Defensive Coverage Identification



Attacking Defensive Coverages

In the same way we know exactly what we will face up front, the exact truth holds the same when it comes to the secondary coverage of defensive schemes. In our offense here at Burrell High School we will have the ability to shred any defensive coverage attempt. We have grouped these coverage's into the "10 Categories of Coverage" that we will examine and know thoroughly in order to be on the strike. Within our option routes, always apply and attack using the "human element" at your decision point, not the systematic coverage.

<u>10 Categories of Coverage</u>

COVER 3 (Single High)
COVER 1 (Single High)
COVER 4 ACROSS / QUARTERS (Two High)
COVER 2 (Two High)
COVER 5 (Two High)
COVER 3 BUZZ (Two High)
COVER 3 CLEO (Two High)
COVER 0
WING-COMBO
COVER 3 PREVENT

<u>Is the Middle of the Field Open or Closed</u>

When the defense is aligned with a single high safety, they can ONLY be in two coverages, Cover 1 (man) or Cover 3 (Zone). Knowing this will simplify your reads and understanding where to break or go with the football. The simple difference between the two coverages is Cover 1 is a Man to Man coverage and Cover 3 is a Spot Drop (zone) coverage.

<u>Man to Man</u> - Where ever the receiver goes, the defender will follow which also declares that coverage man to man. The obvious weakness is that the defenders playing man to man cannot see what is happening with the ball as their eyes are locked on their assigned receiver. The other type of coverage technique is known as Spot Dropping.

<u>Spot Drop</u> -is when the defender drops into coverage with his Eye's locked on the QB trying to read where he is looking and drop accordingly. Unlike man to man coverage, the defenders eyes will be in the backfield. Zone "Spot Drop" - As the defenders drop into their coverage their eyes stay locked on the quarterback. Also the defenders are back pedaling as opposed to turning and running like in man to man. The spot dropping under coverage will let receivers fly by blindly behind them allowing us to hook behind the under coverage in the open holes because they cannot see the receivers behind them. It is imperative for our receivers at Burrell when attacking zone "spot drop" defenders to stretch the coverage vertically to get in behind the defenders drop areas. The deep defenders (safeties) however are not supposed to let anything get behind them.

When we attack down the field, these deep defenders in "spot drop" zones turn into man to man techniques because they MUST turn and run with us as we attack our stretch points deep.