

The Gut Check's TE Scouting Analysis

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

Overall Score:

94

- Can physically break jam [2pts]:
- Can use elusiveness to break jam [2pts]:
- Uses body to shield defender from the ball [3pts]:
- Creates separation with burst out of breaks [5pts]:
- Gains noticeable separation on intermediate/deep routes [2pts]:
- Runs precise routes [5pts]:
- Finds opening in zone coverage [5pts]:
- Adjusts to QB when play breaks down [3pts]:
- Awareness of sideline [2pts]:
- Catches ball with hands first [5pts]:
- Adjusts to the ball in the air [2pts]:
- Catches ball well with back to the line of scrimmage [2pts]:
- Catches ball in tight coverage [5pts]:
- Catches ball in high traffic areas [3pts]:
- Consistently holds onto the ball when hit [4pts]:
- Demonstrates ability to make difficult catch [1pt]:
- Makes receptions on catchable balls consistently [5pts]:
- Effective lower body jukes while on the run [1pt]:
- Effective upper body jukes while on the run [1pt]:
- Avoids direct shots [1pt]:
- Effective stop-start movements [1pt]:
- Effective lateral movements [1pt]:
- Demonstrates ability to carry ball with either hand [1pt]:
- Demonstrates ball security [3pts]:
- Maintains control of ball when hit [5pts]:
- Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [1pt]:
- High performance in adverse conditions [1pt]:
- Maintains balance when hit head-on [1pt]:
- Maintains balance when hit from an indirect angle [2pts]:
- Demonstrates effort with assignments [2pts]:
- Demonstrates willingness to block in the open field and on broken plays [2pts]:
- Demonstrates ability to get lower than defender and drive forward [3pts]:
- Demonstrates ability to move laterally and shield defender from target [2pts]:
- Displays patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [1pt]:
- Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [1pts]:
- Leg power and drives through arm tackles [1pt]:
- Effective stiff arm [1pt]:
- Good body lean/Finishes runs [1pts]:
- Gains yards after contact/second-third effort runner [2pts]:
- Missed fewer than 10% of games [1pt]:
- Performs at high level while playing with an injury [1pt]:
- No chronic injuries (Two or more injuries to same body part) [1pt]:
- No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation during college career [5pts]:

Game Stats

Target:
Missed Target:
Drops:
Juggles:
Dropped After Contact:
Rec:
Rec After Contact:
Difficult Rec:
Rec Yards:
Yards After Catch:
Yards per Catch:
Rec Tds:
Yards per Td:
Rush Att:
Rush Yds:
Rush Tds:
Fumbles:

Category Scores

Separation Score:
Routes Score:
Receiving Score:
Elusiveness Score:
BHandling Score:
Balance Score:
Blocking Score:
Vision Score:
Power Score:
Durability Score:

The Gut Check's TE Scouting Analysis

Name: Dustin Keller

Date: 12/26/2007

Opponent: Central Michigan

Overall Strengths:

Keller runs the football after the catch a bit like a running back. He has a good array of stop-start moves, dips, spin moves, low pad level, and stiff arms. He exhibits strong acceleration in open space and off the line of scrimmage. The TE's concentration as a receiver is very good. He caught the ball in traffic, on the run, and managed to catch a few inaccurate throws. He's a very consistent intermediate threat down the middle of the field and is a clear mismatch with many LBs in coverage due to his speed and routes, but a size mismatch for many DBs. Keller is a fluid athlete at the position with a shot to be a playmaker as a receiving TE, H-Back, or FB in the NFL. He compares quite favorably as a receiver and runner after the catch to Redskins TE, Chris Cooley.

Overall Weaknesses:

Although Keller demonstrated decent skills as a blocker, he's a bit of a 'tweener as a TE. He may need to gain more muscle mass to become a solid option as an every down TE in the NFL. When jammed at the line, he didn't consistently have an answer. He started his career as a WR, but has grown into the position.

Separation

Keller has good acceleration downfield for a TE. He was the primary option on a 3rd and 10, 20-yard skinny post with 11:05 in the 1st QTR, but the throw was high and in bracketed coverage. Once Keller got free of the LB and safety on a 1st and 10 corner route with :17 in the 1st QTR, he accelerated and outran the trailing CB for the score. Keller was a state high jump champion in high school, which is a good indication of his explosiveness as an athlete. It shows when he's coming off the line into his routes. He made a very fluid inside release off the DE and the stunting DT on a 3rd and goal pass play with 11:38 in the half. Nice job faking a block on a play action pass for a score on the opening drive of the second half. He wasn't the receiver on the catch, but he managed to lure the DE off the LOS before dipping under and running a short out. Textbook execution of a short out with 11:40 in the game. He chipped the DE before releasing into the flat. The QB did not throw the ball to him, but he was open. He did a good job on two separate occasions in the 4th QTR to drop his shoulder and run through the LB trying to jam him at the 2nd level of the defense upon releasing from the line. One the second occasion he actually made a catch in tight coverage as a result.

