

## COLORADO BASKETBALL HISTORY

In the last three years of Colorado Basketball under the direction of head coach Tad Boyle and his staff, the program has enjoyed the finest years to date. Back-to-back NCAA Tournament berths in 2011-12 and 2012-13, respectively happened for the first time in 50 years, in addition to a school-first, three-straight 20-win seasons with another school-first, three-straight post-season appearances.

The coaching staff has also helped the Buffs reach unprecedented heights in the win column. CU won a school record 24 games in each of the 2010-11 and 2011-12 seasons, with another 21 victories in 2012-13. The 69 victories are the most victories in any three-year span in school history, and at home in front of the Coors Events Center faithful, the Buffs have built a home court dominance, winning 44 of 51 games, the second-best win total in any three-year home span.

Last season, the Buffs won their first in-season tournament since the 2002-03 campaign winning the Charleston Classic that catapulted the Buffs into the national rankings for the first time since the 2005-06 season earning a No. 23 spot in the Associated Press top-25 poll. The following week, CU earned a No. 19 nod in the AP/USA Today Coaches' Polls.

On the court, three former CU student-athlete greats that have made the next step professionally in their basketball careers. Two of the three, Alec Burks (No. 12 overall, 2011, Utah Jazz) and Andre Roberson (No. 26 Overall, 2013, Minnesota Timberwolves) were both drafted in the NBA Draft first round, while Cory Higgins played with the Charlotte Bobcats during the 2011-12 season. Burks also became CU's second-ever lottery pick (Chauncey Billups).

In 2011-12, CU's first year in the Pac-12 Conference and at the inaugural conference tournament, the Buffs became just the 10th team in the nation to win at least four games in four days to capture the tournament title (CU's first since winning the Big 8 title in 1968-69). CU earned its first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2002-03 when the Buffs would go on to upset No. 6 UNLV in the second round.

In addition to the last three years, a number of student-athletes that have earned conference excellence with a number of conference accolades.

In CU's first year of the Pac-12, Andre Roberson (first team, all-defensive, all-tournament team), Carlon Brown (second team, tournament's most outstanding player), and Spencer Dinwiddie (freshman team) were all named to conference teams.

In year two of the conference, Roberson (first team, defensive player of the year, all-defensive team); Dinwiddie

(first team) and Josh Scott (all-freshman team) all earned post-season accolades, and in CU's last year of the Big 12 Conference in 2010-11, Alec Burks (first team, Big 12 All-Tournament team), Cory Higgins (second team), Levi Knutson (co-sixth man award) were all recognized.

Although the 2012-13 season did not capture the exciting moments of another Pac-12 Tournament championship, the Buffs did see another exciting year ranking No. 1 in Pac-12 Conference-only defense (62.2 ppg.); No. 1 in Pac-12 Conference Team (all games); 3-Point Defense (32.0). They also defeated four ranked opponents, a first since 2002-03 and won three-straight road conference games for the first time since 2000-01.

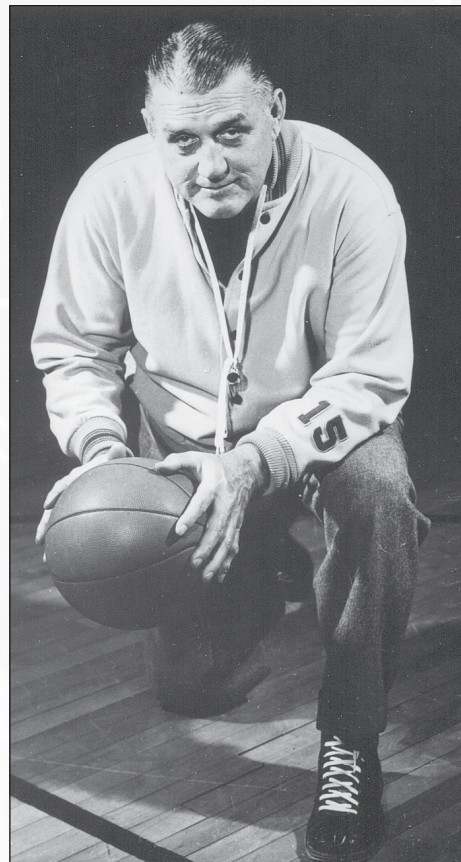
Attendance numbers grew to record heights again. Twelve times the Events Center crowd reached over the 10,000 for a game, and the 14th over 9,000, both school bests. The total for the 15 home games was 155,884, the highest gross total in school history; the 10,392 average works to 94 percent of capacity (11,064) of the Coors Events Center finishing second in the Pac-12 this season to Arizona (14,131).

The Buffs have now enjoyed the best three consecutive years in attendance numbers ever (421,028, an 8,255 average for 51 games; no previous coach averaged over 6,500 for a three-year run). CU also set record numbers in in conference total (94,371) and conference average (10,486).

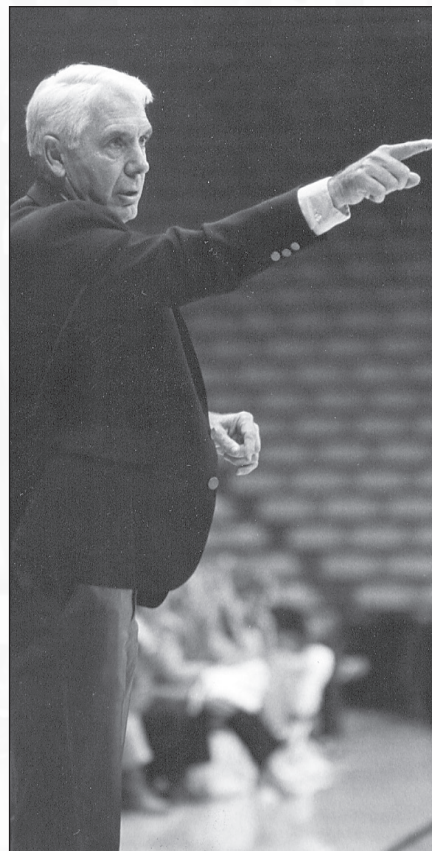
Two seasons ago, in one of the greatest seasons ever, coach Boyle equaled the season's win total (24), advanced to the NCAA Tourney third round, and won the inaugural Pac-12 Tournament championship by winning four games in four days as the No. 6 seed in the 2011-12.

