

# CU Buffs outlast Rams in overtime

**Burks scores 25, Relphorde 18 to lead Colorado**

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

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Revenge is a dish best served in overtime.

Sure, Tad Boyle would have preferred if his team didn't squander a five-point lead in the final minute of regulation.

But the collapse did make the Rams' bus ride back to Fort Collins later and longer after Colorado's 90-83 victory over rival Colorado State on Wednesday night at the Coors Events Center.

"It's maddening," CSU head coach Tim Miles said after the Buffs outscored his team 8-1 in the final minute of overtime. "It makes me livid. It makes me furious."

With the score tied 82-82, Cory Higgins and Austin Dufault blocked a point-blank shot by Rams star Andy Ogide. Levi Knutson picked up the loose ball, was fouled, and calmly made both free throws with 52.7 seconds left to give the Buffs the lead for good.

*Click on any photo to see photo gallery*

Knutson swished two more from the line to make it a three-point cushion (86-83), and after a missed layup by CSU's Wes Eikmeier, Marcus Relphorde added a pair of free throws and a dunk at the buzzer.

A year earlier, the Rams routed CU 77-62 at Moby Arena only three months after their student body danced on Folsom Field following CSU's victory over Dan Hawkins' Buffs.

"I haven't been through as many of the rivalry games as Levi and my other fellow seniors. I know last year definitely left a bad taste in my mouth," said Relphorde, who finished with 18 points. "It's a game we really wanted back. I think everybody came into this game with the mindset that it was our turn."

During crunch time in regulation, Knutson made a key 3-pointer to give CU a 66-62 cushion with 5:11 remaining and Alec Burks made the score 73-68 after making a tough shot with 1:05 left.

And then Dorian Green and Jesse Carr each made driving baskets while Higgins -- one of the Big 12's best free throw shooters -- was only able to convert two of four at the line on the other end.

That kept it a one-possession game (75-72) and gave the Rams a chance in the final seconds. Green was fouled by Higgins with 10.3 ticks left and made both foul shots to make the score 75-74.

With the CSU students chanting "Choke! Choke! Choke!" Higgins went 1-for-2 at the line again to make the score 76-74 with 8.1 seconds left.

Carr calmly brought the ball down the floor and made another layup over Higgins with 0.6 showing on the clock to force overtime.

"I wouldn't change it," Boyle said of having the ball in Higgins' hands with a chance to close out a big game. "I would take Cory at the line any day."

Burks led the Buffs (5-3) with 25 points and five rebounds. He scored CU's first four points in overtime to settle the nerves of the home team and crowd after the Rams had seized the momentum by forcing the extra session.

"It was a grind out game and it was the first one in college that I've been a part of that we won," Burks said. "I saw that lane and kept taking it."

Higgins (15) and Knutson (14) also scored in double figures. CU is 5-0 when getting that much offensive balance.

"It was an intense game," said Knutson, who has scored 54 points during CU's current three-game winning streak. "They're going to give us their best shot and we're going to give them ours. We always expect a fight against CSU no matter what the personnel is on either team."

Travis Franklin led CSU with 19 points. Ogide, who was averaging 17.6 points, played well down the stretch and finished with 17 points despite to early foul trouble.

The Rams (4-2) outscored CU 48-32 in the paint and won the battle of the boards 31-29.

"I don't know where to start, but I will start by saying we beat a really good team tonight," Boyle said. "I have all the respect in the world for coach Miles and the team he has."

During the first media timeout, with the Buffs leading 4-2, new football coach Jon Embree received a standing ovation and encouraged the student body to get to Folsom Field early next season before saying: "Let's beat the Rams. Go Buffs!"

The Rams responded moments later with a 12-0 run -- capped with a 3-pointer by Adam Nigon off the glass -- to take a 14-6 lead with 11:34 remaining.

Higgins ended a CU scoring drought of 4:29 and Nate Tomlinson's steal and layup with 9:00 left cut the deficit to 16-14.

