



Chucky Jeffery
Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com



02/16/2011 B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

Late First-Half Run Pushes Wildcats Past Buffs

MANHATTAN, Kan. - The Colorado Buffaloes stayed competitive for about 15 minutes here Wednesday night against Kansas State. But in those final 5 minutes before halftime, the game got away from the Buffs at a dizzying speed.

Up by a point with 5:12 before intermission, they went to their locker room trailing by 15. It only took that long for K-State to distance itself from CU, then easily hold the visitors at bay in the second half and claim a 78-51 Big 12 Conference victory at Bramlage Coliseum.

Until Wednesday, the road team had won the last four games in the series - a trend that appeared might continue until the Wildcats used a 20-4 run to take a 42-27 halftime lead.

"There's not much to say," noted CU Coach Linda Lappe. "K-State made a great run at the end of the half . . . after about 16 minutes, we just couldn't stay with them."

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"We tried not to get discouraged (at the half)," CU sophomore point guard Chucky Jeffery added. "We knew they'd made a big run, and if we could make one we could get right back in it."

But the closest the Buffs could come after intermission was 12 points, and after the Wildcats weathered that mini-run, they steadily pulled away. They led by 30 (76-46) in the waning minutes.

Why the let down/smack down before the break?

While Lappe attributed the collapse to "lost focus (and) mental lapses" and her defenders frequently failing to get their hands up as the Wildcats were hitting eight of their season-high 14 treys, veteran K-State Coach Deb Patterson said her team simply decided it was time to change gears.

"We had been settling, playing at a pace that CU was bringing," Patterson said. "For us, it was about being better; our team did a great job of coming out late (in the half) and establishing that we were going to take control . . .

"We had to become the aggressors and get our running game going . . . it was critical for to us establish how we were going to play the second half."

That's what the Wildcats did - and unfortunately, so did the Buffs.

Losing their seventh road game and eighth away from the Coors Events Center this season, the Buffs fell to 12-12 overall and 3-8 in the conference. K-State, which defeated CU 72-59 in Boulder last month, improved to 17-7, 7-4.

With the Buffs moving to the Pac-12 Conference next season, the Wildcats effectively ended the series with a 35-33 advantage, winning six of the final seven meetings. However, the schools could meet in next month's Big 12 postseason tournament in Kansas City.

K-State's eight first-half three-pointers tied the most CU had yielded in a game this season (Texas, Iowa State). Of the Wildcats' 14 treys, five were canned by sophomore Taelor Karr.

"I felt like the last couple of games I let the team down, not knocking down shots . . . it feels good to knock some down when they're setting screens for me and giving me good looks," said Karr, whose high release demands that defenders also get their hands high when she shoots.

Said Lappe: "When you have your hands down and she's getting wide-open looks, she's a pretty good shooter."

But Patterson said Karr & Co. "made quality decisions with our threes" and displayed "good ball distribution . . . we had an aggressive mindset from the three-point line, but they were intelligent and well-shot threes; they came within the flow of the offense."

CU, meanwhile, mostly failed to find its flow. The Buffs hit only two of their nine three-point attempts (both in the first half), shot 32.7 percent from the field (17-for-52), and had almost three times as many turnovers (16) as assists (6).

With 18 points, Jeffery was the only CU player in double figures. Senior Brittany Spears, who

entered the game needing 15 points to move into second place on the school's career scoring list, finished with six points on 2-for-11 shooting.

"They didn't defend me in any special way, I just had an off night," Spears said.

Patterson called Spears "one of the best players in the league, but tonight not a great night for her . . . we were pretty accountable (defensively) and made her take tough shots."

Just prior to KSU's decisive first-half run, CU senior Chelsea Dale - back in the starting lineup after missing the previous game with concussion symptoms - had hit a jump shot to give CU a 23-22 lead.

