



COLORADO BUFFALOES

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Arielle Roberson recorded a double-double for the Buffaloes, but it wasn't enough to beat Kansas Saturday.

Photo Courtesy: Joel Broida



Kansas Springs 67-52 Upset On Buffaloes

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BOULDER — Scoring the fifth fewest points of the season while allowing the second most was not a formula for success for the Colorado women's basketball team, as five Kansas players scored in double figures to lead the Jayhawks to a 67-52 upset over the host Buffaloes in an NCAA Women's Tournament first round game here Saturday.

Seniors Carolyn Davis and Angel Goodrich led the scored 14 points apiece for Kansas (19-13, the 12th seed in the Norfolk Region), which basically limped into the tournament after losing six of its last eight games (and 11 of 18). But the Jayhawks, after falling behind by 10 early, played the like the team that opened the year with seven straight wins on their way to an 11-2 start.

Colorado (25-7, seeded No. 5), was playing in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in a decade, but had to make a go of it without starting center **Rachel Hargis**, who suffered a knee injury in practice a week ago Friday. It's safe to say CU missed the junior's 6-foot-4 presence inside, not only her rebounding but her ability to alter

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shots.

Colorado started out 6-of-7 from the field in building an early 14-4 edge, but then went cold the rest of the way in the first half (5-of-27) and missed its first seven shots of the second half before a **Brittany Wilson** layup at 14:02 ended the drought. Meanwhile, KU shot 50 percent in the first half (15-of-30), closing with 11 makes in 18 tries; the Jayhawks made 5-of-6 to open the second for a 16-of-24 performance while turning a 15-9 deficit into a 49-29 lead, the first of two 20-point advantages it had in the game (the other coming at 56-36).

It all added up to a whopping 45-15 comeback after Colorado recorded that early lead.

If the Buffaloes were going to get back in it, they needed a quick start in the second half. But the Jayhawks were not to be denied, scoring the first six points to extend their 10-point intermission lead to 43-27. The margin hovered between 14 points, the closest the Buffs would get on three different occasions, and 18 the remainder of the game.

Kansas opened the scoring on a Davis layup but then Colorado went on a 14-2 run in just over a two minute span, fueled by eight points, including a pair of 3-point baskets, by junior Brittany Wilson. The Jayhawks slowly worked their way back into the game, pulling to within 15-13 on consecutive scores by Monica Engelman at the 11:19 mark. A three-pointer by Lexy Kresl and a layup from Chuck Jeffery put the Buffs back up by seven, 20-13 with 9:12 left in the half.

KU then matched and actually exceeded CU's early run with one of its own, using a 17-3 spree over the next five-plus minutes to take a 30-23 lead, with Davis and Chelsea Gardner each contributing six points. Davis had 10 points in the half, which ended with a Charlicia Harper three-point shot to give the Jayhawks a 37-27 lead.

"We came out and it was rainin' in here, and then after a while we couldn't hit anything," Wilson said. "I mean, we had open shots, I just think ... I don't really know what happened. Then there were open shots, and we kept saying, 'just step into it and take another shot.' I don't know if it was nervousness, I don't know what it was, but after a while we just couldn't hit anything."

Colorado finished just 16-of-63 from the field, the 25.4 shooting percentage easily its worst of the season. The Buffs came into the game hitting at 39.9 percent, while Kansas was allowing its opponents to click at just 41.1 percent. The Jayhawks converted 46 percent of its tries; otherwise, the only other decided statistical advantages belong to Kansas in assists (16-8) and to Colorado in steals (13-5) and free throw attempts (25-6).

It was just the ninth time in 32 games that the Buffaloes trailed at halftime, and only Stanford had a larger lead at intermission over CU than the Jayhawks; the Cardinal, ranked fourth at the time, led 31-14 en route to a 57-40 win in Boulder back on January 4. In addition, Kansas tied CU on the boards with 42, just the seventh time this year the Buffs did not hold the edge in rebounding; Colorado was 0-5 when getting outrebounded and 1-1 when matched.