After a backdoor layup by Dwight Smith late in the shot clock and a 3-pointer in transition by Eikmeier the Rams led 33-27.

But Carr missed the front end of a one-and-one with 4.9 seconds left and Tomlinson splashed a deep shot from behind the arc to pull CU to within 33-30 at the intermission.

The Rams, despite early foul trouble for Ogide and Franklin, shot 63.6 percent from the field in the first half and out-rebounded CU 16-14.

The Buffs shot 34.5 percent from the field but stayed within striking distance with a 9-for-10 effort at the foul line.

### **Notable**

The crowd of 7,219 erupted after a highlight-reel dunk by Burks gave CU a 40-39 lead with 15:52 remaining in the game. ... CU leads the all-time series with CSU 87-35, including a 52-8 advantage in Boulder. ... The Buffs have won eight consecutive home games dating back to last season. ... The Buffs committed a season-low seven turnovers.

**Colorado 90, Colorado St. 83**

**COLORADO ST.**

**FG FT Reb**

**Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS**

Franklin 28 7-11 5-5 1-3 3 4 19

McFrInd 18 2-7 0-0 0-0 0 0 5

Ogide 25 7-12 3-5 5-7 0 2 17

Eikmeier 31 5-7 1-2 0-0 1 3 13

Green 25 2-5 2-2 0-1 2 4 6

Hornung 26 1-2 0-0 2-5 1 3 2

Carr 26 4-6 1-3 1-5 5 2 10

Nigon 15 1-3 0-0 0-2 1 2 3

Bell 10 2-4 2-2 1-3 0 2 6

D Smith 13 1-1 0-0 0-3 0 2 2

G Smith 8 0-0 0-0 0-2 1 2 0

Totals 225 32-58 14-19 10-31 14 26 83

**Percentages:** FG .552, FT .737.

**3-Point Goals:** 5-15, .333 (Eikmeier 2-2, Nigon 1-2, Carr 1-3, McFarland 1-5, Green 0-3).

**Team Rebounds:** 0.

**Blocked Shots:** 3 (Hornung 2, McFarland).

**Turnovers:** 15 (Eikmeier 3, G. Smith 3, Carr 2, Green 2, Ogide 2, Nigon, D. Smith, McFarland).

**Steals:** 1 (Hornung).

**Technical Fouls:** None.

## COLORADO

### FG FT Reb

#### Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Dufault 31 4-7 0-0 2-4 0 3 8

Tmlnsn 36 3-5 1-2 1-3 3 3 8

Rlphrde 33 5-9 7-8 1-4 3 4 18

Burks 36 8-16 9-10 2-5 1 4 25

Higgins 38 2-10 11-14 0-4 3 3 15

Sharpe 11 0-0 0-0 0-1 1 1 0

Rbrsn 12 1-3 0-0 3-5 0 2 2

Knutson 28 3-4 7-7 0-3 1 1 14

Totals 225 26-54 35-41 9-29 12 21 90

**Percentages:** FG .481, FT .854.

**3-Point Goals:** 3-7, .429 (Knutson 1-1, Relphorde 1-1, Tomlinson 1-3, Higgins 0-2).

**Team Rebounds:** 0.

**Blocked Shots:** 4 (Dufault 3, Roberson).

**Turnovers:** 7 (Burks 2, Roberson 2, Higgins, Relphorde, Tomlinson).

**Steals:** 4 (Burks 2, Higgins, Tomlinson).

**Technical Fouls:** None.

Colorado St. 33 43 7--83

Colorado 30 46 14--90

**A** -- 7,219.

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## CU men defeat CSU in overtime

By Natalie Meisler  
The Denver Post

Posted: 12/09/2010 01:00:00 AM MST

**BOULDER** — The first 40 minutes proved inconclusive, so Colorado and Colorado State took their rivalry into overtime Wednesday night.

The last five minutes went resoundingly in CU's favor — at least at the foul line, as the Buffs were good on all eight attempts and won 90-83 in front of a raucous Coors Events Center crowd of 7,219.

