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Techniques And Fundamentals Of The Offensive "T" Formation Quarterback

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TECHNIQUES AND FUNDAMENTALS OF THE OFFENSIVE
"T" FORMATION QUARTERBACK



BELLINGER

1961

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TECHNIQUES AND FUNDAMENTALS OF THE OFFENSIVE

"I" FORMATION QUARTERBACK

A Thesis

Presented to

the Faculty of the Graduate School

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College

Prairie View, Texas

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

For the Degree of

Master of Science

in

Physical Education

by

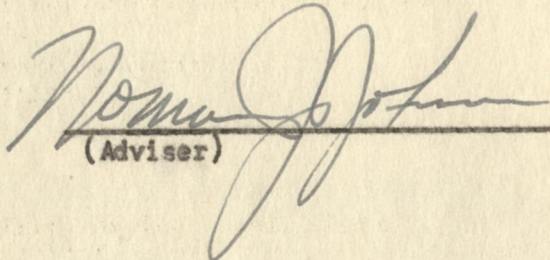
Thomas Bellinger

August, 1961

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(Adviser)

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7/26/61

(Date)

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

The writer wishes to express his sincere appreciation to Dr. Norman J. Johnson for his guidance in the preparation of this Thesis.

T. B.

DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to my most faithful fan, the
happiest when I win and the saddest when I lose--my wife, Eddie.

T. B.

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interested in both, the passing quarterback and the running or ball handling quarterback.

THE PROBLEM

Statement of the Problem

Many quarterbacks because of their inabilities to command the fundamentals of passing and ball handling do not meet with the kinds of success expected of them and in the process may lose the respect of their teammates. Specifically, this problem is one of determining those basic fundamentals and techniques that will assure more efficient play on the part of the "T" formation quarterback.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to present fundamental offensive techniques of the "T" formation quarterback in passing and ball handling.

Limitations

This study is limited to the fundamentals and techniques of ball handling and passing by the "T" formation quarterback.

Methodology

The material used in this study has been gathered from textbooks dealing specifically with the offensive "T" formation quarterback and other authoritative writings, including periodicals and reports found on this specific subject. Also a survey was made

of all coaches of district #7-AA concerning their offensive "T" formation quarterbacks.

In addition to the above, several interviews with active coaches were made in the hope of obtaining first hand information pertaining to the "T" quarterback.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The literature presents much in the way of information from various coaches concerning the "T" quarterback. As can be expected, many of the coaches disagree on points of expectation of their quarterbacks as well as in other instances where they are not in agreement. In this chapter, several points of view, along with discussions are given.

Wilkinson states:

The quarterback is the key man in any "T" formation. He must originate and be vitally involved in the ball handling on every play. A competent player in this position is absolutely imperative, if the attack is to function properly.¹

Faurot stresses the point of Wilkinson further when he adds:

The quarterback should have individuality but at the same time he should be one of the gang. He needs not be popular with the players, but he must be highly respected and gain their confidence in his ability to carry the offensive load.²

It can be seen from the above statements made that the quarterback has an important role to play which may take varied

1. Charles Wilkinson, Oklahoma Split-T Formation (New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1952), p. 47.

2. Don Faurot, Secrets of the "Split-T" Formation (New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1947), p. 46.

directions. England says, "A 'T' formation team can do no better than the quality of the quarterback directing that team."¹ Here it can be seen that the emphasis placed on a "T" formation quarterback and the need for his having the kind of techniques to succeed at this position are very important factors. Also, the personality of the quarterback and his individual initiative should be taken into account and cultivated in this position, otherwise, full respect must be given to the fact that the quarterback is the leader on the field. To this, Chrisler and Wieman adds:

Generalship consists of two things: knowing what to do and making the team do it. The second is even more important the first. No matter how right a quarterback may be in his judgement, if his team does not believe in him the play is doomed to failure.²

Here again we are able to see that a quarterback must be a leader.

Dagrosa points up certain responsibilities of the "T" quarterback when he says:

Quarterbacks should study their men and know whom encouragement inspires and who of them must be driven. Also, the quarterback should train his voice so that it is clean, sharp and in good rhythm.³

It can be added here that there are some players who will give out all they have in every game without being driven and as was stated, some have to be driven or encouraged.

-
1. England, op. cit., p. 175.
 2. H. O. Chrisler and E. E. Wilman, Practical Football (New York: Prentice Hall, Inc., 1952), p. 169.
 3. Dagrosa, op. cit., p. 281.

The quarterback must know his personnel and how to get the most out of them during each game. This must also be practiced before each game because the quarterback who is slack in practice will find it hard to adjust during the game. The quarterback should call his signals sharp and clear and be in complete control at all times. Munn states:

A smart, capable quarterback is the greatest single asset that a team can have. A team can have a beautiful offense, but without anyone to call it they are sunk. In other words, the quarterback is the pilot of the ship and he must steer that ship toward the goal line. A quarterback must be a planner and a thinker.¹

It is to be concluded that a quarterback is evaluated on how well he controls his team and on how well he gets the ball over the goal line. Killinger writes:

The quarterback should be the keenest and most mentally alert player on the squad. It has been stated that a wrong play called properly has more chance of success than the correct play called improperly.²

A good voice is a necessity. Some coaches even like their field leaders to be a little "cocky" if it is not carried so far that it becomes obnoxious.

Waldorf, pointing out the personal qualities of the quarterback, says:

The player who is called upon to select the plays for his team and direct the offense on the field inevitably must accept a heavy burden of responsibility. He must be a real

1. Clarence Munn, Michigan State Multiple Offense (New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1953), p. 196.

