



There has been an outpouring of hundreds - nay, *tens* - of requests to begin posting the weekly results of my NFL ranking system, HERO (Hutchison Enigmatic Ranking Output), and it would be a fool thing for me to disoblige. So, here they are.

To explain without really explaining, the system ranks teams by record, points scored, and points allowed (along with other secret factors like Head Coach Mustache or Mascot Stupidity) and produces a completely impartial bipartisan ranking that has absolutely nothing to do with any personal feelings that I might have.

For instance, the Browns are ranked 24th, which is clearly higher than I personally would rank that hot mess, but simple number crunching says that I am letting my complete and utter disdain for their coaching staff cloud my logic. Apparently this team, hampered as it is by the worst Coach in the History of Sports (perhaps I embellish *slightly*), still has enough talent to be ranked ahead of a full quarter of the league. This team could be in for good days if they finally hire a quality football dude.

I did create a version of the rankings that took into account Average Yardage Gained, Average Yardage Allowed, Turnovers, Turnovers Forced, Sacks, Sacks Allowed and Time of Possession. I ended up with the rankings telling me that Cincy was better than Baltimore and Kansas City was better than Jacksonville, which just aren't possible. There is no human way that the Romeos are better than anybody anywhere anytime anyway. So I went back to my original formula which gave me a much more satisfying conclusion.

And - yes - I agree that numbers often lie. But so do gut feelings, impressions, and intuitions.

So instead of dwelling on which of the forty-three 4-7 teams was best/worst, I just let the stats do the work for me. I'm all about making life easier.

Anyhoo...

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties
Houston	10	1	0
San Francisco	8	2	1
New England	8	3	0
Denver	8	3	0

Chicago	8	3	0
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Atlanta	10	1	0
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Baltimore	9	2	0
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N.Y. Giants	7	4	0
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Tampa Bay	6	5	0
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Cincinnati	6	5	0
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Green Bay	7	4	0
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Seattle	6	5	0
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Pittsburgh	6	5	0
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Minnesota	6	5	0
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Washington 5 6 0

San Diego 4 7 0

New Orleans 5 6 0

Miami 5 6 0

Indianapolis 7 4 0

Dallas 5 6 0

Detroit 4 7 0

Arizona 4 7 0

St. Louis 4 6 1

Cleveland 3 8 0

N.Y. Jets	4	7	0
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Buffalo	4	7	0
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Carolina	3	8	0
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Tennessee	4	7	0
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Philadelphia	3	8	0
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Oakland	3	8	0
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Jacksonville	2	9	0
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Kansas City	1	10	0
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Key: WP = Winning Percentage, Avg_PF = Average Points Scored per game, Avg_PA = Average Points Allowed per game, Avg_Diff = Average Points Winning By (or losing by) per game, Rank_PF = NFL Rank in Points Scored, Rank_PA = NFL Rank in Points Allowed