Jeffery rips triple-double to lead CU to Omni title

Sophomore notches 10 points, 10 assists, 13 rebounds in CU's win

By Gary Baines For the Camera Boulder Daily Camera

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Last year, Chucky Jeffery made the all-tournament team as a freshman in the University of Colorado`s Omni Hotels Classic. This time around, she really hit the big time.

The sophomore guard from Colorado Springs not only was named the tournament's most valuable player Saturday, but she notched the program's first triple-double in more than 31 years.

Jeffery posted career highs in both rebounds (13) and assists (10), and added 10 points as the Buffs won the tournament title with a 65-34 rout of Loyola-Chicago in front of 1,676 at the Coors Events Center.

Sandy Bean recorded the only other triple-double in the 35-year historyof CU women's basketball, finishing with 19 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists against Utah State on Feb. 16, 1979. That was more than a dozen years before Jeffery was born.

"It means a lot," said Jeffery, the 18th Big 12 player to join the triple-double ranks. "We just had a real good team win and I knew every time I was passing to one of my teammates, it was going down."

When Jeffery was two assists shy of the feat, the CU bench staff was notified of that fact and she soon was inserted back into the lineup with 4:42 left in the game. With 2:36 remaining, she dished off her 10th assist, penetrating to the basket and passing to Meagan Malcolm-Peck, who converted the layup that became a three-point play after she was fouled.

"I had no idea she was going for the triple-double, so I`m glad I made (the basket) is all I can say," said Malcolm-Peck, the Boulder resident who recorded her first double-double (14 points, 10 rebounds) as a Buff. "Chuck was passing awesome the whole game."

It turns out that Jeffery didn't have much time to spare as coach Linda Lappe was just about to substitute another player for the starting guard at the end of the lopsided contest.

"I was glad she was able to get (the triple-double); she deserves it," Lappe said. "She's worked really hard, and we ask her to do a lot. She's been coming through. She's going to be really, really good.

"She had a very complete game. She did a great job in transition, getting us into our offense and moving the ball, and she took the scoring when it was there. She rebounded tremendously. She had a really sound game, and leadership, which they don't keep stats on, was very good as well."

While Malcolm-Peck didn't know Jeffery was closing in on a triple-double, Jeffery's family sitting behind the bench certainly did.

"They were saying, 'You need two more (assists), you need two more," Jeffery said. "I'm driving down the lane and I have wide-open layups and I'm passing the ball just so I can get (the record)."

In an interesting side note, Lappe had a triple-double as a CU freshman player in 1998, but it didn't go in the record books because it came in an exhibition game.

Jeffery, who had her third double-double in six games this season, was joined on the all-tournament team by teammate Brittany Spears, who had a dozen points on Saturday and 31 for the two games.

CU put all five of its starters in double figures scoring, with Britney Blythe and Julie Seabrook (10 points each) joining Malcolm-Peck, Spears and Jeffery.

Lappe, who a dozen years ago made the all-tournament team as a freshman as the Buffs won their home tourney, was equally successful in her first Omni Hotels Classic as a head coach. CU captured the tourney title for the second straight year and for the 14th time overall in the event, which debuted in 1987 as the Coors Classic.

Lappe has yet to experience a home loss as CU`s coach, having gone 5-0 (5-1 overall), with the next three games also at the Coors Events Center.

On Saturday, the Buffs held Loyola to 34 points -- a low for a CU opponent since Dec. 14, 2007 -- and 26.5 percent field goal shooting. CU also out-rebounded the Ramblers 44-20. Only one Buff opponent ever has grabbed fewer rebounds in a game.

"It was our most complete effort by far," Lappe said.

"We have that tendency to slack off (after getting leads) but tonight we said we couldn't do it," Jeffery said. "The defense just kept getting better and better."

The Buffs will continue their seven-game homestand by hosting Texas State Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Coors Events Center.

Colorado 65, Loyola Chicago 34 LOYOLA CHICAGO 34

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

Ayoub 29 0-6 0-1 2-2 2 1 2

Boeke 19 2-7 1-3 0-0 2 2 5

Albano 14 1-5 0-4 0-0 0 1 2

Sebetic 30 3-9 1-6 0-0 2 0 7

Kortekamp 30 0-1 0-1 0-0 4 1 0

Taylor 21 4-8 0-1 1-1 1 3 9

Hambric 9 0-2 0-0 0-0 3 2 0

Randle 4 0-0 0-0 1-2 1 1 1

Samplawski 10 2-3 1-1 0-0 0 0 5

Pauley 3 0-0 0-0 0-2 0 0 0

Booker 10 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0

Skube 19 1-8 1-5 0-2 2 2 3

Micek 2 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0

Totals 200 13-49 4-22 4-7 20 13 34

Assists (6): Ayoub, Boeke, Albano, Kortekamp, Taylor 2.

Turnovers (18): Ayoub 6, Boeke 2, Sebetic, Kortekamp 3, Hambric 2, Samplawski, Booker, Skube 2.

Blocked shots (2): Boeke, Randle.

COLORADO 65

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

MM-Peck 31 5-9 2-5 2-3 10 3 14

Seabrook 26 5-6 0-0 0-1 4 1 10

Spears 24 6-14 0-4 0-0 2 2 12

Blythe 31 3-7 2-5 2-2 6 2 10

Jeffery 33 4-6 1-1 1-4 13 0 10

BWilson 22 1-3 1-3 0-1 2 2 3

AWilson 16 1-2 0-0 0-0 3 1 2

Hargis 17 2-3 0-0 0-0 1 2 4

Totals 200 27-50 6-18 5-11 44 13 65

Assists (22): M. Malcolm-Peck, Seabrook, Spears 4, Blythe, Jeffery 10, B. Wilson 2, A. Wilson, Hargis 2.

Turnovers (18): M. Malcolm-Peck 2, Seabrook, Spears 4, Blythe, B. Wilson 5, A. Wilson, Hargis 4.

Blocked shots (2): Seabrook, Jeffery.

Halftime score: Colorado 25, Loyola Chicago 16.

Technical fouls -- none.

Attendance -- 1,676.

Evansville 77, E. Wash. 67

Evansville came back from a 16-point first-half deficit to defeat Eastern Washington 77-67 in the consolation game of the Omni Hotels Classic.

The Purple Aces, who rallied from a 19-point deficit Friday against Colorado before falling by two, outscored Eastern Washington 43-23 in the second half on Saturday. Evansville took the lead for good with 6:30 left in the game.

Meagan Collins led the Purple Aces (3-2) with 23 points in 25 minutes.

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