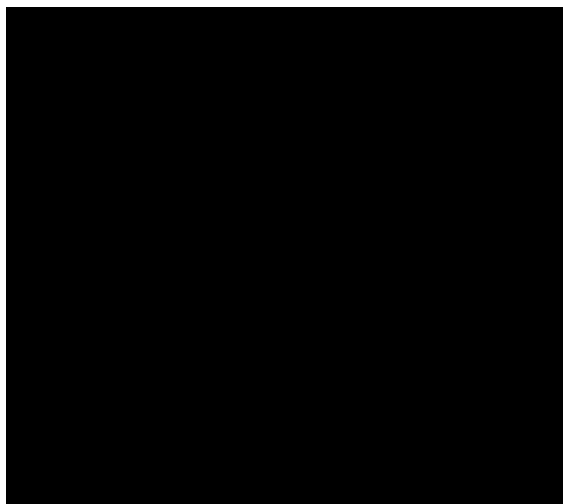


## Special teams fail CU down stretch vs. Tech

By **Kyle Ringo** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 10/23/2010 04:56:31 PM MDT



*Click on any photo to see full gallery.*

The kicking game cost the Colorado football team once again Saturday at Folsom Field in another loss that might get coach Dan Hawkins kicked to the curb.

The Buffs missed a field goal and poorly executed a rugby style punt in the fourth quarter of a tie game and the Texas Tech Red Raiders took advantage, winning 27-24 to spoil homecoming in Boulder.

Senior place-kicker Matt Williams drilled a 36-yard field goal with 2 minutes, 8 seconds remaining to put Texas Tech ahead and ultimately give the Red Raiders the win.

Coach Dan Hawkins chuckled when asked if he could provide a reason for fans to keep believing in his program.

"I don't know, we're just going to keep hanging in there," he said. "And we need them to hang in there."

Colorado backup quarterback Cody Hawkins was unable to lead the Buffs to a late score after playing well earlier in the game. Hawkins came off the bench in the second quarter replacing starter Tyler Hansen who suffered bruised ribs on an option play. Hansen didn't know afterward whether he will be able to play next week at Oklahoma.

It is the second time in three weeks major mistakes in the kicking game contributed to a CU loss. The Buffs were shutout at Missouri two weeks ago with special teams miscues playing a big role. The odd thing Saturday was that CU had been outplaying the Red Raiders on special teams until crunch time.

Senior Travon Patterson returned a punt 45 yards in the first quarter to set up the Buffs' first score and CU recovered the ball after a punt touched a Texas Tech player early in the fourth quarter.

CU senior place-kicker Aric Goodman had made three consecutive field goals -- one of the better stretches in his career -- prior to missing a 35-yard attempt shortly after the fumble recovery. Goodman said he thought the field goal was good, dipping inside and over the right upright, but officials saw it differently.

"It's about making kicks," Goodman said. "You know, it didn't go in and it is what it is."

The missed field goal proved pivotal, especially because the offense stopped moving the ball and another big mistake was on the way.

Redshirt freshman punter Zach Grossnickle attempted a rugby style punt from deep CU territory with less than 5 minutes remaining. The punt traveled 29 yards and gave Texas Tech possession at its 47-yard line. Dan Hawkins said Grossnickle is often more comfortable punting rugby style.

Texas Tech quarterback Taylor Potts needed just five plays to direct his team into position for the winning kick from Williams. Potts was inconsistent throughout the day but made enough big plays in the second half to rally his team. He finished 24-for-38 for 286 yards and two touchdowns with one interception.

That mistake came in the middle of the fourth quarter when he led the Red Raiders to the CU 17-yard line before throwing a wounded duck pass into the end zone where cornerback Jalil Brown picked it off. It might have been game-saving kind of play from Brown if the offense could have done anything with its final three possessions, one of which came with just seconds remaining.

Cody Hawkins finished the day completing 22 of 43 passes for 276 yards and two touchdown passes to freshman Paul Richardson. He became only the third CU quarterback to throw for more than 6,000 yards in a career joining Kordell Stewart and Joel Klatt.

But CU couldn't run the ball for the first time in a home game this fall. Colorado running back Rodney Stewart was held to a season-low 34 yards. The Buffs ran for 28 net yards on 32 carries after gaining at least 192 rushing yards in each of the three previous home games.

It was the third consecutive loss for the Buffs who are now 3-4 overall and 0-3 in their final year in the Big 12 Conference. The game ended with a smattering of boos for the home team and pockets of fans chanting for the firing of Dan Hawkins, who is now 19-37 in his CU career.

"I'm good I really am," Hawkins said when asked how he is holding up. "I think we just need to go back to the grindstone every time and keep staying after it. You just have to get up one more time after you get knocked down. It is not easy for anybody."

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# Cody Hawkins lashes out after CU loss

## Bufs QB takes over after Hansen hurt in second quarter

**By Ryan Thorburn** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 10/23/2010 07:46:13 PM MDT

The Hawkins family business has not closed its doors.

But there is a chance Colorado athletic director Mike Bohn is going to have the locks changed soon.

Dan Hawkins' record at CU has now dipped to 19-37 after the Buffs' deflating 27-24 loss to Texas Tech on Saturday at Folsom Field.

"Tough to come up one play short," Hawkins said in a familiar post-game refrain. "We're just going to keep hanging in there."

The Buffs hung in there for most of the game with Cody Hawkins at quarterback. Yet again.

This time Tyler Hansen was replaced for good a reason -- he couldn't breath. The junior suffered a painful rib injury in the second quarter and did not return.

To his credit, Cody Hawkins was as prepared as you would expect a fifth-year senior to be. He calmly guided CU on an 18-play drive that led to a field goal and a 10-7 lead. After watching Paul Richardson explode off the post-practice video screen throughout the fall, old No. 7 wisely targeted the true freshman down the field.

Suddenly, the Buffs actually had a vertical passing game as Richardson caught two touchdown passes in the third quarter, including a 60-yard strike, to stake the home team to a 24-14 lead.

And then what happened?

"They got in our huddle and told us to screw ourselves," Cody Hawkins said when asked about the adjustments Texas Tech's defense made in the fourth quarter.