2. W. Glenn Killinger, Football (New York: A. S. Barnes and Company, 1938-39), p. 125.

leader with sound general knowledge of football, and a very thorough and specialized knowledge of the offense of his own team.¹

It is to be noted that the burden that the quarterback has to carry is many times too great. This is further illustrated by Paul Brown. Brown states:

I call all of the Brown's plays by sending instruction to the quarterback via guard messengers, because the quarterback on the field has plenty to do without worrying about calling plays. When I assume that responsibility, he is free to concentrate on his passing and ball handling.²

This view by Brown could be discussed pro and con because there are many coaches who disapprove of this theory, and leave this responsibility solely up to the quarterback. This point by Paul Brown is disapproved by Coach William Nicks, who says:

Only my quarterback calls the plays during a game, although during my quarterback meetings, I try to develop a keen sense between the two of us whereas our thoughts will be similar.³

Many coaches consider the quarterback as the most important player on the field and the team will not function properly without a good quarterback.

In a personal interview with Frank Howard, he pointed out that in the "T" formation, the quarterback is the most important man

1. Lynn O. Waldorf, This Game of Football (New York: McGraw-Hill Company, Inc., 1952), p. 235.

2. Paul Brown, "I Watch the Quarterback," Colliers Magazine (October 28, 1955), p. 70.

3. Interview with William J. Nicks, Director of Athletics, Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College, June 19, 1961.

on the team. A good quarterback will make a good team. The boys should believe in him, and even if the play is a so-called "bad call", it is possible to make good on the play.¹ Here one is able to see the importance of the quarterback as Coach Howard sees him. The quarterback plays an important role in the "T" formation and is considered by many as the key man. To this, Coach J. Adams adds, "The 'T' formation is no better than the ability of the quarterback."²

Presented are some fundamental qualities needed and expected of the "T" formation quarterback and if these assets are available or taught properly, success will be more assured by individuals playing this position.

1. Interview with Frank Howard, Football Coach, Clemson College, Clemson, South Carolina, July 6, 1961.

2. Interview with J. Adams, Football Coach, South Park Public Schools, Beaumont, Texas, July 5, 1961.

CHAPTER III

TECHNIQUES

Techniques of the Passing Attack

"Great passers are born--not made. Most boys can throw a football, but most boys are not passers. The fact remains, however, that unless a boy is blessed with certain qualities, he will never be a great passer."¹

Before the quarterback can pass the ball he first must receive the ball from the center. In doing this, the "T" formation quarterback should place his hands under the center's crotch so that the center will have a target to snap the ball. The center can feel the hands of the quarterback on his crotch. "The quarterback's hands should be placed in such a position that the index finger of the right hand is down the middle of the center's crotch. The heels of the hands should be together and the fingers should be spread and relaxed. The fingers of the left hand should be pointing toward the ground."² Once the passer has taken the snap from the center he should fade into the passing pocket very quickly. The passer must have sure control of the ball. "Most passers like the

1. Dana X. Bible, Championship Football (New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1947), p. 48.

2. Clarence Munn, Michigan State Multiple Offense (New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1953), p. 66.

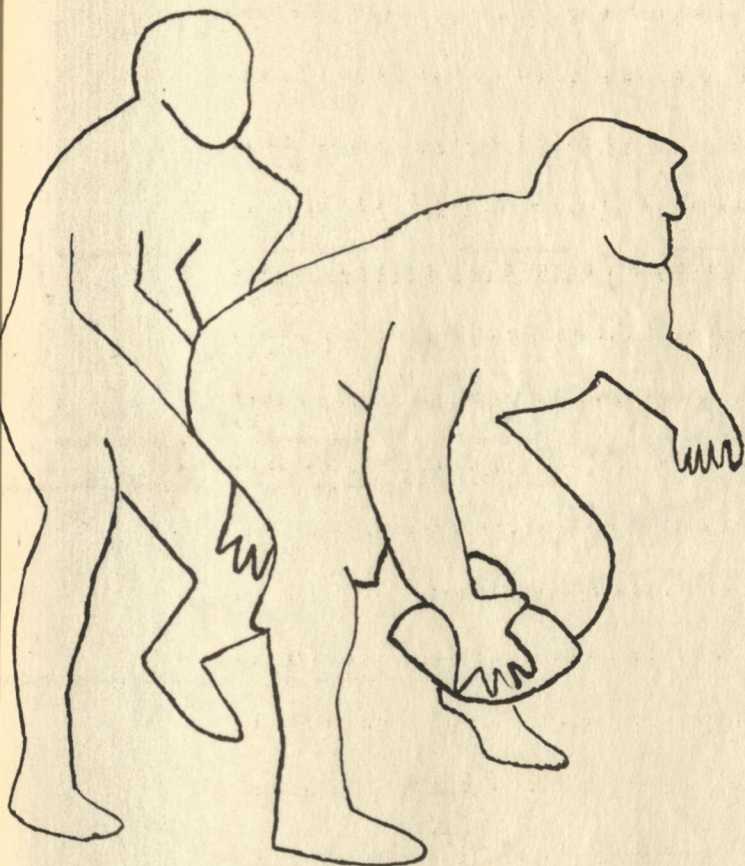


Figure 1 -- The above illustration shows the snap of the ball to the quarterback. Notice how the quarterback has moved his right foot forward and outward before the ball strikes his hand. Notice that the center has moved his right foot forward. The heels of the quarterback's hands are touching.

