The Gut Check's QB Scouting Analysis

Name: Brett Basanez  School: Northwestern  Opponent: Iowa  Surface: Grass
Height: 6-1  Year: Senior  Score: 28-27  Climate: Overcast
Weight: 220  Date: 11/5/2005  Location: Northwestern  Temperature: Temperate

Overall Score: 78

Accuracy Score: 20
High completion percentage (>60%) [4pts]: Yes
Deep accuracy [2pts]: Yes
Intermediate accuracy [5pts]: Yes
Short accuracy [5pts]: Yes
Accuracy rolling right [2pts]: Yes
Accuracy rolling left [2pts]: Yes

Arm Strength Score: 8
Velocity on deep routes [2pts]: Yes
Distance on deep routes (>40 yards) [1pt]: Yes
Velocity on intermediate routes [5pts]: Yes

Delivery Score: 15
Delivers ball effectively from a variety of platforms [2pts]: Yes
Throws a catchable ball (touch, tight spirals, etc.) [5pts]: Yes
Quick Release [4pts]: Yes
Compact delivery [4pts]: Yes

Decisions Score: 2
Avoids double coverage [5pts]: No
Looks off defenders [3pts]: No
Effective use of pump fakes [2pts]: No
Distributes ball to multiple receivers [2pts]: Yes
Makes effective adjustments at the line [2pts]: No

Handling Score: 8
Effective use of play fakes [2pts]: No
Handles center exchange consistently [4pts]: No
Consistently effective with hand offs [1pt]: Yes
Demonstrates ball security while running [1pt]: Yes
Maintains control of ball when hit [4pts]: Yes
Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [4pts]: N/A

Pocket Presence Score: 14
Buys time effectively within pocket [7pts]: Yes
Willing to take hit to deliver ball [2pts]: Yes
Senses pass rush [3pts]: Yes
Willing to throw ball away to avoid sacks [2pts]: Yes

Scrambling Ability Score: 3
Effectively gains yardage when breaking the pocket [2pts]: Yes
Effectively gains yardage when pocket collapses [1pts]: Yes
Capable of breaking big gains as a runner [2pts]: No

Durability Score: 8
Missed fewer than 10% of games [1 pt]: No
Productive performer when injured [1 pt]: No
No chronic injuries [1pt]: Yes
No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [5 pts]: Yes

Game Stats
PAtt: 51  Comp: 31
Pyds: 338  PTds: 2
Ints: 2  Dropped: 5
Sacked: 1  Deflections: 0
Fumbles: 0  RA: 12
RAtt: 12  RYds: 55
RTds: 0

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**Overall Strengths:** Basanez is the NCAA's leading active passer. He throws an accurate ball on all routes. When he misses, the balls are generally still within the vicinity for the receiver to catch. He can deliver the ball from different angles with accuracy. He has good enough arm strength to be effective in the NFL. He also can make all the necessary throws and has enough arm strength to make some intermediate throws on the run or off his back foot. Basanez is a mobile quarterback that can gain yardage when the pocket collapses and is smart about avoiding punishment. He continues to develop pocket presence: He keeps his feet ready in the pocket and his eyes downfield. An intelligent athlete that works hard on this game. ESPN actually profiled a NW-sponsored, program where Basanez is working hard to develop his peripheral vision. This is the type of thing that NFL teams will find attractive--his work ethic to develop his game. Basanez is a tough quarterback that can lead a team back and make adjustments on the field after mistakes. Can take a hit and still deliver a positive play at the next opportunity--mentally tough player.

**Accuracy:** Basanez delivered a well-thrown, accurate 40-yard pass on a post route to the WR, but the receiver stopped running and tried to jump rather than run through the throw. He made a nice throw on the run to the right side while under pressure--he threw it low as the TE was coming back to the ball for a first down. Basanez has a nice level of accuracy throwing to the right and in the short area. He hit Sutton in stride on a swing pass in the right flat on his second drive. He threw an inside curl to the far sideline but his man ran an outside curl as dictated by the coverage, and the throw was nearly picked off. Basanez's 45-yard throw in the 2nd quarter was right on the inside shoulder of his receiver--a very accurate pass. He did a good job rolling to the left on a second down pass. He hit his man downfield and in stride, but the play was called back for an illegal man downfield penalty. Basanez threw another deep pass covering 45-yards in the air on the same drive on a 3rd and long situation. The pass was placed only where his WR could get it. It was a very accurate throw in tight coverage, although the receiver dropped the pass. Basanez repeatedly demonstrated in this game that he can throw the ball while moving to the left and even under pressure. He took a shot after completing a pass off his back foot to Herbert while under pressure and moving to the left.

