



# COLORADO BUFFALOES

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**Andre Roberson grabbed 20 rebounds and scored 12 points against Stanford**

Photo Courtesy: Joel Broida



## Brooks: Balanced, Physical Buffs Pound Cardinal By 21

Release: 01/24/2013 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

**BOULDER** - After being manhandled twice by Stanford in their first Pac-12 Conference season, the Colorado Buffaloes struck back Thursday night - hard, early and often.

Leading from opening tip to final buzzer, the Buffs bashed the Cardinal 75-54 at the Coors Events Center before 11,212 - the fourth largest crowd in school history. It was CU's first win against Stanford in six tries, with the Buffs' last victory coming on Dec. 23, 1990 in Boulder.

Despite the five straight losses to Stanford - and particularly the pair last season - CU coach Tad Boyle downplayed any revenge factor that might have motivated his team. "It was sweet," said Boyle, "because I respect Stanford and (coach) Johnny Dawkins . . . but relative to what happened last year - no."

What happened last year actually occurred twice - once at

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Stanford, once in Boulder. The Cardinal won big in both places, 84-64 and 74-50, respectively. And the Buffs were brutalized both times, outrebounded by a combined 85-53 total and shredded defensively as the Cardinal shot a cumulative 50 percent from the field.

Thursday night's story unfolded much differently, even if the physicality remained high. Said Boyle: "It was a bloodbath out there . . . it was one of those games where you had to put the ball in the basket. We told our guys at timeouts not to look for fouls."

There were 36 called and what appeared to be an equal number uncalled. But the Buffs, improving to 8-1 this season in the Events Center and 40-5 at home in Boyle's third season, followed their coach's advice and didn't depend on whistles.

Instead, they relied on balanced scoring - all five starters were in double figures - tenacious rebounding by junior Andre Roberson and steely defense. Roberson tied a career high with 20 of the Buffs' 48 rebounds (the Cardinal collected 30) and added 12 points.

"We fed off Andre tonight . . . (he) was a beast and played like the Andre we know and love. He was after it from the get-go" Boyle said.

Roberson's energy seemed unlimited and spilled over to the entire starting lineup. Sophomore Askia Booker scored a team-high 13, including eight consecutive points midway through the second half when Stanford closed to within eight. Freshman Josh Scott and sophomore Spencer Dinwiddie also scored 12 points each, while freshman Xavier - it's OK to call him "Jam" - Johnson contributed 11.

Making his fifth start, "XJ" also was a power source for CU, getting eight of his points on dunks that left the big crowd delirious. "He gave us big-time energy," said Boyle. "Those dunks got us going."

If Boyle downplayed any revenge factor, Booker said one was present "without a doubt . . . the coaches were talking about how bad they beat us on the boards last year."

Added Roberson: "I definitely feel like we had a lot to prove . . . we came out tonight and put it on them."

Roberson controlled the glass but had help. Booker and Dinwiddie accounted for seven rebounds, and Sabatino Chen came off the bench to collect six to go with his seven points. CU's bench outscored Stanford's 15-13, and the Buffs prevailed in the paint 44-20.

The Cardinal guards - Aaron Bright and Chasson Randle - were held to a combined 7-for-29 from the field. Randle led Stanford with 15 points, but he hit only five of his 21 attempts. And as a team, Stanford shot 31.3 percent (20-for-64) from the field, giving Boyle the edge he craves nightly in defense and rebounding.

Dawkins said CU "played with terrific energy and they moved well. They just defended well. I thought a tone was set from the beginning."

Wanting a good start, the Buffs couldn't have had a better one. Scoring on their first nine possessions, they went up 16-5, with Johnson's first jam of the night - a baseline drive from the left side - getting CU to 16.

After his first slam, "XJ" wasn't through and his teammates weren't either. Jam No. 2 came on a drive from the right baseline at the tail end of a 16-5 run that pushed CU ahead 42-25. Then he scored the final points of the half on a tip dunk after a Scott miss for a 44-29 halftime lead.

