

CU Buffs' Alec Burks hires Chauncey Billups' agent

Move officially ends guard's CU career

By Ryan Thorburn Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 05/02/2011 11:33:35 PM MDT

Alec Burks' career at Colorado is officially over.

The Buffs' unanimous All-Big 12 guard announced his intentions to leave CU early to enter the NBA Draft during a press conference on April 21. At that time, Burks said there was a chance he would not sign with an agent before May 8, the last day underclassmen without representation can remove their names from the draft and return to school.

The Camera has learned that Burks has signed with an agent, Andy Miller, which means he is no longer eligible to continue playing collegiately per NCAA rules. Miller also represents former CU star Chauncey Billups, who recently had the \$14.2 million option on his contract for the 2011-12 season picked up by the New York Knicks.

Burks posted plenty of hints -- "Last time in the ward ... Last night in Boulder" -- via Twitter after wrapping up his final exams on Monday.

CU also loses seniors Cory Higgins, Levi Knutson and Marcus Relphord. The coaching staff signed three freshmen-to-be from the Los Angeles area (Spencer Dinwiddie, Askia Booker and Damir Morgan) in November and junior college transfer Jeremy Adams last month.

"As hard as it has been, as much as we'd love him to come back and join us, it's a decision that he has to make for himself and his family," CU head coach Tad Boyle said at Burks' press conference. "We respect that, we understand that. Has it been hard? Yes, it's been hard. Very hard. We want what's best for all our players."

Burks, who averaged 20.5 points and 6.5 rebounds during the Buffs' record 24-win season, is projected to be a lottery pick. The 6-6 sophomore was a Wooden Award finalist and set the CU single-season record for scoring with 779 points.

"After the season, I felt like I was already a lottery pick," Burks said. "A lot of top players that might have been in front of me or behind me are coming back to school. I felt like it was perfect timing for me."

The NBA Draft will be held on June 23 in New York.

Close Window

Send To Printer