The point he was trying to make is the Buffs started beating themselves. There was Aric Goodman's crucial missed field goal, a 29-yard punt, and a miscommunication between Hawkins and Richardson on a key third down.

The paying customers are tired of the special teams gaffes and don't want to hear about all of the promising young players that were out on the field making big plays and costly mistakes.

"I'm a college student, so I don't have enough money to buy a newspaper," Cody Hawkins said. "Which is probably a good thing."

Nice try, kid. Unfortunately for the Buffs, there is no way the speculation about Dan Hawkins' job can't seep into the locker room. The embattled head coach's son is a team captain and obviously still very much a part of the offense.

"There are a lot of people out there talking and a lot of people who say different stuff," Cody Hawkins said. "But the same bad things you say about our football team, I'm saying the same bad things about you guys (the media). So I guess it works both ways."

As Cody Hawkins was making the sticks and stones comment to reporters, his mom was standing outside the door watching and listening to the press conference. The situation is personal and awkward.

"You obviously don't like it when someone near and dear to you gets criticized," Cody Hawkins continued "But the bottom line is it's college football and you've got to win football games."

Cody Hawkins -- the program's all-time leader in touchdown passes and interceptions -- became only the third player in CU history to throw for 6,000 yards in a career. He joins Joel Klatt (7,375) and Kordell Stewart (6,481) on the list after completing 22 of 43 passes for 274 yards and the two touchdowns to Richardson.

"They quit running the ball when their first quarterback went out," Texas Tech head coach Tommy Tuberville noticed.

Hawkins and Co. return to work today preparing for Oklahoma. The victory over the Sooners at Folsom Field in 2007 was probably the best Saturday the program has had in the past five seasons.

Perhaps if the Buffs "clean a few things up" in practice they can pull off another upset and give the naysayers a big stiff-arm.

"As a captain and as a leader on this football team, when everybody is trying to drink that negative Kool-aid, you just have to make sure they stay hydrated with the right stuff," Cody Hawkins said.

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# CU defense can't stop Texas Tech's rally

**Brown`s INT not enough in end**

**By Ryan Thorburn** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 10/24/2010 12:04:21 AM MDT

For 11 quarters, Colorado defensive coordinator Ron Collins had a winning formula against Texas Tech.

During a 2-10 campaign in Dan Hawkins` first season at CU in 2006, Collins` crew provided one afternoon of fun at Folsom Field during a 30-6 thrashing of the Red Raiders.

The Buffs beat the Mike Leach-coached spread offense for a second consecutive time, 31-26 in Lubbock, during the 2007 season.

But a third win in five seasons against Texas Tech was not in the cards on Saturday as the Red Raiders outscored CU 13-0 in the fourth quarter to escape Boulder for the final time with a 27-24 victory at Folsom Field.

"They sped it up a lot and were running the hurry up pretty much the whole time, which makes it difficult to get our calls," CU safety Ray Polk said when asked about the adjustments Taylor Potts and the Texas Tech offense made. "We just have to make plays that late in the game."

Actually, Jalil Brown made a huge one. The senior cornerback -- who had been burned on by Detron Lewis for a 32-yard reception that set up a touchdown for the visitors that tied the score 24-24 -- intercepted Potts in the end zone with 5:56 remaining.

But the momentum didn`t last long as CU`s offense went three-and-out.

"I was hoping that would change the game around, but unfortunately it didn`t," Brown said. "They came out in the second half and kind of switched up their plan a little bit."

Hawkins said having his offense go with an up-tempo approach made it tough on the Buffs` defense. CU racked up 364 total yards but only 28 net yards rushing.

"I think us going no huddle was in a sense good for us offensively, but it also puts (the defense) back on the field earlier, which kind of helps them stay in rhythm," Hawkins said. "But early on we were doing a pretty good job."

The Buffs were without defensive end Josh Hartigan (ankle) and cornerback Paul Vigo (leg). Starting safety Anthony Perkins (knee) and free safety Parker Orms (knee) went down with season-ending injuries earlier in the season.

True freshman Terrel Smith made his first start and led the defense with 14 tackles and a sack of Potts from the strong safety position. Defensive end Nick Kasa and cornerback Jonathan Hawkins also started for the first time.

"I felt like everyone gave it their all," Smith said. "We just came up short; it`s disappointing. I`m upset and I know everyone else is upset."

And now the Buffs, under .500 for the first time this season at 3-4, will try to upset Oklahoma next Saturday after letting leads slip away at home against Baylor and Texas Tech.

"These two were crucial. We know we can bounce back, hopefully," Polk said. "We just got to keep morale up on the team."

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# Paul Richardson earns way into CU record books

**By Kyle Ringo** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 10/24/2010 12:02:50 AM MDT

Colorado wide receiver Paul Richardson continued to turn heads and attract attention from defenders and fans alike Saturday in a loss to Texas Tech at Folsom Field.

Richardson became the first true freshman in CU history to catch two touchdown passes in the same game, collecting scoring throws from senior Cody Hawkins of 3 and 60 yards, both in the third quarter.

The 60-yard play wasn't the original call. Richardson saw he was being pressed at the line of scrimmage by defensive back D.J. Johnson and he nodded to Hawkins, who recognized the gesture as a sign Richardson was going deep. Hawkins lofted the ball deep down the west sideline and Richardson hauled it in, avoided a tackle and ran to the end zone.

"It's funny because every day on film we always have to grade ourselves and I'm always saying, 'Hey, throw it to 80, throw it to 80, throw it to 80,'" Cody Hawkins said. "I've been telling him the whole time that if I get in and get a shot to throw him the rock I'm going to do that."

Richardson finished with four catches for 79 yards and joined Michael Westbrook and Brody Hefner as the only freshmen with two touchdowns in one game. Those former Buffs were both redshirt freshmen on their big days.

"I knew that when I came in I was going to have to prove myself," Richardson said. "Over time I've gained a lot of trust. ... I knew it was my time to step up and I was there."

## Injuries hitting hard

It's a bad time to be losing more key players as the Buffs prepare to head back on the road where they haven't won in three years and at Oklahoma where the Sooners haven't lost in 34 games. Compounding that issue is the possibility that CU could be without starting quarterback Tyler Hansen and starting linebacker Jon Major.

