

The Rookie Scouting Portfolio Running Back Scouting Checklist

Name: Alfred Morris **School:** Florida Atlantic **Opponent:** Auburn **Surface:** Grass
Height: 5-1 **Year:** Senior **Score:** 14-30 **Climate:** Night
Weight: 219 **Date:** 9/24/2011 **Location:** Auburn **Temperature:** Temperate

Overall Score: 89

Category Score

Game Stats

Balance Score	8	Power Score :	16	Attempts:	15	Rec Yds	43	
BHandling Scor	10	Vision Score:	18	Rush Yd	85	Rec Tds	1	
Blocking Scor	6	Speed Score :	10	1st Downs	9	Fumbles	0	
Durability Score	6	Elusiveness Score	9	Rush Td	0	Broken Tackles	8	
Receiving and Routes Score :				6	Target:	4	BLKs Assigne	10
				Rec:	4	BLKs Made	10	

Power

Leg Power, drives through arm tackles - 3pts: Yes
 Effective stiff arm - 1pt: Yes
 Initiates contact and punishes defenders - 1pt: No
 Runs behind pads/Good pad level - 5 pts: Yes
 Second effort runner/Keeps legs moving - 7pts: Yes

Elusiveness

Lower body jukes - 1pt: Yes
 Upper body jukes - 1pt: Yes
 Avoids direct shots - 7pts: Yes
 Can strings moves together in space - 1pt: No
 Can make sharp lateral cuts - 3pts: No

Balance

Maintains footing when making cuts - 3pts: Yes
 Maintains balance when hit head-on - 3pts: Yes
 Balance when hit from an indirect angle -2pts: Yes

Ball Handling

Carries ball with correct arm - 1pt: No
 Demonstrates ball security - 3pts: Yes
 Maintains control of ball when hit - 7pts: Yes

Speed

Effective short area burst - 7pts: Yes
 Separates from 1st 2nd level defenders - 3pts: Yes
 Separates from defensive backs - 1pt: No
 Speed to turn the corner on outside runs - 2pts: No

Vision

Good decisions - 7pts: Yes
 Patience - 7pts: Yes
 Good line reads anticipates defense - 3pts: Yes
 Good angles in the open field - 1pt: Yes

Receiving

Catches ball with proper hands technique--2pts: Yes
 Can make difficult catch--1pt: Yes
 Catches ball w/back to the quarterback--1pt: No
 Used in the intermediate/deep passing game--1pt: No
 A consistent target in the passing game--1pt: Yes
 Consistent receptions on catchable passes--2pts Yes

Blocking

Correct diagnosis of blocking assignments - 2pts: Yes
 Effective cut blocking technique - 1pt: Yes
 Good hand placement on stand up blocks - 1pt: Yes
 Can deliver a punch on stand up blocks - 1pt: Yes
 Mirrors/moves feet on stand up blocks - 1pt: Yes

Durability

Missed fewer than 10% of opportunities to play thus far in college career--2pts: Yes
 Without chronic injuries throughout college career (Two or more injuries to same body part)--2pts: Yes
 Without injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation during college career--2pts: Yes

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Profile

Name: Alfred Morris

Date: 9/24/2011

Opponent: Auburn

Overall Strengths

Morris had close to 1300 yards two years ago. He's a big, strong back with good power and second effort. He has a decent burst and pretty good feet for a man his size, which allows him to change direction in the hole and find a secondary lane. He has enough burst to get the corner on designed runs to the edge of the defense. He's a player that needs to be hit and wrapped to bring to the ground. He has enough patience to allow his blocks to set up but decisiveness to find the secondary lane up the middle or bounce a run outside. He catches the ball well with his hands and can adjust to poor passes, especially low throws. Morris has good intensity as a blocker. He delivers a hard shot with good pad level and force. He also flashes some capability to deliver a punch with his hands as a stand up blocker. His cut blocks are a little low at times, but there's potential there for him to improve because I've seen him deliver some at good enough height to be effective. If this performance against Auburn is any indication that he can outrun top notch athletes, he might surprise at the NFL level. I'd say conservatively he reminds me a little bit of a cross between Sammy Morris and Joique Bell.

Overall Weaknesses

Morris' blocking needs refinement because there are times he will throw his body around recklessly to deliver a hard shot and this makes his approach somewhat out of control and liable to miss his angles. I didn't see great speed or burst from Morris. It's good enough that I think he can contribute at the NFL level and even be a lead back, but I want to see more before I make that assertion. His footwork is good, but not great.