It would be the Buffs' last advantage of the game. Then, Jalana Childs took over. Prior to K-State's pre-halftime surge, the 6-foot-2 junior had scored two points. But in the final 5 of the half she got 12, including a trey - only her second of the season and third of her career - in the final second to produce K-State's 15-point halftime advantage.

Childs finished with 18 points and Karr with 19, tying her career high.

The Buffs took an 11-8 lead before the Wildcats went on a 10-0 run to go ahead 18-11. CU survived that spurt, answering with a 12-4 burst and taking the lead (23-22) on Dale's jumper with 5:12 remaining before intermission.

From there, K-State reigned - and continued to rain three-pointers. The Wildcats didn't get a trey in the second half's opening 9 minutes, but really didn't need one. Childs kept up her dominant inside work, scoring four of her team's first six points as K-State outscored CU 6-2 and opened a 48-29 lead.

The Buffs weren't ready to roll over yet. They quickly outscored the Wildcats 7-0 and pulled to 48-36, but the Wildcats did them one worse - an 8-0 run, with Karr hitting back-to-back treys and giving K-State a 20-point cushion (56-36) with 10:18 to play.

Patterson spent the rest of the game subbing liberally. Of the dozen players she used, only two failed to score. But it was her team's defense that she spoke most highly of: "It was a good defensive effort . . . you have to create a situation for teams on the road where it's tough to get baskets - and we did a good job of that."

After playing at No. 20/23 Iowa State Saturday (6 p.m., MST), the Buffs return to the Coors Events Center on Wednesday to face No. 12/14 Oklahoma (7 p.m. FSN Rocky Mountain).

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SHOW MENU



Bufs routed as slide continues

Postseason hopes fading for CU, Cyclones up next

Camera staff report
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 02/16/2011 11:56:10 PM MST

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- The Colorado women's basketball team's 25-point win over Nebraska 11 days ago seems like a distant memory after the Buffaloes suffered their second-straight blowout loss on Wednesday night.

Kansas State broke open a close game late in the first half and rolled to a 78-51 victory in front of 3,610 at Bramlage Coliseum.

The loss was the Buffs' fifth in six games, the last three of which have come by 27 or 28 points each.

Colorado (12-12, 3-8 Big 12 Conference), tied for seventh in the league standings after the win over NU, have now fallen into a three-way tie for ninth with Kansas and Oklahoma State.

More importantly, the Buffs' window for making the postseason shrinks with each loss -- though is still open if CU can find a way to snap out of the funk.

"Two back-to-back losses by a big margin, it's kind of discouraging," CU point guard Chucky Jeffery said on the KKZN post-game radio show. "But we can't give up. We know what's at stake, and we've got to keep fighting for it." For 15 minutes Wednesday, the Buffs looked poised to pick up their first road win of the season. A 12-4 run capped by a Chelsea Dale jumper gave CU a 23-22 lead with 5:11 left in the first half as the Buffs caused KSU problems with their defense.

That's when the wheels came off.

KSU 6-foot-2 post player Jalana Childs took over inside as the Wildcats (17-7, 7-4) heated up and closed the half on a 20-4 run to go into the break with a 42-27 lead.

Childs, who had scored just two points against CU's strong help-side defense early, erupted for 12 during KSU's surge, including 10 of the final 13 of the half.

"We took mental breaks during that time," CU coach Linda Lappe said. "We weren't doing the things that we were doing early. ... Against teams in the Big 12, any time you have a mental break, they make you pay."

Jeffery and forward Julie Seabrook combined on a 7-0 run early in the second half to help CU cut the deficit to 48-36. But KSU guard Brittany Chambers answered with a pair of free throws, and Taelor Karr went off for three straight 3-pointers as the Wildcats quickly pushed the lead over 20 and never looked back.

KSU, which is still fighting for an NCAA tournament berth, burned up the nets from long range, hitting 14 of 24 3-pointers.

