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**All Things Colorado Sports — Blogs — The Denver Post**

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2010, 4:00 PM

## Dan Hawkins concerned about CU's offensive line

By **JOHN HENDERSON** |  1 Comment

Colorado coach Dan Hawkins said he knows the problems with the offensive line which gave up six sacks in Saturday's 52-7 loss at California.

"Sometimes we have trouble working from a double team to another 'backer, a pick up here or there," he said on Monday's Big 12 Conference call. "We put Mike (Iltis) in there at left guard and he did a nice job. We just have to continue to work on that. We have to get ourselves in situations so the defense can't pin their ears back and come get you on third down. That puts a lot of pressure on your O-line as well."

He said he's still trying to keep the players from letting bad things snowball.

"We're just learning," he said. "We certainly addressed that. We were just saying that bad things are going to happen and you have to work your way through it. We had situations there when we had a good play to start off a drive, then a penalty, a missed shot, a bad punt, bad field position and they score.

"I thought the defense did a nice job. (Cal) had three drives basically all in the red zone. Then I think we got a little continuity in the second half and no points. We had a 17-play drive, used eight minutes and got nothing out of it. They did a little better job in the second half but the score was out of reach at that time. With these guys, you keep working to get positive plays and get some confidence that way."

He said Hawaii (1-1), Saturday's opponent, is dangerous.

"Offensively, they're electric," he said. "Obviously, they do a good job throwing it around the yard. Their quarterback is very fast when he takes off running and they have a good hard, aggressive running game. On defense they're very sound and very solid and can get you in bad points, whether personnel wise or with down and distance."

He didn't have much reaction to quarterback Tyler Hansen's Tebow-esque Tweet over the weekend in which he said a performance like at Cal would never happen again.

"I didn't talk to him about that," he said. "Our guys have great resolve. They're not going to cash it in. They've got a lot of pride and have worked too hard. There's no doubt they'll rally back."

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**All Things Colorado Sports — Blogs — The Denver Post**

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2010, 4:35 PM

## Colorado 111th in penalties

By **JOHN HENDERSON** |  No Comments

Colorado is 111th in penalties committed out of 120 teams with 9.5 a game. This is after finishing 118th last year. During Monday's Big 12 Conference call, other coaches weighed in on how they handle excessive penalties.

"You shoot the offenders," Kansas State's Bill Snyder joked. "It boils down to maturity and discipline and understanding that sometimes in this game, because so much happens every time you snap the ball, you're going to get caught out of position. It happens. And it's the discipline with which you react.

"It's being mature enough to have the discipline to give you the chance to avoid those things."

Missouri's Gary Pinkel said he doesn't grade players down for calls they don't agree with and some penalties are worse than others.

"Ones that are disturbing to me are personal fouls that are purely poor judgment," he said. "That's where you have a foul that's inappropriate. We handle that internally with some internal training ... It's being able to think and play in an intense environment, on national TV in front of 70,000 people but certainly down the road if you don't clean it up you can certainly lose a game because of it."

Texas coach Mack Brown remembers when he was in the ACC with North Carolina, Florida State won the league every year and also led the league in penalties.

"We want them to be tough and aggressive but don't want them to cross line and be penalized."

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**All Things Colorado Sports — Blogs — The Denver Post**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010, 11:40 AM

**Hawaii coach not taking Colorado lightly**By **JOHN HENDERSON** |  No Comments

Hawaii coach Greg McMackin isn't using Colorado's 52-7 loss at California as an indication of how the Buffaloes will play Saturday in Boulder.

"They're always tough at home," McMackin said on Monday's Western Athletic Conference call. "I played them with a couple other teams at home and they're always tough. I know they'll be jacked up to play because they had a tough game with Cal.

"They've got a good running back, an excellent receiver. I know their offensive line is big. Defensively, I know they blitz a lot so they're going to be a big challenge."

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**<http://blogs.denverpost.com/sports/2010/09/13/hawaii-coach-not-taking-colorado-lightly/12815/>**

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[1] CU's Hawkins: Hawaii's layover not a disadvantage to Warriors:

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[2] CSU-Miami (O): Pillows, not pigskin: **[http://blogs.denverpost.com/sports/2010/09/16/csu-miami-o-pillows-not-pigskin/12901/?source=ARK\\_sports](http://blogs.denverpost.com/sports/2010/09/16/csu-miami-o-pillows-not-pigskin/12901/?source=ARK_sports)**

[3] CU quarterback Tyler Hansen's promise to Buffs fans:

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[4] CU could be called a bunch of 'no-names' this year:

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# Coach Dan Hawkins surprised by CU Buffs' performance against Cal

## Hawk says he expects team to rally against 'electric' Hawaii

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

Posted: 09/13/2010 11:57:23 AM MDT

Colorado coach Dan Hawkins said he was surprised by the way his team played in a 52-7 loss at Cal over the weekend, but he believes his players will rally with an "electric" Hawaii team coming to Folsom Field this week for the home opener.

