



Junior guard Brittany Wilson scored 13 points Sunday against Washington.Photo Courtesy: Joel Broida



Brooks: No. 20 Buffs Earn Critical Win Over Huskies

Release: 02/24/2013 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

BOULDER - The No. 20 Colorado Buffaloes outlasted Washington 68-61 on Senior Sunday at the Coors Events Center and closed in on the No. 4 seed for next month's Pac-12 Conference Women's Tournament.

Winning their seventh consecutive game, the Buffs improved to 11-5 in the Pac-12 and moved into a fourth-place tie with the Huskies. But Sunday's win gives CU the head-to-head tiebreaker, and the Buffs' remaining schedule appears more favorable than the Huskies' for securing the No. 4 seed.

CU (22-5 overall) closes the regular season with games at Oregon (March 1) and Oregon State (March 3), while UW (19-8) finishes with home games against Pac-12 co-leaders Stanford and California. The conference tournament is March 7-10 in Seattle.

The Buffs led by 11 points at halftime and by as many as 12

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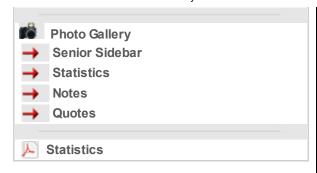


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before the Huskies closed to within one on two occasions in the final 9:58. And with 2:39 to play, UW pulled to 59-57 on the first field goal of the game by guard Jazmine Davis - the Pac-12's No. 2 scorer with a 19.7-point average. She finished with nine points, hitting only two of her 13 field goal attempts.

At that point, Jen Reese hit back-to-back mid-range jumpers to give the Buffs a six-point lead (63-57). The Huskies cut the deficit to three (64-61) on Davis' second field goal but CU went four-of-four from the free throw line in the last 37.6 seconds to seal its win.



"Well, you have to give Washington a lot of credit," CU coach Linda Lappe said. "They kept fighting and coming back especially in the second half and we knew they can score the basketball. Every time they made a run and made it close I thought we responded well, I liked how the team stepped up and never really gave up the lead in the second half. I saw a lot of heart and energy."

"It's truly satisfying," added Chucky Jeffery, one of three CU seniors playing their final regular-season home game. "We knew what was at stake but we just wanted to come out and play it like a regular game. They're a great team, they can score the ball, so for us to come out and hold them to 61 points I think that's really good for our team."

Jeffery, along with seniors Meagan and Brenna Malcolm-Peck, were honored in a postgame ceremony. The Malcolm-Pecks entered the game with about 11 seconds remaining, Jeffery went to the bench about three seconds later.

Jeffery battled through a left ankle sprain suffered early in the second half and scored 11 points. She said she "felt the sting a little bit," but after getting her ankle re-taped, "I walked it off... I'll be all right."

Jeffery also added 13 rebounds for her ninth double-double of the season and 29th of her career. She was one of four players in double figures, topped by Arielle Roberson's 16. Brittany Wilson added 13 - 11 in the first half-and Reese chipped in 11. Five of Reese's points came in the final 2:55, including her pair of critical jumpers after misfiring on another couple of open shots earlier.

"I thought Jen did a tremendous job of knocking down those two huge jumpers," Lappe said. "I think that shows a lot of mental toughness to be able to bounce back and knock down those two shots."

Brittany Wilson also was instrumental in holding Davis to 10-plus points below her average. "I knew she's a big asset to their team, a great player," Wilson said. "I just wanted to be her worst nightmare and I think that I did the best that I could with that."

Kristi Kingma led the Huskies with 19 points. Aminah Williams added 12, Talia Walton 11 and Mercedes Wetmore 10.

UW coach Kevin McGuff said the outcome came down to "intangibles . . . we played with a lot of heart in the second half. Clearly, Colorado was playing harder than we were in the first half but in the second half, I thought both teams competed and played hard and it was a great game. Colorado just did a little bit more down the stretch to get the win."

CU never trailed by more than three points in the first half, and after Kingma hit a three-pointer to send the Huskies up 16-14, the Buffs launched a 16-3 run that produced a 30-19 advantage.

