



PossessionPointsSM

Points Of The Week

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Week in Review

Notable Games and Moments

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Since PossessionPoints.com is pretty much out of the mainstream media, we never shy away from an opportunity to highlight the inept officiating that occurs in the NFL. We are constantly amazed that such a high degree of excellence is found in the playing and coaching of this sport while such a low degree of excellence is found in the officiating.

With this said, we are NOT going to participate in the vehement criticism of the controversial touchdown call in the Steelers-Ravens game that took place in the very last minute of play. On our HD screens, it looked quite possible that the Steeler possessed the ball and broke the plane of the end zone with his feet down. He fulfilled all that was needed to score a touchdown. The refs may have blown the call on the field, but the replay officials seem to have made the right correction. Why such a controversy? In a lot of people's mind, there was not enough evidence to overturn the original call, but that is what replay is all about. During this season, we have seen so many gaffes by the officials on the field that we have begun to trust the

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Fantasy Land- Late Season Respite

At this time of year, you will notice that coaches will not play some of their stars if their teams are already "booked" into the playoffs especially if they have nothing further to gain such as home field advantage. With that said, this year is different from years past as many teams are still vying for position in post-season play. For instance, next week's matchup between the Giants and Panthers will determine home field, so you can rest assured that the best players will be on the field for that game. However, in the final week, it's anyone's guess who plays and who does not.

Other teams who might be resting their best starters are the Cardinals, who already looked like they were resting this week with their best on the field, and perhaps the Titans who may wait until the final week to give their starters a break.

Dogs of the Week

Lucky Dog of the Week

Team that Wins with the Fewest Offensive PossessionPoints

This week's winner: Miami Dolphins

The Dolphins took on the ever-strengthening 49ers who have been remarkable under Mike Singletary. While many expected the Dolphins to have a relatively easy go of it, the 49ers put up a heck of a Defensive fight which kept the Dolphins' PossessionPoints relatively low which is why they are the Lucky Dog for the Week. The Dolphins posted only a Red 28 PossessionPoints to the 49ers almost Green 95 earned on their three field goal drives.

Final Score: Dolphins 14 49ers 9



Dolphins are Lucky Dogs? Well, they are mammals.

Unlucky Dog of the Week

Most PossessionPoints for a losing team for the week

And the winner is: St. Louis Rams

In a game that held no significance whatsoever to anyone, except the Seahawks players who are auditioning for their spots for next year, the Rams managed to put up some very decent PossessionPoints. They totaled a very Green 156 to the Seahawks' also Green 150. This game was another one that was as close on the scoreboard as it was in PossessionPoints. In fact, it was a Green- Green shootout.

Final Score: Seahawks 23 Rams 20



Both these teams were a couple of dogs this year! They can only get better next year – we think!

Dogs of the Week

Top Dog

Most PossessionPoints for the week

And the winner is: The Indianapolis Colts

It seems as if the Colts have finally hit their stride and are primed to take their play into the post-season if the Fates allow.

For the first time this season, the Colts earn the Top Dog Award. It seems as if the Colts have finally hit their stride and are primed to take their play into the post-season if the Fates allow. Their excellent 10-4 record does owe gratitude to some lucky early season wins, but it's been Peyton Manning return to his true form that has catapulted the Colts lately. While the Colts are still far down in our Performance Rankings which come out tomorrow, they are climbing the chart and this week's Top Dog performance will certainly help their ascent. We should note the Lions gave the Colts a good game. In fact, at one point it was tied. In PossessionPoints, the Colts had a Green 170 to the Lions also Green 114.

Final Score: Colts 31 Lions 21

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replay more. Was it a game ending reversal? Yes. Did it affect the Divisional rankings? Yes. However, the Ravens had 95 yards to stop the Steelers from scoring and failed to do so. So, like it or not, the loss of the game lies with the Ravens. Okay, let's recap the games.

Bears Squeak by Saints in Overtime

As the first half ended, the Bears seemed to have this game well in hand. However, in true Saints' fashion, Brees and Company came out to play in the second half and actually took a 24-21 lead over Chicago. Again, in true Saints' fashion, New Orleans allowed the Bears to march down the field and score a late game field goal that sent the game into Overtime. In Overtime, the Bears won the toss, put together a great drive and scored the winning field goal. In PossessionPoints, this game was all Yellow. The Bears managed to earn 71 PossessionPoints while the Saints totaled 80. Later this week in our blog, we will talk about the Saints and how so many people got suckered into their illusion of a top Offense.

