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Longmont, Colorado  
Thursday, August 26, 2010

Publish Date: 8/25/2010

## Receivers ready to make plays

*By Brian Howell*  
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BOULDER — Just before fall camp was about to begin for the University of Colorado football team, Tyler Hansen spoke about his receivers.

The Buffs' junior quarterback smiled as he talked about Scotty McKnight, Toney Clemons, Travon Patterson, Paul Richardson, Will Jefferson, Kyle Cefalo and Keenan Canty.

"Offensively, we have studs," Hansen said.

Hansen has since won the starting QB job. But whether it's him or senior Cody Hawkins under center, one thing seems clear: They'll have weapons to play with.

"We have so many guys out there that can compete, and it pushes everyone every day," said Mc-Knight, a senior receiver. "It's been a nice breath of fresh air."

McKnight has been a steady contributor to the offense for the past three years, catching at least 43 passes in each of his seasons at CU. He needs just three catches to become CU's all-time leader.

During his time at CU, however, McKnight has never been surrounded by so much talent at receiver.

"I do feel like we have a good group," receivers coach Robert Prince said. "It's pretty deep. Guys have stepped up, and it's good to see that everyone is challenging for playing time."

Clemons, Patterson and Richardson are all speedy, talented receivers set to make their CU debuts Sept. 4 against Colorado State. Jefferson is a sophomore who is ready to explode and make plays. Cefalo and Canty figure to play key roles, too.

"Sometimes you'll come in and you have a lot of talent, but it's just potential until you do something," McKnight said. "I think these guys have proved they're not only talented, but they can go out there and consistently make plays for the offense. We've got an abundance of guys that can do that."

McKnight caught 43 passes as a freshman in 2007, but even he might have had a hard time earning playing time that year had the current crop of receivers been on board.

"I don't think Scotty in our current system right now — Scotty as a freshman — he wouldn't be in the top two groupings," head coach Dan Hawkins said. "But he had to be just based off of our numbers and situation back then."

The depth and talent the Buffs currently possess ought to make the entire offense better.

"We're so much more versatile," McKnight said. "(Opponents) aren't going to be able to really load the box. We have



Receiver Scotty McKnight is one of the leaders of Colorado's receiving corps. McKnight caught 76 passes in 2009. **Joshua Buck/Times-Call**

so much speed that we can push up the seams, push down the sidelines.”

The speed in the receiving corps figures to open up the Buffs’ run game, as opposing safeties may have to support in the passing game more than contribute against the run.

Of course, that is all dependent upon the receivers getting open.

“There’s a lot to it,”

McKnight said of getting open. “Some guys can get open in different ways. Some guys are so athletically gifted that they can use their body to create separation. There’s other guys that are smaller and need to hone in on technique more, in and out of breaks and creating separation. The biggest thing is to have good body control and create separation.”

McKnight has always had a knack for getting open, but he said the rest of the group is good at finding space, too.

“No question,” he said. “Some of these guys are so talented that even if they’re open by a little bit, you can throw up the ball and they’re going to go get it. There’s that added dimension to the offense that was missing in the previous years.”

McKnight had 76 catches a year ago — 33 more than any other player and 63 more than any other receiver currently on the roster.

Considering the talent on the squad this year, that disparity figures to disappear.

“I feel pretty confident with any guy we’re going to put out there,” Prince said.

Brian Howell can be reached at [bhowell@times-call.com](mailto:bhowell@times-call.com). Read his Buffs blog at [www.timescall.com/blogs/howell](http://www.timescall.com/blogs/howell).

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## Buff's to visit Buckeyes

*By Brian Howell*  
© 2010 Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — Although the University of Colorado still doesn't know which conference it will be affiliated with in 2011, it did finalize one slot in its schedule for next year.

CU announced Tuesday that it will play at national power Ohio State on Sept. 24, 2011. Ohio State will not make a trip to Boulder.

Earlier this summer, the Buffs announced plans to join the Pac-10 Conference in 2012. The Buffs continue working on an option to join the league in 2011, but for now, the Buffs are going forward as if they'll still be in the Big 12 next fall.

"The plan from Day 1 was to join (the Pac-10) in 2012," CU athletic director Mike Bohn told the Times-Call. "Our marching orders are for us to proceed with that."