Arielle Roberson recorded a double-double for Colorado, scoring 11 points and grabbing 12 rebounds; Wilson tied her for the team scoring lead, also netting 11. Jeffery struggled in her final appearance in a CU uniform, scoring just eight points on 2-of-16 field goal shooting, but did have five rebounds, five assists and two steals.

"It's very disappointing," Jeffery said of ending the season this way. "We didn't want it to end this early. It's kind of sad being my last game, but I wouldn't have gone through the season with any other team."

Jeffery finished her career ranked high on several of CU's all-time charts, including scoring (1,644 points, sixth), rebounds (921, fifth), assists (481, fourth) and steals (283, fourth). She finished with the fifth most double-doubles (30) and had at least one assist in her last 74 games (and in 123 of 125 for her career).

"No one expected us to be here right now," Wilson added. "But you know I think that's a great thing. Chucky has her legacy here, and Megan has her legacy here, and I think we sent them out in a great way. I'm disappointed to lose, and of course no one thought we'd end this early. But we had a great year, and no one expected us to do the things that we've done. But when we look back, and once the sting of this is over we'll be ready to come back."

Kansas will meet South Carolina Monday night for the right to advance to the Norfolk Regional next weekend; tipoff at the Coors Events Center is 7:30 p.m.

South Carolina Advances With 74-52 Win Over South Dakota State

BOULDER — Seniors Ashley Bruner and Ieasia Walker each scored 15 points to pace four Gamecock players in double figures to lead South Carolina over South Dakota State, 74-52, in the first round of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament here Saturday afternoon.

South Carolina, ranked No. 14 in the nation by the coaches and No. 17 by the Associated Press, pulled away from the Jackrabbits midway through the first half. The score was tied six times and there were eight lead changes, with South Dakota State taking its last lead at 14-13 with 12:02 to play; it remained within two, 21-19, at the 9:34 mark but that's when the Gamecocks found their stride.

Six different South Carolina players contributed in a 21-4 run over the six minutes that broke the game open, with Tiffany Mitchell scoring five and Walker four to give USC a 40-23 lead; the Gamecocks, seeded No. 4 in the Norfolk Regional, led 44-26 at halftime. South Carolina shot 61 percent in the first half, including 7-of-9 shots in the decisive run.

South Dakota State (25-8, the No. 13 seed) made a couple of mini-runs in the second half, but would get no closer than 15. Senior Ashley Eide led the Jackrabbits with 15 points, the only SDSU player in double figures, with sophomore Gabby Boever adding nine.

Bruner had a double-double, as she collected 11 rebounds for the Gamecocks (25-7), who owned a 40-28 advantage on the boards; she also had a game-high four steals. Elem Ibian scored 13 points off the bench and Mitchell had 11, as no South Carolina starter played over 29 minutes.

NOTES: Over seven inches of snow fell in Boulder over the last 21 hours prior to tipoff of the South Carolina-South Dakota State game (2:10 start), with roads icy all around the Denver metro area; the weather likely hurt game day tickets sales, but 5,347 still braved the elements and made it to the Coors Events Center ... There were 3,159 all-session (three games) ticket strips sold before individual game tickets went on sale Saturday ... And despite the snow and at times blizzard like conditions, Boulder had the fourth highest attendance of the eight sites on Saturday, bested only by College Station (7,215), Knoxville (6,833) and Spokane (5,674); it outdrew Storrs and UConn (4,627) ... The first game was delayed just after tipoff for about five minutes as the game clock and shot clock malfunction (were not in synch); it was fixed and was not a problem the remainder of the day ... South Dakota State traveled the best here of the three visitors, with an estimated 1,200 fans making the 500-plus mile trip from Brookings; South Carolina had less than 100.

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Fifth-seeded Colorado upset by Kansas on home court | Women's NCAA tournament roundup

The Kansas Jayhawks still have Colorado's number. Angel Goodrich and Carolyn Davis each scored 14 points and the 12th-seeded Jayhawks upset...

By The Associated Press



BOULDER, Colo. — The Kansas Jayhawks still have Colorado's number.

