

Buffaloes` Johnson changes stations

CU associate athletic director leaves KOA to work with Klatt

By Kyle Ringo Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

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University of Colorado sports fans who keep track of the Buffs on the radio on game days will have a new voice in their heads during football and men`s basketball games this year.

Former Buff quarterback Charles (C.J.) Johnson will no longer work the sidelines for KOA radio (850 AM) this fall or serve as an analyst for the Buffs men`s basketball team in the winter.

Johnson recently began an afternoon sports talk show with fellow former Buff Joel Klatt on another Denver radio station operated by the Front Range Sports Network.

Starting the show with Klatt meant Johnson, who also works for the CU athletic department as an associate athletics director, had to give up the gig at Clear Channel, which owns KOA. Johnson is expected to continue hosting "The Buffalo Stampede" television show on FSN.

Johnson took over the sideline reporting job in 2005 from former Buff running back Bobby Anderson.

"CJ did a phenomenal job," said Buffs play-by-play man Mark Johnson, who also serves as sports director at KOA. "He is such a huge part of the college football lore at the University of Colorado with the fifth down, the national championship and the Orange Bowl MVP and all that goes along with it. So we`re going to miss that. You just don`t replace that."

Mark Johnson will continue to team with legendary radio man Larry Zimmer for Buffs football games this fall. Mark Johnson is starting his seventh season as the Voice of the Buffs. Zimmer is closing in on 40 years covering Colorado sports teams.

Mark Johnson also will continue to call Buffs basketball games, but it`s unclear who will fill the seat beside him in the Coors Events Center and in campus arenas across the Big 12 Conference during coach Tad Boyle`s first season. Mark Johnson said a decision hasn`t been made about whether to hire one person to fill both the football and basketball jobs.

He said Clear Channel, Buffalo Sports Properties and the leadership of the athletic department will all play a part in choosing the right person or people for the jobs.

Mark Johnson said it`s nice to have the perspective a former player can bring to the broadcast but the station isn`t necessarily looking for another former Buff to fill Johnson`s shoes.

"Being that this was all just finalized in the last week or so, we`re in the very early stages of it," Mark Johnson said. "So the first thing we`re focusing on is what we are doing on the sidelines for college football Saturdays.

"We`ll figure that out first and then we`ll take a look at, can that person do basketball? Is that their expertise or do we need two people entirely. It`s all totally up in the air at this point in time."

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JULY 30, 2010, 10:13 AM

CU vs. Nebraska at the Rose Bowl?

By **TOM KENSLE** |  1 Comment

The odds of that happening in the future may have improved.

Winning their respective conference championships may not be necessary.

According to the Los Angeles Times, [Pac-10](#)^[1] commissioner [Larry Scott](#)^[2] wants to hold an annual kickoff game in the famed stadium, pitting a [Pac-10](#)^[1] team against an opponent from the [Big Ten](#)^[3] Conference.

A kickoff game, The Times said, “would be in line with Scott’s objective of enhancing the conference’s brand.”

And, he said, “we love the Rose Bowl relationship.”

[Nebraska](#)^[4] will begin play in the [Big Ten](#)^[3] in 2011. Colorado gave two-years notice to the [Big 12](#)^[5] but hopes to start a [Pac-10](#)^[1] schedule in 2011 rather than wait until 2012.

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CU Notes: Buffs in rush to improve on ground

DALLAS — Colorado offensive tackle Nate Solder said he isn't big into statistics, but the Buffaloes have one from last season that speaks for itself.

At 2.8 yards per rush, CU was by far the worst in the Big 12.

“There are some things that you've got to look at, just to see how it's affecting your team,” Solder said. “And I think yards per carry is one of those things.”

The Buffs ranked 11th in the Big 12 in rushing at 87.9 yards per game, but last-place Texas Tech had 60 fewer attempts. Every team other than CU averaged at least 3.4 yards per carry, including Iowa State at a Big 12-best 4.5.

Solder said the Buffs are more motivated than embarrassed by the stat.

“It's something that we weren't very good at,” he said, “and something we need to get better at.”

Ex-Trojan joins receiving corps

Colorado is excited about Southern Cal transfer Travon Patterson at receiver. Because of sanctions against the Trojans, the NCAA allowed juniors and seniors to transfer without penalty.

“He's got some speed,” CU coach Dan Hawkins said. “He's very explosive.

“He just showed up the other day and obviously we can't do a lot with him right now, but he's played some snaps and played against great competition, and he'll help us.”

Buffs ready to move on

Hawkins isn't sure who might become Colorado's chief rival in the Pac-10 after the Buffaloes red-marked Nebraska for years in the Big Eight and Big 12.

“I don't know,” he said. “Again, I think some of those things will evolve. We'll see how that goes.”

Asked if Colorado will miss the NU game — played the Friday after Thanksgiving since 1996 — Hawkins said rivalries are great and important, but times change.

“If you're opposed to change, this is a tough world to live in,” Hawkins said. “Because it's happening every day.”

Another duel at quarterback

What hasn't changed at Colorado is its quarterback situation. The Buffs head for another season with some uncertainty.

Hawkins said Cody Hawkins, his son, and Tyler Hansen are as close as ever.

“The good is you've got guys — you've got guys you can believe in, you've got guys who can play,” Dan Hawkins said. “The bad thing is you'd rather have one guy be clear front and center, but it's not that way.”

Each played in eight games last season. Hansen threw for 1,440 yards (eight touchdowns, seven interceptions) while Hawkins passed for 1,277 (10 TDs, 11 interceptions), and their completion percentages were 55.8 and 50.6, respectively.

— **Rich Kaipust**

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Big 12 media day 3: Colorado recap

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By REID LAYMANANCE | Posted: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 5:19 pm | [No Comments Posted](#)

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Third in a series of previews from the third day of the Big 12 media sessions:

COLORADO

Coach: Dan Hawkins

Record: 16-33 in four years at Colorado

2009: 3-9, 2-6

Returning starters: 8 on offense, 7 on defense

Big 12 question: Once again, it's who will be the starter at QB: Tyler Hansen or Cody Hawkins?

Big 12 answer: Once again, coach Dan Hawkins can't say yet. "Really on any given day, you could probably split them with a razor hair. We'll see how that goes. I think Tyler probably had a little bit of an edge coming out of spring ball. But it's very tough to get through a whole season with one guy anyway. Good chance we're going to need both of those players"

Notable: The Buffs last trip to Mizzou will be Oct. 9, the conference opener for each team. ... While the school's exit from the Big 12 is still being negotiated, it's likely the Nov. 26 game against Nebraska will be the final Big 12 game for both. The Huskers are leaving for the Big Ten. ... RB Darrell Scott, who came to Colorado with lots of hype, has transferred to South Florida.

Quotable: "I don't ever worry about that. We were down in the (Texas) Rangers' locker room and their No. 1 goal is not worrying about winning or losing. It's all about chasing personal excellence and if you can do that in your life, you're going to be the very best you can be. The rest you can't control." -- Dan Hawkins on job security

Posted in [Mizzou](#) on *Wednesday, July 28, 2010 5:19 pm* Updated: 6:03 pm. | Tags: [Colorado](#), [Big 12](#), [Mizzou](#), [Dan Hawkins](#), [Cody Hawkins](#), [Tyler Hansen](#), [Reid Laymance](#)

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