



# PossessionPoints<sup>SM</sup>

## Points Of The Week

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## Week in Review

### Notable Games and Moments

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PossessionPoints.com goes 10-4 straight up and 11-3 ATS; Green Selections go 2-0 this week; Preseason Preview Issue Goes 11-3

Once again this week, the officials seem to have too big a part in the outcome of games. In the Eagles-Falcons game, the final score looks like a blow out, but it was only a 6-point Eagle lead with “just over” two minutes to play when the Eagles punted the ball away to the Falcons. The “just over” is important. The umpires ruled that the ball hit the Falcon Return Man on the way down. They called a muffed punt which the Eagles then recovered. Since there was “just over” two minutes in the game, the controversial call was not reviewable. The Falcons could not challenge the call because they were out of time outs. The replay clearly shows that the ball never hit the Falcon

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## Fantasy Land

It takes a little courage sometimes to be a Fantasy player and perhaps a little bit of luck as well. How many of you trusted Brian Westbrook enough to have him start on your squad after coming back from a rib and ankle injury this week? If you did trust him to be his usual determined self, then you were rewarded with one of the best Running Back performances of the season from a Fantasy point of view. Another rave performance was that of Anquan Bolden, who stepped back into his role as a key Wide Receiver for the Cardinals, despite the serious head injuries incurred a few weeks back. Bolden managed several receptions including a touchdown. How many Fantasy players wish now they kept Bolden on their bench waiting for his return?

Injuries continue to wreak havoc on the Fantasy teams this year. One of the most notable injuries to have an effect is that of Jason Witten of the Cowboys. Arguably the best Fantasy Tight End in the league, Witten will most likely be out next week for Dallas' game against the Giants. While we are sure Cowboys' fans are very unhappy about this prospect, you can bet Fantasy players are even more upset. Reggie Bush will be out for at least another four weeks

## Dogs of the Week

### Lucky Dog of the Week

Team that Wins with the Fewest Offensive PossessionPoints

**This week's winner: Dallas Cowboys**

Tony Romo might be missed, but the Cowboys had their rabbit's foot in their pockets when they played the Buccaneers. In reality, it was Dallas' Defense who saved the day. They held the Bucs to only field goals, which as we know, do not win games. This was also the Cowboys only Green Defensive performance of the season. In PossessionPoints, Dallas accumulated a Red 56 which usually is not enough to get close to a win, but it worked for the Cowboys. On the other side of the ball, the Bucs earned only 45 PossessionPoints. This meager amount was due to a pitiful Offensive performance

**Final Score: Cowboys 13 Bucs 9**



We say it every week. Only touchdowns matter. Field Goals mean nothing!! They are just icing for the cake!!

### Unlucky Dog of the Week

Most PossessionPoints for a losing team for the week

**And the winner is: The Jacksonville Jaguars**

The Jaguars are one of the few unlucky teams that earned Green PossessionPoints on Offense and still lost to a team that didn't earn Green on Offense. We see a lot of Green-Green shootouts, but it is relatively rare to see a Green-Yellow or Green-Red game where the Green Offensive team loses, but the Jaguars managed to accomplish this feat making them the Unlucky Dog of the Week. The Jaguars amassed their Green PossessionPoints during a 6:40 drive in the second quarter and a 4:33-second drive in the third quarter. However, the Browns overcame the Jaguars' PossessionPoints and totaled their own respectable 92 PossessionPoints.

**Final Score: Browns 23 Jaguars 17**



Hey, we were Green! What happened? Drat, we wanted to win.

## Dogs of the Week

### Top Dog

**Most PossessionPoints for the week**

***And the winner is: The Houston Texans***

*The good news for the Bengals is that the Texans scored no field goals; the bad news for the Bengals is that the Texans scored only touchdowns.*

The Texans completed their third straight win, and although the season is still young, they are starting to look like a team that could fight for a playoff spot. What a different season it might have been had the Texans not blown that huge lead a few weeks ago against the Colts. In this week's game, the Texans just destroyed the Bengals. The good news for the Bengals is that the Texans scored no field goals; the bad news, for the Bengals, is that the Texans scored only touchdowns. When all was said and done in this debacle, the Texans managed to post a whopping 208 PossessionPoints to the Bengals meager and very Red 29.

**Final Score: Texans 35 Bengals 6**

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Return Man. The correct call would have given the Falcons another chance with the ball in decent field position. Instead, the Eagles took possession and added a touchdown to cement this victory. More detail in the write-ups below.