Hansen has bruised ribs and said it was painful just breathing after Saturday's game. Major was hit on the knee by a Texas Tech player in the second half and his status is unknown. Major suffered a torn ACL two years ago.

If Major is out, it will be the second time in three weeks Colorado has lost its leading tackler. Safety Anthony Perkins suffered a season-ending knee injury at Missouri.

Offensive lineman Bryce Givens was in the starting lineup for the first time this season on Saturday and he also suffered an injury to his ankle. His status will be determined today or later this week.

## Smith unhappy

### with performance

Colorado senior cornerback Jimmy Smith missed most of the week of practice leading up to Saturday's game after suffering a concussion last week against Baylor.

Smith admitted his performance against the Red Raiders suffered. He allowed a touchdown pass in the fourth quarter on a throw he might have made a play on any other day and he was called for an unsportsmanlike foul.

"I don't feel like I did that great," Smith said. "I got scored on. I think as a unit, we did a decent job. Tackling wasn't the best today, and it's something we're going to definitely work on in practice."

## Notable

Wide receiver Scotty McKnight extended his school record and national leading streak of games with at least one reception to 43 regular season games and 44 games overall. He has caught a pass in every game in his career. ... Longtime Colorado radio broadcaster Larry Zimmer called his 200th consecutive CU football game Saturday and the 463rd CU game of his career. ... CU had played the nation's 12th toughest schedule going into Saturday's action, according to the Sagarin ratings. Texas Tech had played the 25th toughest. ... Four NFL teams sent scouts to the game.

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colorado football

## Texas Tech rallies to beat Colorado in crucial Big 12 game

By John Henderson  
The Denver Post

Posted: 10/23/2010 01:17:35 PM MDT

Updated: 10/24/2010 12:56:07 AM MDT



Texas Tech's Matt Williams kicks the game-winning field goal late in the fourth quarter at Folsom Field. (Andy Cross, The Denver Post)

BOULDER — A gloomy Dan Hawkins, his hair

ruffled as though he were weathering the storm of his life, slowly walked off the grass at Folsom Field on Saturday. The only sounds he could hear were Texas Tech's deliriously cheering fans and the questions from a TV reporter, which he totally ignored.

A coach on the brink finally went over it with Colorado's 27-24 come-from-ahead loss to Texas Tech, the second-worst defensive team in the Big 12.

CU's second straight home loss in a winnable game leading up to this week's visit to Oklahoma surely seals the fate of a coach whose team is 3-4 (0-3 Big 12) and still seeking its first winning season in his five years in Boulder. While Colorado athletic director Mike Bohn has

refused to comment on Hawkins, circumstances lead to the conclusion that Hawkins may have coached his last home game.

"I'm good," said Hawkins, 19-37 at Colorado. "I really am. You just go back to the grindstone every time and keep staying after it. You've got to get back up every time you get knocked down. It's not easy for anybody."

Besides the coach's fate, the season's fate is now on the line. Assuming they lose at Oklahoma, which topped the BCS standings last week, and 14th-ranked Nebraska at season's end, the Buffaloes will have to win three consecutive league games in between to gain bowl eligibility.

Three straight league wins would be a first for



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Hawkins at CU.

"Nobody sits in the film room over the summer or hangs around the weight room talking about how great it would be to be 3-4," said quarterback Cody Hawkins, Dan's son, who played well for the Buffs in relief Saturday.

But if this was the final straw for his dad, he can look at this game as a microcosm of his reign. The offense went flat when it could least afford to, a stubborn defense couldn't make up for it and the kicking game was brutal.

Against a defense ranked 102nd nationally, Colorado scored just seven more points against Tech than New Mexico did. Texas Tech (4-3, 2-3) held tailback Rodney Stewart to 34 yards on 20 carries and the Buffs to 33 yards in the fourth quarter.

Cody Hawkins put them in position to win. Relieving Tyler Hansen after the starter went out in the second quarter because of bruised ribs, Hawkins hit 22-of-43 passes for 274 yards and two touchdowns, including a 60-yarder to Paul Richardson that gave CU a 24-14 lead entering the fourth quarter.

So much for the Colorado offense. It couldn't even take advantage of two major breaks. Ahead 24-17, a Colorado punt bounced into Texas Tech's Blake Kelley, and CU's Arthur Jaffee recovered at the Red Raiders' 31-yard line.

But Aric Goodman, who had appeared to

break out of a two-year funk, was wide right on a 35-yard field goal try.

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The Denver Post

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That's when Taylor Potts heated up in Texas Tech's no-huddle offense. Ninth nationally in total offense but held to 28 yards passing in the first half, Potts drove the Red Raiders 80 yards in only 1:55. When Lyle Leong outmaneuvered cornerback Jimmy Smith on a 7-yard lob pass, Tech had a 24-24 tie.

"They sped it up a lot," Buffs safety Ray Polk said. "They were running the hurry-up pretty much the whole time, which makes it difficult for us to get our calls in. We have to line up faster than they line up."

Colorado got another break when a Potts fade pass into the end zone landed in the arms of cornerback Jalil Brown. But the Buffs went three-and-out

for one of four times in the quarter.

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Dan Hawkins has words with cornerback Jimmy Smith after Smith got called for a personal foul. (Andy Cross, The Denver Post)

With Hansen out, Texas Tech played man-to-man coverage on the receivers and stacked eight or nine men near the line of scrimmage. The Buffs' own no-huddle offense seemed to baffle their young receivers, who continued to turn the wrong way. "We do have the ability and talent to win football games," Cody Hawkins said, "if you take care of your assignments."

CU freshman Zach Grossnickle had a line-drive, rugby-style punt fielded at Texas Tech's 47 with 4:26 left. CU held Tech to one first down, but at 2:08 Matt Williams drilled a 36-yarder to win it.

With the Buffs having won only two games outside the state under Dan Hawkins and visiting

Oklahoma next, he was asked what reasons he could give fans to keep faith in his program.

"Keep hanging in there," he said, "and we need them to hang in there."

But Halloween is approaching. Don't be surprised to see a lot of CU fans this week dressed like the Grim Reaper.

