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NFL

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worth more than \$46 million. At No. 2, the Carolina Panthers are expected to select North Carolina defensive end Julius Peppers.

The Detroit Lions, with the third pick, have said they will not select Harrington. The Buffalo Bills, in need of a quarterback, are pursuing former Washington State star Drew Bledsoe from the New England Patriots, and are wary of Harrington's arm strength, a point taken by many scouts.

The Chargers, Cowboys and Vikings, with picks five through seven, respectively, have shown no interest in Harrington.

The earliest possibility, many have presumed, is Harrington being called with the eighth pick by the Kansas City Chiefs.

"He's the complete package," Chiefs head coach Dick Vermeil told The Kansas City Star. "We think he's going to be a starting quarterback someday. He was born. His dad was a college quarterback. He's been in a very sophisticated passing scheme."

"He's played in huge games for college football, and his team has won games because of his performance. They haven't had a ton of all-world players around him. He's carried the program the last couple of years to very successful heights. He's got a quarterback's mentality and a good feel for the game."

Kansas City, however, has not drafted a quarterback since Todd Blackledge in 1983, and several reports have said Vermeil may be re-

luctant to select Harrington.

But many agree that Harrington would be a steal if he slips out of the top-5.

"How can Carr go one and Harrington go eight or 10 when they're equal?" ESPN.com's Mel Kiper said. "It so happens whoever went No. 1, the other guy was going to drop because other teams don't have the need. If the Chiefs get him, they're getting a guy who's equal to the No. 1 pick in the draft. They would be getting a heckuva bargain."

"My height is about the only (bad) thing the scouts can say about me. Two inches taller and I'd probably be in the first round."

Rashad Bauman
former Oregon defensive back

If Kansas City passes on him, Harrington could reunite in Cincinnati with former Oregon quarterback Akili Smith, who was the third overall pick by the Bengals in the 1999 draft.

"He's a great dude, all the leadership qualities you look for," Smith told The Cincinnati Enquirer. "Smart. High-intensity. True competitor. It would be real ironic. I would be in my fourth year here. He would be a rookie. It was the same situation at Oregon. It may happen again. If Joey is the luck that I need, please draft him."

Regardless of when he is selected, Harrington will not be on hand

to greet his new team. Instead of being at the draft in New York — which may of the top picks usually do — Harrington will watch it all unfold from his family's home in Portland.

Five other Ducks await word

Rashad Bauman nearly has it all. Confidence, ability, speed, confidence, knowledge and confidence. But there's just one small note about the cocky Phoenix native: The former Oregon defensive back lacks the height that most NFL scouts say is necessary to contain the league's tall receivers.

"My height is about the only (bad) thing the scouts can say about me," said the 5-foot-8-inch second-team all-Pacific-10 Conference selection. "Two inches taller, and I'd probably be in the first round."

Instead, draft experts have Bauman projected a late-second-round or early-third-round pick, behind many taller defensive backs.

"Look, if you can find a cornerback who is 6-2 and runs well, take him," Bauman told reports at the NFL pre-draft combine last month. "I just don't see many of those guys around. I know that I've made as many plays as anyone the last four years, and the tapes show that."

Other Oregon hopefuls this weekend include defensive back Steve Smith, running back Maurice Morris, tight end Justin Peelle and linebacker Wesley Mallard. If they are not drafted, they could sign with a team as free agents.

E-mail sports editor Adam Jude
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Panova

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to get to know all of us."

Although she isn't a fan, Panova said she understands the popularity of football and basketball and is willing to cheer for the Ducks. Gieczys said the team will take her to the games next year and help her learn more about the sports.

"I know she doesn't understand

the rules," Gieczys said. "But I know she'll learn and enjoy going to the games."

Panova not only needs to adjust socially to the University, but academically as well. She has not declared a major, but is interested in international economics and psychology. She dreams of eventually becoming a doctor.

"I've always wanted to be a psychologist," she said. "I want to learn more about people and find out why some do horrible things

like murders. I think I might enjoy being a sports psychologist, though, because I know sports. I need to do something after I finish my playing career."

Panova has set high goals for her college career — goals she believes she can achieve.

"Sometime within the next four years, I'd like to win the national championship," said Panova, who models her game after her favorite tennis player, Monica Seles. "I have played against and beaten some players at that level."

Oregon assistant coach Nils Schyllander said that because of her abilities, winning an NCAA title is a reachable goal for Panova.

"She is very solid and compact in her ground strokes and is very powerful from both the forehand and backhand," Schyllander said. "Because of her past results and her work ethic, I think she can be an All-American."

Head coach Jack Griffin feels fortunate to have a player with her potential and sees her helping the program for the next four years.

"You don't find too many players coming in with her experience," Griffin said. "Like 10 players like that enter college tennis a year and we get one. It's huge for this program."

Panova has had an immediate and direct impact on the team's success. Playing No. 1 singles, she allows everyone else to drop one level in the lineup. With Gieczys now healthy, sophomore Davina Mendiburu and senior Janice Nyland, both having played in the top spot this season, move down to No. 3 and No. 4, respectively.

"She can win at the No. 1 spot, and that takes a lot of pressure off of us," Nyland said. "We are very team-oriented and she gives us a better chance to win every match we play."

Peter Martini is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

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