CU outrebounded Stanford 24-14 in the first half, with Roberson getting 11 of his board total in the first 20 minutes. The Buffs were careful with the ball, too, not committing the first of their four first-half turnovers until 3:26 remained before intermission. They went 27 possessions before turning it over, finishing with a dozen.

After never trailing in the first half, the Buffs' pressing second-half question was whether they could maintain their intensity - knowing the Cardinal would ratchet up its own. The short answer for CU: Yes.

When Johnson threw down his fourth jam - this one on a breakaway at the 14-minute mark - the Buffs took

their largest lead of the night, 54-36. But the Cardinal wasn't done.

Stanford closed to within 11 points (54-43) on a three-point play by Rosco Allen, then cut CU's advantage to single digits (54-46) on a three-pointer by Randle with 9:55 to play.

But the Cardinal never came closer than eight points. A pair of free throws by Dinwiddie with 8:53 to play restored the Buffs' 10-point lead (56-46). And after Roberson swat and rebound, the irrepressible Booker scored eight consecutive points for a 64-48 CU advantage with just over 6 minutes remaining.

Booker had gone to the bench because of fouls (he finished with four), but was sent back in by Boyle. "I was in foul trouble, and coach told me when I got back in the game to make something happen," Booker said. "Coach believes in me . . . I love those moments."

When Chen buried a three-pointer from the left corner with 2:23 left, CU went up by 19 (70-51). The lead got larger when Boyle emptied his bench, with crowd favorite Ben Mills scoring his four points in the final minute.

The Buffs (13-6, 3-4) are back at the Events Center on Sunday (1:30 p.m., FSN) to face California. Stanford (11-8, 3-3) visits Utah Sunday.

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SHOW MENU







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**Andre Roberson's 20 rebounds matched his career high.**

Photo Courtesy: Tony Harman



## Roberson's Energy, Board Work Set Tone For CU Romp

Release: 01/24/2013 Courtesy: Caryn Maconi, CUBuffs.com

**BOULDER** - In Colorado's 75-54 win over Stanford Thursday night, forward Andre Roberson earned his 33rd career double-double in dynamic fashion.

Roberson matched a career high with 20 rebounds, a number he first collected earlier this season at Fresno State. And that's not all - the junior also added 12 points, three blocks and three steals.

He was a force on the court right away, grabbing three boards in the first minute of the game. By halftime, he had racked up 11. While most of those were on the defensive end, CU head coach Tad Boyle said the three offensive rebounds were some of his most significant.

"You can just tell when (Andre) is dialed in and he plays with energy," Boyle said. "And you know where you'd see it is on the offensive rebounding. I know he only had three tonight, but he had one early where it was like, 'OK, he's going after it tonight.'"

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MBB Notes vs. Cal

Boyle said that while there were many leaders in Friday's game, Roberson's energy set the tone for what turned out to be the largest margin of victory for the Buffs so far this season in Pac-12 Conference play.

"I think we fed off of Andre tonight, I really do," Boyle said. "Andre is one of the leaders on this team. When he plays like that, Xavier Johnson feeds off of that. Askia Booker feeds off Andre. So when he plays like that, he lifts everybody else up."

The Buffs were outrebounded 50-26 the last time Colorado faced Stanford, in what turned out to be a 74-50 loss at the Coors Events Center. For that reason, Boyle said, rebounding had been one of the biggest focuses in preparing for Thursday's game - and Andre brought that focus onto the court more than anyone else.

"When we talk about defense and rebounding and then we do what we talk about . . . it all kind of takes care of itself," Boyle said.

Roberson, however, won't think of tonight as a personal success story. In his perspective, the "W" was the only stat that mattered.

"I don't look at numbers after the game," Roberson said. "What really matters to me is the team, the win. We were in a slump, and all of a sudden our team's going to be on the rise again, and you've seen that in the past few games. Hopefully we can keep it going."

SHOW MENU



## Men's basketball: Andre Roberson sparks CU Buffs' big win

By Ryan Thorburn *Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera*

Posted:

Buffzone.com

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Where's the killer instinct?

