

CU Buffs' Linda Lappe working on bolstering roster for 2013-14

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During her two years as head women's basketball coach at Colorado, Linda Lappe has operated with a short-handed roster.

She's working on changing that for the future.

Lappe and her staff are spending a good chunk of the summer on the recruiting trail. The goal is to get the Buffs to the NCAA-maximum of 15 scholarship players.

"We have a big class to sign this year," Lappe said. "Our goal is to sign five. It's a pretty big task."

During Lappe's first season, 2010-11, CU had 10 players on scholarship. They had 11 last year and will have 13 this coming season. With two players -- Chucky Jeffery and Meagan Malcolm-Peck -- set to graduate after the 2012-13 season, CU will have at least four spots available for the 2013 class.

"We've really wanted to recruit the right people, the right basketball players," Lappe said of why the Buffs went with smaller rosters in the past. "We didn't want to sign people just to sign people. It had to be a great fit.

"Now that we've been here a couple of years, we have a better grasp on the classes. We've been able to recruit this 2013 class for a couple of years now. I think it's realistically possible that we could sign five."

Jeffery's departure a year from now will leave the Buffs with just one point guard -- incoming freshman Kyleesha Weston. The Buffs are also looking to add some strength to the post.

"We need a big post player, we need a strong 4-5 kind of player, we need another point guard," Lappe said. "Then we're just looking for somebody that can score."

NCAA rules prohibit coaches from talking about specific recruits, but Lappe said she and her staff have targeted a number of players they will pursue.

"We have a group of players that we really want to sign and hopefully we can get it done," she said. "I think 14 is a pretty good number. If it works out that we can get 15, great. If not, no big deal either. I'd like to get at least 13-15."

Coaches have two 10-day evaluation periods next month, from July 6-15 and July 21-30.

"We travel all around the country and mostly all club teams is what we're watching," she said.

"They have big tournaments all throughout the United States. We'll basically be in a gym from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day during the evaluation period."

Working out

Current players are on campus this month taking classes and working out with strength and conditioning coach James Hardy.

CU's three incoming freshmen -- Lauren Huggins, Jamee Swan and Weston -- are among those working out with the team.

Notable

The Buffs are hosting youth camps this week. They hosted one for ages 5-9, one for ages 9-14 and a shooting camp on Friday for ages 8-18. The Buffs also have an elite camp that runs today and Sunday. ... CU's women's basketball camps wrap up with a team camp June 22-24. ... Lappe said about 160 kids participated in the youth camps this week, an increase over last year's attendance.