Karr hit 5 of 7 from downtown on her way to a game-high 19 points, while reserve Alina Voronenko drained three treys in the first half. Even Childs, who finished with 18 points, got in on the act with a 3 at the halftime buzzer.

Colorado, meanwhile, again struggled offensively.

Jeffery played a solid game off the bench, scoring 18 points on 6-of-12 shooting and grabbing six rebounds. But no other Buff scored more than Seabrook's seven points.

Most notably, CU leading scorer Brittany Spears was held to single digits for just the second time this season -- 5 at Southern Cal being the other -- against a strong man-to-man defensive effort by Branshea Brown. Spears scored six points, going just 2 for 11 from the field after scoring 13 points against KSU in the teams' first meeting this season.

"The credit goes to Kansas State," Lappe said. "They're a good team, and they're playing well. Any time you shoot 14 of 24 from the 3-point line, whether there's a defense or not, that's pretty respectable."

Notable

Kansas State swept the season series with CU to take a 35-33 all-time lead in the series as the Buffs leave the Big 12 next season for the Pac-12. ... The road loss was Colorado's eighth in a row and 10th overall away from home dating back to last season. ... Colorado plays at Iowa State at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Kansas State 78, Colorado 51

COLORADO (51)

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

Blythe 30 2-5 1-3 0-0 0 2 5

B. Wilson 21 0-4 0-0 3-3 1 0 3

Seabrook 27 3-5 1-1 0-0 7 2 7

Dale 27 1-4 0-0 2-2 1 3 4

Spears 26 2-11 0-4 2-2 9 1 6

Jeffery 33 6-12 0-0 6-6 6 1 18

Hargis 18 0-7 0-0 2-3 3 3 2

Malcolm-Peck 13 2-3 0-1 0-0 3 1 4

A. Wilson 5 1-1 0-0 0-0 1 1 2

Totals 200 17-52 2-9 15-16 32 14 51

Assists (6): Jeffery 2, Dale 2, Spears, B. Wilson.

Steals (5): Blythe, Dale, Spears, Jeffery, Malcolm-Peck.

Turnovers (16): Seabrook 3, Blythe 2, B. Wilson 2, Spears 2, Jeffery 2, Hargis, Malcolm-Peck, A. Wilson.

Blocked shots (3): Seabrook, Spears, Hargis.

KANSAS STATE (78)

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

Chambers 30 2-7 2-3 4-4 6 1 10

Karr 27 7-9 5-7 0-0 2 2 19

Childs 22 8-15 1-1 1-1 3 0 18

White 33 1-2 0-0 2-2 7 2 4

Brown 19 1-3 0-0 1-2 3 1 3

Chisholm 12 1-4 0-1 0-0 2 4 2

Voronenko 16 3-6 3-5 0-0 3 0 9

Hill 16 2-8 0-4 0-0 2 2 4

Caron 3 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Kulas 9 2-3 2-2 0-0 2 3 6

Wittman 8 0-1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Ostermann 6 1-1 1-1 0-0 1 0 3

Spani 0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Totals 200 28-59 14-24 8-9 35 15 78

Assists (20): White 5, Chambers 4, Hill 2, Wittman 2, Ostermann 2, Karr, Childs, Brown, Chisholm, Voronenko.

Steals (9): White 4, Karr 2, Chisholm 2, Brown.

Turnovers (13): Childs 4, Brown 3, Chambers, Karr, White, Kulas, Wittman, Ostermann, Spani.

Blocked shots (1): Brown.

Halftime score: Kansas State 42, Colorado 27.

Technical fouls -- None. **Attendance** -- 3,610.

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Serving your need to know **THE MANHATTAN MERCURY**

Cats rout Buffs in final showdown

Joshua Kinder jkinder@themercury.com

With nine minutes to play Wednesday night, Colorado's Brittany Spears set up along the Buffaloes' sideline to inbound the ball.

However, instead of passing the ball to a teammate, the senior forward chucked it in the direction of a referee standing about five feet away.

