



COLORADO BUFFALOES

OFFICIAL ATHLETIC WEBSITE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO



Ceal Barry has three decades of experience in CU athletics.

Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com



Barry Meets Media For First Time As Interim AD

Release: 05/28/2013 Courtesy: CUBuffs.com

BOULDER – Interim Athletics Director Ceal Barry on Wednesday emphasized how critical the summer months are for University of Colorado athletics and pledged that she and her senior staff will stay focused as the school searches for a permanent AD.

Speaking at an on-campus news conference alongside Chancellor Phil DiStefano, Barry said, “Our purpose as a senior staff and the rest of the staff is to do our jobs with a sense of urgency, without distraction and to stay focused.

“We have competitors in the Pac-12 that we really don’t want to allow to get a leg up on (CU). We’re a proud university, a proud athletic department. I’ve accepted this interim position to help the university move on.”

“I believe Ceal’s long experience and credibility will provide us with strong leadership as we search for a new athletic director,” said DiStefano, who named Barry interim athletics director in the wake of Mike Bohn’s resignation on Tuesday.

Bohn held CU’s AD post for eight years and, said DiStefano, “served the university in an important time of

BUFFALO EXTRAS



[Ceal Barry Biography](#)

transition and challenge. He made strong contributions . . .”

Barry, CU’s winningest women’s basketball coach, emphasized that June, July and August represent “an important preparation time” for incoming student-athletes. She said 100 freshmen are scheduled to report this summer – 79 of them scholarship student-athletes. Summer classes begin next Monday.

By early next week, DiStefano plans to begin assembling a search committee and make a decision about hiring a search firm to assist CU. He said he would “love” to have Barry apply, but added, “That’s certainly her choice.”

Asked if she would be interested, Barry laughed and answered, “I’ve been doing this for about 22 hours . . . I want to keep my focus on the next three months.”

DiStefano said he met with men’s basketball coach Tad Boyle on Tuesday and newly hired football coach Mike MacIntyre on Wednesday. “I’ve asked them to work with Ceal and me during this interim period and make sure we’re moving forward, not only in their sports but in all sports,” DiStefano said.

The Buffs’ search for Bohn’s replacement, said DiStefano, will focus on someone qualified to manage a \$50 million-\$60 million budget that likely will grow annually. “What’s really key is that athletics is a big business,” he said. “I want to make sure we have an AD who will run the athletic department like a business but also have as a No. 1 priority fund-raising not just for the facilities we need for football but for other issues as well.”

Barry said she equated fund-raising to recruiting and trying to land a high-profile prospect: “I compare fund-raising in the same vein. We have to show trust, build relationships with potential donors and show them that this is a wise investment. They may have other options.”

CU’s new AD, noted DiStefano, will be “an individual who has been in charge of an operation. I’m not saying a business person vs. someone who comes from a university in athletics . . . but business and fund raising perspectives are crucial.”

DiStefano said Bohn will be paid his annual base salary of \$306,000 for the three years remaining on his contract. The payments, said DiStefano, will come from athletic department revenue over time – “and not from any taxpayer dollars or tuition.”

Barry, whose interim stint begins on June 3, currently serves as associate athletic director for student services and senior woman administrator (an NCAA designation) in the department.

Hired as the women’s head basketball coach in 1983 by then-athletic director **Eddie Crowder**, she has a 30-year history of involvement in CU athletics. She retired from coaching in 2005 as CU’s winningest coach ever in all sports (427 victories), leading her teams to 12 NCAA tournament appearances, including six Sweet 16 and three Elite Eight appearances. Over 95 percent of her student-athletes graduated and 85 of her players earned Academic All-Conference honors.

SHOW MENU



Print - University of Colorado athletic director Mike Bohn resigns | 9news.com

9news.com

6:54 PM, May 28, 2013

BOULDER - Mike Bohn, the athletic director for the University of Colorado, resigned on Tuesday.

