

# The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

**Name:** DeAngelo Williams    **School:** Memphis    **Opponent:** Mississippi    **Surface:** Grass  
**Height:** 5-9    **Year:** Senior    **Score:** 6-10    **Climate:** Sunshine  
**Weight:** 220    **Date:** 9/5/2005    **Location:** Memphis    **Temperature:** Hot

**Overall Score:** 90

**Power Score :**

12

- Leg power, drives through arm tackles [1pt]: Yes
- Effective stiff arm [1pt]: Yes
- Initiates contact, runs behind pads, and punishes defenders [1pt]: No
- Good body lean/Finishes runs [3pts]: Yes
- Gains yards after contact/second-third effort runner [7pts]: Yes

**Balance Score :**

9

- High performance in adverse conditions [1pt]: N/A
- Maintains balance when hit head-on [1pt]: Yes
- Maintains balance when it from an indirect angle [7pts]: Yes

**BHandling Score :**

15

- Carries ball with either hand [1pt]: Yes
- Consistently handles QB/RB exchanges [3pts]: Yes
- Demonstrates ball security [3pts]: Yes
- Maintains control of ball when hit [7pts]: Yes
- Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [1pt]: Yes

**Speed Score :**

11

- Effective short area burst [7pts]: Yes
- Separates from 1st and 2nd wave of defenders [1pt]: Yes
- Effective outside runner [3pts]: Yes

**Vision Score:**

11

- Makes good decisions with where to run [7pts]: Yes
- Patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [3pts]: N/A
- Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [1pt]: Yes

**Elusiveness Score**

16

- Effective lower body jukes while on the run [3pts]: Yes
- Effective upper body jukes while on the run [1pt]: Yes
- Avoids direct shots [7pts]: Yes
- Effective stop-start movements [2pts]: Yes
- Effective lateral movement [3pts]: Yes

**Blocking Score :**

4

- Correct diagnosis of blocking assignments [1pt]: Yes
- Effort with assignments [3pts]: Yes
- Willingness to block in the open field and on broken plays [1pt]: No

**Receiving and Routes Score :**

9

- Consistently makes receptions on catchable balls [3 pts]: Yes
- Makes difficult catch [1pt]: N/A
- Catches ball effectively with back to the quarterback [1pt]: N/A
- Consistently catches ball with hands and without juggling [1pt]: Yes
- Consistent target in the passing game [3pts]: Yes
- Runs precise routes [1pt]: No

**Durability Score :**

3

- Missed fewer than 10% of opportunities to play [1pt]: Yes
- Performs at high level while playing with an injury [1pt]: N/A
- No chronic injuries (Two or more injuries to same body part) [1pt]: Yes
- No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [7 pts]: No

**Game Stats**

**Attempts:** 24  
**Rush Yds:** 85  
**1st Downs:** 5  
**Rush Tds:** 0  
**Target:** 3  
**Rec:** 2  
**Rec Yds:** 14  
**Rec Tds:** 0  
**Fumbles:** 1  
**Broken Tackles:** 4  
**BLKs Assigned:** 5  
**BLKs Made:** 4

# The Gut Check's RB Scouting Profile

Name: DeAngelo Williams

Date: 9/5/2005

Opponent: Mississippi

## Overall Strengths:

Williams is short, but he has a thick frame--especially his thighs. Built a lot like Emmitt Smith, but with breakaway speed. Led the nation in touchdowns last year (22) and second in the nation in all-purpose yards (2230), rushing yards (1948), and points (138). Williams has excellent moves and quickness. The variety of moves are impressive: giving and taking away a leg to the defender, spins, lateral jump cuts, and small cuts while moving at full speed. Just as capable of being a one cut runner as he is of making multiple moves. When running out of a single back set or I-formation, Williams is dangerous because he's able to make cutbacks facing the defense head-on. Four of Williams' best five runs of the day were from a single back set running forward to the LOS. Displayed stamina in the 4th quarter where he averaged 4 yards per carry for his last 10 carries of the day.

## Overall Weaknesses:

Williams is a bit more difficult to evaluate because he plays in an offense that spreads the field and often has the ball to him as he's going in motion towards the QB from a WR position. This means he's closer to the line and heading East-West, rather than North-South on many running plays, and Williams gets less time to spot a holes or make effective cutbacks. Plus the Memphis offense that was a top 10 offense from last year lost 4 of its 5 previous starters on the offensive line. There were at least 3 attempts where a defender was able to blitz into Williams' direction without opposition. The Ole Miss team blitzed a safety on 5 running plays with Williams. There were at least 10 plays where a defensive lineman cleanly shed a lineman and greeted Williams in the hole or was completely unblocked by the offense. Williams appears to take plays off when he doesn't have the ball.