So the schools that love to hate each other, even if they don't always love their basketball teams, played a classic.

"It's a great boost when we can take somebody wire-to-wire and win the game," said CU sophomore guard Alec Burks, who led all players with 25 points.

The second half had nine lead changes and seven ties. CSU guard Jesse Carr tied it with six seconds

left in regulation to force OT.

Overtime was more of the same until CSU's Andy Ogide was blocked by Austin Dufault inside. In the rebound fray, the Rams' Travis Franklin fouled Levi Knutson, sending him to the line with 52 seconds left. Knutson hit both free throws for an 84-82 CU lead. Carr then was fouled, but made just one of two. The Buffs (5-3) finished it off with Knutson and Marcus Relphorde at the free-throw line.

"I knew I had to knock them down," said Relphorde, who also added a dunk at the buzzer. Relphorde was 7-of-8 from the line for the game, and the Buffs were an impressive 35-of-41 (85.4 percent). CSU finished 14-of-19.


It was an exercise in frustration for a CSU (4-2) team that looked badly outmanned in the first few minutes and then did everything but win.

"Frustrating, maddening. It makes me livid, it makes me furious," said Rams coach Tim Miles, who knows he has a team far better and deeper than the one that beat CU last season.

"It's real frustrating," said CSU top scorer Travis Franklin, who had 19 points. "We lost the game by ourselves. They didn't do anything special."

CU seemed in control with a minute left after a basket by Burks gave it a 73-68 lead.

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But CSU kept fighting. Down 75-72 with 10 seconds left, CSU's Dorian Green was fouled driving inside. He hit both foul shots to make it a one-point game.

CU's Cory Higgins made one of two free throws with 8.1 seconds left, setting up Carr's basket to force OT.

## COLORADO STATE (4-2)

Franklin 7-11 5-5 19, McFarland 2-7 0-0 5, Ogide 7-12 3-5 17, Eikmeier 5-7 1-2 13, Green 2-5 2-2 6, Hornung 1-2 0-0 2, Carr 4-6 1-3 10, Nigon 1-3 0-0 3, Bell 2-4 2-2 6, D. Smith 1-1 0-0 2, G. Smith 0-0 0-0 0. **Totals 32-58 14-19 83.**

## COLORADO (5-3)

Dufault 4-7 0-0 8, Tomlinson 3-5 1-2 8, Relphorde 5-9 7-8 18, Burks 8-16 9-10 25, Higgins 2-10 11-14 15, Sharpe 0-0 0-0 0, Roberson 1-3 0-0 2, Knutson 3-4 7-7 14. **Totals 26-54 35-41 90. Colorado St. 33-30. End of regulation — Tied 76. 3-point goals — Colorado St. 5-15 (Eikmeier 2-2, Nigon 1-2, Carr 1-3, McFarland 1-5, Green 0-3), Colorado 3-7 (Knutson 1-1, Relphorde 1-1, Tomlinson 1-3, Higgins 0-2). Fouled out — None. Rebounds — Colorado St. 31 (Ogide 7), Colorado 29 (Burks, Roberson 5). Assists — Colorado St. 14 (Carr 5), Colorado 12 (Higgins, Relphorde, Tomlinson 3). Total fouls — Colorado St. 26, Colorado 21. A — 7,219.**

Halftime —

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Longmont, Colorado  
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 2010

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## **Buffs squeeze past rival Rams in OT**

By Brian Howell  
 © 2010 Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — Colorado failed to put rival Colorado State away in the final moments of regulation on Wednesday.

In overtime, however, the Buffaloes dominated and knocked off the Rams 90-83 at Coors Events Center.

“We beat a really good team tonight,” CU head coach Tad Boyle said. “I’m really proud of our players, the way we gutted it up and responded after that game going to overtime when it shouldn’t have. But our guys responded extremely well in the huddle and we got stops when we had to in overtime.”

Alec Burks finished with 25 points, Marcus Relphorde added 18 and CU outscored the Rams 8-1 in the final 53 seconds, including going 6-for-6 from the free throw line.