An acrobatic put-back by freshman Jamee Swan enabled CU to maintain that 11-point lead (36-25) at intermission. UW opened the game hitting six of its first 11 shots, but made only three of its final 18 attempts to close the first half. CU held the visitors to 38.3 percent from the field and just 5-for-20 from behind the arc. The Huskies were averaging a league-leading 8.5 treys a game.

The Huskies scored the first six points of the second half, pulling to 36-31. The Buffs, meanwhile, had Jeffery

leave the game with her ankle injury at the 19:12 mark. But she was back about four minutes later, and her return might have given CU an emotional lift.

Lappe said she knew Jeffery "would probably be tough enough to go back in. I felt like that injury kind of took out the air of the balloon for us, it happened so quickly for us in the second half and from there I felt like our demeanor kind of changed. But at the same time it was good to see her come back; she is a tough player and a big part of our team."

After UW crept to within five points, CU went on an 8-1 run and shot ahead 44-32 with 12:41 to play. Roberson scored six of the Buffs' points during that surge.

But that 12-point CU lead disappeared quickly. UW put together an 11-0 run that featured treys by Wetmore and Kingma and another three free throws by Kingma. That pulled the Huskies to within one twice in the final 9:58, but an 8-0 CU that included four points by Jeffery opened a nine-point Buffs lead (56-47).

UW wouldn't roll. The Huskies outscored the Buffs 8-2 over the next three minutes, closing to 58-55 with 3:38 to play and finally pulling to 59-57. Then Reese hit her pair of monstrous mid-range jumpers to give CU breathing room and the Buffs tucked away their big win at the free throw line.

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CU seniors (from left) Brenna Malcolm-Peck, Chucky Jeffery and Meagan Malcolm-Peck. Photo Courtesy: Chip Bromfield, ProMotion Ltd.





Three CU Seniors Savor Final Regular-Season Home 'W'

Release: 02/24/2013 Courtesy: Caryn Maconi, CUBuffs.com

BOULDER - Chucky Jeffery, Meagan Malcolm-Peck and Brenna Malcom-Peck have spent four years calling the Coors Events Center home.

On a snowy Sunday afternoon, the three University of Colorado seniors savored the CEC atmosphere for the last time in regular season play.

Jeffery earned her 29th career double-double Sunday with 13 points and 11 rebounds, helping the CU women's basketball team defeat Washington 68-61 for its seventh straight Pac-12 Conference win.

Brenna and Meagan, though both injured, suited up and entered the game for its final 11 seconds.

Sunday's matchup won't likely be the last time the seniors hit the Coors court; CU will host the first two rounds of the Women's NCAA Tournament from March 23-25.

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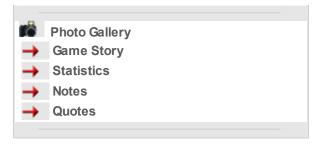


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WBB vs. Washington 02/24/2013

If the No. 20 Buffs keep up their current momentum for the rest of the season and into the Pac-12 Tournament (March 7-10, Seattle), they expect to be a part of the NCAA action and play at home. But nothing is set in stone yet.

The Buffs' three seniors have had a turbulent four years, having undergone both a coaching change in 2010 from Kathy McConnell-Miller to current head coach Linda Lappe as well as a conference change in 2011 from the Big 12 to the Pac-12.



While all three Buffs have been integral team members over the past four years, each senior has had a very different collegiate career.

Jeffery, a 5-10 guard from Colorado Springs, will finish her outstanding CU career as the first player in program history to reach 1,500 points, 800 rebounds and 400 assists. She has recorded 29 career double-doubles, including nine in her senior season, and two of only three triple-doubles in the program's history.

Jeffery's name fills the CU record books: she ranks fourth all-time in steals and assists, sixth in rebounds, 10th in scoring and field goals made, 12th in free throws made, 13th in blocks and 16th in three-pointers made.

