

Chargers T Joe Alt Media Availability

Thursday, April 25, 2024 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

On being selected by the Chargers:

"Obviously, extremely excited. Couldn't be happier to be part of the Chargers organization. Getting ready to make this next step and go out and compete, I just couldn't be more excited for this next opportunity."

On if he is 'comfortable' with 'the potential of having to move to right tackle':

"Yeah, of course. Whatever the coaches want, I'm happy to do. Excited to go and get better at where position that means and just get ready to get back to work. That's what I'm looking forward to."

On his father, former Chiefs offensive tackle John Alt, and if he is 'OK wearing Powder Blue':

"Yeah, I'll start with the last one, I think that my dad is definitely alright wearing Powder Blue [laughter]. My dad, he's everything to me. He has allowed me to become a man, taught me how to play football, taught me how to do it on and off the field. My dad is everything. I couldn't be more grateful for him and what he's allowed me to learn, taught me the game of football. He really means everything to me."

On his pre-draft interactions with Head Coach Jim Harbaugh and General Manager Joe Hortiz:

"I think the big message was just watching the actual tape of offensive line play and what do we need to work on, what do we like, and the thoughts and possibilities of playing right tackle and that going forward. That was kind of the general conversations that we were having."

On if he played right tackle at all during his freshman season at Notre Dame:

"I did, I played it a little bit at fall camp and stuff. My only [game] snaps were at left [tackle], though."

On if there will be an 'adjustment' by potentially moving to right tackle:

"I don't think that it would be a huge adjustment for me. I've practiced it during this Combine prep, preparing to play on the right side. I think it's something that I would be able to do, if the coaches would like."

On 'adjustments along the offensive line' during his 'collegiate head coaching transition':

"The biggest change, probably, was just the offensive line coach. We got a new offensive line coach with the new [coaching] staff, so that was the biggest change. For me, I was lucky. At Notre Dame, we had a lot of coaches who kind of came from the same offensive line coaching tree, so it was a lot of similar lingo in things that they wanted us to work on. So, it wasn't a huge transition for me from coach to coach."

On playing quarterback and tight end in high school and 'the value of playing different positions in high school':

"I think [playing] quarterback was huge when it came to understanding a full defense, understanding all three levels — the D-line, the linebackers, then the safeties. The safeties really tip a lot when you can read the coverages and how they're rolling down, so that kind of gives you a better understanding of what the entire defense is going to do. Tight end was huge for me when it came to the athleticism and just being able to stay light on my feet, while I was growing. Being able to have a little bit of fun by catching some passes, but also, the majority of it was pretty much a glorified tackle on the outside. It was good to slowly transition to tackle as my weight kind of added on."

On if his 'expectation' was that he was 'eventually going to play offensive line':

"I was always kind of a bigger-boned child, so I was on the heavier side. I was a heavier freshman and sophomore, and then I grew, so I was really skinny. But, I think that I kind of knew from the beginning that when I did grow, the weight would kind of get put back on, so I knew that offensive line was in my future."

On the amount of 'room' that he has 'to grow':

"I love hard work, and that's what I'm always wanted to do. I think that there's always room to improve. I take it one day at a time and try to get a little bit better at something each and every day. Specific things, I love to improve my strike each and every day. I think that's something that can really neutralize the defensive end and really get them out of their rush pattern. I think that I can always try to work on playing lower. I have a tall frame but it also comes with a lot of benefits, being longer. I think that I have a lot of athletic ability to be able to play with that length. Not only being able to play low in the run game and just working on my strike, those are kind of my two things."

On if he 'anticipated' being selected by the Chargers during the pre-draft process:

"Yeah, I did. I felt like I had a really great interview during the Combine. I had a good time with Coach Harbaugh and the staff. I was able to really talk about offensive line play in the future, and at my Pro Day, as well. I definitely thought that it was a possibility."

On 'leaving an impression' on Harbaugh and the coaching staff and his conversations with the Chargers:

"The best part for me was that it was a lot of offensive line talk. That's what we were talking about. That's what I know best, that's what I've grown up watching and doing. Talked a lot about offensive line play. Talked through our film from last year, things that I need to work on and improve, and things that I was doing well. Then, just continuing to discuss the possibility of a position change going forward. Those were the kinds of things that we were talking about."

On his strengths as a player:

"I think that I have a unique size with an athletic ability. I think my ability to mirror guys in pass protection and use my length is, certainly, one of my strengths. I think I have the ability to stay on guys in the second- and third-level, but also being able to fit in on double teams and take man-to-man reach blocks and backside cut offs in the run game are kind of my strengths. I play to my strengths, which I think are my size, my length in pass pro, but also, when I have to get low and get physical inside."

On his conversations with the Chargers since being selected:

"Yeah. Obviously, the phone call. I spoke with them and I just kind of have been getting in touch with them about what the next few days hold."