

2010 CFL Prediction Tracker Year-End Summary

Statistics were kept for W-L Straight Up (SU), W-L Against The Spread (ATS) and the average number of points each prediction was off from the actual result (MEAN ERROR). e.g. HOM was picked to win by 2 & VIS won by 3 = 5 pts. off. There are 3 sets of statistics: 1st Half (Weeks 1-9), 2nd Half (Weeks 10-22) and Full Season (Weeks 1-22). Week 22 was the Grey Cup.

In weeks 1-9 statistics, different skills are needed to create the starting ratings and predict the early weeks of the season. Used for starting ratings can be last year's data, Pre-season results, predictions in publications and Internet, Sportsbooks' number of wins each team will have for the season (Over/Under Betting), manual ratings (which might consider roster/coaching changes), or some mystical schemes. Any, some, or all of the above are used. What proportions (weighted values) will be used for the combinations? What should be the initial Home Field Advantage? Then during the early weeks, what larger adjustments are made to the ratings to minimize the effects of the starting ratings? What is the declining slope of the adjustments each week? How many weeks before all portions of the starting ratings are phased out? Separate awards for the 1st half of the season gives recognition to those who have the best grasp of these special talents.

The Participants

1. The early line (LINE) is the 1st odds I could find; usually Sportsbook BetCRIS on Monday afternoons. I do not update the Line except to change whole numbers up/down by only a 0.5 point, if the line changes in the next day or so. This eliminates a point spread = to the actual score. In the same way systems that predict in whole numbers are affected.
2. My system; Enhance Spread Projections (ESP) from the NFL Tracker.
3. The Sports Network (TSN); Chris Schultz makes the picks. He does not use a computer. I wanted to see how well this prominent CFL analyst competed against the LINE and the computers. He makes his picks early in the week, so he does not have the benefit of the updated injury reports.
4. STAT FOX (FOX) from the NFL & NCAA Trackers.
5. Eric Hollobaugh's System (HOLL) from the NFL Tracker.
6. Kenneth Massey Ratings (MASS) from the NFL & NCAA Trackers.
7. Steven Jens' System (JENS) from the NFL Tracker.
8. (RANK) This is where I generate Ratings from Rankings. I use "experts" from various websites who rank the teams from 1 to 8 each week. I give the top team 10 points & scale down to 3 for the 8th ranked team. I combine rankings, when they are available, from members of TSN, SPORTS NET, CBC Sports, CFL.ca Rankings, Winnipeg Free Press, Live Journal, National Post, Radio 650, Sports Untapped, Bleacher Report, and Sports Network. The totals are doubled and averaged into decimal Ratings. I then adjust each team's Rating slightly, + or -, using their Wins-Loses times 25%. Point Spread Predictions = Ratings + 3.5 for the Home Team.
9. (DUNK) is Dunkel Index from NCAA & NFL Trackers. 1st rating system. Started in 1929. Now run by 3rd generation of Dunkels.
10. (ROG) is Jon Rogers' system. He also ranks the NFL, NCAA basketball, NCAA baseball and NCAA Football.
11. (TRON): Sports Tron program used in sportspunter.com. Does things that all systems do + has input from many sports Tipsters. Picks could change up to 2 hrs. before game time. The published predictions available the day before 1st game are used to ensure minimum Tipster information.
12. (NSHC): Nutshell Combo; combines 2 Nutshell systems from Ray Waits (MOV system) and his wife (Nutshell Girl - W/L based system).

This year I recorded the "Most Wins (-Losses) for the Week" [(SU Wins + ATS Wins)-(SU Losses + ATS Losses)]. DUNK won 4 weeks, following by ROG & TRON (2 Weeks). Even using the Tie Breaker (ERROR), they tied for a 3rd week. Also, 2nd & 3rd were kept. I gave a 5 for 1st, 3 for 2nd & 1 for 3rd. TRON won easily with a total of 28.

* The ATS for the LINE below is the record of the Favorites VS its line. W = the Favorite covered the point spread. L = the Underdog won with the points or outright.

