

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

Name: **School:** **Opponent:** **Surface:**
Height: **Year:** **Score:** **Climate:**
Weight: **Date:** **Location:** **Temperature:**

Power Score :

Leg power, drives through arm tackles [1pt]:

Effective stiff arm [1pt]:

Initiates contact, runs behind pads, and punishes defenders [1pt]:

Good body lean/Finishes runs [3pts]:

Gains yards after contact/second-third effort runner [7pts]:

Balance Score :

High performance in adverse conditions [1pt]:

Maintains balance when hit head-on [1pt]:

Maintains balance when it from an indirect angle [7pts]:

BHandling Score :

Carries ball with either hand [1pt]:

Consistently handles QB/RB exchanges [3pts]:

Demonstrates ball security [3pts]:

Maintains control of ball when hit [7pts]:

Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [1pt]:

Speed Score :

Effective short area burst [7pts]:

Separates from 1st and 2nd wave of defenders [1pt]:

Effective outside runner [3pts]:

Vision Score:

Makes good decisions with where to run [7pts]:

Patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [3pts]:

Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [1pt]:

Elusiveness Score :

Effective lower body jukes while on the run [3pts]:

Effective upper body jukes while on the run [1pt]:

Avoids direct shots [7pts]:

Effective stop-start movements [2pts]:

Effective lateral movement [3pts]:

Blocking Score :

Correct diagnosis of blocking assignments [1pt]:

Effort with assignments [3pts]:

Willingness to block in the open field and on broken plays [1pt]:

Receiving and Routes Score :

Consistently makes receptions on catchable balls [3 pts]:

Makes difficult catch [1pt]:

Catches ball effectively with back to the quarterback [1pt]:

Consistently catches ball with hands and without juggling [1pt]:

Consistent target in the passing game [3pts]:

Runs precise routes [1pt]:

Durability Score :

Missed fewer than 10% of opportunities to play [1pt]:

Performs at high level while playing with an injury [1pt]:

No chronic injuries (Two or more injuries to same body part) [1pt]:

No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [7 pts]:

Overall Score:

Game Stats

Attempts:

Rush Yds:

1st Downs:

Rush Tds:

Target:

Rec:

Rec Yds:

Rec Tds:

Fumbles:

Broken Tackles:

BLKs Assigned:

BLKs Made:

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Profile

Name: Chris Johnson

Date: 12/23/2007

Opponent: Boise State

Overall Strengths:

He is the top all-purpose yardage player in the nation in 2007 and one of the fastest players in college football. He is very light on his feet and makes moves with ease. He also has great quickness in tight spaces and can regularly make the first man miss in the backfield or the hole. In the right offensive system, he can be a very productive pro player, used to run delays, draws, sweeps, and catch the ball as a player split in the slot or wide. If he can add more weight and retain his short area quickness (even if he loses a bit of speed, he's so fast it would have to be a substantial loss to make a difference) he could develop into an every down starter, but that won't happen right away.

Overall Weaknesses:

Is he a wide receiver, a kick return specialist, or a back? He has played all three positions and it begs the question whether RB is his best opportunity in the NFL. The offensive line opened huge holes for Johnson to be a terror in the open field against Boise State. He is not an after contact runner. He had 181 yards and a score on 18 carries in the 1st half. This means Boise State limited him to 42 yards on 10 carries in the second half and overtime. He is a very good kick return specialist and will see time first as a PR and KR. He should get drafted fairly high because of his versatility, but he needs a lot of work on pass blocking and become more decisive on runs without a big hole open in front of him before he will become a consistent factor at the RB position. He also gator-armed a pass and allowed a defender to get the QB on a play where he didn't show great effort. I can see why the ECU staff made him an RB, but whether he can be a featured guy is a questionmark.

Power:

He won't run over anyone on the first or second level of the defense and goes down easily with a flush hit. He made a cut off his FB on the third run of the game and landed in the grasp of a DT for an easy tackle. He did show good body lean on a 4-yard run with 10:15 in the 1st QTR. He cut off tackle and was hit by the CB on the right side, the safety over top, and the LB from behind and was able to lean forward and get an additional two yards on second effort. Johnson can shed a 3rd level defender's hit as he did with the CB on his 68-yard run in the 1st QTR, but it's still about getting a good angle and outrunning the defenders to generate this power. He lost a battle with a safety when he attempted to run through him on a 2nd and 6 with :52 from the Boise St. 9 yard line. He tried to lower his shoulder into the safety at the 4 and only gained a yard, coming up short of the first down.

