By now everyone realizes that the NFL's Passer Rating System is only an elaborate code to hide things from the Russians. The question still remains – how can we tell who's the best quarterback?

It's crucial that we answer this so that magazines will know who to put on their covers, advertisers will know who to hire as spokesmen, and a major TV network can have its broadcasters picked when Wednesday Night Football hits the tube.

Of course, the answer has been there all the time. After all, it's not how you play the game, it's whether you won or lost, right? It follows that the best is the one who wins. Joe Montana was the best QB last year because he (ed. note: HE not San Francisco!) won the Super Bowl. Dan Marino was the second best, and so on. All you have to do is arrange the teams in the order they finished each year, substitute the name of their signal caller, and you'll get the perfect quarterback-rating system.

As a matter of fact, don't bother. I already did it. Look below and you'll see the top six QBs for each of the last 40 years. I chose only to do the top six because nobody outside the town they're booed in remembers the others. Tell the truth; if you don't live in Kansas City, do you remember who quarterbacked the Chiefs last year?

I had a little trouble with the order in the last few years because of the annoying habit of wild card teams winning playoff games, so I used an involved tie-breaking system which I've since forgotten.

If you want to have fun, assign point values for each position. I suggest 110 for the Number One slot in honor of the percent they are said to give.

Some may call this cynical and bemoan the idea that it's done to rank potential stars of ad campaigns, but I like it. In fact, I call it the Cynical Ranking of Advertising Potential System. You may scoff, but someday I expect to be famous for my CRAP.

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