The trip to Ohio State will happen regardless of which conference the Buffs play in next year.

"This is a tremendous opportunity on the national platform to schedule a game with Ohio State, which has been one of the nation's premier programs and whom we have a lot of respect for," Bohn said in a statement released by the school.

Ohio State will pay \$1.4 million to CU for making the trip to Columbus, Ohio. The Buffs have an opportunity to make more money if the game is televised.

It will mark CU's first trip to Ohio Stadium, nicknamed "The Horseshoe," since 1986. With a capacity of 102,329, The Horseshoe is the fourth-largest stadium in the country.

CU and Ohio State have played four times, with the Buckeyes leading the series 3-1. One of those games was a 27-10 Ohio State win in the 1977 Orange Bowl.

CU's early-season schedule in 2011 includes a trip to Hawaii (on Sept. 3), a home game with California (Sept. 10), vs. Colorado State in Denver (Sept. 17) and at Ohio State.

The Buffs moved a home game with Fresno State to Oct. 8 in order to fit the Ohio State game into their schedule.

NCAA rules allow teams that travel to Hawaii to schedule a 13th game, and Bohn said the Buffs plan to do that.

**EXTRA POINTS:** The Buffs are practicing in the morning this season. Because of that, players sprinted off the field following practice Tuesday morning so they could get to their classes.

Brian Howell can be reached at [bhowell@times-call.com](mailto:bhowell@times-call.com). Read his Buffs blog at [www.timescall.com/blogs/howell](http://www.timescall.com/blogs/howell).

# Freshmen could play important role for CU

## As many as nine could see time in season opener

**By Ryan Thorburn** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 08/24/2010 11:42:32 PM MDT

If you believe the recruiting gurus, the Buffs are lagging behind the rest of the herd out on the talent trail.

And that's the case whether Colorado is competing in the Big 12 or preparing to keep up with the Pac-12.

Dan Hawkins' 2010 class was ranked 66th nationally by [Rivals.com](http://Rivals.com). The popular recruiting web site ranked CU's 2009 class 50th.

All of the other Big 12 programs -- Texas (3), Oklahoma (7), Texas A&M (17), Missouri (21), Nebraska (22), Oklahoma State (31), Baylor (39), Texas Tech (41), Kansas (55), Iowa State (60) and Kansas State (63) -- were perceived to have signed stronger classes in February.

Ten future Pac-12 opponents, including Utah (32), ranked between No. 1 (USC) and No. 44 (Oregon). Only Washington State (90) ranked below CU.

But football is not played in cyberspace.

The early returns on CU's true freshmen are very promising, with perhaps as many as nine members of the class practicing their way onto the field for the Sept. 4 opener against Colorado State.

"We've taken a lot of flak this year from fans and different sources saying we didn't do a good job recruiting. But the proof is in the pudding," said CU assistant coach Darian Hagan, who is working with four freshman running backs. "Some guys get a reputation, some guys don't get a reputation. And the guys that we have on our squad, some of them were overlooked and some of them are going to be really good players."

"There's some NFL-caliber talent in this class."

Paul Richardson, the only four-star recruit among the group, is battling USC transfer Travon Patterson for the starting job at the 'Z' wide receiver position.

The overall talent and depth at wide receiver is vastly improved from Hawkins' first four seasons in Boulder. So much so the head coach noted recently that Scotty McKnight probably wouldn't be in the mix for playing time if he were a true freshman.

"It's something I've been pushing towards since I made the decision to come here. I wanted to come here and play early. It looks like I'm going to do that," Richardson said after Tuesday's practice. "I have a lot of confidence and I like to compete. Coming out here, there are a lot of guys who were older than me, but instead of being nervous like any other freshman, I just came out here with a boatload of confidence and competed and played hard since Day One."

None of the four true freshman tailbacks are listed among the top four on CU's latest depth chart. That's due to a lack of experience; Hawkins said Cordary Allen and Justin Torres are physically ready to carry the rock.

"I think there is probably a good chance that certainly one of those two guys, if not both of them, will play just because they bring a little something extra to the table with their size," Hawkins said after the team's first scrimmage.

