

# Going pro

## Can Musgrave make it in NFL?

By Ashley Conklin  
Emerald Sports Editor

Bill Musgrave was the winningest quarterback in Oregon history.

He won more games than any other quarterback and was the only Duck signal-caller to lead his team to back-to-back bowl games.

Statistically, Musgrave was also the best quarterback in Oregon history. He completed more passes, threw for more yards, had more touchdowns and had a higher completion percentage than Norm Van Brocklin, Bob Berry, Dan Fouts and Chris Miller.

Musgrave was also one of the top quarterbacks in Pacific-10 Conference history, and only Stanford's John Elway had more touchdown passes in the history of the conference.

For Oregon Coach Rich Brooks, there is no question where Musgrave should be picked in Sunday's National Football League draft, which concludes Monday.

"Wherever it is, unless it's in my opinion," Brooks said, "because he's accomplished things no other player has been able to do in Oregon history."

But for all of his accomplishments at Oregon, Musgrave likely won't be taken in the first, second or even the third round of the NFL draft. In fact, he might not even be chosen on Sunday when the first five rounds take place.

The book on Musgrave by most pro scouts is the same: "Great kid with great intelligence. A good student of the game. But lacks the arm strength needed to make it in the NFL."

Some think the arm strength issue is overrated. Others base Musgrave solely on the arm strength question alone.

So the question lingers: Is Bill Musgrave an NFL quarterback? Can he make it in the NFL?

"I think Bill is a starting NFL quarterback," Brooks said. "I don't look at Bill as a back-up. I think Bill has a good future in the NFL, and not as a back-up. That would be my assessment."

The assessment of Mel Kiper Jr., who serves as ESPN's draft analyst is somewhat different.

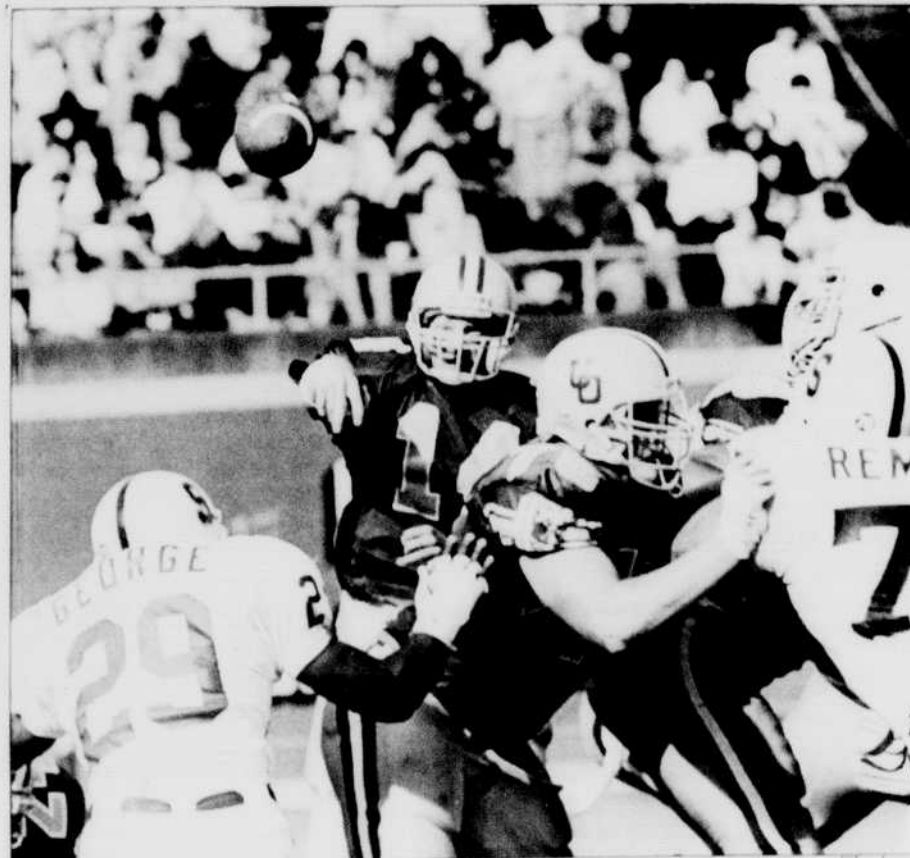
Kiper lists Musgrave behind San Diego State's Dan McGwire, Southern Miss's Bret Favre, Browning Nagle of Louisville, Todd Marinovich of USC, Alan Hollis of Rice, Virginia's Shawn Moore and Miami's Craig Erickson. That would make Musgrave only the eighth-best quarterback available in what has been considered as an average year at best for quarterbacks. Other publications and scouts list Paul Justin of Arizona State and Maryland's Scott Zolack ahead of Musgrave as well.

