

In Memoriam

(Former CU men's basketball players who have passed away the last couple of years)



PAT FRINK (1964-65, 1966-68)

Pat Frink, who left an indelible mark on the Buffalo program in the mid-1960s, died May 6, 2013 near his ranch in Tucson. He was 67. Frink was the first player to lead the Buffaloes in scoring in three different seasons, averaging 15.0 points during the 1964-65 campaign as a sophomore. After sitting out the next season with a knee injury suffered just weeks before the first game, he came back and led the team as a

junior with an 18.3 mark and then again as a senior with 18.9. Only five players have led the Buffs three times since, Cliff Meely, Emmett Lewis and Shaun Vandiver, followed by the only pair to do it four times, Donnie Boyce and most recently Richard Roby. Frink was just the third sophomore at the time to ever lead Colorado in scoring, following Art Bunte (19.1 in 1952-53) and Wilky Gilmore (13.9 in 1959-60). He earned first-team All-Big 8 honors that year and second-team honors his junior and senior seasons. His junior year, Colorado finished 17-8, including 10-4 in league play including a huge 62-59 upset of No. 7 Kansas in Boulder. KU won the rematch, 66-59, in Lawrence in the next-to-last game of the season to clinch the conference crown, with CU tying for second with Nebraska. Frink's 1,288 career points still rank 16th all-time at CU, but were second only to Ken Charlton (1,352 from 1960-63) at the time of his graduation.



BOB JEANGERARD (1952-55)

Bob Jeangerard, one of the program's early stars, passed away on July 5, 2014 due to complications related to Alzheimer's disease. The longtime resident of San Carlos, Calif., was 81. In June, he was announced as one of nine Buffaloes as a member of the 2014 CU Athletic Hall of Fame class, which is set for induction this October. Jeangerard was a member of CU's last Final Four team, generally part of CU's 1-2 punch

with Burdie Haldorson of the school's dominant early 50s teams under coach H.B. Lee. He was a two-time All-Big 7 Conference first-team selection, averaging 12.4 points and 6.1 rebounds per game during his collegiate career. As a senior, he averaged 16 points and 6.8 rebounds per game, ranking second on the team in both categories in helping CU win a then-record 19 games in reaching the national semifinals, falling to eventual champion San Francisco. He was the NCAA Tournament Regional Most Outstanding Player.

Considered by many to be a strong team leader, he earned three letters under Lee and was a two-time, first-team All-Big 7 Conference performer. As a senior, he was a member of the CU team that rallied from a 23-point first half road deficit to edge Kansas State; the rally from 23 points down remains to this day a school record. He was second on the team as a junior in scoring (12.8 points per game) and rebounding (6.1), and as a sophomore, his tip-in at the buzzer defeated Oklahoma, 56-55.

After graduation, he was selected as a member of the 1956 U.S. Olympic basketball team that competed in the Melbourne Olympics. The U.S. team dominated the games and brought home the gold medal after going undefeated (8-0), winning

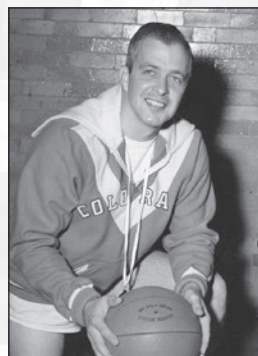
those games by an average of 53.5 points; the U.S. defeated the USSR twice, 85-55 in the quarterfinals and 89-55 in the gold medal game. The team was loaded, with Haldorson, his college teammate and close friend, and future NBA Hall of Famers, Bill Russell and K.C. Jones.

He was the team's second-leading scorer when all was said and done, scoring exactly 100 points for a 12.5 average, behind only Russell's 14.1. In shooting a sizzling 60 percent from the field, practically unheard of in that day and age, he scored a team-high 16 points in the gold medal game, with a best of 21 points in a win over the Philippines.