The resignation is effective June. 3

"Mike Bohn led CU-Boulder athletics in a time of great transition and change," University of Colorado-Boulder Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano said. "We are grateful to him for his vision, passion and commitment, and for his key role in revitalizing men's and women's basketball, helping us to join the Pac-12 Conference, and in taking important steps to upgrade athletic facilities at CU-Boulder. We wish him well."

DiStefano will appoint a search committee in the coming days to search nationally for Bohn's successor.

"The university will be seeking 'a dynamic leader' as athletic director - someone who 'can focus on our key goals of fundraising, building a dynamic organization, and creating long-term sustainability in the athletics mission,'" according to a press release.

"We are seeking a talented leader who can build on Mike's vision and make it a reality," DiStefano said.

An employee from the CU Athletics Department sent 9NEWS a copy of an email from Bohn to his staff.

The email reads in part: "Regrettably, I am resigning as Athletic Director effective immediately. I believe it is best given the current circumstances. They want to go in a different direction and that is their prerogative."

The email goes on to say: "I want to ensure you know, as my official separation agreement states, that I have not engaged in any impropriety, NCAA rule violations, university policy violation or any immoral, dishonest, or other sort of misconduct."

Bohn was introduced as just the fifth full-time athletic director in University of Colorado history on April 13, 2005, returning to the surroundings where he starred as a prep athlete before embarking on a journey that would take him all over the western half of the United States and finally back home.

Bohn came to Colorado from San Diego State University, where he worked for 18 months as the Aztecs' director of athletics. He agreed to a five-year contract with the Buffaloes and was rewarded quickly for his initial efforts, as in November 2007 he received an extension through the 2011-12 academic year. Then in August 2011, the Board of Regents and the Chancellor extended his contract another five years into 2017.

He replaced Jack Lengyel, who served as interim athletic director for five months after Dick Tharp stepped down in November 2004 after holding the position since 1996.

Mike Bohn forced out as Colorado Buffaloes athletic director

By David Krause and Anthony Cotton The Denver Post The Denver Post

Posted:

DenverPost.com

In a surprising move, Mike Bohn is out as the athletic director at the University of Colorado after eight years. Colorado administrators forced Bohn out, said a source with knowledge of the situation.

The Denver Post obtained an email Bohn sent to athletic department staff Tuesday afternoon which clearly indicated he was stunned by the news.

"This is a very disappointing, troubling and shocking development as we have made so much progress together over the past 8 years," Bohn wrote in the email. "Regrettably, I am resigning as Athletic Director effective immediately. I believe it is best given the current circumstances. They want to go in a different direction and that is their prerogative."

Colorado appointed former women's basketball coach Ceal Barry as interim athletic director until a replacement is found.

Bohn indicated in the email he was not ousted for violating any provisions of his contract.

"I want to ensure you know...I have not engaged in any impropriety, NCAA rule violations, university policy violation or any immoral, dishonest, or other sort of misconduct."

CU's official stance is that Bohn resigned.

"I can tell you Mike has resigned as athletic director and that Chancellor (Phil) DiStefano has accepted his resignation," school spokesman Branson Hilliard said in a phone interview.

Bohn's resignation is effective June 3, the school said.

In a news release issued by the school, DiStefano said: "Mike Bohn led CU-Boulder athletics in a time of great transition and change. We are grateful to him for his vision, passion and commitment, and for his key role in revitalizing men's and women's basketball, helping us to join the Pac-12 Conference, and in taking important steps to upgrade athletic facilities at CU-Boulder. We wish him well."

In a statement from CU president Bruce Benson, he said: "I support Chancellor Phil DiStefano's decision to accept Mike Bohn's resignation and seek new leadership for athletics at CU-Boulder. I appreciate Mike's commitment to CU-Boulder over the past eight years. The athletics department is positioned to take steps to move the program to the next level, and I am confident we will find a leader who will be a key part of the team that will get us there."

DiStefano said the search committee to replace Bohn will be looking for a "talented leader who can build on Mike's vision and make it a reality."

