



*Junior guard Chucky Jeffery goes up for two of her career-high 30 points Sunday.
Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com*



Brooks: Jeffery's 30 Pushes Buffs Past Vandals

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BOULDER - Given approval from a handful of media types, [Linda Lappe](#) briefly delayed her post-game press conference Sunday afternoon to watch the Denver Broncos defeat the Minnesota Vikings in the final 2 seconds.

"Unbelievable," said Lappe, referring to the Broncos - not her University of Colorado women's basketball team moving to 7-0 for the first time since the 1993-94 season.

If the Broncos are prospering during "Tebow Time," the Buffaloes are countering with "Chucky Time." Sunday's 68-59 win against gritty Idaho didn't slip into the "unbelievable" category, but neither was it as one-sided as CU's previous six wins this season.

Opening as frigid as the temperature outside the Coors Events Center, CU was forced to ratchet up its defense in the final 3:15, holding Idaho scoreless while closing out the matinee with a

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10-0 run to post its seventh consecutive victory.



The Vandals (2-6) had taken a 59-58 lead on a layup by Ganeaya Rogers before Buffs junior point guard [Chucky Jeffery](#) reasserted herself, scoring seven of her career-best 30 points during CU's decisive late surge.

"Thank goodness she came to play," Lappe said of Jeffery, whose 10 rebounds gives her 14 career double-doubles, including four this season and three straight. "She did so many great things offensively and defensively. . . she played with a great pace today, she really came focused."

But Lappe expects that from her junior and senior players this time of year, when non-conference play is beginning to wind down and semester finals and the holiday break are looming.

"You need that kind of leadership," Lappe said - and Jeffery has been more than happy to provide it. Four nights earlier against San Francisco, she scored a then-career-best 26 points, and she carried the Buffs with 18 of her total Sunday during a cold-shooting first half that saw CU hit only three of its first 16 shots.

"I just played basketball . . . I didn't do anything special," said Jeffery, whose three consecutive double-doubles marked the first time that's been done at CU since Jackie McFarland accomplished it during the 2006-07 season.

Continued Jeffery: "I took what the defense gave me . . . my shot was on, and that was great. For a while I tried to get my teammates incorporated so we could have a little balance on the floor. Jen (Reese) stepped up big (with) some big shots down the stretch - so that was good."

Reese, a 6-2 freshman, scored 10 points and was the only other CU player in double figures. With 2:49 remaining, she hit a foul line jumper that put the Buffs back in front, 60-59, and opened the 10-0 closing run.

"She played solid," Lappe said of Reese, who also contributed six rebounds, an assist and a steal in 24 minutes. "She doesn't do anything flashy and that's OK . . . that's just what we needed from her."

The Buffs outrebounded the Vandals 48-39, getting 10 boards from senior [Julie Seabrook](#) to match Jeffery's total. But CU's 14 turnovers - eight in the first half - were converted into 20 points by Idaho. The Vandals also outscored the Buffs 30-26 in the paint. Idaho got 13 points from Keri Arendse and 12 each from Stacey Barr and Alyssa Charlston.

Jeffery and Reese said being pushed Sunday afternoon will be beneficial in the coming weeks.

"You get that adrenaline rush and you know you have to win," Reese said. "You play better; we all played better in that last three minutes as a team - and it was great."

Added Jeffery: "It teaches how to keep our composure when things aren't going our way, especially down the stretch. Basketball is a game of runs, and they kept coming back those last four minutes. We knew this was it so we had to bear down."

CU waited until the first half's final 2:43 to begin pulling away, outscoring Idaho 13-4 from that point until intermission to take its biggest lead, 42-33. The Buffs' run came courtesy of four three-pointers by [Meagan Malcolm-Peck](#), [Brittany Wilson](#) and a pair by Jeffery, whose 7-of-10 field goal shooting was CU's only offensive highlight in the first 20 minutes.

The Vandals, whose most recent loss before coming to Boulder was at home against Pac-12 member Washington (66-49), trailed by five (7-2) in the first 4 minutes but rallied to take their first lead (10-9) on a trey by Barr with 11:07 left in the half.

Less than 2 minutes later, CU reclaimed the advantage on a three-point play by Jeffery and held it until Arendse

hit a field goal and one of two free throws on the next Vandals possession to go up 24-22. That was Idaho's last lead of the half - but not the game.

