

The Gut Check's TE Scouting Analysis

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

Overall Score:

83

- 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: Dennis Pitta

Date: 12/20/2008

Opponent: Arizona

Overall Strengths:

Strong receiver with a big body in the passing game. He adjusts well to the footall and makes tough catches in tight coverage. He'll take a hit and come down with the ball on the perimeter or over the middle. He can break tackles and make savvy plays as a runner in the open field. He can shield off blockers. I want to see him play before the knee injury because his ability to push off as a blocker and make cuts were hindered. He has potential to be a valuable short option in a pro receiving game, especially as an in-line TE. I think he has the initial burst to be an effective short range option like Frank Wycheck or Todd Christensen.

Overall Weaknesses:

He played with a knee brace on an injured knee and his speed, agility, and power were noticeably diminished in this game, but he still made some very athletic plays, especially in the second half.

Separation

Pitta got a clean release off the LOS and used his hands to deflect a shot from the LB covering him on the outside to get down the seam on the first play offensive play of the game.

Routes

His curl route lacked quickness (see Durability) Good job on a 10-yard hitch coming back to the ball in tight coverage with 3:58 in the 3rd QTr.

Receiving

Pitta's first target was a short curl in the right flat, but the QB stared down the route and the CB was able to jump the route and knock down the pass. Pitta's first catch came on 3rd and 4 with 3:58 in the 3rd QTR. He was split wide to the right and ran a 10-yard hitch and came back to the ball with the CB riding his outside shoulder. He caught the ball with his hands a little above helmet level as his momentum and the DB dragging him by the arm, took him back another four yards, but he still managed to power back for five yards. On the next play he ran a drag route to the flat from the right slot, caught the ball at the LOS facing the QB and turned up field for a 5-yard gain. He caught a short hitch on 2nd an long for a 7-yard gain. He ran a crossing route form right to left with 11:08 in the game on a 3rd and 5 where he made a leaping catch with his hands extended at helmet level to catch a pass between two defenders, taking shot to the chest as he came down and bounced off the hit to get up field for another two yards on the play. He caught a deep cross in zone coverage with 4:45 left for 24 yards. He caught the ball thrown over his outside shoulder as he headed up field. He gained 13 yards after the catch. His final catch was a nine-yard out and he turned it up field, dragging two defenders five yards in an attempt to get it out of bounds on a two-minute drill with 2:39 left and down by 10 points. Great effort, but the play was called back on a hold.

Elusiveness

He made a little jab step to the sideline and then cut back to the inside of the DB facing him on a pass to the flat with 3:31 in the 3rd QTR. He was able to spin off a hit from both that DB and a second DB coming from the inside before learning forward a couple more yards for 5 yards. Good stutter step to dip to the inside of the CB and safety on a 24-yard catch/run.

Ball Handling

Good job carrying the ball under his sideline arm on a pass to the right flat with 3:31 in the 3rd QTR. He only carried the ball under his right arm in this game, but did a nice job protecting it with both arms at the end of two plays where he was hit head-on.

Balance

Great balance on a bad knee to catch a hitch in tight coverage get dragged backwards by the safety and still change him momentum to gain another 5 yards up the sideline. Good strength and balance to take a hit from the safety just as he caught a ball over the middle and gain extra yardage on the play.

Blocking

Pitta came in motion as a lead blocker on a goal line run, but he got the worse of the initial hit and fell down on his face a yard from the LOS and the RB had to try to climb over him to get any yardage.

Vision

Power

Good power to pull away from a safety grabbing his arm and gain another five yards on a 3rd down hitch with 3:58 in the 3rd QTR. He was able to spin off a hit from both that DB and a second DB coming from the inside before learning forward a couple more yards for five yards on the next play. He nearly ran through a tackle on a 24-yard catch/run with 4:55 in the game. He did get a good lean for extra yardage at the end of the play. But the play was called back on a hold.

Durability

Suffered a knee injury in the Air Force game this year, and he's wearing a sleeve on the left knee. He didn't have a lot of burst off the LOS.

Character

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Vision Score:
Power Score:
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The Gut Check's TE Scouting Analysis

Name: Dennis Pitta

Date: 12/22/2009

Opponent: Oregon State

Overall Strengths:

Pitta has the size to be a good NFL run blocker at the TE spot against SLBs and DBs. He won all, but maybe one assignment in this game versus both the DE and OLB when on the line as a blocker from two-TE sets. He is very good at adjusting to the football and making difficult, off-balanced receptions with his hands in tight coverage. If he can prove he has enough speed and quickness to perform from the slot in the NFL, he has a bright future.

Overall Weaknesses:

He has the occasional lapse in concentration as a receiver, and has to make sure he doesn't look downfield before he secures the ball. He didn't have to prove he could release from the line of scrimmage against opposition in this game. Most of his routes broke back to the QB which limited his opportunities to show skills after the catch. He didn't have the opportunity to prove that he could stretch the defense vertically. At worst, he'll be a short-game TE with excellent hands who can be effective in the end zone because of his blocking and pass catching abilities.