The conference regular season had its ups and downs where at one point, CU could have ended the season as the number one or two seed in the tournament. However, losing three of its last four games and dropping to the No. 6 overall seed, the Buff overcame No. 12 seed Utah, 53-41 on 34.9 percent shooting on the opening night at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

On the day two and against No. 3 seed Oregon, CU edged the Ducks, 63-62 for the second time in three meetings this season. Sophomore forward Andre Roberson put back with 13 seconds remaining and a defensive stand by senior point-guard Nate Tomlinson proved to be the difference in the one point win. In the semifinals, CU took care of No. 2 Cal, 70-59 on 59.1 percent shooting from the field in the second half. Senior guard Carlon Brown breakaway windmill dunk served as an exclamation point in the final minute of CU's victory. The play was No. 4 on SportsCenter's Top Ten plays of the day.



Frosty Cox



Sox Walseth





Chauncey Billups

In the finals, the Buffs held on again for another upset, edging No. 4 seed Arizona, 53-51 after leading the Wildcats by 12 points in the second half. CU scored only three points in the last nine minutes of the game, however, Brown had a highlight reel dunk in the final minute, snapping a streak of 8:19 without a field goal. CU became the first team to win four games in Pac-12 Conference Tournament history, and just the 10th team from the "big six" conferences to do so since 1952. At the NCAA Tournament, the Buffs, seeded No. 11 upset No. 6 and No. 23/25 ranked UNLV in the second round, then fell to No. 3 Baylor, 80-63, two days later.

Carlton Brown was named the tournament's most outstanding player, in addition being named to the all-tournament. Andre Roberson also earned all-tournament team had a superb sophomore year becoming the first CU player to average a double-double for the entire season (11.6 ppg., 11.1 rpg.) since Stephane Pelle (2001-02; 12.8 ppg., 10.8 rpg.). Roberson also became the 12th player in school history to lead the team in rebounding in back-to-back seasons, and just the third CU player to lead the team in rebounds, blocks, and steals in the same season, duplicating that feat during his freshman season.

In addition, Roberson set the single-season rebounding record (401) breaking a 58-year old record (Burdette Haldorson, 1954-55); set the single-season defensive rebounding record (290) breaking the 225 by Shaun Van-der-mer (1989-90), 23 years ago; and shattered sophomore of Colorado. This is a destination job. I'm humbled and season record for most rebounds (401) topping old mark honored."

of 337 (Cliff Meely in 1968-69, 44 years ago. From 2007-10 the program was led by Jeff Bzdelik, Roberson ranked third nationally in rebounds per game who came from the United States Air Force Academy, led with 11.1 and trailed the national leader (Siena's O.D. the Buffaloes to a 36-58 (.383) record. His best season was Anosike) by 1.4 rebounds per game. Roberson's third his last in Boulder, a 15-16 mark and 6-10 in the Big 12 place finish is the highest finish by a CU player in rebounding was Alex Stivrins who finished sixth in the nation experienced a series of near-misses, losing 27 single-digit with an 11.7 average in the 1984-85 season. Roberson finished the season with 20 double-doubles, fifth nationally average of 4.6 points.

and was No. 54 nationally in blocked shots (1.86).

CU's freshman duo of Spencer Dinwiddie and Askia Booker added to their designation of the highest scoring of existence and 108 of actual playing (1942-44 not played frosh pair in CU history. Dinwiddie (360 points) and Booker (317) combined for 677 points, well outdistancing all other rookie twosomes (the only two with 250-plus points).

A program first known as the Silver and Gold, won its first game back on Jan. 10, 1902 defeating State Prep Dinwiddie was No. 101st nationally in free throw percentage (81.6).

Colorado native Tad Boyle made the most of his "dream job" in his first year on the University of Colorado campus guiding the Buffaloes to a school-record 24 victories in 2010-11. In addition to setting the standard of the most successful season ever by a CU head coach, Boyle capped the season with a trip to the World's Most Famous Mountain Conference in 1909, and then the Mountain States Arena - Madison Square Garden, and a National Invitation Tournament semifinal appearance.

Named the 18th head coach in CU men's basketball history (on April 19, 2010), Boyle, 50, also etched his name among the school's great coaches becoming first head coach in 20 years to win his coaching debut; becoming the first CU coach since H.B. Lee (1950-51) to win his first two conference games in his first year, in addition to becoming the first Buff head coach since Henry Iba (1933-34) to win his first three conference games.

Boyle joined the Colorado staff from the University of Northern Colorado, where he led the Bears to a 56-66 record (.459 winning percentage) over the previous four seasons. The 2009-10 season was a breakout season for Boyle's Bears as they finished second in the Big Sky Conference with a 25-8 record (.758 winning percentage) and Boyle was named as the NABC Division I All-District Coach of the Year along with the Big Sky Coach of the Year. Boyle brings 15 years of coaching experience to Boulder.

"This is it (my dream job), there's no doubt," Boyle said.

"I remember talking with (former Texas A&M head coach) Mark Turgeon once when he asked me where I wanted to be in 10 years, and I said the head coach at the University of Colorado. This is a destination job. I'm humbled and season record for most rebounds (401) topping old mark honored."

From 2007-10 the program was led by Jeff Bzdelik, Roberson ranked third nationally in rebounds per game who came from the United States Air Force Academy, led with 11.1 and trailed the national leader (Siena's O.D. the Buffaloes to a 36-58 (.383) record. His best season was Anosike) by 1.4 rebounds per game. Roberson's third his last in Boulder, a 15-16 mark and 6-10 in the Big 12 place finish is the highest finish by a CU player in rebounding was Alex Stivrins who finished sixth in the nation experienced a series of near-misses, losing 27 single-digit with an 11.7 average in the 1984-85 season. Roberson finished the season with 20 double-doubles, fifth nationally average of 4.6 points.

Entering the 2013-2014 season, the Buffalo program

boasts a winning record of 1,197-1,125 (.516) in 112 years of existence and 108 of actual playing (1942-44 not played due to WWII).

