

The Gut Check's QB Scouting Analysis

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

Overall Score:

Accuracy Score:

High completion percentage (>60%) [4pts]:

Deep accuracy [2pts]:

Intermediate accuracy [5pts]:

Short accuracy [5pts]:

Accuracy rolling right [2pts]:

Accuracy rolling left [2pts]:

Arm Strength Score:

Velocity on deep routes [2pts]:

Distance on deep routes (>40 yards) [1pt]:

Velocity on intermediate routes [5pts]:

Delivery Score:

Delivers ball effectively from a variety of platforms [2pts]:

Throws a catchable ball (touch, tight spirals, etc.) [5pts]:

Quick Release [4pts]:

Compact delivery [4pts]:

Decisions Score:

Avoids double coverage [5pts]:

Looks off defenders [3pts]:

Effective use of pump fakes [2pts]:

Distributes ball to multiple receivers [2pts]:

Makes effective adjustments at the line [2pts]:

BHandling Score:

Effective use of play fakes [2pts]:

Handles center exchange consistently [4pts]:

Consistently effective with hand offs [1pt]:

Demonstrates ball security while running [1pt]:

Maintains control of ball when hit [4pts]

Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [4pts]:

Pocket Presence Score:

Buys time effectively within pocket [7pts]:

Willing to take hit to deliver ball [2pts]:

Senses pass rush [3pts]:

Willing to throw ball away to avoid sacks [2pts]:

Scrambling Ability Score:

Effectively gains yardage when breaking the pocket [2pts]:

Effectively gains yardage when pocket collapses [1pts]:

Capable of breaking big gains as a runner [2pts]:

Durability Score:

Missed fewer than 10% of games [1 pt]:

Productive performer when injured [1 pt]:

No chronic injuries [1pt]:

No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [5 pts]:

Game Stats

PAtt:

Comp:

Pyds:

PTds:

Ints:

Dropped:

Sacked:

Deflections:

Fumbles:

RAtt:

RYds:

RTds:

The Gut Check's QB Scouting Recap

Name: Sam Keller

Date: 9/24/2005

Opponent: Oregon State

Overall Strengths:

Keller is an aggressive quarterback who has good downfield accuracy when he has the time to make a 5 or 7 step drop and throw the ball. He is very willing to take a hit and most of his incompletions in the first half were throws where he was a bit early on his release on deep passes or waited until the last second to hit a WR on an intermediate route and got hit while in the act of his release. He has pretty good play fakes and pump fakes. His mechanics are good for a player of his age--foot width on releases, depth on drops, and release of the football. In fact his release is very quick. He is a tough guy who took hits to the ankle and knee and still found a way to slide in the pocket and deliver passes. He also follows his progressions downfield. Keller has the skills as a passer to at least become a good backup.

Overall Weaknesses:

He is not mobile and will sometimes wait too long to deliver the football. In fact he can be a bit of a statue in the pocket and doesn't choose to slide in the pocket rather than stand there and not only take the hit, but also lose the passing lane. He is a bit of risk taker despite showing good decision making on plays under pressure where he threw the ball away. He needs to develop better pocket awareness with the amount of time he should expect to have there and develop a sense of the pass rush, although I believe a fair amount of this isn't so much a lack of pocket presence as it is taking risks to wait as long as possible to find an open receiver.

Accuracy:

Keller's first pass was thrown in double coverage and on a good line to Hagan. It could have been a bit more to the WR's sideline shoulder, but a split second difference would have put it to the WR in stride. On 3rd and 9, Keller lofted a perfect pass 20 yards down the middle of the field to his RB who had no one within 15 yards around him. He caught the ball over his shoulder in stride for a 49-yard score. Excellent touch. The formation set up this busted coverage. The ASU offense was in a 4 WR set and the two slot receivers drew both safeties towards their respective sidelines, so when the RB got past the MLB, the MLB thought he had help behind him when he didn't. Good accuracy to hit Hagan on a 12-yard out in double coverage on 3rd and 17. He got the ball inside the underneath defender. Another fine example of good anticipation and decent velocity. The good thing about his less accurate passes is that he gets rid of the ball quickly on passes over the WRs head, which require anticipation of the route. When these balls were inaccurate, only the WR had a chance to catch the ball because they were overthrown without a DB over the top. He nearly hit his TE on a sideline pattern on the right for a score, but it was a bit over shot with 9:46 in the half. On his pump fake and throw down the seam with 4:10 in the half, Keller hit Hagan in stride with the CB's hugging the WR from behind before the ball even arrive. He hit the WR to the inside on the stutter and go. The ball was thrown to the inside shoulder 40-yards downfield and to the 1-yard line. Nicely placed pass to his WR on the end line in stride.

