

## Men's basketball schedule announced

Oregon head basketball coach Ernie Kent likes to challenge his troops early on in the season with some big-name programs on its non-conference slate.

The 2000-01 season will be no exception as Oregon will take on Louisville, Massachusetts and Auburn among others before opening its Pacific-10 Conference season at home against Oregon State on Jan. 6.

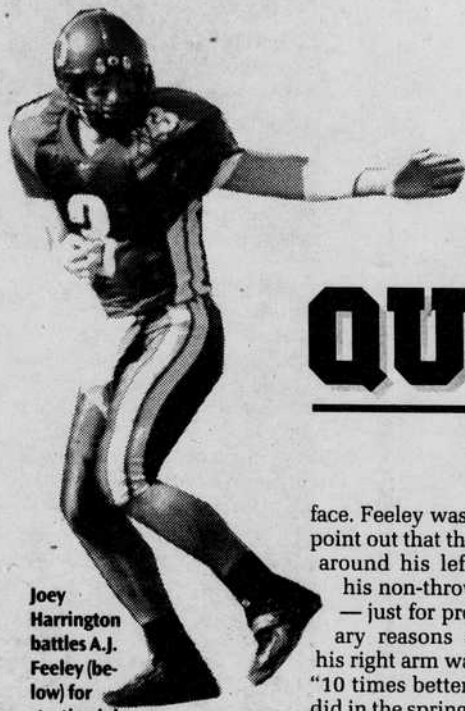
"I've tried to put some things in place with our schedule to ensure that growth is there before the conference season comes, because we're going to have to really step up in some of those games," Kent said.

Oregon will open its season by hosting Mississippi Valley State on Nov. 17 and travel up to Portland's Rose Garden to play UMass in the Portland Jam on Dec. 2. Later that month, the Ducks will get national television coverage when they compete in the ESPN Invitational in Las Vegas.

"I put this schedule together for us to have some success as well as to be tested severely in the pre-season," Kent said. "If we have some success in those early tests, it will certainly have us ready for conference play."

Here is the full 2000-01 schedule with season tickets going on sale in mid-August.

- Nov. 10 B-ball Travelers (Ex.)
- Nov. 14 Athletes in Action (Ex.)
- Nov. 17 Mississippi Valley St.
- Nov. 21 at Denver
- Nov. 25 Portland St.
- Nov. 28 Portland
- Dec. 2 Massachusetts
- Dec. 12 Illinois-Chicago
- Dec. 16 Auburn
- Dec. 18 at N. Arizona
- Dec. 26 South Carolina St.
- Dec. 30 at Louisville
- Jan. 6 Oregon State
- Jan. 11 at California
- Jan. 14 at Stanford
- Jan. 18 Washington
- Jan. 20 Washington St.
- Jan. 25 at USC
- Jan. 27 at UCLA
- Feb. 1 Arizona
- Feb. 3 Arizona St.
- Feb. 8 Stanford
- Feb. 10 California
- Feb. 15 at Washington St.
- Feb. 17 at Washington
- Feb. 22 UCLA
- Feb. 24 USC
- March 1 at Arizona St.
- March 3 at Arizona
- March 10 at Oregon State



Joey Harrington battles A.J. Feeley (below) for starting job.

By Jeff Smith  
Oregon Daily Emerald

One of the last times Oregon quarterback A.J. Feeley was seen in the spring, he had an ice bandage around his right arm and a solemn look on his face.

The Ducks' annual Spring Game had just ended and Feeley was not very pleased with his 3-of-10 passing performance for only 30 yards.

What couldn't have made matters any easier was that his quarterback counterpart Joey Harrington seemed to pick up right where he left off in the fall by completing 8 of 10 passes for 185 yards and one touchdown to help lead the Green team to a dominating 31-0 victory over the White team.

A couple of months have passed since that day, and Feeley again was seen last week with a wrapped ice pack around his arm. This time, the distraught look was gone.

Instead, there was an engaging smile on his

face. Feeley was quick to point out that the ice was around his left arm — his non-throwing one — just for precautionary reasons and that his right arm was feeling "10 times better" than it did in the spring.

"I'm lifting every day and it just keeps getting stronger and stronger," said Feeley, who initially won the starting QB job over Harrington last fall before relinquishing it halfway through the year. "Since that Spring Game my body definitely feels better and my elbow is not as bruised as it once was. Taking the time off really helped."

As Feeley talks, Harrington strolls onto the Kilkenny Practice Field just outside of Autzen Stadium and he too is sporting a smile and has a certain spring to his step.

Maybe it's just the serene Eugene-summer sunshine, but the two both seem to be feeling pretty good about the upcoming season — a season in which they will be competing every day to earn the coveted No. 1 quarterback spot.

"Yeah, me and Joey are both doing well," said Feeley, who wore a cast over the winter to heal nerve damage in his elbow. "We're both in the weight room every day

and we're always out here throwing every day. We both respect each other and we're both going at it. Same ol' same ol'."

Indeed, the competition between the two is nothing new. They've been "going at it" since the spring of 1998 when then-redshirt freshman Harrington joined Feeley, Jason Maas and Akili Smith in the quarterback battle. When Maas and Smith departed, the position was left to Feeley and Harrington.

Oregon wide receiver Keenan Howry said that it really doesn't matter to him which quarterback is out there because he knows what to expect of both of them.

