



*Eric Bieniemy (with notes) moves from the booth to the sidelines on Saturday.
Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com*



Brooks: Embree Hopes 'EB' On Sidelines Revs Up Buffs

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BOULDER - Colorado's offensive, indeed, overall shortcomings in three consecutive losses might comprise a list that would stretch to Washington State. Coach Jon Embree believes he's found a solution for at least one of his team's needs - sideline emotion.

Embree announced on Tuesday that Eric Bieniemy, CU's offensive coordinator/running backs coach, will move from the coaches' booth to the sidelines for Saturday's Pac-12 Conference opener at Washington State (2 p.m. MDT, FX).

Bieniemy, in only his second season as a coordinator, will continue to work with passing game coordinator/quarterbacks coach Rip Scherer in calling CU's offensive plays. Scherer will retain his vantage point from the coaches' booth and relay plays to Bieniemy, who said his 15 games (12 last season, three this season) in the booth "helped me grow as a play-caller . . . after doing it now for almost a year and a half, me and Rip have

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a great line of communication. He can be my eyes and ears upstairs and that helps out tremendously."

Explaining the change, Bieniemy added, "Just after sitting back and observing it . . . we thought it would be good for some type of change to get a little hands-on and generate a little excitement with the guys - just to be there and have a presence."

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Bieniemy called plays from the sidelines in last season's opener at Hawai'i before moving upstairs for the home opener against California. Since then, he has worked every game from the coaches' booth. He said one advantage of moving to the sidelines is to gather the offense "between series and make sure our guys are organized - let's get together and talk about each and every play. I think if any coach had their choice, they would love to be on the field."

But when he moved upstairs early last season to see the bigger picture, Bieniemy admitted game day had "a different feel . . . I'm not going to lie, though; I do miss the field."

And the Buffs, among the youngest teams in the FBS, might be missing his emotion. "We know what he brings from an energy and passion standpoint," Embree said. "We're a young team; he can keep those guys going . . . and he's more comfortable down there."

Asked if he had sensed a fire missing in CU's three losses, Bieniemy answered, "We have to coach our kids in every aspect because they're so young. I don't want to say I have to coach excitement, because you shouldn't have to coach excitement. But I feel that just being there will help create more of a buzz and a sense of urgency."

Bieniemy had told his running backs before Tuesday's practice of his impending move to the sidelines, and said with a chuckle, "I don't know if they're excited about this or not." Sophomore Tony Jones laughed and said his position coach's descent from the booth "could be good, it could be bad . . . no, he's a great coach and he's definitely going to be enthusiastic on our sidelines and get us pumped up. When something goes wrong, he's definitely the guy to get us back on track. So, we'll see at the end of the game."

Jones, who missed last weekend's trip to Fresno State due to shoulder and ankle injuries, agreed the Buffs could use more game-day emotion: "Yeah, there could be some. If somebody makes a good play, everybody gets up. But we need that all the time. The emotion is definitely going to be there with (Bieniemy)."

Junior left tackle David Bakhtiari called Bieniemy "a coach not to mess with. I would never want to be on the wrong side of him . . . I have a tremendous amount of respect for the man. I love what he's done, his attitude and his culture."

Bakhtiari said Bieniemy reminded him of an assistant coach at Junipero Serra High School in Burlingame, Calif. - "a short running backs coach who was steaming out of his ears . . . having him on the sidelines, I know for sure those kids will be looking around twice before ever putting their heads down and trying to mope around. Eric Bieniemy will do something; I'm not going to be that guy, let's put it like that."

Former CU coach Bill McCartney called Bieniemy "the single most competitive guy I've ever been around. I don't know whether that will work or not. He's a live wire."

McCartney told of playing at No. 1 Oklahoma in Bieniemy's freshman season with the Buffs and being at the 20-yard line on the CU sidelines. He said he felt someone brush against him, turned and saw Bieniemy exhorting the defense to get a stop.

"He's a freshman, he's 17 years old and he's calling out to the defense, 'Get the ball back' - because he wanted to run it," McCartney recalled. "This will be interesting; keep the cameras on him."