**Arm Strength:** Basanez made the 1st QTR 40-yard pass look easy. He threw it flat-footed with nice velocity and would have hit the WR in stride. He threw a 34-yard touchdown on an inside route. He hit the receiver in stride with a strong throw between the coverage 20 yards downfield and the receiver took it the rest of the way. Later, Basanez threw an out pattern across the field, and the ball hung in the air a little long. Although he doesn't have a great arm, he has enough arm strength to be effective at the next level. On third and seven, Basanez once again demonstrated good deep ball accuracy with a 45-yard throw to Philmore. The throw from QB to WR covered the entire distance of 45 yards. After this game, there should be few questions about his arm strength. Hit a deep out in the 4th QTR to Philmore from across the field. It was thrown with good velocity after a full game of throwing the football.

**Delivery:** Basanez has a smooth and quick over-head release. Basanez has thrown two balls of over 40-yards and it looks like he is just tossing the football as he releases it. He has enough arm strength to retreat from the pressure on a half roll and throw a strike off his back foot in stride to his RB on a crossing route.

**Decisions:** It appears Basanez is making pre-determined reads and if the player doesn't come open, he runs. He stared down receivers on 2nd and 3rd down. The QB seems to favor the right side of the field today. Basanez went right on a pre-determined roll out, but attempted a throw slightly across his body into coverage. Three DBs were in the area and one got a hand on the ball. Later, Basanez was sacked on a corner blitz when he attempted to roll away from the pressure. He didn't find an open man in enough time. He should have attempted to run or throw the football away. On the double option, Basanez chose to shovel pass the ball to Philmore who was just inside of LB Chad Greenway, but had a wide open Terrell Sutton on the outside. He has thrown two passes short of the sticks in third down situations within their first five possessions. He threw an interception after driving down the field with 4:34 left and down by 13 points. It looks like it was his second miscommunication with Philmore. The WR ran a deep route and Basanez expected him to come back. Based on the rhythm of the play calling, it seems Philmore made the error.

**Ball Handling:** Basanez doesn't sell his play fakes. He never puts the ball into the belly or crouches with his back turned on play fakes. He will need to work on this skill at the next level. Even as a runner his play fake on the double option amounts to holding the ball out from his body, but he doesn't fake a pitch motion. His ball security as a runner is adequate.

**Pocket Presence:** Basanez did a nice job stepping up in the pocket and keeping his eyes downfield on a 3rd and 13 from the Iowa 34. The defense got pressure from both sides to the outside and collapsed the pocket, but Basanez...
stepped up, found the open man and threw the touchdown. Although Basanez had a lot of time to make throws in most of the game, he did show the ability to sense the rush off the edge and step up in the pocket. The QB did this again in the 4th QTR and actually did a nice job throwing the ball away deep to a double covered receiver when Abdul Hodge was getting around the corner. Later in the drive, Basanez had to deal with Hodge coming free off the corner and with the LB in his face, he threw an ill-advised pass in traffic for an INT.

**Scrambling Ability:** Basanez makes good decisions as a runner. He slides after he gets the necessary yardage on a run. He did a good job gaining the first down on a QB sneak from under center in the 3rd QTR. He is not a breakaway threat at the position, but he demonstrates good movement and enough ability to get positive yardage when necessary.

**Durability:** Has missed time in his career with a dislocated throwing shoulder and a broken leg.

**Character:** Basanez is an effective leader in the huddle. He has been getting hit late by the Iowa defense throughout the game--at least 4 times he was hit in the head after making the throw. Basanez calmly lobbied the official to watch for this habit as the game progressed and was able to draw a penalty that got NW inside the redzone in the 3rd QTR. He also had enough poise to keep his lineman in the game when the penalty was finally called, and his was about to get into a discussion with the Iowa defender. Basanez pulled his teammate away and spoke him him on their way back to the huddle. He follows up an occasional bad decision with good decisions that show he learned from the mistake. He tried to force a throw under pressure during the 2-minute drill late in the 4th quarter. On the next play, he threw the ball away when he was pressured. These are all signs of a mentally tough quarterback. He hit his TE on a skinny post to tie the game with :42 seconds left in the just after Chad Greenway speared him at the end of a run. Northwestern was losing 21-7 at the half and 27-14 to start the 4th QTR but won the game.