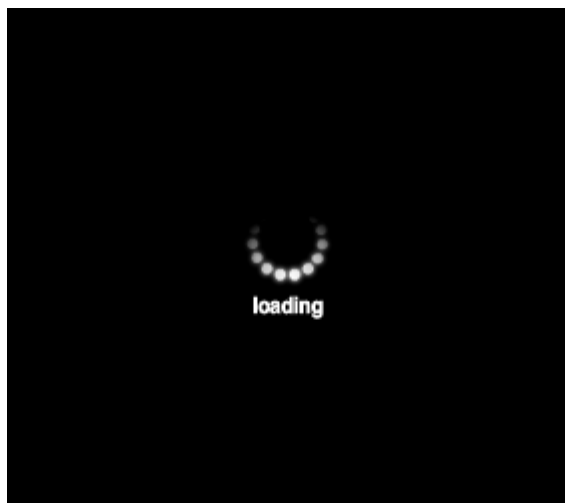


CU Buff women go cold down stretch to fall to OSU

Bufs make just one field goal in last 10 1/2 minutes

By Joshua Lindenstein Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/24/2010 04:19:35 PM MST



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So much for the comforts of home.

For 30 minutes Sunday, the Colorado women's basketball team managed to keep pace with Oklahoma State's high-powered attack.

Then the Buffaloes' shots stopped going in.

Colorado went nearly the entire final 10 and a half minutes of the game without making a field goal as 12th-ranked Oklahoma State pulled away for a 74-63 win in front of 2,459 at the Coors Events Center.

CU's 31-percent shooting effort -- a season low -- overshadowed an otherwise solid performance by the Buffs (12-6, 2-3 Big 12 Conference), who were looking to snap what is now a 15-game losing streak against ranked opponents.

"I firmly believe that we beat ourselves tonight," CU coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said. "We had open look after open look, and we had plenty of opportunities to hit shots. And unfortunately those did not fall."

Colorado hit just 19 of 62 shots from the field, including 5 of 28 from 3-point land.

Nobody was immune.

Brittany Spears led the Buffs with 18 points but was 1 of 8 from behind the arc. Center Courtney Dunn had a career night with 16 points and 14 rebounds, but shot just 5 of 14, including 0 for 5 from deep.

"I guess it's just one of those nights where shots were not falling, so we should have went to the rim more and got fouled and went to the free throw line," Spears said.

Colorado closed the first half on a 9-2 run to pull within 37-35 at the break after trailing by as many as 10.

The Buffs trailed just 55-51 after Kelly Jo Mullaney hit a 3-pointer with 10:27 to play. But that's the last field goal the Buffs would make until Chucky Jeffery's runner with 12 seconds left.

After Jeffery hit a free throw to make it 55-52, with 9:46 to go, Oklahoma State (16-3, 4-1) gradually extended its lead as shot after shot bounced off the rim for the Buffs.

"I think we thought we had a little momentum (when it was 55-52)," said CU guard Bianca Smith, who was blanketed all game by OSU defenders. "I think everybody on the bench and everybody in the arena thought we were going to come back at that point. I think we stopped executing and it kind of hurt us."

The Cowgirls had no trouble finding the nets at the Coors Events Center. They shot 47 percent from the field.

The nation's top scoring tandem of guard Andrea Riley and forward Tegan Cunningham did what they do, pouring in 26

and 21 points, respectively. The lightning-quick Riley added 11 assists as she dribbled in and out of CU defenders all game long.

"We shot a pretty good percentage for the game and they shot 30 percent, and I think that really was the difference," said OSU coach Kurt Budke, whose team saw its 11-game win streak snapped at Texas on Wednesday.

Despite the big numbers by OSU's scorers, the Buffs didn't play poorly.

Riley had a 9 for 26 shooting night. The rebounding battle was even; CU had 18 second-chance points off of 15 offensive boards. And the Buffs turned the ball over just nine times.

"Overall, we've got room to grow, and if shooting is our biggest concern then that's something we can work on and get better at," McConnell-Miller said.