After CU's second scrimmage, defensive coordinator Ron Collins said freshman Terrel Smith was in position for playing time as a backup cornerback or safety.

Freshman cornerback Jered Bell is also listed among the two-deep in a stocked secondary that includes seniors Jimmy

Smith and Jalil Brown.

Another true freshman, Josh Moten, participated in spring drills and currently backs up Bell as the third-team left cornerback.

"We always talk about contributors. If they can play and they can do something well consistently, we'll try to find a way to get them in there," Hawkins said. "That's part of competition. You want every guy to hopefully feel like he wants his name on top (of the depth chart)."

Chidera Uzo-Diribe plans to be a key member of the rotation at defensive end. Justin Castor could handle the kickoff duties, and Ryan Iverson is listed atop the depth chart at long snapper.

"We just all came out here to ball. That's what we're doing and it's great," Richardson said of the 2010 recruiting class. "If they put me in, I'm going for it all."

Additionally, redshirt freshmen who will have important roles on Hawkins' most experienced team include linebacker Derrick Webb, safety Parker Orms, safety Deji Olatoye, cornerback Paul Vigo, offensive tackle David Bakhtiari, tight end DaVaughn Thornton, running back Quentin Hildreth and punter Zach Grossnickle.

### **Notable**

The Buffs practiced on Tuesday morning after taking Sunday and Monday off. ... For the first time in program history the sessions are scheduled to be finished by 10 a.m. so players can take a full load of afternoon classes. ... A Green Bay scout watched Tuesday's practice. The Packers have three Buffs -- placekicker Mason Crosby, linebacker Brad Jones and wide receiver Patrick Williams -- on their current roster. ... Colorado State's practices will now be closed to the public and media leading up to the showdown with CU in 10 days at Invesco Field.

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## Ohio State agrees to CU football matchup

Ohio State will pay \$1.4 million for the match-up

*By Esteban L. Hernandez on August 24, 2010*

9

The CU Buffs are receiving a reported \$1.4 million for a game against Ohio State in Columbus during the 2011-12 football season, the schools announced this Tuesday.

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The schools last contest came in 1986, where the Buckeyes defeated the Buffaloes 13-10 in Columbus.

“This will be a great contest between two outstanding BCS teams that share an excellent football tradition,” said OSU director of athletics Gene Smith in article for CBS 21 News in Ohio. “I know our fans will enjoy this opportunity.”

With only four previous encounters, the Buffs will look to improve on their current record against the Buckeyes, which command a 3-1 lead in the series.

CU Athletic Director Mike Bohn said in a news release that CU has always recognized the importance of playing such “marquee opponents,” during off-season games.

“This is a tremendous opportunity on the national platform to schedule a game with Ohio State, which has been one of the nation’s premier programs and whom we have a lot of respect for,” Bohn said.

The difference on the gridiron between the two schools can be measured in their previous seasons’ performance: the Buckeyes went 11-2 en route to a Big Ten title, while the Buffs slumped to a disappointing 3-9 for a fifth-place finish in the Big 12 North during the schools respective 2009-10 campaigns.

The schools will meet on September 24, 2011 in Ohio Stadium.

*Contact CU Independent Sports Editor Esteban L. Hernandez at [Esteban.hernandez@colorado.edu](mailto:Esteban.hernandez@colorado.edu).*

*Posted in [Front Page](#), [Sports](#) | Tagged [CU Football](#), [Ohio State](#)*

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Aug 24, 2010 4:37 pm US/Mountain

## Buffaloes Will Play Buckeyes In Ohio In 2011

*RUSTY MILLER, AP Sports Writer*

Columbus, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State will pay Colorado \$1.4 million to come to Ohio Stadium next season and play the Buckeyes.

Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith confirmed on Tuesday that the Buffaloes will visit Columbus to meet the Buckeyes on Sept. 24, 2011.

It is not part of a home-and-home or multi-game contract.

"That's just a single," Smith said. "It worked out to be a good deal. Mike Bohn, the AD there, had an interest in coming this way, so we were able to lock that down."

Ohio State usually pays between \$400,000 and \$750,000 for nonconference games with no return visit to the opponents' stadium.