Jeffery's toughness showed Sunday afternoon when she rolled her ankle seconds into the second half. She left the game for just four minutes, re-entering to score seven points and grab five rebounds in the second half.

"I already knew she was going to be okay; I'm around this kid every day," teammate and junior guard Brittany Wilson said. "It took us a while to shake it off, but after that I got the girls and said, 'She'll be fine, she'll be back, I know her and it's okay."

Brenna Malcolm-Peck, a 6-2 forward from Boulder, has spent much of her Colorado career sidelined with injury, but has been a presence on the team since her true freshman season. Brenna recorded 16 points, six rebounds and five assists over 14 games as a true freshman, but hyperextended her knee during her sophomore preseason workouts and redshirted.

Brenna then underwent left knee surgery during her junior season (2011-12), missing the final 19 games. This season, while still recovering from offseason knee surgery, Brenna has played a constant support role from the sidelines.

"My team's success has been my own. It's been awesome to watch them grow so much and just become such a successful program," Brenna said. "It went by so fast... it's definitely emotional, but it's amazing that we have a probability of getting into the NCAA Tournament. We still have a lot of games left."

Twin sister Meagan was this season's team captain, showing leadership both on the court and from the sidelines. Like Brenna, she has spent much of her senior season on the bench, having missed five straight games with a shoulder injury before appearing in the final minute of a 59-45 win over Washington State Friday night.

Meagan said being the vocal leader of the team this season, whether playing or watching from the bench, is a role she's taken seriously.

"(Being injured) has been frustrating, of course, but the relationships that I've built with everybody are what's been special, so I can continue to bring what I bring," Meagan said. "You kind of keep developing your leadership based off of different people that you've seen play before you, so it's always a work in progress, learning and doing what you can to help the team out."

In 11 of the 19 games she has been able to play this season, Meagan has recorded at least two rebounds. Career highlights from previous seasons include 34 blocks as a true freshman, fifth-place in the Big 12 in three-point percentage in conference games as a sophomore, and three career double-doubles. Meagan ranked third on her team in offensive rebounds and assists as a junior and ranks 13th on CU's all-time list in both three-pointers (87) and blocked shots (68).

"(Brenna and Meagan) have meant so much to our program, things a lot of people can't see because they haven't been on the floor," said CU coach Linda Lappe. "Meagan, just the way she's led us throughout the year . . . she's a huge reason why we've had the success that we've had. You don't have that without leadership."

As for Brenna, Lappe said her enthusiasm for the game has always been strong, whether on the court or off.

"Brenna has obviously had her career cut pretty short with injuries, but as soon as I told her that she was going to put on her uniform and get in the game (Sunday), she was extremely excited," Lappe said. "I'm glad that we had enough to be able to do that at the very end."

While the Buffs are finished at Coors for the regular season, they hit the road next weekend to take on Oregon (Fri., 8 p.m. MST) and Oregon State (Sun., 1 p.m. MST).





No. 20 Colorado 68, Washington 61

Updated Feb 24, 2013 7:55 PM ET

FoxSports.com

BOULDER, Colo. (AP)

Chucky Jeffery wasn't about to let a tender left ankle keep her off the floor.

Not on senior day and especially not after the nearly 3,600 fans braved blizzard conditions to arrive at Coors Events Center.

Sore ankle and all, the senior guard scored 11 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in her final regular-season home game to help No. 20 Colorado hold on for a 68-61 win over Washington on Sunday.

The Buffaloes (22-5, 11-5 Pac-12) won their seventh straight game as they took a step closer to securing one of the first-round byes for the conference tournament.

"It's truly satisfying," Jeffery said. "We knew what was at stake, but we just wanted to come out and play it like a regular game.

"They're a great team. They can score the ball, so for us to come out and hold them to 61 points, I think that's really good for our team."

Arielle Roberson led four Buffaloes in double figures with 16 points.

The Huskies (19-8, 11-5) were led in scoring by Kristi Kingma, who finished with 19 points. Jazmine Davis was held in check most of the afternoon, scoring just nine points. She entered the game averaging 19.6.

