



**QB Nick Hirschman fights for yardage Saturday at Arizona.**

Photo Courtesy: Associated Press



## Brooks: Day's Need Was 'D' But Buffs Didn't Deliver

Release: 11/10/2012 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

**TUCSON, Ariz.** - Colorado changed quarterbacks here Saturday in hopes of generating a little more offense - and the Buffaloes got a little more than in five previous Pac-12 Conference blowouts. Just a little 'D' was needed - but the Buffs delivered even less than that.

There are plenty of horrific stats being accumulated in CU's waning 2012 season, but what happened in Arizona Stadium offers an ugly encapsulation: Arizona's 574 yards in total offense was only the *fourth-highest* total by a CU opponent this fall. And the Wildcats' 56 points were only the *third-most* allowed by the Buffs. But it was the fifth time a 2012 opponent has put up 50 or more points on them.

CU's carnage by yards: Fresno State, 665; Oregon, 617; Arizona State, 593; Arizona, 574. The beatings by points: Oregon, 70; Fresno State, 69; Arizona, 56; ASU, 51; USC, 50.

### BUFFALO EXTRAS



#### Listen:

FB at Arizona Audio

11/11/2012



#### Watch:

KOA Recap vs Arizona

11/11/2012



#### Watch:

FB vs Arizona Highlights

11/11/2012

- [Buy Tickets](#)
- [Colorado Gameday](#)
- [Game Story](#)
- [Statistics](#)

CU's defense has forgotten how to spell S-T-O-P. And as for stopping the run, well, check with Arizona's Ka'Deem Carey, who spent as much time in CU's secondary as the Buffs' DBs.

→ Notes  
→ Quotes  
→ Final Game Book

Carey on, Ka'Deem - and he did, rushing for a Pac-12 record 366 yards and five touchdowns. He turned in a career-long 71 yarder, a 64-yarder, and accounted for 14 of the Wildcats' 16 rushing first downs. When the Buffs closed their eyes Saturday night, they might have still seen Carey running past them.

And Arizona's numbers could have been uglier. Backup quarterback B.J. Denker started instead of Pac-12 total offense leader Matt Scott, who sat this one out with a concussion. Scott accounts for 357.4 yards a game, and his expected absence, according to CU defensive coordinator Greg Brown, had the Buffs focused on dealing with Carey.

Brown called Scott a "tremendous player . . . sure, you're looking at who might replace him. But we knew the whole issue was going to be (Carey). There was no secret. That was a big deal all week for us in our preparations. We had a certain goal to keep (Carey) contained and obviously didn't happen."

Brown said his unit had seen hours of tape demonstrating Carey's ability to "break-kick" out of tackles. "That was no surprise," he said. "Our defenders knew that going in. Coach (Rich) Rodriguez has implemented a great system and (Carey) fits that to a 'T.' With all those cutback runs, if you're not in your gap then he's going to hurt you. And he obviously hurt us to a huge extent."

The Buffs couldn't have slowed Carey with a restraining order, and the fact that they once again missed tackles and blew gap assignments compounded their long day of being run into the ground.

Junior linebacker Derrick Webb was at a loss to explain why he and his teammates continue to struggle against zone-read option offenses: "I couldn't tell you that," he said. "Every game plan we get we try to execute it. Coach Brown does a great job finding ways for us to combat the zone-read offense. It's just a tough deal . . . you can't do it nine out of ten times; that last time they'll hit you and hit you hard for a bunch of yards. We've got guys playing as hard as they can; we've just got to be sound."

On offense, it appeared they were getting sounder. The Buffs' 31 points were their second most this season, behind the 35 they scored in the conference-opening win at Washington State nearly two months ago. CU also totaled 437 yards Saturday, second to the 531 at Wazzu and 361 more than the output the previous weekend (76) against Stanford. And those 31 points were a very nice upgrade over the zero scored against the Cardinal.

But in the interest of full Pac-12 disclosure, Saturday's stats came against an Arizona defense that was allowing 497.3 yards and 35 points a game - ranking the Wildcats lower (No. 12) than the Buffs among the league's defensive units.

So when the Buffs touched down here Friday, they meant to hit the ground running and passing under new quarterback Nick Hirschman, who was effective until leaving the game in the third quarter with concussion symptoms. Actually, he should have left earlier than he did; CU allowed two sacks, one coming after a groggy Hirschman forgot the play he'd called and wound up spun to the turf, according to Buffs coach Jon Embree.

"That's how we start the third quarter," Embree said, noting that a delay of game penalty on CU also was the product of Hirschman being woozy. "Those issues with the clock . . . we didn't realize Hirschman had gotten dinged early in third."