While Kiper was impressed with Musgrave's ability to get the job done at Oregon, he isn't impressed with Musgrave's arm.

"He's a winner out there at Oregon," Kiper said. "He's a timing, touch passer, but doesn't have the great arm so that's his major negative obviously."

"There's levels in there of arm strength and it takes a scout to try and measure it," he said. "And in that respect, he comes up short of what you're looking for in a starting quarterback."

Both Brooks and Oregon offensive coordinator Mike Bellotti both think the arm strength factor might be overrated. After all, Joe Montana has won four Super Bowls for the San Francisco



File photo  
Former Oregon quarterback Bill Musgrave is projected to be picked in the later rounds of the NFL draft.

49ers with an arm that's hardly a cannon.

"I don't think there's any question that arm strength is overrated," Brooks said. "There are a lot of guys with rifles that aren't good quarterbacks."

"Bill is a great quarterback," he said, "and I think all you have to do is look at his numbers that he's been able to achieve in his four-year career here at Oregon."

For Bellotti, like Brooks, arm strength isn't the true test of a quarterback.

"There's a lot of people with tremendous arm strength that can't complete very many passes," he said, "and I think to me, the most acid test for a quarterback is competitive accuracy."

"How often can he throw the ball where he wants to throw it and put it where the receiver can catch it?" Bellotti asked. "There are different ways to get the ball there."

"One guy can wait and at the last

minute, put it on a line, and the other guy can throw it earlier and lead a person to the spot and ultimately the result is the same ... I think Bill is kind of what you would call a crafty, physical player that understands his physical abilities and utilizes them and gets more out of them than a lot of other people with greater skills."

There also seems to be differing opinions on how much Musgrave helped himself in the post-season all-star games where he was the Most Valuable Player of the Japan Bowl and also on the winning teams in the East-West Shrine Game and Hula Bowl.

"(He) played pretty well at the East-West Shrine Game ... (but) hasn't improved it (draft status) at all," Kiper said. "He didn't do anything different there than he did at Oregon. The arm strength factor was still evident."

Washington Coach Don James, who

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#### ΔΔΔ & ΗΚΑ

The 3-way bid-day was a huge success, so let's be sure to make it an annual springtime bash!

#### ΔΥ

ΔΖ Nancy C. Congratulations on receiving your promise ring from Jeff! Love, Your Sisters

#### Phi Psi

Thank you for the party across the Millrace! We love you! Gamma Phi P.S. Let's play "Millrace" volleyball again when the sun comes out!

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AXA Congratulations on your pinning. Good luck in the future.

#### AXA

Pi Kappa Alpha PROUDLY presents its spring pledge class Tyler E. Gabe K. Matt G. Jorge G. T.J.C. James R. Mark T. Matt T. Congratulations

#### Thank You Cassie, Paul, Curt, Stephanie, Jennifer and Steve.

Our trip to the coast was wonderful. It was a much needed break, and I want you guys to know. We have to make a ritual out of this! Next time we'll bring more wood and remember the marshmallows.

Kevin T.A.



Looking for a place to live? See sections 230-260

#### 105 PERSONALS

ΓΦΒ ΣΦΕ The long awaited pinning of Karyn Kyle 2 hearts brought together through friendship and love. Congratulations, Your Sisters

HAPPY 19TH BIRTHDAY Crissy (DOOFY) We luv you, Roo, Lis & Trace

In regards to the bike accident, 15th and Alder, on Wednesday April 10. Anyone with any information please contact Jen at 687-0920.

KKI Happy 11 Province love, ΔΔΔ



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SEAN: A day like this deserves a great big "GUM!" Happy Anniversary, babe! I love you somethin' fierce! Beckmeister

#### 105 PERSONALS

ΔΔΔ New Years was great. Let's do it again sometime. And party like it's 1999. ΗΚΑ

SHILO - Meet me at Rennie's noon 4/19/91? Can't wait for chance meeting. Dave from weight room.

ΣΝ Barbequing and shooting hoops was a blast! Thanks Guys! Love, ΔΖ Oregon Daily Emerald Classifieds



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