"I thought both teams played pretty well, but they made a few plays down the stretch to give them a chance to win the game," Washington coach Kevin McGuff said.

Jeffery came up big for the Buffaloes even with a balky ankle. She fell awkwardly early in the second half and sat on the bench for nearly four minutes as trainers examined her ankle.

With her leadership missing from the floor, the Huskies worked their way back into the game. Although tentative on the ankle the rest of the way, Jeffery did help calm things down when she entered back into the game, especially late in the contest.

She had two key passes that set up baskets from Jen Reese in the final two minutes that ultimately helped the Buffaloes seal the win.

"There's a comfort level with having Chucky on the floor," coach Linda Lappe said. "I liked how the team stepped up and never really gave up the lead in the second half. I saw a lot of heart and energy tonight."

In addition to her big day on the boards, Jeffery finished with 11 points and four assists. But she also had seven turnovers, which she attributed to nerves on senior night.

"I was being a timid a little bit but I got back in it and I just kept playing basketball," she said. "At the end of the day, it's about the team and not about senior night or anything like that. It's about us coming out and

winning basketball games."

Soon after the final buzzer, Jeffery was handed a microphone and addressed the crowd, thanking them for turning out under such snowy conditions. She also thanked her teammates and coaches for helping her to such a standout career. She's currently 10th on the school's all-time scoring list as well as sixth in rebounding and fourth in assists

As for her vow not to cry, well, she couldn't quite make that happen.

Neither could her teammate and close friend Brittany Wilson, who finished with 13 points. Asked about what Jeffery meant to her, Wilson began dabbing her eyes with her jersey.

"She's been a great leader," Wilson said.

Wilson also drew the assignment of guarding Davis, relishing the role of trying to stop her.

"I knew she's a big asset to their team, a great player," Wilson said. "I just wanted to be her worst nightmare and I think that I did the best that I could with that."

Hours before the tip, Colorado posted a statement on its website imploring fans to be careful on their way to the game. A winter storm swept through the area and was expected to drop nearly a foot of snow. High winds also made travel treacherous.

The Buffs close out the regular season with games at Oregon and Oregon State before the start of the Pac-12 tournament.

• No. 2 Notre Dame 79, No. 22 Syracuse 68

Women's basketball: CU Buffs move up to fourth in Pac-12 race

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera Posted:

Buffzone.com

For a brief moment on Sunday, it appeared Chucky Jeffery's last regular season home game would end in devastating fashion.

Less than a minute into the second half against Washington, the star point guard for the 20th-ranked Colorado women's basketball team crumbled to the floor with what appeared to be a serious injury.

Luckily for the Buffaloes, Jeffery only rolled her ankle. She returned to the court a few minutes later and helped her team to a 68-61 victory against the Huskies.

"As soon as something happens like that, you feel a sting for a little bit," Jeffery said, "but I got up, taped it up a little bit, walked it off and took some medicine."

Her return, with about 15 minutes, 30 seconds to go, gave the Buffs the shot of energy they needed to pick up a huge win in front of 3,577 fans at Coors Events Center.

"It took us a while, a couple of minutes, to shake it off," teammate Brittany Wilson said of Jeffery's injury. "After that, I got the girls and I said, 'She'll be fine, she'll be back."

Jeffery wasn't stellar on offense, but recorded the 29th double-double of her career (11 points, 13 rebounds) and dished out four assists to help the Buffaloes jump over the Huskies and into fourth place in the Pac-12 standings. The top four teams will get a first-round bye in the Pac-12 Tournament, and CU now has the inside track for that.

Arielle Roberson scored a team-high 16 points and Wilson added 13 points for the Buffs (22-5, 11-5 Pac-12), who have won seven games in a row. Washington (19-8, 11-5) lost its second straight.

"We knew what was at stake, but we just wanted to come out and play like a regular game," Jeffery said. "They're a great team and they can score the ball, so for us to come out and hold them to 61 points, I think that's really good for our team."