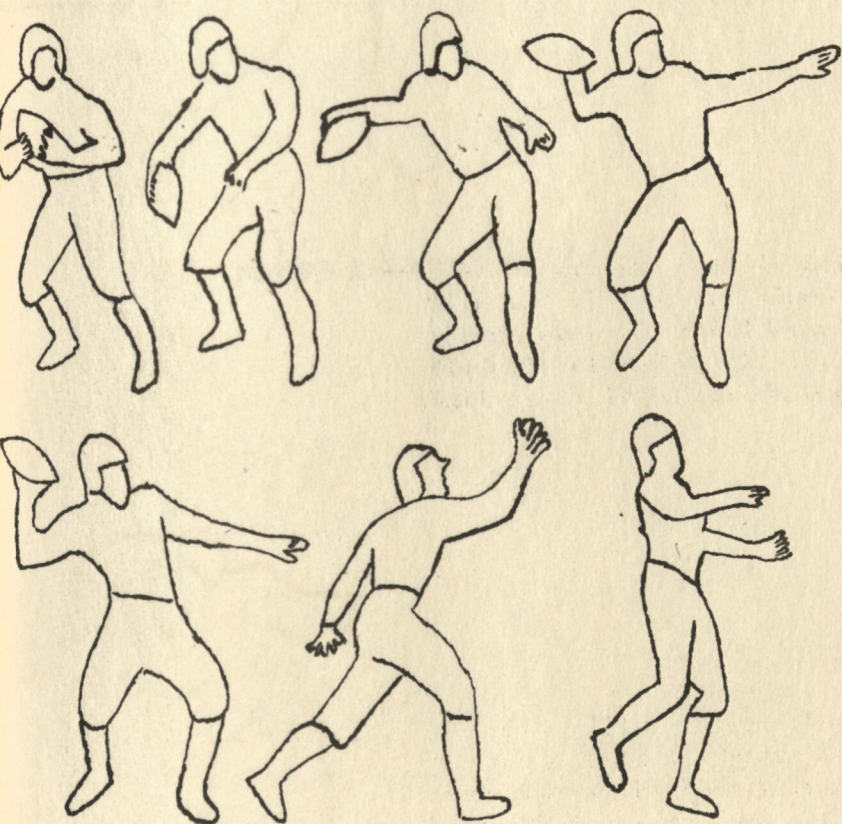


Figure 4 -- The forward pass, side view. The ball is gripped and thrown overhand.

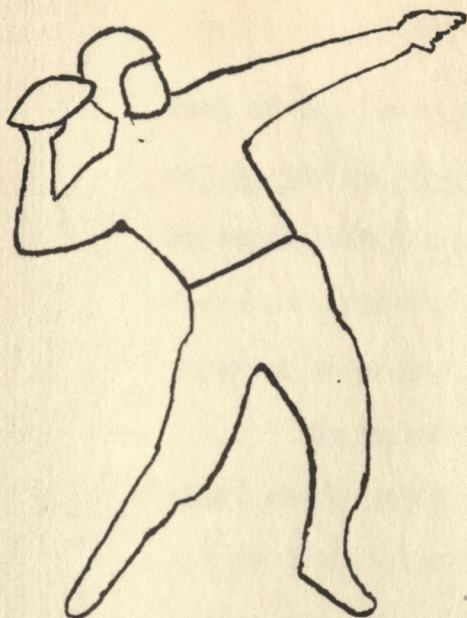


Figure 2 -- PALM PASS: The ball is held in the palm of the hand, with the tips of the fingers on the seam. It is thrown over the shoulder with the nose of the ball slightly elevated, the fingers cutting under the ball as it is released to give it a spiral motion.



Figure 3 -- GRIP PASS: Grip pass with index-finger placed at end of the ball.

feel of the laces against the fingertips."¹ After the passer is set in the pocket, he should hold the ball in both hands just slightly lower than the level of the eyes, and directly in front of his face. He should not move his front foot unnecessarily before throwing the pass.

The quarterback's fingers and thumb should be well spread apart and he should grip the ball lightly. Some quarterbacks will spread their fingers across the lace, while some will place the thumb across the lace. Some quarterbacks will disregard the lace.

If the ball is wet, it should be gripped very light or palmed.

"Passing a football is executed much like that of a catcher throwing to second base. It should be directly overhand for maximum accuracy."² For the right-handed passer the left hand should fall away from the body and slightly forward. The ball should be thrown from behind the ear with wrist snap. If the quarterback holds the ball too long on the forward pass, it causes the ball to nose dive, or angle toward the ground. The ball should be turned loose with a pull-down motion, and the wrist does not turn over.

There are certain specific techniques that a good quarterback must master in order to be a fine passer. A right-handed passer should step forward with his left foot pointing in the direction of the throw. Most of his weight should be on the left foot as the

1. Waldorf, op. cit., p. 133.

2. Killinger, op. cit., p. 12.

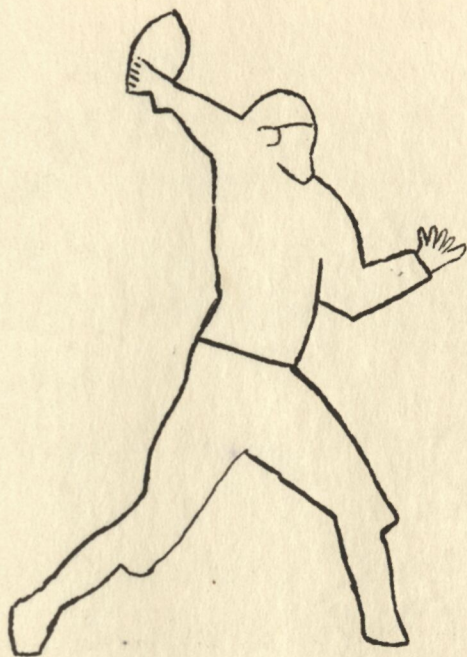


Figure 7 -- THE FORWARD PASS: The ball is thrown directly over-arm, not three-quarter or side-arm.

