

Coaching Quarterbacks

How To Design Your Offense Around The Strengths Of Your Quarterback

If you have a young man who can throw the football very well, but he is limited in his ability to grasp the passing offense you are trying to run, work the offense to his strengths. Figure out what he does best and rework your thinking process around him.

If he is very intelligent, decent arm, but not very athletic, use multiple pass routes in different formations out of the shotgun or drop back. Isolate a single defender, and stretch that defender beyond capability to cover. Use trips and close quarter route packages with your athletes ending up in mismatches as the defense makes adjustments.

Move X to your halfback position and put him 1 and 1 off the tackle vs. a linebacker covering. Use shallow intersecting movements that confuse coverage and leave your best people open quickly, so your QB does not have to run, but can have a high pass percentage. Throwing down the field is not the answer. Get the ball to an athlete quickly and efficiently and let him run wild! Defenses cannot get your QB quickly enough, your QB has a high percentage of success, and your athletes are carrying the rock in the open secondary.

If he is not very intelligent, great arm, and very athletic, use less pass route options for him and connect the possibility of escape to the equation. Use the dash(sprint out) out of shotgun, or sprint out off great fakes, and deep play action off sprint draw. Limit his field of vision to an area of the field and a simple progression of reads off 1 defender.

If not there, teach him the bubble flare throw or too keep it and run! Use various QB keep plays, draws, and traps that keep the secondary on "edge" and that will loosen their coverage up to help with his shaky throwing accuracy. Defenses who fly up leave everybody open for easy throws. Teach him basic throws to hot reads for those prefer to blitz a mobile QB, and move him left and right to insure they have no idea where he will be.