

## The Gut Check's QB Scouting Analysis

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

**Overall Score:**

**Accuracy Score:**

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:**

Velocity on deep routes [2pts]:

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

Velocity on intermediate routes [5pts]:

**Delivery Score:**

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:**

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:**

Effective use of play fakes [2pts]:

Handles center exchange consistently [4pts]:

Consistently effective with hand offs [1pt]:

Demonstrates ball security while running [1pt]:

Maintains control of ball when hit [4pts]

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

**Pocket Presence Score:**

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:**

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

Effectively gains yardage when pocket collapses [1pts]:

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

**Durability Score:**

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

Productive performer when injured [1 pt]:

No chronic injuries [1pt]:

No injuries requiring extensive rehabilitation [5 pts]:

**Game Stats**

**PAtt:**

**Comp:**

**Pyds:**

**PTds:**

**Ints:**

**Dropped:**

**Sacked:**

**Deflections:**

**Fumbles:**

**RAtt:**

**RYds:**

**RTds:**

## The Gut Check's QB Scouting Recap

**Name:** Josh Freeman

**Date:** 9/1/2007

**Opponent:** Auburn

**Overall Strengths:**

Freeman might be as big as Daunte Culpepper, but he moves, drops, rolls, and throws a lot like Steve McNair. He moves well in the pocket, sliding away from pressure and keeping his eyes down field. He knows how to turn his shoulder away from pressure and reset his body to make the throw. He throws accurately on the run to his right and has enough athleticism to gain yardage when he breaks the pocket. His drops are very good from under center. He has a strong, pro quality arm and decent touch on short throws. He will go through his progressions routinely as a passer and will pick apart a defense with time. His play fakes are adequate and he'll be able to build upon them in the pros. I think his upside is as good as any QB in this class because his poise, size, and skills as a thrower give him the chance to develop into a quality pocket passer in the NFL.

**Overall Weaknesses:**

His biggest issue is staring down receivers. He has a strong tendency to do this. Freeman had some tough plays, but when you watch the game you notice that they ran a lot of three-, four-, and five-WR sets where Freeman was under center and dropping seven steps against fast edge rushers or executing play fakes from the shotgun before dropping. This isn't what you do versus a blitz. He isn't a big-time runner with the football. He has some accuracy issues with his deep passes and he didn't use any pump fakes to freeze an aggressive defense. Freeman's issues are ones that aren't too difficult to improve upon.

**Accuracy:**

He made a quick decision to check to his RB on a swing pass to the right flat on 3rd and 2 for a six-yard gain with 14:05 in the 1st QTR. The ball was accurately placed on the RB's back shoulder and towards the sideline so the RB could run in stride with the ball for the first down. Good accuracy on the short pass. A very accurate 10-yard out in stride while under pressure from the RDE on a 3rd and 8 play for a 17-yard gain with 12:11 in the 1st QTR. Pretty good touch on a 3rd and goal play action fade route to his WR. The ball was very close to being in the WR's hands, but the CB knocked the ball away just as it arrived. Decent accuracy on the throw. It could have been a bit more behind the WR so it was in a spot only the receiver could make a play on it. Freeman was a little behind the WR on his throw on an 11-yard comeback with 14:41 in the 3rd QTR. Pinpoint accuracy would have been to the WR's sideline shoulder. Decent accuracy to drop the ball between the fallen CB and charging safety on a 16-yard pass down the left sideline with pressure coming up the middle with 14:33 in the 3rd QTR. He threw the ball behind his WR on a look-in with 1:00 in the game.

