



Left guard Ethan Adkins (63) is drawing NFL scouts' attention.
Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com



Brooks: Adkins' O-Line Play, Durability Underrated

Release: 10/21/2011 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

BOULDER - Ethan Adkins' football resume at Colorado speaks well of his durability: nine starts as a sophomore in 2009, every snap at left guard in the final 10 games of 2010 and seven starts at that position in seven games this season.

But that seventh start, which came last weekend at Washington, is the one that left offensive line coach Steve Marshall fairly astonished.

In CU's game at Stanford the previous Saturday, a well-timed blitz by a Cardinal linebacker "blew up" Buffs tailback Rodney Stewart near the line of scrimmage.

Stewart absorbed the crash, but Adkins was part of the collateral damage.

Game tape, said Marshall, showed Adkins being hit at near knee level and his legs bending in ways that legs don't normally bend. He stayed in the game until the fourth quarter, replaced then by freshman Paulay Asiata.

As for the following week in practice - the run-up to the UW trip - Adkins was a non-participant. "He took a hell

BUFFALO EXTRAS



Watch:
Buffalo Stampede
10/19/2011

- ➔ **Gameday**
- ➔ **Buy Tickets**

of a shot; I didn't see any way we'd have him," Marshall said. "We thought we'd lost him."

But on the Buffs' first offensive series, there was the quietly consistent and durable Adkins at left guard.

"He bounced back and played one of his better games," said Marshall. "I call him 'The Plastic Man' because he puts himself into some unbelievable positions. But he always seems to come out of them OK. He's got some durability - he's one of those kinds of guys."

Adkins, a Douglas County High School product who was ranked as the No. 30 guard nationally when he signed with CU in 2007, might be the Buffs' most unsung three-year starter in a decade or so. But that status, according to Marshall, appears ready to change.

"He's been a big, big surprise . . . I've been very pleased with his progress throughout the year," said Marshall, no overnight evaluator of O-line talent. "He's gotten better and better and has been consistent - and he's played against some pretty talented guys and held up solidly."

In a CU season overrun by the injury bug, Adkins says he's "been lucky," but he also has taken precautionary measures - primarily increasing the amount of stretching he's done and working on improving his flexibility. That's undoubtedly why Marshall has been able to affix "The Plastic Man" tag.

"The stretching definitely has helped," said Adkins, a 6-4, 295-pounder. "I'm also doing the cold tubs as much as I can and getting to rehab after games. But I've been lucky, too . . .

"I think I've had a fairly good season. I know Coach Marshall was telling me I've been getting a couple of looks from NFL guys, so I'm happy about that. I feel like I've been playing well and I've been playing smart, I think."

The NFL has been a life-long goal for Adkins, whose 66 finish/knockdown blocks last season were third among CU's O-linemen, trailing only tackle Nate Solder (New England's No. 1 draft choice) and current right guard Ryan Miller, also an NFL prospect.

"Scouts come in and evaluate everybody . . . Ryan (Miller) has gotten a lot of publicity and rightly so," Marshall said. "But those guys (scouts) come back and say, 'Tell me about 63 (Adkins).' Whether he gets drafted or is a free agent, I think he's helped himself and put himself into a position to get a shot. He's a 295 guy, so he'll probably have to be a center or guard, a swing guy."

"But he's a smart guy and understands concepts. He's tough and he's played the game at a high level here. I think he's got to finish strong, but he's in a position to at least be evaluated for the next level."

Miller, who attended Columbine, has known of Adkins since high school, when they competed against one another. "Very tough guy who plays extremely hard," Miller said. "And he's very underrated. He's a guy who comes to work every day and does what he needs to do. He isn't appreciated enough. He's been a solid foundation in the offensive line around here."

Through seven games, the Buffs' running game hasn't been as productive as Marshall and the new offensive staff had hoped. CU is averaging 89.9 ground yards a game - 11th in the Pac-12 Conference. Part of the Buffs' problem has been continually playing from behind, abandoning most game plans and going into a catch-up (passing) mode.

"It's a shame the game got out of hand a little bit the other day (at Washington) because I thought we played our best football game in a lot of ways offensively," Marshall said. "We had a great plan against them. When you get behind, you've got to throw it and do what you got to do. All we can do is keep doing little things to keep getting little victories to make big victories."