Power

Morris' first attempt was a two-yard gain on 2nd and 8 from the FAU 22 with 7:00 in the first quarter from a 14 personnel set with the line balanced by two wing backs just offset each tight end versus a 4-3 with two safeties high. The run was toss sweep to the near side of the field. The wing back on the right side could not seal the SLB to the inside and the defender's presence in the gap forced Morris further outside. That LB was able to wrap the RB's inside foot as he crossed the line of scrimmage. Morris was strong enough to run out of the wrap, but not without losing his balance and falling to the ground, only gained two yards on the play. Morris' next carry also went for a two-yard gain on a 1st and 10 run with 1:44 in the first quarter from a 20 personnel 1x2 receiver set versus a 4-3 with two safeties high. The run was a power to left guard behind the pulling RG and lead full back sealing the left side of the formation. The LDT completely dominated the LG, pushing him three yards into the backfield as Morris received the exchange. Morris had to slide inside of that penetration and away from the LDE, but the DE came off the FB's lead block as Morris reached the line of scrimmage and wrapped the RB. Morris had to lean forward just to get the positive yardage. Morris looked like he had some initial burst but he had to change direction so quickly it was hard to discern. Morris gained 11 yards around right end from a 21 personnel strongside twin, I formation with 2:20 in the half on a power to RT. He got a nice seal block outside by his FB and followed the pulling LG to RT, heading into the hole with enough patience to allow the guard to engage his block and then accelerate to the outside through a nice lane to the flat. He gained three yards before using his left arm to ward off the safety with a decent punch to get a couple more towards the sideline. He was quick enough to turn the corner on the safety and CB to reach the first down marker before getting run out of bounds. Morris' first gain of the second half was a one-yard run on 2nd and 5 with 14:20 in the third quarter from a 21 personnel, strongside twin I formation. He ran behind his pulling LG and FB on a power to the strong side but the RDT got good penetration and met Morris at the line of scrimmage. He was able to keep his legs moving for a yard. Morris gained 15 yards on 1st and 10 with 13:34 in the third quarter from a 20 personnel 2x1 shotgun set. The play was a power behind his pulling RT to LG. He showed good patience to let his RT sealed the outside by coming across the formation and then hit the small gap inside that pulling guard at the line of scrimmage. He cleared the crease untouched, gaining 10 yards before he was wrapped from behind. His momentum carried him forward another five yards and he finished the play with good pad level against the safety's head-on collision about 12 yards downfield. He gained another three yards on 1st and 10 with 13:00 in the third quarter on 20 personnel I formation power play to LG, doing a good job dipping inside the LG when the crease wasn't there to find a secondary hole and then push the pile forward a couple of yards once he crossed the line of scrimmage. Good cutback in the hole and good second effort. Morris gained seven yards on 2nd and 14 with 10:37 in the third quarter from a 1x2, 11 personnel shotgun set. He flanked the single receiver, weak side of the QB and took the hand off behind his pulling LG to RG. When he didn't see the crease open, he was quick enough to bounce the run around right end. As he approached the corner he was able to put a juke on the RCB shooting the gap for his legs and run out of the resulting wrap by the defender two yards behind the line of scrimmage and then turn away from the wrap of the LB to reach the sideline and accelerate past the line of scrimmage for seven yards. He was able to side step two defenders at the sideline in the process. A determined run with good change of direction and power. He broke three tackles on this play, one a really solid wrap. The others were bad technique by the tacklers. Morris gained a yard on 2nd and 1 with 11:15 in the game from a 22 personnel I formation set on a zone play where he followed his FB to RG, took a hit at the line of scrimmage and twisted free to fall forward a yard for the first down. Good second effort and strength. Good second effort and strength. He had another gain of a yard on a 1st and 10 run with 10:30 left on a pitch to left end where he had to dip inside the LB penetrating six yards into the backfield at the corner, run through a second LB's wrap five yards behind the LOS and duck under the wrap of the DE just to reach the LOS before getting knocked out of bounds by the DT. Good patience, power, and quickness. Good job carrying the ball under his left arm (sideline). Morris gained six yards on 3rd and 15 with 5:30 in the game from a 21 personnel I formation rdelay wher ehe dipped from LG to RG with a nice move behind the line of scrimmage and then dragged a defender another three to four yards. His final gain was a 3rd and 2 run from a 21 personnel I formation set with twin receivers to the weak side with 1:35 left. He took a draw play off RG for 10 yards on a run where he had to break tghrough penetration five yards behind the line just as he took the exchange, dip outside an LB to reach the LOS, bounce off a CB's hit to his outside thigh five yards downfield to cross the first down marker and then lower his pads into the safety a step later to finish with a few more. He broke one wrap and ran through a hard shot on the play.