Oklahoma St. 74, Colorado 63

OKLAHOMA ST. (74)

Player MIN FG FT Rb A PF PT

Cnghan 33 8-15 2-2 4 1 4 21

Byford 13 0-0 0-0 5 0 4 0

Garrison 20 1-3 0-0 4 3 1 3

A. Riley 40 9-26 6-13 7 11 2 26

Robinson 22 4-7 3-4 5 0 3 11

Blair-Mobley 10 0-0 0-0 1 0 0 0

Clardy 17 0-1 0-0 1 0 3 0

Young 18 3-3 2-2 4 0 2 8

L. Riley 7 2-2 0-0 2 0 0 4

Keller 20 0-0 1-2 6 0 4 1

TOTALS 200 27-57 14-23 41 15 23 74

3-Point Goals: 6-16, .375 (Cunningham 3-5, Garrison 1-3, A. Riley 2-8).

Team Rebounds: 2.

Blocked Shots: 5 (Byford, Robinson, Young 2, Keller).

Turnovers: 12 (Cunningham, A. Riley 7, Robinson 2, Keller 2).

Steals: 2 (Cunningham, Clardy).

Technical Fouls: None.

COLORADO (63)

Player MIN FG FT Rb A PF PT

M. Mlc-Pck 21 1-5 0-0 2 0 5 2

Spears 40 5-16 7-8 9 1 5 18

Dunn 34 5-14 6-8 14 2 1 16

Fressle 25 2-4 3-4 1 1 2 7

Jeffery 35 2-9 3-4 4 4 2 7

Smith 22 3-10 0-0 4 1 2 9

Seabrook 4 0-0 0-0 2 0 0 0

Dale 1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0

Mullaney 18 1-4 1-2 3 1 2 4

TOTALS 200 19-62 20-26 40 10 19 63

3-Point Goals: 5-28, .179 (M. Malcolm-Peck 0-2, Spears 1-8, Dunn 0-5, Fressle 0-1, Jeffery 0-1, Smith 3-8, Mullaney 1-3).**Team Rebounds:** 1.**Blocked Shots:** 1 (Jeffery).**Turnovers:** 9 (Spears, Dunn 3, Fressle 2, Jeffery, Smith, Mullaney).**Steals:** 7 (Spears 3, Dunn, Jeffery, Mullaney 2).**Technical Fouls:** Spears.

Oklahoma State 37 37 -- 74

Colorado 35 28 -- 63

Officials: Hall, Porter, Carroll.**Attendance:** 2,459.

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Ailing Dunn manages to shine for CU women

Center notches career best in points and rebounds

By Joshua Lindenstein Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/24/2010 11:36:16 PM MST

Courtney Dunn turned in the best performance of her career on Sunday in the Colorado women's basketball team's 74-63 loss to Oklahoma State at the Coors Events Center.

But it wasn't exactly smooth sailing for CU's center -- and not just because the Buffs lost.

Dunn said she was hyperventilating during the game and was put on a breathing machine at times.

Aside from a rough shooting night from 3-point range, the ailment hardly showed.

The 6-foot-4 junior from California played 34 minutes, tying a career high with 16 points and adding a career-best 14 rebounds.

She was a force for the Buffs inside, helping keep them in the game on a dismal shooting night with seven offensive rebounds.

Dunn wasn't interested in thinking about career numbers, though.

"I don't really look at my stats like that," she said. "I just cared more about the win. It was just frustrating that we didn't end up winning the game."

Dunn wasn't the only Buffalo dealing with health issues.

After playing a key role in CU's 9-2 spurt right before halftime, sophomore guard Alyssa Fressle sat for most of the second half.

CU coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said Fressle had been sick for two days leading up to the game and missed the Buffs' pre-game meal on Sunday because she wasn't feeling well.

"Just didn't feel like she was 100 percent today," the coach said.

Technically speaking

CU forward Brittany Spears drew a technical foul while guarding the ball on an out-of-bounds play in the closing moments of the game that drew the ire of a crowd already displeased with the officiating.

But McConnell-Miller explained the call afterward, saying that it was made because Spears accidentally touched the OSU player who was trying to in-bound the ball.

"If she didn't touch her they probably would have given her a warning," McConnell-Miller said. "But when she broke the plane, she touched the ball. And when you break the plane you are assessed a technical."

The foul was Spears' fifth of the game.

Notable

Spears' 18 points moved her into 14th on CU's all-time scoring list with 1,325 points, bumping her past Sandy Bean, who scored 1,319 from 1978-82. ... The loss was Colorado's fourth in a row to OSU, dropping the Buffs' lead in the all-time series to 26-24. ... The Buffs play at Kansas at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

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Cowgirls wrangle up Buffs

Women's basketball handed third home loss

By Marlee Horn on January 25, 2010

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A cold day in Boulder led to frigid shooting for the Colorado Buffaloes women's basketball team.

