

The Gut Check's QB Scouting Analysis

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

Overall Score:

84

Accuracy Score:

20

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:

8

Velocity on deep routes [2pts]:

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

Velocity on intermediate routes [5pts]:

Delivery Score:

15

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:

11

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:

14

Effective use of play fakes [2pts]

Handles center exchange consistently [4pts]:

Consistently effective with hand offs [1 pt]:

Demonstrates ball security while running [1 pt]:

Maintains control of ball when hit [4pts]

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

Pocket Presence Score:

12

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:

3

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

Effectively gains yardage when pocket collapses [1 pts]:

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

Durability Score:

1

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

Productive performer when injured [1 pt]:

No chronic injuries [1 pt]:

No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [5 pts]:

Game Stats

PAtt:

Comp:

Pyds:

PTds:

Ints:

Dropped:

Sacked:

Deflections:

Fumbles:

RAtt:

RYds:

RTds:

Player: Bruce Gradkowski

Date: 11/22/2005

Opponent: Bowling Green

Overall Strengths: Gradkowski is very accurate. He is the first QB in Division I-A history to have consecutive seasons with a 70% accuracy on completions (sophomore and junior seasons). I think this guy would make an excellent west coast quarterback. He plays the QB position much like a point guard (which he was a good one at the prep level) in basketball: He distributes the ball and runs plays in a way that helps deceive the defense and create openings to score. This is a heady football player that understands the game and how to execute plays to the benefit of his offense. He throws a very catchable ball. One of his best traits is his poise under pressure. His team really looks to him for leadership. He continued to bring his team back in this game. If he can stay healthy, Gradkowski has the skills to start in the NFL and be a very good player. He should be able to fit into any offense due to his ball handling, arm, and decision making in the pocket. He is one of my favorite QBs in this draft class.

Overall Weaknesses: Gradkowski doesn't have a monster arm. He can make most of the throws well enough, but doesn't have great velocity on the money throws like the deep out. He has some injury history that, combined with his height, will scare off teams. He occasionally tries to make some higher risk plays in tight coverage and doesn't look off the safety on deeper throws. I did not see Gradkowski throw a ball away to prevent a sack.

Accuracy: Gradkowski displayed good accuracy in tight coverage on his first throw: A third down curl where the receiver turned inside toward the defender in the zone. The QB threw it to the receiver's outside shoulder so the WR could shield the ball from the defender and prevent the potential INT. He hesitated on a deep slant and wound up throwing the ball a little too high for the WR to grab--a pro WR probably would have been expected to catch it because Gradkowski still led the receiver well enough on the play. He made a nice short throw to his TE on a roll to the left off a spread formation play fake. The ball was a little low, but with good touch and looked easy to catch. On the next play, Gradkowski faked to the RB and rolled right, throwing a touch pass 20 yards to a receiver in the right corner. The pass was very catchable, but went between the receiver's hands. When he misses, he has a tendency to overthrow the ball. He missed a wide open player up the seam on 3rd down that would have gone for a TD. Yet overall, Gradkowski is a precise quarterback that leads receivers effectively. Gradkowski made an excellent play fake and roll to the left where he delivered a strike to the TE on the run for his second touchdown. His third TD pass was a half roll to the left and he delivered a great pass that lead his man to the corner of the endzone. Gradkowski anticipates his receivers well on short to intermediate routes.

Arm Strength: Gradkowski has pretty good arm strength but a notch below the elite arms in this draft class. He has decent velocity on throws up the middle of up to 25 yards. He made a nice, 45-yard throw off play action to a wide-open receiver. The throw and the actual reception were 45 yards in length. He is consistently on target with his throws all over the field. He threw a perfect, 30-yard strike to Odom in the corner of the endzone but went through the WR's hands. The ball traveled 40 yards in the air and the play was pass all the way, no play fake--just a quick set and throw. He hit a solid, deep out from the far side of the field in the 4th QTR.

Delivery: Gradkowski stands tall in the pocket and steps through his throws. He might dip a little low on drops and take wide steps, but little to discuss here—he does a nice job.

