

# The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

**Name:** Leon Washington     **School:** FSU     **Opponent:** Miami     **Surface:** Grass  
**Height:** 5-7     **Year:** Senior     **Score:** 10-7     **Climate:** Night  
**Weight:** 201     **Date:** 9/5/2005     **Location:** FSU     **Temperature:** Hot

**Overall Score:** **74**

**Power Score :** 5

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

**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 :** 12

**Carries ball with either hand [1pt]:**  Yes  
**Consistently handles QB/RB exchanges [3pts]:**  Yes  
**Demonstrates ball security [3pts]:**  No  
**Maintains control of ball when hit [7pts]:**  Yes  
**Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [1pt]:**  N/A

**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:** 10

**Makes good decisions with where to run [7pts]:**  Yes  
**Patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [3pts]:**  Yes  
**Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [1pt]:**  No

**Elusiveness Score** 15

**Effective lower body jukes while on the run [3pts]:**  Yes  
**Effective upper body jukes while on the run [1pt]:**  No  
**Avoids direct shots [7pts]:**  Yes  
**Effective stop-start movements [2pts]:**  Yes  
**Effective lateral movement [3pts]:**  Yes

**Blocking Score :** 2

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

**Receiving and Routes Score :** 3

**Consistently makes receptions on catchable balls [3 pts]**  No  
**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]**  No  
**Consistent target in the passing game [3pts]:**  No  
**Runs precise routes [1pt]:**  Yes

**Durability Score :** 7

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

## Game Stats

**Attempts:** 13  
**Rush Yds:** 57  
**1st Downs:** 1  
**Rush Tds:** 0  
**Target:** 2  
**Rec:** 1  
**Rec Yds:** 14  
**Rec Tds:** 0  
**Fumbles:** 1  
**Broken Tackles:** 5  
**BLKs Assigned:** 4  
**BLKs Made:** 1

**Player:** Leon Washington

**Date:** 9/5/2005

**Opponent:** Miami

**Overall Strengths:** Washington runs low to the ground and has enough speed and acceleration to turn the corner. Has the potential to be a decent receiver with more work. He runs tough for his size and can't be brought down with just arm tackles. Washington has the potential to be a nice back up that sees enough time to be a difference maker at various times during the season.

**Overall Weaknesses:** Washington doesn't appear to have the strength to carry a pile on a consistent basis. His blocking really needs work. He tends to flop at the feet of opposing defenders and this will be an liability if he plays any significant time in the NFL. Washington needs to work on carrying the ball closer to his body when in the open field.

**Power:** Washington broke through a DL's arm tackle going east-west to the outside on the way to a 24-yard run in the 1st QTR. He runs low to the ground and is difficult to knock off balance unless hit flush to his body.

**Ball Handling:** Washington fumbled the ball away to Miami at the end of the half as time ran out. He was running with the ball in his left hand. The ball was too far away from his body. When he was hit on the arm, the ball flew out.

**Elusiveness:** Washington made a nice lateral move for a gain of 3-4 yards on second run of the game. Miami got penetration deep up the middle and Washington was able to bounce it outside with one move.

**Balance:** Broke two tackles on a toss that came from an indirect angle at his legs. One in the backfield and the other before he was brought out of bounds.

**Speed:** He bounced a play outside and gained 24 yards by out-running pursuit. He has pretty good speed and can get into the second level of the defense in a variety of ways. He doesn't the kind of speed that will separate him from the secondary.

**Blocking:** On the third play of the game, Washington was assigned to block the DE and he went way too low at the defender's feet. The block was ineffective because the DE leaped over it, and still got in the QBs face as he was throwing the ball, which contributed to the incomplete pass. Consistently goes too low on blocks and is ineffective. The one block he made was up the middle and he went low, but towards the waist rather than below the knees.

**Vision:**

**Receiving and Routes:** Washington ran an route where he circled out of the backfield and across the middle. He let the ball bounce off his hands. A good indication of the QBs lack of confidence in Washington in comparison to Booker was in the 3rd QTR. Washington split out right and ran a short hook. He was open deeper down the field than Booker, but the QB chose to throw to Booker for a 1-yard gain.

**Durability:** Washington came into the season out of shape. He has also dealt with ankle, shoulder, and elbow injuries during his career. He has missed time every year with an injury.

**Character:** Washington is a high-effort player. He made a nice effort to tackle a DB on an interception return. He dove several yards in attempt to bring him down inside the 10-yard line.