Arm Strength:

His first pass was a deep throw off a five-step drop that traveled 45 yards in the air and was about 3 yards ahead of WR Derek Hagan on the play. Good velocity and distance, not too much loft. The next attempt was a ball thrown the exact same distance, but the timing was perfect and hit Hagan in stride and he gained another 12 yards for a 57-yard reception. Keller has good arm strength. The ball doesn't fly off his arm, but he can make the deep and intermediate throws with enough velocity to beat underneath coverage and enough timing to be pinpoint in its accuracy. He threw a ball across to the opposite hash from his one 1-yard line (after a great OSU punt) and completed the comeback route at the sideline under pressure for 6 yards. The ball hung in the air a bit, but the velocity overall was decent and only the WR had a shot at the ball. He placed too much loft under the ball on a 1st down play action pass 40 yards and the WR had to slow down and this also allowed the CB to make a great leaping tip on the pass. If it were thrown a bit earlier with less loft and more to the inside, the result could have been a 72-yard touchdown. His arm just doesn't seem strong enough to throw really high-velocity throws from this distance. Everything has a bit of a loft and this makes timing highly important. At the same time, his deep out on the next play had very good velocity and timing. Good timing to the opposite side of the field for a 12-yard catch right in stride with coverage trailing.

Delivery:

Excellent timing on his deep throw of 45 yards in the air. He threw it a bit early, but good anticipation to let it go right as his back foot hit on the end of the drop. He sets up quickly out of his drop without a lot of wasted motion. His footwork looks very good. His feet were well-spaced on the throw. His release is very fast. The arm strength is pretty good, but not elite. The speed of release may be elite in quality. Perfect play fake and drop with great touch on a corner route in the end zone that was dropped. His delivery is 3/4 in motion, which will draw some criticism.

Decisions:

Had 56 straight passes without an interception against LSU (a record) where he threw for 461 yards and 4 scores. He was very aggressive in this game because ASU was a vertical passing attack the OSU defense lost three players who graduated and all three were in NFL camps. On 2nd and 8 with 4:33 in the 1st QTR, he threw a ball deep to Hagan for a completion of 57 yards down the left sideline. This was the second pass that he threw downfield to this sideline in the quarter. He wisely threw the ball away on the next play when he saw his secondary target double covered after the first one was not open. Dirk Koetter told the commentators prior to this game that he never had a QB pick up his system as fast as Sam Keller. At this time Koetter was considered one of the brightest minds in college football. There was a lot of verbiage in the play calls, so Keller did a fine job of running over to the sideline to get the call in situations where a time was at a premium. He changed a pass play with 9:41 in the half to a run play, but the runner was spilled to the outside. On 3rd and 26, Keller did a good job throwing the ball towards the RB on the screen, but out of bounds when he saw the play was covered and Keller was under heavy pressure. Although he will throw against double coverage, it's not an attempt to squeeze the ball. It's at a good angle so only the receiver has a shot. He also goes through his progressions. On his pass to the TE down the seam for 39-yards he looked outside before going inside.

Ball Handling:

He likes to show the ball the entire time on his play fakes. He could do a bit more to sell the first one with 9:40 in the 1st QTR. His pass to the WR on a 5-yard hook was deflected at the line. He made a better play fake with 5:41 in the half from the ASU 33 yard line. He turned away from the defense and extended the ball. Good pump fake and throw to Hagan down the seam for a completion in very tight coverage.

Pocket Presence:

Keller stands strong in the pocket and has no problem taking a hit to complete a pass. On 2nd and 10 with 8:55 in the 1st QTR, he stood in the pocket and waited until the last second to deliver a hook pattern to his WR on the left side as he took a hit to the chest. The ball was thrown low due to the hit and the WR could not make the reception. Good job eluding the backside defender's attempt to drag him down with one arm. On the play after getting sacked, he was hit as he was throwing on another play action pass. He waits too long in the pocket and does not seem to sense pressure. I've never seen a QB get hit while he's throwing so often in a game where it wasn't necessary. Good job stepping up in the pocket against backside pressure with 11:22 in the 3rd QTR to hit his TE wide open on a seam pattern for a 39-yard gain. Excellent job stepping up in the pocket on 3rd and 10 and finding his WR on the left sideline for a 12 -yard gain with 10:48 in the 3rd QTR.

Scrambling Ability:

Keller is a pocket passer with limited mobility. He had a huge opening downfield when he broke the pocket due to backside pressure and he showed no burst of speed at all. A decent runner would have gotten at least to first down marker. Keller was about 1-2 yards short.

Durability:

He twisted his left ankle on the play fake where the DE got up the middle on a stunt. The sacker landed on the QB's ankle as he was bent backwards. He limped to the sideline, but did not miss a play. He a tough player, but takes punishment that isn't necessary. He limped at times throughout the 3rd QTR from various hits at the knees or below while throwing.

Character: