

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

Name: **School:** **Opponent:** **Surface:**
Height: **Year:** **Score:** **Climate:**
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: Mike Bell School: Arizona Opponent: Utah Surface: Grass
Height: 6-1 Year: Senior Score: 24-27 Climate: Sunshine
Weight: 218 Date: 9/2/2005 Location: Utah Temperature: Hot

Overall Strengths:

Bell is a fast back with good vision, balance, and moves. He's an instinctive runner that makes his job look easy. The Arizona offense likes to set Bell deep in the backfield where he can read the openings of the line, make a decision, and burst through the hole. Although doesn't appear to have a lot of power, he understands how to finish runs to gain as much yardage as possible before going down. The Wildcats also want to feature him at the receiver position, but I believe this has to do with their lack of receiving weapons at this time. I'd like to see Bell against an opposing defense with a higher level of talent. The best case scenario for Bell is he has the talent to develop into an every down starter. He just needs to work hard on improving his blocking and receiving.

Overall Weaknesses:

Bell runs upright and doesn't appear to have a lot of power for a back of his height and weight. Bell can lower his shoulder upon contact, but he still exposes himself to bigger hits with his upright style. When he builds up speed, he's difficult to tackle because he has good balance. Otherwise, he goes down easier than expected when facing a direct hit or form tackle. He may need to gain a bit more weight on his frame. Bell seems a bit thin for the punishment he would take in the NFL. His blocking and receiving need work, although it appears he has potential to develop in both areas due to his effort and basic techniques. I believe Bell could become a starter with additional work, but is likely to become a situational player to start his career. At worst, I see similarities with Bell and journeyman Lamar Gordon.

Power:

Bell runs with a nice body lean that helps him gain extra yardage after initial contact. Bell seems to be more of a speed guy. He will lower his head to finish a run, but generally goes down on first contact when contact is made with a defender. Bell has nice speed, but he runs upright and this can leave him exposed to take a lot of shots. He missed two series in this game due to minor injuries.

Ball Handling:

Bell had two fumbles last year against Utah--one at the goal line. Today, Bell did a good job protecting the ball and didn't appear to have any issues with maintaining possession.

Elusiveness:

One of Bell's strengths is the skill to avoid direct hits while still moving forward. He has good feet and runs with his knees high enough to run out of ankle and leg tackles. To open the third quarter, Bell took a designed play to the outside and cut it back to the middle. He made two nice start-stop movements and a upper body fakes to turn a 1-yard loss into a 5-yard gain. Bell makes nice cuts at full speed and this allows him to get extra yardage.

Balance:

Bell has very good balance. In the 1st Quarter on 3rd and 1, Bell was 7 yards behind the center in the Power I and took a handoff against a 7-man front with 9 in the box. Both defenders on opposite sides of the line got penetration 4 yards into the backfield. One was cut blocked by the fullback and fell at Bell's feet just as he took the handoff. Did a good job of stopping and maintained his balance as he hopped over the two players and managed to keep himself moving forward until he was inches from the first down. Most backs would have been tackled five yards behind the LOS, because the defense had beaten the blocking angles effectively. Bell on his own nearly turned it into a positive play. In fact, the safety that got deep into the Arizona backfield, was able to stuff a run by Bell's backup on a similar defensive read in the next series.

Speed:

Bell shows good burst to the outside. His first two attempts of the game were toss plays outside the tackles where he gained positive yardage. On these plays, Bell's first contact with a defender was a defensive back. Out of the Power I set on their 11-yard line, Bell was quick enough to side step a weakside defender that easily shed a block and gain four yards despite the defender initially having the angle to tackle him for a loss. Instead, the defender could only manage to grab Bell's ankle and bring him down after he managed to reach the hole and lean for a good gain.

Blocking:

Bell does a good job overall. There are some minor issues, but I believe he will get better over the course of time. He did miss one assignment where he chose the wrong blitzing defender to block. This incorrect decision contributed to the QB making a poor decision that almost resulted in an interception. Bell makes the effort to block, but he still needs to learn to consistently attack the defender rather than just get in the way. NFL linebackers and safeties will manhandle him if he has these lapses in effort, and Bell won't see the field if he shows these lapses in consistency. Near the end of the first quarter, Bell did a nice job sliding inside to help the guard block a defensive tackle that was about to get past the lineman. Although the lineman moved Bell backwards and dangerously close to the quarterback, Bell's effort allowed the QB to complete a pass. He just doesn't always look comfortable about delivering a blow when the ball isn't in his hands. He bends his knees and extends his hands, but does not consistently deliver an explosive hit. He allows the defender to come to him. Bell's effort as a blocker appeared to increase as the game progressed. By the fourth quarter he was attacking defenders with greater consistency. Went low on one block attempt that allowed the blitzing defender to get into the quarterback's face on a throw.

Vision:

Bell knows when to cut the run back inside or bounce it out. His first 7 carries resulted in 41 yards. The Arizona offense liked to pitch the ball to Bell as a way to take advantage of his speed to the outside. The Arizona offensive line deserves credit for effectively blocking on the outside plays because they didn't allow an LB or DL near him on these initial runs during the first quarter. Bell has good vision as an inside runner and has the tendency of cutting back against the grain to make extra yardage.

Receiving and Routes:

This is an area where Bell needs more development. Bell was lined up in the slot in the 2nd quarter and ran a short, out route. He got separation, but he didn't run it deep enough to guarantee good yardage on the reception. The quarterback delivered the ball perfectly, but it bounced off Bell's hands. Bell lined up as a receiver a second time in the third quarter on the outside. He ran a hook pattern with the defender giving him plenty of cushion. He caught the ball with his hands and close to his chest as if he isn't completely comfortable catching with his hands just yet. His routes are raw. On the same drive he caught a screen pass that went for no gain. The defense read the play, but he did make the catch. Receiving could become a strong suit for Bell with more work.

Durability:

Was knocked out of game with a knee injury and was helped off the field. Returned several plays later and performed very well. On another inside run, Bell hurt his forearm after taking a big hit. Bell displays toughness, but he needs to compact his running style a bit to avoid the increase potential for injury.