A program first known as the Silver and Gold, won its first game back on Jan. 10, 1902 defeating State Prep Dinwiddie was No. 101st nationally in free throw percentage (81.6).

Although there have been many changes over the years from that first victory, the Silver and Gold became known as the Buffaloes in 1934, after CU students rented a buffalo calf for the final football game that year. Colorado has been a member of five conferences, joining the Rocky Mountain Conference in 1909, and then the Mountain States Arena - Madison Square Garden, and a National Invitation Tournament in 1937. The Buffs became a member of the Big Seven Conference in 1947, which became the Big Eight in 1958, and now are a member of the Big 12 Conference as teams from the Big Eight and Southwest Conferences merged in the



CU greets Jay Humphries and the late-Cliff Meely on the night when the Coors Events Center set an attendance record Dec. 5, 2013. The Buffs defeated Colorado State, 70-61 in front of 11,708 spectators.



## CU IN THE HISTORY BOOKS

Colorado is just one of just 12 schools to have ever qualified for the NCAA Tournament and the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) in the same year, as the Buffaloes made dual appearances in 1940, becoming the first school to ever do that. That year, CU won the NIT and finished fourth in the NCAA West Region. The other schools that have matches this feat are: Arizona (1951), Bradley (1950), Brigham Young (1951), City College of New York (which won both tourneys in 1950), Dayton (1952), Duquesne (1952), Kentucky (1949), North Carolina State (1951), St. John's (1951 and 1952), St. Louis University (1952), and Utah (1944).



David Harrison

1996-97 season.

Another major change in Colorado basketball came in 1979, when the team moved into the Colorado Events/Conference Center with its spacious seating capacity of 11,076 (entering the 2010-11 season, capacity is 11,043 and called the Coors Events Center). The facility was renamed the Coors Events/Conference Center in 1990, in honor of a donation made by Coors to the campus. Many names and faces have helped make Colorado basketball special. There have been those, however, whose contributions stand out.

A total of 18 coaches have guided the Buffs to victory, but none more so than past leaders

Forrest B. "Frosty" Cox, H.B. Lee, Russell "Sox" Walseth, and Ricardo Patton. The first coach to make a solid presence on the coaching sideline was Cox, who spent 13 years roaming the Balch Fieldhouse from 1936-50. Cox collected a 147- 89 (.623) record with his 1937-38 team reaching the championship game of the National Invitation Tournament before falling to Temple. While at the helm, Cox's teams won four Mountain States Conference (MSC) titles and he concluded his CU career with the best won-lost percentage (.623) of any CU coach of more than one season.

Some of CU basketball's finest moments were orchestrated by Lee from 1951-56. Lee took control of the CU squad in 1950, and in four short seasons he guided the Buffs to their first NCAA Tournament appearance in eight years (1953-54). During that season, the Buffaloes established themselves as a contender defeating NCAA runner-up Kansas on Feb. 2 (70-62).

The following year (1954-55), CU performed a feat not familiar in present day basketball, sweeping the Jayhawks in the season series, a feat only accomplished four other times (1948-49, 1958-59, 1961-62, 1962-63). Colorado made its only trip to the Final Four falling to San Francisco in the semifinals, however redeeming themselves in the third place game, defeating Iowa. That season saw Lee's squad win a then-school-best 19 games and secure a pair of Big 7 titles (one shared). From 1957-76, basketball was under the direction of Walseth. His 261 wins are the most by any coach in school basketball history. Walseth led the Buffs to back-to-back Big Eight Conference titles in 1961-62 and 1962- 63, and both teams reached the NCAA second round before being eliminated by Cincinnati.

Walseth also engineered six Big 8 placings where his teams finished third or better in the conference, including three first place tallies (one shared). During the 1968-69 season, Walseth's team won a then-school best 21 games and during his tenure won 14 or more games in a season, 11 times. His teams also had 13 winning seasons. Today, CU now plays on the "Sox Walseth Floor" in the Coors Events Center, a tribute to Walseth's success as a Buff.

Coaches are not solely responsible for the success of each season, and the Buffs have had a wealth of outstand-

ing talent on the hardwood in its proud past. Outstanding Buff performers range from Jack Harvey, CU's first All-American; to Burdette Haldorson, who led CU to consecutive Big Seven titles in 1953-54 and 1954-55; Cliff Meely; Scott Wedman; Jay Humphries to Chauncey Billups, CU's highest NBA Draftee (drafted third overall in the first round of the 1997 NBA Draft by the Boston Celtics).

The "Big Burd," as Haldorson was called, won the league scoring race in both championship seasons, netting 21.3 and 23.9 points per game, respectively. After Colorado finished third in the 1955 NCAA Tournament, Haldorson was selected to the AAU All-America team. His 13.8 rebounds per game that year is still a CU single season record. He also owns the record for most rebounds in a game, pulling down 31 in a 1952 effort against Oklahoma.

Meely became another familiar name to CU fans and opponents from 1968 to 1971. The sensational center-forward is CU's second all-time rebounder (971 boards, 12.1 avg.). In addition, Meely held a number of



Donnie Boyce



Big Eight scoring marks when his collegiate career ended in 1971. He was named an All-American for his performance during his senior campaign in which he pumped in an average of 28.0 points and hauled in 11.9 rebounds per game. A seven-point, 25-rebound outing against Oklahoma was one highlight of that milestone season. That 1971 season capped a highly successful college career for Meely, as he led the Buffs to the conference title in 1968-69.

The next Buff to make an impact was Wedman, a sharp-shooting forward from 1971-74. Wedman came to CU from Denver's Mullen High School and led the team in scoring and rebounding for two years, field goal percentage three years, and free throw percentage one year. Before leaving Colorado, Wedman was firmly established in the school record books.

His numbers placed him seventh in career scoring, sixth in rebounding, and he was the eighth leading field goal shooter in CU history at that time. After enjoying a successful 12-year stint in the NBA, Wedman concluded his professional career in 1987 with the Boston Celtics.

