

Coach Danny Sanchez gets revenge against old team

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

LARAMIE, Wyo. -- During the non-conference portion of its schedule, the Colorado soccer team has discovered a nice formula for success.

Get a lead. Play great defense. Walk away with a win.

On Friday, the Buffs got first-half goals from Madison Krauser and Anne Stuller and held off Wyoming 2-0 at Madrid Complex.

"We're figuring that out," goalkeeper Annie Brunner said of the formula.

The Buffs (5-1-2) have already topped their win total from 2011, when they were 4-13-2. Perhaps more impressive, they are now 5-0 when scoring first.

"I think that's huge for us to go up early because we're pretty good at defending leads," said Brunner, who notched her fourth shutout of the season. "Getting those two goals solidified a good win."

Colorado jumped out on top with a solid display of teamwork in the first half. That led to its first goal, in the 16th minute.

From the middle of the field, Olivia Pappalardo passed the ball to her left and found Krauser sprinting down the field. After a quick dribble, Krauser made a nice move on her defender and took a shot, slipping the ball past Wyoming keeper Carmen McDermott.

"I just was sprinting down the field hoping to get it and I kept out wide like (head coach Danny Sanchez) told me to," said Krauser, a freshman who has two goals on the season. "Olivia saw me out there and played me the ball. I just had wide open space and just took it and shot it."

In the 32nd minute, the Buffs doubled their lead on Stuller's team-leading seventh goal of the season. From 25 yards out, Stuller booted a high shot that hit off a Wyoming defender and floated toward the net. The ball was too high for McDermott and it dropped in for a 2-0 Buffs lead.

"The key was we came out and we played well in the first half," Sanchez said. "Really, from the middle of the first half on, I thought we were very good in the attack, we were very solid in back. We really minimized their opportunities."

Wyoming (6-3) didn't have any shots on goal in the first half. The Cowgirls had four in the second, but CU's defense buckled down.

"Second half, they were throwing a lot of numbers forward and we were defending well," Sanchez said.

Brunner will get statistical credit for the shutout, but she got plenty of help from her teammates. Carly Bolyard and Quinn Krier both made great defensive plays in front of the net down the stretch to preserve the shutout. Amy Barczuk made another great play when she prevented a breakaway chance for Wyoming.

"I gave Amy a big hug after the game," Brunner said.

There were a lot of hugs to be had, as the Buffs hit a bit of a milestone with their fifth win. After last year's disappointing season, surpassing that win total is a nice feeling.

"It marks us with five wins, so we're doing better this year than we did last year, which is really exciting," Brunner said.

This one was perhaps the Buffs' most impressive win, as they knocked off a solid team on the road.

"I felt like we played really well as a team and we were really connecting out there today," Krauser said. "It's really great to get a win. It was definitely one of our better days with our team chemistry on the field."

The win certainly left Sanchez satisfied. He coached Wyoming from 2008-11.

"It's a unique setting and just a tough place to get results," he said. "I'm pleased with how we battled and got the win on the road."

Notable

CU improved to 9-2-1 all-time against Wyoming, including 4-1 in Laramie. ... The Buffs are now 3-0 when holding the lead at halftime. ... Stuller and Krauser have nine goals between them. The rest of the team has a combined two goals (plus two own goals). ... Brunner notched her 11th career shutout, fourth-most in team history. ... CU wraps up non-conference play on Sunday at home against Air Force. Kickoff is slated for 1 p.m. at Prentup Field.

Follow Brian on Twitter:

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Colorado 3, Wyoming 0

At Madrid Complex, Laramie, Wyo.

Colorado (5-1-2) 2 0 -- 2

Wyoming (6-3) 0 0 -- 0

Goals (assists) -- CU: Madison Krauser (Olivia Pappalardo), 15:38; CU: Anne Stuller (unassisted), 31:52.

Goalkeepers (Min-Goals allowed-Saves) -- CU: Annie Brunner (90-0-4); WYO: Carmen McDermott (45-2-0), Courtney Merkle (45-0-2).

Soccer: CU Buffs' Sanchez faces off with old team

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

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LARAMIE, Wyo. - When Danny Sanchez was the head coach at Wyoming, it was a goal of his to get Colorado to visit his team.

He didn't realize at the time that he would be on the opposing side when the game actually came about.

On Friday, Sanchez took his CU Buffs to Madrid Complex to face a Wyoming squad that he was largely responsible for building.

"For me, It was a little surreal in warm-ups seeing a lot of people that, obviously, were very important to me and my family while we were here," said Sanchez, who coached Wyoming from 2008-11. "Once the game started, it was back to being a typical competitive match against two good teams."

Sanchez and assistants Jason Green and Don Trentham all worked together at Wyoming, so for all of them, this was no ordinary game.

It wasn't ordinary for Wyoming's players, either. Sanchez led Wyoming to a 36-34-11 record the past four years, including a program-best 12-6-4 record a year ago.

"We're always happy when our coaches have a new opportunity that they're excited about it," said Wyoming senior Jenny Johnson, who was recruited by Sanchez out of Rocky Mountain High School. "Obviously he did good for us, so we wanted him around, but we're happy for him."

Johnson said she and her teammates knew it wouldn't be easy to face Sanchez.

"We expected it to be a tough game," she said. "He's a good coach and he always knows what to do with good teams. We knew it was going to be a tough one."

Sanchez, who took Wyoming to Boulder last year and stole a 1-0 win from CU, also knew this wasn't going to be an easy one.

