

Women's basketball: CU Buffs top Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

Jeffery stars in Buffs' road win

Camera staff report
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:11/16/2011 08:10:27 PM MST

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas -- Road games used to be near impossible for Colorado's women's basketball team to win.

Now the Buffs are getting the hang of this travel thing.

On Wednesday night, CU defeated Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 71-58 at the American Bank Center. Dating back to last season, it was CU's fourth straight road win, its longest road win streak since a six-game streak in 2003-04.

"It takes a lot of toughness to win on the road and it takes a lot of team chemistry and it takes a lot of togetherness to win on the road," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "Our team showed a lot of toughness when we needed to tonight. We've really learned what it takes."

Junior Chucky Jeffery and freshmen Lexy Kresl and Jen Reese were sensational in helping the Buffs (2-0) snap a 17-game skid in the state of Texas.

Jeffery came off the bench again, but still recorded 19 points and a career-high 16 rebounds, posting her 12th career double-double. She also had five assists and a career-high five blocks. Jeffery is the first Buff to record at least 16 rebounds in a game since Erin Scholz had 17 on Jan. 6, 1995.

"They had a lot of offensive rebounds and that's how they were staying in the game with us, by rebounding," Jeffery said. "Coach told me when I get in the game I need to rebound, and that's what I did."

Kresl, who had 15 points in her collegiate debut on Friday, had 11 on Wednesday, as well as five rebounds. Reese finished with 13 points and five rebounds, giving the Buffs a huge inside presence with starters Rachel Hargis and Julie Seabrook on the bench for much the night with foul trouble. Hargis and Seabrook combined to play just 31 minutes.

"Jen did an awesome job tonight, rebounding, finishing under the basket and taking control," Jeffery said. "For a freshman, that's big."

Although the score indicates an easy win, it was far from that. A pair of free throws by Jessica Jammer with 8 minutes, 8 seconds to play pulled the Islanders (0-2) within 49-47.

Reese and Jeffery, however, sparked an 18-5 run over the next 5-plus minutes that gave CU its biggest lead, 67-52.

CU got off to a great start, taking an 8-2 lead, but the offense went cold after that. During a stretch of 4:47, the Buffs had just one point, while the Islanders pulled within 9-8.

The Buffs had a brief 10-point lead in the first half, but the Islanders stayed within single digits most of the night. CU trailed just once, at 39-38, for about seven seconds.

"We lost the lead in the second half for the first time, and that's kind of the point where you can sometimes go down hill, but I never saw a change in our players' expressions," Lappe said. "We didn't get rattled, which I thought was huge. We stepped up and made plays when we needed to make plays."

Notable

CU's last win in Texas came on Jan. 7, 2004, at Baylor. ... Prior to their current win streak, the Buffs had lost nine straight true road games. ... The Buffs had the same starting lineup -- Ashley Wilson, Brittany Wilson, Meagan Malcolm-Peck, Julie Seabrook and Rachel Hargis -- for the second game in a row. ... Jeffery led the team with 36 minutes played. ... Nine Buffs

played, with eight of them scoring. ... The Buffs out-rebounded the Islanders 53-48. ... CU's next game is Sunday at Colorado State.

Colorado 71,

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 58 TEXAS A&M-CORPUS CHRISTI (58)

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

Montgomery 18 1-2 0-0 1-2 9 1 3

Anderson 20 2-9 0-2 1-2 2 3 5

Myles 31 5-14 0-0 0-3 9 3 10

Amboree 20 1-5 1-2 2-2 0 0 5

Taylor 36 3-14 1-7 2-2 5 3 9

Roberts 18 1-5 0-1 0-3 2 4 2

Jammer 26 6-13 0-2 10-13 6 1 22

Huff 16 0-4 0-0 0-0 4 2 0

Vega-Vega 11 1-2 0-0 0-0 4 1 2

Gregory 4 0-1 0-0 0-0 1 0 0

Team 6

Totals 200 20-69 2-14 16-27 48 18 58

Assists (5): Montgomery, Anderson, Amboree, Taylor, Huff.

Steals (5): Myles 2, Taylor 2, Montgomery.

Turnovers (13): Taylor 2, Roberts 2, Jammer 2, Huff 2, Vega-Vega 2, Montgomery, Myles, Amboree.