Once back from the Olympics, he served his country as a pilot for the U.S. Air Force and also was a prominent player on the old AAU circuit. In 1959, he was once again chosen to represent the U.S., playing on its team for the Pan American games. Teaming again with Haldorson and college basketball stars Oscar Robertson and Jerry West, the team again captured the gold medal.

After fulfilling his Air Force commitment, Jeangerard moved his family in 1960 to California where he joined his brothers, Ralph and Jack, along with a friend, Jay Wright, to open a tire shop in the San Francisco Bay Area. Gerard Tire grew throughout the area over the next two decades. The family relocated to San Carlos in 1962, and Jeangerard spent nights and weekends going to law school to become an attorney for the company while remaining one of the owner/managers of the Gerard Tire chain. He retired in 1982.

In retirement, he traveled the world and in-between travels, he played lots of tennis, was active in the community and philanthropy (the Jeangerard Foundation) and enjoyed spending quality time with friends and family.



H.B. LEE (1950-56)

Former Colorado head men's basketball coach H.B. "Bebe" Lee, who guided the Buffaloes to the 1955 NCAA Final Four, passed away peacefully at a hospice facility in Southport, N.C. He was 96.

Lee took over a Colorado program struggling to just get its feet wet in the Big Seven Conference and kick started a highly competitive run for Buffaloes basketball that spanned the better part of two decades. He spent six seasons at Colorado (1950-56) with a record of 63-74, but 51-38 over his final four campaigns which included two NCAA appearances (1954 & '55) and the team's first two Big Seven Conference titles.

"He was the ultimate gentleman, always a gentleman, on and off the court," said Burdie Haldorson, CU's All-American center on the 1955 squad. "He was very interested in all of us, on and off the court as well. He was a great man to play for. He got the team ready to play during the week and just directed things from the bench during the game, much like Mike Krzyzewski. That's why I like Duke so much, Mike coaches like Bebe did."

Lee stepped into an extremely difficult situation at Colorado, taking over a program that was just 14-22 in its first three years of the Big Seven Conference. His first three teams finished seventh twice and fourth once (in 1951-52), but he was beginning to set the stage for future success.

"He conducted coaching sitting down," said Jim Jochems, a three-year letterwinner that played for Lee in 1955-56. "He didn't walk along the court, he had a rolled up program like John Wooden had, and he really worked the refs, but did so

with respect. He was poetry in motion; he was a step or two ahead of his peers, a wonderful strategist."

Lee led Colorado to a last-to-first place turn around in 1953-54, guiding the Buffaloes to a share of their first ever Big Seven basketball title. Colorado was picked to participate in its fourth NCAA Tournament and first in nearly a decade. The Buffaloes dropped both of their West Regional games in Stillwater, Okla.

In 1954-55, Colorado had its most successful season to date, finishing 19-6 and winning the Big Seven title outright at 11-1. The Buffaloes defeated Tulsa and Bradley in the West Regional in Manhattan, Kan., to advance to the 1955 Final Four in Kansas City. CU fell to eventual champion San Francisco in the semifinals and defeated Big Ten Conference champion Iowa in the consolation to finish No. 3 in the nation.

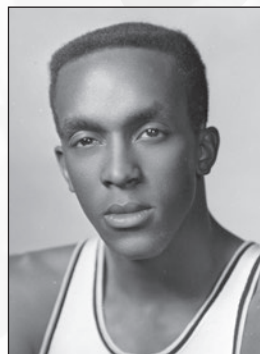
Shortly before the end of the 1955-56 season, Lee announced he would resign to take the athletic director position at Big Seven rival Kansas State. He finished out the season with the Buffaloes, leading them to an 11-10 record, 7-5 in the Big Seven, including a win over Phog Allen's Kansas Jayhawks in his final game as head coach.

"He was a terrific recruiter," Jochems said. "I overheard my parents talking after he left our house. My dad was in charge of 30 salesmen, and I heard him say, 'I wish I had one salesman as good as him' Just a very nice man and a wonderful coach. We hated to see him leave."