CU (1-6, 0-3) faces No. 9 Oregon (5-1, 3-0) Saturday at Folsom Field (1:30 p.m., Root Sports). The Ducks feature a 3-4 defensive front that Marshall and Adkins call deceptively good; Oregon isn't among the Pac-12's statistical defensive leaders, ranking 10th in rushing defense and 11th in total defense. But, there is a reason.

"When you have an offense as powerful as theirs (48.7 points, 539 total yards a game), you can have a great defense but you don't necessarily have to have the best defense," Adkins said. "I think that's behind those stats."

Added Marshall: "Their defense is on the field for 80-85 snaps a game, but that's more because of their offense than a lack of ability. They score in a 1:23, 1:42 . . . their offense is fast-paced and scores so fast. They've got a talented defense and have been for a while - good players who are very athletic and move around.

"In a close game, that's a pretty good defense. You turn on the LSU game - they hung in there with LSU for a long period of time (before losing 40-27 in the opener) . . . These guys were good last year; they played for the national championship so they should be good."

A 30-plus point underdog, CU's best chance for a seismic upset is to find its ground game, control the clock and avoid falling behind early. "Hopefully, we can move the ball on them," Adkins said. "I know we'll hit some guys and try. We just have to keep plugging away at (the running game). As an offensive line, we pretty much know what to do. We've just got to tweak one thing here or there, and we'll eventually start to get it going."

If CU does hit the ignition on its ground game, it will be without leading rusher Stewart, who could be out four weeks with a knee injury. Redshirt freshman Tony Jones will start at tailback, and Adkins is among the offensive players who believe Jones' "north-south" running ability will benefit the Buffs.

"The big difference is that Tony is more 'north-south,' but I think Tony is also a little impatient at times with the reads," Adkins said. "Other than that, they're virtually interchangeable as far as being able to hit the hole and gain four or five yards.

"(Oregon) plays a three-down front and has got three fairly big guys there. I think their strength is on the outside with their two big 'backers - but they've got speed all the way around, that's for sure."

Contact: BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU

SHOW MENU



CU Buffs face another of Pac-12's elite: Oregon

Jon Embree trying to keep his team focused, upbeat

By Kyle Ringo Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:10/21/2011 05:53:41 PM MDT

Thousands of Colorado and Oregon football fans will walk into Folsom Field on Saturday afternoon to watch the Buffs take on No. 9 Oregon with one question on their minds -- How bad is it going to be?

It's a depressing way for any fan on the wrong end of that question to start a fall Saturday, but it is the reality here in Boulder in 2011 with an already thin roster having been further depleted by injuries and suspensions.

Colorado just can't compete with the elite teams in the Pac-12 Conference and Oregon certainly qualifies as that. After all, the Ducks are the defending conference champions and played in the national title game last season.

Barring a dumbfounding upset, CU (1-6, 0-3) will be eliminated from bowl contention today for the fourth consecutive season and will be assured of a losing autumn on the gridiron for the sixth straight year.

"This team hasn't been beaten much, so I don't know if there is a 'blueprint' out there," CU coach Jon Embree said this week when asked for a recipe for that upset. "We feel good about our game plan and what we have set up is going to give us a chance. We'll be huge underdogs, but that is all right. It is really a matter of us focusing on us."

Oregon is the nation's third highest scoring team. Colorado has surrendered a combined 100 points in the last two weeks in blowout losses at Stanford and Washington. Those facts are why CU fans will try not to cringe as they nestle into their seats and why Oregon fans are counting on a party in a stadium that has become much too accustomed of late to celebrations by the visitors.

CU is a 31-point underdog at home and that spread might not be enough. Oregon has won five straight since dropping its season opener on a neutral field in Dallas to LSU, the No. 1 team in the nation. The Ducks have won 15 straight conference games.

Colorado will play without middle linebacker Douglas Rippy, the team's leading tackler. It could also be without free safety Ray Polk, who was nursing a bad wrist, fractured sternum and concussion earlier this week.

Remember the Buffs are also a team that has been starting a converted wide receiver and a true freshman at cornerback in recent weeks because nine others at the position are either injured or being held out for violating team rules.

On the offensive side, the Buffs will be without tailback Rodney Stewart and wide receiver Paul Richardson, both of whom have sprained knees. Those two players have accounted for more than 50 percent of the Buffs' offensive production so far this fall.