Arguably the best and most exciting Buff of the 1980s was guard Jay Humphries from 1981-84. While running the offense, Humphries became the school's all-time assist leader (562) and finished fourth in scoring (1,306 points, 11.7 avg.). His specialty, however, was defensive play. He finished as the Buffs' all-time leader in steals with 309 for a 2.8 average per game, and led the nation in hefts during the 1982-83 campaign with 115.

CU closed out the 1980s and began a new decade of Buffalo basketball with two greats, Shaun Vandiver and Stevie Wise. Both Vandiver and Wise were instrumental in the school's run through the 1991 National Invitation Tournament, CU's first postseason appearance since making the NCAA Tourney in 1969. And before it was over, the Buffaloes had played to a standing room only crowd in the Coors Events Center, cut down the nets there after defeating Arkansas State to advance to the NIT's Final Four in New York City, and eventually finished third in the tournament.

Vandiver, a 6-10 center, a transfer to CU in 1988 after leading Hutchinson CC to the junior college national championship, worked his way up the Buff charts with an excellent shooting touch and a desire to hit the boards. He finished his three-year career in Boulder as the Buffs' all-time leader in field goal percentage (.574, 750-of-1307), as well as their No. 2 all-time scorer (1,876 points) and rebounder (962 boards). He currently stands third on the field goal percentage and rebounding list, and fifth in scoring.

Wise too, left his mark in the CU record books. Coming to Boulder as a guard in 1987, he managed to suit up for 119 games in a Colorado uniform, the fifth-most. Like Vandiver, he too loved to shoot, and is one of the Buffs' all-time three-point specialists, holding several of CU's three-point shooting marks. Wise also finished his career as the No. 3

scorer (1,727 points) and sits in sixth today. Wise still ranks among the top nine in career minutes (4th), steals (t-4th) and assists (7th).

Donnie Boyce marked the onset of the 1990s, as the Maywood, Ill., product took CU and the Big Eight by storm. After four incredible seasons in Boulder, Boyce walked away as the then-all-time leading scorer (1,995 points) in school history and led the Buffs to an NIT bid at the end of his senior season, 1994-95. He became the first Buff (and second overall) to lead the team in scoring all four years. His 1,995 career points is now third overall.

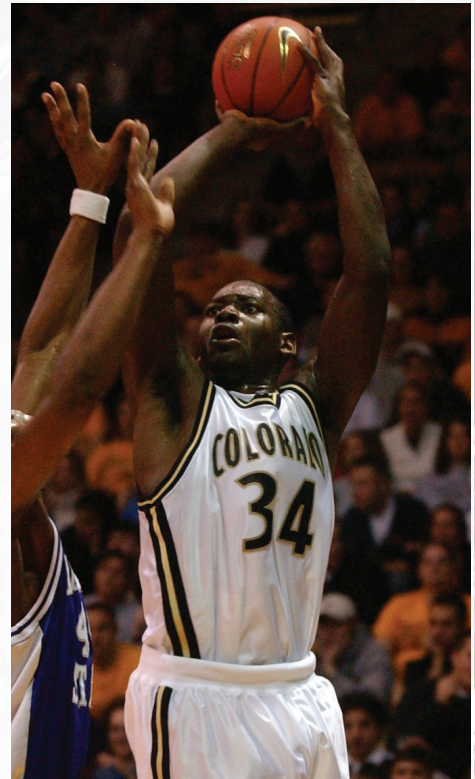
Boyce, however, never enjoyed postseason play, as he suffered a broken leg that ended his collegiate career during CU's game with Oklahoma in the opening round of the 1995 Big Eight Tournament. Nonetheless, Boyce was drafted by the Atlanta Hawks with the 42nd pick in the second round of the 1995 NBA Draft. With numerous school records in tow, Boyce is remembered as one of the best players in CU history.

Billups continued CU's tradition of great players as he made his mark early in his career. In only his fourth game as a freshman, Billups posted the first triple-double in CU history. His 24-point, 11-assist, 11-rebound game against George Mason was a harbinger of great things to come for the 6-3 product from George Washington High School in Denver.

As a sophomore, Billups would lead Colorado to its first NCAA appearance (1996-97) in 28 years and earn many postseason accolades, including first-team All-Big 12 honors and first-team All-America kudos from Basketball Weekly. In two years, Billups scored over 1,000 points, becoming the 20th player in CU history to accomplish that feat.

The next great point-guard, Jaquay Walls, guided CU toward back-to-back 18 win seasons, both of which brought NIT invitations. A college transfer who made his impact immediately, Walls was named honorable mention All-Big 12 and to the All-Newcomer team in his junior season. As a senior, he was twice named Big 12 Player of the Week and had a 42-point performance against Iowa State, which became the Big 12 season high, all-time conference record, as well as the top scoring performance by a Buff at the Coors Events Center. His 15 overtime points in that game was also an NCAA record. That spring, he was selected by the Indiana Pacers in the NBA Draft.

Continuing the powerful scoring tradition, Jamahl Mosley ended a four-year CU career as the 13th highest scorer ever for the Buffs finishing with 1,171 points (21st today). He brought many accolades to himself and the Colorado program including Academic All-Big 12 as a freshman, All-Big 12 and named to the AP's All-Improved team as a junior, and as a senior, received numerous accolades as the Buffs' veteran leader. CU saw another dominant player emerge on the Boulder campus.



Stephane Pelle

Seven-footer David Harrison made his presence felt during the 2001-02 season being named to the Big 12 All-Freshman team and leading the Buffaloes in scoring (13.9 ppg.). The only other players in CU history to stand over seven feet are Frank Wilcox (1955-56) and current sophomore Ben Mills. Harrison also rewrote the CU record book in field goal percentage finishing the season with a stellar 63.8 percentage from the field and third nationally, in addition to making his name synonymous with the CU blocked shot record lists.

With a school-record 106 swats during the 2002-03 season and shattering the previous mark of 73, Harrison became the first player in school history and in the Big 12 Conference to record a pair of triple-doubles (31 points, 17 rebounds, 10 blocked shots against Stetson; and 20 points, 11 blocks, 10 rebounds versus Nebraska).