Lee was born Dec. 3, 1916 in Dallas, but grew up in California, graduating from Hollywood High School where he lettered in basketball and baseball. He went on to play basketball at Stanford where he helped the "Indians" as they were known at the time, win three-straight Pacific Coast Conference championships from 1936-38. President of the Stanford student body during his senior year, Lee received his degree in education in 1938. Lee stayed at Stanford for three years as an assistant before accepting the head job at Utah State in 1941.

After his Utah State team won its first game of the 1941 season, he was called into the Navy. Upon his return, he coached Utah State in 1946-47 before leaving the coaching field for three years during which he was engaged in private business in San Francisco and Salt Lake City. He returned to coaching in 1949, leading the Colorado A&M (now Colorado State) program for one season before heading to Colorado for the 1950-51 campaign.

Lee spent 12 years as athletic director at Kansas State before starting his own company, Video Theaters Inc, in 1968. He was later the Vice President of Hughes Sports Network and served a short stint as a consultant for the New Mexico Athletic Department. Lee lived in Albuquerque, along with his second wife, Jean, for 26 years before moving to Houston. After Jean died in 2009, Lee moved near his family in North Carolina.



BILLY LEWIS (1957-60)

CU Athletic Hall of Fame member Billy Lewis, the school's first African-American varsity basketball player passed away at the age of 72. He died in his Atlanta home on June 14, 2011. Lewis was inducted in CU's Athletic Hall of Fame in October 2008, and gave a very emotional speech before 500 people, which included about a dozen of his relatives that attended from as far away as Atlanta, Baltimore and even Egypt. Just a few weeks ahead of America electing its first

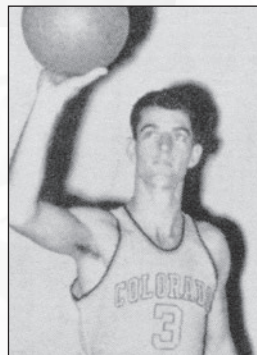
black president, he talked about how far the country had come from the days where he was a student-athlete and often forced to eat and sleep away from his teammates on road trips because some hotels would not allow blacks on their premises. Some excerpts of his acceptance speech, which onlookers easily could see him bursting with pride:

"In order to receive a full athletic scholarship at CU, or any other Division I school, one has to have above average skills and maintain those skills. They have to be able to compete before thousands of people and know that the pressure of the butterflies that all of us have experienced are character building. Those are the kinds of things that I experienced. My grandmother told me to never let anyone break my spirit. That and the chance to attend a multi-cultural school like (Denver's) Manual High School enabled me to attend a school like CU. It's a blessing for me to be successful and because of what I learned and what I was exposed to at CU, I was never afraid of anything.

"I hope in some small way I have contributed to the success of the university, as it has benefitted me in a myriad of ways."

His best season was his junior year, when he averaged 5.9 points per game with a career-high 21 against Nebraska. The 6-3 forward played in 67 career games, scoring 244 points and grabbing 197 rebounds in lettering three times. In 1959, after the basketball season was complete, he decided to come back out for track in his specialty, the high jump; he cleared 6-6¾ and finished second in the CU Invitational (to Wyoming's Jerry Lane, who jumped an inch higher) which topped his previous personal best of 6-2 as a senior in high school, where he was coached by CU great and Hall of Fame member Gil Cruter, who himself was one CU's first black track athletes in the early 1930s.

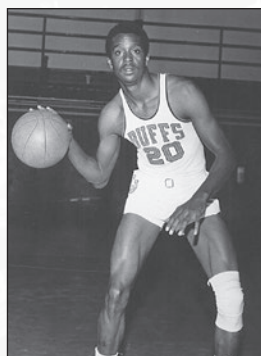
Just as important if not more so were his contributions as a student leader, becoming the first African-American elected by the student body as commissioner of the ASUC (Associated Students of the University of Colorado); he led a delegation of students and testified on the resolutions against discrimination in housing and employment practices and headed the SFHD, Students For Human Dignity, two of many causes he championed that helped change CU in a positive way forever. Upon his graduation from CU in 1960, he clerked for a Denver judge, and after marrying fellow CU grad JoKatherine Holliman (the first African American woman on CU's homecoming court).



