

The Gut Check's QB Scouting Recap

Name: Omar Jacobs School: Bowling Green Opponent: Wisconsin Surface: Field Turf
Height: 6-4 Year: Junior Score: 42-56 Climate: Sunshine
Weight: 226 Date: 9/4/2005 Location: Wisconsin Temperature: Hot

Overall Strengths: Jacobs has an excellent arm, feel, and accuracy for the passing game. His accuracy is his strongest point. Jacobs hits receivers in stride on short, intermediate, and long patterns. He demonstrates the ability to sense pressure and step up in the pocket. Jacobs throws a consistent, accurate deep ball with the right amount of air for the receiver to run under it. Against a quality opponent in their stadium, Jacobs was 20-29 with 305 yards and 4 passing tds in first half. I believe he has the skills to develop into quality starting QB for an NFL team. I'm not alone, former pro bowl linebacker Chris Spielman believes the only prospect better than Jacobs is USC's Matt Leinhardt. Jacobs may experience a drop in his draft status from scouts that question his mechanics, delivery, and footwork. If so, he'll be a draft day bargain for a team that recognizes his talent.

Overall Weaknesses: Jacobs' footwork is a concern. Bowling Green rarely operates out of a formation where he has to take a drop. He also doesn't step as much into this throws as most coaches would prefer. A lot of his throws are made off his back foot and some will sail a bit high on him when he's not accurate. His primary receiver is very tall, so he may just be acclimated to him. Jacobs tends to lock on one receiver. In the 3rd quarter of this game Jacobs locked onto the receiver running a streak from the moment the WR released from the line. The safety had plenty of time to help out and almost intercept a ball that otherwise would have been perfectly thrown if Jacobs didn't tip him off. These are the types of plays he will not be able to make in the NFL until he learns the more intricate nuances of quarterbacking. This also includes having the patience to manage a game effectively and not try to do too much on every play. This is a common problem with most collegiate stars at the QB position because coaches often rely upon them to carry the team.

Accuracy: Accuracy is very good, but could be even better with improvement of footwork. Ball tends to come out a little high because he often throws from his back foot or doesn't completely step into the throw. When he misses, he places the ball away from the defender. Generally overthrows on deep passes rather than underthrowing it, which is good. Jacobs effectively forced the DB into two pass interference calls in first half of contest.

Arm Strength: Places a nice amount of air on the ball when throwing deep. Can easily throw the ball 50 yards. Threw a 45 yard attempt and completed a 50 yard attempt. Shows zip on intermediate routes. Looks like he's throwing darts out there. His mechanics seem so awkward for such consistently good results.

Delivery: Uses a three quarter delivery on a consistent basis. At 6-4, this shouldn't be a huge problem but scouts may penalize him for it. Phillip Rivers and Bernie Kosar were both big QBs with this delivery type that were drafted high. Jacobs has a quick release, but it's just unorthodox. I can understand why this scared off college recruiters to some degree, but it doesn't inhibit his production.

Decisions: Jacobs correctly read that Wisconsin had 11 men playing close to the LOS. He recognized they only had two LBs, and the deepest safety was within 10 yards of the LOS. Jacobs spotted the mismatch with the slot receiver and the safety, then threw to the slot receiver on a 20-yd in-route. The receiver pulled away for a 63-yard score. The coaching staff game planned this, because the slot receiver was their primary guy Steve Sanders--he normally plays on the outside. Jacobs made the correct read at the line. He needs to learn to throw the ball away when he can't find an open receiver. Threw a dump-off while under pressure that resulted in a two-yard loss and later threw an interception to effectively end Bowling Green's chances.

Ball Handling: Operates out of a shotgun offense. Did not see him take more than two snaps from under center. This could be an area where he'll need work to become an effective pro quarterback. Of course Byron Leftwich operated out of the shotgun most of the time and it hasn't been too great a concern or an adjustment for him.

Pocket Presence: Jacobs senses the rush very well. One sack occurred because he tried to move up in the pocket when DE got outside pressure. But Jacobs didn't appear very quick, and the DT hit the ball as he was trying to break the pocket. He had to concentrate on keeping possession and as a result he was sacked. Another significant concern was Jacob's tendency to stop looking downfield and focus on the defensive line. This happened at two significant points during the game.

Scrambling Ability: Jacobs some wiggle to his running style. He takes short steps, which enables him to change direction in traffic but did not show any burst or scrambling skills. He ran upright, and took the brunt of hits. In conclusion, Jacobs is a pocket quarterback that is going to beat you with throws far more often than runs. At 6-4, he's big enough to be effective in short yardage situations.

Durability: Jacobs played his sophomore season with foot injuries and demonstrated to his teammates that he is a tough football player. His attitude is that of a quiet leader.

Character: Jacobs is a very humble guy. The university has hired a media consultant to work with him, because they recognize how much it will both help him and the school.

The Gut Check's QB Scouting Analysis

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Overall Score:

86

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]:

N/A

Accuracy rolling left [2pts]:

N/A

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:

13

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

No

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

Yes

Quick Release [4pts]:

Yes

Compact delivery [4pts]:

Yes

Decisions Score:

9

Avoids double coverage [5pts]:

Yes

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]:

Yes

BHandling Score:

11

Effective use of play fakes [2pts]

No

Handles center exchange consistently [4pts]:

N/A

Consistently effective with hand offs [1pt]:

Yes

Demonstrates ball security while running [1pt]:

No

Maintains control of ball when hit [4pts]

Yes

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

N/A

Pocket Presence Score:

12

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]:

No

Scrambling Ability Score:

3

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

Yes

Effectively gains yardage when pocket collapses [1pts]:

N/A

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

No

Durability Score:

10

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

Yes

Productive performer when injured [1 pt]:

Yes

No chronic injuries [1pt]:

Yes

No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [5 pts]:

Yes

Game Stats

PAtt: 30

Comp: 51

Pyds: 458

PTds: 5

Ints: 1

Dropped: 7

Sacked: 3

Deflections: 1

Fumbles: 1

RAtt: 7

RYds: -23

RTds: 0