**Arm Strength:**

Freeman threw a high velocity pass that traveled 10 yards to his TE on a button hook with 14:10 in the 1st QTR. The ball bounced off the TE's hands incomplete. Good velocity and decent accuracy on the run to his right to hit his WR on an 11-yard comeback route for a 13-yard gain with 14:41 in the 3rd QTR. There wasn't much velocity on the 16-yard pass a play later, but he showed good touch and anticipation to prevent the WR from taking a hit from the safety charging over the top. Excellent velocity from designed roll to the right from the shotgun on 1st and 15 with 14:02 in the 3rd QTR. He hit his WR on a comeback 12 yards down field between three defenders in zone, all about 2-4 yards off the receiver. The receiver was able to take the ball across the field for the first down and a total gain of 20 yards on the play. Terrific zip on a nine-yard pass to his receiver in front of a CB on 4th and 5 with 1:34 in the game.

**Delivery:**

His first pass showcased a compact delivery with the ball coming over the top with a high release point on 2nd and 2 with 14:10 in the 1st QTR. Good five-step drop to hit his WR on a nine-yard crossing route with 13:59 in the 1st QTR. Very quick release on a 1st and 10 pass for 16 yards when the WR in the left side had his CB fall down. The ball came out quickly for a completion with 14:31 in the 3rd QTR. The ball popped off his hand during his release on the run to his right for a completion of a 12-yard comeback that resulted in a 20-yard gain on 1st and 15 with 14:00 in the 3rd QTR. Good, short drop and quick throw to his TE in the flat for an eight-yard gain with 13:17 in the 3rd QTR. With a defender coming off the blindside as Freeman dropped back on a 3rd and 8 play with 7:39 in the 3rd QTR, Freeman didn't do a good job of transferring his weight as he released the football. He released the pass a little off his back foot and the ball traveled high and wide of his TE, incomplete. It appeared his left leg was still hurting him and prevented him from transferring his weight adequately.

**Decisions:**

From a four-WR set with 14:10 in the 1st QTR, Freeman looked left to his receivers, then back to the right and then to his TE in the middle of the field. He threw the ball to his TE, attempting to force it into the receiver's stomach with the LB wrapping him as the ball arrived, incomplete. He made a quick decision to check to his RB on a swing pass to the right flat on 3rd and 2 for a six-yard gain with 14:05 in the 1st QTR. Freeman took a five-step drop on 1st and 10 with 13:59 in the 1st QTR and looked over the middle to his TE before spotting the open crossing route from left to right, hitting the WR in stride for a nine-yard gain. On 3rd and 2 with 13:05 in the 1st QTR from a bunch formation on the left of the line and a single receiver split right, Freeman looked right to the single WR but felt backside pressure so he rolled right and hit his WR running a shallow cross for the first down and a gain of 13 yards on the play. Freeman did not see the OLB drop back into coverage from the LOS on a 2nd and 8 quick pass to his slot WR versus a MLB blitz with 12:15 in the 1st QTR and nearly threw an interception on the play. He stared down the receiver on this quick play. This might have been a better time to throw the ball out of bounds near his receiver split to the right. Very good job of Freeman to look left at his WRs running to the outside from the bunch formation while he was completing a five-step drop with 11:23 in the 1st QTR on a 2nd and goal pass play. As his back foot hit, he looked over the middle to his WR running the cross to the right hash and delivered the ball in stride for a six-yard gain. His first interception was a deep pass thrown from the Auburn 42 that was intercepted at the five-yard line to end the first half. On 2nd and 8 with 7:44 in the 3rd QTR, Freeman stared down his slot receiver, Nelson, and gave the CB ample opportunity to jump the route. The CB nearly intercepted the pass but couldn't hang on. From the shotgun on 2nd and 5 with 1:42 in the game, Freeman stared down his favorite receiver Nelson from his drop and tried to squeeze the ball over a CB and under a safety about 30 yards down field, but the CB nearly intercepted the ball. His final throw was a 4th down pass over the middle in double coverage after quickly side-stepping the blitz and immediately releasing the ball.

