CU Buff soccer team routs Gaels

Senior moves to forward, scores in first 23 seconds

By Ryan Thorburn Camera Sports Writer Boulder Daily Camera

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DENVER -- Nikki Marshall was in an impatient mood on Sunday morning.

Colorado`s soccer superstar couldn`t wait for head coach Bill Hempen to announce the starting lineup before the game, and it only took Marshall two minutes and 36 seconds to score what proved to be the game-winning goal in the Buffs` lopsided 8-1 victory over St. Mary`s at the Denver Invitational.

"I saw my name actually on the little board (Hempen) was holding in his hand," Marshall said. "I kind of cheated and looked and I was pretty excited to see my name up there."

After playing defender in CU's first two games of the season -- a 1-0 victory over No. 11 Oklahoma State and a 2-1 loss to No. 13 Illinois -- Marshall was moved to forward against the overmatched Gaels.

Marshall opened the scoring with her first goal of the season 23 seconds after kickoff, setting a new CU record for fastest goal by 29 seconds. She scored again at 2:36, and Kelly Butler made the score 3-0 at 4:05.

"I put Nikki up front because she's our best player and I didn't think they had anybody that could stay with our best player," Hempen explained. "Why waste that opportunity? It showed real quick. ...

"Is that something we're going to do a lot. If you've gotan ace you're not going to save her for a rainy day."

The Buffs (2-1) felt like they let one get away against Illinois in their first match at the beautiful new DU Soccer Stadium on Friday. But despite dominating possession, the young CU team learned a valuable lesson.

"It's funny because we talk about how our program has this curse where we have two breakdowns on defense and they score on both. And we have 15 chances and we don't score on any," Marshall said. "That's how the game goes sometimes. That's how soccer is. But you have to find a way to get it done."

Kassidy Fitzpatrick scored an amazing goal on a long cross, Butler added her second goal of the game, and St. Mary's allowed an own goal off a blast by Marshall to make the score 6-0 at the intermission.

"We don't get these blowout games a lot at all. We were fortunate to get an early goal and that kind of set the tone for the whole game," Fitzpatrick said. "I'm really happy for our entire team. We put a lot of players in late and they responded."

St. Mary's head coach Kai Edwards implored his team to "win the second half," but the Buffs made the score 8-0 with goals by freshmen Amy Barczuk and Quinn Krier before the Gaels finally got on the board in the 84th minute.

"What makes a good team great is to play great at any level, regardless if it's 5-0 or 1-0," Marshall said. "I think it's important that we don't necessarily drop a level just because we put subs in. We did pretty well with that."

CU used 14 players off the bench compared to five for St. Mary`s. The Gaels, who lost 2-1 to DU on Friday, were without injured starting goalkeeper Tara Larson and didn`t give backup Kate Brenot much support.

The eight goals scored by the Buffs were the most in program history.

Marshall's four points in the first four minutes of the game gives her 80 career points and moves her up to second on the CU all-time point list behind former All-American Fran Munnelly (84 from 2002-05).

Even better, Marshall's sister, freshman Shaye Marshall, played alongside her for the first time at CU.

"I love playing with Shaye. I think she`s getting better and I hope she continues to develop so toward the end of the season we`re playing a little bit more together," Marshall said. "It`s amazing to have my sister on the field with me. It`s better than having her on the sideline watching."

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Buffs trample record book, St. Mary's

August 30, 2009 | 10:49 pm No comments By Monica Ly

On Sunday, the Buffs came to play.

After giving up two goals against the run of play in a 2-1 loss to Illinois on Friday, the University of Colorado soccer team pummeled St. Mary's 8-1 on Sunday afternoon at an invitational tournament hosted by the University of Denver.

And the turnaround from Friday was almost instant. St. Mary's took a shot on the kickoff, then Marshall gave the Buffaloes the lead 23 seconds into the match, a University of Colorado record for fastest goal at the beginning of a game.

