



PossessionPointsSM

Points Of The Week

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Week in Review

Notable Games and Moments

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PossessionPoints.com's Green Selections go 2-0 this week

We said we were going to be most interested in how our Green Selections - Against the Spread (ATS) - performed this season. We set a goal of 60 percent or better and this week we were 2-0 on those selections bringing us to 5-3 on the season which is 62.5 percent.

This week, there were an abundance of last-second wins and heartbreaking losses. One of the reasons we developed PossessionPoints was to give coaches another tool to guide their risk taking in critical late game situations. This season, we have come upon a new phenomenon. More coaches appear to be taking early game risks that are sometimes very unnecessary especially on fourth down situations. Some of these more risky “go-for-it-all” decisions

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Fantasy Land

The ups and downs of team and individual performances makes Fantasy Football one frustrating venture. Consistency is most rewarding even if you don't get the top performance every week. If your player or unit can average a good performance week in and week out, that is better than the top performance one week and a bust the next. Some of the more consistent Running Backs have been Reggie Bush and Matt Forte although both have had their ups and downs. At Quarterback, it is hard to figure: just when you think Cutler or Rivers is going to be the next consistent performer, they turn in a less than spectacular performance. However, they are still two of the best this year.

Wide Receivers are some of the most difficult players to figure as even “great” receivers can be shut down for a game by a defense that decides they are going to limit that player. Andre Johnson had a very good week in week 6 with 178 yards and a TD, but he has had some very bad weeks this year also. How will he be going forward? We expect above average as he is an outstanding Receiver. Calvin Johnson is, like his team, struggling. In time he will be a Fantasy star. It just may not be in 2008 although we wouldn't kick him off our Fantasy squad unless there was someone like a Braylon Edwards available. Randy Moss is another “surefire” Wide Receiver who is struggling this year with the loss of his QB Brady.

Dogs of the Week

Lucky Dog of the Week

Team that Wins with the Fewest Offensive PossessionPoints

This week's winner: Minnesota Vikings

If the Detroit Quarterback knew where the back of the end zone was, he would have saved himself a safety and perhaps this game against the Vikings would have gone into Over Time. Instead, this low scoring game went to the Vikings, who didn't exactly put on an outstanding performance. The Vikings got a little extra luck when a questionable pass interference call was called late in the game which set up the Vikings for a field goal that allowed them to win the game. In PossessionPoints, the Vikings managed a very red 29 to the Lions' Yellow 71. The Lions are one of the rare eight percent this season that have lost with a Green Defensive PossessionPoints number.

Final Score: Vikings 12 Lions 10



We didn't even have to score a whole lot of points to win this one!

Unlucky Dog of the Week

Most PossessionPoints for a losing team for the week

And the winner is: The Chicago Bears

All the Bears had to do was defend for 11 seconds. But the vaunted Bears' Defense was not up to the task. With 11 seconds left in the game, the Bears delivered a squib kick to the Falcons who recovered it. The squib gave the Falcons more than decent field position. Atlanta needed to complete only one deep sideline pass to get them in field goal range which rookie Matt Ryan delivered. An astonished Bears Defense watched as Atlanta stole the game with a last-second field goal. In PossessionPoints, the Bears earned a Green total of 125 while the fortunate Falcons totaled a Yellow 97.

Final Score: Falcons 22 Bears 20



Who ordered a squib kick?
Make them go the yardage next time!

Dogs of the Week

Top Dog

Most PossessionPoints for the week

And the winner is: The New Orleans Saints

Are the Saints finally looking like a playoff team? Tune in next week as situations change really fast in the NFL – at least this season!

What can we say? New Raiders' Coach; Same old Raiders. The Saints took no mercy on Oakland. Drew Brees threw for three touchdowns and 320 yards. The Saints dominated from beginning to end. New Orleans earned a very green 185 PossessionPoints while the Raiders posted 10. Reggie Bush exhibited another fine performance with one rushing and one receiving touchdown keeping him as one of the top Fantasy backs this year. Are the Saints finally looking like a playoff team? Tune in next week as situations change really fast in the NFL - at least this season!

Final Score: Saints 34 Raiders 3

Week in Review from page 1

work out, but the majority do not. We have to wonder what is the impetus behind all this risk taking? Bolder is not always better. On to the games.