CU's new athletic director will be asked to supervise a huge fundraising campaign. In February, the university announced a \$50 million facilities fundraising campaign as the anchor of a \$170 million multiyear upgrade of CU athletics facilities at Folsom Field and the Dal Ward Center, as well as the development of an indoor

practice facility.

Bohn, who grew up in Boulder and graduated from Boulder High in 1979, was named the CU athletic director in April 2005 after working as AD at San Diego State for 18 months.

In August 2011, Bohn received a five-year extension from the Board of Regents and the Chancellor that secured him into 2017.

In addition to moving Colorado from the Big 12 to the Pac-12 in June 2010, Bohn has overseen the hiring of 11 head coaches: Mike MacIntyre, Jon Embree and Dan Hawkins (football); Tad Boyle and Jeff Bzdelik (men's basketball); Linda Lappe and Kathy McConnell-Miller (women's basketball); Roy Edwards (men's golf); Liz Kritza (volleyball); Danny Sanchez (women's soccer); and Ann Elliott (women's lacrosse).

Before San Diego State, Bohn was athletic director at Idaho for five years (1999-2003). During his career, Bohn has worked on the athletic department staffs at the Air Force Academy (1984-92) as well as Colorado State (1996-98). He also worked for the College Football Association.

Bohn left Boulder out of high school and played baseball at the University of Kansas, graduating in 1983.

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A look at Mike Bohn's tenure as CU Buffs athletic director

Nick Groke, *The Denver Post* *The Denver Post*

Posted:

DenverPost.com

A look at the tenure of Mike Bohn as Colorado's athletic director:

Hired: April 13, 2005; replaced Dick Tharp, who resigned in 2004.

Contract: Initial deal was for five years. In November 2007, he received an extension to 2012, then in August 2011 he got a five-year extension into 2017. His resignation is effective June 3.

Coaches hired: Mike MacIntyre, Jon Embree and Dan Hawkins (football); Tad Boyle and Jeff Bzdelik (men's basketball); Linda Lappe and Kathy McConnell-Miller (women's basketball); Roy Edwards (men's golf); Liz Kritza (volleyball); Danny Sanchez (women's soccer); and Ann Elliott (women's lacrosse).

His highs ...

Moves CU to the Pac-12. Helped jump CU from the Big 12 to the Pac-12 in June 2010 in a move to raise the Buffs' profile.

Improved Folsom Field. Was leading a fundraising campaign for a \$170 million upgrade to Folsom Field and the Dal Ward Center.

Hired Boyle and Lappe. Those two hires helped turn around the men's and women's basketball programs.

And lows

Hired Dan Hawkins. In his first big decision, he fired football coach Gary Barnett and hired Hawkins. CU hasn't had a winning season since.

Football team was a mess. Buffs biggest program compiled a 32-66 record under three coaches from 2005-12.

Mishandled Embree's firing. After two seasons, Bohn backtracked on supporting football coach Jon Embree, and the coaches' short tenure ended with an incredibly awkward news conference.



Wednesday, May 29, 2013

3-point shot: SEC aims for tourney roots

By Andy Katz

1. The SEC is constantly looking for consistency as a league in college basketball; football has never been the issue. Kentucky and Florida are regular national players, but the rest of the league has struggled. One thing it needs is a destination for its conference tournament. Commissioner Mike Slive told reporters at the SEC meetings in Destin, Fla., Tuesday that there was a unanimous vote to put the tournament in one location, with reports calling Nashville, Tenn., the likely destination. Perfect. The SEC needs to grow the tournament in one spot. Nashville can support it locally, and it's close to Vanderbilt, Tennessee and, of course, Kentucky, and not far from Arkansas, if the Hogs were to re-emerge as a player. Nashville is also a destination city in the Southeast. The SEC tournament is slated for Nashville in 2015, '16 and '19; the 2014 edition will be at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. Putting the tournament back in an NBA/NHL-size arena makes more sense, since it should be more intimate. The Big East had and will continue to have Madison Square Garden. The Pac-12 is trying to make Las Vegas its tourney home. The Big 12 has a good thing going with a rotation of Kansas City, Mo., and Dallas, while the Big Ten is doing it right with Chicago and Indianapolis. The ACC had Greensboro as its home, outside of a few years when the event rotated elsewhere, but that league is changing, so spreading out to the Northeast will work given new membership. But the SEC can't take its show on the road as much. Having one home would definitely help the conference tournament grow.