That's what the murmuring crowd of 11,212 was wondering as the home team's 18-point lead was sliced to 54-46 on a 3-pointer by Buff slayer Chasson Randle.

And then Andre Roberson delivered a sequence that had Tad Boyle smiling from ear to ear -- a blocked shot, a rebound and an assist to Askia Booker to restore order.

Roberson finished a spectacular night with 20 rebounds -- matching his career high set during a 50-43 win at Fresno state on Dec. 12 -- to go along with 12 points, three blocks, three steals and two assists to lead Colorado to a stirring 75-54 victory over Stanford at the Coors Events Center.

"Everybody has to rebound," Roberson said after CU dominated the glass to a tune of 48-30. "I took it on myself as a leader of this team to go and do it first."

Roberson's pass ahead to a wide open Booker was the first of eight consecutive points for the previously slumping sophomore guard, who finished with 13 points on 6-for-9 shooting to lead five CU players in double figures.

"I was in foul trouble early in the second half and (Boyle) told me when I got back into the game to make something happen," Booker said. "I love those moments because that's when I can shine most."

Xavier Johnson provided the sizzle to Roberson's steak with four powerful dunks and 11 points.

Ben Mills added the icing on the cake with two field goals and a rebound to close out the disappointing Cardinal (11-8, 2-4).

Randle, who dominated CU during Stanford's sweep last season, finished with 15 points but on 5-for-21 shooting.

"I definitely feel like we had a lot to prove," Roberson said. "Last year they gave us the business, here and there."

Josh Scott (12 points) and Spencer Dinwiddie (12) also scored in double figures as the Buffs shot 52.6 percent and outscored Stanford 44-20 in the paint.

"Finally I felt like our offense moved like the way it moves in practice," Boyle said.

Boyle's team played an inspired first half and led 44-29 at the break.

Johnson's third highlight reel dunk, a putback at the buzzer, was a fitting exclamation point.

"His tip-dunk at the end of the first half was incredible," Boyle said.

CU made 17 of 30 shots (56.7 percent) and held the Cardinal to a cool 34.3 percent (12 of 35) through 20 minutes.

Roberson wreaked the most havoc with 11 rebounds, nine points and two steals in 16 minutes.

"I thought Andre was a beast," Boyle said. "I think we fed off of Andre tonight."

Roberson grabbed his first three rebounds in the first minute and a jumper by Dinwiddie gave CU an early 9-0 lead.

After back-to-back baskets by Scott and a rim-rocking slam from Johnson, the Buffs had a 16-5 head start with 15:03 remaining in the first half.

Stanford answered with a 7-0 run and cut its deficit to 18-15 on a 3-pointer by Randle.

Roberson scored after making a steal and then hit a 3-pointer after securing a rebound to give CU a 26-15 advantage.

Johnson's second slam of the evening extended the lead to 13 points.

CU did not commit a turnover until Sabatino Chen was called for a charge with 3:26 to go before the intermission.

The Buffs (13-6, 3-4) will try to get back to .500 in Pac-12 play with their third consecutive win on Sunday against Cal.

Follow Ryan on Twitter:

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Colorado 75, Stanford 54

STANFORD

FG FT Reb

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

Brown 25 1-3 0-0 0-1 2 2 2

Huestis 19 2-4 1-2 0-6 0 4 6

Powell 37 5-13 1-1 3-7 1 3 11

Bright 28 2-8 2-2 0-0 5 1 7

Randle 35 5-21 2-2 4-6 0 1 15

Sanders 5 0-1 0-0 0-1 0 1 0

Nastic 4 0-1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Lemons 5 0-2 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Allen 17 2-4 1-1 0-6 0 1 5

Harris 5 1-1 0-0 0-0 1 1 2

Verhoeven 2 0-0 1-2 0-0 0 0 1

Gage 18 2-6 0-0 1-2 0 2 5

Totals 200 20-64 8-10 8-30 9 17 54

Percentages: FG .313, FT .800.

