

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Analysis

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

Overall Score:

Power Score :

Leg power, drives through arm tackles [1pt]:
Effective stiff arm [1pt]:
Initiates contact, runs behind pads, and punishes defenders [1pt]:
Good body lean/Finishes runs [3pts]:
Gains yards after contact/second-third effort runner [7pts]:

Balance Score :

High performance in adverse conditions [1pt]:
Maintains balance when hit head-on [1pt]:
Maintains balance when it from an indirect angle [7pts]:

BHandling Score :

Carries ball with either hand [1pt]:
Consistently handles QB/RB exchanges [3pts]:
Demonstrates ball security [3pts]:
Maintains control of ball when hit [7pts]:
Maintains control of ball in adverse weather conditions [1pt]:

Speed Score :

Effective short area burst [7pts]:
Separates from 1st and 2nd wave of defenders [1pt]:
Effective outside runner [3pts]:

Vision Score:

Makes good decisions with where to run [7pts]:
Patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [3pts]:
Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [1pt]:

Elusiveness Score :

Effective lower body jukes while on the run [3pts]:
Effective upper body jukes while on the run [1pt]:
Avoids direct shots [7pts]:
Effective stop-start movements [2pts]:
Effective lateral movement [3pts]:

Blocking Score :

Correct diagnosis of blocking assignments [1pt]:
Effort with assignments [3pts]:
Willingness to block in the open field and on broken plays [1pt]:

Receiving and Routes Score :

Consistently makes receptions on catchable balls [3 pts]:
Makes difficult catch [1pt]:
Catches ball effectively with back to the quarterback [1pt]:
Consistently catches ball with hands and without juggling [1pt]:
Consistent target in the passing game [3pts]:
Runs precise routes [1pt]:

Durability Score :

Missed fewer than 10% of opportunities to play [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 [7 pts]:

Game Stats

Attempts:
Rush Yds:
1st Downs:
Rush Tds:
Target:
Rec:
Rec Yds:
Rec Tds:
Fumbles:
Broken Tackles:
BLKs Assigned:
BLKs Made:

The Gut Check's RB Scouting Profile

Name: Jamaal Charles

Date: 12/27/2007

Opponent: Arizona State

Overall Strengths:

His burst/acceleration and the understanding of how to time it makes him a gamebreaking runner. He has good hands as a receiver and his open field moves allow him to make the most of any opportunity with the ball in his hands. He can make all the cuts, spins, and hesitation moves imaginable. He knows how to defeat angles to create arm tackle opportunities out of what should have been a flush hit. He slides off arm tackles effectively. Charles is one of the more exciting runners in this draft. He's a slashing runner capable of breaking any attempt for a huge play.

Overall Weaknesses:

He needs to learn to make wiser choices as an inside runner. He either doesn't bounce plays outside when it's the best choice for the play or he will wait too long at the LOS before making a decision. Sometimes he'll just make a risky move to elude a player behind the LOS. He clearly sees the holes, but doesn't always show the patience to press the holes to cutback on inside runs. He has patience as a runner, but doesn't always make the best decision. If he can continue to improve reading of blocking schemes and get stronger, he'll be a dynamic NFL playmaker. His greatest weakness is his tendency to fumble the football. This is a dangerous prospect for a team to acquire in the sense of the word "dangerous" having multiple meanings. If he develops his vision, strength, and minimizes fumbles, he'll be a star. If he doesn't improve at least the vision and ball protection, he'll disappoint.

Power:

Charles ran through a defender's attempt to arm tackle him at the shoulder pads on his 9-yard reception/run down the right sideline. On his 3-yard loss with 4:44 in the 1st QTR, Charles tried to put a stiff arm on the DB in pursuit after he spun to the right, but he could not knock down or neutralize the DB with it and was run out of bounds. Charles continued to drive through an LB's wrap up around his waist in the hole and break the tackle for a 15-yard score with 1:30 in the 1st QTR. He has that slippery power that comes from understanding how to angle his body in such a way that defenders can't get a clean shot on him. This ability to defeat angles creates arm tackles for him to shed rather than full hits. Charles was knocked backwards on a run off LG with 9:14 in the 3rd QTR. Good job leaning forward for extra yards on a 5-yard run with 5:36 in the 3rd and a few plays before on a 6-yard run. With 1:31 in the 3rd QTR, Charles was wrapped up by the LB after gaining two yards, but leaned forward to drag the defender a couple more yards downfield with him. He does have a subtle stiff arm that works well in the openfield while moving north-south, but he doesn't really have the strength at this point of his development to use it while going more east-west.

Ball Handling:

Good job switching the ball to his sideline arm after making his first catch on the swing pass with 14:00 in the 1st QTR. He can carry the ball just as effectively with either arm. He carried the ball under both arms at different points during the first two drives fo the game. He had 4 fumbles in 4 games this year. Charles and the QB collided with each other and the ball bounced out of the QBs hands. Charles was execting a handoff and the QB was rolling of the left when they hit each other. He lost the ball with 8:35 in the 3rd QTR when a defender hit his ball carrying arm on the tail-end of the 2-yard gain off LG.