“We all fought to the end,” said Relphorde, who had seven points in overtime. “We all believed we could win this game and when things went bad we didn’t let it get to us.”

The Buffs (5-3) faced a gut-check moment at the end of the regulation. They had a four-point lead with 26 seconds left, but CU’s missed free throws and a pair of layups by Jesse Carr helped the Rams (4-2) rally. Carr’s second layup, with 0.6 seconds in regulation, sent the game to overtime.

Colorado had missed just two free throws in the first 38 minutes of the game (on 25 attempts), but missed four of eight in the final 2 minutes. Cory Higgins was unusually cold at the line, going 3-for-6 in the final 26 seconds. During his career, the senior had missed just two free throws in the final 2 minutes of games (22-of-24) before Wednesday.

“I’ll take Cory at the line every day,” Boyle said of his senior guard, who made 11-of-14 free throws on the night and finished with 15 points. “I’ve got confidence in all of our guys at the free throw line; we’re a good free throw shooting team.”

“What I was most disappointed in was didn’t get stops. Our defense got really porous and really soft at the end of regulation.”

The Buffs took a five-point lead into the final 30 seconds, but let Dorian Green and Carr each score four points down the stretch.

“It shouldn’t have gone to overtime, but it did,” Boyle said. “(Responding



Colorado’s Cory Higgins, left, and Austin Dufault, right, deny Colorado State’s Andy Ogide a critical basket in overtime Wednesday at Coors Events Center in Boulder. **Joshua Buck/Times-Call**

### **COLORADO 90, COLORADO ST. 83 (OT)**

COLORADO ST. (4-2)

Franklin 7-11 5-5 19, McFarland 2-7 0-0 5, Ogide 7-12 3-5 17, Eikmeier 5-7 1-2 13, Green 2-5 2-2 6, Hornung 1-2 0-0 2, Carr 4-6 1-3 10, Nigon 1-3 0-0 3, Bell 2-4 2-2 6, D. Smith 1-1 0-0 2, G. Smith 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 32-58 14-19 83. COLORADO (5-3)

Dufault 4-7 0-0 8, Tomlinson 3-5 1-2 8, Relphorde 5-9 7-8 18, Burks 8-16 9-10 25, Higgins 2-10 11-14 15, Sharpe 0-0 0-0 0, Roberson 1-3 0-0 2, Knutson 3-4 7-7 14. Totals 26-54 35-41 90.

Halftime—Colorado St. 33-30. End Of Regulation—Tied 76. 3-Point Goals—Colorado St. 5-15 (Eikmeier 2-2,

well) talks to the resiliency of the group we have. What I liked in the huddle was they were pumping each other up.”

The teams traded points early in overtime before CU pulled away late. Relphorde capped the win with a dunk at the buzzer.

“It’s maddening,” CSU head coach Tim Miles said of the loss. “It makes me livid. It makes me furious.”

Nigon 1-2, Carr 1-3, McFarland 1-5, Green 0-3), Colorado 3-7 (Knutson 1-1, Relphorde 1-1, Tomlinson 1-3, Higgins 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Colorado St. 31 (Ogide 7), Colorado 29 (Burks, Roberson 5). Assists—Colorado St. 14 (Carr 5), Colorado 12 (Higgins, Relphorde, Tomlinson 3). Total Fouls—Colorado St. 26, Colorado 21. A—7,219.

CSU led by eight midway through the first half and had a six-point lead late in the half. The Rams shot 63.6 percent before intermission, but nine turnovers hurt them. CU had a poor first half of shooting, but Nate Tomlinson drained a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer to cut the Rams lead to 33-30.

“We were lucky to be down three at half,” Boyle said. “That 3 that Nate hit was big.”

Miles knew an opportunity got away from the Rams.

“We are not going to play any better on offense, and we are not going to play any better on defense and we still only had a three-point lead (at halftime) because of turnovers and just that little error at the end of the first half,” Miles said. “It’s good enough to get you beat.”