The referee dodged the pass, as the ball bounced down the court where Kansas State's JuliAnne Chisholm corralled it and then found Taelor Karr for an open 3-pointer.

The game was long over before that odd sequence, but it was the kind of night the Buffaloes and Spears were having in their final visit to Manhattan as members of the Big 12 Conference.

K-State used a 20-4 run to end the first half — capped by a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from Jalana Childs — to dispose of Colorado 78-51 at Bramlage Coliseum.

"It was a good defensive effort by our team tonight at home," KSU coach Deb Patterson said. "You have to create a situation on the road for teams where it's tough to find ways to get your baskets and I think we did a great job of that tonight."

It was a rough night for Spears, who entered the game averaging more than 17 points a game, but managed only six against the Wildcats on 2-of-11 shooting.

"I thought Brandy (Brown) did a nice job early, found herself defending Brittany," Patterson said. "It seemed like Brittany was floating around the perimeter a lot tonight and that put us in position to defend well."

"And that's one of the best players in our league, and tonight was not a great night for her. But I felt like we were pretty accountable and did a nice job making her shots difficult."

Baskets weren't easy to come by for the entire Colorado team, though. The Buffs shot just 33 percent from the field and connected on just three more field goals than K-State had 3-pointers at 17-of-52.

K-State shot 48 percent from the field (28-of-59), but made 14-of-24 from behind the arc — including 6-of-



Kansas State coach Deb Patterson gives a thumbs-up during the Wildcats' 78-51 win over Colorado on Wednesday night at Bramlage Coliseum. Staff photo by Michael Schweitzer

10 in the second half.

The Wildcats (17-7, 7-4) didn't start the game hot, though, as K-State made just 3-of-14 from the field in the first nine minutes. It wasn't until the 4:55-mark of the first half when the Wildcats finally found their groove and never looked back.

With Colorado leading 23-22, K-State turned to Childs, who scored 12 points to key the decisive 20-4 surge that gave the Cats a 42-27 halftime lead. Childs finished with 18 points on 8-of-15 shooting, including just her second 3-pointer of the season.

"We had just been settling in and playing the pace and at the level that CU was bringing to the floor and in our timeouts, it was, 'guys, we need to be better, we need to step it up,'" Patterson said. "There was a sense of needing to raise the bar, and I think our team did a good job coming out late and trying to take control of the game, instead of just playing it.

"That segment, to me, was critical in establishing how we were going to play in the second half."

Colorado (12-12, 3-8) never had an answer.

"They shot the ball lights out," Buffs coach Linda Lappe said. "After the first 16 minutes, we just could not stay with them."

K-State continued its scoring barrage in the second half, as the Wildcats used another big run to lead by as many as 30 points at one point — again fueled by an onslaught of 3-pointers.

Karr led the charge, finishing with 19 points on 7-of-9 shooting — including 5-of-7 from behind the arc. Brittany Chambers added 10 points, including two 3-pointers. Alina Voronenko scored nine points off the bench with a trio of first-half treys.

"We made quality decisions with our 3s tonight," Patterson said. "We didn't force them and we didn't play around the perimeter trying to get our 3s. I thought we had good ball distribution, inside and out, and off the dribble. I thought that created opportunities for us to be effective.

"It's how you're taking them and when you're taking them."

The win snapped a two-game losing skid for the Wildcats, who remain in the hunt for a top-three finish in the Big 12, trailing Oklahoma by only one game. A win against the Buffaloes was vital in keeping pace in the league, as K-State is now 6-1 against the Big 12 North and 12-1 at home this season.

K-State will go back on the road Saturday when it travels to Lincoln, Neb., seeking a season sweep of the Cornhuskers — the Wildcats' third season sweep of the year.

"This was one we definitely needed," Childs said. "Our goal is the postseason and our record is going to play a big factor. The wins against the North teams are very significant for us and we need to go to Nebraska with that mentality. We're all hungry and we need to stay that way through the course of the season."

