



Sophomore Brittany Wilson tied a career high with 22 points  
Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com



# Brooks: Buffs Bury Lumberjacks In Season Opener

Release: 11/11/2011    Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

**BOULDER** – If there were any opening-night nerves, Linda Lappe’s Colorado women’s basketball team quickly disposed of them. After that, Northern Arizona was disposed of just as easily as CU rolled into the 2011-12 season with an impressive 84-60 win Friday night at the Coors Events Center.

The Buffs had three players in double figures, led by sophomore Brittany Wilson with 22 points. Freshman Lexy Kresl tied a school record with five three-pointers in the first half, finishing with 15, and sophomore Chucky Jeffery came off the bench to add 11 points.

CU finished its first game with a 57.1 percentage from the field (32-of-56) and was at 66.7 percent from the free throw line (12-of-18). NAU, also opening its season Friday night, was held to 37.5 percent shooting (21-of-56). The Lumberjacks’ leading scorer was Amanda Frost with 18.

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"I'm pleased with how our team did tonight," Lappe said. "I thought we got a lot better from our game against Regis in a lot of different areas. I thought offensively we moved the ball well and were very balanced in our scoring attack."

Hoping to experiment with her new players and rotations, Lappe couldn't have scripted a better start – and it wasn't just the Buffs racing to a 29-9 advantage midway through the opening half.

Northern Arizona's moment (actually, several seconds) of glory was controlling the opening tip. From there, the Buffs took control. After sophomore Rachel Hargis took a charge on NAU's first possession, she scored on a put-back and CU was off, running and shooting.

Much of that was done by the supremely confident Kresl, who buried five of her six three-point attempts for 15 first-half points. The 5-11 guard from Paradise Valley, Ariz., missed on two second-half treys, but her five rebounds were a team best.

"I was definitely feeling my shot," Kresl said. "I feel really good in the offense. It's also about playing defense though. If you play good defense then you will get the shots you want. If you are patient, then you'll get your shot."

"I thought she came out with a lot of confidence," Lappe added. "I somehow knew she was going to play well against Northern Arizona, she knows a lot of those players. She had a little bit more of a challenge in coming out and making sure her team was successful."

In the first half, Lappe played nine of her 10 players suited up for the opener, with walk-on Esther Lee entering the game in the final minute. Eight of the 10 Buffs scored.

Behind Kresl's shooting, which boosted her team's 59.3 percent field goal accuracy (16-of-27) in the first 20 minutes, the Buffs led 44-20 at the half. Their big lead was 31 points (44-13) on a pair of Brittany Wilson free throws at 3:04 before intermission.

"A good start is important," Brittany Wilson said. We knew that if we didn't bury [Northern Arizona] quick, they have the weapons to come back. When we had the chance to put them away, we did

The Lumberjacks managed to hit just 29.6 percent (8-of-27) from the field in the first half and didn't score for the game's first 21/2 minutes. From there, the night steadily eroded for the Big Sky Conference member.

After falling behind 26-9, NAU suffered an almost 7 minute drought and found itself looking at a 39-11 deficit after Kresl canned her fourth trey of the half with 4:03 left before halftime.

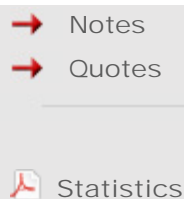
When Kresl followed immediately with her fifth three-pointer, the Buffs were cruising 42-13 – and Lappe might have been wondering if her team could maintain interest in the final 20 minutes.

No problem . . . the Buffs outscored the Lumberjacks 10-5 in the second half's first 31/2 minutes and maintained at least a 21-point advantage for the remainder of the night.

CU travels to Texas A&M Corpus-Christi next Wednesday, then plays at Colorado State on Sunday, Nov. 20.

The Buffs return to the Events Center for the Omni Hotels Classic on Nov. 25-26. They open the tournament against Valparaiso on Nov. 25 (7:30 p.m.), preceded by Montana State and Wisconsin (5 p.m.). The consolation and championship games are scheduled for Nov. 26 (5 p.m., 7:30 p.m.).

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## CU women's basketball

## Kresl opens on fire in debut for CU Buffs

Wilson leads way with 22 points, 5 steals in 84-60 win

By **Brian Howell** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 11/11/2011 07:26:59 PM MST



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Kresl opens on fire in debut for CU women In the minutes following her collegiate debut on Friday, Colorado's Lexy Kresl kept hearing about some school record she tied.

She had no idea what people were talking about. All she knew was that she was on fire -- for a half anyway.

"I was definitely feeling my shot," she said after scoring 15 points in the Buffaloes' 84-60 rout of Northern Arizona at Coors Events Center in women's basketball.

