



# COLORADO BUFFALOES

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**Jen Reese led Colorado with 11 points off the bench.**

Photo Courtesy: Joel Broida



## Buff's Balance Kicks In Strong For Sweep Of Utes

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SALT LAKE CITY - The No. 23 Colorado women's basketball team showed itself as a balanced group of road warriors here Sunday in a 56-43 Pac-12 Conference win over Utah.

CU's victory was the second over the Utes in five days and kept the Buffaloes unbeaten (4-0) on the road this season. CU improved to 13-2 overall and 2-2 in the Pac-12, while Utah slipped to 9-6 overall and remains winless in conference (0-4).

The Buffs and Utes competed in unusual back-to-back games, with CU winning 67-57 on Tuesday at the Coors Events Center. In that game, Buffs guard [Chuckie Jeffery](#) was the dominant force offensively with a season-high 28 points.

On Sunday, though, Jeffery took the opposite approach, taking a step back while her teammates - nearly all of them - stepped up.

Initially, Jeffery's withdrawal was forced as she went to the bench with two fouls and 8:58 remaining in the half

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Statistics

- but not without hitting her 1,400th career point on an "and-one" play early in the game.

Without the senior standout, the Buffs were forced to spread out their scoring and dip into a balanced bench to keep up the momentum. Jeffery's teammates handled the pressure well, shooting just 44 percent from the field but holding Utah to 31 percent.

"We're better when we're balanced, I really feel that," CU coach [Linda Lappe](#) said. "I thought everybody that came in . . . really just kept the flow going. You could never see at any point when we subbed that it affected anything, and I think that's what you want when you sub. I felt like any of the combinations that we put in contributed a lot, and we're just really solid."

Although Jeffery came back in for a couple minutes midway through the first half to restore order after a 7-2 Utah run, she never had to carry the load on offense. The Buffs leading scorer wound up with only six points, but she recorded six assists, three steals and five rebounds - three areas in which she has led the team throughout the season.

By the end of the first half, seven CU players had scored, including freshmen [Jamee Swan](#) and [Kyleesha Weston](#) and sophomore [Jen Reese](#) off the bench.

Meanwhile, forwards Taryn Wicijowski and Michelle Plouffe carried much of the load for the Utes, earning 16 of Utah's 23 first-half points between them.

Neither team had more than a five-point lead at any point in the half, but CU managed a two-point advantage (25-23) at intermission.

Jeffery started the second half, but the Buffs' depth continued to show. A 10-4 Buffs run capped by a [Jasmine Sborov](#) three gave them an eight-point lead with 14:47 on the clock. Plouffe then hit a three to close the gap to five, but Reese responded with a 7-0 run of her own, putting CU up 42-30 with 11:46 remaining.

The Buffs never relinquished the lead from there. Redshirt freshman [Arielle Roberson](#), sophomore [Lexy Kresl](#) and junior [Rachel Hargis](#) picked up the effort on defense to hold Plouffe and Wicijowski to a combined eight points in the time remaining. Guard Iwalani Rodrigues, another key offensive threat for the Utes, scored just three on the night.

"What we told our team is, it's not going to be three players that guard their best three players (Plouffe, Wicijowski and Rodrigues)," Lappe said. "It's going to be a total team effort in terms of defense . . . everybody who was on kind of a non-scorer did a fantastic job of really making their lives miserable and making them work for everything that they got."

By game's end, the Buffs were up by 13 (56-43), and Reese had racked up 11 points off the bench to lead the Buffs in scoring. Roberson also hit double figures for the 14th time this season with 10, while Weston added eight.

In total, nine CU players contributed points, with Kresl and Sborov contributing three each in the second half.

Colorado outrebounded Utah 41-32, led by Hargis' seven, and shot 44 percent from the field compared to Utah's 26.3.

Wicijowski led the Utes in scoring with 16, getting her 1,200th career point early in the first half. Plouffe added 15; no other Utah player scored more than three.

Road games are a new strength for the Buffs as they earned a winning road record (9-8) last season for the first time since 2003-04. The reason, said Reese, is that under Lappe's leadership, CU has found a way to keep the momentum going away from Coors.

"On road games, we have to make our own energy, and that really helps our energy level going into the game," Reese said. "(Coach Lappe) says, 'Slow and steady wins the race,' and I just feel like (road games) show our toughness."

The Buffs return to Boulder this week to take on Arizona State on Friday at 7 p.m. and Arizona on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the CEC.

SHOW MENU



## Women's basketball: CU defeats Utah with balanced attack

*Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera*

*Posted:*

Buffzone.com

SALT LAKE CITY -- When Chucky Jeffery scores a lot of points, the Colorado women's basketball team is tough to beat.

The Buffaloes are tough to beat when she doesn't score much, too.

On Sunday afternoon, Jeffery had just six points, but the 23rd-ranked Buffs rolled past Utah 56-43 in a Pac-12 Conference game at the Huntsman Center.

A balanced scoring attack, led by Jen Reese's 11 points, and another stellar effort on defense led the Buffs (13-2, 2-2 Pac-12) to a season sweep of the Utes (9-6, 0-4). CU beat Utah 67-57 on Tuesday in Boulder on a night when Jeffery poured in 28 points.

"We're better when we're more balanced," CU head coach Linda Lappe said on AM-760 radio after the game. "I really feel that."

Nine different Buffs scored, led by Reese and Arielle Roberson (10 points). In addition to her six points, Jeffery had six assists, five rebounds and three steals.

It wasn't CU's offense that shined, though. The Buffaloes' defense held Utah to 26.3-percent shooting (15 of 57), its second-lowest mark of the season. Utes guard Iwalani Rodrigues had just two points, on a layup in the final two minutes, when CU already led by 14. She came in averaging 12.1 points per game.