The Wildcats will also go to Lincoln looking to win the program's 800th game, something only 12 other

schools have done in women's basketball history.

"I think it's a tribute to the coaches and players over the history of this program, who have competed so hard and so well, very often times, under the radar," Patterson said of the Wildcats' quest for 800 wins.

"It's an amazing achievement for our program and a great testament to great coaches like Judy Akers and Lynn Hickey and all that those coaches that were here during the early stages of K-State basketball and all the great players they had the opportunity to coach."

The trip north will also mark the end of an era with the Cornhuskers, as the Wildcats will face Nebraska for the final time in the regular season as members of the Big 12.

"It's bitter sweet to see programs like Colorado and Nebraska for the last time," Patterson said. "They are great programs with great tradition, and old Big Eight programs. It's sad to see them go, quite frankly, but that's just the reality of the present day in conferences and in sports. I know both of those programs will transition into their new leagues and have great success."

"But I think we'll always feel, on some level, that they are part of the Big 12, even though they've moved on, because of all of those years those of us who continue to coach in this league had interactions and experiences with them."

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Wildcats sink teeth into Buffaloes, win 78-51

By [Chris Wallace](#)

Staff Writer

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For the second consecutive game at Bramlage Coliseum, K-State fans got to witness a blowout, as the women's basketball team dominated the visiting Colorado Buffaloes 78-51.

"This win tonight was one that we definitely needed," said junior forward Jalana Childs. "Our goal is the post season. These wins against these teams are very significant to us. We need to go into the basket with that mentality. We are all hungry, and we have to stay like that for the course of the season because it is going to get harder when we get to the Big 12 Tournament."

The start of the game was fairly painful to watch for Wildcat fans. At the first media timeout with 15:41 left in the first half, Colorado was clinging to a 5-3 lead. Looking at the stat sheet, only one stat explained how they had that lead. K-State was 1 of 8 from the field, while Colorado was 1 of 4 with three free throws. K-State forced three turnovers and seemed to be getting open looks while limiting Colorado's chances. The shots simply were not falling for the Wildcats.



Jonathan Knight

K-State sophomore guard Mariah White (22) drives into the lane as Colorado senior forward Brittany Spears (22) guards during the first half of their matchup in Bramlage Coliseum on Feb. 16.

After the teams exchanged the lead a few times, K-State began to tighten things up on the defensive end to create some easy opportunities on offense. Patterson seemed to dig deep into her bench throughout the half in order to keep as many fresh and ready players on the floor as possible.

K-State went on a blistering 7-0 run in the span of about three minutes, but Colorado was able to creep back into the contest, responding to the Wildcats' streak with their own 8-1 run that gave them a 23-22 advantage with 5:15 remaining.

But by the end of the half, that lead seemed like a distant memory. K-State closed out the half with a 20-4 run to ice the game away and set the pace for the remainder of the game. The run featured a little bit of everything, from layups, fast-break buckets, 3-pointers, and to cap it all off, a buzzer beating 3-pointer from none other than Childs. It was Childs' second 3-pointer of the season.

Childs led the Wildcats in scoring with 14 points through the first half. Junior forward Alina Voronenko came off the bench and made three 3-pointers for the Wildcats during the half. Sophomore guard Brittany Chambers added eight points and sophomore guard Taelor Karr added six points.

"They (K-State) made a great run at the end of the first half and continued into the second half," said Colorado head coach Linda Lappe. "They shot the ball lights-out. After the first 16 minutes, we just could not stay with them."

The second half started with a quick basket from Colorado, but the Wildcats would once again climb back into the driver's seat with a 6-0 run to build a 19-point lead, 48-29. The Wildcats were able to get every single player into the game during the second half, and almost every player scored during the game.

Karr scored 13 of her game-high 19 points in the second half. Karr was lights-out from three, shooting an impressive 5 of 7. She said the confidence in her shot was what was key for her in the game.



