

29 When he has kids, Oher says, they will hear it early and often.

30 This sentimental side he wears like body armor. As much as he aspires to become an NFL star, Oher envisions himself as a family man and supportive dad.

31 "He has such character and perseverance," says Collins Tuohy, 22, set to graduate from Ole Miss next month. "Obviously, he's changed and matured over the years. But we all do between the ages of 15 and 23."

32 Collins and Oher have a tight bond. It began when she helped him adjust to Briarcrest. It strengthened as they attended the same college. Oher took Collins to the hospital when she was ill and got the call when there was a flat tire.

33 "He mentors me; I mentor him," Collins says. "It just depends on the day."

34 As she prepared to accompany Oher to New York, where he is one of nine prospects invited to draft headquarters, Collins sounded like a typical sister.

35 "I'm a bit nervous," she said. "I really don't want him trucking off to some faraway place."

36 Sean Jr., meanwhile, might become the recipient of a big gift: Oher's Hummer.

37 The youngest Tuohy kept the wheels while Oher visited several NFL teams on a whirlwind tour this month.

38 "He can't stay out of it," Oher says. "I might give it to him."

39 There are other brothers and sisters, but Oher hardly expresses strong connections with biological siblings.

40 He's closest to his oldest brother, Marcus, who works in the cleaning business.

41 Another brother, Deljuan, died in a car crash. Other siblings, he says, are "here and there."

42 Oher doesn't speak to his biological mother.

43 "I can't relate to her at all," he says. "We're in different situations now. But for someone to keep doing the same thing, which got all of her kids taken away, it kind of breaks your heart."

#### In demand at left tackle

44 Oher's dramatic background undoubtedly was discovered because of his athletic skill. In NFL terms, he's a big man with quick feet, which teams covet for the premium left tackle post that protects the quarterback's blind side (thus, the book title). Right tackles usually get blocking help from tight ends; left tackles are often left alone in matchups against explosive pass rushers.

45 The increasing value of the position was evident in 2008, when a record eight tackles were drafted in the first round and guaranteed a combined \$92.76 million.

**VIDEO:** What makes Oher a premier tackle prospect

46 With an impressive Senior Bowl, Oher cemented his first-round status. Some rate him a top-10 pick.

47 At least four tackles are expected to become first-round picks Saturday, a point hammered home by the list of eight teams he visited and a ninth that came for a private workout.

48 "You never know what's going to happen," he says. "It's wait-and-see."

49 Mississippi offensive line coach Mike Markuson has taken several calls from NFL teams. He tells them Oher is outstanding on run-action blocks in which he fires off the snap to sell the run, then shifts to pass protection.

50 One question inevitably comes up: How is he going to react when paid millions of dollars?

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