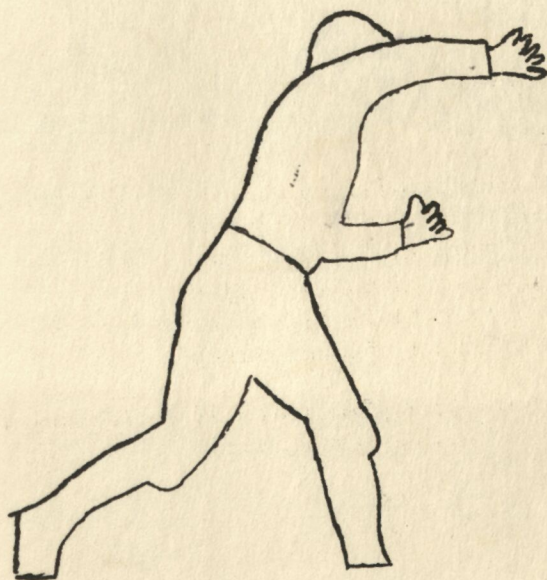


Figure 8 -- THE FORWARD PASS: The right wrist is rolled inward to give spin to the ball.



Figure 5 -- THE FORWARD PASS: Notice the grip of the ball, the position of the feet and the left side turned toward the direction of the throw.



Figure 6 -- The right arm is cocked with the ball behind the right ear, the step is made with the left foot, and the left arm extends in the plane of the throw.

ball is released, and he should follow through with the right arm; this will prevent the jerky motion. The jerky motion will soon develop a sore arm.

A medium length pass should be thrown largely with the wrist, forearm, and fingers. The long pass will be arched higher so that the receivers can run under it, and the passer will get a considerable body action into the throw.¹

An inexperienced passer should practice the techniques of passing each day. He can do this by throwing to a teammate, facing him 10 to 15 yards away. This way he can get his form, also get the feel of the ball and be warmed up for later drills. During these practice drills it is sometimes advisable to practice throwing on the wrong leg. That is, the right hand passer should practice throwing on the right foot, and throw the ball with the fingers, wrist, and forearm, with body movement. This will help develop the forearm and wrist snap and may be of assistance to the quarterback when he has to throw off balance under pressure in a ball game. Throwing on the wrong foot is further illustrated by Coach Frank Howard, who says:

In the "T" formation it is essential to have a good passing quarterback, especially on roll out passes because the quarterback will have to throw on the run.²

In passing the ball on the run, sometimes the quarterback will have

1. Killinger, op. cit., pp. 13, 16.

2. Howard, op. cit., p. 215.

to throw on the wrong leg.

In execution of the forward pass the quarterback should develop the technique which will cause the football to spiral. In order to get a spiral on the football the quarterback should bring his fingers and hand downward and inward as the ball is released from the fingers.

Some techniques that the quarterback should know are as follows:

1. Do not use a long motion. Throw from the ear with a straight over hand motion.
2. Do not underthrow a flat pass.
3. A long pass should be arched.
4. A short pass should pass on a line and should be thrown high enough to make the receivers jump and stretch.
5. The passer must judge the receiver's speed and give him a good lead.
6. The passer must back up every pass that he throws.

It can be noted here that the footwork of the quarterback plays an important role in his passing ability. The passer must also develop footwork necessary to good passing.¹

In the split-T formation the quarterback will take his

1. Degrosa, op. cit., p. 64.

first step in or down the line. In the tight or regular "T" formation, the quarterback will have to spin or pivot around upon dropping back for the pass.

In retreating, the quarterback should keep in mind that he must maintain balance and be ready to throw the instant his receivers are maneuvering into open territory. The quarterback should stay within his pocket or protection area.

In passing the ball the quarterback should not spread his feet wide apart, because he cannot throw the ball as well as from a narrower stance.

The pass should be thrown off the back foot and the passer should step into the direction of the throw.

The quarterback will find it very hard trying to pass the ball while in the act of backing up. This may happen when one or more of the defensive lineman breaks through. Rather than throwing the ball from this position, the quarterback should maneuver for better position.¹ The man in the slot must not be goaded into throwing the ball early by on-coming tacklers, but must be shifty enough to dodge his pursuers and then get off his toss.²

On the running pass, a right handed quarterback going to the right should plant his right foot before throwing. If he leaps into the air he should spring off the right foot.

1. Chrisler and Wilman, op. cit., pp. 117-119.

2. Faurot, op. cit., p. 171.

On going to the left he should plant the left foot, but should actually leap off the right foot. The running pass is the most dangerous pass in football to protect against. The running pass, if it can be thrown at all, will usually not find the passer being rushed so hard.¹

The coach should take every effort to keep the footwork of the quarterback as simple as possible, although the quarterback should know, in order to be a good passer, he must have excellent footwork. This technique being necessary for the quarterback to protect himself, also to cover a possible interception and a runback. The quarterback is allowed to use his hands to ward off opponents while the ball is in the air, also a penalty may be assessed against a defensive player for tackling the quarterback after he has thrown the ball.²

According to the information received from the survey to the coaches of district #7-AA, the larger percentage said that upon receiving the ball, they instruct their quarterbacks to place the passing hand on top. The others stated that the hand position did not matter.