Angel Goodrich and Carolyn Davis each scored 14 points and the 12th-seeded Jayhawks upset their former conference foe and fifth-seeded Buffaloes 67-52 Saturday night on Colorado's home floor.

The Jayhawks (19-13) used a 15-0 spurt spanning halftime to take control and advance to face fourth-seeded South Carolina on Monday at the Coors Events Center.

The Buffaloes (25-7) saw their first trip to the NCAA tournament in nine years come to an unexpected end.

All the more maddening, it came against their former foe from the Big 12 that always seemed to get the best of them.

The Buffs, ranked 19th, were favored, but they missed Rachel Hargis' presence in the post.

The junior center sprained her right knee in practice a week ago and didn't play, robbing Colorado of an inside player to counter Kansas' size down low.

They also missed plenty of shots — Arielle Roberson and Chucky Jeffery, their two leading scorers, combined to shoot just 5 for 29 from the floor. Roberson finished with 11 points and Jeffery eight.

"We knew ... if we could take them out, then we had a good chance to win," Davis said. "I think we did a great job executing that and defending them and keeping them off the board and making them take tough shots."

Chelsea Gardner and Charlicia Harper each scored 12 for the Jayhawks and Monica Engelman added 10 points.

Both teams were coming off a two-week layoff, having last played on March 9, but the Jayhawks shot 45 percent to the Buffaloes' 25 percent, and Colorado made just five of 29 shots after halftime.

"It's tough to win games when you shoot the ball 25 percent and then you don't play defense either," Buffs coach Linda Lappe said.

Norfolk (Va.) Bracket

South Carolina 74,

South Dakota State 52

In Boulder, Ashley Brunner had 15 points and 11 rebounds to lead No. 4 seed South Carolina past No. 13 seed South Dakota State.

The Gamecocks used their superior athleticism and stout defense to make quick work of the 13th-seeded Jackrabbits.

Texas A&M 71,

Wichita State 45

In College Station, Texas, Kristi Bellock tied a career high with 18 points and the No. 3-seeded Aggies routed No. 14 seed Wichita State. Playing in front of a hometown crowd, the Aggies used a big run at the end of the first half to erase a one-point deficit and take a 13-point lead into halftime.

Nebraska 73,

Chattanooga 59

In College Station, Jordan Hooper made four three-pointers in the second half and finished with 21 points, helping sixth-seeded Nebraska rally from nine points down to beat No. 11 seed Chattanooga.

Oklahoma City Bracket

UCLA 66, Stetson 49

In Columbus, Ohio, Nirra Fields scored 13 points and the third-seeded Bruins had an 11-0 lead before rolling over No. 14 seed Stetson. Jasmine Dixon added 10 points and 10 rebounds and Atonye Nyingifa had 10 points and eight rebounds for the spread-the-wealth Bruins.

Six players average between eight and 12 points for them.

"This is a team sport, so we play as a team," Fields said of the Bruins, who had nine players score and nine grab rebounds.

Creighton 61, Syracuse 56

In Knoxville, Tenn., McKenzie Fujan scored a career-high 24 points as 10th-seeded Creighton held off a late Syracuse rally to beat the seventh-seeded Orange 61-56 and earn its first NCAA tournament victory since 1994.

Syracuse had a chance to tie the score with a three-pointer in the final seconds, but Elashier Hall's shot hit the right side of the rim.

Tennessee 83,**Oral Roberts 62,**

In Knoxville, Meighan Simmons scored 18 points and the second-seeded Lady Vols defeated No. 15 seed Oral Roberts in their first NCAA tournament game of the post-Pat Summitt era.

The Lady Vols got points from all 11 players and improved to 51-0 in NCAA tournament games on their home floor.

Oklahoma 78,**Central Michigan 73**

In Columbus, Joanna McFarland had 18 points and a career-high 17 rebounds to lead the sixth-seeded Sooners past No. 11 seed Central Michigan.