Also during this span, Stephane Pelle emerged as another dominant player in CU basketball. Pelle, a four-year standout, was the first CU player in 11 years to average a double-double during the 2001-02 campaign. Averaging 12.8 points and 10.8 rebounds per game, Pelle was named to the Big 12 All-Underrated team.

His season double in points and rebounds remains the only double-double spanning nearly 10 years (entering the 2011-12 season).

In 2002-03, CU enjoyed one of its finest seasons to date, capping it with a NCAA Tournament berth for the first time since 1996-97. With 20 victories on the season, another feat only accomplished twice before by Patton in 1996-97 (22-



# COLORADO BUFFALOES

10) and Sox Walseth in 1968-69 (21-7), the Buffaloes also school's 3-point record for made (240) and attempts (701), upset four nationally ranked teams – all at home for the first- and Roby became the first CU player since 2003-04 and time ever.

Individually, the Buffaloes received four All-Big 12 hon- 12 first team. CU also reached the national stage by being ors with Michel Morandais (second team) along with Pelle ranked in back-to-back ESPN/USA Today Coaches' Polls, a earning conference third-team. Morandais and Harrison school first since the 1996-97 campaign.

also were named to the Big 12's specialty teams as two of The 2006-07 season would not be one of its best sea- the conference's most-improved players. Pelle capped his sons to reflect on, a 7-20 record and a 3-13 mark in the Big four-year career with 1,367 points and 1,054 rebounds be- 12, school lows since the 1993-94 campaign. Entering his coming the first CU men's basketball player to secure both final year of his contract, coach Patton closed out his 11th 1,000 plateaus. He also became CU's all-time rebounding full year of coaching with a school-record eight freshmen, leader and seventh overall scorer (today he's 10th).

During the 2003-04 campaign, CU won 18 games for did see some positive headlines on the court. the fifth time under Patton and earning its third NIT berth in Roby led the team in scoring for the third-straight year eight years. More impressively, the Buffaloes won 10 con- (17.3 ppg.), while senior guard Dominique Coleman be- ference games, the most since recording 11 back in 1996- came the first guard since Donnie Boyce in 1994-95 to lead 97 and earning the number four seed at the Big 12 Tour- CU in rebounding. Coleman grabbed 185 boards and aver- nament in Dallas. Harrison also broke the school record aged 6.9 caroms a game. One of the team highlights was for blocks in a career (225) and would on go to rewrite the the upset victory over No. 12/14 Oklahoma State. It marked blocked shot record book despite playing only three years the fifth straight season a CU team defeated a nationally and opting for the 2004 NBA Draft (29th overall, first round, ranked opponent at home.

Indiana Pacers).

Other outstanding performances came from Blair Wil- becoming the first male player to eclipse the 2,000-point son breaking the CU career record for 3-pointers made barrier netting 2,001 points. He would go on to set numer- (257). Earlier in the season, Wilson played "in the zone" ous school records over his outstanding four-year career. draining six treys against Iowa State. In that game, Wilson The Buffaloes became the first team in Big 12 history as the set or tied four school records against the Cyclones making No. 12 seed in its post-season tournament to beat a No. 5 his first six 3-pointers without a miss (CU Record); tying a seed (Baylor).

half record (6), tying for 3s made in a conference half, and Roby also became the second Buff in its history to lead the team in scoring all four years (Boyce was the other).

Morandais became the 21st player in CU history to score over 1,000 points in his career. He finished seventh Higgins become one of only 13 players nationally to lead or overall with 1,428 (today he's ninth). Wilson reached the During the 2008-09, CU saw sophomore guard Cory 1,000-point plateau and finished with 1,253 points (17th to- day). Harrison rounded out the 1,000-point scorers finishing Higgins become one of only 13 players nationally to lead or with 1,317 and is now 13th entering the 2011-12 season.

A near upset at the Big 12 Tournament highlighted a not-so popular 14-16 record in 2004-05. After upsetting No. 6 seed Texas, 81-69 in the first round of the confer- ence tournament, the No. 11 seed Buffaloes became the first school in the nine-year history of the Big 12 to pull off the improbable upset. CU again played beyond its expec- tations narrowly upsetting eventual conference champion Oklahoma State, 87-85 in the quarterfinals.

The Buffaloes also saw the arrival of freshman Richard Roby in 2004-05 as he would become the first freshman since Billups (1995-96) to lead CU in scoring with 16 points per game and net over double-digits 26 times in 30 games. He also recorded a pair of Phillips 66/Big 12 Rookie of the Week honors and became only the fourth CU player ever to make seven 3-pointers in a game, twice.

The 2005-06 Buffaloes won 20 games for the 11th time in their history en route to the National Invitational Tourna- ment, with 14 of those coming at the Events Center tying the 2002-03 season for most-ever. The Buffs also re-wrote the

finish second on his team in five major statistical categories (points, rebounds, assists, steals, blocked shots). He also ranked nationally in a trio of categories (steals, FT%, scor- ing).

In 2009-10, the Buffs provided a duel offensive punch with Higgins and super freshman Alec Burks. Higgins, garnered his second straight All-Big 12 third team honor, while Burks performed a CU first in the Buffs Big 12 history becoming the first Boulder athlete to earn conference fresh- man of the year honors.

Higgins and Burks each scored 587 and 512 points, respectively becoming the first tandem to net over 500 points in the same season since the 1990-91 campaign. Burks would also lead the team in rebounding, only the sec- ond freshman since Matt Bullard (6.4, 1985-86). Burks was also named to a number of post-season teams including the Big 12 All-Rookie Team, CollegeInsider.com All-America Freshman Team, 2009-10 Basketball Times' All-Freshman first team, CU Sports Performers of the Year (CUSPY) Male Freshman of the Year, Sporting News Magazine All-Fresh- man second team.

Burks also became the first CU freshman to surpass 500 points in a single-season (512). He ranked fourth na- tionally of all freshmen in points per game (17.1) and field goal percentage (53.8).

Higgins moved up on the school's all-time scoring list (ninth overall) with 1,391 career points. He led the Big 12- only in steals for the second straight year (2.1).