Embree has been on NFL coaching staffs where the offensive coordinator has worked from the field (Washington) and from the booth (Kansas City). In his time at UCLA as passing game coordinator, he was upstairs.

The better vantage point, Embree agreed, is upstairs: "It's like watching tape, you can see everything. You can make calls and do what you need to do. At UCLA as pass game coordinator, it was such a difference when I was up from when I was down . . . you don't have the emotion of the game. You're like a surgeon."

But there are exceptions - and he obviously believes this is one. Embree joked that "the press box might be not be big enough for (Bieniemy); he's all over the place up there." Plus, with CU's young running backs and overall youth on offense, said Embree, "He wants to be down there where he can look in their eyes and talk to them and get a feel for some things."

Bieniemy's bottom line in the move: "I just want to do whatever I can to bring a solution to this. I just feel like I need to be there." The Buffs' first three games, he said, "At times have been hard to watch, hard to watch."

'MAC' ON LOYALTY, PERSEVERANCE: McCartney attended Tuesday's media luncheon at Boulder's Millennium Harvest House and spoke for almost 20 minutes. He reminded that in building a skyscraper, the foundation must be deep below the ground and noted that CU's current progress under Embree is "below ground - you can't see it."

But he said progress is being made and that Embree has four characteristics of a good leader - character, competence, chemistry and commitment. He also noted that Embree is taking the correct approach with the Buffs. *(Must-see Mac TV: McCartney's full address was taped by BuffVision and is attached on CUBuffs.com.)*

EMBREE MEETS ONE-ON-ONE WITH TRAVEL SQUAD: Starting on Monday afternoon and concluding Tuesday at 2 p.m., Embree conducted 10-minute individual meetings with every player who will travel to Pullman, Wash., on Friday for Saturday's Pac-12 opener. He will meet with the non-travelers on Wednesday and Thursday.

Embree said he "let the players know I believe in them. I don't want their confidence shaken. We took a punch and got knocked down, but we're going to get back up."

He said he also told the players he has been in their situation and "we can get out of it . . . then I wanted to know how they're feeling. There is a bunch of resolve in that locker room. They're anxious, they're excited to get going back to work. They realize they've done a lot of work and they're not seeing the fruits of their labor right now. But they know it's going to happen. It's been as good for them to talk to me as me to them. It's a two-way street there."

INJURY REPORT: Safety Ray Polk (high ankle sprain) will miss his third consecutive game, but cornerback Greg Henderson (ankle) is expected to play this week . . . Center Gus Handler (ankle) will make the trip but is questionable. His replacement at Fresno State, Brad Cotner, suffered a ruptured capsule in his big toe and could be out four to five weeks. That would prompt another O-line shuffle, with Daniel Munyer the likely starter at center . . . Linebacker Doug Rippey (knee) is out again this week, while safety Marques Mosley (knee) should be able to play.

BUFF BITS: CU hit a season high in penalties (11 for 94 yards) in the 69-14 loss at Fresno State. Embree blamed the three personal foul flags on "frustration" and the bulk of the others on young players seeing their first game action . . . CU's starting quarterback on Saturday will be Jordan Webb, with Connor Wood being worked in "as

he continues to earn his reps and improve" in practice, Embree said . . . Will Pericak, who has moved from defensive tackle to end, "is starting to grow" at his new position, Embree noted. Pericak's move outside allows the Buffs to rotate three freshmen - Josh Tupou, Justin Solis and Tyler Heinington - and junior Nate Bonsu inside.

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SHOW MENU



Football: Bill McCartney gives fiery speech backing CU Buffs' Jon Embree

By Ryan Thorburn Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

The Colorado fans who attended Tuesday's football press luncheon at Boulder's Millennium Harvest House were treated to a special dessert.

Bill McCartney delivered a classic "Coach Mac" speech that had the base ready to run through a wall for Jon Embree.

If only the 2012 Buffs had the same spirit as the legendary CU coach.

"There's no shortcut. We're in over our heads right now," McCartney said. "But everything rises and falls on leadership."

McCartney strongly believes Embree and his staff, despite a 3-13 record, are the right leaders to turn the program around.

"When we turned this thing over to Embree, we turned it over to somebody who is going to get the job done," McCartney said. "Even though right now the progress is below the ground and we can't see it."