# The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

**Name:** Leon Washington    **School:** FSU    **Opponent:** Boston College    **Surface:** Grass  
**Height:** 5-7    **Year:** Senior    **Score:** 28-17    **Climate:** Night  
**Weight:** 201    **Date:** 9/17/2005    **Location:** Boston College    **Temperature:** Rain

**Overall Score:** 78

**Power Score :**

11

- Leg power, drives through arm tackles [1pt]: Yes
- Effective stiff arm [1pt]: No
- 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 :**

2

- 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]: No

**BHandling Score :**

14

- Carries ball with either hand [1pt]: No
- 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]: N/A

**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:**

8

- Makes good decisions with where to run [7pts]: Yes
- Patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [3pts]: No
- Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [1pt]: Yes

**Elusiveness Score**

9

- Effective lower body jukes while on the run [3pts]: No
- Effective upper body jukes while on the run [1pt]: No
- Avoids direct shots [7pts]: Yes
- Effective stop-start movements [2pts]: Yes
- Effective lateral movement [3pts]: No

**Blocking Score :**

5

- Correct diagnosis of blocking assignments [1pt]: Yes
- Effort with assignments [3pts]: Yes
- Willingness to block in the open field and on broken plays [1pt]: Yes

**Receiving and Routes Score :**

10

- 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]: Yes

**Durability Score :**

8

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

**Game Stats**

**Attempts:** 5  
**Rush Yds:** 24  
**1st Downs:** 5  
**Rush Tds:** 0  
**Target:** 5  
**Rec:** 4  
**Rec Yds:** 43  
**Rec Tds:** 0  
**Fumbles:** 0  
**Broken Tackles:** 3  
**BLKs Assigned:** 4  
**BLKs Made:** 4

**Player:** Leon Washington

**Date:** 9/17/2005

**Opponent:** Boston College

**Overall Strengths:** Washington is a good pass blocker and isn't afraid to get into the body of a man bigger than him and deliver a blow. He runs low to the ground with good balance and decent quickness. He has good vision of cut back lanes. While I don't believe he's NFL starting material, Washington is an underrated, all-around back that could be productive in certain situations. He provides good effort on the field.

**Overall Weaknesses:** Washington is not a gamebreaker in terms of speed. He doesn't possess the lateral movement or elusiveness that matches his vision of cutback lanes. He is more of a downhill power runner, but doesn't have the size to punish opposing defenses at the NFL level.

**Power:** Washington runs low to the ground and can carry a tackler for extra yards when wrapped up. He is a deceptively strong back. A good example was on a play where Washington was actually stuffed in the backfield by the NT. Washington could only take one step with the ball when the NT was in the backfield and wrapped up his upper body. Although the NT had a height and weight advantage, Washington was strong enough not to fall backwards right away. The referee had to blow the whistle once it was established the NT stopped Washington's progress. He doesn't attack defenses, but he can take a hit.

**Ball Handling:** Washington carries the ball primarily in his right hand and I did not see him switch the ball to his left at any point in the game. In fact, Washington often lowered his ball-carrying shoulder into the tackler, not a great way to protect the football.

**Elusiveness:** He has pretty good change of direction, but tends to start and stop with his footwork. I'm not sure he's quick enough to do this successfully in the NFL. The holes are much smaller and the pursuit is faster and Washington is more of a stop-start, darter in his style than a runner that makes tremendous lateral cuts when he plants his feet. He has difficulty making the first man miss when there is penetration into the backfield. He's best as a straight line, downhill runner.

**Balance:** Shows really good balance on a toss sweep where BC got penetration into the backfield and nicked Washington's leg behind the line of scrimmage. Washington maintain his balance and staggered forward for the first down. Difficult to knock off balance. Hit head on after gaining 6 yards and because the tackler didn't wrap up, Washington maintained his footing and skipped over the pile for a first down.

**Speed:** He has enough speed to get around the corner in some situations, but he isn't a big play threat on any play call. He is capable of scoring from 20-30 yards out, but may need a little help on longer distance runs.

**Blocking:** Washington made a good, physical block into a DE after a play fake. He did a good job laying a hit on the DE during a designed screen play where he was the primary receiver on a block and release route. Washington's effort looked better in this game than in previous contests. He gave up a sack but did a good job standing up the LB. The problem was the QB couldn't find an open man. As the QB stepped up in the pocket, the LB then had the advantage to step back, slide off the block, and into the QB. Washington is an aggressive blocker in the open field. He ran 10 yards to get a shot on a safety at the end of a passing play. He did a very good job coming across the formation to pick up a blitzing linebacker, which resulted in a completed pass.

**Vision:** Washington's first run was through a huge lane up the middle. Still he did a nice job spotting the pursuit and cutting it to the outside to gain an extra 10 yards on the play. He sees the cutback opportunities pretty well. He cutback a screen pass to get extra yardage on a 4th QTR play the defense anticipated.

**Receiving and Routes:** Washington was the target on a screen pass, but the QB short armed the throw when two BC defenders got too close. His next opportunity was a 5-yard curl. Washington caught the pass, ran through a tackle, and got the first down. FSU ran the exact same play with Washington located on the opposite side of the QB, with the same result: catch, broken tackle, and first down. Pretty reliable receiver overall.

**Durability:** Bobby Bowden said Washington came into camp a little out of shape this summer. Washington also dealt with some injuries each season of his career where he missed games including a dislocated elbow and separated shoulder.

**Character:** No known issues, except for the weight gain which is attributable to a bit of immaturity.