Despite 24 turnovers, the Sooners had just enough to hold off the Chippewas, who were making their third trip to the NCAA and first since 1984. Crystal Bradford had a sensational game for CMU with a career-high 36 points with 14 rebounds and seven steals.

Bridgeport (Conn.) Bracket**Connecticut 105, Idaho 37**

In Storrs, Conn., Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis led six Connecticut players in double figures as the top-seeded Huskies routed No. 16 seed Idaho.

Mosqueda-Lewis finished with 22 points, all in the first half. Morgan Tuck had 18, and Moriah Jefferson had 16 for the Huskies (30-4), who advanced to the second round for the 20th straight time in their 25th consecutive tournament appearance.

Vanderbilt 60,**Saint Joseph's 54**

In Storrs, Tiffany Clarke had 16 points and 12 rebounds to lead No. 8 seed Vanderbilt over No. 9 seed Saint Joseph's.

Maryland 72, Quinnipiac 52

In College Park, Md., Alyssa Thomas had 29 points and 13 rebounds to help No. 4 seed Maryland spoil 13th-seeded Quinnipiac's debut in the tournament.

The fourth-seeded Terrapins trailed by nine in the first half, moved in front 27-23 at the break and dominated the second half against the smaller Bobcats, who couldn't stop Thomas' repeated forays into the lane.

Michigan State 55,**Marist 47**

In College Park, Kiana Johnson scored 16 points to help fifth-seeded Michigan State halt No. 12 seed Marist's string of first-round NCAA upsets.

Michigan State advanced to the second round for the eighth time in nine NCAA appearances.

Women's basketball: Chucky Jeffery's career comes to close

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

With 47 seconds left in Saturday's loss to Kansas, Colorado's Chucky Jeffery came off the floor for the last time as a Buffalo.

The loud ovation she received from the CU fans was well deserved, but the end result was not what Jeffery had in mind.

"Just disappointment," she said of her thoughts as she came off the floor. "I didn't want it to be over. We have a great team and the way the program has progressed, we just didn't want it to end. You never want it to end."

During her four-year career with the Buffaloes, Jeffery saw it all. The Buffs went through a dismal 13-17 season in 2009-10, after which coach Kathy McConnell-Miller was fired.

In 2010-11 and 2011-12, the Buffs went to the Women's NIT twice under new coach Linda Lappe. This year, they completed the resurgence with the program's first trip to the NCAA Tournament in nine years.

Lappe, who sometimes butted heads with Jeffery when she first took over as coach, has grown to love her star guard. Lappe had to pause for a second to temper her emotions when asked what she felt Jeffery's legacy would be at CU.

"The thing that she has brought is just a competitive fire and the ability to change her game and herself to help our team," Lappe said. "A lot of players going through some of the things she went through early in her career may give up, may quit. Every challenge we gave Chucky, she rose to the occasion."

"Even though her last game probably wasn't her best game, she's shown that it can be done, and you can transform your body and you can transform your mind, and she was able to do that."

Jeffery had a rough night Saturday. She went just 2-for-16 from the floor and scored eight points. She also five rebounds, five assists and two steals.

That won't take away from what was a remarkable career.

Jeffery finished sixth on CU's all-time scoring list (1,644 points), fifth in rebounds (921), fourth in assists (481) and fourth in steals (283). She is the only player in CU history to rank among the top six in all those categories.

Jeffery is the only player in team history to record 1,500 points, 900 rebounds and 400 assists. Only four players have accumulated more double-doubles than her 30, and of the three triple-doubles in CU history, Jeffery has two of them.

She also finished among the all-time leaders in field goals made (sixth, 619), 3-pointers made (15th, 75) and blocks (13th, 71).

"It's kind of sad being my last game," Jeffery said. "But, I wouldn't have gone through the season with any other team."

Women's basketball: CU Buffs feel Hargis' absence

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

For the first time this season, the Colorado women's basketball team played without center Rachel Hargis on Saturday.

The Buffaloes missed her dearly in the 67-52 loss to Kansas during the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

A 6-foot-4 junior, Hargis had started every game before Saturday, but on March 15 she suffered an injury to the medial collateral ligament in her right knee.

"The thing that Kansas beat us on tonight was toughness, and that's what Rachel is," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "That's her role, that's her job, that's what she is."

Hargis is a physical defender who certainly would have made a difference against Kansas forwards Carolyn Davis and Chelsea Gardner, who both stand 6-3. Davis and Gardner combined for 26 points, 17 rebounds and four blocks.

"Rachel is definitely our best defender on the floor," CU senior Chucky Jeffery said. "Rachel is steady. I think she would have been a great matchup for Carolyn Davis, so we really missed that a lot. You can really count on Rachel. She will do her job every time."

CU freshman Arielle Roberson added that the Buffs missed Hargis' leadership on the floor, because Hargis is good at directing the Buffs on defense.

Throughout the week, Lappe remained hopeful that Hargis would play, but she wasn't ready by game time.

Sophomore Jen Reese got the start in Hargis' place. It was Reese's first start since Feb. 23, 2012, at Stanford. In that game, Reese injured her eye 2 minutes in and missed the rest of her freshman season.

Shots wouldn't fall

Lappe and the Buffs were pleased with the shots they took on Saturday. They did miss 47 of the 63 they attempted, but few of them were bad shots.

"I thought we had a lot of open looks," Lappe said. "When we were stuck on 15 (in the first half), I thought we had great looks. I thought Chucky had some nice looks on shots that she practices all the time."

Throughout the year, CU was able to avoid long scoring droughts, but had too many of them Saturday.

Building a program

South Carolina head coach Dawn Staley is one of the best women's basketball players ever, so it shouldn't come as much of a surprise that she's turned the Gamecocks around.

Now in her fifth season, Staley has South Carolina into the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the second year in a row after Saturday's 74-52 win over South Dakota State.

"It's the thing that fuels me as a coach, to not have to relive what we went through four or five years ago," said Staley, who was 10-18 in her first season at South Carolina in 2008-09. "That's the thing that keeps me motivated, keeps me wanting to take this program to higher heights."

After back-to-back losing seasons in her first two seasons with the Gamecocks, Staley took them to the Women's NIT in 2010-11 and to the NCAA Sweet 16 a year ago.

SDSU faithful

While its team lost, South Dakota State dominated South Carolina in fan support.

Hundreds of Jackrabbits fans were decked out in blue and yellow, many of them making the drive from South Dakota.

"It was very special," senior guard Ashley Eide said. "We have had a great fan base. Everyone has supported us. They were here today and it means a lot that they would make the trip out. It's not an easy thing to do. I just want to thank them for everything they have done for us."

Notable

With its loss on Saturday, Colorado went out in the first round for just the fourth time in 13 NCAA Tournament appearances. The Buffs are now 17-13 all-time at the tournament. ... Kansas' Davis became just the fifth player in Jayhawks history to reach the 1,800-point mark for her career. She has 1,810 points. ... Kansas evened its NCAA Tournament record to 12-12, while South Carolina improved to 11-9 and South Dakota State fell to 1-5.

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Women's basketball: Kansas shocks CU Buffs in NCAA Tournament opener

By Brian Howell *Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera*

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Even as Kansas continued to hit shots and Colorado continued to miss shots, there was a belief in the Coors Events Center that the Buffaloes would turn it around.

Yet, the seconds kept melting off the clock, CU's shots kept missing the hoop and reality set in.

A special season came to a not-so-special ending on Saturday night.

Back in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2004, the Colorado women's basketball team was shocked by former Big 12 rival Kansas, 67-52, at Coors Events Center. Kansas will play South Carolina (25-7) in the second round Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Coors Events Center.

"It's very disappointing," senior point guard Chucky Jeffery said. "We didn't want it to end this early."

Seeded fifth in the Norfolk Region, the 19th-ranked Buffaloes (25-7) were considered the favorite against the 12th-seeded Jayhawks (19-13). Yes, No. 12s have made a habit of beating No. 5s on an annual basis in the men's tournament, but it was not so common in the women's tournament.

CU, in fact, is the first No. 5 to lose to a No. 12 since 2010, when Green Bay upset Virginia. Including Saturday's games, No. 5s are now 62-17 against No. 12s since the NCAA went to a 64-team bracket in 1994.

Kansas, however, was surprisingly dominant against a CU team that had not lost to an unranked opponent all season. The Jayhawks hit 45.9 percent of their shots (28-of-61), compared to 25.4 percent (16-of-63) for CU. KU also matched the normally dominant Buffs on the boards, 42-42.

"I don't necessarily think we didn't match up well," said Jeffery, who finished 0-6 in her career against Kansas. "I thought we matched up pretty well. It's just a matter of getting stops and we weren't getting enough stops, and we weren't executing our offense, so it made it tough for us to stay in the game that way."

KU point guard Angel Goodrich hurt the Buffs all night, finishing with 14 points and eight assists. Forward Carolyn Davis did plenty of damage, too, with 14 points and eight rebounds. Chelsea Gardner (12 points, nine rebounds), Charlicia Harper (12 points, six rebounds) and Monica Engelman (10 points, six rebounds) were also great for the Jayhawks.

Arielle Roberson had the third double-double (11 points, 12 rebounds) of her career, but it was a struggle most of the night for the Buffs.

For Colorado, there was so much excitement and anticipation for this one. Not only did CU break a nine-year Tournament drought, the Buffs also had the opportunity to host the first two rounds. They were 12-3 all-time in home NCAA Tournament games, 12-1 since 1993.

Kansas, meanwhile, barely had the look of an NCAA qualifier. The Jayhawks went 4-7 in their last 11 games,

finished seventh in the 10-team Big 12, and were a bit of surprise to even make the field of 64.

"There were doubters last year, too," Goodrich said after the game. "We just wanted to show what we could do. If there are doubters now -- and I'm sure there are -- we don't look at that. We just want to go out and play for fun and for each other and show what we can do as a team. I feel like we did that tonight."

Early on, the game played out as many expected it might. CU hit six buckets in a row and raced to a 14-4 lead three minutes in.

"We started off just how we wanted to," Jeffery said. "We came out with a lot of energy and focus."

From there, it was all Kansas. After falling behind by 10 early, the Jayhawks outscored the Buffs 45-15 over the next 22 minutes, taking their biggest lead, 49-29.

"We tried a lot of different things on offense and on defense to see what we could keep going," Lappe said. "There comes a point where you just understand that it's not going to happen, because Kansas was so solid."

Because the Buffs have come back from deficits before, Lappe said she kept up hope. But, she gave Kansas credit for keeping its foot on the gas.

"You've got to find a way to make plays and ultimately Kansas made plays," Lappe said. "It comes down to who's going to make big plays when your team needs it. We just didn't have any of those."

CU tried to claw back in the game, pulling within 14 with 5:29 to play, but that was as close as they'd get.

After their 6-for-6 stretch early in the game, the Buffs went 10-for-56 from the floor the rest of the way. Brittany Wilson had 11 points for Colorado, eight of those during CU's 14-4 run to start the game.

It certainly was not the ending Colorado had hoped for after perhaps the best season the Buffs have had in more than a decade.

"It's a special group of girls, special team," Roberson said. "I think we did a lot of great things this season. Sure, we didn't end the way we thought it would, but I think we did a lot of great, uncommon things this year and we can continue to build on that stuff."

"It's a great season, special in all kinds of ways."

Follow Brian on Twitter: @BrianHowell33.

Fast break

What went right

CU got off to a great start, taking a 14-4 lead 3 minutes into the game.

What went wrong

The final 37 minutes were extremely disappointing for the Buffaloes. After their 14-4 start, they were outscored 39-13 over the next 20 minutes, burying them in too big of a hole.

Star of the game

Arielle Roberson. While it was the last game for senior Chucky Jeffery and twins Brenna and Meagan Malcolm-Peck, Roberson is one of CU's future stars, and she showed why. She finished with her third career double-double (11 points, 12 rebounds).

What's next?

CU heads to the offseason.

