

Scrambling

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The former backup to Carr suffered a right hip bruise against Wisconsin in the first game of the season and was unable to play last week against San Diego State.

In his place, freshman Paul Pinegar took the snaps for the first time.

Pinegar completed 21 passes in 35 attempts for 196 yards as he led the Bulldogs to a 16-14 victory.

"I thought Paul did a very good job with ball security," Fresno State head coach Pat Hill said. "He needs to get a little better at throwing the ball away when he gets out of the pocket. And this week we'll hopefully get the ball in the hands of the guys that can make some plays."

Hill has said Grady will be Fresno State's starting QB when healthy. His status is still unknown for Satur-

David Carr vs. Joey Harrington

(preseason NFL statistics)

Carr (Houston Texans)
No. - att. / yds / tds / ints
37-70 / 441 / 1 / 3

Harrington (Detroit Lions)
No. - att. / yds / tds / ints
63-112* / 766* / 4 / 4

*led NFL

day's game against the Ducks.

For Oregon, junior Jason Fife isn't quite Harrington yet, but a 36-13 win over Mississippi State at Autzen Stadium wasn't a bad way to take the reins.

Fife was 14-of-26 for the Ducks and threw for three touchdowns while running one in himself.

"To be honest, he really shocked me," Oregon running back Onterio Smith said after the game. "He played really well. He made some big plays and showed a little bit of scramble."

Like Fresno State, the Ducks also have a freshman waiting in the wings — Kellen Clemens — in case Fife falters or goes down with an injury.

In 2001, Oregon finished the season 11-1, notching the most wins in school history. Fresno State finished the year at 11-3.

If the teams want to repeat that performance, the man behind center is going to have to lead them there.

Contact the sports reporter at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.

Fresno State

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not taking anything away from Matt. We want to take a look at Rodney with the first group this week, but there are going to be plenty of reps for Matt also."

Hill watched tape Sunday of Oregon's 36-13 win over Mississippi State last weekend and said he was impressed with what he saw. In particular, Hill marveled about the play of Oregon junior quarterback Jason Fife, whom Hill recruited out of Lake Elsinore, Calif.

"(Oregon) might be the best football team we've played against since I've been here," Hill told The Fresno Bee. "They've made the move to be a big-time college football team. They are spending money, and they have put a great product on the field."

"We are trying to be a lot like them," he added. "I see a lot of similarities in the way the two of us play. But I want to make it clear that I don't think we are at their level yet."

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Pat Hill
head coach
Fresno State

They were No. 2 in the nation last year. I really think they are a top-5 team this year."

Then again, the Bulldogs could quickly change that Saturday.

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