In the second half, the lead changed hands 13 times, setting up the dramatic finish.

“It definitely feels like a rivalry game before we tip it up,” said CU’s Levi Knutson, who finished with 14 points, including 4-for-4 from the line in the final minute of overtime. “It was an intense game. They’re always going to give us their best shot, we’re going to give them ours. We always expect a fight against CSU. It’s a great win for us.”

NOTES: CSU was the first team to hold a halftime lead against the Buffs this season. ... Travis Franklin led the Rams with 19 points, while Andy Ogide added 17 points. ... CU tied its season-low with seven turnovers. ... Attendance was 7,219, a season high at home for the Buffs. ... The Buffs had lost six straight overtime games, including Nov. 20 at San Francisco. ... CU is 87-35 all-time against the Rams.

Brian Howell can be reached at [bhowell@times-call.com](mailto:bhowell@times-call.com).

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## Colorado State mens basketball falls to Buffs in overtime

by CRIS TILLER

The Rocky Mountain Collegian

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last edited: 12:33 am 12/09/2010

BOULDER — The Colorado State men's basketball team fell to in-state rival CU-Boulder, 90-83, in a heartbreaking overtime game.

The Rams (4-2), who trailed the Buffs (5-3) by five points with less than 30 seconds remaining in regulation, were forced to foul in hopes of the Buffs missing free throws.

Buffs senior guard Cory Higgins did just that and clutch buckets from guards Dorian Green and Jesse Carr sent the game into overtime tied at 76.

In overtime the Buffs benefited from a questionable foul at mid-court that earned two free throws for Higgins, who this time made both.

After back and forth possessions, the Buffs managed to pull ahead, forcing the Rams to yet again play catch-up.

Carr missed the first of two free throws with less than a minute to go in overtime. And Rams sophomore guard Wes Eikmeier missed an uncontested layup late in overtime to seal their fate. Carr finished the game with 10 points and 5 assists, but was only 1-for-3 at the charity stripe.

Even with the missed free throws, Carr felt the game was lost on defense.

"We got fight, but right now it's defense," Carr said. "Our intentions are to be good, but we're not clamping down on the defensive end."

The Rams led the game 33-27 with just four seconds to play in the first half and Carr at the line for a one-and-one. The sophomore missed the first free throw, leading to a Buffs' outlet pass to junior guard Nate Tomlinson who buried a three-pointer as time expired.

Had Carr made those two free throws, the Rams could have jogged to the locker room with an eight-point advantage, but instead found themselves with a slim three point advantage at the half.

The Buffs' leading scorer was sophomore guard Alec Burks, who torched the Rams' defense for 25 points and hit several key baskets in the second half and overtime.

Senior forwards Andy Ogide and Travis Franklin both got into foul trouble early in the first half, forcing them to sit on the bench for extended periods of time.

The Rams still managed to outscore CU in the paint 48-32, getting 19 points from Franklin and 17 from Ogide.

"We've done well against everybody inside, but we just got both those guys (Ogide and Franklin) in foul trouble," said CSU coach Tim Miles.

The Buffs went to the free throw line more than twice as many times as the Rams did with a shocking 41-19



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## CU men's basketball get overtime win against CSU

Bufs comes out on top in hard-fought game against Rams

*By Mark McNeillie on December 9, 2010*

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The Buffs got a little revenge in a classic on the hardwood at Coors Events Center.

After losing last year in Fort Collins, Colorado beat the Colorado State Rams 90-83 in overtime Wednesday night. The Buffs improved to 5-3 while the Rams fell to 4-2.

"We beat a really good team tonight," said Head Coach Tad Boyle. "I have all the respect in the world for coach Miles and the job he's done, and the team we just beat. With that said, I'm really proud of our players and the way we gutted it out."

Sophomore guard Alec Burks led both teams with 25 points, shooting 8-of-16 from the field and 9-10 from the foul line. Senior guard Marcus Relphorde had 18 points with four rebounds and three assists. Senior guard Cory Higgins had 15 points and four rebounds. As a team, the Buffs scored 48.1 percent of their field goals, and shot 85.4 percent from the foul line.