The Vandals managed a pair of ties at 27-27 and 29-29 before the Buffs launched a three-point barrage to close out the half and temporarily take control.

CU opened the second half with a quick pair of turnovers, allowed Arendse a three-pointer and Charlston a pair of free throws. Suddenly, that nine-point halftime lead was cut to 42-38.

Over the next 6:11, the Buffs got treys from Malcolm-Peck and Jeffery and went ahead 50-42. But the Vandals didn't roll over, pulling to 53-50 on a three-pointer by Charlston, who then tied the score at 53-53 with a conventional three-point play with 7:46 remaining.

Arendse canned a pair of free throws to push Idaho ahead 55-53 - only CU's second second-half deficit of the season - but [Brittany Wilson](#)'s three-pointer 30 seconds later pushed the Buffs back in front, 56-55, with 6:04 left.

The lead changed hands four times until Reese's short jump shot. Then, Jeffery hit both ends of a one-and-one and followed with a jumper, giving CU a five-point cushion (64-59) at the 1:23 mark.

An intentional foul sent [Brittany Wilson](#) to the free throw line with 58.8 seconds left, and after she sank one of two, Jeffery hit three of four in the next 15 seconds to put CU out of danger.

"We ended the game very, very strong," Lappe said. "Our last three minutes, defensively we finally buckled down and offensively we hit some key shots. And a lot of different people hit them . . . It was the first time we got to see our team in a close-game situation, and I really liked what I saw."

The Buffs continue their home stand with a game Thursday against the University of Denver (7 p.m., Root Sports).

Contact: BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU

SHOW MENU



CU women's basketball

CU Buffs battle back, beat Idaho Vandals

Jeffery scores career-high 30, Buffs close on 10-0 run

By Brian Howell, Camera sports writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 12/04/2011 02:02:47 PM MST



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BOULDER -- This probably wasn't the day Colorado figured it would have to show its mental toughness in the closing minutes.

The Buffs passed the unexpected test with high marks, however.

Chucky Jeffery scored seven of her career-high 30 points in the final three minutes, leading the Buffaloes to a 68-59 come-from-behind win over Idaho on Sunday afternoon at Coors Events Center.

"We realized they were in this game with us and we couldn't continue to play how we were playing because we allowed them to stick around until the last three minutes," said Jeffery, who also had 10 rebounds to notch her third consecutive double-double. "It teaches us how to keep our composure when things aren't particularly going our way, especially down the stretch. They kept coming back and coming back and that last

four minutes, we just knew this was it. We had to bear down and we did.

"That was huge, especially for us being a young team and some of us not being in those situations before."

Off to its first 7-0 start in 18 years, CU had blown away everybody before Sunday. Their first six wins each came by at least 10 points. Idaho (2-6) certainly wasn't expected to give the Buffs much of a challenge, either. The Vandals came to play, though.

CU's biggest lead was just nine -- at the end of each half.

"Idaho is well-coached," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "They did a great job of keeping us off guard in terms of switching up their defenses and not letting us get comfortable in any one thing.

"I thought Idaho did a fantastic job and they played really hard."

In addition to playing solid defense, the Vandals scored 20 points off CU turnovers, rebounded well early and hurt the Buffs defense with 30 points in the paint.

This was the second straight game in which Lappe said the defense "let us down at times."

Jeffery agreed, saying CU's lackluster defense was a big reason Idaho had a chance to win.

"We were kind of letting them hang around because our defense just was not there tonight," she said. "That can hurt us come conference (play). We know we have to play defense for 40 minutes and not just four."

Those four minutes were quite good, however. CU took a timeout with 3:44 to play, trailing 57-56. Julie Seabrook nailed a

pair of free throws as soon as the timeout was over to put the Buffs back in the lead.

Thirty seconds later, Idaho's Ganeaya Rogers sank a layup to put the Vandals ahead 58-57. Those were the final points for Idaho, however.

"We came out of that timeout and we knew we had to buckle down and you could see it in everybody's eyes as soon as we stepped on the floor," Jeffery said. "We were denying, we were pressuring and they didn't score. We created havoc that last four minutes, and they didn't like it."

Offensively, Jen Reese put the Buffs in the lead for good with 2:49 to go, and then the Buffs nailed 6-of-8 free throws in the final 2:14.