Other than that and an interception that eventually led to an Arizona score, Embree said Hirschman "managed the offense and gave us a chance on that side. He handled checks well; he had his moments."

When Hirschman was sidelined, Connor Wood relieved him and also had his moments, although Embree said if Hirschman's health permits he likely will start next Saturday against Washington. Of Wood, Embree said, "He was fine when he got in there. It's just part of the growing pains with those guys . . . I'm pleased overall with

how that position played this week. They did a lot better job of managing it, a lot better job of taking check downs. We had some plays downfield but weren't comfortable . . . so they didn't force it."

But the afternoon eventually came back to the CU defense and its inability to slow Carey. Arizona scored on seven consecutive possessions spanning the first and second halves and was forced to punt only twice. Said Embree of his defense: "It was not a good performance."

Webb pointed to "the same issues all season" surfacing again Saturday - pinpointing the Buffs allowing runners to hit the edge, successfully cut back and reel off large runs. Webb called Carey "a great back . . . he was able to cut it back. A couple of times guys could have been in gaps better (but) he found the gap and went for a long ways.

"The thing about the zone-read offense - it's all about being sound. You can have ten guys playing their butts off, but all it takes is one gap - and he was able to find that gap. He was able to hit it hard and it's off to the races."

Scoff if you want, but Brown believes his unit has made improvement during the course of this wearing, one-win season. But, he conceded, "It's hard to see . . . it's really hard on a day like to sit there and talk about that. There are young kids who are getting better. We started five freshmen on defense; they've got to get better. But it isn't just the freshmen; we've got to get better across the board. The accountability has to be there for all of us . . ."

Webb contended the Buffs' 'D' still has something left for the season's final two games - next Saturday vs. Washington, Nov. 23 vs. Utah, with both at Folsom Field. "We put it all out every game and that's what we're going to do these last two," he said. "We've got a lot more to give, especially after a game like this. We always want to come back and be strong for the next week.

"Yeah, we have been (gashed). It's been a tough season for us. As tough as it is, though, it only makes us stronger, as crazy as that may sound. We've been through a lot, but it's all about how you come back and play the next game."

After 10 mostly futile weeks, the 'D' has two more chances to improve. After that comes as long an off-season as CU has experienced. It isn't what anyone expected, but it's what is left of the remains.

**Contact:** [BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU](mailto:BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU)

SHOW MENU







CU defensive back Josh Moten tracks down Arizona's Ka'Deem Carey  
Photo Courtesy: Associated Press



# Brooks: Buffs Find Spark Of Offense, Get Torched On 'D'

Release: 11/10/2012    Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

**TUCSON, Ariz.** - Colorado found a hint of offense on Saturday with a couple of new quarterbacks but didn't have a clue as to how to cope with Arizona's Ka'Deem Carey.

The sophomore running back slashed through the Buffaloes 25 times for a Pac-12 Conference record 366 yards and five touchdowns to push the Wildcats to a 56-31 victory and into the postseason in Rich Rodriguez's first season as head coach.

Arizona improved to 6-4 overall and 3-4 in the Pac-12, while CU lost its sixth consecutive game and fell to 1-9, 1-6. The Buffs finish with home games against Washington (Nov. 17) and Utah (Nov. 23). They have not won at Folsom Field yet this season.

Carey's rushing total broke the previous Pac-12/10 mark of 357 set by Washington State's Rueben Mayes in 1984 against Oregon. It also was the most ever against CU, surpassing the

## BUFFALO EXTRAS



**Listen:**  
FB at Arizona Audio  
11/11/2012



**Watch:**  
FB vs Arizona Highlights  
11/11/2012



**Watch:**  
KOA Recap vs Arizona  
11/11/2012

- ➔ [Buy Tickets](#)
- ➔ [Colorado Gameday](#)
- ➔ [B.G. Brooks](#)
- ➔ [Statistics](#)

268 by Kansas' David Winbush in 1998. Through three quarters, the 5-10, 197-pound Carey had rushed for 293 yards on 21 carries, with a career-long run of 71 yards. He entered the afternoon averaging 112.8 yards a game, with 13 TDs.

→ Notes  
→ Quotes  
→ Final Game Book

Asked by a reporter how Carey stacked up against other backs the Buffs have seen this season, CU coach Jon Embree said, "I don't believe you compare guys like that. Everybody's unique and different."

Both teams started new quarterbacks - B.J. Decker replacing injured Matt Scott for Arizona and [Nick Hirschman](#) replacing benched [Jordan Webb](#) for CU. Hirschman left the game in the third quarter with a head injury having completed 12 of 13 passes for 123 yards with one interception.