Blocked shots (4): Montgomery 2, Myles, Huff.

COLORADO (71)

MIN FG 3PT FT Rb PF TP

MM-Peck 32 3-7 1-4 0-2 6 0 7

Seabrook 17 2-4 0-1 0-0 7 4 4

Hargis 14 0-1 0-0 3-4 1 3 3

B. Wilson 30 4-15 0-4 2-5 4 5 10

A. Wilson 11 2-3 0-0 0-0 1 1 4

Kresl 32 4-11 2-7 1-2 5 2 11

Sborov 3 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Jeffery 36 7-17 0-2 5-6 16 3 19

Reese 25 6-9 0-0 1-2 5 3 13

Team 8

Totals 200 28-67 3-18 12-21 53 22 71

Assists (12): Jeffery 5, B. Wilson 2, M. Malcolm-Peck, Hargis, A. Wilson, Kresl, Sborov.

Steals (5): Seabrook 2, A. Wilson, Kresl, Jeffery.

Turnovers (11): Jeffery 5, Seabrook 3, Kresl 2, B. Wilson.

Blocked shots (8): Jeffery 5, M. Malcolm-Peck, Hargis, Reese.

Halftime score: Colorado 33, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 26.

Technical fouls -- None.

Attendance -- 931.

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Isles lead late before falling to Colorado

A&M-CC making progress with 2nd loss to quality foe

By Lee Goddard

Thursday, November 17, 2011

CORPUS CHRISTI — A&M-CC making progress with 2nd loss to quality foe

By Lee Goddard

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The mood was upbeat and the feeling positive again for Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. And, yet again, the Islanders women's basketball team felt good about what it had accomplished in a loss.

They held a lead against Pac-12 Colorado with less than 14 minutes remaining Wednesday night at the American Bank Center and were within two with eight minutes left. But the Buffaloes had a small burst to pull away and then a bigger run to close out A&M-Corpus Christi 71-58.

Coming on the heels of a solidly played contest against Missouri, in which an 18-0 run provided the difference, this lends even more assurance for a rebuilt Islanders group — one with four new players starting — that won only twice last season and went winless in Southland Conference play.

"They're actually a better team than, I think, Missouri," A&M-Corpus Christi coach Robert Robinson said of Colorado. "I think our kids gained a little more confidence in knowing they can play pretty good basketball because this will be one of the better teams we face the rest of the year."

Robinson said before the game that the Islanders (0-2) needed to do two things to avoid letting the Buffaloes (2-0) break open the contest — defend Colorado's 3-point shooting and hold their own on the boards against the Buffaloes, who count players who are 6-foot-2, 6-foot-3 and 6-foot-4 among their starters.

Check off the first one, as Colorado made only 3 of 18 from 3-point range. The second one almost was checked off as A&M-Corpus Christi had three more rebounds than the Buffaloes with seven minutes left in the game. But Colorado corralled 11 of the contest's final 14 rebounds.

That was the difference as far as Robinson and Buffaloes coach Linda Lappe were concerned. As Colorado controlled the boards, the team extended its 49-47 lead over the final eight minutes of the contest, scoring 18 of the next 23 points.

"They were killing us on the boards for three quarters of the game, but then we started to limit them to one shot," Lappe said. "It was the key to making our run as we were able to push and get in transition, and I thought we did a nice job running the floor.

"We knew they were quick. We knew they were fast. That team's going to win a lot of games."

Win a lot, perhaps, as this could be the most difficult stretch for the team this season. No more back-to-back BCS conference opponents the rest of the way, which provides a positive feel for the Islanders.

"It was the same vibe (as Missouri)," said A&M-Corpus Christi wing Jessica Jammer, who had a game-high 22 points. "We just know we can hang with these guys and look forward to great things."

Jammer, who came off the bench, played a major role in keeping her team in the game. The Islanders spread the floor and allowed Jammer to drive. She converted but, almost as importantly, drew fouls on Colorado's big players, getting to the line, where she hit 10 of 13, while her teammates made only 6 of 14.

She nailed a jumper with 13:52 left to give A&M-Corpus Christi its first and only lead of the game at 39-38.