All coaches of district #7-AA stated that their "T" formation quarterback must be a good passer. According to this statement, it can be noted or emphasized, the importance placed on the

1. England, op. cit., p. 101.

2. Roy O. Duncan, Six-Man Football (New York: A. S. Barnes and Company, 1940), p. 24.

"T" formation quarterback how to pass the football. Although basic information is the same, and in most cases the end results are the same, some of the techniques vary.

From the information presented in this chapter, we find that most coaches try to have at least one good passing quarterback. It is essential in the "T" formation to have a quarterback with good passing ability. Due to the many different types of defenses used in this present-day football, the team that solely depends upon the running game, in most cases, can be stopped.

Techniques of Ball Handling

Success of the "T" formation depends primarily on the quarterback and his skills on ball handling. Clarence Munn, football coach at Michigan State, says:

Our quarterback in the "T" formation takes a square stance directly behind the center, much after the fashion of the "split-T" quarterback. His feet and knees are approximately 18 inches apart, and this space allows the ball to be centered between his legs; he also is in a position to handle the ball from the center on a direct exchange.¹

Wilkinson adds to this when he says:

To obtain the ball the quarterback places the heels of his hands together, spread his fingers and points them towards the ground. He thus creates a pocket for the ball. If his fingers are spread naturally, when the point of the ball is snapped against the heels of the hand, the fingers will automatically close and grasp the ball.²

1. Munn, op. cit., p. 74.

2. Wilkinson, op. cit., p. 49.

On different situations, the centers blocking assignment will change, therefore, it is the duty of the quarterback to keep his hands in contact with the center until he actually receives the ball.

England further stresses the hand position of the quarterback when he says:

The heels of the quarterbacks' hand, or the thumbs, should be held together tightly. His fingers should be relaxed and pointing straight downward. His elbows should be flexed to absorb the jar of a hard pass.¹

Techniques of the hand position for the offensive "T" formation are very important since he will have to handle the ball on nearly all plays, except on a direct snap to the fullback. This point is further stressed by Dargosa, when he says:

When the quarterback receives the ball from the center, he should be completely relaxed, especially the hands and fingers. The fingers should be spread and the hands 'give with the ball'.²

The most common fault in the quarterback and center exchange is improper position of the quarterback's hands. There are three errors which occur. They are:

1. The quarterback's fingers are not pointed toward the ground.
2. Heels of the hand are not together.
3. Lack of pressure of hands against the center's crotch.

1. England, *op. cit.*, p. 7.

2. Dargosa, *op. cit.*, p. 51.

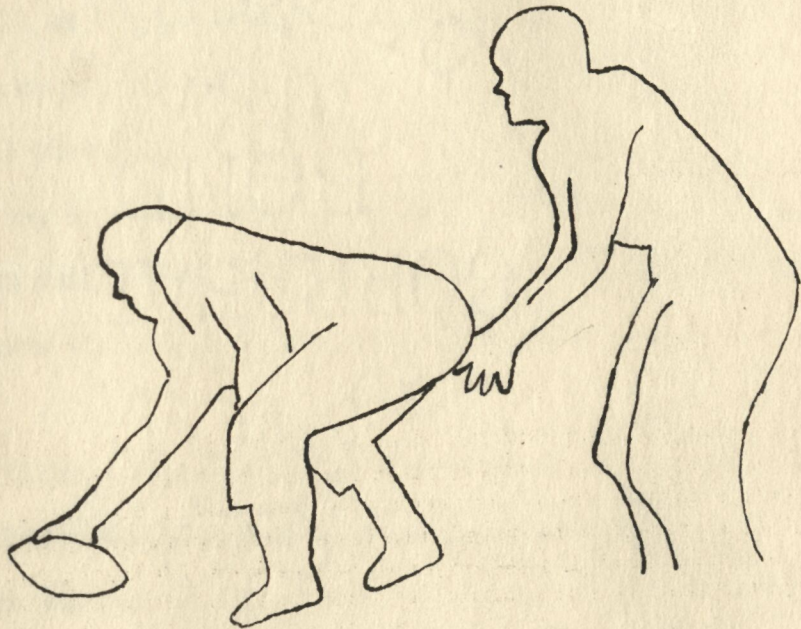


Figure 9 -- Center and quarterback position before snap.

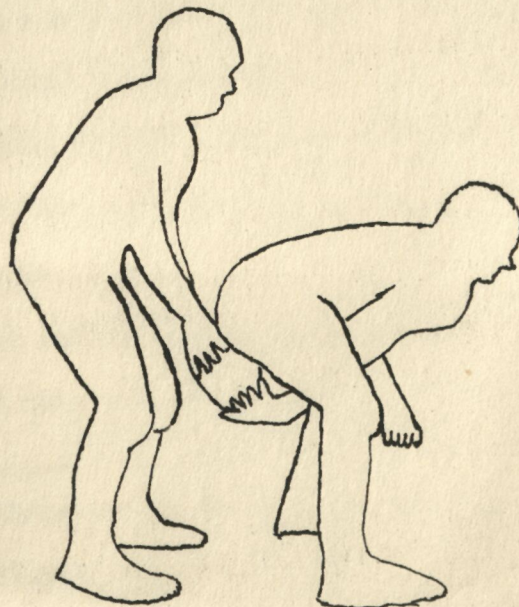


Figure 10 -- Exchange of ball between "T" center and quarterback.