CU took an 11-point lead into halftime, but Washington took advantage of Jeffery's injury to cut the CU lead to five early in the second half.

"I felt like that injury took the air out of the balloon a little bit for us," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "I felt like our demeanor kind of changed right when that happened and we lost a pretty decent lead.

"There's a comfort level with having Chucky on the floor with our entire team."

Shortly after Jeffery came back into the game, Roberson scored all six points in a 6-0 CU run that gave the Buffs their biggest lead of the game, 44-32 with 12:43 to play.

Washington didn't make things easy on the Buffs, however. The Huskies went on an 11-0 run to cut the CU lead to 44-43 with 10 minutes to go.

CU never lost its lead, but Washington stayed close the rest of the way.

"Every time they made a run and got it close, I felt like we responded in a great way and showed a lot of heart, a lot of energy," Lappe said.

After Washington pulled within 44-43, CU scored four points in a row. Washington matched that with four more points to again pull within one, but CU scored the next eight.

With 2:39 to play, the Huskies hit a bucket to cut the CU lead to 59-57, but the Buffs rallied again. Jeffery had two great assists to Jen Reese, who knocked down a pair of jumpers to extend the lead to 63-57 going into the final minute.

Jeffery and Roberson combined to go 5-for-6 at the line in the final 49 seconds to seal the win.

For Jeffery, who had a season-high seven turnovers, it was a satisfying finish to an emotional day. She and fellow seniors Brenna and Meagan Malcolm-Peck were honored before and after the game, and all three had several family members in attendance.

"It was kind of nerve-racking a little bit," Jeffery said. "I had way too many turnovers; I think that was a testament to that. I was kind of being tentative a little bit. I got back in it and I just kept playing basketball.

"It was sweet for us to get a win, definitely."

Follow Brian on Twitter: @BrianHowell33.

Colorado 68, Washington 61

WASHINGTON

FG FT Reb

Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Kingma 38 7-17 3-3 1-5 0 4 19

Corral 18 0-1 0-0 0-1 0 0 0

Williams 33 6-7 0-0 1-6 1 4 12

Wetmore 29 4-9 1-2 0-2 4 1 10

Davis 39 2-13 5-6 0-1 3 0 9

Walton 35 4-11 1-6 2-9 2 4 11

Gilling 5 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Anderson 3 0-2 0-0 2-3 0 1 0

Totals 200 23-60 10-17 8-30 10 15 61

Percentages: FG .383, FT .588.

3-Point Goals: 5-20, .250 (Walton 2-4, Kingma 2-8, Wetmore 1-2, Corral 0-1, Davis 0-5).

Team Rebounds: 3.

Blocked Shots: 1 (Williams).

Turnovers: 13 (Davis 5, Williams 2, Gilling 2, Corral, Wetmore, Kingma, Walton).

Steals: 14 (Davis 4, Walton 3, Williams 3, Kingma 2, Wetmore, Corral).

Technical Fouls: None.

COLORADO

FG FT Reb

Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Roberson 28 4-10 6-6 1-3 2 4 16

Hargis 13 1-1 1-2 1-1 0 2 3

B Wilson 28 5-7 2-2 0-2 2 4 13

Sborov 14 0-3 0-0 1-1 2 0 0

Jeffery 31 4-11 3-6 0-13 4 1 11

B M-Pck 0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0

A Wilson 32 3-6 0-1 3-7 1 0 6

M M-Pck 0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0

Reese 28 5-12 1-2 3-7 2 2 11

Weston 15 1-2 0-0 0-2 2 0 2

Swan 11 2-4 2-2 2-5 1 1 6

Totals 200 25-56 15-21 13-44 16 14 68

Percentages: FG .446, FT .714.

3-Point Goals: 3-11, .273 (Roberson 2-3, B. Wilson 1-2, Weston 0-1, Reese 0-1, Sborov 0-1, Jeffery 0-3).

Team Rebounds: 3.

Blocked Shots: 2 (Swan, Roberson).

Turnovers: 18 (Jeffery 7, Roberson 3, Sborov 3, B. Wilson 2, Reese 2, Swan).

