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Cody Hawkins to lead USA team in Austria

By **NATALIE MEISLER** | Who Comments

While NFL veterans, draftees and would-be free agents are cooling their heels during the lockout, former Colorado quarterback Cody Hawkins is taking on the world.

The ex-Buff heads a 39-man roster selected to represent the United States in the International Federation of American Football Senior World Championships. The eight-nation World Cup-like quadrennial event will be played July 8-16 in Austria. The US is the defending champ.

Hawkins reached out to USA coach Mel Tjeerdsma, former Division II national champion at Missouri State. Most of the roster is made of former Division II and Division III players although some have been to NFL camps.

The program is underwritten by sponsorship and a grant from the NFL Youth Football Foundation and NFLPA.

Another local tie to the roster is Thomas Jefferson grad DeWayne Lewis, who played cornerback for Southern Utah.

Hawkins has been playing at the club level in Europe this spring. He'll have a common CU bond with two of the coaches. Lou Tepper and Steve Bernstein were members of Bill McCartney's staff in the 1980's.

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Cody Hawkins to play for USA Football

Camera staff report Boulder Daily Camera

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Former Colorado quarterback Cody Hawkins was named to the USA Football team on Tuesday.

Hawkins will join the U.S. Men's National Team for the International Federation of American Football Senior World Championship July 8-16 in Austria.

Team USA is led by former Northwest Missouri State head coach and three-time NCAA Division II national champion Mel Tjeerdsma.

The IFAF Senior World Championship is an eight-nation football tournament held every four years since 1999. Games will be played in Graz, Innsbruck and Vienna.

The U.S. defeated Japan, 23-20, in double overtime in Tokyo, to win the 2007 tournament, the first that included Team USA.

Team USA will conduct a training camp June 28 to July 4 before departing for Austria. USA Football is the sport's national governing body in the United States. National team participation does not affect NCAA eligibility.

Hawkins has been playing European football. He signed with the Stockholm Mean Machines in January.

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