Oregon could be without at least one key contributor. Running back LaMichael James suffered a dislocated elbow two weeks ago and could be held out of Saturday's mismatch. James is the nation's leading rusher averaging 170 yards a game and the Oregon ground game is the fifth best in the nation chewing up 315 rushing yards each week.

Embree has doubled as cheerleader this week, doing his best to keep spirits up and rally a team well aware of the huge challenge it is facing.

"I tell them to focus on today and then focus at the task at hand," Embree said regarding his depleted roster. "It is what it is. We can't control that, we have to worry about what we can control. That is effort, that is being assignment sound, that is playing as fast as we can play and that is when an opportunity comes to make a play, try and do it."

"You are not going to get, 'Woe is me,' and I'm not going to let the guys on the team walk around and sulk about it either. We have a great opportunity this week. We get to play Oregon, and that is how we have to look at it."

CU fans will likely need something to hold their interest this afternoon. Quarterback Tyler Hansen and the rest of the Buffs will surely do their best to keep the action on the field compelling, but if it gets ugly, there is always history to monitor.

The Buffs probably don't have to worry about producing the worst home loss in school history. That came Nov. 22, 1890 when the Colorado School of Mines won in Boulder 103-0. A little more recently, CU lost 62-0 to Oklahoma in 1962 and 55-10 to Missouri in 2007.

Avoiding that kind of ignominy might be the best case scenario today.

[Close Window](#)[Send To Printer](#)

THORBURN: Tyler Hansen sets example for future CU Buffs' quarterbacks

By **Ryan Thorburn** Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 10/21/2011 05:35:19 PM MDT

The Buffs barely have enough able bodies to even field a team at this point.

Rodney Stewart and Douglas Rippy, Colorado's most productive offensive and defensive players, respectively, have been added to the interminable list of injured players Jon Embree won't have available Saturday against No. 9 Oregon.

Looking for some good news? Tyler Hansen is healthier than ever.

"I'm the weird guy," CU's starting quarterback said of avoiding the training room and team doctors so far this season.

And this spring the competition at the most important position in football figures to be very healthy.

Connor Woods is often the last player to leave the CU practice fields after putting some 50-plus yard passes into the hands of young wide receivers as darkness falls.

Redshirting freshmen Stevie Joe Dorman and John Schrock don't beat the Texas transfer up the hill to the locker room by much.

"When your scout team makes it harder than it is in the game, then you've arrived as a program," Embree said before the season when Woods decided to leave Austin for an opportunity to help lead a rebuilding effort in Boulder. "So he gives us a step in the right direction toward that."

This week Woods and the other scout team signal callers did their best to simulate the Ducks' potent high-tempo offense.

Don't expect the CU staff to implement a similar system.

"We'll always be a pro-style offense," Embree said. "We tried the zone read one play this year. Fumbled. So we're not ready for that yet. We've just got to keep building and keep focused on what our vision and what our plan is."

The Buffs' long-term plan isn't a secret. Offensively, it includes establishing a running game like the program had in 2001 during the Big 12 championship year. And having a smart, strong-armed quarterback breaking the huddle and providing the balance required to beat the Pac-12's elite teams.

Wood comes from a program where the coaching staff selects four- and five-star high school players as much as it recruits them. When the 6-3, 225-pound redshirt freshman from Houston was listed as tied for third on the depth chart with David Ash and Case McCoy at the end of August, he was given his unconditional release from his scholarship by Mack Brown.

Ironically, Ash and McCoy are now co-starters for the Longhorns, and an ineffective Garrett Gilbert (UT's starter at the beginning of the season) plans to transfer.

Texas' ability to reload with so much talent could help CU rebuild.

"I think it's very special," Wood said of the opportunity to help Embree breathe some life into the Buffs. "I knew that coming in. I talked to my parents before I made my decision and something in my gut was calling me here. I just want to be a part of the building. I bought into what coach Embree was talking to me and my parents about on my trip.

"You can just sense it with the coaches that they want to win and they're hungry. I just want to be a part of it."

Wood certainly has the physical talent to be a huge part of the equation over the next three seasons. He's also smart

enough to know the name of the quarterback -- "We've got another one coming in, Shane Dillon ..." -- already committed to CU's 2012 class and that current backup Nick Hirschman will have a pretty good head start entering spring drills.

Throw junior college transfer Brent Burnette into the mix and the Buffs will really have a deep arms race this offseason.

"It's good to have competition at any position. That's a good problem for a school to have," Wood said. "I'm going to fight my butt off to get the job. But it takes hard work and a lot of discipline, I learned that at Texas."