"I think it's more fun (than) beating teams by 30 because you have the adrenaline rush and you know you have to win," said Reese, who had 10 points. "We all played together those last three minutes as a team and it was great."

It may not have been how the Buffs envisioned this one playing out and it may not be the prettiest game for coaches to review on film. But, in the end, Lappe was pleased to see something new from her team.

"That was the first time we got to see our team in a close game situation and I really liked what I saw," she said.

Colorado 68, Idaho 59

IDAHO (59)

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

Charlston 31 4-12 1-1 3-3 8 5 12

Shiels 23 4-5 0-0 1-2 4 1 9

Graham 32 3-7 0-1 0-0 7 3 6

Arendse 37 3-11 2-5 5-6 5 1 13

Rogers 36 1-10 0-1 0-1 2 3 2

Barr 18 5-14 1-7 1-2 5 1 12

Weiks 15 1-3 0-0 3-3 3 2 5

Walters 8 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 2 0

Team 5

Totals 200 21-62 4-15 13-17 39 18 59

Assists (9): Rogers 6, Shiels, Arendse, Weiks.

Steals (6): Rogers 3, Barr 2, Shiels.

Turnovers (11): Shiels 3, Rogers 3, Arendse 2, Charlston, Weiks, team.

Blocked shots (2): Charlston, Shiels.

COLORADO (68)

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

MM-Peck 28 3-9 1-6 1-2 4 1 8

Seabrook 32 2-5 0-2 3-6 10 2 7

Hargis 8 0-2 0-0 0-0 2 2 0

A. Wilson 10 0-2 0-0 0-0 2 0 0

Jeffery 40 10-17 4-5 6-7 10 1 30

Kresl 25 2-9 1-5 0-0 3 1 5

B. Wilson 29 2-10 2-6 2-4 6 4 8

Sborov 4 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Reese 24 4-9 0-0 2-2 6 2 10

Team 5

Totals 200 23-63 8-24 14-21 48 14 68**Assists (12):** B. Wilson 4, Jeffery 3, Malcolm-Peck 2, Seabrook, A. Wilson, Reese.**Steals (4):** Jeffery 3, Reese.**Turnovers (14):** Seabrook 4, Malcolm-Peck 2, Hargis 2, Jeffery 2, A. Wilson, Kresl, B. Wilson, team.**Blocked shots (4):** Kresl 2, Seabrook, Jeffery.**Halftime score:** Colorado 42, Idaho 33.**Technical fouls** -- none.**Attendance** -- 1,992.

- [Jeffery comes up big for Buffs](#)
- [PHOTO GALLERY: 13 photos from CU-Idaho game](#)
- [VIDEO: Linda Lappe postgame press conference](#)
- [VIDEO: Jen Reese, Chucky Jeffery postgame press conference](#)
- [Have a question for our reporters about any of the CU athletic teams, ask it here in our weekly mailbag.](#)

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CU women's basketball notes

Chucky Jeffery steps up in the clutch for CU Buffs

By **Brian Howell** Buffzone.com
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 12/04/2011 05:59:25 PM MST

It's never a surprise to see Chucky Jeffery play well.

On Sunday, the Colorado junior was exceptional. She finished with a career-high 30 points, along with 10 rebounds, three assists and three steals.

"I just played basketball," she said. "I didn't do anything special. I took what the defense gave me."

It wasn't quite that simple. Jeffery's performance was not only special, but critical on a day that CU struggled to a 68-59 win over Idaho.

"Thank goodness Chucky came to play tonight," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "She did so many great things for us, offensively and defensively. She really did a great job controlling the ball and I don't know that she let her girl score on her at all. Maybe one time. She had a great pace today. I'm really thankful that she came focused."

Jeffery has been focused all year, but has been particularly good of late. Sunday was her third consecutive double-double, the first CU player to do that since Jackie McFarland in 2007. Jeffery also had the first 30-10 game since McFarland in 2008.

Jeffery's previous career high in points was 26, on Wednesday against San Francisco. In the past two games, she is averaging 28 points and 11 rebounds while hitting 64.5 percent of her shots (20-of-31), including 85.7 percent from 3-point range (6-of-7).

"We shot a lot during practice and shoot-around and got a lot of shots up, so, my shot was on and that was great," she said after her 14th career double-double.