Final Score: Bears 27 Saints 24

Buffalo Blows Win Against Jets

Some have already labeled this game "The Miracle in the Meadowlands II". We would not quite put this game in the same category as that infamous game of the Giants vs. the Eagles that took place over 20 years ago, but this game was a stunner none the less. All Buffalo had to do was protect the ball and keep it in their possession. However, the Jets stripped the ball from Buffalo QB, JP Losman, with only a couple of minutes left in the game. The strip caused a fumble which the Jets picked up and trotted into the end zone. The win gives the Jets life and keeps them in a three-way tie for their Division. As for PossessionPoints, the Bills totaled a Green 125 while the Jets managed only a Yellow 68.

Final Score: Jets 31 Bills 27

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San Diego Pulls Comeback of the Week Over Kansas City

The Chargers have been a disappointment this year, and a loss in this game would have truly devastated even the most dedicated Chargers' fans. However, a late touchdown that seemed like the typical Chargers' "who cares" points, was followed by a rare successful onside kick. The Chargers quickly converted this possession into another touchdown which gave them a one-point lead and the win. Games like this underscore why we have had such difficulty coming up with a reliable filter that discounts meaningless late-game points. In this game, the late points that appeared to be meaningless turned into the catalyst for a win. In PossessionPoints, the Chiefs totaled a barely Green 100.9 while the Chargers managed a Yellow 86.

Final Score: Chargers 22 Chiefs 21

Texans' Defense Outperforms Titans' Defense

The Titans had the chance to make home field advantage through the playoffs a certainty. Instead, they let their guard down and allowed the up-and-coming Texans beat them at their own Defense game. The Texans posted a Yellow 74 PossessionPoints while the Titans managed a Red 47. This is unusual for the Texans who usually win their games with a high-powered Offense.

Final Score: Texans 13 Titans 12

Cincinnati Embarrasses the Redskins

At the beginning of this season, Washington was everybody's Darling. Now, they are a team that has managed to implode with no chance of making the playoffs. The much beleaguered Bengals had a Green Sweep over the Redskins posting 107 PossessionPoints to the Redskins Red 49

Final Score: Bengals 20 Redskins 13

Atlanta Sinks Bucs in Overtime

This game was not a thing of beauty. In fact, it was a low-scoring slug fest with each team scoring only 10 points in the four quarters of regulation play. From a PossessionPoints viewpoint, the Falcons earned a Yellow 75 while the Bucs bled Red with a pitiful 19.

Final Score: Falcons 13 Bucs 10

Vikings Outshine and Green Sweep Cardinals in Arizona

This game was supposed to be the proverbial victory lap for the Cardinals in their home stadium. However, the Cardinals never even made it out of the starting gate. By the middle of the first half, this game was over, and the Cardinals were not the victors. In PossessionPoints, the Vikings posted a Green 136. The Cardinals accomplished a rare feat scoring fewer PossessionPoints than scoreboard points. They put up only 11 PossessionPoints for their 14 on the scoreboard.

Final Score: Vikings 35 Cardinals 14

New England Soaks the Raiders

An emotional week for Matt Cassel who lost his father this week, resulted in an explosive output by the Patriots' Offense. The Patriots appear to be gelling and peaking in time for the playoffs. Even sans Brady, opposing teams may find New England to be a force to be reckoned

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with should they make the playoffs. As far as PossessionPoints go, the Patriots totaled a Green 122 while the Raiders had a Yellow 70. There were some “so what” points in this game at the end for the Raiders that took them out of the Red in PossessionPoints and prevented a Patriots’ Green Sweep. Nonetheless, it was an easy victory for the Patriots.

Final Score: Patriots 49 Raiders 26

Carolina Green Sweeps Broncos

We have to say that it is so difficult to fathom that the Broncos will make the playoffs when they are so awful in some of their regular season games. It just goes to show how terrible the AFC West is this year and how mediocrity rules. To prove this point, look at the Chargers, who at 6-8, could potentially still win this Division. In PossessionPoints, the Panthers, who played with their typical dominating style, totaled a Green 120. The Broncos managed only a Red 42.

Final Score: Panthers 30 Broncos 10

Steelers Steal Win From Ravens in Baltimore

We already talked about the controversial game that decided this game, so we will keep this brief. The Steelers won and the Ravens lost, and the Ravens will most likely still get a wildcard. Spot if they can win their last two games. As for PossessionPoints, the Steelers posted a Yellow 79 to the Ravens’ Red 37.