"I think all of us wide-outs are definitely confident in either one," Howry said. "This offense is geared to where we are going to make big plays and both of them can get it done for us. We'll have to wait and see how the offense starts clicking once the fall comes."

The topics of their competition are ones that both players aren't eager to discuss so they choose to slide by such talk and focus on the actual team as a whole.

Harrington has always said that the summertime is the perfect chance for

the team to get to know one another and create a bond that will be carried on into the fall.

"Oh yeah, everybody is doing really well," Harrington said. "We have a lot of guys out here for the summertime, definitely more than last year. These guys could take off and go on vacation, but they stayed here and they're working hard."

Feeley also notes the importance of these summer months and how much impact they could have later on in the year.

"Everybody is dedicated and willing to do whatever it takes to get the

job done," he said. "When you see another guy sweating and working his butt off out here on the field, you kind of get a sense of pride that we're all in this together."

"It makes you want to go that extra mile for somebody else."

While Harrington

and Feeley both try to put on a demeanor that they are just going with the flow, their competitive fire is evident even in the simple unsupervised seven-on-seven drills they take part in.

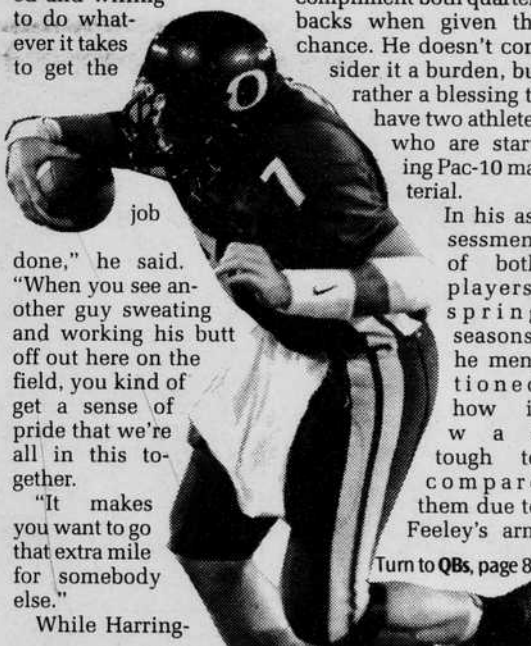
Feeley, however, insists that his thoughts are not of his teammate, but of himself only.

"I'm really just focusing on getting my arm healthy and 100 percent again and worrying about only one thing, which is me."

Head coach Mike Bellotti has long been one to compliment both quarterbacks when given the chance. He doesn't consider it a burden, but rather a blessing to have two athletes who are starting Pac-10 material.

In his assessment of both players' spring seasons, he mentioned how it was tough to compare them due to Feeley's arm

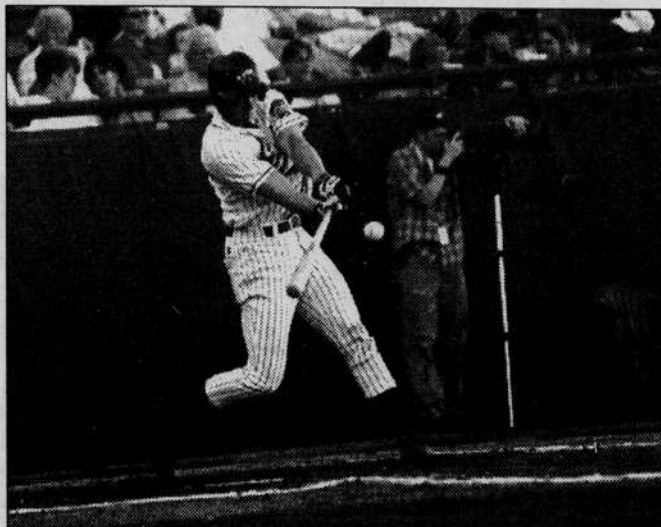
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# Dance of the dueling QUARTERBACKS

Joey Harrington and A.J. Feeley, both strong Oregon QB contenders, vie for the coveted starting position...again

## Solid play, timely hitting propel Ems to win



Ryan Jorgensen lined an RBI double to left in the third to give the Ems a 2-1 lead.

■ The Ems kick off a six game homestand on the right foot with a win over division rival Portland

By Robbie McCallum  
for the Emerald

The first four Eugene Emeralds definitely earned their leadoff spots Monday night. The top four batters in the Ems lineup accounted for five runs in a 6-1 romp over the Southern Division rival Portland Rockies.

The 2,639 fans on hand at Civic Stadium enjoyed a mix of quality hitting and pitching for a solid win on a calm, summer evening.

Leadoff man Blake Blasi led the way reaching base all five times he was at the plate. The second baseman scored two runs and batted in one while being walked three times.

"It's very key for me to find all

the pitches and work the count," he said. "That's something I've been doing work to improve on."

Right fielder Nic Jackson also reached first base on all five plate appearances, going four-for-four with two runs-batted-in.

"Nic has really settled into that No. 2 spot," Ems manager Danny Sheaffer said. "Towards the beginning of the season he wasn't as aggressive at the plate, but now he's doing just that."

No. 3 hitter Mike Mallory and cleanup hitter Brandon Sing also fared well against the Rockies, each scoring one run while batting in another.

Turn to Ems win, page 6



Best Bet

MLB: Atlanta vs. Arizona  
7 p.m., TBS