Reese chips in

As good as Jeffery was, the Buffs struggled on offense as a team. Freshman Jen Reese had a good day, though. She finished with 10 points and six rebounds.

"She played solid," Lappe said. "She doesn't do anything flashy and that's OK. She did a great job on the boards. Defensively she did a much better job tonight of not letting the ball get to her player on the block so easily. We've been working really hard on that and I thought she stepped up and I thought she hit a couple of tough shots."

Delay of (post)game

Lappe delayed her postgame press conference for a couple of minutes so that she and everybody else in the media room could watch the final seconds of the Denver Broncos' 35-32 win against Minnesota.

"You've got to be kidding me!" Lappe exclaimed when Broncos kicker Matt Prater booted the game-winning field goal.

Notable

CU has started 7-0 just four other times in team history -- 1980-81 (12-0), 1982-83 (7-0), 1992-93 (15-0) and 1993-94 (7-0). The Buffs made postseason play in each of those seasons. ... Prior to Sunday, CU had faced just one second-half deficit (for a total of six seconds) all season. Idaho had three second-half leads, totaling 2:03. ... Meagan Malcolm-Peck rolled her ankle in the final minutes and did not return. "She'll be fine," Lappe said. ... Malcolm-Peck has made just one of

her last 17 3-point attempts and five of 26 for the season. ... Sunday was the sixth straight game in which CU out-rebounded its opponent, this time with a 48-39 advantage. ... Julie Seabrook made her 41st straight start and had a season-high 10 rebounds.

- [Lappe's Buffs rally past Idaho](#)
- [PHOTO GALLERY: 13 photos from CU-Idaho game](#)
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Sunday, December 4, 2011

Updated: December 5, 9:55 AM ET

Boilers make statement with A&M upset

Monday morning headline: Statements or suggestions?

Statement wins. They're not just for college football anymore! Thankfully, since the only subjective judgment used in basketball's postseason is between No. 64 and No. 65, not No. 2 and No. 3, style points from Sunday's games are nothing more than conversation fodder. But four games between ranked teams make for a lot of fodder.

Ranking the statements made:

1. Purdue beating Texas A&M: More on the Boilermakers in a minute.



2. Ohio State beating Oklahoma: A year is a long time to wait for a mulligan, but that's what Ohio State earned with a big win at Oklahoma. The Buckeyes beat the Sooners a year ago to improve to 7-0 and promptly lost four of their next five games, and six of their next nine, locking in the script for a team that was never as consistent or as good as you got the feeling it should have been with Jantel Lavender and Samantha Prahalis. The schedule through the end of the month is much kinder this time around, and after adding a victory in Norman to home wins against Temple, Florida State and LSU, it's once again tempting to believe this team has some long-range potential. Averaging a shade more than 21 points per game for the season, Tayler Hill averaged 24.5 points in those four signature wins. She also shot 48.2 percent in those games.

3. Kentucky beating Louisville: A'dia Mathies got the best of Shoni Schimmel in a battle of Bluegrass State guards (albeit one a transplant), and Kentucky's 74-54 win just about evened the score in the series after last season's 78-52 drubbing at the hands of Louisville. This one matters most because Kentucky's schedule was lighter than a helium balloon floating in the International Space Station coming into Sunday, making it tough to know what to think of life after Victoria Dunlap (and before Connecticut transfer Samarie Walker becomes eligible following the fall semester). The problem is Sunday seemed to prove Kentucky can turn people over and play hard for Matthew Mitchell, two things we already knew. If the Wildcats repeat the 3-point shooting (10-for-19) at Duke on Thursday, then we've got a statement.

4. Tennessee beating Texas: Don't get angry, Lady Vols Nation. You're only fourth because your team's elite credentials mean beating Texas is more taking care of business than making a statement. The rebounding (49-38) is what we expect. The 3-point shooting (11-for-21) can't be counted on every game, but it's nice to know it's there. The impressive part? Just nine turnovers. Against its three toughest opponents this season, Tennessee now has just 33 turnovers (including 13 against Miami and 11 against Baylor). Tennessee didn't play Miami a season ago, but if you substitute Louisville in its place, the Lady Vols had 58 turnovers in three similar games.