Kresl did all of her scoring in the first half, tying a school record for 3-pointers in a half with five.

Sophomore Brittany Wilson was rather impressive, too, tying her career-high with 22 points and notching a career-best five steals.

"It's always fun for a season opener at home with our own fans," Wilson said. "We wanted to pick up where we left off last year and include our other four freshmen in it."

The Buffs, who won six of their last nine games last season, got off to a solid start to this season, using a good mix of veterans and newcomers. Chucky Jeffery came off the bench to score 11 points and dish five assists, while Rachel Hargis and Julie Seabrook -- the team's only senior -- scored nine points each. Freshman Jen Reese had a good debut, with eight points.

"I'm pleased with how our team did tonight," head coach Linda Lappe said. "I thought we got a lot better from our (exhibition) game with Regis in a lot of different areas."

Kresl put on quite a show early. She became the sixth player in school history to drain five 3-pointers in a half. She finished 5-for-8 from the floor -- all from 3-point range.

"I wish it would have continued into the second half, but I knew we needed a pick-up, so I used my energy to try to get the team going and that was in my shot," Kresl said.

Just the second player in school history from Arizona -- and the first in 34 years -- the Paradise Valley, Ariz., product was certainly motivated against the Lumberjacks.

"I knew Lexy was going to play well against Northern Arizona," Lappe said. "I know she knows a lot of those players that are playing there. She, more so than the rest of our players, had a little bit of a personal challenge as far as making sure our team came out successful against Northern Arizona. I wasn't surprised that she had a great game at all."

With Kresl sparking the team early, CU rolled to a 31-point lead in the first half. The Buffs took a 20-point lead just 11 minutes in and UNA never got its deficit under that mark the rest of the way.

"We didn't play as well as I think we could have played," Lumberjacks coach Laurie Kelly said. "We came out very timid."

My credit goes out to Colorado. They came out, set the tone, and played great team basketball."

Amanda Frost led UNA with 18 points, while Amy Patton had 15.

The Buffs had seven players score at least seven points. They did it by hitting long-range shots, driving for layups and dumping the ball inside to Seabrook, Hargis and Reese.

"We were pretty versatile in what we did tonight offensively," Lappe said.

The defense wasn't as consistent, but Lappe said, "For the most part, I'm really, really happy with the outcome and the progress that our team made this week."

**Colorado 84, N. Arizona 60**

**NORTHERN ARIZONA (60)**

**MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP**

Pratt 29 2-9 0-4 0-0 5 0 4

Davis 17 0-1 0-0 0-0 5 4 0

Gortarez 18 0-0 0-0 5-5 0 2 5

Patton 32 6-14 3-7 0-2 6 2 15

Haynes 27 1-4 1-3 0-0 1 1 3

May 14 0-1 0-0 0-0 1 3 0

Smith 3 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Anderson 9 2-4 0-0 1-1 2 1 5

Trice 22 4-7 0-0 2-2 4 2 10

Frost 29 6-16 5-11 1-2 1 5 18

Batson 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Team 9

**Totals 200 21-56 9-25 9-12 34 20 60**

**Assists (10):** Patton 4, Trice 2, Gortarez, Haynes, Anderson, Frost.

**Steals (11):** Pratt 3, Frost 3, Patton 2, Gortarez, May, Trice.

**Turnovers (29):** Patton 9, Trice 4, Haynes 3, Pratt 3, Davis 3, May 2, Anderson 2, Frost 2, Gortarez.

**Blocked shots (2):** Davis, Trice.

**COLORADO (84)**

**MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP**

Seabrook 23 4-4 0-0 1-1 3 1 9

Hargis 18 4-7 0-0 1-2 3 3 9

B. Wilson 32 7-13 2-6 6-8 1 1 22

A. Wilson 18 3-4 0-0 1-2 3 4 7

MM-Peck 22 1-5 1-4 0-0 2 0 3

Kresl 21 5-8 5-8 0-0 5 2 15

Lee 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Sborov 17 0-3 0-1 0-0 2 1 0

Jeffery 24 5-6 0-0 1-2 3 2 11

Reese 24 3-6 0-0 2-3 2 2 8

Team 4

**Totals 200 32-56 8-19 12-18 28 16 84**

**Assists (13):** Jeffery 5, A. Wilson 4, B. Wilson 3, Reese.

**Steals (16):** B. Wilson 5, Sborov 3, Reese 3, Seabrook 2, A. Wilson, Kresl, Jeffery.

**Turnovers (17):** B. Wilson 5, Sborov 3, Jeffery 3, A. Wilson 2, Seabrook, M. Malcolm-Peck, Kresl, Lee.

**Blocked shots (4):** Hargis, M. Malcolm-Peck, Kresl, Jeffery.

**Halftime score:** Colorado 44, Northern Arizona 20.

**Technical fouls** -- none.

**Attendance** -- 4,109.

- [Have a question for our reporters about any of the CU athletic teams, ask it here in our weekly mailbag.](#)

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## Jeffery comes off bench for CU Buffs

**By Brian Howell** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 11/12/2011 03:29:51 PM MST

When the Colorado women's basketball team's starting lineup was announced Friday night against Northern Arizona, there was a bit of a surprise.