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The No. 12 Oklahoma State Cowgirls (16-3, 4-1 Big 12 Conference) handed the Buffaloes (12-6, 2-3) their third loss at home, and third against a conference foe. The Buffs fell 74-63 Sunday at the Coors Events Center.

CU head coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said her team would have preferred a different outcome, but they knew they needed to properly prepare and adjust their game when playing a top 15 team.



Forward Brittany Spears charges down court, dodging Oklahoma State Cowgirl Lindsey Keller during Sunday's game. The Buffs lost 74-63. (CU Independent/Lauren Walter)

"I firmly believe that we beat ourselves tonight," McConnell-Miller said. "We had open look after open look, and we had plenty of opportunities to hit shots."

Colorado got on the board in the first 26 seconds when Chucky Jeffery nailed a 2-point jumper thanks to an offensive rebound by senior center Courtney Dunn.

The Buffs earned their second, and final, lead with a long 2-point shot by freshman forward Meagan Malcolm-Peck just 1:01 into the game.

But then, the 3-point shot came into play. Five consecutive missed 3-pointers by CU coupled with a pair of 3-point baskets by Oklahoma State sparked a 10-0 Cowgirls run, which gave them a 13-4 lead.

In the first half, the Buffaloes shot a dismal 20 percent from 3-point range and finished the game shooting 17.9 percent from beyond the arc. CU's 3-point shooting is now 24.8 percent in conference play, ninth in the Big 12.

Despite those numbers, Bianca Smith drilled a pair of 3-pointers, allowing the Buffs to keep the score tight at 15-10.

Thrice, the Cowgirls pushed the lead to 10, and thrice, the Buffs reduced it to five, the last coming on a

Brittany Spears lay-up with 4:40 to go in the first half.

After the Cowgirls extended their lead to nine, the Buffaloes narrowed the deficit to 37-35 at halftime with two layups by sophomore guard Alyssa Fressle, a 3-pointer by Smith and two free throws by Dunn.

In the second half, it became largely about who could sink the most threes and make the most free throws.

Two free throws by Dunn and a tight 3-pointer by Spears, assisted by Dunn, helped narrow the Cowgirl lead to two 1:47 into the second half.

For the next four minutes, OSU's lead bobbed in single digits until Tegan Cunningham's lay-up pushed the lead to 10.

But the Buffs continued to fight and once again dwindled the lead to three points with assistance from a 3-pointer by junior guard Kelly Jo Mullaney and a free throw by Jeffery.

Unfortunately, it was as close as Colorado got as OSU's Andrea Riley made sure the score would never be that tight again.

Riley scored seven of her game-high 26 during a pivotal four-minute stretch as Oklahoma State went up by 10. Riley also led the Cowgirls with 11 assists and seven rebounds.

The last 90 seconds of play seemed to be some of the hardest for the Buffs. Although Spears finished with 18 points and nine rebounds, she fouled out of the game and received a technical foul for breaking the plane and touching an OSU player who was trying to in-bound the ball.

After the game, McConnell-Miller said the team was "asleep too often" when Riley had possession of the ball and her sharp game play was something the Buffs weren't used to.

"Nothing surprised us," McConnell-Miller said. "I mean we knew what Andrea Riley was capable of. If we were to do something different on the defensive end, I thought we didn't adjust to Tegan Cunningham as well as we should have."

Cunningham shot 8-of-15 and scored 21 points.

Despite the loss and her own personal health issues, Dunn had an impressive showing. Dunn was under a breathing machine during the game because of hyperventilation, but it didn't seem to hurt her play on the court.

Recording her second double-double of her career, Dunn's 16 points tied her career-high and she grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds.

Even with her impressive stats, Dunn said she was disappointed that shots she typically makes in practice didn't fall during the game, and that the team was handed another loss.

However, the Buffs seemed eager to bounce back from the loss and improve their 30.6 field goal percentage against Oklahoma State.

"Overall, we've got room to grow," McConnell-Miller said. "If shooting is our biggest concern, then that's something we can work on and get better at."