Kansas 67, Colorado 52

FG FT Reb

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

Gardner 33 5-10 2-2 0-9 1 4 12

Davis 28 6-11 2-2 3-8 1 3 14

Goodrich 40 5-16 2-2 0-2 8 2 14

Engelman 34 5-11 0-0 0-6 2 3 10

Hawkins 18 1-2 0-0 0-0 1 1 3

Boyd 6 0-0 0-0 0-1 1 0 0

Williams 19 1-3 0-0 3-6 1 4 2

Harper 22 5-8 0-0 1-6 1 2 12

Totals 200 28-61 6-6 9-42 16 19 67

Percentages: FG .459, FT 1.000.

3-Point Goals: 5-14, .357 (Harper 2-3, Goodrich 2-4, Hawkins 1-2, Davis 0-1, Engelman 0-4).

Team Rebounds: 4.

Blocked Shots: 7 (Davis 2, Engelman 2, Gardner 2, Williams).

Turnovers: 19 (Davis 7, Goodrich 3, Williams 3, Gardner 2, Harper 2, Engelman 2).

Steals: 5 (Goodrich 2, Gardner 2, Hawkins).

Technical Fouls: None.

COLORADO

FG FT Reb

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

Roberson 36 3-13 5-6 4-12 1 2 11

Kresl 22 2-7 0-1 1-2 1 3 5

B Wilson 20 4-7 1-2 0-1 1 4 11

Jeffery 35 2-16 4-6 2-5 5 1 8

Reese 25 1-7 1-2 3-6 0 2 3

A Wilson 11 1-2 0-0 0-0 0 2 2

M Malcolm-Peck 2 0-1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Sborov 15 1-3 2-4 3-5 0 0 4

Weston 11 2-5 0-0 1-1 0 0 4

Swan 23 0-2 4-4 1-6 0 2 4

Totals 200 16-63 17-25 18-42 8 16 52

Percentages: FG .254, FT .680.

3-Point Goals: 3-11, .273 (B. Wilson 2-4, Kresl 1-3, Jeffery 0-1, Weston 0-1, Roberson 0-1, M. Malcolm-Peck 0-1).

Team Rebounds: 4.

Blocked Shots: 6 (Swan 4, Roberson 2).

Turnovers: 15 (Jeffery 3, B. Wilson 3, Kresl 2, Swan 2, Roberson 2, Reese, Weston, A. Wilson).

Steals: 13 (Kresl 3, Roberson 3, Jeffery 2, A. Wilson, Weston, Reese, Swan, B. Wilson).

Technical Fouls: None.

Kansas 37 30--67

Colorado 27 25--52

A--5,347.

Officials -- Clark Stevens, Kyle Bacon, Kelly Johnson.

RAMSEY: CU's Chucky falls, but she will rise again

[DAVID RAMSEY](#)

2013-03-23 21:02:48



COMMENTARY

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BOULDER – As former Sierra mega-star Chucky Jeffery began her final walk off the court at Coors Events Center, tears trickled down her face. She pulled her jersey over her eyes, not wanting the crowd to see.

Colorado had lost to Kansas, 67-52, in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament. The defeat ended Jeffery's career with the Buffs.

With 45 seconds left, coach Linda Lappe pulled Jeffery, giving the crowd a chance to stand and cheer for a basketball warrior.

"I just didn't want it to be over," Jeffery said. "You never want it to end."

A few minutes after her CU farewell, the tears had dried. Jeffery stood in the Buffs locker room, considering questions about her basketball future.

"It doesn't end here," she said, her voice steady.

I agree. Jeffery is one of the college game's finest athletes. She boasts a wicked crossover. Despite her slender, 5-foot-10 frame, she outbattles giants in the lane for rebounds. She's generous, and she sees the entire court.

And don't let the tears fool you; Jeffery is extraordinarily tough. During her junior high days in Colorado Springs, she was a superb football player.

She's the only player in CU women's history to collect 1,600 points, 900 rebounds and 400 assists. She could enjoy a long career in the WNBA or an overseas destination.