It's hard to see progress after the 0-3 start against a relatively easy nonconference schedule. CU followed humbling losses to Colorado State and Sacramento State with a humiliating effort in a 69-14 loss at Fresno State last Saturday night.

The Bulldogs had scored seven touchdowns with more than seven minutes remaining in the second quarter.

Embree was upbeat after meeting with many of his players individually and said he couldn't wait to get back on the practice field. The second-year head coach did not ask his coach and mentor to speak on his behalf.

"This isn't going to get easier, it's going to get harder this year," McCartney said. "I say to all the Colorado Buffaloes out there: Circle the wagons. Let's close ranks. Let's stand with these guys. Let's believe in them. Let's believe in the president. Let's believe in the athletic director. Let's believe in the head football coach, as well as all the other coaches. Let's stand with them."

O'Neill hangs 10

CU sophomore Darragh O'Neill punted 10 times against Fresno State, averaging 42.8 yards per attempt with four placed inside the 20. But it was the former Fairview basketball star's forced fumble that stood out from an otherwise highlight-free evening for the Buffs.

"Getting a turnover on special teams is a pretty big deal," O'Neill said. "In my mind, I think (tackling) is a strength of mine, but I've never worked on it before. When I got closer to him, he looked a lot bigger."

Other than playing wide receiver briefly in the 8th grade, O'Neill had never played organized football before winning the starting punting job last year as a freshman.

Over 13 games in 2011, O'Neill punted for 3,152 yards (42.6 average) with 21 punts placed inside the 20 and 17 punts of 50-plus yards.

Through three games this season, O'Neill is averaging 44.3 yards per punt with seven placed inside the 20 and seven of 50-plus yards.

"I really don't think there's any comparison. I think I'm infinitely better than I was a year ago," O'Neill said. "A year ago, I just tried to get the ball down the field. I wasn't experienced enough to know that I needed to hit my spots, needed to get that hang time for my guys to get down the field.

"This time I understand the situations so much more."

Injury updates

The CU training room is getting more crowded each Sunday.

Redshirt freshman center Brad Cotner, who made his first career start at Fresno State, is likely out for four to five weeks with turf toe.

"He ruptured the capsule in his big toe," Embree specified. "Tough kid. He did it early in the game and played a good portion. We have to calm his foot down."

Gus Handler, whom Cotner was filling in for, will make the trip to Washington State but is not expected to play due to an ankle injury sustained against Sacramento State.

That means starting right guard Daniel Munyer will probably have to play center with right tackle Jack Harris moving inside and Ryan Dannewitz and Stephane Nembot filling in on the outside.

CU has already ruled out starting free safety Ray Polk (ankle) and starting linebacker Doug Rippey (knee) for Saturday's game at Washington State.

Starting cornerback Greg Henderson is expected to play after missing the last two games with an ankle injury. Freshman defensive back Marques Mosley is available after missing most of the second half at Fresno State with a sprained knee.

The Buffs only had 62 healthy players on the trip to Fresno and 59 of them saw action.

Notable

The Buffs are 2-0 against the Cougars in the state of Washington, but this will be the first meeting in Pullman. CU beat Washington State in 1982 in Spokane (12-0) and in 2004 in Seattle (20-12). ... Saturday's game will be televised on FX beginning at 2 p.m. with former CU quarterback Joel Klatt handling the color on the broadcast. ... Washington State is looking for its first three-game winning streak since 2006 when it posted consecutive wins over Idaho, Baylor and Stanford.

Quotable

"Mike is a good guy. He makes the Pac-12 coaches meetings real entertaining," Embree said of colorful Washington State counterpart Mike Leach. "Real smart man. I think people underestimate how smart he is. He has a great mind, a very good football mind. When you go against him you have to be real assignment conscious, if not he'll find it and exploit it."

Thorburn: Young Buffs don't appear to be the problem

By Ryan Thorburn Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

The coaches parking lot at the Dal Ward Center is full of cars from sunrise until the midnight oil is burning.

The embattled Colorado staff is leaving no piece of film unwatched as the group attempts to turn an alarmingly bad season around.

Jon Embree understands the fans are upset and the headlines are unflattering.