Looking forward, the Buffaloes will work to do better and get a road win when they head to Lawrence,

Kan., to take on the Kansas Jayhawks at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

"We're going into Kansas on Wednesday," Smith said. "We have no choice but to take the positives from this game, whatever they may be, and get better in these next two days of practice and get a victory in Lawrence."

Contact CU Independent Staff Writer Marlee Horn at Marlee.horn@colorado.edu.

Posted in [Sports](#) / Tagged [CU women's basketball team](#)

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Longmont, Colorado
Friday, April 30, 2010

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Buffs struggle to score, fall to Oklahoma State

By Patrick Ridgell
© 2010 Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — There's never a good time for a basketball team to endure its worst shooting game of the season. The Colorado women's program picked an especially bad day.

Sunday's 74-63 loss to No. 12 Oklahoma State frustrated the Buffs (12-6, 2-3 Big 12) because they believed that they played well but, for whatever reason, couldn't hit the broad side of a barn. Their 19-for-62 shooting was 30.6 percent, their worst clip of the season. They went 5-for-28 on 3s, which was a better percentage than their 1-for-11 effort against Missouri — but they beat the Tigers, and so didn't need many 3s.

CU could have used a few Sunday.

"I firmly believe that we beat ourselves tonight," CU coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said. "We had open look after open look, and we had plenty of opportunities to hit shots. Unfortunately, those did not fall."

Health issues compounded CU's problems. Starting guard Alyssa Fressle played sick after missing two days of practice last week and Sunday's pre-game meal. Center Courtney Dunn said she was hyperventilating during part of the game and used a breathing machine to try to stop it. She said she has never hyperventilated during a game before, and didn't know why she did Sunday.

The Buffs also had to deal with Oklahoma State's Andrea Riley, a preseason honorable mention All-American who finished with 26 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds. Riley didn't shoot well either, going 9-for-26 from the floor and 6-for-13 on free throws.

But she made up for it.

On one late possession, Riley dribbled around the court for more than 20 seconds, leaving CU defenders in her wake before she delivered an on-the-money, no-look pass to Toni Young for a wide-open layup. That made it 69-57 Cowgirls with 2 minutes, 51 seconds to go, effectively ending the game.

"When she has the ball in her hands, we know what they are going to do: She's either shooting it or, at the last second, is going to find an open player," McConnell-Miller said. "She is good at that, and I thought that we fell asleep too often."

As for the missed shots, McConnell-Miller said Oklahoma State didn't let Bianca Smith (9 points, 3-for-8 on 3s) have an open look all night. Otherwise,



CU's Meagan Malcolm-Peck fouls Oklahoma State's Andrea Riley during the second half of their game Sunday at the Coors Events and Conference Center. CU's Chucky Jeffery covers from behind. CU lost to the No. 12 Cowgirls 74-63. **Lewis Geyer/Times-Call**

OKLAHOMA STATE 74, COLORADO 63

OKLAHOMA STATE (16-3, 4-1)

Cunningham 8-15 2-2 21, Byford 0-0 0-0 0, Garrison 1-3 0-0 3, A. Riley 9-26 6-13 26, Robinson 4-7 3-4 11, Blair-Mobley 0-0 0-0 0, Clardy 0-1 0-0 0, Young 3-3 2-2 8, L. Riley 2-2 0-0 4, Keller 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 27-57 14-23 74.

COLORADO (12-6, 2-3)

Malcolm-Peck 1-5 0-0 2, Spears 5-16 7-8 18, Dunn 5-14 6-8 16, Fressle 2-4 3-4 7, Jeffery 2-9 3-4 7, Smith 3-10 0-0 9, Seabrook 0-0 0-0 0, Dale 0-0 0-0 0, Mullaney 1-4 1-2 4. Totals 19-62 20-26 63.

Halftime — Oklahoma State 37-35.

the coach said she didn't know what the problem was.

"It was just one of those nights when shots were not falling," CU's Brittany Spears said.

Meanwhile, senior associated athletic director Tom McGrath said CU expects to hold a ceremonial groundbreaking for its basketball/volleyball facility in March. No date has been confirmed, but March 25 has been mentioned as a possibility, McGrath said. Construction is expected to begin in earnest in April.

McGrath earlier said that once construction begins, the project is expected to take 12 months, and that an additional month will be needed to move into the building. CU plans to begin using the facility in spring 2011.