As a team, CU ranked third nationally in FT% (76.6) and for the first time led the Big 12 from the charity stripe. CU also ranked 21st nationally in 3-point percentage, 26th in FG percentage, 30th in steals. The 47.3 field goal percentage tied for 10th in school history, was also the highest from any CU team since 1989-90 (47.9) and the 409 turnovers com- mitted, was a team low over 30 games played in a season since the stat first kept in 1977-78.

The 2010-11 saw a season unlike no other in quite some time for Buffalo Basketball. With Boyle running the bench as the 18th coach in school history, CU also won a school-record 18 home games at the Coors Events Center and achieved their highest Big 12 finish (t-5th) since 2005-06.

Statistically, CU ranked first in the Big 12 and fifth nation- ally in free throw percentage (77.8). Boyle's efficient attack also ranked 12th nationally in scoring (79.6 ppg) and 19th nationally in field goal percentage (47.3).

Individually, the Buffs were led by sophomore guard Alec Burks, who subsequently left early to enter the NBA Draft, became CU's second-ever lottery pick and selected No. 12 overall by the Utah Jazz.

Burks would score a single-season school record 779 points, in addition setting the school mark for most free throws made (249) and attempts (302) in a single-season. He would also become the first player at CU to score over 770 points, 240 rebounds, 100 assists in same season.



Cory Higgins





A Top-20 Wooden Award finalist and unanimous Big 12 Conference first team selection, Burks was 18th nationally in scoring with 20.5 points per game. He would also become the only Big 12 Conference player to rank in the top-12 in the conference-only games in points (20.0; 2nd), rebounds (7.6; 1-3rd), and assists (2.8; 12th). Burks also became the only second CU player in history to average over 20 points, 6 rebounds, and 2.5 assists per game for a season (20.5 ppg., 6.5 rpg., 2.9 apg.), joining Donnie Boyce, who averaged 22.4 points, 6.7 rebounds, and 4.5 assists in the 1993-94 season.

And for the first time in the 15-year Big 12 Championship history, the Buffs advanced to the conference semifinals where Burks became the first CU player to be named to the all-tourney team. Later in the season, the Grandview, Mo. native would be named to the NIT All-Tournament Team (97 points in four games, 24.3 ppg.).

The 2010-11 team was not comprised by one individual, but a cast of others who led to the Buffs success throughout the season. Cory Higgins would end his stellar four-year career tying the school mark for most points in a career (2,001) tying former teammate Richard Roby, who starred in Boulder from 2004-08. Higgins was a three-time third team conference selection, also set a number of school records also becoming the career leader in minutes (4,478), games (132), starts (131), and single-season minutes played (1,222) set in 2010-11.

Higgins would also become the first CU player male or female to score over 2,000 points, 500 rebounds, 300 assists, and 150 steals during his collegiate career. Sharp-shooter Levi Knutson ended his career making the fifth most treys (81) in a season during CU's NIT run. The Littleton, Colo. native set the single-season mark for 3-point efficiency (47.4 percent) and notched his name among long-range shooting greats finishing third overall with a career 39.3 career percentage.

Andre Roberson also made his presence felt during his initial season setting the freshman rebounding (297) and blocked shot (42) records. Roberson also became the first freshman to lead any CU team in rebounds, steals (51), and blocks. The feat among the Big 12 was a rarity, as Roberson

became only the fourth conference player to accomplish it. Averaging 7.8 rebounds per game (100th nationally), Roberson also tied for fifth nationally in freshman rebounding (only player with zero starts).

The 2011-12 season welcomed a new addition to the Coors Events Center since the building first opened in 1979. The brand new basketball and volleyball practice facility resides directly adjacent to the north side of Events Center.

The facility is 43,000 square feet of space featuring two basketball/volleyball courts; women's basketball locker rooms; and volleyball coaches' offices costing \$10.8 million, funded from private funds.

Each practice court is 11,000 square feet, and both mimic the playing surface in the Coors Events Center exactly, down to the lines and logos. The structure will match the campus architectural Charles Klauder theme, a northern Italian, rural Tuscany influence, with varicolored sandstone and red-tiled roofs to match the other 200-plus buildings on the CU-Boulder campus.

It was nine years since CU last danced in the NCAA Tournament and in one of the greatest seasons ever, second year head coach Tad Boyle equaled the previous season's win total (24), advanced to the NCAA Tourney third round, and won the inaugural Pac-12 Tournament championship by winning four games in four days as the No. 6 seed.

The conference regular season had its ups and downs where at one point, CU could have ended the season as the number one or two seed in the tournament. However, losing three of its last four games and dropping to the No. 6 overall seed, the Buff overcame No. 12 seed Utah, 53-41 on 34.9 percent shooting on the opening night at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

On the day two and against No. 3 seed Oregon, CU edged the Ducks, 63-62 for the second time in three meetings this season. Sophomore forward Andre Roberson put back with 13 seconds remaining and a defensive stand by senior point-guard Nate

Tomlinson proved to be the difference in the one point win. In the semifinals, CU took care of No. 2 Cal, 70-59 on 59.1 percent shooting from the field in the second half. Senior guard Carlton Brown breakaway windmill dunk served as an exclamation point in the final minute of CU's victory. The play was No. 4 on SportsCenter's Top Ten plays of the day.

In the finals, the Buffs held on again for another upset, edging No. 4 seed Arizona, 53-51 after leading the Wildcats by 12 points in the second half. CU scored only three points in the last nine minutes of the game, however, Brown had a highlight reel dunk in the final minute, snapping a streak of 8:19 without a field goal. CU became the first team to win four games in Pac-12 Conference Tournament history, and just the 10th team from the "big six" conferences to do so since 1952. At the NCAA Tournament, the Buffs, seeded No. 11 upset No. 6 and No. 23/25 ranked UNLV in the second round, then fell to No. 3 Baylor, 80-63, two days later.

Carlton Brown was named the tournament's most outstanding player, in addition being named to the all-tournament. Andre Roberson also earned all-tournament team had a superb sophomore year becoming the first CU player to average a double-double for the entire season (11.6 ppg., 11.1 rpg.) since Stephane Pelle (2001-02; 12.8 ppg., 10.8 rpg.).

