

The Gut Check's TE Scouting Analysis

Name: Scott Chandler **Date:** 9/16/2006 **Opponent:** Iowa State

Overall Strengths: Chandler has excellent hands. He snatches the ball out of the air and possesses excellent concentration in traffic and tight coverage. He has the speed and fluidity to get a clean release off the line and can beat athletic LBs down the field or out of his breaks. He is a former wide receiver and possesses basic route skills that are more advanced than many tight ends at the college level. He does a very good job adjusting to the football and can make catches on inaccurately thrown balls that require him to dive, bend low, or leap over a defender. He is an accomplished blocker in the run game and will drive a defender off the ball. He also shows good footwork with edge rushers in pass protection. He should become a good redzone tight end that will have better numbers in a passing game than his physical skills might indicate.

Overall Weaknesses: He isn't as fast as the elite tight end prospects of recent years and he'll need to continue to develop his ability to release off the line against more physical coverage. He is not a great runner after the catch in terms of power, elusiveness, or speed. He's more of a chain mover than a big-play maker between the 20's.

Separation Chandler got a very clean release and adeptly slipped past the LB in coverage, which put the defender in trail position immediately on the TE's first target of the game. The ball was thrown behind Chandler and the LB was able to bat the ball away. He got separation on a fade, but the ball was under thrown. He had the straight-line speed to beat the LB in coverage on a streak that was overthrown.

Routes Chandler runs a variety of routes and gets decent separation out of his breaks. Good skinny post on the 25-yard catch at the end of the half. He ran a crisp out route where his break created good separation from the LB in reasonably tight coverage.

Receiving Chandler got open on a fade route in the 2nd QTR, but the ball wasn't thrown high enough to take advantage of Chandler's height. He got his hands on the ball, but the defender had an easy time knocking it away. He did get 6 yards on a short out on the next play. He ran an out on the next play to the opposite side of the field and caught the pass in tight coverage for the first down between two defenders. Chandler showed great concentration on a skinny post in tight coverage where he tipped the ball and ran through the route after the initial touch and snatched the ball into his body after tipping it a second time over the DB. He made an excellent diving catch on an out route where he grabbed the ball with his hands while falling forward, but the ball popped loose when he hit the ground on his back. He was able to grab the ball and bring it back into his body for the completion. Chandler made a nice catch with his hands while running away from the ball.

Elusiveness A former wide receiver, Chandler has good agility, but as a runner he's not especially elusive. He's more of an after contact runner.

Ball Handling He protects the ball consistently. He could be more conscious about covering with both arms, but his arm positioning with the ball against his body is sound technique.

Balance Not easy to knock off his feet without wrapping up.

Blocking Chandler has the height and size to gain control of LBs or a lighter DE. He was able to sustain a run block on the first drive, which allowed Tate to get to the sideline on a keeper. He did a good job driving his man into the pile on a run up the middle for a first down on the next play. He then drove back the OLB nearly 5 yards on the right side of the formation on the play after. Good technique and exploded off the ball into his man. He has good enough footwork to keep the edge rusher from beating his angle on pass plays. He did a nice job with 11:10 in the half to meet the edge rusher with a block, although the DE was trying to beat him around the corner without initial contact.

Vision

Power He can drag tacklers and requires more than one man to bring him down.

Durability No known injuries.

Character None