Steals: 6 (B. Wilson 3, Roberson, Weston, A. Wilson).

Technical Fouls: None.

Washington 25 36--61

Colorado 36 32--68

A -- 3,577.

Officials -- Lisa Jones, Wanda Szermeta, Rick Showers.

Women's basketball: Malcolm-Peck twins get rare treat on Senior Day

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera Posted:

Buffzone.com

The final moments of Sunday's 68-61 win against Washington were special for Colorado's Brenna and Meagan Malcolm-Peck.

The senior twins, who have battled injuries all year, checked in with 11.1 seconds left and were on the court together for the first time in more than a year as the No. 20 Buffaloes picked up a win on Senior Day.

"We haven't been on the court together in ... I can't even remember the last time we were," Brenna said. "That was pretty special to be on the court at the same time."

The sisters, who grew up in Boulder, received a loud ovation from the crowd -- as well as their teammates and coaches -- when they entered the game.

"For Brenna even just to put on her uniform I think was huge," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "Those two have meant so much to our program, things a lot of people can't see."

Before Sunday, Brenna had not even put her uniform on this season, as she has spent the entire year rehabilitating her left knee. In fact, she had played just six minutes, spread over three games, during the past three seasons because of injuries. She missed the entire 2010-11 season.

She had the widest smile on the team as she went through pre-game warm-ups and shot lay-ups and jumpers. She has not done any basketball activities in practice all season.

"It was pretty cool," said Brenna, who played in a game for the first time since Jan. 14, 2012. "I haven't done that in a long time. Even at a slower pace, it was pretty awesome to do that."

Meagan was a three-year starter from 2009-12, but injuries to her back and shoulder have limited her just 19 games this year.

Despite their senior year not going as planned, the sisters were all smiles Sunday. So were their teammates.

"I think it's really apparent how close our team is and how much they were really trying to win it for us and for the seniors," Meagan said.

Brenna isn't likely to play again this season. Meagan's shoulder is not quite 100 percent, but she said, "If I'm needed on the floor, I'll be ready to go."

Wilson dominant on defense

CU's defensive stopper was at it again Sunday. Junior Brittany Wilson held Washington's Jazmine Davis to just nine points, only the second time all season Davis was held in single digits. Davis, who came in averaging 19.6 points per game, didn't hit a field goal until 2:39 to play.

"I frustrated her the best way that I could," Wilson said.

Notable

Arielle Roberson finished with 16 points, giving her 49 points (16.3 per game) over the last three contests. ... Jen Reese had 11 points and seven rebounds. She has averaged 14.5 points and 7.0 rebounds during the last four games. ... Sophomore Lexy Kresl missed her second consecutive game with a separated right shoulder. ... Senior Chucky Jeffery has five double-doubles in the last seven games. ... CU has its longest conference win streak since an eight-game streak from Jan. 12-Feb. 6, 2002. ... Wilson moved into sole possession of 10th place on CU's career list for 3-pointers, with 97. ... Washington was 2-for-14 from 3-point range in the second half.

Follow Brian on Twitter: @BrianHowell33.

What went right

The Buffs played great defense again, holding Washington to five 3-pointers. Offensively, CU hit 44.6 percent of their shots. The Buffs also out-rebounded the Huskies 44-30.

What went wrong

CU had a couple of lapses in the second half to allow Washington to claw back into the game.

Star of the game

Chucky Jeffery. The senior point guard had yet another double-double, with 11 points and 13 rebounds. She also had four assists and kept her cool down the stretch.

p What's next?

Colorado will visit Oregon on Friday at 8 p.m.

No. 20 Colorado holds off Washington for 68-61 win

The Associated Press News Fuze Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER, Colo.—Arielle Roberson scored 16 points and senior Chucky Jeffery grabbed 13 rebounds in her final regular-season home game, helping No. 20 Colorado hold on for a 68-61 win over Washington on Sunday in front of an energetic crowd that braved blizzard conditions to arrive at Coors Events Center.

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