## NATIONAL RANKINGS

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

1952-53	No. 10	Preseason
No. 18	Dec. 23	No. 17
		Dec. 9
		No. 16
		Dec. 16
		No. 20
		Dec. 30

### 1954-55

No. 15 Final

### 1966-97

1960-61	No. 18	Jan. 21
No. 15	Dec. 20	No. 18
		Jan. 28
		No. 15
		Feb. 4
		No. 15
		Feb. 11
		No. 21
		Feb. 18
		No. 19
		Feb. 25
		No. 18
		Mar. 4
		No. 24
		Final

### 1962-63

No. 8	Dec. 11	
No. 6	Dec. 18	
No. 8	Jan. 29	
No. 7	Feb. 5	
No. 7	Feb. 12	
No. 10	Final	

### 2012-13

No. 23	Nov. 19-25
No. 19	Nov. 26-Dec. 2

### UNITED PRESS

### INTERNATIONAL

1954-55	#11
1961-62	#8
1962-63	#9
1968-69	#14 (tied)

### USA TODAY/COACHES POLL

Jan. 30-Feb. 5, 2006	No. 25
Feb. 6-12, 2006	No. 25
Nov. 26-Dec. 2, 2012	No. 19



## 2012 EUROPE TOUR

### BUFFS EMBARKED ON 5-GAME, 10-DAY EUROPEAN TOUR



The University of Colorado men's basketball team traveled across the Atlantic Ocean for a five-game, 10-day European trip in August taking them to Paris (France), Antwerp (Belgium) and Amsterdam (The Netherlands). It's the second time in history the CU men's basketball team has traveled to Europe for an exhibition tour in the off-season.

In 1997 from May 20-30, the CU men's basketball team played squads from England and Germany achieving a 2-2 record. In September of 2006, CU travelled to Vancouver, British Columbia winning all three games they played in.

This past August 13, CU left Denver International Airport (DIA) on Monday morning en route to Chicago, then landed in Paris the following day at 9:25 a.m. local time (8 hours and 20 minutes later) on Aug. 14.

All three European cities were eight hours ahead of mountain time.

The basketball team stayed in Paris three nights and started play against the AMW France Elite team on back-to-back nights.

Game #1 (August 15) CU dropped an 86-73 decision as sophomores Spencer Dinwiddie and Askia Booker each scored 13 points to pace the Buffaloes, while junior forward Andre Roberson added 11 points and 20 rebounds. Kevin Sepharin led all scorers with 24 points for the winners. Michel Toti and Ada Sane chipped-in with 16 and 14 points, respectively for AMW France.

The more experienced collection of professional players from the AMW France All-Stars led throughout the game in a close back-for-forth dual with the younger Buffaloes. With CU trailing 50-47 at the break, the Buffs jumped ahead early in the third quarter (international play 10 minute quarters) on a Booker three-point play and freshman forward Josh Scott's layup, giving CU a 52-50 lead after holding the home team scoreless for 3:15 minutes to open the third quarter. AMW France pulled even and took the lead for good, and led by as many as nine points on the strength of a pair of treys.

CU trailed 59-56 in the third quarter with five freshmen on the court at the same time. From there, it was a close battle as AMW France slowly pulled away pushing ahead 75-69 with 5:36 to play. Freshman Xavier Johnson recorded nine points and seven rebounds in his college debut, while Scott added 12 points on 6-of-9 shooting.

Game #2 (August 16) Both teams again played one another the following night as freshman Josh Scott tied a team-high 13 points with 10 rebounds, and junior Andre Roberson added 13 points, nine rebounds and four steals in CU's 91-74 loss against the AMW France Elite "Pro A" All-Stars at the Stade Pierre de Coubertin in Paris.

The Buffs started strong racing out to a 9-0 lead keeping the home team scoreless through the first 7:25 of the first quarter. Roberson's three-point play on a dunk after a steal pushed CU into a commanding 11-2 lead 4:35 remaining in the quarter. However, AMW France countered and evened the game at 15-15 after 10 minutes of play.

The second quarter remained close until AMW pulled away outscoring the Americans, 26-17 in the latter 10 minutes taking a 41-32 lead at the half. The home team broke open the third quarter outscoring CU, 31-25 and erupting for 11-of-14 shooting from the field (78.6 percent), including four, three-pointers. AMW pushed its advantage to at least 13 points on two occasions in the second half. Kevin Seraphin led all scorers with 16 points (8-of-14 FG shooting) and Giovan Oniangue added 14 points and four rebounds.

The French shot 58.3 percent from the field (35-of-60) for the game. CU was led by freshman Xavier Johnson off the bench with 12 points and five rebounds, while sophomore Spencer Dinwiddie added seven points and four boards. Senior Sabatino Chen had six rebounds and sophomore Askia Booker added 10 points.

Among the activities the team experienced other than basketball was a Paris city tour that including The Eiffel Tower, a Seine River Cruise, the Louvre Museum, the Arc de Triomphe, and the Champs-Elysees.

The team left Paris and travelled by bus to Bruges, Belgium, western Europe's most-visited medieval cities for lunch and a city tour. The city was picturesque city squares and canals. The tour guide said Bruges was untouched during both World Wars.

Game #3 (August 18) Freshman Josh Scott scored a game-high 19 points leading CU with a balanced scoring attack as the Buffaloes broke open a close game in the third quarter into a 91-63 rout over Optima Ghent at the Sportarena Tolhuis. Day five of CU's 10-day European Trip saw junior Andre Roberson add 15 points and 14 rebounds, sophomore Askia Booker chip-in with 18 points and six assists, with freshmen Chris Jenkins and Xavier Johnson adding 12 and 10 points, respectively. Jenkins and Johnson grabbed six rebounds apiece.

"We made fewer defensive mistakes with fewer breakdowns, that's why we gave up 63 points rather than 80's, 90's in which we did the first two games," said CU head coach Tad Boyle. "Obviously, the level of competition tonight wasn't what it was like the first two games. I was really pleased with the way our team responded. We had about an hour and an half film session this afternoon and that, I think the guys took it to heart and really tried to go out on the floor and execute the things we talked about."