TIP-INS: Spears drew her fifth personal foul when officials called a technical on her for slapping the ball while a Cowgirl was attempting to inbound it. ... CU lost its 15th straight game to a team ranked in the AP or WBCA poll. It has lost 12 straight to opponents ranked in both. ... Despite her breathing problems, Dunn had 16 points and 14 rebounds, her second career double-double. Both have come in the past four games. Fourteens rebounds are her career high. ... Smith is one point shy of becoming Colorado's 23rd female player to score 1,000.

Read Patrick Ridgell's [CU sports blog](#). He can be reached at pridgell@times-call.com.

3-point goals — Oklahoma State 6-16 (Cunningham 3-5, A. Riley 2-8, Garrison 1-3); CU 5-28 (Spears 1-8, Smith 3-8, Mullaney 1-3, Malcolm-Peck 0-2, Dunn 0-5, Fressle 0-1, Jeffery 0-1). Fouled out — Spears (CU), Malcolm-Peck (CU). Rebounds — Oklahoma State 41 (Riley 7); CU 40 (Dunn 14). Assists — Oklahoma State 15 (A. Riley 11); CU 10 (Jeffery 4). Total fouls — Oklahoma State 23; CU 19. Technicals — Spears (CU). A — 2,459.

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Cowgirls hold off Buffs' bid

No. 12 Okla. St. 74, CU 63

By The Associated Press

Posted: 01/25/2010 01:00:00 AM MST



Colorado's Brittany Spears grabs a rebound in front of the Cowgirls' Precious Robinson in the second half of Oklahoma State's 74-63 victory Sunday. Spears finished with 18 points and nine rebounds. (Cliff Grassmick, Daily Camera)

BOULDER — Losses have been few and far between for 12th-ranked Oklahoma State, which shrugged off its first defeat in two months by getting back in the win column Sunday.

Andrea Riley had 26 points and 11 assists and Tegan Cunningham added 21 points as Oklahoma State defeated Colorado 74-63.

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THE DENVER POST

Precious Robinson had 11 points for Oklahoma State (16-3, 4-1 Big 12), winners of 11 consecutive games before losing Wednesday to No. 20 Texas.

Brittany Spears scored 18 points, and Courtney Dunn added 16 points and 14 rebounds for the Buffs (12-6, 2-3), who haven't defeated a ranked opponent in nearly three years.

CU pulled to 55-52 with 9:46 remaining but lost its shooting touch from then on. The Buffaloes shot 24.1 percent in the second half, missing 22-of-29 shots, and finished at a season-low 30.6 percent.

"I think that their defense was pretty good, but we missed a lot of open looks," Colorado coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said.

The Cowgirls would have had a bigger cushion had they made more of their free throws, as they finished 14-of-23 from the line.

OKLAHOMA STATE (16-3, 4-1 Big 12)

Cunningham 8-15 2-2 21, Byford 0-0 0-0 0, Garrison 1-3 0-0 3, A. Riley 9-26 6-13 26, Robinson 4-7 3-4 11, Blair-Mobley 0-0 0-0 0, Clardy 0-1 0-0 0, Young 3-3 2-2 8, L. Riley 2-2 0-0 4, Keller 0-0 1-2 1. **Totals 27-57 14-23 74.**

COLORADO (12-6, 2-3)

M. Malcolm-Peck 1-5 0-0 2, Spears 5-16 7-8

18, Dunn 5-14 6-8 16, Fressle 2-4 3-4 7, Jeffery 2-9 3-4 7, Smith 3-10 0-0 9, Seabrook 0-0 0-0 0, Dale 0-0 0-0 0, Mullaney 1-4 1-2 4. **Totals 19-62 20-26 63. Oklahoma St. 37-35. 3-point goals — Oklahoma St. 6-16 (Cunningham 3-5, A. Riley 2-8, Garrison 1-3), Colorado 5-28 (Smith 3-8, Mullaney 1-3, Spears 1-8, Jeffery 0-1, Fressle 0-1, M. Malcolm-Peck 0-2, Dunn 0-5). Fouled out — M. Malcolm-Peck, Spears. Rebounds — Oklahoma St. 41 (A. Riley 7), Colorado 40 (Dunn 14). Assists — Oklahoma St. 15 (A. Riley 11), Colorado 10 (Jeffery 4). Total fouls — Oklahoma St. 23, Colorado 19. Technical foul — Spears. A — 2,459.**

Halftime —

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