Fresh faces: Wesley Gordon ready to join up with Josh Scott in post

By Ryan Thorburn Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera Posted:

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In a normal year, Wesley Gordon would have been the big fish in a small pond.

But it was Josh Scott -- the 6-foot-10 all-everything prospect from Lewis-Palmer High School -- who committed to Colorado first and celebrated a 4A state championship in March at the Coors Events Center.

Gordon chose CU three days after Scott's headline-grabbing decision and then settled for state runner-up as his Sierra team lost in the classic title game between the Colorado Springs rivals.

Hard feelings? Hardly.

Gordon, a 6-8 four-star recruit, understands how abnormally good the Buffs can be now that he is joining forces with Scott in TadBoyle's impressive six-man 2012 class.

"Me and Josh have always been close friends," Gordon said. "We never disliked each other or nothing."

It appears, at least during early summer workouts, that Gordon is a defensive stopper, and Scott has a more polished offensive repertoire.

"That's because I have a lot of teammates who can score. My main focus isn't to score really," Gordon said. "I adapt to whatever I need to do."

Former CU assistant Terry Dunn was Gordon's coach at Sierra last season. Ricardo Patton, who is now a high school coach in Memphis, might still be leading the Buffs if he would have recruited in-state players of this caliber.

"He's got one of the best basketball IQs I've seen in terms of thinking ahead," Dunn said of Gordon in the Colorado Springs Gazette last season. "He understands the mental aspect of the game."

Gordon scored 49 points on Jan. 17 to lead Sierra to a victory over Sand Creek. He scored 33 or more points five times during his senior season.

"The thing about Wesley is he's under-rated offensively. He's very skilled," Boyle said. "He's capable of shooting it, he's a good passer, and he can rebound. He brings a lot of length and athleticism. And he can play above the rim, which not everyone can do."

During the recruiting process, Gordon also considered Arizona and Mississippi State.

"I really liked Tad Boyle and their program was really good," Gordon said. "I knew it was somewhere I could play."

It's an extraordinary recruiting year for CU. There are two centers (or power forwards) of attention in Boulder.

"We're the dynamic duo now," Scott said. "We're rooming right now and we get along real well. In high school we were never hostile with each other. We were competitive with each other, but it's good to be playing with him finally."

Page 1 of 1 16/07/2012 09:26 AM