With so many freshmen getting experience on the field and important recruits watching the action from the stands at Folsom Field on Saturday, there is hope for CU football on the horizon.

It's just a shame Hansen wasn't able to experience more success during his career, which was mostly spent competing with the former coach's son for snaps.

If nothing else, the Buffs' senior quarterback has set a great example for younger players about how to handle adversity with class. That's something that won't be lost on his understudies in the years to come.

"Senior year, new coaching staff ... that's tough," Wood said. "He's a good guy to follow after and a good role model to have in terms of just handling a lot of pressure that comes with new coaches and trying to do something new with the program. Right now, he's the head honcho and he's got the keys to the car. I'm behind him 100 percent."

CU has six more games to try to spring some upsets for Hansen and the senior class. And then a great quarterback battle begins with spring (football) in the air.

Close Window

Send To Printer

denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

cu football

CU Buffs face speedy challenge from Oregon Ducks

By Tom Kensler
The Denver Post

Posted: 10/22/2011 01:00:00 AM MDT

BOULDER — The only thing faster than an Oregon player breaking free in the open field might be how quickly the Ducks' offense gets set for the next snap.

To simulate Oregon's no-huddle, up-tempo attack in practice this week, Colorado's scout team rotated two separate ready-to-go offenses.

Colorado's first-team defenders barely had time to drag themselves off the ground before the next play was snapped.

"There would be times where (the scout team) would be already running a play as soon as we turned around," CU junior linebacker Jon Major said. "So Oregon can't call a play any faster than what we've seen."

Don't count on it.

Teams facing Oregon for the first time invariably talk afterward about

how difficult it is to keep up with the ninth-ranked Ducks (5-1, 3-0 Pac-12). In most college games, a certain rhythm develops with the process of the quarterback getting a play from

the sideline, relaying it in the huddle, barking out the call cadence and then taking the snap.

Forget that. With Oregon, it's rapid-fire with no letup.

"It's difficult just because it's hard to adjust," Major said. "They'll run different personnel in, and it's hard to get our proper matchups."

"You have to be mentally ready on every play," he added. "Oregon needs one missed gap and they're hitting their head on the goalposts."

A 31-point underdog, Colorado (1-6, 0-3) is counting on a boisterous homecoming crowd today at Folsom Field and the rarefied air to work in the home team's favor.

"We're hoping the altitude slows them down some," Major said.

Fighting speed with speed is not necessarily the way to beat Oregon, CU coach Jon Embree said. Teams that defeated the Chip Kelly-coached Ducks, including Ohio State (Rose Bowl following 2009 season), Auburn (2010 national championship game) and LSU (2011 season opener), played physical and played smart, Embree pointed out.

DONATE YOUR CAR!

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation

100% Tax Deductible
Free Pick-Up Anywhere
We're Available 7 Days a Week

Donating is Fast & Easy!

Call Today **877-821-5493**

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation is a classified 501 (c)(3) charity.

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

"Those teams did what they do well," the Buffs coach said. "You can't get caught up in what Oregon does. Those teams beat them by playing to their own identity."

Injuries are making it more difficult for Colorado to find its identity. At least a dozen players fill CU's injury report, including a pair of new additions who happen to be two of the team's best players: junior linebacker Doug Rippey (out for the season with an ACL tear) and senior tailback Rodney Stewart (out for up to four weeks with a knee sprain).

Today, against one of the nation's most talented teams, Colorado will be sending out freshman starters at wide receiver (Keenan Canty), tailback (Tony Jones), cornerback (Greg Henderson) and possibly linebacker (Brady Daigh). On paper, this appears to be a mismatch of ugly proportions. But Colorado coaches and players say they aren't looking at it that way.

"It's definitely a great opportunity for us," senior linebacker Josh Hartigan said. "Nobody believes in us. Our record is not good. We're not playing very good football on the defensive side. So this is an opportunity for all of us to make plays and to show something."

"It's on TV, so if we play well and you're watching ESPN, you're going to get a ticker alert (about the score) and will want to tune in to the game. Definitely, it's a great opportunity. I'm excited."

Tom Kensler: 303-954-1280 or
tkensler@denverpost.com

DONATE YOUR CAR!



The Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

100% Tax Deductible
Free Pick-Up Anywhere
We're Available 7 Days a Week

Donating is Fast & Easy!