Eelusiveness:

Excellent stop-start movement. He can acclerate up to fullspeed very quickly. His stop-start with an LB within a yard of him behind the LOS was so quick, Charles might as well have been 3 yards away, because he turned the corner and beat the defender's angle easily. He made a stop-start move on his reception with 14:00 in the 1st QTR that froze the pursuit and allowed him to beat the angle of 4 defenders at the sideline for a 9-yard gain. Very light on his feet--he bounced a run to the opening on the left edge when he spotted the alley out of the I-formation with 9:23 in the 1st QTR. He has all the lateral moves, jump cuts, and spin moves in his repetoire one could ask from a back.

Balance:

On 2nd and 4, he bounced a run out of the I-formation to the left corner and was hit head-on twice and knocked backwards before he could get the 1st down. After the first it he was beginning to lean towards the marker, but the second hit was from an LB and the entire side of his body hit flush with Charles to move him backwards. He repeatedly spun away from direct hits at the LOS or spun out of a hit at an angle in pursuit. He didn't demonstrate the ability to make big plays off the spin, but he didn't go down on the first hit.

Speed:

Charles has an excellent burst. He took a 3rd and 3 handoff with 14:09 in the opening quarter and made two stop-start moves behind the LOS before bursting around the corner past four ASU defenders--all second and third level defenders before running about of bounds for a 16-yard gain. This was against 8 men in the box. His burst is very sudden, it's like a hair trigger that a defender senses could go off at the slightest indication of open space. With 7:21 in the 1st QTR, Charles went around left end from the spread formation and showed excellent patience following his blocks to the edge. When he got 2 yards past the LOS, he accelerated and ran past the angle of the OLB and the safety 4 yards ahead for a gain of 48 yards down the sideline. If DB #4 weren't 20 yards downfield waiting on Charles, the RB scores.

Blocking:

His first block was a passive chip as the penetration moved into him with 13:42 in the 1st QTR. Charles made an effective cut block on a DB downfield during a draw play with 9:53 in the 1st QTR. Charles knocked the legs from under the DB. Charles made a key block on the backside edge rusher with 1:55 in the 1st QTR to help the QB complete a 55-yard pass down the right sidline to his WR. Charles needs to be more aggressive initiating the contact rather than waiting for the defender to hit him and knock him back. Charles had a few opportunities to block downfield when his QB was scrambling, but chose to either run out of the path of the play or try to run off the defender near him.

Vision:

Good vision on a sideline packed with pursuing ASU defenders to press the alley made by his WR engaged in a block and then cutting off it to dip to the sideline for a 9-yard gain. There's no question that Charles has excellent vision, but there was a play that demonstrated the difference between making a good, safe choice and a risky, flashy one. On 1st and 10 with 10:30 in the 1st QTR, Charles took a draw out of the spread formation. As he was going up the middle the right and left edge rushers had gone too far upfield but the DT had penetration directly in front of Charles at the LOS. Charles had a smaller alley in front of the edge rusher being blocked off at the right but a wide open flat with downfield blocking 10 and 15 yards ahead. To the left side was a huge opening, but CB unblocked by the WR at the sideline and an LB coming free at the LOS at the left edge. Charles chose to attempt a spin move to the left side as a way to avoid the DT and get of the huge space. He only gained yard as he tripped over the diving DT. A lateral cut would have been much more effective regardless of the direction he chose. Great patience on the 48 yard run off left end. He knew exactly how to time his burst. His patience between the tackles is sometimes lacking. With 4:48 in the 1st QTR, he once again attempted a spin move, this time to the right side as he didn't find anything off the LG and lost three yards. It was a spectacular spin, but if he had stretched the play to left end, he might have gained 5-7 yards on the play. The only player in the NFL who routinely got away with spin moves behind the LOS was Barry Sanders. Marshall Faulk could do it in the open field. Charles has that suddenness, but takes unnecessary risks up the middle. Charles was very patient on his 15-yard score with 1:34 in the 1st QTR. He took the spread handoff from the right side and bounced to the left then cut back off LT, breaking an arm tackle around his waist that temporarily slowed him down before bursting untouched for the remaining 15 yards and the score. The question is whether Charles has enough quickness to dart east-west at the line of scrimmage before choosing a hole this patiently in the pros. I don't think he will and believe he'll need to become more decisive against faster defenses. Charles did not adequately press the hole on a 2nd and 6 with 8:18 in the half. He only gained a yard, because he didn't press the hole to the point of getting behind the RG and RT to get the LBs to over pursue to the right edge and then cut back off the RG and C. He lost a yard on a 1st and 10 with 6:16 on a run off RG where two LBs were shooting a huge gap from 2 yards behind the LOS. If Charles bounced it around the edge, he would have gained positive yardage but tried to jump cut through a very small crease. Charles' best run up the middle was 6-yard gain with :20 in the half, but the alley was so big he got all 6 yards before he was touched for the first time. He saw the huge opening to the left, but could not make a sharp enough lateral cut to avoid the oncoming DBs to reach it. Nice job slashing through an opening on the backside of a run initially to the left edge. He hit the hole hard for 6 yards on the play. He'll made a very good decision one play and an equally bad one the next. He ran straight into the line on a play he could have bounced to the left with 4:23 in the 3rd QTR.

Receiving:

His second touch of the game was a swing pass that he caught with his hands first and back to the LOS. He gained 9 yards on the play, picking through 4 ASU defenders on the right sideline. Charles caught a swing pass 4 yards behind the LOS on 2nd and 11 with 11:40 in the half and made two players miss, breaking an arm tackle of a 3rd to gain two yards on the play. Once again, good job catching the ball with his hands.

Durability: