

Buff spikers settle for split in tourney

Schroeder, Santos make all-tournament team in California

Camera staff report
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FULLERTON, Calif. -- The University of Colorado volleyball team split a pair of matches at the Fullerton Titan Classic on Saturday.

The Buffs began the day with a 5-set victory against Montana and wrapped it up with a sweep at the hands of the host team, Cal State Fullerton.

CU beat Montana 21-25, 29-27, 25-14, 19-25 and 18-16.

Kerra Schroeder earned her first double-double of the season against the Grizzlies with 20 kills and 15 digs. It marked the second match in a row that the CU sophomore has notched at least 20 kills.

Freshman Megan Beckwith picked up 30 digs to lead CU defensively, becoming the first Buff since 2007 to reach that milestone.

Junior Anicia Santos hit a match-high .414, recording 15 kills and three errors on 29 swings. Freshman Nikki Lindow hammered 13 kills (.243) and put up three block assists. Junior Richi Bigelow also had a nice match for CU, picking up a double-double with 11 kills and 15 digs.

In the nightcap, the Buffs fell 25-23, 25-22, 25-21 to the Titans (4-2).

All three matches played fairly even with 10 service errors proving costly for the Buffs. There were 21 total tie scores and 11 lead changes in the match, with 13 of the ties coming in set No. 1.

Schroeder and Santos posted 10 kills apiece in the loss and both were named to the all-tournament team.

"Schroeder and Santos being recognized for their play this weekend is a positive, and well deserved, but they both recognize that the sustainable success lies in the strength of the team," Buffs coach Liz Kritza said. "As captains, they are the first to realize the effort that we need to put in to improve our overall level of play and continue on the path to building this program."

Colorado wrapped up its West Coast trip with a 2-1 mark and fell to 3-3 overall.

"On the whole, we walk away from this tournament with a few more wins, a tough loss, but most importantly some valuable game experience and a great deal to focus on in our next training cycle," Kritza said.

The Buffs return action Sept. 15 and host Oklahoma at 6:30 p.m. in their first Big 12 match of the season.

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