"I think our guys have great resolve and they're not going to cash it in," Hawkins said today during the Big 12 Conference coaches' teleconference. "They've got a lot of pride and they've worked too hard. I don't have any doubt that they will rally back."

Hawkins was asked if a loss of that magnitude was more damaging coming in his fifth year.

"I don't know. They're all not fun," he said. "We've got to learn from it, which we do and take bits and pieces out of it and look at it concretely and keep trying to mend it for this week."

Hawkins said the Buffs had a good week of practice leading up to last week's game, including one of the better Thursday practices he has seen in awhile. He said his team didn't respond well to California gaining early momentum through a "landslide" of CU mistakes such as a bad punt and a sack that created a fumble.

"I think we're just learning," Hawkins said. "We certainly address that. We talk to our guys about that all the time, that bad things are going to happen and you're going to have to work your way through it."

The loss was the 13th consecutive setback on the road for the Buffs. They play their next two games at home over the next three weeks before heading back on the road to Missouri Oct. 9.

Hawkins offered this scouting report on Hawaii, a program the Buffs will face in each of the next four seasons.

"Offensively, they're electric," Hawkins said. "They obviously do a good job of throwing it around the yard. Their quarterback is very fast when he takes off running. I think they have a good, hard, aggressive running game as well. They're electric. On defense they're very sound and very solid."

If you get yourself in bad points either personnel-wise or down and distance, they can give you a lot of things to look at, but they are sort of an electric team."

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## Oklahoma gets ready to take on Falcons' lethal running attack

*By Brian Howell*  
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Last week, Oklahoma's football team was rather impressive in routing then-No. 17 Florida State 47-17.

Considering the seventh-ranked Sooners play an unranked opponent this week, they figure to have an easy game ahead. But, OU coach Bob Stoops knows better.

The Sooners (2-0) will host Air Force (2-0) on Saturday.

"It's anything but (simple)," Stoops said of stopping the Air Force rushing attack.

Oklahoma prides itself on being able to stop the run, but Air Force is one of the best teams in the country at running the ball.

The Falcons annually give teams fits with their option offense. Through two games this season, the Falcons are averaging 423 rushing yards per contest.

"They're very creative and very disciplined and good at what they do," Stoops said.

Stoops said the Sooners won't do anything different in gearing up to face the Falcons, who ran for 409 yards in a 35-14 win over BYU last week.

"We don't do anything different as far as practice and preparation," he said. "You're just dealing with an offense that you don't see the rest of the year."

**AROUND THE BIG 12:** Following their 52-7 loss to Cal on Saturday, Colorado is looking to rebound this week against Hawaii.

Head coach Dan Hawkins said he believes his team will rebound.

"I think our guys have great resolve," Hawkins said. "They're not going to cash it in. They've got a lot of pride and they've worked too hard. I don't have any doubt that they'll rally back."

Kansas State running back Daniel Thomas has 371 rushing yards through the first two weeks.

This week, the Wildcats face Iowa State. A year ago, Iowa State held Thomas to 96 yards on 25 carries.

"We tackled well in the game and certainly you go into every game with a plan to stop the run," ISU coach Paul Rhoads said of that performance. "I don't think we have any type of magic formula and I think we're going to have to play better this year than we did a year ago."

In one week, Kansas (1-1) went from losing to North Dakota State, a Championship Subdivision team, to knocking off No. 15 Georgia Tech.

"We turned up the tempo a lot more in practice and therefore that transpired on game day," KU coach Turner Gill said.

The Jayhawks also changed quarterbacks. Kale Pick started the first game and Jordan Webb started against Georgia Tech. Webb played well, throwing for 179 yards and a touchdown.

Texas Tech opens conference play on Saturday against Texas. The Red Raiders are 2-0, but first-year coach Tommy Tuberville said his team has been inconsistent on offense and that his defense has made "a lot of mental mistakes." He did say, however, "I think we've gotten better from the first game to the second game."

Oklahoma State faces Tulsa on Saturday. After seeing his team turn the ball over five times and commit 12 penalties in a 41-38 win over Troy, Cowboys coach Mike Gundy said, "We're not good enough as a football team to look past anybody."

Missouri coach Gary Pinkel isn't getting too excited about his Tigers being ranked No. 25 in the USA Today coaches poll. "At the end of the season is when we want to be there," he said. "We just focus on the task at hand and hopefully we can improve."

Two games into the season, Baylor (2-0) has yet to give up a touchdown. The Bears have defeated San Houston State and Buffalo by a combined score of 68-9.

"We understand it's still early in the season and we're not a finished product, but they're giving us what we're asking for," head coach Art Briles said.

Texas coach Mack Brown said Foswhitt Whittaker will get the start at running back this week against Texas Tech.

"He was the most productive during the game (last week against Wyoming)," Brown said. "We're trying to keep the hot back in the game. Whoever is making yards, we'll let him stay in." Whittaker has 113 yards on just 16 carries this season.

The Big 12 players of the week this past week: Oklahoma quarterback Landry Jones (offense), Kansas linebacker Justin Springer (defense) and Texas Tech's Eric Stephens (special teams).

Big 12 teams are 21-3 so far this season.

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