2. Colorado athletic director Mike Bohn handed in his resignation, and while the football program has struggled, Bohn hit a home run on his basketball hire. Bohn took a chance when he hired Tad Boyle, a former Kansas player, from nearby Northern Colorado. Boyle coached the Bears for four years, reaching the CIT in his final year. The big state schools don't usually look to a lesser-known state school to raise a program's profile -- yet Boyle has turned the Buffs into a major player in the West and in the Pac-12. The Buffs have gone to the NIT semifinals, won a Pac-12 tournament and a game in the NCAA tournament, then got back to the NCAAs last season. Basketball is happening in Boulder now. The buzz is real. So while Bohn might have had his faults and the football program can be put atop the list, he got basketball right and should be given credit for taking a chance on Boyle. Boyle returned the loyalty by staying in Boulder this past spring when he could have pursued other opportunities.

3. Missouri coach Frank Haith took in Baylor transfer [Deuce Bello](#) for two years; the guard must sit out a year before playing. The Tigers have found a way to benefit from being in Big 12 territory but playing in the SEC. Missouri can be a home for wayward transfers who don't want to leave the area but can still play in a different conference. It will be interesting to track how often Missouri gets a transfer from the Big 12. Haith has gone with transfers quite a bit since taking over in Columbia two years ago. He'll likely continue on that path, with transfers complementing high school recruits.

**ESPN.com:** Pac-12[\[Print without images\]](#)

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

Mike Bohn out as Colorado's AD

By Ted Miller

Mike Bohn's [sudden resignation](#) as Colorado's athletic director Tuesday is a bit of a surprise. Apparently it was even to Bohn himself, who [texted Denver sportscaster](#) Vic Lombardio that he was "floored."

Mark Johnson of 850 KOA first reported Bohn's departure.

So resignation or firing -- semantics! -- the end-result is Colorado is looking for a new athletic director after: 1. Colorado gave Bohn a five-year contract extension in 2011 that ran through 2017; 2. Bohn fired coach Jon Embree after just two seasons and hired Mike MacIntyre away from San Jose State to replace him; 3. The school announced a \$50 million facilities fundraising campaign for a \$170 million multiyear upgrade of the school's -- read: football's -- athletics facilities.



So a lot is going on at Colorado as it concludes its second year in the Pac-12.

"Mike Bohn led CU-Boulder athletics in a time of great transition and change," Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano said in a statement released by the school. "We are grateful to him for his vision, passion and commitment, and for his key role in revitalizing men's and women's basketball, helping us to join the Pac-12 Conference, and in taking important steps to upgrade athletic facilities at CU-Boulder. We wish him well."

Bohn's resignation is effective June 3. DiStefano said he will in the coming days appoint a search committee to conduct a national search for Bohn's successor.

What will Colorado be looking for? Here's a guess, inferring a subtext within the school's official release, is there's a major sense of urgency about fundraising.

From the release:

DiStefano said the university will be seeking "a dynamic leader" as athletic director -- someone who, he said, "can focus on our key goals of fundraising, building a dynamic organization, and creating long-term sustainability in the athletics mission."

A couple of take-aways here.

First, football rules. While Bohn made a seemingly savvy hire of Tad Boyle to resurrect a poor-to-middling men's basketball program, his two football choices before MacIntyre -- Embree and Dan Hawkins -- produced a 23-60 record.

Second, now MacIntyre will be working for an athletic director who didn't hire him. Most coaches find that

worrisome, though that connection failed to help Embree. And winning solves everything.

The timing here, of course, feels strange. Perhaps there's more to the story that will come out in the next few days.