But she has work to do. When Jeffery departed Sierra High after a dominating career, she lacked a consistent jump shot. She soared as a college star anyway. College defenses failed to stop her joy rides to the rim.

The pros will be different, and Jeffery knows it. She has crafted a well-rounded game with few flaws.

Her jumper remains flawed. She shot only 28 percent from 3-point range this season.

"I've got to keep getting better," she said. "I have to be better with my shot. It has to be more consistent."

Jeffery enjoyed a superlative career with the Buffs, but her finale will haunt her. CU rolled into the game as a No. 5 seed and seemed a clear favorite over the 12th-seeded Jayhawks.

The Jayhawks dominated almost from the start while coming close to silencing Jeffery. Everywhere she went, she found two Jayhawks staring at her. She missed 14 of 16 shots.

A moment from late in the game summarized this extremely long evening. Jeffery roared into the lane, as she's often done during her CU career, and attempted a double-pump, left-handed layup in traffic.

It was all very impressive.

Until the ball failed to reach the rim.

Jeffery was not alone in her struggles. CU shot 25 percent from the field and lacked defensive focus.

Lappe spoke the truth after she examined the stat sheet.

"It's tough to win a game when you shoot 25 percent and you don't play defense," she said.

Jeffery struggled. Her team struggled. It was a bitter end to a brilliant college career.

She's convinced her playing career will linger. I share her faith. Chucky Jeffery, Ms. Versatile, is not done playing basketball.

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CU Buffs women's season over after home loss to Kansas in first round

By Terry Frei The Denver Post The Denver Post

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BOULDER — The State of Colorado's March Madness — at least on the Division I NCAA tournament level — ended in shocking fashion Saturday at the Coors Events Center.

In a game that awakened echoes of a long-time rivalry from their days as Big Eight and Big 12 opponents, the Kansas Jayhawks, seeded only 12th in the Norfolk Region, knocked off fifth-seeded Colorado 67-52 on the Buffaloes' home floor in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament.

CU jumped out to a 14-4 lead, but ended up shooting only 25 percent from the floor, trailed by 10 at halftime and twice by 20 in the second half. Freshman forward Arielle Roberson had 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Buffs, but she was only 3-for-13 from the floor, and guard Chucky Jeffery also had a terrible shooting game, going 2-for-16 and finishing with eight points.

"We didn't want it to end this early and it's kind of sad, this being my last game," said Jeffery, the senior from Colorado Springs who leaves as the program's sixth-leading career scorer. "But I wouldn't have gone through this season with any other team than the girls I stood next to."

So in a span of a little more than 24 hours, the CU and CSU men's teams, plus the Buffaloes' women, heavily favored to advance to the second round, all were eliminated from NCAA postseason play.

Kansas (19-13) will face the fourth-seeded South Carolina Gamecocks, 74-52 winners over South Dakota State in Saturday's first game, in the second round Monday night in Boulder.

Colorado finished 25-7, and the loss to the Jayhawks was the Buffaloes' first of the season to a team not ranked among the nation's top 25. The Buffs' other losses came to Pac-12 opponents Stanford (three), California (two) and UCLA (one). The seventh and season-ending loss came to a Kansas team that went only 8-10 in Big 12 play.

"The thing I like is that we put the program back on the map," CU's third-year coach, Linda Lappe, said of the season. "That's important. It's important for me, being a former player here."

But on Saturday, the Buffs were dominated after the opening minutes.

"You have to give Kansas a lot of credit," Lappe said. "They came in, they fought, they were tough, they executed their offense very well. We just didn't have enough on the defensive or offensive end."

For the Jayhawks, guard Angel Goodrich and forward Carolyn Davis led the way with 14 points each.

"It's really disappointing, but we don't want to hang our heads too low," Roberson said. "We definitely didn't want it to end this early."

She mentioned Jeffery and the Buffs' other two seniors — sisters Meagan and Brenna Malcom-Peck and added: "That's the most disappointing part, knowing that we didn't do our best for them, but I think looking back through the journey we had, it was a great run and it's a lot to build on."