This is just one example of officiating blunders this week. There has to be some kind of system in place to improve officiating. Yes, it is a difficult job, but officiating mistakes should not create wins and losses. In our view, the League seems to ignore the problems with officials to the extent that they will fine or admonish any coach or player who talks about it. If we are going to hold the players up to a certain level of professionalism, the same standards have to be enforced on officials. Enough of our soapbox - on to the games!

#### **Ravens Green Sweep Raiders**

The Ravens took control of this game early. Once Baltimore builds a lead, their defense does not like to let it go. The Raiders did score some late "so what" points, but these points did not affect the Green Sweep. In PossessionPoints, the Ravens totaled a Green 119 to the Raiders' very Red 32.

**Final Score: Ravens 29 Raiders 10**

#### **St. Louis Puts up Valiant Effort in Loss to New England**

It looks as if Matt Cassel is settling in as the Patriots' QB as New England moves to a 5-2 record and into a tie for first place in their Division with the Bills. The Patriots posted a Green 122 PossessionPoints to the Rams' Yellow 78.

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**Final Score: Patriots 23 Rams 16**

### **Philadelphia Steals Win From Falcons and Still Earns Green Sweep**

It's not like Philly didn't play well because they did. In fact, the Eagles earned a Green Sweep in their game against the Falcons. We already detailed out the controversial officiating call, but now let's concentrate on what the Eagles did accomplish. In PossessionPoints, Philadelphia compiled a Green 115 while holding the Falcons to a Red 56 – thus the Green Sweep. This victory was important for the Eagles as it helps them keep pace with their other Division members who all won – albeit not convincingly - this week as well. Also, the Eagles were one of our two Green Selections.

**Final Score: Eagles 27 Falcons 14**

### **New Orleans Wins the British “Who Cares” Bowl**

Let's take two teams, who have barely shown up this season to play weekly here in the US, and fly them thousands of miles across the ocean to play the wrong kind of “football” in England. Well, one team had to win, and this year it was the Saints. Our guess why the Saints won is that they had to travel about a thousand miles less than the Chargers. Unlike last year, when the Giants and Dolphins left their Offenses home for this European match, this year the Chargers and Saints forgot to pack their Defenses. The Saints piled up a whopping 156 PossessionPoints while the Chargers racked up 142. Well, at least they got to see Big Ben.

**Final Score: Saints 37 Chargers 32**

### **Miami Buffalos Bills**

Shame on the Bills for letting this one get away! This loss not only cost Buffalo the sole possession of the first place slot in their Division, but it also makes them vulnerable to a back door attack by an aggressive New York Jets team. In their win today, Miami gained 124 PossessionPoints while the Bills earned a Yellow 81.

**Final Score: Dolphins 25 Bills 16**

### **Jets Green Sweep the Chiefs**

This game may have come down to the wire, but the Jets still managed a Green Sweep in this win which may put them closer to a chance at a Division title. The Chiefs' PossessionPoints were kept down because 7 of their points came from the generosity of Brett Favre and his talent for throwing interceptions of which he threw three this week. The Chiefs also lost potential PossessionPoints with some quick scoring drives. . The Jets did total 131 PossessionPoints to the Chiefs 49. .

**Final Score: Jets 28 Chiefs 24**

### **Washington Extends Detroit's Agony**

The Lions looked for a while as if they might get their first win this week, but Washington put their game together late and managed to escape Detroit with an 8-point victory. In PossessionPoints, the Redskins posted a Green 108 to the Lions' Yellow 70. As with the Eagles, this game was important because it keeps the Redskins at 6-2 and in the race for the NFC East Division crown with the now 6-1 Giants.

**Final Score: Redskins 25 Lions 17**

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### **Carolina Comes from Behind to Beat Arizona**

The Cardinals seemed to have this game in hand, but once again, the “I” word or interceptions – proved very costly to Arizona. Although Kurt Warner threw only one interception, it was the one that mattered. It set up Carolina up for a one-play, 18- yard touchdown drive. The Panthers ended up winning by just four points. The Cardinals were almost the Unlucky Dog this week as they totaled a Green 104 PossessionPoints to the Panthers’ Yellow 76.