3-Point Goals: 6-20, .300 (Randle 3-6, Gage 1-2, Huestis 1-3, Bright 1-6, Sanders 0-1, Lemons 0-1, Brown 0-1).

Team Rebounds: 1.

Blocked Shots: 1 (Huestis).

Turnovers: 10 (Randle 3, Huestis 2, Powell 2, Bright, Allen, Gage).

Steals: 5 (Randle 2, Huestis, Brown, Bright).

Technical Fouls: None.

## COLORADO

FG FT Reb

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

Johnson 24 5-8 0-0 1-3 0 4 11

Roberson 34 4-10 3-6 3-20 2 2 12

Scott 34 6-13 0-0 4-5 1 1 12

Booker 26 6-9 1-2 0-4 3 4 13

Dinwiddie 33 3-7 6-8 0-3 4 2 12

Talton 1 0-0 0-0 0-1 0 0 0

Stalzer 4 0-1 1-3 0-0 0 1 1

Gamble 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 1 0 0



Harris-Tunks 2 0-0 0-0 0-1 0 2 0

Chen 28 3-6 0-1 2-6 1 1 7

Adams 12 1-1 0-2 0-1 0 2 3

Mills 1 2-2 0-0 0-1 0 0 4

Totals 200 30-57 11-22 11-48 12 19 75

Percentages: FG .526, FT .500.

3-Point Goals: 4-9, .444 (Roberson 1-1, Adams 1-1, Johnson 1-2, Chen 1-2, Dinwiddie 0-1, Booker 0-2).

Team Rebounds: 3.

Blocked Shots: 5 (Roberson 3, Scott, Dinwiddie).

Turnovers: 12 (Dinwiddie 3, Roberson 3, Johnson 2, Scott, Adams, Chen, Booker).

Steals: 8 (Roberson 3, Booker 3, Dinwiddie, Chen).

Technical Fouls: None.

Stanford 29 25--54

Colorado 44 31--75

A -- 11,212.

Officials -- Chris Rastatter, Deron White, Scott Brown.

## Ringo: CU Buffs' Andre Roberson offers glimpse of greatness

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Xavier Johnson made three highlight reel dunks in the first half Thursday night against Stanford, but the best player on the court at the Coors Events Center was Andre Roberson.

It wasn't even close.

During the first 20 minutes, there wasn't anybody on either team playing with the same intensity. Roberson snagged three rebounds in the first minute and had 11 by halftime. He finished the game with 20, tying his career high. He was a force Stanford seemed to have no answer for in a pivotal game for both teams.

Roberson competed for every ball. He leaped over Cardinal players to get them and at one point knocked two of his teammates to the floor going over their backs to make sure he secured a rebound. He made a 3-pointer, made both his free throw attempts in the first half and made two steals.

"I thought Andre was a beast," CU coach Tad Boyle said.

The Buffs played one of their best halves of the season collectively to take a 15-point halftime lead and it was Roberson who provided the energy and the leadership while limiting Stanford forward Dwight Powell to five points and three rebounds. No small accomplishment.

The question that came to mind after watching Roberson clearly dominate 20 minutes of basketball was this: Where has this guy been all season?

If Roberson played like this more consistently, he would be in contention for the Pac-12 Conference Player of the Year award, but he too often has less noteworthy performances. He is always one of the best rebounders in the nation and he never takes possessions off on the defensive end, but he seemed to be operating on a different level when it came to the intensity and mental focus against the Cardinal.

Roberson said he took it upon himself to set the tone against Stanford after experiencing two blowout loss to the Cardinal last season. CU fans should be encouraged by that leadership. It's the same stuff that led Roberson and Sabatino Chen to call a players only team meeting a week ago when things just didn't feel right to them after a 1-3 start in conference play.

"I thought he was outstanding tonight, especially on the boards," Stanford coach Johnny Dawkins said.

"Twenty rebounds. I mean, what can you say? When a young man gets 20 rebounds in a 40-minute game. That takes effort and a lot of energy and it says a lot about that kid."