Separation

Good job using his hands on a 3rd and 1 flat route from the slot, punching the LB in the chest with both hands before turning into his break so he could get four yards of depth and make a diving catch with 10:42 in the 3rd QTR.

Routes

Pitta sank his hips into a 3rd and 8 curl that resulted in an 11-yard reception for a first down with 13:10 in the 1st half. His speed into the break diminished significantly, but he did maintain enough separation on the defender playing a bigger cushion to get the reception. Pitta did a good job of running with his QB to find an opening in the middle of the field as his QB rolled right to elude pressure in the pocket, but the pass was thrown wide of the TE with 7:46 in the half. Pitta did a good job setting up the safety with a stem to the inside prior to breaking on a post route for a 17-yard score. About seven yards into the route, Pitta stemmed inside and kept the safety in shallow zone. When Pitta broke up field, the safety was out of position to recover in time to defender the pass thrown just inside of him for the score on 3rd and goal with 8:51 in the 3rd QTR.

Receiving

Pitta's first target was a pass underneath the zone just outside the left hash that he caught with one hand, extended forward for a 10-yard gain with 5:50 in the 1st QTR. The pass was thrown a little wide of where Pitta broke his route underneath the zone, and the TE made a nice grab leaning outside and using his outside arm to snare the pass and his inside arm to secure the ball as it approached his body. Pitt was targeted on a 1st and 10 curl to open the 2nd QTR but the safety came over the top from Pitt's inside shoulder to tip the pass, which landed floated 10 yards backwards to the sideline and into the arms of Pitta's teammate for six-yard gain. The play was called back due to a holding penalty. Pitta got open on an 11-yard curl split wide left on 3rd and 8 with 13:10 in the half. He did a good job shielding the defender from the ball on a pass thrown low and away to make a catch as he fell to the ground. The TE did a good job of extending his hands away from his body to catch the ball with his hands first although his arms weren't fully extended with the DB coming over the top of Pitta's back on the reception. He dropped a swing pass thrown to his inside shoulder on the next play, because he took his eyes off the football to look at his blocks downfield before he secured the ball to his body. Pitta caught a 3rd and 1 pass from the slot with 10:45 in the 3rd QTR, making a diving grab with his hands after delivering a punch to the LB in the flat as he released from the line. Good extension and concentration on the play as the LB tried to leap over the top to disrupt the reception as the ball arrived. Two plays later, he was targeted on an ill-advised smash screen from the slot. The QB led Pitta too much and the TE had to rip the ball away from the LB at the right hash to get possession of the throw and then turn up field to gain four yards on the play. Good catch with his hands over his inside shoulder on a post pattern for 17 yards with 8:51 in the 3rd QTR.

Eloquence

Ball Handling

Balance

Blocking

Hall did a good job of getting position off the LOS on a 1st and 10 run to get inside of the LB and extend his arms to strike, turn, and sustain his contact with the defender during a run up the middle for seven-yard gain during the third BYU offensive series. On a 3rd and 1 at the OSU 20 yard-line, Pitta was part of a two-TE set that opened a hole off RT for a first down gain by the RB in the I formation against eight men in the box and shaded to the correct side where the RB was taking the ball. Pitta came off the line and into the DE's inside shoulder, getting lower than the defender and turning him to the outside as the runner took the handoff. Once the DE was turned, Pitta did a good job of striking the DE a second time, as he turned to face him parallel to the sideline. This turn and strike in combination with the RT's block on the LB in the second level opened a nice lane for the RB to run through untouched for four yards before he was brought down for a five-yard gain. He once again did a nice job on the DE from a two-TE set, getting under the defender's pads to drive him off the line long enough to delay the DE's attempt to run down the LOS to get to the RB from the backside with 3:30 in the 1st QTR. Pitta got under the DE's pads to turn the defender away from the flow of the play on a run of eight yards with 13:45 in the half. Although he could not turn the OLB away from the play on a run where Pitt was lined in the slot outside of the OLB, he did continue to push the OLB across the middle of the field, and just past the RB exiting the hole, to keep the defender out of the play with 10:48 in the 2nd QTR. Pitta could not stay in front of the OLB on BYU's first run of the second half to Pitta's side because the LT got pushed into Pitta's back, limiting his movement to keep up with the OLB. This allowed the OLB to come off the block and tackle the RB for a minimal gain. Two plays later, he got a good punch on the DE and drove him four yards off the LOS and out of the play so the RB could get the first down. Good job getting into the body of the OLB and turning him inside on a pitch to left end with 1:35 in the 3rd QTR. Pitta dominated the DE on the first block of the 4th QTR, getting into the defender's body and pushing him to the opposite hash from a two-TE set. On the next play, he easily shielded the OLB from getting any backside pursuit from a two-TE set. This was one of the best blocking performances I've seen from a TE this year.

Vision

Power