But that woke Colorado, which ran off seven points in a row and never relinquished the lead the rest of the way. The Buffaloes also made life miserable for the Islanders in terms of shooting, with the team's size and reach harassing A&M-Corpus Christi shooters into a 29-percent showing from the floor, including 25 percent in the first half.

So, upset chance lost. But, as Jammer said, there was a positive feel about the effort.

"Jessica was able to take people off the dribble, and that was a huge thing for us," Robinson said. "We showed some positives. We're making pretty good strides."

colorado 71, A&M CC 58

CU (2-0): M. Malcolm-Peck 3-7 0-2 7, Seabrook 2-4 0-0 4, Hargis 0-1 3-4 3, B. Wilson 4-15 2-5 10, A. Wilson 2-3 0-0 4, Kresl 4-11 1-2 11, Sborov 0-0 0-0 0, Jeffery 7-17 5-6 19, B. Malcolm-Peck 0-0 0-0 0, Reese 6-9 1-2 13. Totals: 28-67 12-21 71.

A&M-CC (0-2): Montgomery 1-2 1-2 3, Anderson-Sparks 2-9 1-2 5, Myles 5-14 0-3 10, Amboree 1-5 2-2 5, Taylor 3-14 2-2 9, Roberts 1-5 0-3 2, Jammer 6-13 10-13 22, Huff 0-4 0-0 0, Vega-Vega 1-2 0-0 2, Gregory 0-1 0-0 0. Totals: 20-69 16-27 58.

Half — CU 33-26. 3-point goals — CU 3-18 (M. Malcolm-Peck 1-4, Seabrook 0-1, B. Wilson 0-4, Kresl 2-7, Jeffery 0-2). A&M-CC 2-14 (Anderson-Sparks 0-2, Amboree 1-2,

Taylor 1-7, Roberts 0-1, Jammer 0-2). Fouled out — B. Wilson. Rebounds — CU 53 (Jeffery 16), A&M-CC 48 (Montgomery, Myles 9). Assists — CU 12 (Jeffery 5), A&M-CC 5 (Five with one). Total fouls — CU 22, A&M-CC 18. Technicals — None. A — 931.



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SPORTS - ISLANDERS

Islanders Fall 71-58 to Colorado in Non-Conference Action

Posted: Nov 16, 2011 10:51 PM

Updated: Nov 16, 2011 10:55 PM



CORPUS CHRISTI - Despite a late rally with 13 minutes left, the Texas A&M - Corpus Christi women's basketball team (0-2) dropped their second game of the season, falling 71-58 to Pac-12 foe Colorado (2-0) Wednesday night at the American Bank Center. Junior Jessica Jammer gave the Islanders a spark off the bench to lead all scorers with 22 points, three-shy of tying a career best.

Myeisha Myles added 10 points and nine rebounds in 31 minutes of play while newcomer Verne'qua Taylor chipped in nine points and five boards in 36 minutes of action.

The Islanders trailed by seven out of the half but a steal from Taylor to junior Damequia Montgomery for a layup brought the Islanders within five. The Islanders continued the

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rally cutting the Buffs lead to three with 17:50 with a Myeisha Myles jumper off a missed shot by Taylor.

After trading buckets back and forth the Islanders took their first lead of the game, behind Jammer's jumper in the paint with 13:50 left.

Colorado answered with a 6-0 run before buckets from Alisa Roberts and Zoey Vega-Vega brought the Islanders within two. But the Buffs took the lead for good with a 5-0 run with 4:27 left.

The Buffs were led by four players in double-figures for the second time this year. Chucky Jeffery had a double-double with 19 points and a game-high 16 boards. Jen Reese (13 points), Lexy Kresl (11 points) and Brittany Wilson (10 points) led the Buffs to their second win of the season.

Jammer had a career night going 10-for-13 at the charity stripe. The junior also added six rebounds. Montgomery led the Islanders on the glass with nine.

At the half, the Islanders trailed 33-26, Texas A&M - Corpus Christi outrebounded the Buffs 26-22. The Islanders were led by Jammer with nine. Colorado was led by Meagan Malcolm-Peck with seven points and Jeffery led the glass with eight boards.

The Islanders will hit the road for the first time this season when they travel to Jonesboro, Ark. to take on Arkansas State on Sunday, Nov. 20, at 2 p.m.

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