

Hempen's Buffs at a loss

CU soccer team inconsistent as Purdue triumphs

By Ryan Thorburn Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 09/18/2010 12:15:37 AM MDT



At times, Colorado has the look of a top-15 team.

But after the Buffs' 3-1 loss to Purdue in the Colorado Classic on Friday at Prentup Field, the players and coaches were once again cloaked in disappointment and searching for answers.

Such as: Why is this talented squad under .500 (3-4) entering a Sunday showdown with Pac-10 powerhouse UCLA?

"I can't really tell you what happened," CU senior forward Amanda Foulk said. "We're all sitting here a little shocked right now."

Foulk scored off a corner kick to stake the Buffs a 1-0 lead in the seventh minute, but the Boilermakers (4-4-1) answered with two goals in a span of 2:08 before the intermission.

Click on any photo to see full gallery

As they did in the loss at Gonzaga, Bill Hempen's team started to out-play the opponent after falling behind. For the second

consecutive Friday it was too little, too late.

"When there's 20 minutes left in the game you decide to kick it into another gear?" Hempen said. "I'm disappointed in that."

Purdue had a couple of quality chances early in the second half but the visitors were unable to take a two-goal lead.

CU keeper Annie Brunner made brilliant saves on breakaways by Lauren Varnau and Kellie Phillips. She also received a little help from the cross bar on a long rebound with 20 minutes left.

"I think we thought we were matching their level, and then 10 minutes later they were working a lot harder than we were," Foulk said. "I think we need to really look inside right now and figure out what our biggest issue is. I think it's kind of coming down to a mental issue."

"If we can't play for 90 minutes then we're not going to win very many games. We definitely gave a valiant effort there at the end but we need to have that all game long."

Kate Russell just missed a goal from about 40 yards out after noticing the Purdue keeper was out of position. The junior from Silver Creek High School also set Kym Lowry up for a potential game-tying goal that hit the post and stayed out with 17 minutes left.

"A lot of it was disorganization all over the field and that occasionally happens," said Russell, who had two assists in CU's overtime win over Washington State last Sunday. "I thought we looked good in the beginning, but time went on and they didn't let down as we did take our foot off the gas."

Liz Secue put the dagger in with Purdue's final goal in the 82nd minute.

"It's not like it gets any easier," said Hempen, who had a spirited practice session planned for today. "I don't know what's going to happen on Sunday. If they come to play, we've got a real good shot. If they come to prance around, we have no

shot."

The Bruins (6-1-1) have a 2-0 edge in the series against the Buffs, both 3-0 wins in 2005 (one in the regular season and one in the NCAA Tournament). UCLA beat Denver 4-2 in the first game on Friday.

The future Pac-10 foes will play at 1:30 p.m. after DU faces Purdue at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

"We have to respond and we have to do what we need to do to get ready for that game," Foulk said. "We're really down on ourselves and we have to turn that around quickly."

CU's all-time record in its own tournament is now 14-3.

Close Window

Send To Printer

- [News](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Speak Out!](#)
- [Multimedia](#)

- [Subscribe](#)

CU soccer falls short

Women's soccer loses to Purdue

By Mark McNeillie on September 18, 2010

Share

0
tweets

Playing as the host of a tournament doesn't always guarantee success. Just ask the CU women's soccer team.

tweet

The Buffs lost their first game in the Omni Hotels' Colorado Soccer Classic 3-1 to the Purdue Boilermakers Friday, leaving the Buffs' record at 3-4 on the season.

"I thought we looked good in the beginning," said junior midfielder Kate Russell. "As time went on, they didn't let down, and we did take our foot off the gas pedal."

CU opened the game strong, breaking the deadlock in just the seventh minute. Senior forward Amanda Foulk got on the end of a corner kick and put the Buffs ahead.

But after the goal, the team seemed to fall flat.

"I think we sat back a little and thought we were matching their level," Foulk said. "Then 10 minutes later, they were working a lot harder than we were."

Purdue's hard work paid off in the 25th minute. Junior midfielder Kellie Phillips played in a corner, and CU's freshman goalkeeper Annie Brunner failed to clear it. The ball fell to Purdue junior forward Katie Leinert, who put the ball in the back of the net.

Only two minutes later, Phillips put Purdue ahead on an unassisted goal.

CU's head coach, Bill Hempen, said he looked at Purdue's physicality as one of the reasons for his team's troubles.

"They put so much pressure on us immediately," Hempen said. "We had [the ball] a little bit, but just not enough."



Junior midfielder Kassidy Fitzpatrick keeps the ball away from Purdue's Kellie Phillips during Friday's game at Prentup Field. The Buffs lost to the Boilermakers 3-1. (9-17-10) (CU Independent/Lee D. Pruitt III)

Purdue held on to a 2-1 lead into halftime.

CU came out strong to start the second half but couldn't get a reward for their good play. Purdue increased their lead in the 82nd minute as they were allowed to break down the wing and cross a ball that found its way to senior defender Liz Secue, who put away the easy chance.

Coach Hempen said he was not happy with his team's mental mistakes.

"We need to figure out what we want to be," he said. "Are we going to be a .500 team, or are we going to fold under the pressure?"

CU's biggest problem throughout the day was their lack of physicality. Many times throughout the game, they were easily pushed off balls or were forced to make bad passes.

Hempen knows this needs to change, especially when their next opponent, 12th ranked UCLA, racked up 13 fouls against University of Denver.

"[The players] have to get an inner determination that says, 'You're not going to beat me,'" he said. "We give good effort, but not enough effort."

The players are looking to play strong for an entire game, not just small parts.

"If we can't play for 90 minutes, we're not going to win a lot of games," Foulk said. "We gave a valiant effort at the end, but we need that all game long."

CU plays their second game in the tournament on Sept. 19 against UCLA, with kickoff scheduled for 1:30 p.m. at Prentup Field.

Contact CU Independent Soccer Reporter Mark McNeillie at Mark.mcneillie@colorado.edu.

Posted in [Front Page](#), [Sports](#) | Tagged [Boulder](#), [CU](#), [CU buffs](#), [CU Soccer](#), [Omni Hotel](#), [Omni Hotel Colorado Soccer Classic](#)

Copyright © 2010 [CU Independent](#)