Embree said Hirschman "did a good job of managing the game - it was night and day (difference) from his last start at Arizona State (last season). He's really matured and come along."

Hirschman was spelled by [Connor Wood](#), who guided the Buffs on fourth-quarter scoring drives of 64 and 75 yards. Freshman tailback [Donta Abbron](#) scored his first college TD on a 10-yard run to cap the first march, and junior tight end Scott Fernandez's first career reception resulted in a 71-yard TD catch that also was Wood's first career scoring pass.

"We had some fight today," Wood said. "Some plays didn't go our way, but we've still got a lot in us. We were sure we were going to win this game . . . I know these next two games we want to finish real strong; we're focused to end it well."

Wood was "overall happy" about his performance and happier still about Fernandez's scoring reception. "He deserves it; he works hard," Wood said, adding he believed he proved something to the CU coaches. "I think I moved the chains well in the opportunities I had."

Wood's final passing stats: four-of-seven for 90 yards and one touchdown. Walk-on QB John Schrock took one snap on CU's final possession, marking his first career action.

The two TD marches directed by Wood only brought the Buffs to within 49-31 on an afternoon that was ruled by Carey running mostly unchecked through an overmatched, undermanned CU defense. The Wildcats finished with 574 yards in total offense, including 438 yards rushing.

CU finished with a season-best 225 yards rushing, with freshman tailback [Christian Powell](#) carrying 32 times for 137 yards and two TDs. Abbron carried 13 times for 83 yards - both career highs - and one TD.

Powell said the Buffs "knew from structure of their defense we could have success running the ball . . . we were working on that all week."

Saturday marked Powell's third 100-yard rushing game this season. He said he simply was trying to follow his coaches' advice: "Our coaches tell us to come out and have fun, that's what I'm trying to do. You'd like to win, but when you're out there with all your boys and stuff . . . you try to make the most of these opportunities."

Abbron, who played tailback while Powell was at fullback last year at Upland (Calif.) High School, got more work Saturday than in any previous game. He said it "felt great to get out on the field and show what I got." He credited "great blocking" from CU's line and receivers and said the offense as a whole was "better and more focused."

The Buffs got the game's first break - a fumble recovery by linebacker [Derrick Webb](#) - and took their first lead since the final seconds of their 35-34 win in the conference opener at Washington State. That was on Sept. 22, and since then CU's offense had gone into hibernation.

Need proof? The Buffs defeated the Wildcats 49-28 last season in Boulder, and in their five straight defeats since the win at Wazzu they had totaled 51 points.

But Saturday's start appeared promising. On the first play after Webb's recovery of a botched Decker handoff at the Arizona 7-yard line, Powell ran in for the touchdown and after [Will Oliver](#)'s PAT, the Buffs led 7-0.

Of course, the euphoria was short-lived. Arizona zipped 80 yards in nine plays to tie the score at 7-7 on Carey's 10-yard run and John Bonano's extra point.

After submitted their longest possession of the season - 8:18 - but getting only an 18-yard field goal by Oliver out of it, the Buffs went back up 10-7. After that, they went into catch-up mode for the rest of the first half.

Arizona regained the lead (14-10) on a 13-yard run by Carey, then CU turned the ball over on a Hirschman interception - it was his first incompletion after hitting seven straight - by defensive back Tra'Mayne Bondurant, killing a promising Buffs drive at the Wildcats' 30.

Two plays later, Carey sprinted 30 yards through the CU defense, Bonano hit the PAT and Arizona was up 21-10 with 10:30 left before intermission.

The Buffs answered with another time-consuming drive - 7:46 - and this time got a touchdown out of it on Powell's 1-yard plunge to cap a 75-yard march. Oliver's extra point pulled CU to within 21-17, but the Buffs' problem was becoming obvious: Finding a semblance of offense was offset by their bend-and-break defense.

In contrast to CU's clock-chewing efforts, the Wildcats preferred chewing on the Buffs. Arizona answered CU's long drive by scoring in 1:28, scoring on a 21-yard Decker to Dan Buckner pass that completed a quick 79-yard, six-play possession. The Wildcats went up 28-17 and took that lead into the third quarter.

At halftime, CU was in the statistical battle, trailing Arizona 272-228 in total yardage and 13-12 in first downs. The possession time was a lopsided 22:53-7:07 in favor of the Buffs, who could only lament that minutes on offense can't be translated into points.

Needing a stop to open the second half, CU didn't come close to getting it. Arizona needed 1:53 and six plays to go 73 yards - 61 of it on three runs by Carey - and take a commanding 35-17 lead. Decker hit Buckner with a 9-yard pass for the TD, Bonano kicked the PAT and the Wildcats wondered if the Buffs would respond - and how long it might take.

No response this time; CU kept the ball for six plays before Darragh O'Neill was brought on to punt. One play before, Hirschman was sacked, spun to the turf and left the game with a head injury. The Buffs were penalized three times on that possession - a delay of game, a false start, interfering with a fair catch - and the Wildcats were awarded a short field for a 49-yard drive that would put the game away and send them into the postseason.

Carey added to his career day with an 8-yard scoring run - his fourth of the game - and Arizona was in command, 42-17, midway through the third quarter. Wood replaced Hirschman with 6:38 left in the period and stayed in for the rest of the game.

Carey and the Wildcats were from done. After Wood's first series, Carey broke free for a 71-yard run - his career long - to set up a 10-yard scoring run by Decker. That drive's vital stats: Two plays, 81 yards, 28 seconds. Even more vital: Arizona 49, CU 17 with a quarter to play.

Carey and the 'Cats kept on running and running - and the Buffs never caught up.

**BUFF BITS:** CU started six freshmen Saturday - five on defense and [Powell](#). The six on defense: corners [Kenneth Crawley](#) and [Yuri Wright](#), safety Marques Mosley, and defensive linemen [Josh Tupou](#) and [Samson Kafovalu](#) . . . Junior defensive back [Parker Orms](#) (concussion symptoms) did not play, which left CU shorthanded in the secondary after Wright went to the sidelines in the second quarter with an ankle injury . . . CU also lost senior tight end [Nick Kasa](#) in the first half after he experienced concussion symptoms . . . If a first-quarter Hirschman-to-Abron screen pass would have held up, it would have given the Buffs one less yard than they gained all game (76) last week against Stanford. The pass-run play covered 75 yards, but was nullified by a holding call on guard [Eric Richter](#).

Contact: [BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU](mailto:BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU)







# UA-COLORADO

## Arizona Wildcats football: Carey's record-setting day paces UA in blowout win



NOVEMBER 10, 2012 11:42 AM • [RYAN FINLEY](#),  
[ARIZONA DAILY STAR](#)

Ka'Deem Carey set the Pac-12 Conference's single-game rushing record, backup quarterback B.J. Denker proved to be a solid steward, and the Arizona Wildcats are bowl eligible for the first time since 2010.

As Homecomings go, yes, Arizona's 56-31 win over Colorado today was an unmitigated success.

Carey rushed for 366 yards and five touchdowns in a little over three quarters' worth of action in the blowout win, held in front of 51,236 at Arizona Stadium. When he wasn't running wild, Denker — a spot starter for the injured Matt Scott — was cutting up a beleaguered Buffaloes defense. Denker completed 12 of 14 passes for 136 yards and two touchdowns in his first career start; the junior college transfer also ran nine times for 44 yards and a score.

Arizona led 28-17 at halftime and 49-17 at the end of the third quarter. The Buffaloes tried to control the clock, but couldn't stop the Wildcats — and Carey.

The tailback's 71-yard gallop late in the third quarter set the school record; former Wildcat Trung Canidate ran for 288 in a 1998 game.

"Ka'Deem runs as hard and as angry as any running back in the country," UA coach Rich Rodriguez said. "We did a good job up front today for him but he's in great shape and he can take some of those hits. He always has really good vision but today you could see it with some of those cutbacks he had."

Carey's 64-yard dash early in the fourth quarter set the Pac-12 mark. One play later, Carey dove in his fifth — and final — touchdown. He broke the single-game touchdown mark set by Art Luppino, the UA's famed "Cactus Comet" and arguably the greatest player in program history.

Carey said he was tired — but thrilled.

"When you go from long run to long run and your linemen are really happy," Carey said, "you know you must be doing something right."



Saturday's victory made Arizona (6-4 overall, 3-4 Pac-12) bowl eligible for the third time in four seasons. The Wildcats can improve their bowl destination by winning either of their remaining regular season games; the UA travels to Utah next week before finishing against Arizona State in Tucson.

By then, the UA could have starting Scott back. Scott, guard Chris Putton and safety Jourdon Grandon all watched the game from the home sideline in street clothes. The same went for linebacker Hank Hobson, who suffered a nerve injury in his neck and is out indefinitely.

Denker's first — and only — mistake came on the UA's first offensive play.

Arizona had the ball at its own 10 when Denker and tailback Carey muffed their exchange on a handoff. The Buffaloes recovered at the Wildcats' 7; Christian Powell took the ball in for a score on their next play, giving the visitors a 7-0 lead.

Arizona struck back: Denker led a 9-play, 80-yard scoring drive against the Pac-12's most porous defense. Carey capped it with a 10-yard touchdown run, his first.

Carey rushed 12 times for 121 yards and three scores in the first half.

"We knew they were either going to let me run the ball or they were going to let Ka'Deem run the ball," Denker said. "For some reason they let Ka'Deem run the ball. It's not a smart move. ...

"I had the best seat in the house. And I had the best time handing the ball off and watching him work."

Colorado falls to 1-9 overall and 1-6 in conference play.

## Football: Arizona exploits holes in CU Buffs defense

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

---

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Doughnuts, inner tubes, Swiss cheese, the ozone layer, prairie dog communities and the Colorado defense.

These are things universally understood to have holes in them.

The holes Arizona running back Ka'Deem Carey ran through Saturday in a 56-31 win against the Buffs were gigantic at times and allowed Carey to set a new single-game Pac-12 Conference rushing record with 25 carries for 366 yards and five touchdowns.

Carey joined a growing list of opponents to have career days against CU defenders this season as the Buffs continue to struggle mightily in coordinator Greg Brown's system. With the Buffs failing to show improvement and ranked at or near the bottom nationally in numerous defensive statistical categories, it's looking like Brown's job and those of other defensive assistants could be in jeopardy.

"Those decisions, that stuff's for the head coach and the AD," Brown said when asked if he was concerned about his future at CU. "That's not for me to address."

Coach Jon Embree said he will evaluate all his coaches and himself at the end of the season but he has no plans to make changes before then.

"We're going to play this out," Embree said. "That's not fair to anybody to talk about that stuff. ... I just don't think that's the right thing to do."

Embree said he does not believe effort is an issue with his players.

Brown said he prepared his players all week in practices and film sessions for a heavy dose of Carey, but the Buffs still managed to make the 5-foot-10 product of Canyon del Oro High School here look like Earl Campbell.

Carey averaged 10 yards per attempt in the first half on his way to 121 yards and three touchdowns. At halftime, the Buffs were still in the game thanks to CU's offense being matched against one of the few defenses in the nation as bad as the Buffs.

But the Arizona offense throttled up and made CU look silly at times in the second half. Carey ran 13 times for 245 yards and two more scores after intermission.

"When you play a phenomenal back like Ka'Deem Carey and you don't tackle and you don't wrap up on your tackles and you don't take care of your gap assignments, things like that are going to happen," Brown said. "Those two things were big. We did not tackle well. I knew that the guy would be a very tough runner. He kicks out of a lot of tackles."

CU junior linebacker Derrick Webb said the problem once again was the read-option element of the Arizona offense. It has given the Buffs problems all year. Not that they haven't also struggled against more conventional styles.

Webb was asked why CU hasn't been able to show improvement defensively, especially against the read-option and cutback runs. Once again there were too many missed assignments and poor gap responsibility.

"That's the thing about zone-read offenses. It's all about assignments," Webb said. "You have to be sound. Ten guys can be playing their butts off and doing their jobs and all it takes is one gap. He was able to find that gap and he hit it hard and off to the races."

Follow Kyle on Twitter: @KyleRingo

## Football: Arizona exploits holes in CU Buffs defense

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

---

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Doughnuts, inner tubes, Swiss cheese, the ozone layer, prairie dog communities and the Colorado defense.

These are things universally understood to have holes in them.

The holes Arizona running back Ka'Deem Carey ran through Saturday in a 56-31 win against the Buffs were gigantic at times and allowed Carey to set a new single-game Pac-12 Conference rushing record with 25 carries for 366 yards and five touchdowns.

Carey joined a growing list of opponents to have career days against CU defenders this season as the Buffs continue to struggle mightily in coordinator Greg Brown's system. With the Buffs failing to show improvement and ranked at or near the bottom nationally in numerous defensive statistical categories, it's looking like Brown's job and those of other defensive assistants could be in jeopardy.

"Those decisions, that stuff's for the head coach and the AD," Brown said when asked if he was concerned about his future at CU. "That's not for me to address."

Coach Jon Embree said he will evaluate all his coaches and himself at the end of the season but he has no plans to make changes before then.

"We're going to play this out," Embree said. "That's not fair to anybody to talk about that stuff. ... I just don't think that's the right thing to do."

Embree said he does not believe effort is an issue with his players.

Brown said he prepared his players all week in practices and film sessions for a heavy dose of Carey, but the Buffs still managed to make the 5-foot-10 product of Canyon del Oro High School here look like Earl Campbell.

Carey averaged 10 yards per attempt in the first half on his way to 121 yards and three touchdowns. At halftime, the Buffs were still in the game thanks to CU's offense being matched against one of the few defenses in the nation as bad as the Buffs.

But the Arizona offense throttled up and made CU look silly at times in the second half. Carey ran 13 times for 245 yards and two more scores after intermission.

"When you play a phenomenal back like Ka'Deem Carey and you don't tackle and you don't wrap up on your tackles and you don't take care of your gap assignments, things like that are going to happen," Brown said. "Those two things were big. We did not tackle well. I knew that the guy would be a very tough runner. He kicks out of a lot of tackles."

CU junior linebacker Derrick Webb said the problem once again was the read-option element of the Arizona offense. It has given the Buffs problems all year. Not that they haven't also struggled against more conventional styles.



Webb was asked why CU hasn't been able to show improvement defensively, especially against the read-option and cutback runs. Once again there were too many missed assignments and poor gap responsibility.

"That's the thing about zone-read offenses. It's all about assignments," Webb said. "You have to be sound. Ten guys can be playing their butts off and doing their jobs and all it takes is one gap. He was able to find that gap and he hit it hard and off to the races."

Follow Kyle on Twitter: @KyleRingo

## Football: Another embarrassing effort by CU Buffs

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

---

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Jon Embree has been speechless few times in his brief tenure as head coach at Colorado.

But when he emerged from the visiting locker room Saturday after watching his team get run over by Arizona running back Ka'Deem Carey in a 56-31 loss and he was asked what happened to his defense, Embree had nothing.

"I wish I could give you an answer," he said.

The Buffs managed to make a game of it for one half once again but quickly lost control in the third quarter, suffering their sixth consecutive blowout loss. CU is now 1-9 overall and 1-5 in the Pac-12 Conference with two home games remaining against Washington and Utah in the next 12 days.

The season can't end soon enough with each week somehow producing a new level of embarrassment that attracts national attention.

On Saturday, Carey's record-breaking performance was the story.

The Colorado defense had a simple game plan just about any average fan on the street could have put together. With Arizona senior quarterback Matt Scott out with a concussion, the Buffs had to stop the run and force Scott's replacement, junior B.J. Denker, to beat them through the air.

Stop the run. Simple as that.

The floodgates opened instead.

Carey ran 25 times for 366 yards and five touchdowns setting an opponent record for rushing yards in a game as the Wildcats became the latest Colorado opponent to humiliate the Buffs. Carey also set a new Pac-12 Conference single-game rushing record and tied the record for rushing touchdowns in a game.

"We knew prior to that the whole issue was going to be Ka'Deem Carey," defensive coordinator Greg Brown said. "There was no secrets. That was a big deal for us all week in our preparations. We had a certain goal to get Ka'Deem Carey contained and obviously it did not happen."

It is the sixth consecutive time a CU opponent has scored more than 40 points on the Buffs this season and the seventh overall. The Buffs looked so bad it was fair to question whether Brown and other assistants on the defensive side of the ball would keep their jobs beyond the flight home, let alone the end of the season.

Embree said he has no plans to make any changes before the final snap is played in 2012 against Utah the day after Thanksgiving.

Big numbers were expected with two of the nation's worst defenses in the same game, but the way the Wildcats tore apart the Buffs was shockingly easy.

"I couldn't tell you that," linebacker Derrick Webb said when asked why CU continues to struggle so bad against zone-read offenses. "Every game plan we get we try our best to execute it. Coach Brown does a great job finding ways for us to combat the zone-read offense. It's just a tough deal. You can't do it nine times out of 10 times cause that last time, they'll hit you hard."

The Buffs were so helpless to stop the Wildcats on the ground, particularly in the second half, Denker had no pressure on him in his first career start. Arizona threw only four passes in the second half.

"I had the best seat in the house for that," Denker said of watching Carey's performance. "I had a great time handing the ball to Ka'Deem and watching him work."

The Buffs' inability to stop Carey and the Wildcats spoiled an improved performance from the CU offense, which totaled 437 yards of offense and 31 points a week after being shut out at home and gaining less than 100 total yards against Stanford.

Embree chose Nick Hirschman to start over Connor Wood, but both quarterbacks played in the game. Freshmen running back Christian Powell produced his third 100-yard rushing performance of the year with 32 carries for 137 yards and two scores. Backfield mate Donta Abron ran 13 times for 83 yards and his first career touchdown.

Wood connected on his first collegiate touchdown pass with tight end Scott Fernandez. It just happened to be the first career catch for Fernandez

The Buffs moved the ball effectively at times, producing the two most time-consuming drives of the season, but Carey and the dreadful CU defense was the story of the day.

Follow Kyle on Twitter: @KyleRingo

Arizona 56, Colorado 31

Colorado 10 7 0 14--31

Arizona 7 21 21 7--56

First Quarter

Col -- Powell 7 run (Oliver kick), 11:59.

Ari -- Carey 10 run (Bonano kick), 9:01.

Col -- FG Oliver 18, :36.

Second Quarter

Ari -- Carey 13 run (Bonano kick), 13:31.

Ari -- Carey 30 run (Bonano kick), 10:30.

Col -- Powell 1 run (Oliver kick), 2:44.

Ari -- Buckner 21 pass from Denker (Bonano kick), 1:11.

#### Third Quarter

Ari -- Buckner 9 pass from Denker (Bonano kick), 13:04.

Ari -- Carey 8 run (Bonano kick), 6:47.

Ari -- Denker 10 run (Bonano kick), 1:30.

#### Fourth Quarter

Col -- Abron 10 run (Oliver kick), 13:15.

Col -- Fernandez 71 pass from C.Wood (Oliver kick), 10:22.

Ari -- Carey 3 run (Bonano kick), 8:01.

A -- 51,236.

Col Ari

First downs 24 21

Rushes-yards 56-224 38-438

Passing 213 136

Comp-Att-Int 16-20-1 12-14-0

Return Yards 20 19

Punts-Avg. 3-40.7 2-41.0

Fumbles-Lost 3-0 1-1

Penalties-Yards 11-89 4-40

Time of Possession 41:48 18:12

#### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING -- Colorado, Powell 32-137, Abron 13-83, T.Jones 1-6, C.Wood 2-0, Schrock 1-(minus 1), Hirschman 7-(minus 1). Arizona, Carey 25-366, Denker 9-44, Wharton 1-19, Baker 2-5, Jenkins 1-4.

PASSING -- Colorado, Hirschman 12-13-1-123, C.Wood 4-7-0-90. Arizona, Denker 12-14-0-136.



RECEIVING -- Colorado, Spruce 4-36, Abron 3-11, McCulloch 2-41, Ebner 2-19, Slavin 2-17, Fernandez 1-71, Hobbs 1-14, Thornton 1-4. Arizona, Richards 3-39, Buckner 3-38, Hill 3-29, Carey 2-34, J.Jackson 1-(minus 4).

## Football: Arizona exploits holes in CU Buffs defense

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

DailyCamera.com

---

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Doughnuts, inner tubes, Swiss cheese, the ozone layer, prairie dog communities and the Colorado defense.

These are things universally understood to have holes in them.

The holes Arizona running back Ka'Deem Carey ran through Saturday in a 56-31 win against the Buffs were gigantic at times and allowed Carey to set a new single-game Pac-12 Conference rushing record with 25 carries for 366 yards and five touchdowns.

Carey joined a growing list of opponents to have career days against CU defenders this season as the Buffs continue to struggle mightily in coordinator Greg Brown's system. With the Buffs failing to show improvement and ranked at or near the bottom nationally in numerous defensive statistical categories, it's looking like Brown's job and those of other defensive assistants could be in jeopardy.

"Those decisions, that stuff's for the head coach and the AD," Brown said when asked if he was concerned about his future at CU. "That's not for me to address."

Coach Jon Embree said he will evaluate all his coaches and himself at the end of the season but he has no plans to make changes before then.

"We're going to play this out," Embree said. "That's not fair to anybody to talk about that stuff. ... I just don't think that's the right thing to do."

Embree said he does not believe effort is an issue with his players.

Brown said he prepared his players all week in practices and film sessions for a heavy dose of Carey, but the Buffs still managed to make the 5-foot-10 product of Canyon del Oro High School here look like Earl Campbell.

Carey averaged 10 yards per attempt in the first half on his way to 121 yards and three touchdowns. At halftime, the Buffs were still in the game thanks to CU's offense being matched against one of the few defenses in the nation as bad as the Buffs.

But the Arizona offense throttled up and made CU look silly at times in the second half. Carey ran 13 times for 245 yards and two more scores after intermission.

"When you play a phenomenal back like Ka'Deem Carey and you don't tackle and you don't wrap up on your tackles and you don't take care of your gap assignments, things like that are going to happen," Brown said. "Those two things were big. We did not tackle well. I knew that the guy would be a very tough runner. He kicks out of a lot of tackles."

CU junior linebacker Derrick Webb said the problem once again was the read-option element of the Arizona offense. It has given the Buffs problems all year. Not that they haven't also struggled against more conventional styles.

Webb was asked why CU hasn't been able to show improvement defensively, especially against the read-option and cutback runs. Once again there were too many missed assignments and poor gap responsibility.

"That's the thing about zone-read offenses. It's all about assignments," Webb said. "You have to be sound. Ten guys can be playing their butts off and doing their jobs and all it takes is one gap. He was able to find that gap and he hit it hard and off to the races."

Follow Kyle on Twitter: @KyleRingo

## CU allows Arizona RB Carey to gain 366 yards in 56-31 Buffs loss

By John Henderson The Denver Post The Denver Post

Posted:

DenverPost.com

---

TUCSON — As Colorado football tailspins into the lowest level of ineptitude in school history, its defense is beginning to rewrite its own history, too. Write it in ink as red as the faces of the defensive players. They watched a running back run amok like none has before in the 98-year history of the Pac-12 Conference.

Ka'Deem Carey's conference-record 366 yards rushing and five touchdowns Saturday stamped another humiliating loss on coach Jon Embree's second-year program.

But the 56-31 thrashing on a day when two backup quarterbacks finally kicked Colorado's moribund offense to life firmly put defensive coordinator Greg Brown on job watch.

Arizona, even with backup quarterback B.J. Denker, scored more points than Colorado's defensive average, which was already last in the nation. In its conference losses, the Buffaloes (1-9, 1-6 Pac-12) are giving up an astounding 52.8 points a game.

Brown, with a dress shirt untucked and guzzling a bottle of water, clung to signs of improvement not seen on the scoreboard.

"It's hard to see, but there is," Brown said. "But it's hard on a day like this to talk about that. They are young kids who are getting better. We started five true freshmen, and they've got to get better. But it's not just the freshmen.

"It's across the board."

Carey's numbers were something out of a faulty computer game. He averaged 14.6 yards on 25 carries. He had runs of 30, 26, 25, 46, 71 and 64 yards. His 366 yards were the most CU had ever given up — by 98.

Arizona (6-4, 3-4) scored touchdowns on seven consecutive possessions for a 49-17 lead by the end of the third quarter. The Wildcats didn't punt until 11:36 remained.

While Embree is surely safe — athletic director Mike Bohn has always said this is a three- or four-year project — he seemed even more perplexed about the leaky defense.

"I wish I could give you an answer," said Embree, who said he'll wait until season's end to evaluate the assistants. "We stopped them once ... twice — and they fumbled on one of them. We didn't get it done."

It wasn't just Carey's numbers. The defensive inability this year to stop even a quickly rolling golf ball looked its worst Saturday. Carey ran through holes big enough for some of the slower dinosaurs that once roamed this desert.

Considering how few hands touched him, Carey may have gained that many yards if they played flag. As a team, Arizona gained 438 yards on the ground, its most in 13 years.



This defense was tai chi in cleats.

"It's pretty much some of the same issues we've had all season," junior linebacker Derrick Webb said. "It's always important to get the edge taken care of, and the cutback. Twenty-five (Carey) is a great back, and he was able to cut back. There were a couple of times when guys could've been in gaps better."

It's too bad for a team needing one more win to avoid its worst record in history.

The day started with rare hope. Denker replaced Matt Scott, fourth nationally in total offense and out with a concussion, and Arizona sported a defense that had given up even more yards than Colorado.

At least the offense found a pulse. It rolled up 437 yards with Nick Hirschman and Connor Wood combining for 16-of-20 passing for 213 yards. Freshman Christian Powell had his third 100-yard game with 137.

Embree needed anyone to replace a struggling Jordan Webb. The coach found him in Hirschman, who won the assignment over Wood in practice, then went 12-of-13 for 123 yards and an interception. Hirschman suffered concussion-like symptoms on a third-quarter sack, and then Wood came in and threw a 71-yard touchdown to junior Scott Fernandez.

"I thought Nick played very well," Embree said. "He managed the offense and gave us a chance on that side."

Indeed, it started well. Denker fumbled on his first play, and Webb recovered at the Arizona 7. Powell scored on the next play for a 7-0 lead.

But that only meant the defense returned. As it has so often, the game fast-forwarded into rout mode. Now the Buffaloes have two home games left to avoid history.

And some assistants have that many to save their jobs.

John Henderson: 303-954-1299, [jhenderson@denverpost.com](mailto:jhenderson@denverpost.com) or [twitter.com/johnhendersondp](https://twitter.com/johnhendersondp)