**Final Score: Panthers 27 Cardinals 23**

### **Seattle Outdoes 49ers**

This was another game that was virtually never in doubt, and the early scores by the Seahawks kept their own PossessionPoints totals down. Seattle did manage to a Green 131 PossessionPoints while the 49ers posted an also Green 109 PossessionPoints which came about mostly through their late game scores especially one drive that lasted 6:53 in the fourth quarter.

**Final Score: Seahawks 34 49ers 13**

### **Giants Green Sweep and Survive Steelers**

If you watched this game, you may be surprised that the Giants earned a Green Sweep as they trailed the Steelers for much of the game and their first four scores were only field goals. However, the Giants put together a late touchdown scoring drive and their Defense never let the Steelers get going in the fourth quarter. Conversely, the Steelers’ scores were early and very quick strikes. They managed something that you do not see often: they had more scoreboard points than PossessionPoints. The Giants compiled a 112 PossessionPoints to the Steelers’ very Red 11.

**Final Score: Giants 21 Steelers 14**

### **Titans Take Down Colts in Tennessee**

The Titans retain their title as the only undefeated team in the NFL. While it might have looked dicey, PossessionPoints told a different story and knew when the score tied at 14-14 that the game would go to the Titans. At that time, Tennessee turned Green and earned a 101 PossessionPoints while the Colts remained mired in the Red. When it was over, the Titans did not earn a Green Sweep because the Colts scored some late “who cares” points. The final PossessionPoints tally was 186 for the Titans and 66 for the Colts.

**Final Score: Titans 31 Colts 21**

## Season PossessionPoints Standings – Week 8

Season Totals (Rank By Offense)						
Place	Team	W	L	Offense		Defense
				Effect / game	Net / game	Effect / game
1	Texans	3	4	142.35	37.30	105.06
2	Cardinals	4	3	138.49	40.41	98.07
3	Giants	6	1	121.78	54.86	66.92
4	Chargers	3	5	117.45	15.47	101.98
5	Eagles	4	3	113.83	35.94	77.89
6	Packers	4	3	111.55	17.89	93.67
7	Saints	4	4	110.83	16.18	94.65
8	Cowboys	5	3	110.58	3.20	107.38
9	Jets	4	3	108.46	11.91	96.56
10	Jaguars	3	4	105.25	-4.30	109.54
11	Broncos	4	3	104.62	-12.11	116.73
12	Titans	7	0	104.22	52.17	52.05
13	Bills	5	2	103.50	4.28	99.22
14	Patriots	5	2	102.74	10.18	92.56
15	Vikings	3	4	102.35	34.13	68.22
16	Dolphins	3	4	96.41	5.14	91.27
17	Bears	4	3	95.25	5.45	89.81
18	Steelers	5	2	94.45	9.90	84.55
19	Browns	3	4	92.71	14.19	78.53
20	Redskins	6	2	92.36	14.95	77.41
21	49ers	2	6	91.88	-35.97	127.85
22	Bucs	5	3	91.36	24.32	67.04
23	Panthers	6	2	89.35	19.40	69.95
24	Falcons	4	3	88.44	-10.09	98.53
25	Seahawks	2	5	86.38	-37.18	123.55
26	Ravens	4	3	84.04	21.84	62.20
27	Colts	3	4	74.66	-43.70	118.36
28	Rams	2	5	69.33	-56.75	126.08
29	Raiders	2	5	64.68	-50.43	115.11
30	Bengals	0	8	61.78	-66.45	128.24
31	Lions	0	7	60.04	-64.18	124.22
32	Chiefs	1	6	55.24	-66.67	121.91

**Top Five** – The Texans have their offense going, but so far it has only given them 3 games as they had a slow start. In spite of that start, the Texans' Offense is now the top ranked PossessionPoints Offense. However, their Defense is still a "Red" performing defense, and that explains some of their 4 losses. Rounding out the top five are: the Cardinals, Giants, Chargers and Eagles.

**Big Movers** – For the third week straight, the Saints made the Big Movers list – this week by moving up from 13<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. That is much like their move of 2 weeks ago. Of course, last week they moved down an equal amount, so you never know what to expect from the inconsistent Saints. The Steelers took a big drop, falling to 18<sup>th</sup> from 8<sup>th</sup> last week. We are sure they are glad they don't have to face the Giants Defense too often.

**Bottom Five** – The Raiders replace the Colts in our bottom 5. The Colts only climbed one place to 27<sup>th</sup>, but they are at least out of the bottom 5. The remainder of the bottom 5 are the familiar names of 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.**