Routes

Keller's touchdown came off a 16-yard corner route thrown a bit behind him. The route was good, but the TE had to adjust the ball with a trailing LB in tow. He looked quick out of his breaks on routes where he was not thrown the ball. Both were inside the redzone during the 2nd QTR. One was a corner route where he made the DB stumble as Keller came out of his break. The other was a short out.

Receiving

Keller almost brought down a skinny post attempt that was high and behind him against bracketed coverage 20 yards downfield with 11:05 in the 1st QTR on 3rd and 10. The TE made a good adjustment on a 16-yard corner route with :17 in the 1st QTR to turn towards the trailing LB and catch the ball thrown away from him. The LB and the safety over top missed Keller as a result of the adjustment and the TE was able to run free from the Central Michigan 45 yard line to the endzone. To open the 2nd half, Keller caught a 24-yard skinny post in double coverage and broke free of the defenders for another 13 yards and a 37-yard gain. Excellent concentration to catch the ball with two defenders over the top and approaching him head-on. He cradled the ball into his hands as he took two hits. Keller did not catch a pass on a 3rd and 9 with 4:26 in the 3rd QTR, but the LB had his arms wrapped around him prior the pass arriving. He still had a chance to catch the ball and it was officially a drop, but the officials could have called it either way. Keller caught the ball with an LB draped on him from the moment he got away from the first level of the defense. He demonstrated good concentration to hold onto the football as he was being thrown to the ground, because the ball popped out of his grasp as Keller hit the ground, but the TE managed to retrieve it as he was rolling. Keller caught a 15-yard sideline route in tight coverage at the sideline with his hands extended over his head. Despite having to leap to make the grab, Keller got both feet in bounds as the safety over top hit him as he brought the ball down. Excellent catch, but the Central Michigan coach had called a timeout prior to the snap. He made a diving reception on a 3rd down throw with 2:15 in the game where the ball was tipped at the line of scrimmage. Keller got low with an LB over his back to catch the football with good form.

Elusiveness

Good stop-start move on a short drag route out of the backfield on 1st and 10 with 10:13 in the 3rd QTR. He was able to make the pursuing LB overrun the angle and then push the tackler away with a stiff arm before accelerating upfield for 12 yards and the first down.

Ball Handling

Good job switching the ball to his sideline arm on his touchdown catch. He made the quick switch as he turned upfield and ran the 45 yards for the score.

Balance

Good job lowering his shoulder into a hit and spinning out of the safety's tackle with 2:40 in the half. He spun out of a tackle near the end of the 1st half and spun away from two defenders on his first catch in the second half. He was hit in mid-air on the second catch and managed to adjust his body to spin away from his original momentum to gain separation and maintain his balance. He gained another 13 yards on the play.

Blocking

Keller demonstrated good hand placement inside the DE's chest and turned him to the outside on a 1st and 10 run with 11:35 in the 1st QTR. He was able to drive the RDE off the LOS towards the sideline on a run block with 7:31 in the 1st QTR. Once again, he used good hand placement to the chest of the defender and got under his opponent's pads while driving his legs throughout. He was late off the line on a 1st and goal from the 1-yard line on a run up the middle, but the WR in motion to his side made the block instead. He did an adequate job against the CB coming off the edge on a 4th and goal run for a 1-yard score with :17 in the half. He lower his head into the defender and made good contact, but his hand placement wasn't very good and the DB was able to spin in the direction of the run. Keller's hit was enough to allow the RB to get through the crease for the score. Not much effort on downfield blocks when split wide. He had a chance to block two players on a 2nd and long run to his side, but he was far too tentative with each opportunity. On a 2nd down with 4:45 in the 3rd QTR he did a good job driving the DE away from the run and 2-yards off the LOS. Again, good initial hand placement, pad level, and leg drive. He's such a critical part of the passing offense, he had only one pass blocking assignment in the game, which he did a good job standing up the OLB and keeping him at the LOS with 5:12 in the game. Nice job standing up the OLB on a 2nd and 10 play for a 4-yard gain by the RB with 11:20 in the game. The RB ran up the alley he helped create on the play.

Vision

Keller sees the open field well as a runner and did a good job using moves to create opportunities to run in open space after the catch on all of his receptions.

Power

Keller broke 3 tackles on his 2nd reception, an 18-yard pass up the middle where he gained 10 yards after the catch. He lowered his shoulder and spun away from the first defender, stiff armed the second defender and ran out of an ankle tackle as he was running towards the left hash. He threw aside a DB near the sideline at the first down marker on a 2nd and 3 catch with 3:15 in the game. It then took 4 defenders to stop his forward progress on the play.

Durability

Missed on game in his career with an ankle sprain.