"Yeah, it was a great ball down the line, and I ran," Marshall said. "I wasn't quite in the box yet. I was going to cross it, but I guess I just decided to keep going. And I guess I was kind of lucky."

After starting at center back against Oklahoma State and Illinois, Marshall began Sunday's match at forward. And the move paid off. She scored again two minutes after her first goal. Senior Ally Goodman crossed the ball, and Marshall's one-touch volley sailed into the net.

The Buffaloes didn't stop there. They increased the lead to 3-0 when sophomore Kelly Butler scored in the fourth minute at the top of the box.

CU sophomore Kassidy Fitzpatrick curled the ball into the net from the far right side of the field in the 25th minute for CU. And at the 40-minute mark, Butler got her second goal of the day.

An own goal by St. Mary's shortly before halftime gave the Buffs a 6-0 lead at the intermission, also a CU record.

Freshman Amy Barczuk scored on her own rebound five minutes after halftime as Colorado matched its record for most goals in a single game, set in 2004 against Texas Tech.

Freshman Quinn Krier scored on a feed from senior Kelly Menachof to set a new record of eight goals.

"I'm real pleased with how they attacked this team," CU coach Bill Hempen said.

St. Mary's, however, continued to push. In the final minutes Alex Ciliento scored on a rebound to end CU's chances for a shutout.

SISTER ACT: CU freshman Shaye Marshall took the field for the first time with older sister Nikki and got off a shot of her own. "I love playing with

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Shaye," Nikki Marshall said. "I think it's so cool she's getting some time, and I hope she can continue to develop so that toward the end of the season we'll be playing a little more together."

PIONEERS TIE ILLINOIS: The final score was 1-1 despite Denver being outshot 23-5. Read the whole story here.

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Krystin Miller, defender, Illinois
Jordan Hilbrands, forward, Illinois
Marissa Mykines, midfielder, Illinois
Lara Campbell, goalkeeper, Denver
Katy Van Lieshout, midfielder, Denver
Emily Stewart, defender, Denver
Kelly Butler, midfielder, Colorado
Kate Russell, midfielder, Colorado
Nikki Marshall, forward/defender, Colorado
Daelyn Paul, midfielder, St. Mary's

Jessica Menzhuber, forward, St. Mary's

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Our goal at ColoradoSoccerNow.com is to cover the sport in this state like no one else, from colleges to the Colorado Rapids, from the W-League to the U.S. men's and women's national teams.

About George: George Tanner fell in love with the Tampa Bay Rowdies and the North American Soccer League while living in the Tampa, Fla., area in the mid-1970s. He got his first taste of newspapering while following the Rowdies every day in the Tampa Tribune, and from there grew the seeds of a journalism career in which he has worked at the Colorado Springs Sun; the Daily Camera in Boulder; the Durango Herald; The Daily Independent in Ridgecrest, Calif.; the Greeley Tribune; and the Rocky Mountain News. **E-mail George here**.

About Cole: Not since the days of Ace Ntsoelengoe, the Minnesota Kicks and the North American Soccer League has Cole McGinnis been so excited about soccer. Cole handles the business functions of ColoradoSoccerNow.com, and he's the man to speak with about front-office issues. **E-mail Cole here.**

About Jonathan: Jonathan Ingraham is a Colorado native, sports hound, outdoors enthusiast and Metropolitan State College student, working on a journalism degree. Outside of school, he works as a freelance photographer and is available for photographing places, people, events, games or artistic shoots for businesses or personal collections. Email Jonathan here.

About Tom: Tom Auclair remembers watching the New England Tea Men when he was younger and thinking what a terrible name that was for a sports team. He has worked for the Rocky Mountain News, Longmont Daily Times-Call and several newspapers in New Hampshire. He's currently working as an editor and photographer for a collection of Web sites. He can't believe how quick Omar Cummings is. E-mail Tom here.



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