*John Henderson: 303-954-1299 or [jhenderson@denverpost.com](mailto:jhenderson@denverpost.com)*

## Three questions for CU

**Will Colorado's defense perform better than it did last weekend against Baylor?** Yes, but again it wasn't good enough. Texas Tech's 430 offensive yards Saturday was the team's third-lowest total of the season. But when CU needed to slow down Tech drives in the second half, the visitors made it look easy. Texas Tech's touchdown drives of 80 yards in 11 plays and 72 yards in four plays were game-changers.

**Texas Tech averages 33.5 points per game, so if it's a shootout, can CU keep up?** Unlike in many Big 12 games, Colorado didn't need to score 30 points this time. But the Buffs couldn't reach 25.

**Will the Buffs continue their recent success against Texas Tech even with Tommy Tuberville having replaced Mike Leach as the Red Raiders' coach?** Is it too late for Colorado to take along Texas Tech into the expanded Pac-10? CU can look back and realize it certainly

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played better against Texas Tech than other Big 12 opponents, especially those in the South Division. But that didn't make anybody associated with the Colorado program feel better Saturday night.

## Failing to finish

*A look at the five games Colorado has lost under coach Dan Hawkins after leading going into the fourth quarter:*

2006

Georgia 14, CU 13: Buffs led 13-0, but backup QB Joe Cox powered Bulldogs' two scoring drives.

Kansas 20, CU 15: Buffs led 9-7, but KU pulled redshirt off QB Todd Reesing, who ran for a TD and threw for another.

2008

Nebraska 40, CU 31: Buffs led 31-27, but NU scored 10 points in last 1:43, including Ndamukong Suh's interception return for TD.

2009

Oklahoma State 31, CU 28: Buffs led 21-17, but OSU backup Brandon Weeden threw two long TD passes to spark No. 12 Cowboys.

2010

Texas Tech 27, CU 24: Buffs led 24-14, but Red Raiders gained 179 yards of offense in final

quarter.

## Key stat

28: Colorado's net rushing yards Saturday on 32 carries. Daring the Buffaloes to pass, Texas Tech made them one-dimensional. The Red Raiders' man-to-man coverage combined with CU receivers' missed assignments short-circuited the Buffs' offense in the fourth quarter.

## Key play

CU freshman Zach Grossnickle's 29-yard punt. Tied 24-24 and at its 24 late in the fourth quarter, Colorado needed a booming punt to give its defense a chance against a suddenly hot Taylor Potts. Grossnickle's line-drive, rugby-style punt went straight to up-man Austin Zouzalik at the Tech 47. One first down later, Matt Williams kicked the winning 36-yard field goal with 2:08 left.

*John Henderson, The Denver Post*

## Failing to finish

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colorado football

## Bruised ribs put Hansen on hold

By Tom Kensler  
The Denver Post

Posted: 10/24/2010 01:00:00 AM MDT

Updated: 10/24/2010 01:21:12 AM MDT

BOULDER — Nobody on a football team feels like joking after a loss, so Colorado quarterback Tyler Hansen stopped short of telling reporters that it only hurts when he breathes.

But that's how Hansen felt Saturday night on the way to the training room to get some "rehab" on bruised ribs. Hansen took a shot to his chest from a Texas Tech defender with 5:50 remaining in the second quarter and a split second after Hansen flipped the ball to tailback Rodney Stewart on an option play, leaving him vulnerable.

Senior Cody Hawkins took the remainder of CU's snaps, so the question on everybody's mind concerned whether Hansen will be ready for the Buffaloes' upcoming game at Oklahoma.

"Right now, no," Hansen said when asked if the odds favored him playing next Saturday. "But we'll see how I feel later (in the) week. I need to

go in and do rehab. Hopefully, I'll feel better.

"I got hit pretty hard. I tried to throw at halftime, but I couldn't. I was having trouble breathing and had a sharp pain in my chest."

CU coach Dan Hawkins said X-rays on Hansen "were negative in terms of something being cracked."

Before Hansen went out, Colorado concentrated on ball control. Hansen completed 9-of-10 passes but for only 62 yards. CU held the lead and kept the ball away from Texas Tech's offense.

Cody Hawkins extended Colorado's advantage to 17-7 early in the third quarter with the first of his two TD passes to freshman Paul Richardson. But after Texas Tech's offense got some rhythm, Hawkins had to air it out. He finished 22-of-43 for 274 yards, with two touchdowns.

Not getting any help from the running game (Stewart netted 34 yards on 20 carries), the two Colorado quarterbacks did not throw an interception. Hansen said he thought Hawkins played "real well, good enough to win."

Texas Tech senior quarterback Taylor Potts had other ideas. He threw for 155 of his 286 passing yards in the fourth quarter, rallying the Red Raiders to 13 points in the game's final 15 minutes.

After back-to-back losses at home, games that might turn out to be crucial to Colorado's bowl



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chances and to the coaching future of Dan Hawkins, Hansen was asked Saturday what keeps the team believing in itself.

"The last two losses, if a couple of plays go our way, we're 5-2 and everyone's happy," Hansen said. "But those plays didn't go our way. So everyone's down. That's football. Sometimes the ball is going to bounce your way, and sometimes it's not. (But) it's tough. Sometimes you feel you're against the world a little bit."

Cody Hawkins said he will do his part to keep everybody on the team as upbeat as possible.

"As a captain and a leader on this football team, when everybody is trying to drink that negative Kool-Aid, man, you have to keep them hydrated with the right stuff," the coach's son said.

*Tom Kensler: 303-954-1280 or [tkensler@denverpost.com](mailto:tkensler@denverpost.com)*

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colorado football - briefs

## Bufs' place-kicker Goodman endures hit-and-miss game

By **Lindsey R. McKissick**  
Special to The Denver Post

Posted: 10/24/2010 01:00:00 AM MDT

Updated: 10/24/2010 01:17:58 AM MDT

**BOULDER** — Just as Aric Goodman began to feel sure-footed, the wind blew.

Twice in Saturday's 27-24 loss to Texas Tech, Goodman had a chance to give Colorado a 10-point lead.

The first, a 23-yarder near the end of the first half, was good. The second, which would have put the Buffaloes up by two possessions in the fourth quarter, was not. He missed a 35-yarder, and as he trotted to the sideline, he pointed to the upright and shook his head.