Rail Handlin

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Elusiveness

Morris' next carry also went for a two-yard gain on a 1st and 10 run with 1:44 in the first quarter from a 20 personnel 1x2 receiver set versus a 4-3 with two safeties high. The run was a power to left guard behind the pulling RG and lead full back sealing the left side of the formation. The LDT completely dominated the LG, pushing him three yards into the backfield as Morris received the exchange. Morris had to slide inside of that penetration and away from the LDE, but the DE came off the FB's lead block as Morris reached the line of scrimmage and wrapped the RB. Morris had to lean forward just to get the positive yardage. Morris looked like he had some initial burst but he had to change direction so quickly it was hard to discern. Morris gained 11 yards around right end from a 21 personnel strongside twin, I formation with 2:20 in the half on a power to RT. He got a nice seal block outside by his FB and followed the pulling LG to RT, heading into the hole with enough patience to allow the guard to engage his block and then accelerate to the outside through a nice lane to the flat. He gained three yards before using his left arm to ward off the safety with a decent punch to get a couple more towards the sideline. He was quick enough to turn the corner on the safety and CB to reach the first down marker before getting run out of bounds. He has nice feet to change direction in traffic. He gained another three yards on 1st and 10 with 13:00 in the third quarter on 20 personnel I formation power play to LG, doing a good job dipping inside the LG when the crease wasn't there to find a secondary hole and then push the pile forward a couple of yards once he crossed the line of scrimmage. Good cutback in the hole and good second effort. Morris gained seven yards on 2nd and 14 with 10:37 in the third quarter from a 1x2, 11 personnel shotgun set. He flanked the single receiver, weak side of the QB and took the hand off behind his pulling LG to RG. When he didn't see the crease open, he was quick enough to bounce the run around right end. As he approached the corner he was able to put a juke on the RCB shooting the gap for his legs and run out of the resulting wrap by the defender two yards behind the line of scrimmage and then turn away from the wrap of the LB to reach the sideline and accelerate past the line of scrimmage for seven yards. He was able to side step two defenders at the sideline in the process. A determined run with good change of direction and power. He broke three tackles on this play, one a really solid wrap. Morris gained 11 yards on 3rd and 2 with 12:22 in the game from a 22 personnel I formation set on a power to right tackle. He made a good decision to dip behind his FB at right end rather than his pulling LG and this got him to the line of scrimmage and he set up his LG's block downfield on the LB with a nice stutter and dip inside to get the first down and another five untouched to the right flat with a good burst. He nearly ran through the wrap of the safety about eight yards downfield, falling forward for a total of 11 on the play. Good footwork and patience to set up these blocks and find the crease to burst through. Morris gained six yards on 3rd and 15 with 5:30 in the game from a 21 personnel I formation rdelay wher ehe dipped from LG to RG with a nice move behind the line of scrimmage and then dragged a defender another three to four yards.

Balancer

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Block:

Good hustle by Morris on 3rd and 8 pass play from an 11 personnel, weak side trips shotgun set with 11:50 in the first quarter. Morris flanked the QB in the shotgun on the weak side of the formation against a 4-3 look. At the snap he cut blocked the LDE, diving too low a little too early but still managing to catch the defender's feet and force him to fly head over heels to the ground. Morris immediately returned to his feet and sprinted behind his quarterback, who was rolling left to the flat, and delivered a shot to the backside DE in hot pursuit behind the QB. Good hustle. Good punch to chip the RDT on a 3rd and 12 pass play with 6:05 in the first quarter. He was square to the opponent and delivered a good blow with both hands as the defender came outside his initial block at the line of scrimmage. Morris made sure he altered the direction of the defender before slipping to the middle of the field on an outlet route. Morris chipped the LDE on 2nd and 8 with 1:10 in the first quarter as the back flanking the QB's left side in a 20 personnel shotgun set. He did a great job lowering his pads to deliver a strong shot to the chest of the defender on the play. The intensity as a pass blocker is certainly there. He did a better job on his second cut block attempt on 3rd and 6 with 0:59 in the first quarter, aiming higher on the RDE and hitting him just above the knees. Although the hit didn't knock the defender to the ground, it slowed the defender to a standstill long enough for the QB to roll right and deliver a pass to the flat without pressure from that defender. Good quick punch to the RDT in the middle of the pocket from a 10 personnel shotgun set on 1st and 10 with 0:25 in the first quarter. He delivered an upper cut under the defender's pads and knocked the DT upright. Morris does tend to lead by trying to throw a shoulder into his blocks, which can make his delivering a little out of control. Good square and punch to the RDE on a 2nd and 12 pass play from a 21 personnel strong side twin receiver I formation set. Morris drew the RDE one-on-one and got under the pads of the DE. He was driven backwards and his legs lost some traction during the block, but he was able to hold his ground long enough to keep the DE off the QB. Unfortunately the QB was sacked from the other side of the line on the play with 5:36 in the third quarter. He was a little low on a cut block of the RDE on sprint out by the QB to the right side, but he managed to hit the legs of the defender square enough to slow the defender's progress to help the QB have time for a 12-yard completion. Two plays later he made an excellent cut of the LDT coming free up the middle on a 2nd and 2 pass from the shotgun with 12:25 in the game. He sent the DT head over heels to the ground. A well-timed block that saved his QB. Excellent square and punch on the LDE on 1st and 10 with 11:47 left. He literally knocked the defender backwards and then delivered a second hard punch as his QB delivered the ball to the left flat for a completion of nine yards on the play. Good cut block to the backside pursuit on a sprint option on 1st and 10 with 6:45 in the game. He fired into the thighs of the defender.