Philadelphia Earns Green Offense and Green Net Effect to beat 49ers

This game was one of the many, heart stopping and crazy games this week despite the final score. Up until the last seconds, the Eagles held only a four-point lead. Had it not been for a field goal and an interception return for a touchdown, this game could have easily gone to the 49ers. For the Eagles, this game holds a double victory. Not only do they get a win and improve their record, but they move to within one game of the Redskins and Cowboys who both lost this week. In PossessionPoints, the Eagles earned a Green 141 to the 49ers' almost Green 99. Take note that this game was one of our two correct Green ATS Selections

Final Score: Eagles 40 49ers 26

St. Louis Stuns the Overconfident Redskins

Tsk, Tsk, Tsk. The Redskins got caught reading and believing their own press clippings. By the time the Redskins realized that the Rams had come to play the game, it was almost too late for Washington to get into the game. St. Louis dominated the first three quarters and posted a respectable Yellow 80 PossessionPoints for the game while the Redskins managed to earn a less respectable Yellow 74. Washington also blew a chance to move up in the NFC East. Talk about a wasted opportunity. On the flip side, new Rams' Coach Jim Hasslett has one win under his belt.

Final Score: Rams 19 Redskins 17

Week in Review from page 3

Tampa Bay Green Sweeps Carolina

What has happened to the 4-1 Panthers? Inept is the only way to describe their play performance this week. In fact, if anyone wants to make comparisons, they played no better than the Oakland Raiders. In PossessionPoints, the Bucs totaled 101 while the Panthers managed a meager very Red 20. The Bucs completely dominated Carolina.

Final Score: Bucs 27 Panthers 3

Jets Green Sweep the Bengals

The Bengals seemed to make a game of this contest. However, in reality the Jets had control of the field from almost the beginning, and the PossessionPoints demonstrate this fact. The Jets compiled 126 PossessionPoints to Cincinnati's 14. The Bengals' luck or skill does not seem to be improving. This Green Sweep is another one of the 19 so far this season. Every one of the Green Sweeps or 100 percent resulted in victories for the teams who earned them.

Final Score: Jets 26 Bengals 14

Colts Green Sweep Ravens

Baltimore should have stayed home in bed for the effort they put in this game. If Peyton Manning and the Colts were struggling, there was no sign of it today. Their performance will certainly help them climb out of the cellar of our Performance Rankings. In PossessionPoints, the Colts totaled 115 to the Ravens' 40. The only life the Ravens' showed was near the end of the game.

Final Score: Colts 31 Ravens 3

Houston Pulls Out Nail Biter at Home

This was another game that went down to the wire - literally. Houston was down five points with a 1:45 remaining on the clock. Lo and behold, the Texans pulled out a miracle in the form of a 76-yard, 1:42-second drive that ended with QB Matt Schaub running up the middle for a touchdown on a 4th and 2 play. The PossessionPoints in this game favored the Texans even though neither team made it into the Green. The Texans posted 89 PossessionPoints to the Dolphins' Red 55.

Final Score: Texans 29 Dolphins 28

Jacksonville Easily Handles Broncos in Denver

This game was not as close as the final score indicates. The Broncos scored first, but the Jaguars dominated the scoring afterwards. The Jaguars totaled 114 Green PossessionPoints while the Broncos posted a Yellow 72 giving the Jaguars a Green Net Effect of 42.

Final Score: Jaguars 24 Broncos 17

Green Bay Manhandle Seahawks

In our Preseason Preview, we wondered if the retirement announcement of Mike Holmgren before the season began would affect the Seahawks' performance. While it would take a psychologist to tell us for sure, the Seahawks are playing like a team who knew it was over before the season started. This again is a case of a game that is not as close as the final score makes it seem. PossessionPoints tells the true story of this one-sided Packer victory. The Packers compiled 166 Green PossessionPoints to the Seahawks' Yellow 64 giving the Packers a very Green Net Effect of 102 and a very convincing win.

Final Score: Packers 24 Seahawks 17

Week in Review from page 4

Dallas Falls in Over Time to Arizona

Dallas may be known as the luckiest team in the NFL, but that luck ran out in the desert. After using all their timeouts and getting five gift yards from a defensive injury at the end of a desperation play, the Cowboys were able to kick a field goal which barely made it over the cross bar at the end of the fourth quarter forcing this game against the Cardinals into OT. They even won the toss to receive in OT, but that turned out not to be a blessing. The only direction Dallas moved in OT was backwards, and a blocked punt gave the Cardinals a quick, winning touchdown. What did Dallas get? Tony Romo with a broken pinkie that will keep him sidelined for up to four weeks. As far as PossessionPoints went, this game was a shootout. The Cardinals earned 123 Green PossessionPoints to the Cowboys' 110. This Cowboys' loss makes the race in the NFC East even tighter as they, like the Redskins, are 4-2 and the Eagles with a win are now 3-3.