The game was close through the first 30 minutes (10-minute quarters) with CU holding a 59-53 lead, then raced out to a crushing 32-10 fourth quarter, limiting the Dragons to 10 points in the final stanza. CU scored six straight points to open the quarter increasing its advantage to 65-53 before Optima Ghent scored on a three-pointner.

From there, the rout was on as CU went on a 16-0 run with a strong display of inside and perimeter play led by Roberson's eight points. The Americans dominated the glass with a 50-19 advantage (23 offensive) and shot 45.8 percent from the field compared to the home team's 40 percent.

The Buffs trailed after the first quarter 22-19, however led each quarter thereafter. Scott was 9-of-15 from the field; Booker was 8-of-11; and Roberson went 7-of-13, along with three steals. Thomas Van de Vandel led Optima Ghent with 19 points.

Game #4 (August 19) Trailing by 10 points with two minutes to play, the CU men's basketball team almost pulled off a stunning come-from-behind victory from its underclassmen, only to fall in the final seconds to Gembo BCC, Borgerhout, 88-86 at the Sporthal Luisbekelaar. The Buffaloes played the entire game without its upperclassmen presence of Askia Booker, Sabatino Chen, Spencer Dinwiddie, and Andre Roberson.

CU countered with the entire game on Sunday with all six freshmen, first-year transfer players, and their returning reserves from a year ago. Most of CU's firepower that generated 56.2 percent scoring and 70.5 percent of rebounding a year ago, did not play. The Americans started the game with forwards Wesley Gordon and Xavier Johnson; guards Xavier Talton, Eli





# COLORADO BUFFALOES

Stalzer and Chris Jenkins. Forwards Josh Scott and Xavier Johnson came off the bench with juniors Ben Mills and Kevin Nelson and sophomore transfer Beau Gamble seeing minutes.

Scott led all scorers with 24 points with six rebounds and a blocked shot.

"We added a fifth game on this trip trying to get some guys as many minutes, and as much as a flow of the game in a normal situation, to give them that experience, so we went with a nine-man rotation," said CU head coach Tad Boyle.

"It gave us a great-look-into our freshmen class that are not normally in the rotation and getting them some minutes, so I thought the way we competed and lose by two to a very quality team that I think is better than the team we beat last night (Sat., Aug. 18), it gives us a lot of things to build on. The thing about this trip, is you want to learn as much as you can about your young players and we had a chance to do that today."

The Buffaloes were playing their second game in less than 24 hours were also led by Jenkins with 17 points and eight rebounds; Stalzer scored 10 points with six steals; and Gordon chipped-in with seven rebounds, six points, two steals and two blocks. Johnson added 11 points.

Trailing 74-66 with 1:47 to play, Gembo BBC made back-to-back treys for what seemed like a commanding 84-74 lead. Scott scored the next bucket with a power move in the paint, then Nelson added four points, inching CU closer and an 86-83 deficit with 16.6 seconds to play. With no timeouts, CU managed to force the home team into a turnover where Jenkins subsequently missed a three-pointer to tie. Gembo BBC added a pair of free throws for an 88-83 lead and Stalzer closed the gap with a three-pointer at the buzzer. Gembo, whose average age is 28, was the Belgian Division II 2011-2012 champion and returned 10 players from its title team a year ago were led by Domien Loubry with 22 points and six three-pointers.

Four CU players, Talton, Scott, Gordon, Johnson, all fouled out one-by-one in the fourth quarter.

CU shot 45.9 percent from the field (28-of-61) and committed 29 turnovers. Gembo BBC shot 49.2 percent for the game (29-of-59).

Game #5 (August 20) In their final game of the tour, the Buffaloes broke open a six-point first quarter lead into a 23-point cushion at halftime and cruised to a 96-57 victory over the Rotterdam Challengers at the Topsportcentrum. The Buffaloes dominated every facet of the game from a 55-29 advantage on the glass and forced Rotterdam into 25 turnovers. CU shot 47 percent from the field (41-of-87) to wrap up the five-game exhibition against semi-professional teams from France, Belgium and The Netherlands with a 2-3 record.

"Tonight was our best performance as a team; offensively, defensively, our bench played very well and I was really pleased with the way we played," said CU head coach Tad Boyle. "Individually, there were some great performances as well. The best thing from this trip is every player really improved; every player got a chance to play and get in the flow of real-live game situations against good competition. This trip is invaluable to our program this year."

CU recorded a five-game best 47 made field goals with four players in double figures led by freshman Josh Scott with 19 points (8-of-13) and five rebounds; junior Andre Roberson (18 points, 12 rebounds) and freshman Xavier Johnson (11 points, 10 rebounds) notched double-doubles; and senior Sabatino Chen poured in 11 points, six rebounds, six assists, and six steals.

Freshman Wesley Gordon chipped-in with eight points and six rebounds, while sophomore Askia Booker added nine points and five assists. Everyone played in the game for CU with 11 of 13 players scoring (Dinwiddie and Beau Gamble six points each; Xavier Talton four points and five rebounds; Ben Mills and Eli Stalzer two points each). Juniors Jeremy Adams and Shane Harris-Tunks did not play in any of the five games as both were nursing injuries.

With a six-point first quarter lead (26-20) engineered by Scott's seven points and Chen's four assists, CU held the Challengers scoreless through the first 4:40 of the second quarter, jumping out to a 34-20 lead before the home team scored their first basket.

CU then raced out to a 42-22 margin behind Scott's eight points, then three-point plays by Booker and Dinwiddie pushed their advantage to 57-34 at the break. Rotterdam was out-scored 31-14 in the second quarter, while CU also dominated the glass during the first 20 minutes by a 32-13 margin.

The third quarter was the same as the second as Chen scored six of CU's next 10 points for a 67-34 lead, while Rotterdam could only generate 10 points in the third quarter. CU's starters out-scored Rotterdam's, 53-27. The game's attendance was also played in front of a well-attended crowd (374 in attendance) and was easily the most-attended game surpassing the previous four games combined.

CU closed its stay in Amsterdam on Tuesday with a tour of the Anne Frank House in the afternoon followed by a Canal Cruise and BBQ farewell dinner. Wednesday morning the Buffaloes departed Amsterdam en route to Chicago then Denver.