"I thought it went in. But it didn't. What they say is what it is," he said. "I thought it was just inside. It is kind of a judgment call and it happens fast."

A pair of field goals (45, 25) in last weekend's

loss to Baylor, and Goodman thought he was on the upswing.

"It's about making kicks. It didn't go in. It is what it is," he said. "Fortunately, I'm still confident. I thought I hit it good, but the breeze was just going that way and it didn't go through."

### Major loss.

The CU defense took a big hit in the fourth quarter when sophomore linebacker Jon Major injured his knee and had to be helped off the field. He had nine tackles (all solo) before leaving the game.

Major's injury was announced as a sprained knee, with no information on the possible length of his absence.

This scene was reminiscent of his true freshman season when Major went down with a torn ACL in the first week of practice. His redshirt freshman season also was plagued by a sprained knee and shoulder injury.

### Young guns.

CU wide receiver Paul Richardson made school history as the first true freshman to score two touchdowns in a game, including a 60-yard catch for a 24-14 lead.

"He's a good player," CU coach Dan Hawkins said. "As he gets experienced, I think he is only going to get better. He can run. He's a very smart and smooth guy with good hands and a good feel for



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Longmont, Colorado  
 Sunday, October 24, 2010

Publish Date: 10/24/2010

## Close but no cigar for CU

By Brian Howell  
 © 2010 Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — Finishing with a winning season and going to a bowl are still possibilities for the University of Colorado football team.

After Saturday's 27-24 loss to Texas Tech at Folsom Field, however, believing the Buffs can reach their goals is getting tougher.

"It does (get harder to believe)," starting quarterback Tyler Hansen said. "You feel like you're against the world a little bit, but you've just got to stay positive and I think we're doing a good job of doing that."

There may be positive energy flowing through the CU (3-4, 0-3 in the Big 12) locker room. Yet, Saturday's defeat was the Buffs' third in a row, and the last two have come at home against teams they could have defeated.

"Nobody sits in the film room over the summer and is hanging out in the weight room talking about how great it would be to be 3-4 in the middle of the season," senior quarterback Cody Hawkins said.

The Buffaloes might not be 3-4 had they made more plays down the stretch the past two weeks.

They had a halftime lead against Baylor a week ago before losing 31-25. On Saturday, CU took a 24-14 lead into the fourth quarter, only to watch Texas Tech (4-3, 2-2) score the last 13 points.

"It is definitely discouraging, especially losing a tough one like this, a close one, the last two weeks," CU cornerback Jalil Brown.

Brown and the rest of the CU defense did a solid job against Tech's high-powered offense for much of the afternoon. But, like they did against Baylor, the Buffs couldn't close the game.

Red Raiders quarterback Taylor Potts came into the week ranked in the top 10 nationally in total offense per game, but was held to 131 passing yards through three quarters. In the fourth quarter alone, he threw for 155 yards.

Potts tossed a 7-yard touchdown pass to Lyle Leong to tie the game at 24 with 10:54 to play. Then, he led the Red Raiders to a game-winning field goal by Matt Williams with 2:08 to go.

"It's nice that we got the win, and it's nice that we came back to win it and held onto it at the end," said Potts, who finished with 286 passing yards.



Colorado's Rodney Stewart picks up a first down on a fourth down play against Texas Tech at Folsom Field in Boulder on Saturday. The Buffs lost 27-24. **Joshua**

**Buck/Times-Call**

## TEXAS TECH 27, COLORADO 24

Texas Tech

07713—27

Colorado

73140—24

First Quarter

Col—Hansen 1 run (Goodman kick), 4:48.

Second Quarter

TT—Crawford 1 run (M.Williams kick), 6:10.

Col—FG Goodman 23, :12.

Third Quarter

Col—Richardson 3 pass from C.Hawkins (Goodman kick), 10:32.

TT—Torres 15 pass from Potts (M.Williams kick), 8:43.

Col—Richardson 60 pass from C.Hawkins (Goodman kick), 4:43.



Hansen and Hawkins helped CU hold the lead for much of the day.

Hansen completed 9-of-10 passes for 62 yards and scored on a 1-yard touchdown run to give the Buffs an early 7-0 lead. He suffered a rib injury midway through the second quarter, however, and didn't play the rest of the way.

Hawkins was solid in relief, completing 22-of-43 passes for 274 yards and two touchdowns. His second touchdown pass, a 60-yarder to Paul Richardson, gave the Buffs a 24-14 lead in the third quarter.

That was the last of the scoring for CU, though.

"You'd love to try to get one more on the board and try to open up a little bit," CU head coach Dan Hawkins said. "I think your guys get a little more relaxed (with a bigger lead), and it probably has an added effect that way, but it didn't happen."

It didn't help that special teams, once again, burned the Buffs.

Erratic kicker Aric Goodman missed a 35-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter. It was the 21th miss, in 40 attempts, in Goodman's career.

Then late in the fourth, with the score tied, the Buffs punted, but Zach Grossnickle's kick went just 29 yards. That set up Texas Tech on its own 47-yard line. The Red Raiders converted that opportunity into the final field goal.

CU had two possessions after that, but gained just nine total yards in those possessions. That left the Buffs with another disappointing defeat.

"In the grand scheme of things, to get where you want to go, you've got to take baby steps, I think," CU safety Ray Polk said. "Taking those steps is just looking at the next week and who you're facing."

Next week, the Buffs travel to Oklahoma, which was No. 1 in the BCS standings before it lost to Missouri on Saturday. That's the first of five more games in the regular season.

"I think we can win all five. Our team knows we can win all five," cornerback Jimmy Smith said.

Believing that is becoming more difficult each week.

Brian Howell can be reached at [bhowell@times-call.com](mailto:bhowell@times-call.com). Read his Buffs blog at [www.timescall.com/blogs/howell](http://www.timescall.com/blogs/howell).

#### Fourth Quarter

TT—FG M.Williams 40, 14:55.

TT—Leong 7 pass from Potts (M.Williams kick), 10:54.

TT—FG M.Williams 36, 2:08.

A—47,665.

TTCol

First downs

2320

Rushes-yards

37-14432-28

Passing

286336

Comp-Att-Int

24-38-131-53-0

Return Yards

753

Punts-Avg.