View:

Morris' first attempt was a two-yard gain on 2nd and 8 from the FAU 22 with 7:00 in the first quarter from a 14 personnel set with the line balanced by two wing backs just off set each tight end versus a 4-3 with two safeties high. The run was toss sweep to the near side of the field. The wing back on the right side could not seal the SLB to the inside and the defender's presence in the gap forced Morris further outside. That LB was able to wrap the RB's inside foot as he crossed the line of scrimmage. Morris was strong enough to run out of the wrap, but not without losing his balance and falling to the ground, only gained two yards on the play. Morris' next carry also went for a two-yard gain on a 1st and 10 run with 1:44 in the first quarter from a 20 personnel 1x2 receiver set versus a 4-3 with two safeties high. The run was a power to left guard behind the pulling RG and lead full back sealing the left side of the formation. 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He was quick enough to find the opening off right end, cross the line of scrimmage, and dive forward for three yards. Morris gained 11 yards on 3rd and 2 with 12:22 in the game from a 22 personnel I formation set on a power to right tackle. He made a good decision to dip behind his FB at right end rather than his pulling LG and this got him to the line of scrimmage and he set up his LG's block downfield on the LB with a nice stutter and dip inside to get the first down and another five untouched to the right flat with a good burst. He nearly ran through the wrap of the safety about eight yards downfield, falling forward for a total of 11 on the play. Good footwork and patience to set up these blocks and find the crease to burst through. Morris gained a yard on 2nd and 1 with 11:15 in the game from a 22 personnel I formation set on a zone play where he followed his FB to RG, took a hit at the line of scrimmage and twisted free to fall forward a yard for the first down. 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That turned was what earned him the room to run up the sideline. He took a second hit while somersaulting as well. He should have carried the ball under his left arm, but had it under his inside arm. He actually ran out of his shoe at the seven. Morris gained six yards on 3rd and 15 with 5:30 in the game from a 21 personnel I formation rdelay wher ehe dipped from LG to RG with a nice move behind the line of scrimmage and then dragged a defender another three to four yards. His final gain was a 3rd and 2 run from a 21 personnel I formation set with twin receivers to the weak side with 1:35 left. He took a draw play off RG for 10 yards on a run where he had to break through penetration five yards behind the line just as he took the exchange, dip outside an LB to reach the LOS, bounce off a CB's hit to his outside thigh five yards downfield to cross the first down marker and then lower his pads into the safety a step later to finish with a few more. He broke one wrap and ran through a hard shot on the play.

Reception:

Morris' first target was a four-yard completion on 1st and 10 from the Auburn 35 with 14:43 in the first quarter from a 2x3 empty shotgun set. Morris was slot left on the twin side of the formation. He caught a four-yard hook with a safety playing a seven-yard cushion. He immediately dropped to his knees upon making the catch close to his body. The broadcast I had skipped his second two receptions in the first half. The next reception I saw was his final catch, a 12-yard gain for a touchdown from a 22 personnel I formation set. The pass was a screen to the left flat that was underthrown, but Morris did a fine job of scooping it at his shoetops, bouncing the run to the left sideline behind a wall of blockers and then going airborne at the two and getting hit in the legs to send him somersaulting into the end zone. The initial turn after the catch was terrific because he had his back to his blockers and didn't see where they were set up. That turned was what earned him the room to run up the sideline. He took a second hit while somersaulting as well. He should have carried the ball under his left arm, but had it under his inside arm.