals came out of the gate fast and never lost a step. They defeated the previously unbeaten Bills who were not able to mount a comeback in this game as they did in several others this season. The Cardinals piled on both the points and the PossessionPoints. Arizona totaled 235 PossessionPoints to the Bills' 64. There was never any doubt in this game that the Cardinals would take the win. The massive negative 170 Net Effect will push the previously top-ranked Bills down significantly in our weekly Relative Performance Measure. Be sure to check out our blog and site for Weekly Performance Rankings later this week.

Final Score: Cardinals 41 Bills 17

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indicator in determining winners. If only the teams could be as consistent as PossessionPoints each week! Ah... in a perfect world! On to the games:

Giants Green Sweep Seahawks

The Seahawks must have been mighty tired from their flight east this week because they were virtually never in this game. By the 4th quarter, the Seahawks were so out of it that the Giants rested Eli Manning and gave David Carr some snaps. The Giants Offense looked more than formidable. In all fairness, we will give credit to NY's Defense as well. Either they were exceptional in keeping the Seahawks to two field goals or they were not needed in that Seattle had nothing to offer. In PossessionPoints, the Giants totaled a whopping 201 to the Seahawks blood red 15. If the Seahawks are looking for a bright side, they earned more PossessionPoints than the Chiefs or the Lions.

Final Score: Giants 44 Seahawks 6

Washington Takes Air Out of Eagles' Wings

Donovan McNabb and his Eagles made two impressive drives in the first quarter to take a 14-0 lead over the Redskins. That was the last we heard of the Eagles until the 4th quarter. Apparently, the Birds thought they had the game won. If they only looked at their PossessionPoints, they would have seen that they were far from the Green. The Redskins came on strong and never stopped. In total, Washington earned a just Green 100 PossessionPoints to the Eagles' Yellow 91. Most of the Eagles' PossessionPoints came on their 4th quarter field goal drive that consumed 7 minutes of time. This score was a true representation of the old adage, "A little

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too little, a little too late.”

Final Score: Redskins 23 Eagles 17

Miami Outshines San Diego

Can someone out there please tell the Chargers that a football game consists of two halves and they have to show up for both – not just the second? If anyone would have told us in August that the Dolphins would beat the Patriots and the Chargers, we would have laughed silly. However, the joke is on everyone because the Dolphins look like a team. As we said in our Preseason Preview, if anyone could turn the Dolphins around, it would be Parcells. Despite the win, the Dolphins did not quite make it to the Green in PossessionPoints posting a Yellow 86. That total did beat out the Chargers Red 48 which gave the Dolphins a Green Defense.

Final Score: Dolphins 17 Chargers 10

Carolina Pummels Chiefs

The Chiefs' magic appears to have only lasted one week. In their game against the Panthers, they could not even post a single point on the scoreboard. Meanwhile, the Panthers, scored in every single quarter dominating the game from start to finish. In PossessionPoints, the Panthers posted a very Green 147 while the Chiefs earned a big goose egg giving the Panthers a Green Sweep and an easy victory. By the way, the Panthers were our ATS Green Selection for the week.

Final Score: Panthers 34 Chiefs 0

Patriots Slide By 49ers to Victory

No one was perfect in this game as both teams had their share of mistakes and turnovers, but in the end, it was the Patriots who prevailed. In PossessionPoints, the Patriots earned a respectable Green 135 to the 49ers' Yellow 71. This gave the Patriots a Green Net of 63, so it is no surprise the Patriots won this game.

Final Score: Patriots 30 49ers 21

Falcons Squeak by Packers

The Falcons led most of the way, but the Packers came on strong in the end and almost pulled this game out. This game was closer in PossessionPoints than on the scoreboard. The Falcons totaled a Green 103 PossessionPoints while the Packers earned an also Green 102. As they say in the election world, this one in PossessionPoints was too close to call.

Final Score: Falcons 27 Packers 24

Bears Club Lions

Okay, Chicago fans, we know it has been a tough year in the Windy City for Baseball. But now, it is time to turn your attention to football and your Division-leading Bears. We have to wonder if the Lions will be the next team to fire their Coach midseason because the Lions have been positively awful this year. The Bears just came to play, and they never stopped. In PossessionPoints, the Bears totaled a Green 121 while the Lions earned a Red 12 giving the Bears a Green Sweep. We are sure Detroit fans wished their Tigers were still in the pennant race since the Lions do not seem to be headed to any kind of postseason play.

Final Score: Bears 34 Lions 7

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Broncos Best Bucs

Break out the Mustard as this game is all Yellow in PossessionPoints. The Broncos have a high-powered Offense, but it really only came out on one drive in this game. However, that one drive and a couple of other field goal drives were just enough to claim victory over the Bucs. The Broncos posted 94 PossessionPoints to the Bucs' 75.