Chucky Jeffery, the Buffs' top returning scorer and rebounder, watched the first 6 minutes, 36 seconds from the bench.

Instead, sophomore Brittany Wilson got the start.

"A lot of it is who performs in practice and that's really an important part of what we do and who we are," head coach Linda Lappe said. "Usually in practice is where I gain confidence in our players."

Lappe said that Friday's five starters -- Wilson, Ashley Wilson, Rachel Hargis, Meagan Malcolm-Peck and Julie Seabrook - - "are probably the most consistent players at this time."

She then added, "Hopefully that continues to evolve and change."

Jeffery started the first half of last season. In the second half, however, she mainly came off the bench, while Brittany Wilson started. Jeffery got the start in Sunday's exhibition win over Regis.

"I really enjoy Chucky coming off the bench in general," Lappe said. "Having some firepower off the bench is really, really important."

"I thought you saw Chucky do some really good things tonight off the bench. I'm not saying that's how it's always going to be, but it was the right move for tonight."

Jeffery finished with 11 points and a team-high five assists. She played 24 minutes -- second only to Brittany Wilson's 32.

### Post presence

Lappe thought the Buffs went away from the inside game too early against Regis. On Friday, the Buffs were better in that regard.

Low post players Hargis, Seabrook and Jen Reese combined for 26 points.

### Debut performances

Four freshmen made their CU debuts -- Lexy Kresl, Reese, Jasmine Sborov and Esther Lee.

Kresl (15 points) had a stellar night off the bench, Reese flashed her ability on offense and Sborov, who struggled offensively, "buckled down defensively," Lappe said.

Lee played only in the final minute. **Free throws**

Ten players saw action on Friday. That's one more than all of last year, when just nine got playing time -- the lowest total for the program since 1977-78. ... CU is now 33-5 all-time in season openers and 36-2 in home openers. ... Northern Arizona out-rebounded the Buffs 34-28.

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cu women 84, no. arizona 60

## Kresl's 3-pointers help CU women win opener

By Tom Kensler  
The Denver Post

Posted: 11/12/2011 01:00:00 AM MST

**BOULDER** — What's the record for career 3-pointers by a Colorado women's basketball player?

Bianca Smith (2006-10) set the mark of 257, but check back in a few years because CU freshman guard Lexy Kresl is off to a fast start.

Coming off the bench Friday night in Colorado's season-opening 84-60 blowout of Northern Arizona, the 5-foot-11 Kresl scored 15 points and needed only about 15 minutes to turn heads.

Her five 3-pointers in the first half matched the school record, taking only six attempts from beyond the arc to accomplish it.

"I was definitely feeling my shot," Kresl said. "I knew we needed a pickup, so I just tried to bring energy. I feel really good in this offense."

Northern Arizona didn't put up much of a fight. Struggling to get open looks against CU's man-to-man defense, the Lumberjacks made only four of their first 17 shots and fell behind by scores of 7-0, 21-4 and finally 44-20 at halftime.

Colorado got 22 points from starting sophomore guard Brittany Wilson, who tied her career high. "I think we're off to a good start," she said.

Coach Linda Lappe knew all about Kresl's shooting ability while recruiting the Arizonan. At Shadow Mountain High School near Phoenix, Kresl averaged 27 points as a junior and 25 as a senior, setting a school record with 2,404 points. But five 3-pointers in her first half of college ball?

"I thought Lexy came out with a lot of confidence," Lappe said. "I had a feeling she would play well against Northern Arizona; she knows a lot of those players. I was only surprised by the one she made when she was almost out of bounds."

One of Colorado's most highly touted freshmen did not play. Arielle Roberson, a 6-1 forward from San Antonio and sister of Andre Roberson on the CU men's team, is out indefinitely with a back injury.