The Ram's top scorer was senior forward Travis Franklin, who put up 19 points and was 5-of-5 on free throws. Senior forward Andy Ogide had 17 points and seven rebounds. The Rams shot 55.2 percent for the night.

The Buffs didn't start the night well, falling behind 14-6 early. Coming out of the first time out, the Buffs seemed to come alive, and went on an 8-2 run to get back in the game. The drive was capped by junior guard Nate Tomlinson's steal and break away to get Colorado back within two.

Colorado seemed to collapse defensively and allowed CSU several easy baskets to allow them to maintain the lead. A Tomlinson three pointer at the buzzer cut the lead to three, and the teams went to halftime with the score 33-30.



Senior guard Cory Higgins goes up for a lay-up past Colorado State's Andy Ogide. The Buffaloes defeated the Rams 90-83 in overtime on Wednesday night. (CU Independent/Phil McMichael)

Burks scored 10 points in the first half and was 4-for-4 from the foul line. Tomlinson had eight points. Franklin led Colorado State with 8 points, shooting 4-of-5 from the field.

The second half saw the Buffs get out to a five point lead, and things looked to be comfortable. The Rams stepped up on the defensive end coming out of a time out, and with a one point Buffs lead the teams started trading baskets.

The Buffs managed to get a little bit of their defense back and grabbed a six point lead with 4:02 left. As the student section began trading jeers with the away fans, the Rams began to foul, hoping for some missed free throws and a chance to win. The usually reliable Higgins missed three clutch free throws and CSU made their lay ups. The game was tied 76-76 at the end of regulation.

Boyle said he would still want Higgins on the line if he had to do it again.

"I will take Cory at the line every day," Boyle said. "I have a lot of confidence in all the guys from the free throw line; we are a good free throw-shooting team.

Before overtime, the Buffs had the same thing going through their heads.

"Just make free throws and get a stop, that is what was going through our heads," Relphorde said. "We've been through a lot of close games through the years and when it comes down to the end you have to get free throws and stops."

Overtime saw the teams trading baskets in the early going, but a missed free throw with :31 left gave the Buffs the advantage. From there, the Buffs hit their clutch free throws and Relphorde grabbed an important rebound off of Colorado State sophomore guard Wes Eikmeier's missed a layup. The Buffs let the clock run out and Relphorde jammed the ball at the buzzer for good measure.

Relphorde said he was happy to get some revenge after the loss last year.

"Last year left a bad taste in our mouths," he said. "It was a game we really wanted back, so I think we went into this game with a mindset that this was our turn."

After a close game, the win can only help the team mentally.

"It's a big confidence booster to take someone wire-to-wire in the game," Burks said

The Buffs will take some time off for finals, and will take on the Citadel Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Boulder.

Contact CU Independent Sports Editor Mark McNeillie at [Mark.mcneillie@colorado.edu](mailto:Mark.mcneillie@colorado.edu).

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## Rams force overtime but fall short in Boulder

BY KELLY LYELL • [KellyLyell@coloradoan.com](mailto:KellyLyell@coloradoan.com) •  
December 9, 2010

BOULDER - CSU made every play it needed to down the stretch to rally from five points down in the final 30 seconds and force overtime Wednesday night.

But the Rams couldn't keep it up in the extra period and fell 90-83 to the University of Colorado before 7,219 fans at the Coors Events Center in a nail-biting game that had 13 lead changes in the second half alone and three ties in overtime.

"It's maddening, it makes me livid, it makes me furious," Colorado State University coach Tim Miles said outside the visitors' locker room.

CSU (4-2) blinked first in the extra period, when guard Jesse Carr, who made two layups in the final 20 seconds of regulation to force overtime, missed the first of two free throws with 31.6 seconds left. Carr made the second, but down a point with the 35-second shot clock turned off, the Rams were forced to foul.