Call Today **877-821-5493**

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation is a classified 501 (c)(3) charity.

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™



Oregon-Colorado preview: Depleted Buffaloes should be no match for No. 9 Ducks (video)

Published: Friday, October 21, 2011, 3:30 PM Updated: Friday, October 21, 2011, 7:13 PM



Aaron Fentress, The Oregonian
By

Oregon Ducks football: Previewing Ducks-Buffaloes with Aaron Fentress

It's likely to be a lopsided result in Boulder, Ducks beat reporter Aaron Fentress says, and perhaps more intriguing than the game itself is the health status of QB Darron Thomas and RB LaMichael James.

No. 9 Oregon at Colorado

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Where: Folsom Field, Boulder, Colo.

Records: Ducks (5-1, 3-0 Pac-12), Buffaloes (1-6, 0-3)

Latest line: Oregon by 31

On air: TV on Root (Comcast 34), radio on KXTG 750

What's at stake: It's the first meeting between these two programs since the Ducks defeated Colorado 38-16 in the 2002 Fiesta Bowl. Other than that, there's not much intrigue. Oregon is simply looking to keep building momentum toward a closing crescendo to its schedule while Colorado is searching for its first Pac-12 win.

Oregon offense vs. Colorado defense: The Buffaloes were mediocre on defense before losing their leading tackler, linebacker Douglas Rippy, for the season with a knee injury. Colorado ranks ninth in the conference and 85th in the nation in total defense, allowing 408.9 yards per game. The Buffaloes rank ninth in the conference and 65th in the nation against the run, allowing 156.1 yards per game and 4.61 yard per carry. That's bad news against an Oregon team ranked first in the Pac-12 and fifth in the nation in rushing at 315 yards per game. The Ducks should find little resistance moving the ball regardless of who carries it or who is quarterback. All signs point to quarterback Darron Thomas starting after leaving last week's ASU game with a knee injury. The status of running back LaMichael James (elbow) is less clear.

Oregon defense vs. Colorado offense: The Buffaloes are led by quarterback Tyler Hansen, who has thrown for 1,682 yards and 13 touchdowns with just three interceptions. Colorado's running game is sorely lacking. The Buffaloes rank 11th in the conference and 113th in the nation in rushing, averaging 89.9 yards. But that was with leading rusher Rodney Stewart. He's out with a knee injury and will join leading receiver Pal Richardson (knee) on the sidelines. Colorado leads the conference in sacks allowed with 21.

Individual matchup to watch: Colorado right defensive end Chidera Uzo-Diribe vs. Oregon left tackle Darrion Weems. Uzo-Diribe leads the Buffaloes with 4 1/2 sacks. Oregon has allowed just three sacks all season.

Key statistic: 24:32. Oregon's average time of possession. The Ducks ranks last in the conference in that category. For most teams that would signal that opponents are controlling the ball. For Oregon, it means it is

scoring quickly and often.

Key injuries: Oregon -- Running back LaMichael James (elbow – missed last week); offensive lineman Ramsen Golpashin (knee –missed past four games), quarterback Darron Thomas (knee – status uncertain).

Colorado -- Receivers Kyle Cefalo (knee) and Paul Richardson (knee), cornerbacks Brian Lockridge (ankle) and Travis Sandersfeld (leg), linebacker Douglas Rippy (knee), running back Rodney Stewart (knee).

They said it: "When you watch the tape they play extremely hard," Oregon coach Chip Kelly said of Colorado. "They've lost some players to attrition. And they've got a rash of injuries right now. But they play hard from the beginning of the game to the end of the game, and to me, that's the mark of a good football team. ... When I watch those guys on tape, they compete and they play hard."

Prediction: Colorado is in rebuilding mode under first-year coach Jon Embree. This game probably had little chance of being competitive before injuries began to mount. Losing several top players removes "probably" from the equation. Oregon 63, Colorado 10.

-- Aaron Fentress

Follow @AaronJFentress

© 2011 OregonLive.com. All rights reserved.

StatesmanJournal.com

OREGON'S MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Oregon Ducks football preview

INSIDE OREGON-COLORADO

KEYS TO THE GAME

Oregon's depth: The Ducks proved last week against Arizona State that they have plenty of offensive firepower even without quarterback Darron Thomas and running back LaMichael James. If backup QB Bryan Bennett gets the call, he needs to step up once again. Kenjon Barner is a proven runner who has rushed for 318 yards and five touchdowns in two career starts.