5-46.27-38.9

Fumbles-Lost

1-12-0

Penalties-Yards

5-427-44

Time of Possession

29:2330:37

#### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Texas Tech, Stephens 15-94, Batch 13-60, McRoy 2-13,

Crawford 1-1, Jeffers 1-(minus 4), Team 3-(minus 8), Potts 2-(minus 12).

Colorado, Stewart 20-34, Jefferson 4-11, Hansen 4-0,

Patterson 1-(minus 3), C.Hawkins 1-(minus 7), Richardson 2-(minus 7).

PASSING—Texas Tech, Potts 24-38-1-286. Colorado,

C.Hawkins 22-43-0-274, Hansen 9-10-0-62.

RECEIVING—Texas Tech, Torres 6-133, Lewis 6-84, Leong 5-32,

Zouzalik 3-19, Swindall 3-17, D.Moore 1-1. Colorado, Clemons 8-98,

McKnight 5-50, Richardson 4-79, Jefferson 4-46, Patterson 4-(minus 5),

Deehan 2-27, Stewart 2-21, Espinoza 1-13, Walters 1-6, C.Hawkins 0-7,

Adkins 0-(minus 6).

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Longmont, Colorado  
Sunday, October 24, 2010

Publish Date: 10/24/2010

## Hansen knocked out early, suffers from bruised ribs

*By Brian Howell*  
© 2010 Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — Tyler Hansen was playing well on Saturday.

Then, one hit knocked him out for the game — and maybe longer.

“I couldn’t breathe in the second half,” Hansen said. “That’s why I didn’t play.

With about 6 minutes to play in the second quarter, CU began a drive with Hansen running an option play to the right. Just as he pitched to running back Rodney Stewart, Hansen was drilled in the chest.

The initial diagnosis Saturday was bruised ribs. CU head coach Dan Hawkins said X-rays showed nothing was cracked.

Hansen said he felt “sharp pain in my chest area and ribs.”

“I came out at halftime and tried throwing, and tried warming up,” he said. “It just hurt too bad.”

Hawkins said that if Hansen is healthy, he will start. Saturday was too early to tell if Hansen will be healthy enough to play at Oklahoma.

“We’ll see how I feel (today) and this week,” he said. “Hopefully, I get better.”

Prior to his injury, Hansen completed 9-of-10 passes for 62 yards. He also scored CU’s first touchdown, on a 1-yard run.

**HIT AND MISS:** The roller-coaster ride that is Aric Goodman’s career continued on Saturday.

The CU senior kicker made a 23-yard field goal in the first half, giving CU a 10-7 halftime lead. He then missed a 35-yard attempt late in the game that would have broken a 24-24 tie.

“I thought it went in, but (the referees) said it didn’t, and that’s what happens,” Goodman said. “What they say is what it is. I thought it was just inside (the upright). It’s kind of a judgment call, and it happens fast.”

Goodman has made just 19-of-40 kicks in his career. He is 4-for-8 this year, but had made three in a row before his miss.

“You’d love to get a guy in a groove and get him going,” Dan Hawkins said of the Buffs’ undependable kicking game. “They keep battling. It makes it tough, I think, on everybody.”

**SHUT DOWN:** CU had been rushing the ball well of late. But, Texas Tech held the Buffs to 28 yards on 32 carries. Leading rusher Rodney Stewart had 34 yards on 20 attempts.

“That was No. 1 on the list,” Tech’s Colby Whitlock said of stopping the run. “We came out, and we did that.”

The Red Raiders were allowing 142.5 rushing yards per game coming in.

**RICHARDSON EXPLODES:** True freshman receiver Paul Richardson keeps getting better, and Saturday was his best game yet.

Richardson caught four passes for 79 yards and the first two touchdowns of his career, including a 60-yarder. Richardson became the first true freshman in CU history with two TD receptions in the same game.

“I knew it was my time to step up, so I was just waiting to step up and I was ready,” he said.

**IMPRESSIVE DEBUT:** True freshman Terrel Smith made his collegiate debut on Saturday, getting the start at strong safety.

Smith made several big plays, leading the team with 14 tackles and registering a sack. The 14 tackles is the most any CU player has had in a game this year.

“I had fun,” he said. “I enjoyed every play, every minute of it. I’m ready for next week. I just had fun. I felt good out there.”

Sophomore Nick Kasa and junior Jonathan Hawkins also made their first career starts. Kasa replaced injured Josh Hartigan (ankle) at defensive end. Hawkins started at nickel back.

**EXTRA POINTS:** CU’s Scotty McKnight extended his streak to 44 straight games with at least one catch. ... Texas Tech was 0-4 all-time in Boulder before Saturday. ... Bryce Givens made his first start at right tackle, but left the game with an injury. ... Buffs linebacker Jon Major sprained his knee. ... Cody Hawkins became the third quarterback in CU history with 6,000 career passing yards, joining Joel Klatt and Kordell Stewart. ... CU is 61-30-5 in homecoming games.

Brian Howell can be reached at [bhowell@times-call.com](mailto:bhowell@times-call.com). Read his Buffs blog at [www.timescall.com/blogs/howell](http://www.timescall.com/blogs/howell).

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## Same old story

Texas Tech edges Buffs 27-24

*By Michael Krumholtz on October 24, 2010*

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The Buffs cannot catch a break.

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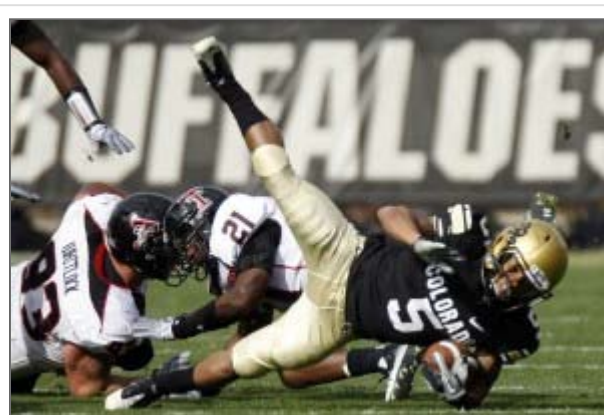
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A one-time lead turned itself into a loss. The home team Buffs fell to a Big 12 team who boasts a hurried spread attack. CU

head coach Dan Hawkins was forced to answer questions about his team's failures.