Decisions: Gradkowski does a good job taking what the defense will give him. He reads the field pretty well. In the 2nd QTR, he did a nice job getting outside and buying time with a play fake under pressure to freeze an oncoming DL so he could deliver a pass down the sideline. Gradkowski scans the field consistently on his drops. Throughout the game he would make a couple of reads before checking down to his RB. He did a nice job with this on a first down throw late in the 2nd QTR. Gradkowski will try to squeeze intermediate throws into tighter coverage or double coverage at least a few times a game. After you watch him play, you don't expect him to do this because he manages the offense so well for much of the game, but he'll occasionally try to force a throw. It is not done enough to grade him down, because he generally makes the throw to a spot where the receiver has a clear opening and the throw has enough precision where the likely result is either a reception or an incomplection. Gradkowski needs to look off the safety. He stared down a route that nearly got his receiver killed with a shot to the head. Gradowski throws the ball to everyone in his offense. He uses the TE very well as primary options and also does a good job with check downs to backs. He effectively beat the CB blitz by throwing the TE on the blitzing side.

Ball Handling: Gradkowski holds the ball high towards his shoulder with his free hand protecting the ball. He completes handoffs to set up his play fakes with his back to the defense and crouching low. He does a pretty good job freezing the defense with his fakes. Gradkowski protects the ball well when he decides to run the football. I'm impressed with his understanding of the play action game. He does a good job with the little things when the ball is in his hands that helps his team make big plays. On a rollout pass to the left for a TD, Gradkowski showed great ball handling by keeping the ball hidden from the defense to suck in the LBs while the TE ran a drag route over the middle.

Pocket Presence: Gradkowski slides around the pocket pretty well and has a good sense of the pass rush. Although he doesn't always make quick decisions, Toledo gives up few sacks and that has a lot to do with Gradkowski's ability to sense pressure and make sound decisions with the ball. Despite this fact, Gradkowski still needs to work on throwing the ball away. The first time Gradkowski broke the pocket to run was with 6:20 in the 2nd QTR. The Toledo

QB demonstrated a very good internal clock on this play. He stood tall in the pocket, scanned the field and at the 3 second mark after the snap, he didn't see it, but sensed the defender coming off the backside. Just before the defender could get to him, Gradkowski took off. He had a lot of time on his first TD pass with 1:11 in the 2nd QTR. Gradkowski did a nice job sliding forward, pump faking, and then delivering to a wide open receiver from 29-yards out. He was sacked for the first time in the 4th QTR, but had avoided at least 4 sacks in the game thus far. He was then sacked a second time in an untimely situation on 4th down in the 4th QTR. The defender came off the backside and though the QB was sliding away from this side, he took too much time, and was blind-sided. This would have been a good time to throw the ball away.

Scrambling Ability: Gradkowski is a shifty scrambler when he has to run. He actually has a pretty nice burst when he commits to running the ball—he is deceptively fast. He can pick up first downs and beat angles in the 1st and 2nd tiers of the defense with his speed. Although the NFL likes QBs to be at least six-foot, there are some good players under that height. The fact that Gradkowski moves well in the pocket and has the speed to break runs when necessary should earn him a chance to convince some doubters.

Durability: Gradkowski has dealt with some injuries throughout his career. Last year he broke his throwing hand in the MAC Championship game. The break required offseason surgery, but Gradkowski actually played out much of the game with this break and threw some TD passes. He also had a dislocated left shoulder earlier this season that cost him a game.

Character: He plays with a great sense of poise and has brought his team back from deficits. Gradkowski is an excellent leader that keeps his team in the game and methodically drives them down the field. He plays well under pressure both in terms of the situations of the game and under physical pressure. He drove his team the length of the field to tie the score with less than 2 minutes in the 4th QTR. He demonstrates good situational awareness. He showed excellent poise to call time out at the goal line when his team looked confused with lining up in the correct formation. After the time out the team executed a perfect half roll to the left and Gradkowski threw on the run for a score. He won the game in the second overtime on a third down half roll to the right and throw across the field to a wide-open TE in the corner of the endzone.