Final Score: Broncos 16 Bucs 13

Dallas Survives Bengals

This game was a PossessionPoints shoot out as both teams got to the Green Offensively. It is no surprise because the Bengals did give the Cowboys quite a scare. The Bengals were within a failed 2-point conversion to tie the game in the 4th quarter. You could definitely see the Cowboy bench sweating this one out. Romo and the Cowboys put together one last touchdown drive to put the game out of reach. In PossessionPoints, the Cowboys totaled 156 to the Bengals 114.

Final Score: Cowboys 31 Bengals 22

Steelers Green Sweep Jaguars

In a bruising game, the Steelers pounded a little harder than the Jaguars and limped away with the win. Ben Roethlisberger may take the bye week that the Steelers have this week to heal. Nonetheless, the Steelers beat the Jaguars thoroughly especially in PossessionPoints. The Steelers totaled 138 Green PossessionPoints to the Jaguars Red 52 yielding a Green Sweep for Pittsburgh.

Final Score: Steelers 26 Jaguars 21

Vikings Escape New Orleans with Victory

It wasn't pretty or classic and by PossessionPoints' standards, it wasn't very impressive, but the Vikings managed to overcome two Reggie Bush punt returns to win. In all fairness, the Vikings did have their own special teams score when they returned a block field goal attempt for a touchdown. The Vikings totaled only a Yellow 86 PossessionPoints while the Saints totaled a Red 47 PossessionPoints.

Final Score: Vikings 30 Saints 27

Season PossessionPoints Standings – Week 5

Season Totals (Rank By Offense)						
Place	Team	W	L	Offense		Defense
				Effect / game	Net / game	Effect / game
1	Cardinals	3	2	148.38	48.37	100.02
2	Giants	4	0	146.29	82.79	63.50
3	Cowboys	4	1	130.77	9.77	121.00
4	Texans	0	4	127.20	-20.60	147.81
5	Broncos	4	1	124.02	6.81	117.21
6	Chargers	2	3	117.38	22.26	95.12
7	Eagles	2	3	108.11	30.09	78.02
8	Patriots	3	1	107.35	2.34	105.01
9	Jets	2	2	107.30	-16.60	123.90
10	Dolphins	2	2	106.52	22.29	84.23
11	Redskins	4	1	103.51	20.76	82.75
12	Jaguars	2	3	102.81	-17.56	120.37
13	Saints	2	3	102.21	9.40	92.81
14	Bills	4	1	102.05	8.34	93.72
15	Steelers	4	1	101.55	19.14	82.41
16	49ers	2	3	97.57	-30.21	127.78
17	Vikings	2	3	97.49	35.69	61.80
18	Panthers	4	1	95.52	31.76	63.76
19	Packers	2	3	93.60	-13.43	107.04
20	Bucs	3	2	93.29	8.84	84.45
21	Falcons	3	2	93.19	3.43	89.76
22	Seahawks	1	3	92.81	-25.15	117.95
23	Bears	3	2	88.84	22.49	66.35
24	Titans	5	0	86.00	32.68	53.32
25	Browns	1	3	84.12	-5.69	89.81
26	Raiders	1	3	77.89	-29.59	107.48
27	Ravens	2	2	74.33	19.68	54.65
28	Bengals	0	5	72.97	-36.91	109.88
29	Colts	2	2	71.21	-42.44	113.65
30	Chiefs	1	4	61.28	-60.54	121.82
31	Rams	0	4	60.31	-95.03	155.34
32	Lions	0	4	54.65	-80.98	135.63

Top Five – Here is another first this season: there is a winless team in the top 5 and this late in the season, this is very unusual. The Texans are at number 4 with a 127 Offensive PossessionPoints, and that is very impressive. It is too bad their Defense isn't as impressive as they have averaged giving up 147 PossessionPoints. Their -20 net has them way down in our performance rankings which is where you would expect to find a winless team. The remainder of the top five is filled out with teams with winning records: the Cardinals, Giants, Cowboys and Broncos.

Big Movers – The Seahawks fell from number 6 all the way down to number 22 which is amazing on just one game. The number of teams averaging over 100 PossessionPoints so far this year is equally amazing although the percentages are holding the same as in prior years as we mentioned at the start of the newsletter.

Bottom Five – We are still surprised to see the Colts in the bottom five Offensively, but in fairness they deserve to be there. They also deserve to be 1-3 instead of 2-2, but hey, that's football. Rounding out the bottom 5 are teams with very few wins amongst them: the Bengals, Chiefs, Rams and Lions. These teams need to wake their offenses up or start thinking about 2009.

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.