In explanation of the first, if the quarterback's fingers are not pointed at the ground, there will be no base to stop the point of the ball, consequently, when the ball is snapped with force, it will be driven through the hands. The second, although the fingers are pointed toward the ground, a hard quick snap will send the ball through the hands. The third one is where the quarterback may have his hands in perfect position, and still have a tendency to fumble the ball if he does not put pressure on the crotch, because the center is not sure of where he should snap the ball.

The first thing a good quarterback must learn is to handle the ball. This means taking the ball from the center.¹

After the quarterback receives the ball from the center, it is his duty to see that the intended back gets the ball, and since it is the duty of the quarterback to see that the intended backfield man receives the ball, it is imperative that the quarterback practice a great deal with the remaining backs on ball exchange. Different coaches have different techniques in this procedure. Some coaches have the running backs to place his inside arm underneath his chin, with the palm up, and the elbows pointing in the direction of which he is to receive the ball. The outside arm is bent at the elbows laying across his body. This will form a "pocket" in which the quarterback is to place the ball.

1. Chrisler and Wilman, op. cit., p. 74.

2. Faurot, op. cit., p. 51.

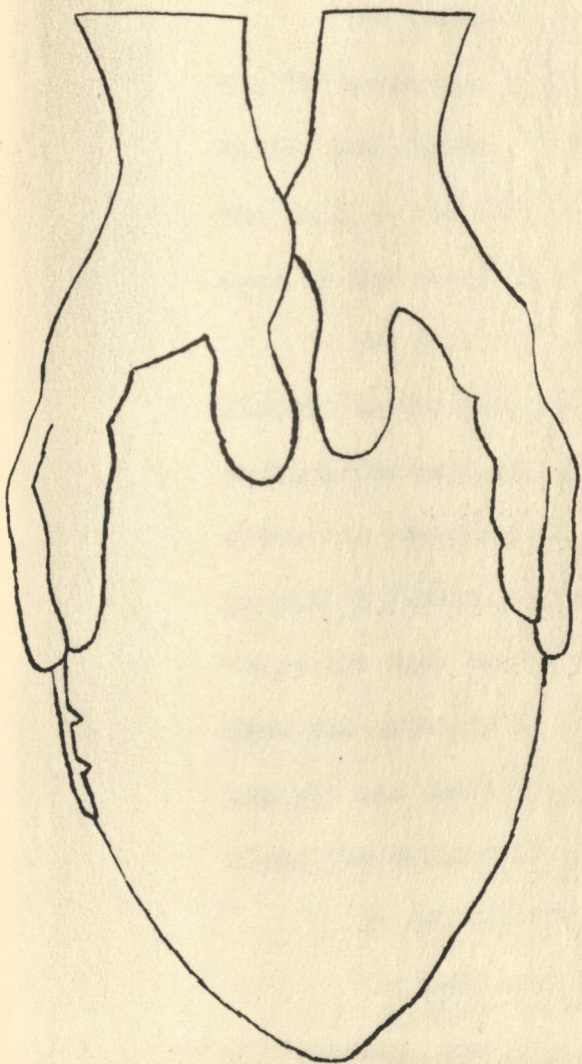


Figure 11 -- This illustration shows the quarterback's hand position where he receives the ball from the center with the "thumbs in".

Other coaches have the running backs to place the hands together, palms up, below the stomach. In either case it is the duty of the quarterback to see that he gets the ball.

The quarterback is responsible for placing the ball in the "T" exchange.¹ This point is further stressed by Dana X. Bible, who states: "The quarterback is responsible for placing the ball in the fixed hands of the deep backs as they whiz by, eyes on the point of attack."²

The quarterback must be able to handle the ball with his fingers in the exchange between him and running back. Upon receiving the ball from the quarterback, the ball carrier should close his pocket, that is, he should clamp down on the ball to prevent a fumble. Once the back is in open territory, he should carry the ball in the outside arm, that is, under the arm away from the majority of the opponents. One point should be under the arm pit and the other in the palm of the hand, with the arm pressed along the outside of the ball.

It can be noted here that Bible says:

The ball should be carried under the 'off' arm, on the side farthest from the nearest opponent. As circumstances dictate, the ball-carrier shifts the ball to the opposite arm by sliding it across his body with both hands grasping the front point.³

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1. Munn, op. cit., p. 82.
 2. Bible, op. cit., p. 46.
 3. Ibid., p. 39.

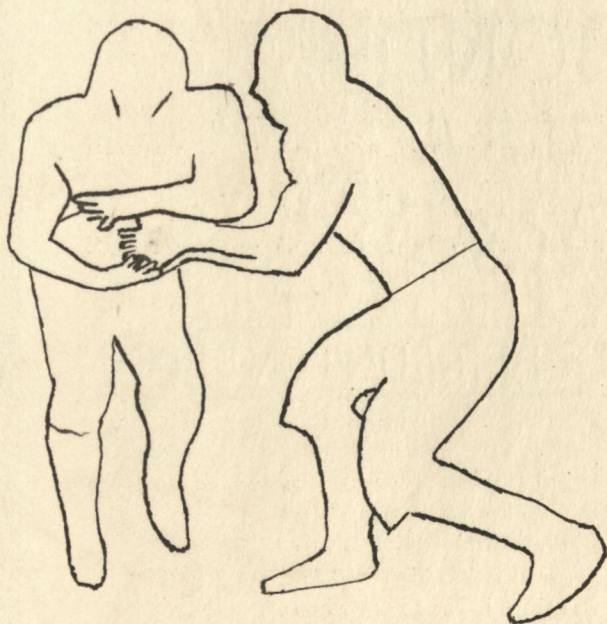


Figure 12 -- The halfback receives the ball on a "T" exchange. Notice the quarterback handles the ball with both hands.