Colorado takes to the road for a Wednesday game at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

### NORTHERN ARIZONA (0-1)

Pratt 2-9 0-0 4, Davis 0-1 0-0 0, Gortarez 0-0 5-5 5, Patton 6-14 0-2 15, Haynes 1-4 0-0 3, May 0-1 0-0 0, Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Anderson 2-4 1-1 5, Trice 4-7 2-2 10, Frost 6-16 1-2 18, Batson 0-0 0-0 0. **Totals 21-56 9-12 60.**



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## COLORADO (1-0)

Seabrook 4-4 1-1 9, Hargis 4-7 1-2 9, B.Wilson 7-13 6-8 22, A.Wilson 3-4 1-2 7, Malcolm-Peck 1-5 0-0 3, Kresl 5-8 0-0 15, Lee 0-0 0-0 0, Sborov 0-3 0-0 0, Jeffery 5-6 1-2 11, Reese 3-6 2-3 8. **Totals 32-56 12-18 84. Colorado 44-20. 3-point goals — N. Arizona 9-25 (Frost 5-11, Patton 3-7, Haynes 1-3, Pratt 0-4), Colorado 8-19 (Kresl 5-8, B.Wilson 2-6, Malcolm-Peck 1-4, Sborov 0-1). Fouled out — Frost. Rebounds — N. Arizona 34 (Patton 6), Colorado 28 (Kresl 5). Assists — N. Arizona 10 (Patton 4), Colorado 13 (Jeffery 5). Total fouls — N. Arizona 20, Colorado 16. A — 4,109.**

Halftime —



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 November 14, 2011, 2:02 pm

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 wind speed: 9 m/s SW  
 wind gusts: 14 m/s

## Colorado women's basketball takes down Northern Arizona

Written by Caryn Maconi in Basketball, Front Page, Sports on Nov 12, 2011 15:15 / comments

It's a strong start for Colorado basketball.

The Buffs women had three players scoring double figures on Friday as they defeated the NAU Lumberjacks 84-60 at the Coors Events Center.

*[See below for more of CUI photog Elaine Cromie's photos.]*

Sophomore guard Brittany Wilson led the Colorado offense with a career-high 22 points. Freshman guard Lexy Kresl tied the school record for three-pointers scored in a half, as all 15 of her total points were first-half treys. Junior guard Chucky Jeffery also added 11 points for CU.



Brittany Wilson, 11, drives past the Northern Arizona Lumberjacks' Katie Pratt. The Buffs won the game 84-60. (CU Independent/Elaine Cromie)

The Buffs took a decisive lead over the Lumberjacks from the beginning, going up 15-2 within the first four minutes. Kresl then came off the bench and made a trio of three-pointers, bringing CU's lead to 24-9 with 12:30 left on the clock. She would make two more threes before the end of the half, helping Colorado to a 44-20 halftime lead.

"I was definitely feeling my shot," Kresl said. "I wish it would've continued in the second half, but I knew we needed a pickup, so I tried to use my energy."

The Buffs found the net easily in the first half, shooting 59.3 percent from the field and 58.3 percent on three-pointers. They held the Lumberjacks to just 29.6 percent from the field.

Colorado started the second half with a field goal from sophomore center Rachel Hargis. NAU then went on a 5-0 run, but Hargis, Jeffery, and Wilson responded quickly. They scored a field goal each, making the score 54-25 with 16:24 left in the game.

Wilson was the standout for the rest of the half. She would score 13 of CU's 30 more points before the final buzzer, helping the Buffs to the victory.

Wilson said she felt the pressure to maintain the Buffs' lead in the second half.

"We just have to put together 40 minutes of play," Wilson said. "[NAU] has the weapons to come back, so when we had the chance to put them away, we knew we had to."

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The Buffs did more than enough to put the competition away, shooting 57.1 percent from the field and 66.7 percent at the free throw line.

Head coach Linda Lappe said she was impressed with her freshmen, especially Kresl, during Friday's game.

"Having some firepower off the bench is really, really important," Lappe said. "I think you saw that in Lexy tonight ... [she] came in with a lot of confidence and got her feet set."

Because Kresl went to high school in Paradise Valley, Ariz., Lappe said she expected the freshman to be extra determined to beat Northern Arizona.

"I somehow knew Lexy was going to do well against Northern Arizona because she knew a lot of the players," Lappe said. "It was a little bit of a personal challenge."

Lappe said the Buffs' offense has improved since last Saturday's exhibition game against Regis.

"I thought offensively we moved the ball well and scored it well," Lappe said. "We established an inside presence which was very, very important. We were very versatile in what we did tonight offensively."

The Buffs take to the road for the first time this season on Nov. 16, when they take on Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. The game is scheduled for 6 p.m. MST.

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## SPORTS UPDATE



5:23 AM NOV 14, 2011 / comments

## Cross-country shines at regionals

The Buffs cross-country team stampeded to victory at the NCAA Mountain Region Championship on Saturday. At the East Bay Golf Course in Provo, Utah, the No. 3 women's team earned 84 points to