When the Buffs began to fade a bit midway through the second half Thursday and the crowd became restless looking for something to cheer about, Roberson stepped into the lane and blocked a shot. He grabbed a rebound in ferocious fashion moments later and delivered a nice outlet pass that led to a 3-pointer from Askia Booker on the other end.

The fans were standing once again and the decibel level probably made some eardrums ring.

ESPN analyst and former Arizona star Miles Simon had this to say after watching Roberson take over the

game.

"High school kids should watch him," Simon said. "He's a great example of a guy who affects the game without scoring a lot of points. You don't have to score a lot to affect the game and too many young players think you do. He dominated this game without scoring a lot."

Roberson seemed to fade a bit toward the end when the game was in hand. He made a couple bad passes, missed a jump shot badly and made just one of four free throws late in the game. He still received a well-deserved standing ovation when Tad Boyle took him out of the game with 1 minute, 36 seconds remaining.

There are nights when he plays a higher percentage of the game with the fleeting focus he had at the foul line late Thursday. Boyle said that will change with maturity. When that happens, watch out. No one will be questioning whether he's an NBA first round draft pick then.

Follow Kyle on Twitter:

@KyleRingo

## CU Buffs get 75-54 victory over Stanford in men's basketball as Andre Roberson takes charge

By Tom Kensler *The Denver Post* *The Denver Post*

Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — After contributing 12 points, 20 rebounds, three blocks and three steals Thursday night to Colorado's 75-54 victory over Stanford, stats stuffer Andre Roberson was asked which of the numbers jumped out at him.

"The 'W' (win)," the junior forward replied. "What really matters to me is the win. We were in a slump until the last two games. Now we're back."

Overpowered twice by Stanford last season, the Buffaloes played Thursday night like they had had enough.

Flexing its newfound strength inside and beating the Cardinal down the floor, Colorado (13-6, 3-4 Pac-12) never trailed before a national television audience and to the delight of the fourth largest crowd (11,212) since the Coors Events Center opened its doors in 1979.

The Buffaloes jumped on the visitors from the opening tip, racing to quick leads of 7-0 and 14-5.

By the first media timeout at 15:29, when Stanford (11-8, 2-4) was finally able to catch its breath after playing catch-up, Colorado had scored on its first seven possessions.

"The first four minutes set the tone," Stanford coach Johnny Dawkins said.

Colorado's ball movement "was like we have done in practice," CU coach Tad Boyle said. That resulted in five Buffs scorers reaching double figures, with Roberson joined by sophomore guards Askia Booker (13) and Spencer Dinwiddie (12), freshman center Josh Scott (12) and freshman forward Xavier Johnson (11).

"We wanted to run," Boyle said, "and keep (Stanford) on the defensive."

Stanford flexed its size advantage last year and manhandled the Buffs 84-64 in Palo Alto, Calif., and 74-50 here. But in the 6-foot-10 Scott, Colorado has a stronger inside presence this season.

The rookie from Colorado Springs led the Buffs in the first half with 10 points, and his ability to patrol the middle enabled the 6-7 Roberson and 6-6 Johnson more space to do their thing — which often resulted in a high-flying slam dunk.

"We had a lot to prove," Roberson said. "Last year they gave us the business. This year we put it to them."

"Twenty rebounds by Andre — that's ridiculous," Booker said.

Stanford started four forwards, an unusual combination in this era of three-guard lineups. That size advantage enabled the Cardinal to control the middle and the tempo a year ago, but this time Colorado forced the action with its superior athleticism.

That's not to say this was easy. Stanford, playing under control, methodically chipped away at CU's 44-29 halftime lead. A 3-pointer by guard Chasson Randle from the right corner pulled the Cardinal to within 54-46

with 9:54 to go.

But Colorado immediately retaliated with Booker sparking an 8-0 run.

"We kept emphasizing how bad they beat us last year," Booker said. "Definitely, (revenge) was on our mind."

Colorado remains at home for a 1:30 p.m. Sunday date with California. After that, the Buffs won't play again in Boulder until Valentine's Day.

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