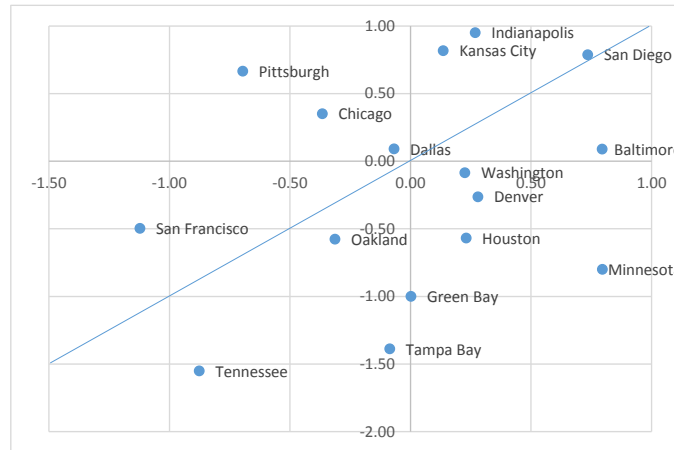
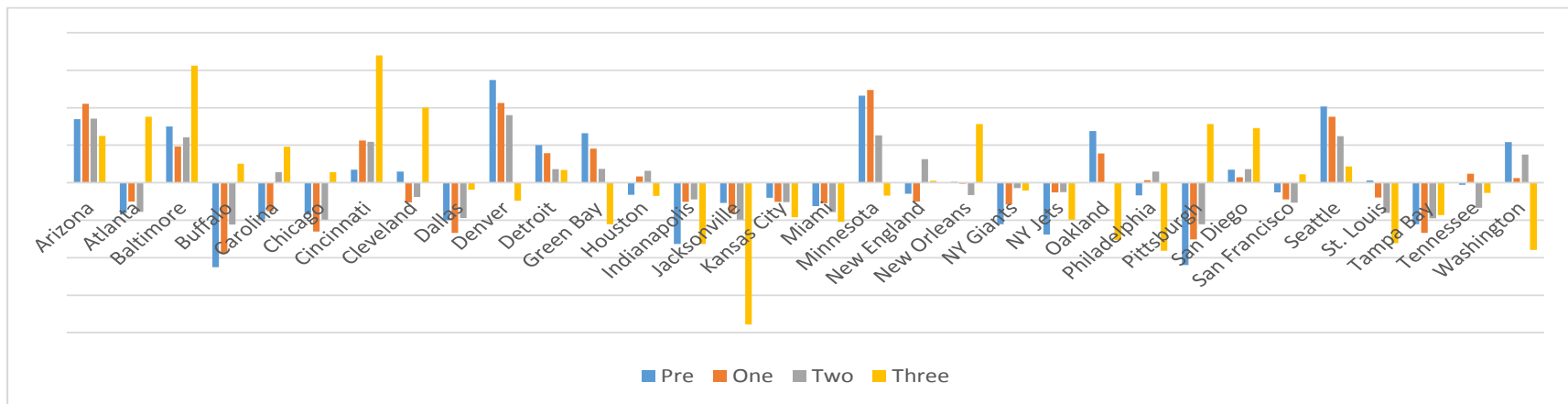


It was another 50% week, but now I have gotten the preseason out of my system. Once again, the plot uses the visiting teams; the upper right and lower left are the games I got right; above the blue line are teams that exceeded expectations.



This little experiment has now established definitively that the preseason means nothing. The correlation between the four preseason games and the first three weeks of the regular season is 0.08 with a standard error of 0.16, which of course means the correlation is not statistically different from zero. My two Super Bowl teams based on Preseason, Denver and Minnesota, have been advancing steadily toward mediocrity.

Dropping the preseason games from the equation has seriously scrambled the ratings but now I will stop expecting the Vikings to win. I hope no one ordered Super Bowl tickets. The orange bars are based just on the regular season; the others have the preseason games included, with diminishing weight as games were added. Up is good; down is not, zero is average.



Atlanta, Cincinnati, Cleveland, New Orleans, Pittsburgh, and San Diego are better than they looked. Jacksonville, Minnesota, Denver, Philadelphia, and Green Bay are worse. Buffalo, Dallas, and Chicago are less bad. For those following along at home, a team with a higher orange bar will beat a team with a lower bar.

Visitor	Home	Probability of Visitor Win	V Pts	H Pts	V Rank	H Rank	Logit Visitor	Logit Home
NY Giants	Washington	0.69			17	30	-0.10	-0.90
Green Bay	Chicago	0.33			26	13	-0.55	0.14
Buffalo	Houston	0.61			10	20	0.25	-0.18
Tennessee	Indianapolis	0.66			18	29	-0.13	-0.82
Carolina	Baltimore	0.25			9	2	0.48	1.56
Detroit	NY Jets	0.66			12	24	0.17	-0.49
Tampa Bay	Pittsburgh	0.23			22	5	-0.43	0.78
Miami	Oakland	0.56			25	27	-0.52	-0.76
Jacksonville	San Diego	0.07			32	7	-1.89	0.73
Atlanta	Minnesota	0.74			4	19	0.88	-0.17
Philadelphia	San Francisco	0.27			31	14	-0.91	0.11
New Orleans	Dallas	0.71			6	16	0.78	-0.09
New England	Kansas City	0.62			15	23	0.03	-0.46