"I'm in there for a reason, and that's to make plays," said Carr, a 6-foot sophomore guard. "Missing free throws like that at the end of the first half and then at the end of the second half is just not acceptable."

Senior guard Levi Knutson made two free throws with 29 seconds remaining, and Marcus Relporhe made two more with 13.3 seconds left. In between those two shots, CSU's Wes Eikmeier, left a layup short. The Buffs (5-3), after a missed 3-pointer by CSU's Andre McFarland, added an exclamation point to their eighth consecutive home win with a breakaway dunk at the buzzer by Relporhe. The seven-point margin of victory represented the largest lead of the game for CU, which trailed by as many as eight points early in the game and by three at halftime.

Carr, one of four CSU players to score in double figures, finished with 10 points but was just 1 of 3 at the free-throw line. He also missed the front end of a 1-on-1 with 4.9 seconds remaining in the first half that allowed CU to hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer. Nate Tomlinson's basket cut what had been a six-point CSU lead to 33-30, and seemed to set the stage for the second half.

"We missed a free throw the same way, a front end that would have put us up eight," Miles said. "We end up missing the front end, they hit a 3, so an eight-point lead's now three. That's how you lose."

Sophomore guard Alec Burks scored 25 points to lead the Buffs, who also got 18 from Relporhe, a senior guard; 15 from Higgins, a senior guard; and 14 from Knutson.

Travis Franklin, a 6-foot-7 senior forward, scored 19 points to pace the Rams, while Andy Ogide, a 6-9 senior forward and CSU's leading scorer and rebounder, added 17 points and seven boards despite spending most of the first half and much of the early part of the second half on the bench after picking up two fouls in the first two minutes.

"Andy's a good player," Franklin said. "We need him out on the floor, but at the same time, we've got a lot of other guys that can step up and make plays."

And they did just that, with sophomore guard Wes Eikmeier coming up with a couple of clutch baskets and finishing with 13 points, and sophomore guard Dorian Green scoring four of his six points in the final 27 seconds, making a layup after being denied an open 3-point shot to cut the margin to 73-70 and two free throws with 10.3 seconds left to trim the CU lead to 75-74.

After Higgins, who made just 1 of 2 free throws on three trips to the line in the final 26 seconds, made the second of two with 8.1 seconds left for a 76-74 CU lead, the Rams worked the ball down against a fullcourt press, and Carr split the defense with a

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drive down the lane and layup to tie it 76-76 with : 00.6 showing on the game clock.

But the Rams missed their first two shots in overtime, allowing CU to take the lead in the exchange of two points apiece that ensued so that CSU was scoring on each possession simply to tie the game, while the Buffs were taking the lead each time they scored.

Austin Dufault, a 6-9 CU forward, blocked a shot by Ogide and handed the rebound off to Knutson, who was immediately fouled with 52.7 seconds left. Then, struggling to find an opening against a rejuvenated CU defense, Carr was fouled by Tomlinson and went to the line, where he missed the first of his two free throws.

"It was real frustrating," said Franklin, who made 7 of 11 shots from the floor and all five of his free throws. "We lost that one ourselves. They didn't do anything special."

CU, which had won 55 of the previous 59 games in Boulder between the two schools, shot just 34.5 percent (10 of 29) in the first half, preventing the Buffs from ever really taking advantage of the nine CSU turnovers they forced with aggressive defensive play. But in the second half, the Buffs worked for better shots and left their starters in for longer stretches while shooting 65.0 percent (13 of 20).

CSU shot 63.6 percent (14 of 22) from the floor in the first half and 55.2 percent (16 of 29) in the second half.

"We beat a really good team (Wednesday night)," said first-year CU coach Tad Boyle, who was 2-2 against the Rams the previous four seasons as coach at Northern Colorado. "I've got all the respect in the world for coach (Tim) Miles and the job he's done and the team we just beat out there. With that said, I'm really proud of those players, the way they gutted it out and responded with that game going into overtime when it shouldn't have. Our guys responded extremely well in the huddles, and we got stops when we had to in overtime."

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