

Hempen's Buffs squander chance at Baylor

Colorado musters just four shots on goal

Camera staff report
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WACO, Texas -- Flying high after a 4-0 start to Big 12 Conference play, the Colorado soccer team was grounded Sunday in a disappointing 2-1 road loss to Baylor.

Christine Clark headed home a corner kick in the 85th minute to break a 1-all tie and send the Buffs into their toughest stretch of the league slate on a sour note.

In the first of five straight road games, the Big 12-leading Buffs saw Baylor put eight shots on goal to their own four in sloppy conditions.

The Buffs fell to 7-6 overall, 4-1 in the Big 12. Baylor improved to 5-3-3 and 1-2-1.

"The ability to play the way that we did on Friday (in a 5-1 win over Oklahoma) was unavailable to us today," CU coach Bill Hempen said. "It stopped raining, but with the amount of water on the field, we just couldn't change tactically and mentally today to compete and do the same things we did on Friday."

Neither team could find the back of the net until the 70th minute on Sunday.

That's when Baylor's Lisa Sliwinski chipped a shot over the head of CU goalie Kara Linder.

CU's Kassidy Fitzpatrick tied the match eight minutes later, powering a shot through Baylor goalie Gianna Quintanna's legs.

But not long after, Clark got behind the CU defense for the game-winner.

CU travels to face Missouri (Friday) and Kansas (Sunday) next weekend, and then goes on the road against powers Texas A&M and Texas the next before closing the regular season at home against Texas Tech on Oct. 30.

"This obviously shows why it was that much more important for us to win those first four conference games," Hempen added. "We put ourselves in a position to separate and make other teams catch up, but by not winning today we chose to make things interesting."

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Bears overpower Buffaloes

Colorado loses first of five road games

By Esteban L. Hernandez on October 5, 2009

Sometimes, late goals lead to comebacks.

Sophomore Kassidy Fitzpatrick's goal for the Colorado Buffaloes in the 79th minute of play knotted the game 1-1.

However, the stalemate lasted six minutes when Baylor's Christine Clark scored the final and decisive goal in the 85th minute to help the Bears defeat the Buffs 2-1 Sunday in Waco, Texas.

Buffs head coach Bill Hempen said in a press release that the weather affected the team's performance.

"The ability to play the way that we did on Friday was unavailable to us today," said Hempen, referring to the 5-1 win against Oklahoma. "It stopped raining, but with the amount of water on the field, we just couldn't change tactically and mentally today to compete and do the same things we did on Friday. Baylor did exactly what they needed to do to win the game."

With the victory, Baylor (5-3-3 overall, 1-2-1 Big 12 Conference) served Colorado (7-6, 4-1) its first loss in Big 12 play in what is also the first of five consecutive road games for CU.

Baylor opened the scoring after 69 minutes of play, but CU was quick to respond as Fitzpatrick's fourth goal of the season arrived less than 10 minutes later.

The Buffs were outshot 15-9 by the Bears. Senior forward Nikki Marshall had a team-high of three shots followed by sophomore Kelly Butler, who notched two shots.

"I am disappointed and frustrated," Hempen said in a press release. "I thought we had a breakthrough on Friday and made some unbelievable strides to right this and get things rolling, and we let down."

The road trip continues for the Buffs on Friday when they face Missouri, at 6 p.m.

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In this photo from Sept. 28, sophomore midfielder Kassidy Fitzpatrick works her way around senior Cyclone midfielder Elise Reid. (CU Independent file/Michelle Davenport)