

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

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

Overall Score:

Power Score :

Game Stats

Attempts:

Rush Yds:

1st Downs:

Rush Tds:

Target:

Rec:

Rec Yds:

Rec Tds:

Fumbles:

Broken Tackles:

BLKs Assigned:

BLKs Made:

Balance Score :

BHandling Score :

Speed Score :

Vision Score:

Elusiveness Score

Blocking Score :

Receiving and Routes Score :

Durability Score :

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Profile

Name: Michael Bush School: Louisville Opponent: Kentucky Surface: Grass
Height: 6-1 Year: Junior Score: 31-24 Climate: Sunshine
Weight: 250 Date: 9/4/2005 Location: Kentucky Temperature: Hot

Overall Strengths:

Bush is a powerful back with great size. He looks capable of punishing defenders and is in good enough shape to be a force in the 4th quarter of games. Bush has nimble feet but he tries too hard to be elusive rather than powerful. He does possess enough of a burst to get outside and accelerate through the hole into the secondary. He'll break some big runs, but he's not a threat on every down. He can do a good job leaning forward on short yardage plays and is learning how to use his body effectively to gain tough yards. Can catch the call and is a consistent part of the passing game. Had 14 carries for 81 yards and 2 Tds in the first half. Once he understands how to play to his size, he'll be an excellent prospect.

Overall Weaknesses:

Bush can get outside, but he's a North-South runner that can be neutralized if turned sideways. Sometimes runs a bit too up right and avoided powering through players. ESPN sideline reporter Dave Ryan mentioned this during the game and said Bush told him this was his strategy to save his body for later in the season--seems like suspect reason to avoid running hard every game. Due to good line play, Bush only had 1 broken tackle in the game. Plus the tackle was more of a player not getting the best angle on Bush and losing a grip on his shirt tail. Came to Louisville as a QB and converted to the RB position. Still learning to vary footwork in traffic rather than planting his feet.

Power:

Will lower his head to gain available yardage rather than make a fancy move. He leans forward and lowers his pads well at the end of runs. He's learned to keep his pads low in short yardage situations. Did a nice job catching a swing pass thrown slightly behind him and into his body. On the run after the catch, he attempted a stiff arm but more or less pawed at the safety, who promptly went right through it and into Bush's legs for the

Ball Handling:

Frequently carries the ball with either hand. Ran with ball in left hand when running to the left and ball in right hand when moving right.

Elusiveness:

Has some elusiveness and makes smooth cuts while running. This is best for open field running. When he's in the backfield, he needs to make a quick decision and use his power to gain yardage when the holes aren't there. This is what it will be like for him in the NFL and if he's indecisive, he won't have a future at RB.

Balance:

Good feet for a man this big. Former star QB in high school. Can make subtle moves in the hole, but not going to see him do much East-West running. Maintains balance when hit.

Speed:

Good speed. Fast enough to get around the corner on outside runs, although Louisville didn't use him much in these situations. Showed some speed to beat linebackers out of the hole and get into the secondary.

Blocking:

The first block I saw, Bush aimed low--for the feet and missed the defender. The effort still made the defender hesitate and take a step backward. Made a key lead block inside the 5-yard line on a designed QB sweep. Made a nice hit, but didn't drive the player back--only spun him around. Demonstrates effort, but not always the best kind of effort. Bush dove at the legs of a DE on a play action pass and completely missed which resulted in the QB's sack.

Vision:

The offensive line was opening gaping holes in the first quarter. Bush only had to run North-South to gain at least five yards before anyone initiated contact. When holes aren't huge, he is hesitant with where to run. This leads to tip-toeing to the line and getting minimal yardage.

Receiving and Routes:

Demonstrated the ability to catch the ball with his hands on both a swing pass and a screen. Looks like he'll be a factor in the passing game each week. In the 3rd quarter, Bush was split next to the QB in the shotgun formation. At the snap, Bush performed his delayed release from a blocking position and curled into the middle of the field. Brohm threw the ball head-high, and Bush caught it in stride--snatching the ball with his hands. He gained the first down and a total of 17 yards. Runs crisp routes which is impressive for his size.

Durability:

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

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Weight: **Date:** **Location:** **Temperature:**

Overall Score:

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]:

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: Michael Bush (2nd rpt) School: Louisville Opponent: Oregon State Surface: Grass
Height: 6-1 Year: Junior Score: 31-24 Climate: Sunshine
Weight: 250 Date: 9/17/2005 Location: Louisville Temperature: Hot

Overall Strengths:

Bush has excellent balance, burst, and power. When he's running downhill, he can punish a team. He has naturally good hands and consistently catches the ball on the run and away from his body. Bush has the potential be an every down back in the NFL if he can gain enough experience as a runner to become more instinctive with his decision making. His blocking is a liability and it doesn't look like he cares to do it based on his lack of effort. This will hinder his chances to be an everydown back early in his career, but he still has the opportunity to contribute early in short yardage situations for an NFL team.

Overall Weaknesses:

I wouldn't be surprised if Bush is rated all over the place due to scouts watching game film of Bush at various times throughout the season. He's improved from one game to the next, but he still has a ways to go to learn the position before he's consistently performing to his athletic prowess. His footwork and aggressiveness are inconsistent, although he's showing steady signs of improvement. The root cause appears to be his lack of vision. He does not seem confident knowing where the hole should develop or what to do if it doesn't. He seems to be waiting for the huge hole to exploit. In college this works, but the speed of the game in the pros will dictate he makes fast decisions and yardage on his own if he makes the wrong choice.

Power:

Displayed an effective stiff arm on an outside run. Showed improvement with lowering pads and finishing his runs. Focused more on making one cut rather than multiple moves before hitting the hole. In the second quarter did a nice job cutting back inside on an off tackle play. He effectively used a stiff arm to ward off a defender. He gained two extra yards as a result.

Ball Handling:

Frequently carries the ball with either hand. Ran with ball in left hand when running to the left and ball in right hand when moving right.

Elusiveness:

Has some elusiveness and makes smooth cuts while running. This is best for open field running. When he's in the backfield, he needs to make a quick decision and use his power to gain yardage when the holes aren't there. This is what it will be like for him in the NFL and if he's indecisive, he won't have a future at RB.

Balance:

Good feet for a man this big. Former star QB in high school. Can make subtle moves in the hole, but not going to see him do much East-West running. Maintains balance when hit.

Speed:

Good speed. Fast enough to get around the corner on outside runs. Has a nice burst when he senses an opening. The problem is he's still pretty tentative because he's not seeing the holes due to his inexperience at the position.

Blocking:

Bush looked lost trying to find someone to block on QB keeper. The next assignment was effective, but more so for getting in the way of the defender. RB Kolby Smith got more yardage as a result, but the defender Bush blocked still was on the tackle. The third attempt was to pick up the rushing OLB. Bush made contact, but the OLB easily slipped by him and got in the QBs face as he was making the throw. Bush needs to get comfortable delivering a blow that will drive his man backwards. On four run plays Bush could have blocked someone but rather chose to wall off a defender since the runner wasn't near the play.

Vision:

When holes aren't huge, he is hesitant with where to run. This leads to tip-toeing to the line and getting minimal yardage. This is his greatest weakness as a runner. If he can become more instinctive with experience, he'll run more confidently and use his power to the fullest extent.

Receiving and Routes:

Demonstrated the ability to catch the ball with his hands on a swing pass for a TD that was called back on an illegal block. The block didn't help Bush score. Bush was able to catch the ball in stride although thrown to his back shoulder. Pretty natural receiver.

Durability: