

CU Buffs' Beemer races back into top form

Junior returns in fine fashion after taking last year off

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Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/23/2012 11:44:52 PM MST

When Brianne Beemer suited up for the Colorado track and field team last weekend at the Potts Indoor Invitational, she couldn't have asked for a better return to the Buffs.

"It just feels amazing to come back and have a big meet like I had with a couple (personal records)," she said. "I'm just excited for the rest of the season."

Beemer, a junior from Mountain View High School, won the pentathlon with a personal-record score of 3,769 points at the meet, held at Balch Field House. She also set PRs in the high jump and shot put.

She competed for CU in 2009 and 2010, but sat out the 2011 season as a redshirt. She is working on two degrees at CU -- one for business and one for speech, language and hearing sciences.

"Because I'm in two different schools, the education doesn't overlap enough and I'm going to be here five years," Beemer said. "So, we made the choice that I would redshirt last season."

As a redshirt, she obviously couldn't compete with the Buffs. She did compete in several meets, however, running unattached.

"It was just different," she said, adding it was a little odd when her teammates would go on road trips without her. "I was definitely grateful I was able to do it. It was worth it."

While maintaining her goals in the classroom, Beemer has also improved her abilities in the athletic arena.

"My training has always focused on all the different events and the diversity," said Beemer, a cross country, basketball and track and field athlete in high school. "I think it's been a great college experience because of that. I think I'm very healthy from doing many different sports.

"I definitely think I'm getting better, which is always the goal."

She was already pretty good before her redshirt year, earning All-Big 12 Conference honors four times. Now that CU is in the Pac-12, Beemer hopes to add more honors to her resume.

"I'm definitely looking forward to trying to make the all-conference team for the Pac-12, as well as going to nationals for both the indoor pentathlon and the outdoor heptathlon," she said. "I'm also looking at running the 400 hurdles at both regionals and hopefully nationals."

As Beemer strives for those goals, she continues pursuing her degrees and looking to the future. She's unsure of whether she wants to pursue a career in marketing or as an audiologist, which would require four more years of school.

Either way, Beemer couldn't be more pleased with how college has gone to this point.

"It's been everything I hoped for," she said. "It's been incredible."

Stewart shines

Alex Stewart, a sophomore on the CU women's golf team, has been turning heads lately with her play.

Earlier this month, she was fourth at the Women's South Atlantic Amateur Golf Championship in Ormond Beach, Fla. After that event, she went to the 80th annual D. Jones/Dougherty Amateur Championship and advanced to the semifinals of that match-play event.

A transfer from Purdue, Stewart, along with her teammates, is set to begin the college season in a couple of weeks.

Notable

The CU tennis team opened the season last Friday with a 4-2 win against Air Force, snapping a 19-match losing streak. The Buffs then lost 7-0 to LSU on Sunday. ... Freshman Mark Jones cleared 6 feet, 11 inches in the high jump at the Potts Invite -- the 12th best jump in school history.

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