The Buckeyes are now set to play home games on Sept. 3 and 10 against in-state, Mid-American Conference members Akron and Toledo, respectively, before traveling to Miami for a nonconference showdown with the Hurricanes. The Hurricanes play at Ohio Stadium this season, on Sept. 11.

Colorado has been strapped for cash and could be facing a multimillion dollar exit fee if it wants to move from the Big 12 to the Pac-10 next season.

"Colorado has always recognized the significance of playing marquee opponents in the non-conference portion of our football schedule," Bohn said in a statement. "We're looking forward to what will be CU's first trip to the 'Horseshoe' in 25 years."

It will be the fifth meeting between the two schools and third in Columbus. Ohio State is 3-1 against Colorado.

The game fills an open date on the Buckeyes' 2011 schedule before the Big Ten opener, against a yet-to-be-determined opponent in the new 12-team league.

The conference schedule has yet to be completed, pending divisional setup.

"We have not done anything (scheduling) with other years," Smith said. "We're waiting to see how the conference schedule shakes out. As soon as we know what's going on in the conference, we'll start working on future years."

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colorado football

## Ohio State game worth \$1.4 million to Buffs

By Tom Kensler  
The Denver Post

Posted: 08/25/2010 01:00:00 AM MDT

BOULDER — After learning of Tuesday's official announcement that Colorado will play at Ohio State in 2011, junior wide receiver Toney Clemons couldn't wait to tell his CU teammates what to expect at historic Ohio Stadium.

"Their fan base is what makes them go," Clemons said of the Buckeyes. "Their team feeds off that."

While playing for Michigan, Clemons suited up for a 2008 game in Columbus with 105,564 in attendance. Clemons did not play that day but had been recruited by the Buckeyes and is very familiar with the Big Ten school and the city.

Next on Clemons' agenda: giving a call to two of his cousins, Ohio State star quarterback Terrelle Pryor and backup tailback Jordan Hall.

"I can't wait to talk to them tonight. We're tight," Clemons said Tuesday. "It's really going to be

exciting to compete against Terrelle and Jordan next year."

That's not all. Clemons, a native of metro Pittsburgh, grew up playing youth sports against two other members of the Ohio State program, linebacker Dorian Bell and cornerback Corey Brown, both redshirt freshmen and former national high school blue-chippers who could play major roles with the Buckeyes by next season. Clemons might even be covered by Brown.

"It's going to be fun playing against all those guys," Clemons said. "I will remind Terrelle that we made promises to our family to stay for a college degree, so I hope he will still be there next season for his senior year (rather than leave early for the NFL)."

The game will be played Sept. 24, 2011, and will guarantee Colorado at least a \$1.4 million payday, which likely will increase after an expected television deal is signed.

To open a spot, CU tentatively moved its home game against Fresno State to Oct. 8. Under an NCAA rule, Colorado has the option of scheduling 13 games for 2011 because it will incur heavy expenses from its season-opening road trip to Hawaii.

Colorado last played Ohio State

in 1986, a 13-10 Buckeyes victory in Columbus determined by a field goal with 25 seconds

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## Colorado Football

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a.m.) was positive. "I love it. You get meetings done early, then apply it to practice," said senior wide receiver Scotty McKnight, a team captain. "This will allow everybody to be more mentally productive in terms of getting ready for their day." . . . Quarterback-turned-tight end Clark Evans is no longer with the Buffs. The redshirt freshman has returned to California to play junior college football.

*Tom Kensler: 303-954-1280 or [tkensler@denverpost.com](mailto:tkensler@denverpost.com)*

remaining.

"Colorado has always recognized the significance of playing marquee opponents in the nonconference portion of our football schedule," CU athletic director Mike Bohn said in the news release. "This is a tremendous opportunity on the national platform."

## Footnotes.

Tuesday marked the first day that Colorado's new morning practice schedule took effect in the context of schoolwork. CU classes began Monday, but there was no practice that day. Reaction afterward from players to the early morning format (generally on the field from 8-10

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AUGUST 24, 2010, 4:05 PM

## CU depth chart doesn't faze players, McKnight says

By **TOM KENSLE** |  No Comments

BOULDER — The release of Colorado's first depth chart of August drills did not cause much of a reaction from the players, said Scotty McKnight, the senior wideout and a team captain.