Final Score: Steelers 13 Ravens 9

Dallas Overcomes Team Adversity to Beat Giants

Despite the typical circus atmosphere that surrounded the Cowboys this week, Dallas managed to pull together as a team and defeat the Giants. In PossessionPoints, the Cowboys posted a Green 104 to the Giants’ Red 33. The Giants have really struggled the last two weeks, and as they will be the first team to tell you, it does not matter that you have hot and cold periods during the season, it matters when you have them. Going cold in the latter part of the season is a formula for trouble as a team heads into the playoffs. The Giants’ destiny lies in their ability to get the heat going again.

Final Score: Cowboys 20 Giants 8

Jacksonville wins in Green-Green Shootout with the Packers

The Jaguars totaled a Green 124 PossessionPoints to the Packers Green 106. On the scoreboard it was even closer, and this loss completely doused any hope that the Packers had for post-season play.

Final Score: Jaguars 20 Packers 16

Philadelphia Bulldozes Browns

Why did it take a QB being benched to shake the cobwebs out of the Eagles? Donovan McNabb may be insulted that Andy Reid benched him midway through their game with the Ravens, but insult or not, the benching woke up McNabb and the Offense and gave Philly the spirit to win. Few QBs, if any, have been as accurate or productive as McNabb since his reinstatement as the Eagles’ starter. In PossessionPoints, the Eagles earned a Green Sweep totaling 109 to the Browns’ very Red 11.

Final Score: Eagles 30 Browns 10

Season PossessionPoints Standings – Week 15

Season Totals (Rank By Offense)						
Place	Team	W	L	Offense		Defense
				Effect / game	Net / game	Effect / game
1	Packers	5	9	123.66	25.46	98.20
2	Cardinals	8	6	119.61	19.85	99.76
3	Patriots	9	5	118.02	17.67	100.35
4	Jets	9	5	116.91	25.63	91.28
5	Giants	11	3	116.69	34.99	81.70
6	Eagles	8	5	115.46	48.38	67.08
7	Texans	7	7	113.01	13.21	99.80
8	Saints	7	7	112.62	3.31	109.31
9	Chargers	6	8	111.24	16.86	94.38
10	Vikings	9	5	109.59	44.14	65.45
11	Falcons	9	5	108.14	18.96	89.18
12	Broncos	8	6	108.05	-6.25	114.30
13	Cowboys	9	5	104.87	17.26	87.60
14	Steelers	11	3	103.31	36.07	67.24
15	Dolphins	9	5	101.68	13.74	87.94
16	Colts	10	4	97.17	-15.10	112.27
17	Jaguars	5	9	97.10	-1.53	98.62
18	Titans	12	2	96.10	28.08	68.02
19	Panthers	11	3	95.67	3.42	92.25
20	Bucs	9	5	91.49	10.40	81.09
21	49ers	5	9	91.09	-10.82	101.90
22	Ravens	9	5	90.89	36.66	54.24
23	Bills	6	8	86.33	-13.28	99.62
24	Chiefs	2	12	84.00	-38.04	122.04
25	Seahawks	3	11	78.31	-55.90	134.21
26	Browns	4	10	78.21	-13.95	92.16
27	Bears	8	6	76.58	-17.82	94.41
28	Lions	0	14	76.35	-56.72	133.07
29	Redskins	7	7	72.14	-16.64	88.78
30	Rams	2	12	63.18	-59.66	122.84
31	Bengals	2	11	58.54	-55.96	114.51
32	Raiders	3	11	57.37	-52.40	109.77

Top Five – The Packers still are showing their strength as an Offensive team. Their numbers are down from last week but the Cardinals are down further. The top 5 is interesting in that the Patriots have now crawled up to third. When Tom Brady went down, few people thought their offense would be even this Productive. The top 5 is rounded out with the Cardinals, Jets and Giants.

Big Movers – The Vikings have moved up to 10th on the list and with their top Defense, they are one of only 2 teams that have a green net.

Bottom Five – The Raiders have taken over the bottom spot as the least productive Offense in the league. Surprisingly, the Redskins are new to the bottom 5. It is amazing that a .500 team has fallen into the bottom 5 but their Defensive performance of 88 is the reason for that. None of the bottom 5 teams are making the playoffs. Rounding out the bottom 5 are the Lions, Rams and Bengals. The burning question among this group is, can the Lions lose 2 more games and go 0-16? We will know in a couple of weeks, but they have been playing hard and competitive in all their recent games, so we wouldn't be surprised to see them get an upset win against either the Saints or Packers.

Note: The tie column is not shown, both the Eagles and Bengals have 1 tie along with their wins and losses which are shown.

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.