"One of our goals was to hold their big three scorers to less than 35 points and they scored 33," Lappe said of Utah's Taryn Wicijowski (16 points), Michelle Plouffe (15 points) and Rodrigues. "Great effort by our club."

Utah took a 21-16 lead on a Wicijowski bucket with 6:19 to play in the first half. Over the course of the next nine minutes, CU went on a 14-3 run that gave it a 30-24 lead early in the second half.

A Plouffe 3-pointer cut CU's lead to 35-30 with 13:42 to play, but Reese scored the next seven points to build a 42-30 Buffs lead and freshman Ky Weston sparked a 7-0 spurt later in the half.

CU didn't light up the scoreboard in any of those runs, but used relentless defense to shut down the Utes.

"Our team was really slow and steady," Lappe said. "There were not a lot of big runs in this game; we just kept at it and kept at it and finished the game off strong."

Reese had scored just 10 points in the previous three Pac-12 games combined, but hit 5 of her 11 shots this time.

"I feel like going into it I had more energy and overall more confidence," she said. "The last two games I've struggled on the offensive end. Going into it, I just wanted to change that around."

Lappe was also pleased with Weston, a true freshman who matched her career high with eight points.

"I thought Ky probably had her best game of her young freshman year," Lappe said. "She's had some really good weeks of practice lately and that's starting to show up on the court and she just provides us a spark coming in."

It was a spark the Buffs needed, as they improved to 4-0 on the road this season. Now, they look ahead to hosting Arizona State (on Friday) and Arizona (Sunday).

#### Notable

Rachel Hargis had a solid game, with four points, seven rebounds and three blocks. ... Sophomore Jasmine Sborov hit the first 3-pointer of her career. It was just her 11th attempt from beyond the arc. ... The Buffs shot 44.2 percent from the floor, their best mark in a conference game since hitting 49.1 percent against Nebraska on Feb. 6, 2011. ... CU's 16 assists are its highest total in a conference game since Feb. 23, 2011, against Oklahoma.

Colorado 56,

A--809.

#### What went right

The Buffs were exceptional on defense and solid on offense throughout the game in handing the Utes their fifth straight defeat.

#### What went wrong

Not much. This was one of the Buffs' most complete games of the season. They did have a scoring drought of 5 minutes, 19 seconds early, but recovered in plenty of time to down the Utes.

#### Star of the game

Jen Reese. She had 11 points, including seven in a row during a second-half stretch that allowed the Buffs to expand their lead from five to 12 points. She also had four rebounds and two assists.

#### What's next?

The Buffs host Arizona State on Friday at 7 p.m.

Utah 43

#### COLORADO

FG FT Reb

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

Rbrson 32 4-12 2-4 2-5 0 1 10

Hargis 22 2-3 0-0 1-7 1 3 4

Kresl 17 1-2 0-0 0-4 1 1 3

B Wilson 26 2-3 2-2 0-3 2 1 7

Jeffery 29 2-7 2-3 0-5 6 2 6

A Wilson 2 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

M-Peck 7 0-1 0-0 0-1 0 0 0

Sborov 18 1-2 0-0 2-5 1 3 3

Reese 18 5-11 1-1 2-4 2 1 11

Weston 15 4-7 0-0 1-3 1 0 8

Swan 14 2-4 0-0 0-2 2 1 4

Totals 200 23-52 7-10 9-41 16 13 56

Percentages: FG .442, FT .700.

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

Team Rebounds: 2.

Blocked Shots: 4 (Hargis 3, Roberson).

Turnovers: 15 (Roberson 3, B. Wilson 2, Sborov 2, Kresl 2, Jeffery 2, Hargis 2).

Steals: 5 (Jeffery 3, Sborov, Reese).

Technical Fouls: None.

UTAH

FG FT Reb

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

Wcjwski 39 6-15 4-5 3-3 3 3 16

Plouffe 38 4-14 6-7 2-7 2 1 15

Rdrgrs 37 1-6 0-0 0-3 2 1 2

Wilson 22 1-8 0-0 2-4 0 2 2

Messer 27 1-5 0-0 0-2 1 3 3

Crozon 14 1-6 0-0 0-2 1 1 3

Rdrgz 20 1-3 0-0 0-4 0 2 2

Rynlds 3 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Totals 200 15-57 10-12 11-32 9 13 43

Percentages: FG .263, FT .833.

3-Point Goals: 3-22, .136 (Plouffe 1-4, Messer 1-5, Crozon 1-6, Rodriguez 0-1, Wilson 0-6).

Team Rebounds: 7.

Blocked Shots: 2 (Plouffe, Rodrigues).

Turnovers: 12 (Rodrigues 3, Rodriguez 3, Wicijowski 2, Wilson, Messer).

Steals: 4 (Plouffe 2, Rodrigues, Wicijowski).

Technical Fouls: None.

## No. 23 Colorado women defeat Utah 56-43

*The Associated Press The Denver Post*

*Posted:*

DenverPost.com

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SALT LAKE CITY—Jen Reese scored 11 points to lead No. 23 Colorado over Utah 56-43 Sunday, in their second meeting this week.

Reese was 5 of 11 from the field for the Buffaloes (13-2, 2-2 Pac-12).

Arielle Roberson scored 10 points. Rachel Hargis had seven rebounds, and Chucky Jeffery had six assists.

Colorado led 25-23 at halftime and never trailed in the second half. Colorado shot 44 percent from the field for the game, while Utah shot 26.3 percent. Colorado outrebounded Utah 41-32.

Taryn Wicijowski scored 16 points, passing her 1,200 career-point. She entered the game with 1,195 career points. Michelle Plouffe had 15 points and seven rebounds for Utah (9-6, 0-4).

Colorado also defeated Utah 67-57 Tuesday.