## Power:

Deceptively powerful. Took an off tackle play out of a full house backfield set and LB Patrick Willis--a pro prospect in his own right--went for a kill shot (leading with his head) and bounced off Williams' upper body. Williams gained two additional yards on the play. On a 25-yard run in the second quarter Williams broke two arm tackles with ease. He's won Memphis' award for excellent performance in the weight room--two years running. He runs with power because of he's low to the ground, strong in the thighs, and fast. Uses a stiff arm frequently, but his arms appear short and it only affords Williams the opportunity to gain extra yards as he's being brought down instead of completely warding off a tackler.

## Ball Handlin

Runs ball in either hand. The stat sheet doesn't credit Williams with a fumble, but on a 3rd down swing pass to open the third quarter, Williams clearly fumbled the ball when three defenders converged on the RB and one was able to knock the ball loose as he was going down. Williams did have the ball locked away, but it was a good hit. This actually would have been the first fumble of his college career (768 carries total). Although he fumbled this ball, he did a good job keep the ball close to his body throughout the game.

## Elusiveness:

Makes little moves to veer away from on-coming defenders with the angle. On the second run of the game he made a 3rd defender miss by dipping just slightly to the outside. Although he slipped and only gained 4 yards, the move prevented him from losing yardage. The third running play was for at best a 1-yard gain, but as he ran towards the middle of the line he made a lateral move that turned a DE's angle of advantage to where he was off balance and then made a second move to elude an LB on a run-blitz with a clean shot at him. Has an array of start-stop, lateral, and spin moves. Excellent footwork and will make one cut to get into the hole--Williams is an instinctive runner, but also understands how to read and react to the defense.

## Balance:

Williams has excellent balance. On his first reception of the game he was hit in the thigh, and spun away from the tackle to gain a first down.

## Speed:

Williams clearly has first-round caliber speed and quickness. His second run was bounced to the outside for a gain of four yards. During this run he outran an LB and safety that were unblocked on the perimeter. One of the quickest backs I've seen in years. Gets to full speed very quickly and few backs are as dangerous as him in open space. In the third quarter, Williams took a hand off out of the shot gun formation. The blitzing OLB got into the backfield untouched and was within a step of Williams as he took the ball from the QB. Williams moved so quickly out of the way, the OLB could only lightly touch his leg, and Williams made a second move to make the converging DL miss, too. Although tackled for a loss, the play was amazing to watch for his moves. Better blocking, and Williams is capable of huge gains on any play.

## Blocking:

Only blocking assignment was at the end of the 2nd quarter. Williams made the correct read and initiated contact with the defender. He didn't deliver an aggressive hit, but he did wall off the defender. Williams does not look for opportunities to make blocks if he is not playside of the ball, nor does he finish out fakes. He'll slow to walk or standstill if he is not playside. The RB was a lead blocker on an end around in the 4th quarter and he dove at the defender's feet--this won't work in the NFL, but it did open up space for the WR. Former Notre Dame coach Bob Davie complemented Williams on this play, but it wasn't that effective of a chop block.

## Vision:

Williams effectively showed he understands what the defense tries to do against him. In the second quarter, Williams recognizes the safety blitz. The defender times his run blitz perfectly, but Williams' makes one small cut back inside and the safety competely misses. Williams gains six yards.

## Receiving and Routes:

Williams is consistently lined up as a slot receiver or an outside receiver in this offense. Although they send him in motion before the snap to receive handouts out of this set, he also runs pass routes. The second play of the game Williams was clearly the primary option, but he was well covered and the QB wound up sacked and injured for the rest of the year. On 3rd and 7 on the second drive of the first quarter, Williams lined up in the slot and ran a crossing pattern, caught the ball, and spun off an attempted tackle for the first down. Williams did a nice job getting separation on the defender in coverage. He cut across well enough to be ahead of the defender on the throw, but also kept a nice amount of depth between him and the defender so he could get the angle as he turned up field. The Ole Miss defensive actually double covered Williams on a few routes in the game. In the 4th quarter, Williams ran a deep slant but the QB threw it too high. At the same time he hesitated on his route just enough to make the catch more difficult.

## Durability:

Broke his leg last year, which may have been the reason he decided to return to Memphis rather than enter the NFL draft. While rehabilitating he did not get subjected to contact during training camp, but worked exclusively at receiver. After his first reception he fell awkwardly on his shoulder and had to leave for a few plays.