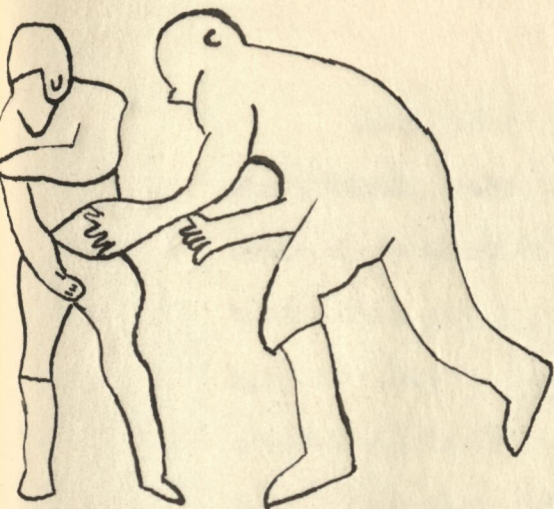


Figure 13 -- The above diagram illustration shows the right halfback taking the ball from the quarterback. Notice how the inside arm (left) is over the ball while the outside arm (right) is near the right hip and slightly under the ball.

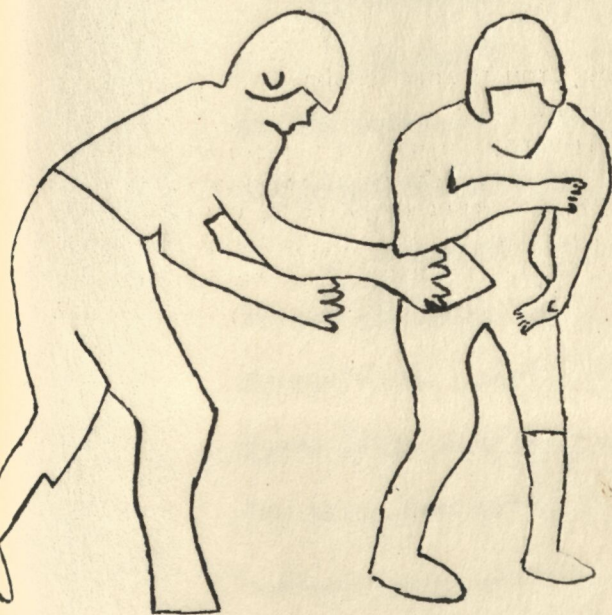


Figure 14 -- The above picture shows the left halfback taking the ball from the quarterback. Notice how the inside arm (right) is over the ball while the outside arm (left) is near the right hip and slightly under the ball.

Good faking is an essential for a good "T" formation quarterback, because faking the ball will keep the defense in doubt as to where the play will be run. In faking to a back, the quarterback will carry the ball against his body with one arm and make the fake to the back with the open hand.¹ There are some coaches who insist that the fake be made with both hands on the ball. They will instruct their quarterbacks to put the ball in the on-coming back's pocket and pull it out. This points out the necessity of a quarterback faking the ball. It is further stressed by Faurot, when he says:

Good faking by the quarterback and other offensive backs enhances the deceptiveness of this sequence of plays. When the quarterback is running the keep play off tackle, he must not only take to the hand-off man hitting the line, but also makes a two-handed fake to the pitch-out man coming around.²

In the "T" formation where faking plays an important role in the success of the play, it is necessary that the quarterback does not watch the ball carrier once he has given him the ball.

The quarterback must be a sure ball handler and a good faker. He and the other backs must be good actors to mislead the defense. If the three running backs in the "T" formation will carry out their fakes after they have passed the scrimmage line, the play will be far more successful, than to ease up on their fakes too quickly.

1. Waldorf, op. cit., p. 162.

2. Faurot, op. cit., p. 22.

Elvan further stresses this point by saying he believes that the defense is rarely fooled by the maneuvers of the ball handler, so the main burden of faking falls on the players who do not have the ball.¹

Munn says, "We work a great deal on the quarterback placing the ball into the stomach and then pulling it out."²

Sometimes in practice, the coach will have each running back to pass by the quarterback and it is his duty to fake the ball to all backs. In order to do this the quarterback must have complete control of the ball, thereby using both hands.

Backs must be sold on their need for deception to the point where they become disciples of it. From the first day until the last, the coach must demand the best the backs have in acting and faking.³ In order to get the proper faking from the quarterback and the remaining backs, the coach will instruct the quarterback to give the ball to the faking back to see if he is actually carrying out his fake. If the back is not carrying out his fake, in most cases he will fumble the ball.

It can be noted here the large amount of emphasis placed on the "T" formation quarterback, and the other remaining backs on the importance of good faking. As the coach chooses his player for the position of quarterback, it is imperative that he have a player

-
1. Elvan, *op. cit.*, p. 23.
 2. Munn, *op. cit.*, p. 82.
 3. England, *op. cit.*, p. 29.

with good faking abilities, knowing that this is very important in the success of the "T" formation.

Some coaches stressed faking with one hand on the ball, while others stressed the point with having both hands on the ball, but all stressed the necessity of good faking in the "T" formation.