		<u>WEEKS 1-9</u>						
		<u>SU</u>		<u>ATS</u>			<u>MEAN</u>	
	<u>W - L-T</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>PLC</u>	<u>W - L-T</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>PLC</u>	<u>ERROR</u>	<u>PLC</u>
LINE	19-13-0	.594	(5)	15-17-0	.469	(*)	10.84	(4)
ESP	19-13-0	.594	(5)	17-15-0	.531	(6)	11.02	(7)
HOLL	21-11-0	.656	(2)	15-17-0	.469	(9)	11.66	(10)
JENS	19-13-0	.594	(5)	18-14-0	.563	(4)	12.56	(12)
NSHC	22-10-0	.688	(1)	16-16-0	.500	(7)	10.78	(3)
MASS	18-14-0	.563	(10)	19-12-1	.613	(2)	10.70	(1)
TSN	16-16-0	.500	(12)	12-20-0	.375	(11)	12.09	(11)
DUNK	19-13-0	.594	(5)	14-18-0	.438	(10)	11.47	(9)
TRON	18-14-0	.563	(10)	20-12-0	.625	(1)	10.94	(5)
RANK	20-12-0	.625	(4)	18-14-0	.563	(4)	10.70	(1)
ROG	21-11-0	.656	(2)	16-16-0	.500	(7)	10.97	(6)
FOX	19-13-0	.594	(5)	19-13-0	.594	(3)	11.16	(8)

		<u>WEEKS 10-22</u>						
LINE	27-18-2	.600	(2)	18-27-0	.400	(*)	13.81	(2)
ESP	23-22-0	.511	(7)	18-27-0	.400	(10)	14.23	(5)
HOLL	23-22-0	.511	(7)	22-22-1	.500	(4)	14.54	(8)
JENS	25-20-0	.556	(4)	21-23-1	.477	(6)	17.63	(12)
NSHC	24-21-0	.533	(5)	21-24-0	.467	(7)	14.16	(3)
MASS	28-17-0	.622	(1)	21-24-0	.467	(7)	14.40	(7)
TSN	21-24-0	.467	(9)	19-26-0	.422	(9)	14.62	(9)
DUNK	21-24-0	.467	(9)	26-19-0	.578	(1)	14.21	(4)
TRON	26-19-0	.578	(3)	24-21-0	.533	(2)	14.29	(6)
RANK	20-25-0	.444	(12)	16-29-0	.356	(11)	15.41	(11)
ROG	24-21-0	.533	(5)	24-24-0	.533	(2)	13.64	(1)
FOX	21-24-0	.467	(9)	22-22-1	.500	(4)	14.93	(10)

		<u>WEEKS 1-22</u>						
LINE	46-31-0	.597	(1)	33-44-0	.429	(*)	12.58	(2)
ESP	42-35-0	.545	(8)	35-42-0	.455	(9)	12.90	(5)
HOLL	44-33-0	.571	(5)	37-39-1	.487	(7)	13.34	(8)
JENS	44-33-0	.571	(5)	39-37-1	.513	(6)	15.53	(12)
NSHC	46-31-0	.597	(1)	37-40-0	.481	(8)	12.75	(3)
MASS	46-31-0	.597	(1)	40-36-1	.526	(3)	12.86	(4)
TSN	37-40-0	.481	(12)	31-46-0	.403	(11)	13.57	(11)
DUNK	40-37-0	.519	(9)	40-37-0	.519	(4)	13.07	(7)
TRON	44-33-0	.571	(5)	44-33-0	.571	(1)	12.90	(5)
RANK	40-37-0	.519	(9)	34-43-0	.442	(10)	13.45	(10)
ROG	45-32-0	.584	(4)	40-37-0	.519	(4)	12.53	(1)
FOX	40-37-0	.519	(9)	41-35-1	.539	(2)	13.36	(9)

I determined the best overall predictor for each of the 3 sets of statistics. I added where they finished in each of the 3 categories. In the 1st Half, RANK had a total score of 9 for the 3 categories. NSHC finished 2nd with 11. 3rd went to MASS at 13.

For the 2nd Half, ROG won with 8 for its score. TRON was 2nd at 11. DUNK was in 3rd place with a score of 14.

MASS topped the Full Season with a score of 8. ROG was close in 2nd place with 9 and TRON was right behind at 11.

The LINE also did very well this year. It finished in the top 2 in its categories for the 2nd Half and Full Season. It did fairly well in the 1st Half too.

A special thanks goes to Jon Rogers for writing the program that handles the Tracker's Data and for hoisting the Tracker on his website.