Ball Handling:

He makes a good effort to carry the ball in the sideline arm depending on the direction of the run. Johnson fumbled the ball in the 4th QTR with 1:25 left and the Boise St. safety picked it up for the score. The defender put his helmet right on the ball. It was a perfect hit on the football. He only had one fumble this season prior to the game.

Elasticity:

Johnson is very light on his feet. His second run of the game was for a 1st down on a 2nd and 5. He made two full speed dinks and then a spin move off contact for 8 yards and a first down. All of this was done very fluidly. It looked effortless. Good cut in the hole off right guard to get a 5-yard gain and a 1st down off a 3rd and 10 from the Boise St. 7 yard line. He did well to get low and make himself small in the hole and then spin off a hit at the first down marker to gain 3 more yards. Johnson's 48-yard run began with him making a play miss at the edge of the defense. The LOS was at the 26 and Johnson sidestepped the DB coming from the outside at the 28.

Balance:

Johnson has good balance as an open field runner. He made a good jump cut to elude much of the hit of the safety shooting for his legs. Although the safety got one leg, Johnson was able to land on his other foot and maintain his balance for 2 extra yards and the first down with 2:15 in the half.

Speed:

Johnson's greatest weapon is his speed. He broke a 68-yard run with 4:36 in the 1st QTR out of the spread formation. He was at the right of the QB and took the ball heading off the left guard behind his TE as the lead blocker. He did a great job pressing the hole by getting on his TE's hip as the LB collided with the TE and then cut to the left and into the hole. The CB arrived about 2 yards over the top of the hole and Johnson used his burst to veer to the inside and slide off the CB's hit five yards past the LOS. He switched the ball to his sideline arm at the first down marker and at this point it was a footrace between him, the safety about 10 yards to his right and a foot in front of him, and the DB 5 yards ahead with an angle just two yards to Johnson's right. Twenty yards later, the RB made up 4 of those 5 yards and eliminated the CB's angle. By the time he was at the 32, he was ahead of the safety and had 4 yards on him for the last 15 yards of the run. Chris outran the angle on a 46-yard rush with 10:08 in the 2nd QTR on a sweep to the right side. The CB coming across the formation was only a yard away from the RB at the 40, but had lost the two steps of distance by the time Johnson took 5 steps. By mid-field he had to make a diving attempt and missed.

Blocking:

Johnson took a fake and had an opportunity to either hit or chip a rusher off the backside, but chose to allow the player to run by him--actually angling out of the way--with 13:45 in the half.

Vision:

Good patience to cut off his FB's lead block on this first gain of four yards between the RG and RT with 12:42 in the 1st QTR. He has a lot of speed, but he didn't slam into the hole. On the next play he once again made a nice cut off the FB on a run up the middle for 8 yards and a first down. He did well to press the hole and cut back off the RT on a 1st and 10 run with 10:18 in the opening QTR. He can be hesitant in the hole when there isn't a clear opening. He danced a bit on 2nd and 5 because he kept thinking he'd find something better as he tried to bounce the play outside to the outside until he ran out of room. Sometimes he needs to pick a hole and commit to it. He had a big hole to run through on a 1st and 10 with 2:16 in the half. He was in the weak-I and got about 7 yards running through a big gap off right guard and did an excellent job anticipating the safety from about 7 yards away. He made a great jump cut to elude the shooting DB and get the first down.

Receiving:

In 4WR sets, they frequently lined up Johnson in the slot. Johnson's second score was a screen pass to the right side for an 18-yard score. He was lined up in the spread formation to the left of the QB and set up behind the G and T at the 20. He didn't fully extend his arms to catch the ball at chest level, but did bring the ball in cleanly. He turned up field with three blockers at the sideline, two of them linemen, and outran the secondary for the score. With 7:22 in the half on a 3rd and 5, he ran a short hitch at the sideline while split wide in the formation. He caught the ball facing the QB and with his hands first, arms extended from his body. He tried to spin out of the DB's grasp but was brought down for a gain of 3.

Durability:

He had a neck injury as a junior during spring practice but still played the entire season that fall.