"Guys generally have an idea of where they are going to fit," McKnight said Tuesday following the morning practice. "There's always guys that look at it. It's more having people outside calling you.

"Generally, people have an idea where guys fit after camp."

If CU coach Dan Hawkins had his way, he might never release a depth chart.

"We always talk about contributors," Hawkins said. "If they can play and do something well consistently, we'll find a way to get them in there.

"But that's part of competition. You want every guy to feel like he wants his name on top."

### More from All Things Colorado Sports

- [CU/CSU rivalry: popping the question](#) <sup>[1]</sup>
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**All Things Colorado Sports — Blogs — The Denver Post**

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AUGUST 24, 2010, 2:56 PM

## It's up early and at 'em for CU players

By **TOM KENSLE** |  No Comments

BOULDER — Because classes began on Monday and players were off that day, Tuesday marked the first day that Colorado's new morning practice schedule took effect in the context of school work. The reaction? Positive.

"It's great because you get meetings and practice out of the way early and can concentrate on the rest of your day," junior wide receiver Toney Clemons said Tuesday. "I'm taking classes that are degree-applicable, so this way it's easier to get them in."

For the first time in school history, regular football practices will be completed by 10 a.m., a departure from the conventional late-afternoon schedule. CU coach Dan Hawkins has said that the switch was made for several reasons, including facilitating class schedules and ensuring that practice will be in the daylight later in the fall. Only one practice field is lighted.

Meetings can begin as early as 6 a.m. On-field work generally will be 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The exception will be Sunday afternoon workouts.

"The morning practices are generally well accepted around the team," senior wideout Scotty McKnight said Tuesday. "I love it. You get get meetings done. Then you apply it to practice. Then you can go watch (game) film later in the day, if you have time.

"It elongates your day. Maybe you'd sleep in until 11 if you didn't have a class in the morning. This will allow everybody to be more mentally productive in terms of getting ready for their day."

"Yes. You have to be an early riser," Clemons said, "For games that have a noon kickoff (including the Sept. 4 opener against Colorado State), we'll be ready for it."

Hawkins said everybody on the team was alert and accounted for Tuesday.

No alarm clocks "lost their scholarship," as the coach said last week regarding tailback Rodney Stewart being late.

### More from All Things Colorado Sports

- [CU depth chart doesn't faze players, McKnight says](#) <sup>[1]</sup>
- [CU/CSU rivalry: popping the question](#) <sup>[2]</sup>
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# Star-Telegram

## Colorado Buffaloes looks for spark from speedy newcomers in 2010

Posted Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010

BY JIMMY BURCH

[jburch@star-telegram.com](mailto:jburch@star-telegram.com)

As coach Dan Hawkins heads into his fifth season in pursuit of his first winning record at Colorado, speculation is rampant about whether this will be his final year at the school if the losing persists.

The key to Hawkins' return might rest with three newcomers at receiver who are being counted on to energize an offense that averaged only 22.3 points per game during last year's 3-9 season.

At the top of the list is Toney Clemons, a transfer from Michigan who was a standout in spring drills and was selected by media members in July as the Big 12's preseason Newcomer of the Year.

Clemons, (6-foot-2, 205 pounds), who sat out last season under NCAA transfer rules, was joined in fall drills by two other newcomers: Travon Patterson, a fifth-year senior from Southern California granted immediate eligibility by the NCAA because of bowl sanctions against the Trojans' football program, and former UCLA signee Paul Richardson, a four-star recruit who joined the Buffaloes in June after being released from his letter of intent by UCLA. Richardson also is eligible in 2010.

All three newcomers are field-stretching speedsters, with Clemons -- clocked at 4.27 seconds in the 40-yard dash last spring -- called "the fastest guy on the team" by fellow receiver Scotty McKnight, a senior who has racked up 165 catches (two shy of Michael Westbrook's school career record) mostly by moving the chains for the past three seasons on underneath routes.

McKnight, who caught a team-high 76 passes last season, said the fresh infusion of speed on the outside will "make my job so much easier, I can't even tell you." In turn, players and coaches envision more big plays from an offense led by quarterback Tyler Hansen, who started the Buffs' final seven games last season and completed 55.8 percent of his passes.

