



SCOUTING ACADEMY

Pro Scouting Report



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PLAYER INFO

#	Pro Position(s)	Prospect (Last, First)	DOB (Age)	Scout Name (Last, First)
30	RB	Ekeler, Austin	5-17-95 (24)	Simpson, Robert

COLLEGE	YEAR - RD - TM	TEAM
WESTERN ST (COWE)	17-UDFA-LAC	Los Angeles Chargers

CAREER INFORMATION

Games Played	Games Started	Games Won	Winning %	Positions Started	Captain
46	11	25	54%	RB	No

INJURIES 2017-Broken Hand (Week 16-17), 2018-Neck Injury (Week 15-16), 2019 - No injuries

KEY STATS 2017- Led LAC RBs in rushing yards/attempt (5.5) while solidly second in attempts (47), yards (260) and TDs (2). 2018-His role expanded as a rusher and receiver, more than doubling his rushing attempts (106) and yards (554), solidly establishing him as the #2 back. 2019-Breakout year as a receiver with career high in Receptions (92), Receiving TDs (8), and Y/R (10.8), all of which lead LAC RBs. 2nd highest YAC in the NFL (945).

MEASURABLES

Height	Weight	40 YD	10 YD	Arm	Hand	Vert	3 Cone	SS	Broad	Bench
5090	195	4.43	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.5	6.92	4.28	128"	N/A

EXPOSURES 2019: vs IND 9/8, vs HOU 9/22, vs DEN 10/6, at TEN 10/20, at DEN 12/1

STRENGTHS Contact Balance/ Separation Quickness COD/ Screen Timing and Vision/ Open Field Elusiveness

WEAKNESSES Physical Toughness Between the Tackles/ Play Strength as a Blocker/ Inefficient Transition Hesitation on Stop Routes

SCHEME FIT Outside Zone or Power running scheme that uses him as a receiving threat from the backfield or split out with heavy screen game utilization.

PROJECTION Change of pace RB you win because of who fits best in an Outside Zone or Power running scheme which will allow him to get to the edge and use his good vision, burst, and very good contact balance to be effective. Will be an asset in the passing game as a receiving threat and in the screen game, using his good hands and separation quickness and very good YAC ability. Should not be asked to run between the tackles due to adequate physical toughness.

BACKGROUND 3rd year RB who has started 11 of 46 career games, including 8 out of 16 games played in 2019. Had an expanded role as the primary back the first 4 weeks of the season due to a contract holdout by teammate Melvin Gordon but was mainly used as a change of pace back and route runner both out of the backfield and split out wide. 3rd year in HC Anthony Lynn and OC Ken Whisenhunt's balanced zone and power running scheme featuring short to intermediate passing. Spent the second half of the season under new OC Shane Steichen, who more heavily emphasized the passing game and shotgun sets, though RB coach Alfredo Roberts was retained.

BODY TYPE / AA Adequate height and solid weight on a compact sturdy frame with good thigh muscles, a wide base, good arm muscles, and broad shoulders. Good athletic ability with very good contact balance and good lateral agility, foot quickness, COD, and acceleration.

POSITIVES IN PASS GAME

Very good passing game ability, with good natural route running, stemming LBs or DBs well off the LOS with good explosiveness and leverage understanding and using good separation quickness due to good COD. Very good screen ability due to very good timing to leak out and good vision to set up blockers and COD to elude even DBs in the open field. Good Zone coverage understanding allows him to sit down well as a safety valve underneath and exploit holes up the field. Good hands, with good hand strength to make contested catches and good catch radius due to good body control to adjust to balls outside his frame both stationary and on the move. Very good YAC ability due to very good transition from receiver to runner by catching in stride and effortlessly transferring momentum and good elusiveness in the open field due to good COD and foot speed. Solid blocking ability, with good willingness and effort in pass pro, good understanding of pass pro assignment and awareness of pressure to get to unblocked defenders of all types with good foot speed, solid hand usage with good punch timing and solid punch strength, solid anchor to slow down LBs one-on-one, and solid quickness to push DBs over the arc.

POSITIVES IN RUN GAME

Good vision on Inside and Outside Zone runs with good understanding of OL leverage and good patience and ability to press the hole to set up LBs and open/identify cutback lanes. Solid vision on Gap runs, following his blockers well and making subtle lane adjustments on the move. Solid ability to create on the edge when blocking breaks down behind the LOS, using his good COD and solid play strength to elude LBs and break through arm tackles. Good burst both vertically, with good acceleration to the hole, solid pad level, and good body control to get skinny between the tackles, and laterally, to jump cut with good lateral agility to get out in space, beat LBs to the edge, or weave through traffic while maintaining good ball security. Good finish ability, with very good contact balance, putting his pads down to bounce and spin off EDGE defenders with good body control, and good play strength and solid aggressiveness to run through LBs for extra yardage. Good mental toughness to fight for extra yardage on 3rd downs and in clutch situations.

NEGATIVES IN PASS GAME

Adequate adjustment to catch balls at his feet. Inefficient transition hesitation on stop routes, trying to elude LBs or DBs with hesitation rather than getting upfield quickly.

NEGATIVES IN RUN GAME

Adequate inside runner with adequate decision making and creation ability on Inside Zone runs due to adequate physical toughness, dancing in the backfield or breaking runs to the outside even when clear inside lanes present themselves. Adequate ball security when extending to the goal line due to adequate hand strength.