

1135-B1-621

**Eric Eager\*** (eager@uwlax.edu). *Using Machine Learning to Classify Quality and Style of Play at the Quarterback Position.*

When it comes to winning football games, success at the quarterback position is the most highly correlated and predictive variable. As such, finding, evaluating, and sustaining a high-level passing attack is one of the most important tasks in all of pro sports. Using Pro Football Focus data, we determine aspects of a quarterback's throw profile that are the most stable season to season, as well as those that are most predictive of future performance. With a variety of machine learning techniques at our disposal, we use these insights to classify quarterback play, and these groups provide substantial information for both explanatory and predictive purposes for teams moving forward. (Received September 11, 2017)