"That speed helps everything," Hawkins said. "It helps your underneath patterns. It helps your run game. When [opponents] know you can't run by them, they squat on everything."

Colorado coaches and players believe their trio of speedy newcomers should more than compensate for the off-season loss of Markques Simas, last year's primary deep threat who was dismissed from the team in May. Cornerback Jalil Brown said 2010 opponents "will have their hands full" trying to contain the Buffs' playmaking receivers.

McKnight said Clemons projects as the guy who will make the biggest impact because of his intangibles.

"Toney's a freak athlete. But the biggest thing Toney brings us is leadership. He's got that swagger that you see in every big program," McKnight said. "There's always a guy you look at and think, 'That dude can roll and he knows it.' That's Toney. That contagious confidence rubs off on everyone. I can't begin to say how much Toney is going to mean to this team. He's going to help us win more games this year."

Whether it will be enough for Hawkins to remain the Buffs' coach after remains to be seen. Left tackle Nate Solder, a preseason All-American, said much could depend on how Colorado fares in its Sept. 4 opener against Colorado State, which upset the Buffaloes 23-17 to begin last season.

"You always create momentum when you win. It's true in that game, maybe more than others, because of the rivalry," Solder said. "That's important to us. We need to create momentum early this season."

Jimmy Burch, 817-390-7760

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## Football bowl subdivision candidates announced for 2010 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award

August 24, 2010

Overland Park, KS – Thirty NCAA® football bowl subdivision student-athletes who excel both on and off the field were selected as candidates today for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in football. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence – community, classroom, character and competition. The complete list of candidates follows this release.

An acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School®, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

The 2010 candidate class includes 10 American Football Coaches Association Allstate Good Works Team® nominees. Nine of the 30 have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better. Five of the candidates were recognized by the College Sports Information Directors of America as 2009 Academic All-Americans, and 10 are members of teams ranked in the USA Today coaches preseason top 25 poll. Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, will announce the Senior CLASS Award® winner at the conclusion of the regular season.

The candidate class will be narrowed to 10 finalists midway through the regular season, and those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans, who will select one finalist who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of community, classroom, character and competition.

"The young men in our football candidate class are excellent examples of student-athletes who spend quality time helping improve their communities," said Tom Lamb, Lowe's senior vice president of marketing. "We are pleased to recognize them and excited to see what they accomplish during their senior seasons."

### Football 2010 Candidates

Name	Position	School
<a href="#">Sam Acho</a>	Defensive End	University of Texas
<a href="#">Corey Adams</a>	Long Snapper	Kansas State University
<a href="#">Sean Bedford</a>	Center	Georgia Tech
<a href="#">Matthew Boshier</a>	Kicker/Punter	University of Miami
<a href="#">Quinton Carter</a>	Defensive Back	University of Oklahoma
<a href="#">Anthony Castonzo</a>	Offensive Tackle	Boston College
<a href="#">Ben Chappell</a>	Quarterback	Indiana University
<a href="#">Jake Coffman</a>	Defensive End	Northern Illinois University
<a href="#">Ricky Dobbs</a>	Quarterback	United States Naval Academy
<a href="#">Ras-I Dowling</a>	Cornerback	University of Virginia
<a href="#">Derek Epperson</a>	Punter	Baylor University
<a href="#">Kendall Hunter</a>	Running Back	Oklahoma State University
<a href="#">Tejay Johnson</a>	Safety	Texas Christian University
<a href="#">Case Keenum</a>	Quarterback	University of Houston
<a href="#">Ryan Kerrigan</a>	Defensive End	Purdue University
<a href="#">Derrick Locke</a>	Tailback	University of Kentucky
<a href="#">Jake Locker</a>	Quarterback	University of Washington
<a href="#">Mike Mohamed</a>	Linebacker	University of California
<a href="#">Chris Neild</a>	Defensive Line	West Virginia University
<a href="#">Chima Nwachukwu</a>	Safety	Washington State University

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Women's Basketball  
Baseball  
Football  
Hockey  
Lacrosse  
Men's Soccer  
Women's Soccer  
Softball  
Volleyball

There are no open ballots.