Best team weekend performance: Purdue. A season ago, Purdue lost a tough home game against Maryland in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge. It then lost its next two games at Notre Dame and Texas A&M. There's no shame in those defeats, but losing by 21 points in South Bend and a cringe-inducing 45 points in College Station pushed the Boilermakers completely out of the national conversation the rest of the way. Well, Purdue had ample reason to look at Thursday's loss at Duke as one that got away, a 40-39 lead with 11:58 to play vanishing in a game-ending 25-13 run by the Blue Devils. Purdue couldn't buy a shot, couldn't get a rebound and couldn't stop turning over the ball when it mattered.



Samantha Drake shoots over Louisville's Asia Taylor in the Wildcats' 74-54 victory Sunday.

So what did Sharon Versyp's team do three days later against the defending national champion? Turn a nine-point deficit with 15:39 to play into a 60-51 win. Purdue matched Texas A&M on the boards, getting 12 rebounds from Sam Ostarello, in addition to four steals and two blocks. Brittany Rayburn and Courtney Moses hit 5 of 10 shots from behind the arc and matched seven turnovers against a tough defense with seven assists.

It's a statement win all on its own. It's an even better one given what preceded it.



Best individual weekend performance: Chucky Jeffery, Colorado. The number of unbeaten teams is already dwindling toward single digits, with few real surprises amid names like Baylor, Connecticut, Delaware and Green Bay. One name that does jump out is Colorado, it of the 18-16 record last season. Playing a schedule that nobody will confuse with those favored by teams like Rutgers or Tennessee helps, and Sunday's 68-59 victory against Idaho might not rank high on the statement scale, but unbeaten is unbeaten. Jeffery ensured the Buffaloes still fit the category with 30 points and 10 rebounds against the Vandals. For the season, she's averaging 18.3 points, 9.4 rebounds and 4.1 assists while shooting 54 percent from the floor and 44 percent from the 3-point line, so, you know, expect to see her name here again at some point.



Best individual off-the-radar weekend performance: JaQuayla Berry, North Carolina A&T. It's never too early to start conference play. All right, it's ridiculously early to start conference play, but the MEAC is one of several leagues doing it anyway. Berry gets the nod here for filling up the stat sheet with 28 points, 14 rebounds, five assists and three steals in a game that mattered, North Carolina A&T's 84-74 win against North Carolina Central. Berry was third in the nation in steals per game last season.



Best mid-major team: Green Bay. The next [mid-major top 10](#) isn't until next week, but consider this an unofficial change at the top. Gonzaga dropped a 58-51 decision against USC at home Sunday, while Green Bay completed a weekend that began with a win Friday against in-state rival Marquette and ended with a 74-67 victory over Northern Iowa on Sunday. Senior post Julie Wojta was at it again, with a double-double against Marquette and a career-best 26 points against Northern Iowa, but keep an eye on redshirt freshman Megan Lukan. Phoenix coaches last season compared Lukan to Celeste Hoewisch at the same point in her career (both redshirted their first season in Green Bay). Lukan had 12 points and three steals against Marquette and 13 points against Northern Iowa. Lukan is a keeper.

Setting up the week ahead (Monday-Friday)

Rutgers at Miami (Monday): Not a single Rutgers player averaged 30 minutes per game through the team's first eight contests, which is saying something for a program that recently seemed capable of using players for 30 minutes a half. It's early, and there have been a couple of bench-friendly wins against teams like Lehigh and La Salle, but will depth actually be an asset for the Scarlet Knights? Speaking of spreading the wealth, Miami's Morgan Stroman led the Hurricanes with 20 points in last week's win at Michigan State, the first time a player other than Shenise Johnson or Riquna Williams led them in scoring since Dec. 18, 2010 (Stroman against UC Riverside).

Texas A&M at Connecticut (ESPN2, 7 p.m. ET Tuesday): There's something about the Women's College Cup, college soccer's version of the Final Four, that doesn't sit well with the Aggies. Long the Big 12's flagship soccer team, Texas A&M has a strong claim to being the best program never to reach the signature event. And now for the second year in a row, Gary Blair's basketball team dropped its first game of the season over College Cup weekend. OK, maybe I've been around too much soccer this weekend. The Aggies bounced back from a loss at Duke last season with a big victory against Purdue in their next game. Now coming off a loss at Purdue, they need Sydney Carter and Adrienne Pratcher (combined 3-for-21