

# Lappe's Buffs put focus on offense

## Colorado searching for first win since beating CSU on Dec. 8

**By Joshua Linden** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 12/29/2010 11:38:12 PM MST

The Colorado women's basketball team remembers what it's like to win a game. The Buffaloes have pulled off seven victories so far this season after all.

But it's been a while.

The Buffs (7-4) enter tonight's 7 o'clock game against Patriot League foe Colgate (5-7) having played only two games in the last 21 days. Their last victory, however, came Dec. 8 at home against Colorado State before a disastrous road trip to Southern Cal's holiday tournament Dec. 18 and 19.

"It feels like a month ago almost," sophomore point guard Chucky Jeffery said of the CSU win after Wednesday's practice. "But we've been practicing real hard, getting our confidence back up and everything. So we feel real good coming into this game (today). I know we're going to have a lot of energy."

Jeffery admitted the Buffs' losses in Los Angeles to USC and Dayton stuck with the team for a few days. Tough to leave them behind when you don't play again for 11 days.

After a solid first half against USC, the Buffs went dormant on offense for the rest of the tournament, struggling to take care of and shoot the ball after a solid start to the season.

"It's a lot more fun to go into a long break with a win," CU coach Linda Lappe said. "But sometimes if you use the loss in the right way and get a little upset and a little mad in the right way, a lot of times it can really spur you to get better over a long break. You don't become complacent. You know you have to get better. If you use it right, it's great motivation."

The last 10 days weren't totally consumed by practice. After a couple of spirited days in which the Buffs did some extra conditioning for their turnovers, players were given Dec. 22-25 off to spend time with their families.

After their return, the Buffs practiced Sunday and had two-a-days on Monday and Tuesday before Wednesday's workout.

The Buffs have focused heavily on the offensive fundamentals of passing and shooting. They shot 32 percent (20 for 62) in a 68-54 loss to USC and 26 percent (18 for 70) in a 70-50 rout by Dayton. CU committed 46 turnovers in the two games combined.

The numbers are ones that have the Buffs welcoming the extra work this week. CU hosts North Dakota on Tuesday before opening Big 12 Conference play at No. 7 Texas A&M on Jan. 8.

"We're going to start Big 12 soon, so we've got to start rolling," CU forward Julie Seabrook said. "(Wednesday) was great and we just got back into what we were doing."

One thing the Buffs hope they can build off of is their defensive efforts, which have been solid most of the season. Only two opponents have scored 70 points on CU. And even in the losses to USC and Dayton, the Buffs held their opponents to tough shooting nights and forced 33 total turnovers.

"If we can keep teams in the 60s and low 70s, we have to have a shot at the end of the game to win," Lappe said. "And we didn't really have a shot in either of those two games because we couldn't score. We couldn't put the ball in the hoop. So we just have to have a lot better focus on the offensive end."

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## CU women vs. Colgate

By Joshua Lindenstien Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 12/29/2010 11:40:01 PM MST

**TODAY:** The Colorado Buffaloes (7-4) host Colgate (5-7) in a 7 p.m. game at the Coors Events Center.

**BROADCAST:** No television. Radio on KKZN (760 AM) with Mike Rice (play-by-play) and Carol Callan (color).

**STORYLINES:** Colorado hasn't played since dropping games to USC and Dayton in Southern Cal's Women of Troy Tournament Dec. 18-19. ... The Buffs have lost three of four. Their last win came on Dec. 8 at home against Colorado State. ... The Buffs are 7-1 at home and begin a mini home stand tonight. After Tuesday's game against North Dakota, the Buffs begin Big 12 Conference play at Texas A&M on Jan. 8. ... Colgate junior center Tricia Oakes is a former Evergreen High School star.

**KEY STAT:** Colorado has played two games in the last 21 days.

**COACHES:** Linda Lappe is 7-4 in her first season at CU and 57-40 overall. Pam Bass is 21-79 in her fourth season at Colgate.

### PROBABLE STARTERS

**Colorado:** G Britney Blythe, 5-9, Sr., 4.4 ppg, 1.8 rpg, 1.4 apg; G Chucky Jeffery, 5-10, So., 15.9 ppg, 9.1 rpg, 5.1 apg; F Brittany Spears, 6-1, Sr., 16.6 ppg, 7.6 rpg, 1.7 spg; F Meagan Malcolm-Peck, 6-2, So., 7.7 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 0.7 bpg; F Julie Seabrook 6-3, Jr., 7.5 ppg, 6.4 rpg.

**Colgate:** G Lauryn Kobiela, 5-9, Fr., 4.0 ppg, 3.2 rpg, 2.5 apg; G Sami Kozlowski, 5-8, Sr., 7.8 ppg, 3.5 rpg, 2.2 apg; F Tayler Wejnert, 5-11, Sr., 13.5 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 2.2 apg; Krista Moser, 6-0, Sr., 6.6 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 0.9 apg; C Tricia Oakes, 6-4, Jr., 8.0 ppg, 4.7 rpg, 1.3 apg.

**SERIES:** CU has never played Colgate. The Buffs are 2-1 against Patriot League foes.

**UP NEXT:** The Buffs host North Dakota at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

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