Win the day: Oregon is nearly a five-touchdown favorite, but that guarantees nothing. An upset of Oregon would make Colorado's season. The Ducks need to focus on the task at hand with major tests approaching against No. 22 Washington and No. 7 Stanford.

Nothing to lose: Colorado has been outscored 100-32 the past two weeks in losses to Stanford and Washington. The Buffs have a four-game losing streak and an assortment of injuries. Will a homecoming crowd and pride be enough to help Colorado raise its game?

Run to win: Oregon has a major advantage in the running game. The Ducks are fifth in the nation in rushing (315 ypg). With leading rusher Rodney Stewart sidelined, Colorado will turn to Tony Jones and Josh

Ford, who have combined for 144 yards. The Buffs are 113th among the 120 Football Bowl Subdivision teams in rushing (89.7 ypg).

Mile-high environment: It will be an adjustment for Oregon playing at an altitude of 5,400 feet above sea level. The Ducks need to make sure it's the Buffaloes who need to catch their breath dealing with so much speed on both sides of the ball.

OPPONENT SPOTLIGHT

QB Tyler Hansen has completed 56.5 percent of his passes for 1,682 yards and 13 touchdowns with three interceptions. A 6-foot-1, 215-pound senior, Hansen was 18 of 30 for 155 yards and one touchdown in last week's loss at Washington. Hansen completed 68.2 percent of his passes last season in seven games before a ruptured spleen ended his season.

PERSONNEL UPDATES

Oregon: OL Ramsen Golpashin (knee) is

Advertisement

Protect Your Home with ADT!

Click Here to Learn More!

ADT AUTHORIZED DEALER

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™

StatesmanJournal.com

OREGON'S MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY

out. RB LaMichael James (elbow), quarterback Darron Thomas (knee), Rover Eddie Plesant (ankle), TE Colt Lyster (arm), and PK Rob Beard (leg) are questionable. Colorado: RB Rodney Stewart (knee), LB Doug Ripley (knee), WR Kyle Cefalo (knee), and CB Jared Bell (knee) are out. CB Brian Lockridge (ankle) is questionable.

THE SERIES

Colorado leads the all-time series 8-7. Oregon won the last meeting, 38-16, in the 2002 Fiesta Bowl.

HEARD ON TWITTER

From McNamaraUO: "UO's record when Darron Thomas starts at QB is 17-2 (.895). Harrington was 25-3 (.893), Masoli 16-6 (.728), Dixon 18-7 (.720)."

PREDICTION

Oregon 47, Colorado 17: Oregon wide receiver Lavasier Tuinei said this week the Ducks could win with their fourth-string quarterback. He might be on to something. Oregon has too much talent, too much depth, and too much speed for Colorado.

— Gary Horowitz

No. 9 Oregon vs. Colorado

When: 12:30 p.m. today, Folsom Field, Boulder, Colo.

Records: Oregon (5-1, 3-0 Pac-12 North); Colorado (1-6, 0-3 Pac-12 South).

Weather: Partly sunny with temperatures in the mid-60s.

TV: ROOT (Comcast 34).

AdChoices

Ads by Pulse 360

57-Year-Old Mom Looks 25

Your city: Local Mom Exposes an Anti-Aging Miracle. Her \$5 Trick ERASES Wrinkles!

PopularLifestyleJournal.com

Chapter 7 Bankruptcy

Determine If Chapter 7 Is An Option For You, Complete A Free Evaluation

www.Chapter7.com

The Next Internet Boom

Stock Investment With 1,000% Potential Gains.

www.smauthority.com

Advertisement

Protect Your Home with ADT!

Click Here to Learn More!

ADT AUTHORIZED DEALER

Print Powered By [FormatDynamics™](http://FormatDynamics.com)

- [Click here to follow EDN on Facebook or Twitter](#)
- / Wednesday, October 26, 2011

[FOLLOW US ON twitter](#)**EDN**

LANE COUNTY'S ONLINE SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS

EUGENE DAILY NEWS

541-414-3429

eugenedailynews.com

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Community](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Living](#)
- [Columns](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [\[+\] Got a hot tip?](#)
- [\[+\] Join the EDN Nation](#)

Colorado Has Much To Overcome When Oregon Visits

The Oregon Ducks (5-1, 3-0 Pac-12) make their first foray into one of the Pac-12's new neighborhood this weekend, traveling to Boulder to face conference newcomer Colorado (1-6, 0-3 Pac 12).