Final Score: Cardinals 30 Cowboys 24

San Diego Stomps New England

San Diego finally came out strong in the first half, and they looked like the playoff team people expect to see. The Patriots are truly feeling the loss of Tom Brady as the season continues to wear on. Their performance was less than stellar, and New England has definitely lost that shine of perfection. This was another PossessionPoints Green Sweep. The Charges compiled 109 PossessionPoints to the Patriots' 50.

Final Score: Chargers 30 Patriots 10

Cleveland Sends Giants to the Dog House

If you were looking for the Super Bowl Champs to come play in Cleveland, you were disappointed. The Giants could do nothing right in their game against the much maligned Browns. Was this another example of a team believing too much of their press clippings? They should have learned from their NFC East opponents, who with the exception of the Eagles, all walked away with losses. These losses leave the door open for the Eagles to climb back up in the Division standings. In this game against Cleveland, Manning threw three interceptions, and the Giants were left on the wrong side of a Green Sweep. On the other hand, the Browns looked like a playoff caliber team and stunned New York with their prowess on the field. As we said with other teams, it is not so much that the Giants lost this game; it was the way they lost this game that takes them down a peg. In fact, this loss moves them from the solid number one spot in our Performance Rankings to the number two spot behind the surprising Cardinals. In PossessionPoints, the Browns totaled a solid Green 164 to the Giants' very red 43.

Final Score: Browns 35 Giants 14

Season PossessionPoints Standings – Week 6

Season Totals (Rank By Offense)						
Place	Team	W	L	Offense		Defense
				Effect / game	Net / game	Effect / game
1	Cardinals	4	2	144.15	42.43	101.72
2	Cowboys	4	2	127.35	6.02	121.33
3	Giants	4	1	125.75	42.08	83.67
4	Texans	1	4	119.69	-9.60	129.29
5	Chargers	3	3	115.99	28.25	87.74
6	Saints	3	3	115.96	36.89	79.07
7	Broncos	4	2	115.39	-1.41	116.79
8	Eagles	3	3	113.63	32.08	81.55
9	Jets	3	2	111.11	5.46	105.65
10	Packers	3	3	105.76	5.76	100.00
11	Jaguars	3	3	104.79	-7.55	112.34
12	Bills	4	1	102.05	8.34	93.72
13	Steelers	4	1	101.55	19.14	82.41
14	Browns	2	3	100.16	19.60	80.57
15	Redskins	4	2	98.65	16.34	82.31
16	49ers	2	4	97.84	-32.18	130.02
17	Dolphins	2	3	96.26	10.94	85.31
18	Patriots	3	2	96.05	-9.77	105.81
19	Bears	3	3	95.01	23.52	71.49
20	Bucs	4	2	94.67	20.90	73.78
21	Falcons	4	2	93.86	-1.92	95.78
22	Seahawks	1	4	87.21	-40.46	127.68
23	Vikings	3	3	86.12	22.65	63.47
24	Titans	5	0	86.00	32.68	53.32
25	Panthers	4	2	83.00	12.93	70.07
26	Colts	3	2	80.02	-19.07	99.09
27	Ravens	2	3	67.63	0.86	66.77
28	Bengals	0	6	66.25	-46.37	112.63
29	Raiders	1	4	64.39	-58.53	122.93
30	Rams	1	4	64.27	-74.87	139.14
31	Chiefs	1	4	61.28	-60.54	121.82
32	Lions	0	5	58.09	-56.27	114.36

Top Five – The Giants came back to Earth a little this week and fell from number 2 to number 3. They still have solid PossessionPoints numbers, but they don't look as dominating. Of the top Offenses, only the Texans at number 4 have a losing record. Their defense has been so bad that they have a negative net. That explains their losing record. Rounding out the top five are: the Cardinals, Cowboys and Chargers.

Big Movers – The Saints moved up from 13th to 6th this week with their big win. The Patriots have fallen to 18th from 8th this week, and the longer the season goes, the more they seem to miss Brady. The Browns, by virtue of their Monday night dismantling of the Super Bowl champion Giants, vaulted from 25th to 14th. The Browns now look like the best 2-3 team and they should be in the thick of their race with the Ravens and Steelers.

Bottom Five – Not surprisingly, the bottom 5 teams have only 3 wins amongst them and both winless teams are in the bottom 5. The Raiders are new to the bottom 5 this week, but they appear to be setting up to spend much of 2008 there. Rounding out the bottom 5 are the familiar names this year: the Bengals, Rams, Chiefs, and Lions.

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.