### Football 2010 Candidate

Chris Neild



**Position** Defensive Line

**School** West Virginia University

**Major** Multidisciplinary Studies

### @snrclassaward

Announced our first volleyball candidate class today! 20 of the 30 have GPAs over 3.5. Check out the full list here... <http://bit.ly/dqLsxI>

posted 2 hours, 19 minutes ago

<a href="#">Cheta Ozougwu</a>	Defensive End	<a href="#">Rice University</a>
<a href="#">Christian Ponder</a>	Quarterback	<a href="#">Florida State University</a>
<a href="#">Ryan Pugh</a>	Center	<a href="#">Auburn University</a>
<a href="#">Reggie Rembert</a>	Defensive Back	<a href="#">U.S. Air Force Academy</a>
<a href="#">Derrell Smith</a>	Linebacker	<a href="#">Syracuse University</a>
<a href="#">Nate Solder</a>	Offensive Tackle	<a href="#">University of Colorado</a>
<a href="#">Zane Taylor</a>	Center	<a href="#">University of Utah</a>
<a href="#">Scott Tolzien</a>	Quarterback	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin</a>
<a href="#">Ryan Whalen</a>	Wide Receiver	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>
<a href="#">Stefen Wisniewski</a>	Guard	<a href="#">Pennsylvania State University</a>

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## Sports > Huskers Hq

# HAMAR: Buffaloes look to turn around from poor 2009 season

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### COMMENTARY

By Bob Hamar

Published: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 5:27 PM CDT

Last season was a tough one for Colorado coach Dan Hawkins and his team.

First, before the season even started, Hawkins "guaranteed" a 10-win season. The Buffaloes came pretty close to a 10-loss season with a 3-9 record that nearly cost their coach his job.

No one in Boulder was happy with that record. Colorado lost its last three games, including 35-34 to Texas A&M and 17-10 at Iowa State.

The season ended with a 28-20 loss to Nebraska that wasn't really that close as the Buffaloes scored on the final play of the game to make the score more respectable.

"Walking off the field last year and seeing our record 3-9 was a terrible feeling for us," senior cornerback Jalil Brown said. "Going through those last few games being so close was a terrible feeling for us."

There was much speculation that Hawkins, who is now in his fifth year at CU, would be fired. Some said the university couldn't afford to fire him. That may or may not be true, but the Buffalo players are happy to have Hawkins back.

"I was excited," Brown said. "I'd been with him for four years. To have him come back and not having to learn a whole new playing style was great for my final year."

Senior wide receiver Scotty McKnight was overjoyed with Hawkins' return.

"I was tremendously happy," McKnight said. "I love Coach Hawkins. You never want to go through a coaching change when you're comfortable with a certain guy and got recruited by a certain guy."



### COLORADO PLAYER

Big 12 Media Days  
Aug 9, 2010 | 1:33

"I'm happy to have him come back and I know he has things going in the right direction. He's put together a great staff. It's a very well-respected

staff across the college coaching community, and he added Coach Prince which is going to be huge for us. He's doing things right. We got to go out there and play well and show people that he knows what he's doing and has the program going in the right direction."

That's something the Buffaloes weren't able to do last season. It started with a 23-17 loss to intra-state rival Colorado State on a Sunday night. Five days later, they were playing at Toledo where they lost 54-38.



### COLORADO: DAN HAWKINS

Big 12 Media Days  
Jul 29, 2010 | 3:26

McKnight said it was a tough way to start the

season, but the Buffaloes didn't handle that opening loss to the Rams well at all.

"We let it carry over last year," McKnight said. "Our schedule was so weird. We played on Sunday night, and then we played on Friday. So you go Sunday, you take Monday off because you can't really do too much. Monday is a tough day because you're trying to recover. You go Tuesday and Wednesday and fly out Thursday.

"So you're still sore from Sunday's game when you're trying to play on Friday. It's a tough thing to do, and we let emotion and whatever carry into Friday's game. We got knocked off and then we're looking at 0-2."

Hawkins and the three Colorado players who made the trip to Irving, Texas, for the Big 12 Media Days in July also got to hang out with the American League Western Division leading Texas Rangers during the trip.