"It's a very good team," he said of the Cowgirls. "We recruited most of those players and they're only getting better."

Sanchez admitted that going into it he downplayed what this game meant to him. Still, he and Green and Trentham accomplished what they wanted by getting a win for CU.

"I want them to do well, of course," he said of the Cowgirls, "but I'm pleased with how we played and how we performed today."

Follow Brian on Twitter:

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Buffs bounce Cowgirls in soccer

By Scott Nulph

snulph@wyosports.net | Posted: Saturday, September 15, 2012 6:15 am

The University of Wyoming Cowgirls nearly scored in the opening minute of Friday's soccer match with Colorado. But a good scoring chance went just wide.

It was a recurring theme, and not a good one for the Cowgirls.

Despite outshooting Colorado 10-5, the Cowgirls fell behind 2-0 midway through the first half and the Buffaloes hung on over the final 45 minutes for a 2-0 victory at the Louis S. Madrid Sports Complex.

It was a triumphant return for former UW soccer coach Danny Sanchez, who took over the Colorado program in December after leading the Cowgirls' program for four years.

"I downplayed it (the emotion), but it was surreal at times," Sanchez said. "Once we got in the game it was fine. But when we came out for warm-ups and seeing all those players over there, it was more surreal than anything."

Colorado scored first in the match's 16th minute when Madison Krauser took a long cross from Olivia Pappalardo and found herself behind the Wyoming defense. She was able to beat UW goalie Carmen McDermott for a 1-0 lead.

Fifteen minutes later the Buffaloes (5-1-2) caught a break when Anne Stuller's shot from the top of the goal box deflected off a Cowgirl defender and climbed just over the reach of McDermott for a 2-0 cushion.

"We made a couple of mistakes and they definitely capitalized on them," UW coach Pete Cuadrado said. "Both their goals were turnovers on our part. It's frustrating to give up two goals that way."

The Cowgirls turned that frustration into aggression on the offensive end in the second half.

Wyoming (6-3-0) outshot CU 7-2 over the final 45 minutes, but couldn't get anything past Colorado goalie Annie Brunner, who finished with four saves.

"We had our chances, unfortunately nothing fell for us today," Cuadrado said. "To have 10 shots and no goals, you just don't see that a lot. The second half I thought we had the run of the play.

"We got a lot of chances, I think we just played a little rushed. There was a lot of emotion in this game and we were just rushed in front of the net, which isn't like us."

Lucie McDowell led Wyoming with three shots (one on goal) while Carmen Blume and Olivia Mohtadi had two each.

Courtney Merkle replaced McDermott in goal for Wyoming (a move planned before the match) and made two saves over the final 45 minutes.

Wyoming returns to the Madrid Sports Complex on Sunday at noon to host Utah State.

“They’re (Wyoming) a great team now and I expect them to compete, as Pete does, for the Mountain West,” Sanchez said. “This is a team that can go to the NCAA tournament. We’re all pulling for them. I want the Cowgirls to do well.”

BUFFALOES 2, COWGIRLS 0

Colorado 2 0 — 2

Wyoming 0 0 — 0

First Half Scoring

Colorado — Madison Krauser (15:38). Assist: Olivia Pappalordo.

Colorado — Anne Stuller (31:52). Assist: none.

Second Half Scoring

None

Shots: Colorado 5, Wyoming 10. **Shots on goal:** Colorado 4, Wyoming 4. **Saves:** Colorado 4 (Annie Brunner 4); Wyoming 2 (Carmen McDermott 0, Courtney Merkle 2). **Offsides:** Colorado 1, Wyoming 0. **Corner kicks:** Colorado 2, Wyoming 5. **Cards:** Wyoming, Jenny Johnson (yellow).

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Cowgirls Fall to Colorado, Buffaloes score early, hold on for victory

5 hours ago by County 10 News Desk 0



LARAMIE, Wyo. (September 14, 2012) – Despite doubling Colorado's shot attempts, the Cowgirl soccer team fell to the Buffaloes by a 2-0 score Friday evening at the Louis S. Madrid Sports Complex.

Wyoming outshot Colorado by a 10-5 margin and had five corner kicks to the Buffaloes' two, but was not able to convert on the scoring opportunities as former UW head coach Danny Sanchez earned the victory with his new Colorado squad.

"I think we played with emotion and fought hard, but were unable to score when chances came our way," said Wyoming coach Pete Cuadrado. "When you're playing a good team like Colorado, you can't miss out on those. We'll continue to work on our attack and get ready for Sunday's game with Utah Valley."

The Buffaloes scored at the 15:38 mark with a breakaway goal by Madison Krauser, who took a cross from teammate Olivia Pappalardo and was able to sneak it by Cowgirl keeper Carmen McDermott for the 1-0 Colorado lead.

Fifteen minutes later, Colorado forward Anne Stuller took possession of the ball just beyond the top of the goal box and struck a shot which deflected off a Cowgirl defender and above McDermott's grasp to record another goal for a 2-0 Colorado lead at the 31:52 mark. Stuller came into the game with the 18th-best national mark of six goals on the year and recorded her seventh against the Cowgirls.

Wyoming goalkeeper Courtney Merkle played the second half and was able to earn two saves, but the Cowgirl attack came up short as Lucie McDowell's three shots and four other Cowgirl shot attempts either sailed wide or above the net.

Colorado goalie Annie Brunner earned the win for a 5-1-2 record on the year, while McDermott fell to 4-2-0.

The Cowgirls return to action Sunday as they host Utah Valley at noon at the Louis S. Madrid Sports Complex.

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