**Ball Handling:**

Good poise to field a low snap off the ground from the shotgun versus a MLB blitz on 3rd and 8 and still be calm enough to spot the open man with a RDE coming free and follow through on his pass to complete it for a first down with 12:15 in the 1st QTR. Good job completing the end around play fake after handing the ball to his RB on a run around right end with 11:55 in the 1st QTR. Freeman wasn't the most thorough QB I've seen execute a play fake at the goal line, but he did turn away from the LOS and extend the ball to his RB with both hands before quickly bring it back and turning up field to throw the fade on 3rd and goal with 10:39 in the 1st QTR. It was an adequate fake. He could have extended the ball more effectively and tried to hide it with either his shoulders hunched over the fake transaction or use one hand to come free from the ball as he hid it with the other before turning to throw. This might have sucked the LB to the LOS and helped his WR get open on the play. He made a decent play fake with 14:47 in the 3rd QTR on a stretch play to the RB before executing a half roll right. Although he dropped the ball on a blindside hit in his back with 1:30 in the game, I'm not penalizing Freeman on the play. This was a perfect hit that would have forced a fumble 9 out of 10 times.

**Pocket Presence:**

Good job sensing the 3rd and 2 backside rush from the LB rushing past the bunch formation to the left of the line with 13:05 in the 1st QTR. He rolled right and waited for his slot receiver to get enough separation on the crossing route to hit him in stride so he could beat the LB to the right flat and gain 13 yards and a first down. Freeman recognized the blitz coming up the middle before the snap on a 2nd and 8 with 12:15 in the 1st QTR, but he did not see the OLB drop with the slot WR just as Freeman began his release. The pass was nearly picked off by the LB, bouncing out of the defender's hands on the play. He took a hard shot from the LB after releasing the pass and it knocked Freeman to the ground. On a 3rd and 7 blitz with 12:14 in the 1st QTR, Freeman handled a low snap from the shotgun and calmly turned to his left and threw an out with the backside defender coming free and into the backfield. The out hit his WR in stride 10 yards down field with the CB a step behind. The pass was accurate enough for the WR to turn the corner and gain another seven yards on the play. What impressed me was Freeman's ability to remain calm after seeing the DE come free from the LOS and follow through on his delivery to release an accurate pass for the first down. With 14:47 in the 3rd QTR, Freeman executed a stretch play fake to the left before turning back up field with a half roll. As soon as he finished his turn and plant he saw the DE coming free from right end and had to shuffle upfield, making a nice turn of his throwing shoulder away from the path of the rusher while looking down field for a receiver. He slid a few steps to the right hash to avoid the LDT coming free just a few steps behind him and then on the run threw an 11-yard comeback to his WR in the right flat for the first down. Excellent awareness on a 1st and 10 play with 1:50 left out of a three-WR set to turn to his left and toss the ball accurately to his RB in the flat as he was wrapped by edge rusher off the right side. Good vision, strength, and accuracy to make this play. He did a good job turning to his left just as he was getting hit by two players off the left side on 3rd and 5 with 1:38 in the game. Good job sliding a couple of steps just before throwing a 4th and 5 completion for nine yards with 1:34 in the game. He was hit by the blindside rusher at the end of a seven-step drop and this forced the ball to come out inaccurate and nearly get intercepted. On the next play he was blindsided by the LB coming free off the edge. The defender planted his shoulders in the back of Freeman and the QB had no time or ability to see the rusher. The hit was perfect and forced the fumble, which was returned for a score with 1:20 in the game.

**Scrambling Ability:**

Freeman has some skills as a runner to break the pocket, but he's a throw-first, run second kind of QB.

**Durability:**

He hurt his left leg in the 3rd QTR and it impacted his ability to move. Although he got planted by the LB on a perfect hit from the blindside the jerked his head back and forced a fumble, Freeman was one of the first players to get up and give chase to the defender although he was limping as he ran.

**The Gut Check's QB Scouting Recap**

**Name:**

Josh Freeman

**Date:**

9/1/2007

**Opponent:**

Auburn

Character:

Ron Prince, the KSU coach, described Freeman as "emotionally neutral" in big games.