LEASON "PETE" McCLOUD (1939-42)

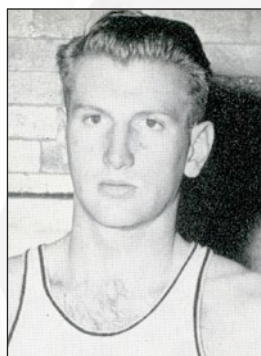
"Pete" McCloud died Monday, June 17, 2013, at the Newton Medical Center. He was 94. Known for his silky-smooth shot, a great passer and rebounder, McCloud is one of CU men's basketball's eight all-Americans (1942). He played from 1939-42 under head coach Forrest "Frosty" Cox. The leading scorer for the 1941-42 Big Seven Champion Buffaloes team, McCloud was Coach Cox's "go to guy."

McCloud's play caught the attention of national media and he joined fellow Buff Bob Doll on the Look, Pic and Time magazines' All-America squads, and was a unanimous All-Big Seven selection. Both men also grew up in Newton, Kan. On November 9, 2011, McCloud was named a University of Colorado Living Legend at the Court Sport Preview Celebration on the court of the George Boedecker Jr. Gym that included CU President Bruce Benson, Chancellor Phil DiStefano, former Athletic Director Mike Bohn, a number of regents, and special honorees Martin Trotsky and Bob Kirchner, a pair of early 1940s CU hoops standouts. CU also honored the 1938-1942 Colorado basketball teams. McCloud received a plaque with his name on it with a large "C" in the center, stating that he was a "living legend" in Colorado Basketball. This was resolved by the University of Colorado Board of Regents on Nov. 9, 2011. In 2012, he was also inducted as a Living Legend in the Kansas High School Hall of Fame.



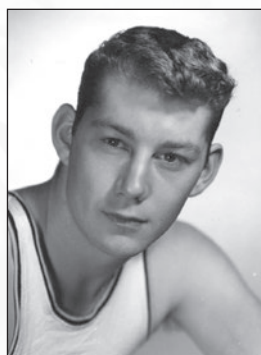
CLIFF MEELY (1968-71)

Cliff Meely passed away Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at the Boulder Community Hospital due to complications from a blood infection. He was 65. One of the pure prolific scorers and rebounders in the history of CU basketball during his four-year career (1968-1971), Meely remains either at or near the top in over a dozen statistical categories some four-plus decades later. A fixture at men's and women's basketball games at the Coors Events Center regardless of the team's performance, Meely, generally in good health, developed septic shock from the infection and died unexpectedly. Known for his quickness and agility, Meely could play any position on the floor. Under late coach Russell "Sox" Walseth, Meely led Colorado to the Big Eight title in 1968-69, as the Buffaloes were 21-7 with a 10-4 mark in league play. A three-time All-Big Eight team member, Meely earned first-team All-America honors as a senior and set 16 school and eight conference records during his career. Additionally, Meely's 24.3 points per game career scoring average is still a school record and his 427 points scored in league play set a Big Eight Conference record in 1971. Legendary Syracuse head coach Jim Boeheim told CU play-by-play announcer Mark Johnson that Meely likely was among the top five most underrated college basketball players of all time. In 1995-96, Meely was named to the Associated Press' all-time Big Eight first team. In March of 2013, Meely was inducted in the Pac-12 Conference Men's Basketball Hall of Fame. Meely still holds the CU scoring mark for most points a single game (47) and owns five of the top eight scoring games in school history. His jersey number (20) is just one of two retired numbers in the CU annals.