This must be old news, right?

Nope, just recurring news. Texas Tech came back from a ten-point deficit to top CU 27-24 at Folsom Field, on the school's homecoming weekend. Texas Tech senior kicker Matt Williams' field goal with two minutes left did-in Hawkins and the Buffs.



Junior tailback Rodney Stewart is tripped up by Texas Tech defenders in the first half of the Buffaloes' 27-24 loss to the Red Raiders at Folsom Field on Saturday. (CU Independent/Patrick Ghidossi)

A 3-1 start deteriorates into a 3-4 (0-3) overall record. The defeat marks losses in back-to-back home games, and three consecutive conference games.

"We are just going to keep hanging in there," coach Hawkins said. "And we need them (the fans) to hang in there."

Junior quarterback Tyler Hansen left the game with bruised ribs in the second quarter and did not return. He started the offense fast, completing nine of ten passes and running in for the team's first touchdown.

As Hansen limped off to the sideline, senior Cody Hawkins trotted back onto Folsom Field for the first time all season.

It did not take long for the strong sound of cheers to roar down from the rafters. Cody Hawkins drove the hurry-up offense 75 yards and a field goal gave the Buffs a 10-7 halftime advantage.

"Having been here five years -I get used to the no huddle pace," Cody Hawkins said. "It's stuff we do everyday in practice."

After coming back out from the locker room, he and the offense looked even better. In the third quarter alone Cody Hawkins threw for 171 yards and two touchdowns. True freshman Paul Richardson caught both, including one on a 60-yard bomb.

"I knew it was my time to step up so I was just waiting and I was ready," said 18-year-old Richardson after the game.

The latter of his scores extended CU's lead to 24-14 by the start of the final quarter. It would not be enough.

Tech scored early in the quarter with a 40-yard field goal. On their next drive, quarterback Taylor Potts took his offense 80 yards in less than two minutes.

More impressively, he did it by challenging both of CU's senior corners, Jalil Brown and Jimmy Smith, on separate plays.

The drive finished with senior Lyle Leong's catch over Smith for a seven-yard touchdown and a tie game.

On the Buffs' prior possession, the offense began with the ball in Texas Tech territory after junior Arthur Jaffee recovered a punt that hit off a Tech player's helmet.

The golden opportunity to score was painted black when senior kicker Aric Goodman missed a 35-yard field goal.

"You would like to crack the cement a little bit," Hawkins said. "Try and get one more on the board, try to open up a little bit."



Sophomore defensive back Deji Olatoye tries to bring down Texas Tech's Detron Lewis during the Buffaloes' 27-24 loss to the Red Raiders at Folsom Field on Saturday. (CU Independent/Patrick Ghidossi)

For most of the first half, Texas Tech threw sideways to their receivers on the line of scrimmage, much like what Baylor did the week before. It was not working, as the Red Raiders ended up with a mere 28 yards through the air in two quarters.

"They were making enough plays in the first half and they didn't give us enough first downs to get things going," said Texas Tech head coach Tommy Tuberville. "Then once we got the run going, our pass opened up in the second half."

Potts and his receivers leaped on the hampered Buffs secondary in the final thirty minutes. An offense that averages 315 yards passing per game rolled up more than 250 after halftime.

CU freshman Terrell Smith made his first ever start at safety after his redshirt came off this week. His two

sacks helped the defense to sputter Texas Tech's attack early on.

"I tip my hat to him to get out there as a freshman, first game, and make the plays he made," Brown said.

Other players were not as polite after the latest in a long string of losses. For Cody Hawkins, five years is a long time to have to defend your father's job.

"The same bad things you guys say about our football team, I'm saying bad things about you guys (the media)," Cody Hawkins said.

Both media and players can agree that this was another winnable game. Like the week before, CU missed out on valuable scoring chances that would have sealed a victory.

"Easily we could have won this game," Jimmy Smith said. "(We have to) put our foots on their throats and come out with it and make more plays than that."

In five years of Dan Hawkins, the once dominant program has made enough plays to make only one bowl game. The Buffs have to win three more games to qualify for the postseason.

With only two home games left they will have to steal one on the road, something they have not done since 2007. Looming next week is a trip to Norman, Okla. where the No. 1 ranked Sooners have won 34 straight.

For the 37th time during his tenure in Boulder, Dan Hawkins lost a football game. His memo to all fans is that there is more to come.

"There (are) going to be a lot of games like that, so they'll get up tomorrow," Hawkins said. "Half of life is getting up one more time when you're down."

Notes:

- Hawkins said Hansen will be the starter next week if healthy.
- Paul Richardson is the first freshman in school history to catch two touchdowns in a single game.
- Rodney Stewart's 34 rushing yards is a season-low for the junior from Ohio.
- Upon kickoff, the student section revealed virtually no trace of humanity. Fans uttered more yawns than cheers all throughout a hard-to-watch first half in which Texas Tech threw for 28 yards and CU ran for a mere 16.

Contact CU Independent Staff Writer Michael Krumholtz at [Michael.krumholtz@colorado.edu](mailto:Michael.krumholtz@colorado.edu).

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Posted on Sat, Oct. 23, 2010

## Recap: Colorado vs. Texas Tech

By Sports Network  
The Sports Network

Kicker Matt Williams connected on a 36-yard field goal with 2:08 remaining in the game to give the Texas Tech Red Raiders a 27-24 victory over the Colorado Buffaloes in a Big 12 Conference battle at Folsom Field.

Taylor Potts completed 24-of-38 pass attempts for 286 yards and two touchdowns for Texas Tech (4-3, 2-3 Big 12). Alexander Torres caught six passes for 133 yards and one touchdown in the win.

Colorado (3-4, 0-3) was led by quarterback Cody Hawkins, who threw for 274 yards and two scores on 22-of-43 passing. Toney Clemons had eight receptions for 98 yards, while Paul Richardson caught four passes for 79 yards and two touchdowns.

Colorado struck first after Tyler Hansen rushed up the middle for a one-yard touchdown, giving the Buffaloes the early advantage.

The score remained that way into the second quarter when Texas Tech answered with a one-yard touchdown run from Aaron Crawford to knot the game up.

