

Hempen`s Buffs suffer letdown against Ducks

Drained squad falls to Oregon

By Chris Shelton Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 09/07/2009 12:11:38 AM MDT

Obviously, Bill Hempen hates to lose.

But the Colorado soccer coach wasn't too disappointed after Sunday's 2-1 loss to Oregon in the eighth annual Colorado Soccer Classic.

The No. 15 Buffs were coming off an emotionally and physically draining last-minute 1-0 win in double overtime against rival Denver on Friday.

"After such an emotional and difficult game Friday against DU we simply did not have the same energy today," Hempen said. "We weren't as sharp as we could have been."

Knowing CU could be drained, Oregon put the pressure on CU quickly and it paid off.

Junior forward Jen Stoltenberg worked her way through CU's defense and scored in the 15th minute.

But the real kicker came when Stoltenberg broke down CU's defense again and put the Ducks up 2-0 early in the second half.

Although the Buffs (3-2) found some life late in the game, the deficit was too much to overcome against the Ducks (2-1-1), winners of this year's Colorado Soccer Classic.

The Buffs pelted Oregon's goal with three shots in the last five minutes but came away empty-handed.

"We need to come out a little more energized," said freshman Shaye Marshall, who scored her first career goal with less than 25 minutes remaining in regulation. "It's never easy when you find yourself in a 2-0 deficit."

Marshall entered the game as a reserve and has seen limited action in CU's first five games.

If she's looking for someone to emulate, however, she doesn't have to look far. Her sister, senior Nikki Marshall, is two points shy of catching Fran Munnely for most career points in CU history and Nikki Marshall owns a program-best 37 career goals.

Now there will be an S. Marshall in CU's record books.

"It's definitely really exciting," Shaye Marshall said. "It would have been better if we had won."

The Buffs were dealt a minor blow when freshman Amy Barczuk was hit in the face. She suffered a broken nose, but is not expected to miss any playing time. She will wear protective gear.

Colorado hosts Utah on Friday and then boards a plane for Sunday's game at Florida. CU's schedule is set up that way (games on Friday and Sunday) for much of the season.

"For our younger players, they simply just have to get adjusted to the college level," Hempen said. "It's nothing you can tell them to do. It is something they will learn on their own."

Colorado fell to 14-2 all-time in its own tournament. It was the first time the Buffs didn't win the Soccer Classic since DU took the title in 2006.

Close Window

Send To Printer