Jonathan Knight

K-State head coach Deb Patterson cheers on her team during the second half of K-State's matchup against Colorado.

"I felt like the last couple of games I kind of let my team down," Karr said. "Not knocking down shots, not really showing up for them, and my coaches give me the green light to shoot them, and my teammates have confidence in me and so it feels good to actually knock some down for them when they set me up and give me good looks."

In addition to Karr's strong performance, the Wildcats got strong games from their usual top players, sophomore guard Brittany Chambers as well as Childs. Chambers had a fairly full stat sheet, scoring 10 points, grabbing six rebounds, and dishing out four assists. Childs was once again strong in the post, scoring 18 points.

Perhaps the critical player on the night was sophomore guard Mariah White. All season long, White has been a catalyst for the Wildcats. When she is having a solid game, the team is usually lighting up opposing teams. Entering the contest, White was leading the team in assists and steals. Last night's game only added to her totals as she grabbed game-highs in both categories with 5 assists and 4 steals.

As most might remember, this is the last time that K-State will face Colorado in Bramlage Coliseum as members of the Big 12 Conference. Following this season, the Buffaloes will be moving into the Pac-12 conference.

"It's obviously bittersweet to see programs like Colorado and Nebraska for the last time," said head coach Deb Patterson. "They're also programs with great tradition and old Big 8 programs."

Later, Patterson added, "They will be missed."

The next game for the Wildcats is an away game against Nebraska. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:05 p.m.

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February 18, 2011

Cyclones return home to face Colorado

0 tweet

Posted: Thursday, February 17, 2011 6:02 pm | Updated: 8:16 pm, Thu Feb 17, 2011.

By Dan Tracy, dan.tracy@iowastatedaily.com

Iowa State will continue its eight-day stretch of four games when they return home to face Colorado after a 61-50 loss Wednesday at Texas Tech.

The first half shooting woes of the Cyclones — they made only seven of their 20 first-half field goals — helped Texas Tech take a 39-23 halftime lead which would be too much for Iowa State (17-8, 5-6 in Big 12) to overcome.

"You can't shoot the ball as poorly as we did in the first half and have them shoot it as great as they did," said ISU coach Bill Fennelly following the loss.

The first half also keyed the outcome of Iowa State's Jan. 15 game at Colorado. The Cyclones shot a paltry 7-of-31 from the field in the first half as they fell behind 29-22 at the half. Iowa State battled back to push that game into overtime but Colorado (12-12, 3-8 in Big 12) was able to hold on for a 66-60 overtime victory.

The Cyclones will get another shot at Colorado on Saturday as they host the Buffaloes at Hilton Coliseum for the final time before Colorado moves to the Pac-10 Conference next season. Since the 66-60 overtime victory over Iowa State, the Buffs have lost six of their last eight games in Big 12 play.

Colorado will be led by senior forward Brittany Spears who logged a double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds in the first meeting this season. Spears ranks seventh in the Big 12 in scoring averaging 17.3 points per game and ranks fourth in rebounding at 8.2 per game.

Spears will be aided by sophomore guard Chucky Jeffrey — who didn't play in the Jan. 15 meeting — and also had a strong season for coach Linda Lappe. She is second on the team in points with 14.2 points per game, leads the team in both rebounds and assists at 8.3 and 4.3 per game respectively and leads the Big 12 in steals per game with 2.86.

ISU senior guard Kelsey Bolte scored 26 of Iowa State's 60 points in the Jan. 15 meeting, but Texas Tech may have figured out the blueprint for guarding the Cyclones' leading scorer, as the Red Raiders held her to a season-low five points on 1-8 shooting.

"They really made it hard for Kelsey Bolte to get open and to cut," Fennelly said. "They doubled teamed her sometimes off of a cut, they did a really good job of that."

The game is scheduled for a 7 p.m. tip-off.

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