

The Gut Check's WR Checklist Analysis

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

Overall Score:

- 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 [2pts]:**
- Effective upper body jukes while on the run [2pts]**
- Avoids direct shots [2pts]:**
- Effective stop-start movements [2pts]:**
- Effective lateral movement [2pts]:**
- DemoDemonstrates 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]**
- Displays patience in traffic (sets up blocks) [1pt]:**
- Takes good angles away from defenders in the open field [2pts]:**
- 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 opportunities [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:

Name: Santonio Holmes

Date: 1/2/2006

Opponent: Notre Dame

Overall Strengths: Holmes is a playmaker that can beat you on the run after a short pass or catch the deep ball. He is very skilled at running precise routes and setting up his opposition to get open. He is a tenacious blocker and understands how this impacts the running game. He's a dangerous return specialist and should be able to make an impact in the NFL right away in this area.

Overall Weaknesses: Will see more press coverage and corners as quick and fast as him. He'll have to work on being more physical to get separation in pass routes.

Separation: Holmes has the speed to get deep at any time. He can get locked up in press coverage and will need to learn to avoid getting out-muscled in this type of coverage.

Routes: Holmes first catch was against the DB playing inside technique. Holmes drove the man outside and then turned toward the inside, creating a three yard cushion to make the reception and the first down. Excellent route runner that has good footwork, body positioning, and understanding of how to set up his man. Aggressively starts his routes and is very quick out of his breaks.

Receiving: Holmes did a good job shielding the ball from the defender on the turnaround of his route. He caught the ball with his hands and then turned quickly inside to try to gain more yardage. Although he was wrestled down as he crossed the marker, he demonstrated good quickness. He made a nice catch on the comeback route where he shielded the ball with his back to the defender and turned around for another 5 yards. Holmes' third catch was out of the slot in a bunch formation. He split the safety and the corner. The safety was playing up to stop the run so Holmes ran right by him. He caught the pass 40 yards down field over his left shoulder at a dead run with the two DBs trailing him by three yards. Holmes took the reception the rest of the way for an 85-yard touchdown. He demonstrated nice concentration on a reception off a slant in tight coverage and a defender coming straight at him from the middle of the field.

Elusiveness: Holmes looked back over his shoulder on the TD and angled away from pursuit. He is almost as dangerous on the run as his teammate Ted Ginn. He can make every kind of open field move you would expect from an elusive receiver/return specialist. He made the first man miss to get the first down after catching a slant route on the left side of the field with :10 left in the half.

Ball Handling: Holmes demonstrated good ball protection when on his long touchdown reception the ND defender slapped at the ball from behind and failed to dislodge it. Although Holmes shouldn't have slowed down to celebrate, the play demonstrated his solid ball carrying technique.

Balance:

Blocking: Holmes ran a crossing route on the first 3rd down of the game for OSU's offense and when the QB broke the pocket, Holmes delivered a cut block on the safety in pursuit so the QB could get to the sideline untouched. He made a nice crack back block that flattened Marucie Crum on the Ted Ginn, Jr. reverse for a 68-yard score. Later he did a good job blocking down on the safety to help his RB get the corner in the 3rd QTR with a little under 11 minutes left. Holmes is consistently getting the best of the safety on run blocks to the outside. The key play was Pittman's game clinching touchdown to the outside and it was Holmes that got Pittman the lane past the corner and followed through on this block until Pittman ran past them.

Vision: Holmes sees the open field very well.

Power: No power to really mention.

Durability: Holmes played all year on a sprained foot he suffered in August and claims he was very limited all year.

Character: He needs to make sure he finishes his runs at full speed. He almost got the ball knocked out before crossing the goal line because he was celebrating.

Game Notes: Holmes' first kick return went for 14 yards after faking a reverse and went up the middle of the coverage. The ND defense strategy at the beginning was to put a safety over Santonio Holmes with the CB 2-3 yards off to take away the slant, and Holmes' potential for a run after the catch.

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Category Scores

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Balance Score:
Blocking Score:
Vision Score:
Power Score:
Durability Score:

Name: Santonio Holmes

Date: 9/10/2006

Opponent: Texas

Overall Strengths: Holmes has excellent speed and good quickness. He understands how to gain separation and runs some of the best routes among the WR prospects in this draft class. He is an explosive runner after the catch and can take a catch the distance off a screen or a deep route. He is an aggressive blocker despite his size. Holmes is also a good kick returner. His versatility as a football player will earn him an opportunity to see an NFL field as a rookie.

Overall Weaknesses: Holmes is a smaller receiver that will have to adjust to more aggressive press techniques in the NFL. Once he adjusts to the greater complexity of an NFL offense he should have a good opportunity to be a dependable starter. At this point he may see limited opportunities in the slot.

Separation: Holmes ran a wheel route and got a solid yard of separation once he was 15 yards past the LOS. He did a nice job of staying far enough from the sideline so he could angle back to it as he closed on the ball. This technique allowed Holmes to gain separation horizontally from the defender as the DB recovered ground on the thrown ball.

Routes: The wheel route for the touchdown where he stayed far enough away from the sideline to use that distance to his advantage with the ball in the air was run on Texas' best cover CB, Michael Griffin. Holmes squares off his routes at the right time on a consistent basis. He did a great job adjusting to his quarterback in the 4th QTR. The play broke down and the OSU QB had to look to the other side of the field. Holmes cut his route to the center of the field and ran back to the QB to make himself available--he made a 17-yard gain and a first down.

Receiving: Holmes body caught the slant route on his first, third down conversion of the game. He also body caught the touchdown pass on the wheel route. He did manage to keep control of the ball as he rolled into the endzone with the DB trying to pull the ball out of his grasp. He made two first downs on short slants in the first half. All three passes thus far have been caught with Holmes' body, and not his hands.

Elusiveness: Holmes may not be as celebrated a returnman and runner as his teammate Ted Ginn, Jr., but he's very good at making quick changes of direction while moving at full speed upfield. Holmes can be a quality returnman in the NFL if a team decides to give him this responsibility. He had two big yardage returns in the first quarter.

Ball Handling: Generally carries the ball under the same arm.

Balance:

Blocking: Holmes is a willing blocker down field. He cut blocked his DB and though the DB popped right back up and made the tackle, the block gave the runner more room to gain the first down prior to a holding call.

Vision: Holmes has good vision as a runner in the open field both as a kick returner and receiver.

Power: Not a powerful receiver by any stretch of the imagination.

Durability: No major injuries

Character: No known public issues.

Game Notes: Ohio State placed Holmes in several different spots in the offensive scheme to exploit potential mismatches against the Texas defense. Holmes was the first option on a 3rd and 5 situation and got the first down after breaking his route off a little short of the marker to gain separation from the defender