Related stories (Chip Kelly):

[Ducks Clobber Colorado 45-2](#)[Oregon heads to Boulder to deal with Colorado, altitude](#)[NO MOUNTAIN RETREAT...](#)[They simply find new ways to win](#)[Ducks Stop Arizona State 41-27](#)



This game is a mismatch on every level. After decade of mediocrity in the Big 12, Colorado faced limited prospects coming into this season and so far the Buffaloes have lived up to those pedestrian expectations.

Against six losses, Colorado's only win to date was over intra-state rival Colorado State, and the Buffs have frequently fallen hard. They've been outscored by a total of 113 points in those six losses. California and Washington State are the only two teams Colorado has been able to keep to within single digits (and they're hardly considered juggernauts).

Add to that player suspensions as well as a string of injuries, and it becomes nearly impossible to imagine any way that Colorado stays within five touchdowns of Oregon on Saturday. Las Vegas bookmakers see it similarly, posting a 33 point spread on the game.



won't be playing on Saturday, Oregon heads from Colorado on tape.

Related stories (Chip Kelly):

[Ducks Clobber Colorado 45-2](#)

[Oregon heads to Boulder to deal with Colorado, altitude](#)

[NO MOUNTAIN RETREAT...](#)

[They simply find new ways to win](#)

[Ducks Stop Arizona State 41-27](#)

“I see a team that’s well coached,” said Kelly. “I think Jon (Embree) has done a good job despite the adversity they’ve faced and the players that they’ve lost. All I look at when I turn on tape is how hard does a team play. Those guys play hard no matter what the score is.”

Kelly especially respects the Buffaloes’ discipline.

“I also look at a team that doesn’t turn the ball over very much,” he explained. “Those are things that I think that from a coaching standpoint that you can have a direct effect on. We expect a full effort out of those guys”

Chip also said the injuries to some of Colorado’s key players might make them a more dangerous opponent.



“They have got a couple guys out but we all have to deal with that,” stated Kelly. “Everybody at this point of the season is dealing with losses. It is how do you handle that . They may not have the depth that some of the other teams in our league have right now, but when I watch them on tape they play very, very hard and that to me is a sign of a well coached team.”

That said, Embree has a lot of work ahead, on both sides of the ball. Colorado ranks 95th in points for and 113th in points against.

Colorado’s singular hopes for an upset rest on the shoulders of quarterback Tyler Hansen.

“I’m really impressed with their quarterback. I’ve seen a lot of good quarterbacks in this league and it’s a league

Hansen’s task gets markedly tougher with Richardson. Receiver Kyle Cefalo will also

Related stories (Chip Kelly):

[Ducks Clobber Colorado 45-2](#)

[Oregon heads to Boulder to deal with Colorado, altitude](#)

[NO MOUNTAIN RETREAT...](#)

[They simply find new ways to win](#)

[Ducks Stop Arizona State 41-27](#)



On defense, leading tackler Douglas Rippy is out for the season with a knee injury.

As a direct consequence, the Buffs are statistically one of the worst teams in the FBS, averaging 337 yards of total offense per game a paltry 90 of which are on the ground

Oregon ,on the other hand, usually surpasses those benchmarks before the half. The Ducks should pad their gaudy offensive numbers significantly even if most of the regulars are on the sidelines after the break

In allowing 36 points per game, Colorado legitimately earned that 113th spot in the statistical rankings. Oregon is likely to knock them down more than a few pegs lower.

Two whose status remains unclear for the Ducks are quarterback Darron Thomas and running back LaMichael James. Each has stated they will be available to play but as per his usual policy, Kelly hasn't declared whether or not the pair will see action.

Kick-off is set for 12:40.

– Rick Morgan for EDN



Posted by [Rick Morgan](#) on Oct 21 2011. Filed under [Firehose](#), [Latest](#), [Sports](#)

[Tyler Hansen](#) • [U of O](#) • [University of Oregon](#)

Post Tags:
[featured](#) • [1](#)

Related stories (Chip Kelly):

[Ducks Clobber Colorado 45-2](#)

[Oregon heads to Boulder to deal with Colorado, altitude](#)

[NO MOUNTAIN RETREAT...](#)

[They simply find new ways to win](#)

[Ducks Stop Arizona State 41-27](#)