Colorado took a 10-7 lead into the intermission after kicker Aric Goodman connected on a 23-yard field goal with 12 seconds remaining in the first half. Hawkins found Paul Richardson for a three-yard touchdown pass early in the third quarter to give Colorado a 17-7 lead.

The Red Raiders brought the deficit to 17-14 after Torres caught a 15-yard touchdown pass from Potts.

Colorado took a 24-14 advantage into the final quarter after Hawkins once again found Richardson, this time for a 60-yard touchdown completion.

It was all Texas Tech in the fourth quarter. The Red Raiders brought the deficit to 24-17 after a 40-yard field goal from Matt Williams.

Potts completed a seven-yard touchdown pass to Lyle Leong to knot the game up at 24 all.

With 2:08 remaining in the contest, Williams put the Red Raiders on top for good after splitting the uprights from 36 yards out to give Texas Tech the 27-24 victory.

### Game Notes

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## Red Raiders erase 10-point deficit for first win at Colorado

By [Don Williams](#)

Created 2010-10-24 00:40

Texas Tech's oh-for-forever streak in Colorado is history. Because of that, maybe there's still hope for the Red Raiders' season.

Avalanche-Journal

BOULDER, Colo. — Texas Tech's oh-for-forever streak in Colorado is history. Because of that, maybe there's still hope for the Red Raiders' season.

With Tech in danger of dipping below .500 after seven games for the first time since 1994, the Red Raiders put together a solid all-around fourth quarter to rally past Colorado 27-24 on a scenic sunny Saturday at the foothills of the Rockies.

Colorado (3-4, 0-3 in the Big 12 Conference) led 24-14, but was outscored 13-0 in the fourth quarter as Matt Williams sandwiched two field goals around a 7-yard Taylor Potts-to-Lyle Leong touchdown pass. Williams' 36-yard field goal with 2:08 left gave the Red Raiders their only lead all day.

"It's huge for us, getting to 4-3 after our first win on the road, really, in terms of being in another team's stadium," Tech coach Tommy Tuberville said. "You need to win like this to get some confidence on both sides of the ball and in the kicking game. We played better today. That's one of the better overall games that we've played."

Tech (4-3, 2-3) put together four solid drives in the final 20 minutes at the same time its defense was chipping in four three-and-out sequences. Colorado had all the momentum after backup quarterback Cody Hawkins threw two third-quarter touchdown passes to freshman wide receiver Paul Richardson.

The latter was a 60-yard bomb that Richardson caught over cornerback D.J. Johnson down the right sideline. With a 10-point lead and a Folsom Field crowd of 47,665 behind them, the Buffaloes seemed home free or close to it.

"Somehow, somehow, today we kept our presence about us and didn't panic when we were 10 points back," Tuberville said. "We were able to make enough plays to win the game."

The win was Tech's first at Colorado in five trips. The timing couldn't have been much better with the Raiders coming off a 1-3 stretch that dropped them out of conference contention by midseason.

"I hope everybody remembers this," quarterback Taylor Potts said. "To go on the road, a place that we've never won before in school history, we go out and get the win and come from behind to win it. It's something to build off of, something to kind of hang your hat on."

The Red Raiders gained 223 of their 430 yards in the final 20 minutes, mixing effective runs and passes. A 30-yard burst by Eric Stephens sparked a drive that led to a Williams field goal on the first play of the fourth quarter.

Colorado then blew a chance to add to its 24-17 lead after Tech's Blake Kelley inadvertently let a punt hit him and the Buffs recovered at the Tech 23. But Aric Goodman's 35-yard field goal from the right hashmark stayed right, so it remained a one-score game with almost 13 minutes left.

Tech got the tying touchdown on an 80-yard march fueled by 15- and 32-yard catches by Detron Lewis, the latter taking the Raiders inside the CU 10. From the 7, Leong ran a fade route, stepped back from cornerback Jimmy Smith and made the catch easily to help Tech get even at 24 with 10:54 to go.

The defense rose up again to force two quick punts and the Raiders took advantage on a drive that started at the 4:26 mark. From a trips-right formation, Lewis took a screen pass and made 14 yards behind good blocks from Alex Torres and Tramain Swindall. Four running plays in a row, starting with a 14-yard gain from Baron Batch, burned clock and brought on Williams.

His field goal from the right hash stayed true all the way.

Though the kick was Williams' first game winner in college, Potts pointed out that Tuberville put his kickers in similar situations every day at the end of August workouts. Miss the field goal, and everyone runs.

"So we've done that a lot," Potts said. "He (Williams) has had some people mad at him a few times. After a hard two-a-day, we have to run, but he went out there and did what he's supposed to."

Stephens led the Tech rushing attack with 94 yards on 15 carries. The Red Raiders topped 150 yards on the ground for the third week in a row.

"Mainly, it's the dive and the zone," Stephens said. "The dive and the zone have been opening up great for us the last couple of weeks, so we try to favor those plays a little more than the stretches and the counters."

Colorado starting quarterback Tyler Hansen left the game with bruised ribs in the second quarter. Hawkins, a senior and a starter for much of his career, completed 22 of 43 for 274 yards and two touchdowns.


Tech limited CU to 34 yards on its last six possessions.


“They were crowding the box a bit, which took away the running game,” CU coach Dan Hawkins said. “It kind of forced us to throw. We got a couple of throws, and then we were just off on a few.”

To comment on this story:

[don.williams@lubbockonline.com](mailto:don.williams@lubbockonline.com) <sup>[1]</sup> • 766-8734

[courtney.linehan@lubbockonline.com](mailto:courtney.linehan@lubbockonline.com) <sup>[2]</sup> • 766-8735

 Colorado's Travon Patterson (2) tries to evade Texas Tech's Gerardo Acevedo, on the ground, and Brett Dewhurst (30) during Tech's 27-24 win on Saturday. <sup>[3]</sup>

 Texas Tech's Cody Davis (16) tackles Colorado's Rodney Stewart (5) during their game Saturday in Boulder, Colo. Tech was winless in four previous trips to Folsom Field, but the Red Raiders won this one, 27-24. <sup>[4]</sup>

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[1] <mailto:don.williams@lubbockonline.com>

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