Some drills for better ball handling between the quarterback and the running backs are:

First, to form two lines, place 10 backs in each line, facing each other. On the given signal from the coach, the two front men in each line will start moving toward each other. One with the ball, the other with his pocket made to receive the ball in an exchange. After the exchange is made he would continue down the line and give the ball to the number two man, and so on until all backs have handled the ball as much as the coach desires. It can be noted here that there will be some fumbles, even with experienced backs. Therefore, it is necessary to start off slowly and increase the tempo after each player has handled the ball. Another drill for better ball handling between the quarterback and the remaining or running backs, is to have two players hold a piece of rope approximately three feet high. The rope being three yards in length. Place the center and quarterback in a position whereas

the quarterback is able to receive the snap from the center. They should be in a fixed position behind the players holding the rope. Have the remaining backs form a line three yards behind the quarterback, and on the given signal from the coach the number one back will move forward with his pocket made, simultaneously, the center will snap the ball to the quarterback and the quarterback will in turn, pivot and hand the ball off to the on-coming back. This drill can be administered from both sides of the quarterback in order to teach the back to form his pocket both ways. After the exchange is made from the quarterback to the ball carrier he will have to run low in order to go under the rope. This will also make the back conscious of hitting the line low in game situation.

Another drill for the quarterback on ball handling is the "pitch-out" drill. The quarterback will assume his stance behind the center; upon receiving the snap, he will fake the dive play to the on-coming halfback. He then will pitch the ball out to another back swinging around the end. This pitch-out is made with one hand on the ball, fingers on the lace and slightly toward the end of the ball. For the right-handed quarterback, he should have his left foot forward in the direction of which the ball is to travel. The pitch-out should be

made from an underhand motion with a twist of the wrist to give the ball the spin or spiral. As the pitchout is actually being made, the right foot should come forward. The footwork and the hand position is just the opposite for the left-handed quarterback.

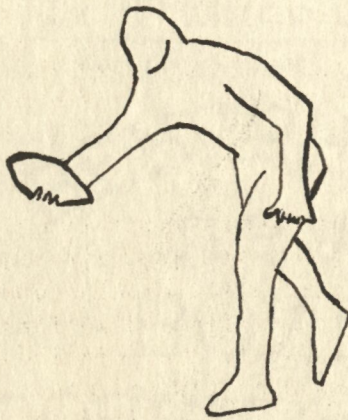


Figure 15 -- The Pitch-out.

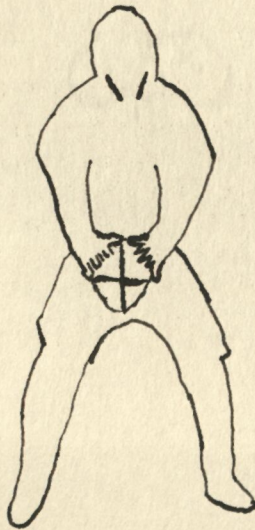


Figure 16 -- The "T" Exchange.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In the opening chapter the statement was made that, "Good coaching is nothing more than good teaching, merely transferred from the classroom to the football field, in fact the two are synonymous." In order to develop a good "T" quarterback, it is a necessity to have a good teacher, and this teacher is usually the quarterback coach. It has been stated by some of the leading coaches in the nation, such as Wilkinson of Oklahoma, Bible of Texas University and Munn of Michigan State, to mention a few, that without a good "T" formation quarterback the team as a whole will not function properly. Different coaches will have different methods of developing their quarterback, but in nearly all cases they expected the same results in the end.

Most coaches prepare the quarterback in the "T" formation to be an excellent passer, but on the other hand, he should know when not to pass, and in game situation there are many times when the quarterback should not pass.

Most coaches feel that it is a necessity for their "T" quarterback to be an excellent ball handler. The quarterback and the center should work together so much until they become like a part of the same body. Most coaches have daily practice periods

for their quarterbacks and centers. On the center-quarterback exchange, there should hardly ever be a fumble, because the two should know the movements of the other. The center should be able to feel the hand of the quarterback on his crotch and should snap the ball very hard at this point. In order to be a good ball handler, the quarterback must have excellent footwork. After receiving the ball from the center the quarterback will have various movements to make. In the tight or regular "T" formation, the quarterback will have to pivot or spin around and face his backs; in the split-T, the quarterback's initial step is usually in or down the line, therefore, the quarterback must have good footwork.

In the survey that was made to the coaches in district #7-AA concerning their "T" formation quarterback, it was found that there was no specific quarterback coach alone, instead the quarterback was coached by the backfield coach in general.

It was found that all coaches in district #7-AA was concerned with the scholastic level of their quarterbacks.

All coaches in district #7-AA stated that they demanded leadership qualities from their quarterbacks, and being a leader, the quarterback had complete command of choice of plays called and was not aided with sideline assistance.

The quarterback in the "T" formation in order to have a successful team must be able to do a variety of things and he must be able to do them well. First of all, a good quarterback must know what to do in nearly any given situation; secondly, he must

be able to make his teammates carry out his orders.

Football is a game of high emotional content. It has great fascination for player and spectator alike. When a game attracts millions of spectators, occupies large sections of the sport pages and commands the interest of a considerable portion of our population during the fall season, that game can be said to have assumed some importance.

The truly vital factors of success in football will always remain the same. There is no substitute for desire to win, physical condition, and good athletes. Any team that has these three elements and is well coached in a sound attack will be successful.

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