That just brought to the front the need to do the little things right, something that didn't happen for the Buffaloes in 2009.

"It was awesome when we were hanging out with the Rangers a little bit yesterday because their coaches and their staff would talk about things, and then our players would look at me like 'that's what we hear from him,'" Hawkins said. "For us, that's been the whole concept. Let's look at this thing from an objective standpoint of what's really affected the wins and losses. Can we clean this up? Can we be responsible for this? So for our team, that's been the whole focus. So it hasn't always been so much a rallying as it has been pointing things out and learning and getting better."

It's not going to be an easy season for the Buffaloes, particularly with the distractions provided by the school's move to the Pac-10 Conference. That was just another factor that contributed to a tumultuous off season.

But the Buffaloes do have some experience back with eight returning offensive starters and seven on defense. Whether that will be enough to turn that 3-9 record of a year ago is yet to be seen, but it can't hurt.

"I think having a roster this year of a lot of guys that have played, a lot of guys that have competed, and having guys that can step up and play and know that you have to practice well every day, you've got to study film every day, you've got to be at your best every day, and that leads to better Saturdays," Hawkins said.

Or Fridays, or Sundays. Whatever day you happen to be playing.

**Bob Hamar** is sports editor for *The Independent*.

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# reporterherald.com

Publish Date: 8/25/2010

## Rams start Colorado homework Course gets CSU's focus

*By Mike Brohard  
Loveland Reporter-Herald*

FORT COLLINS — On Monday, classes began on the Colorado State University campus, and to get acclimated to the academic side of their duties, the football team took the day off from the field.

On Tuesday, in addition to the psychology and organic biology outlines came another area of study — Colorado Buffaloes 101.

Scout teams became part of the landscape for the first time as the reality of the Sept. 4 assignment against the Buffs at Invesco Field came more into focus.

“Of course camp is tough — that’s what it’s there for, is to toughen you up for the season,” CSU linebacker Ricky Brewer said. “But whenever you start looking at film of your opponent, it just reminds you of why you play the game. I think today was that day, when guys started realizing that this is for real, and we’re out here to win it.”

The first day can always be a bit slow, with scout team players getting used to their roles and coaches scripting added details, but head coach Steve Fairchild felt the first day went rather well.

“What’s hard is the method of getting the scout team; we haven’t been doing that, so getting those guys and running two different team periods ... But I thought that went pretty smooth,” he said. “Our tempo offensively was a little bit bad today. I thought our offensive line and our quarterback ought to speed things up a little bit, but for the first day of look teams, this wasn’t bad.”

Scout-team periods will become daily, even with Fairchild saying Thursday will be more of a scrimmage indoors, with Saturday at the stadium for the mock game. Both sessions are closed practices.

Today, Fairchild said the team will move indoors for half of practice to work a little bit with pumped in crowd noise.

Safety Elijah-Blu Smith said the work won’t be limited to the field, either. With bodies now in shape (or close to it), the junior said the mind has to catch up.

“We’ve done all the physical stuff. It’s really time to start honing in and getting focused on the mental part of the game,” he said. “I feel that’s really where we gain an edge and an advantage, because they’re working just as hard as we are. It’s all about mental focus on the game.”

Besides, some of them were getting a bit bored at times. A new challenge — and new faces — are vital at this point in Brewer’s way of thinking.

“You can only go against Jake Gdowski or Paul Madsen so many times before you’re like, ‘let’s bring out some new blood out here,’” Brewer said.

“That’s just the way it is. Guys are ready to move on.”

### **Sidelines**

RB Leonard Mason was back at practice and in pads, but did not take part of live drills. Fairchild said he passed his conditioning test, allowing him to move forward from his hamstring injury. Tackle Mark Starr also returned. Fairchild said he should be full go by the weekend. ... QB Klay Kubiak is out indefinitely with his groin injury from Saturday’s scrimmage. ... The team welcomed nine walk-ons, bringing the roster to 115 players, the max under Title IX guidelines this year. Among them were Jason Cook and Adam Winnick, who were with the Rams in the spring. Also added was Fairview High School quarterback Ben Schumacher. ... CSU has sold all of its student tickets for the Colorado game.

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