

# Lappe adds another assistant to CU staff

## Former Longhorn leaves behind Texas club team

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An April trip to Boulder to interview for a position on Linda Lappe's coaching staff sold Johnna Pointer on joining the Colorado women's basketball program.

Had it not been for one important loose end back in Texas, Pointer might have been on board with the Buffs then.

Lappe, hired to take over the program on April 12, officially named the former Texas Longhorn standout player to her staff on Monday in a press release from the school.

Pointer's arrival leaves Lappe with just one assistant coaching spot left to fill. The head coach hired former Marquette assistant Jennie Baranczyk last week. Former WNBA and Texas Tech star Sheryl Swoopes interviewed last week for the final position along with multiple other candidates.

Pointer -- who grew up in Shallowater, Texas, outside of Lubbock -- comes to the Buffs after spending the last six years running her Hoop 10 girls club program in Amarillo, Texas.

It was making sure that the club she started to help improve the skills of young players in the Texas Panhandle was in good hands that delayed Pointer's arrival in Boulder.

Because it would be against NCAA rules for an assistant coach to also own a high school level club program, Pointer had to sell Hoop 10 before coming to CU.

"I wanted to be here sooner," Pointer, 39, said Monday. "There were just some big steps I had to take to make myself available for this job and take care of our people in our club at Hoop 10. It's very important to me that that club continues" for the kids in the Texas Panhandle.

Prior to founding Hoop 10, Pointer spent seven years as head coach at Wayland Baptist University, where she guided the Flying Queens to a 155-48 record and three NAIA quarterfinal appearances. She spent two years before that guiding Frank Phillips College to a 43-17 mark at the junior college level.

A two-time All-Southwest Conference player at Texas from 1988-92, Pointer started her coaching career as a high school coach in Germany before a season as a student assistant for the Longhorns.

"Johnna has a lot of valuable experience at every different level," Lappe said in the release. "She brings a great deal of knowledge about what it takes to lead a successful program, and she will be counted on to bring a great deal of energy and enthusiasm."

Pointer will work with CU's guards and organize pre- and postseason workouts. She will also serve as the program's liaison with academics in addition to various other coaching duties.

Pointer said her first summer on the job will be fairly similar to what she's been doing -- traveling the country to club tournaments. Only now she'll be recruiting at those events instead of coaching.

Pointer said she's gotten to know Lappe well along the recruiting trail the past few years when Lappe was head coach at Metro State and Pointer was leading her club team. She said Lappe recruited a few of her players over the years, though none ended up going to Metro.

"Just from knowing (Lappe) and knowing the passion she has for the CU women's basketball program and the vision she has for where she wants this program to go, it excited me and inspired me. And I wanted to get on board and be a part of

it.

"I`m just really happy to be officially on board."

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