LES METZGER (1946-48)

Andrew Leslie (Les) Metzger passed away peacefully on June 18, 2013. He attended Phoenix Jr. College where he was captain of the basketball team and was recruited by the University of Colorado in 1946 to play varsity basketball. He was team captain from 1946-48. He graduated from CU with a major in business and education. Les had an opportunity to play professional basketball, yet chose, instead to play in the National Amateur Athletic Union. His team played in the first World Basketball Tournament in Argentina, finishing second.



WILBERT WALTER (1951-55)

Dr. Wilbert (Wil) Walter, one of five seniors on the last University of Colorado basketball team that made it to the NCAA's Final Four, died in Mount Pleasant, S.C. He died on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2010 at the age of 76.

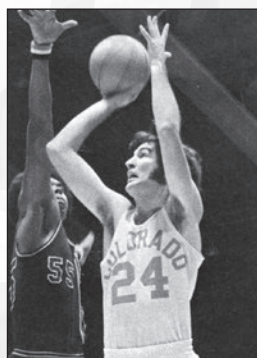
"We called him the Cowboy because he was from Wyoming. Cowboy Walter," teammate Jim Jochems recalled. "He was a highly intellectual, the team brain, straight A's. We knew then he'd be one of the few in the day to go on and earn

two or three more degrees. And then he taught for over three decades, which was pretty neat."

Walter was a three-year letterman under coach H.B. Lee, primarily a reserve performer who saw action in 38 games those seasons. His best season was his junior year in 1953-54, when he scored 33 points and had 19 rebounds, helping CU to a 10-2 record in Big 7 Conference play. He played in six games as a senior the following year, when the Buffaloes were conference champions and advanced to the Final Four in the NCAA tournament. There, CU lost to a Bill Russell-led San Francisco team, the eventual champion, but the Buffs defeated Iowa in the consolation game to finish third in the nation.

After earning his B.S. degree in Organic Chemistry in 1955, he remained in Boulder and worked as an assistant coach for CU's freshman and varsity basketball teams while earning another bachelor's degree in Pharmacy and his master's in Medicinal Chemistry by 1958. Only then did he finally leave the Rocky Mountain area, earning a Ph.D. in 1961 from the University of Connecticut in Organic and Medicinal Chemistry.

Dr. Walter was a Professor of Pharmacology at the University of North Dakota (Fargo), the Medical University of Tennessee (Memphis), and the University of Mississippi. He joined the faculty of the Medical University of South Carolina in 1968, and became Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biology and Pharmacology at MUSC in 1971, and continued in that capacity until his retirement in 1993, when he was named Professor Emeritus. He also served on the Isle of Palms City Council for four years, and was a past Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and Zoning Committee.



RON WRIGLEY (1972-75)

Ron "Wrigs" Wrigley passed away on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009 after a three-year battle with cancer. He was 55. Wrigley played for CU on the varsity basketball team for three seasons from 1972-1975 where he was a standout post-player under legendary head coach Sox Walseth. Although he only averaged 1.7 points and 1.1 rebounds in 22 games as a sophomore, Wrigley played a contributing role during his junior and senior seasons, playing in all 26 games both years. He averaged 5.3 points and 4.8 rebounds per game as a junior in 1973-74.

It was his senior season where he shined, finishing third in team scoring averaging 11.3 points per game and leading the Buffaloes in rebounding with a 7.2 clip. In his last collegiate game, Wrigley recorded a 21-point and 17-rebound performance in CU's 106-97 victory over Missouri on March 8, 1975.

During his freshman season, Wrigley averaged 12.7 points per game. An outstanding baseball player as well, Wrigley, also lettered for CU in 1974. Prior to enrolling at CU, Wrigley earned basketball and baseball letters at St. Augustine High in San Diego, Calif.

He was also awarded All-City honors in both sports. Wrigley was once selected by the San Diego Padres in the baseball draft, however opted to attend college first.

"Ron was much-loved by the entire CU community and was successful in every sense of the word," said longtime friend and college roommate Ed Shoen, who lettered at CU in football from 1972 through 1974.