As they should be.

The Buffs followed up losses to underdogs Colorado State and Sacramento State with a 69-14 drubbing at Fresno State that wasn't as competitive as that score might indicate.

The 0-3 record feels like it's headed for 0-12.

Despite all of the noise outside the program, Embree said when he does leave the office at night he goes home and sleeps soundly.

The second-year head coach still believes in his long-term plan and that the Buffs will be back with a vengeance when the sophomores and freshmen are upperclassmen in 2014.

"I don't worry about those guys, I really don't," Embree said during Tuesday's media luncheon at the Millennium Harvest House in Boulder. "Because I know it's important to them. It's an impressive group. There's a lot of talent with those kids and a lot of competitiveness and want-to. That spreads to some other guys."

There doesn't seem to be a trickle-up effect. Many of the veteran players are either hurt or hurting the team with costly mistakes.

Last season the Buffs struggled to a 3-10 record despite having 28 seniors on the roster. Embree is worried that upperclassmen are still accepting losing as a way of life at CU.

"It's more the older guys," Embree said. "This is the hand they've had for four years, five years. Those guys are my biggest concern."

Fifth-year seniors Ryan Dannewitz, Jon Major, Will Pericak, Ray Polk and Doug Rippe have experienced the agony of 36 defeats since joining the program with nine games still to play.

All of the juniors and seniors were around for the ugly end to the previous regime -- a five-game skid that included the last-straw collapse at Kansas in 2010.

The 2011 trend of losing close games to beatable teams (Cal, Washington State) continued this year against the rebuilding Rams (22-17) and FCS Hornets (30-28).

And the blowout at Fresno State was even worse than last season's lopsided losses to Stanford (48-7), Washington (52-24), Oregon (45-2), Arizona State (48-14) and USC (42-17).

Here the Buffs go again? The body language before, during and after these games screams yes as loud as the

one-sided scoreboard.

"The here-we-go-again is more of going into a game and already having guys' heads down," junior left tackle David Bakhtiari said. "That's just something that you don't want to have happen. Having a game get out of hand so early like the Fresno State game ... it's hard for an offense to establish what we like to do, which is a run game, when we have to go straight to passing.

"I'm not putting anything on the defense. Offense, we have to manage the ball better, be more consistent. The only thing I think we're consistent with on offense is being inconsistent."

This week Embree will meet with every player on the team individually for 10 minutes. There was a sign-up sheet to coordinate these therapy sessions.

Embree said all 18 of the players who have played in five or fewer games at the college level (mostly freshmen with just three games under their belts) were among the first to make their appointments.

"There's a guy in the room that reminded me when I was a young player how resilient you are when you're young," Embree said. "I think that's why going through these meetings with these guys about their resolve and how they're going to make it right is important.

"And it's going to turn."

Meanwhile, Bill McCartney took over the room. The legendary former CU coach delivered a rousing speech that had the frustrated boosters in attendance smiling as they exited.

Mac still has Embree's back.

"After what they've been through, this guy's not flinching," McCartney said. "That's how you recognize a leader."

Embree pointed to Marques Mosley as an example of a young leader already proving that the future of CU football has not been entrusted to the timid or the weak.

The true freshman defensive back suffered a sprained MCL early in the Fresno State game and kept playing. At halftime, the knee stiffened and his night was over.

Only it wasn't.

"He went back out there and he wasn't supposed to be out there. So I had to call a timeout and get him off the field," Embree said of Mosley. "And he was crying. He was upset. Because it's important to him."

There are other players who are as passionate about being Buffs as Mosley. Eventually they're going to turn this around.

At least that's the dream at the head coach's house.

"That helps you sleep at night," Embree said. "Because you know when they get a little bit older, look out."

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Football: CU Buffs will move Eric Bieniemy to sidelines

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Buffzone.com

Eric Bieniemy came to Colorado with a primary purpose of helping the Buffaloes win football games.

The Buffs' offensive coordinator feels the best way for him to do that is to change his approach on game day.

On Tuesday, head coach Jon Embree announced that Bieniemy would coach from the sidelines on Saturday at Washington State (2-1), rather than his usual spot above the field in the coaches' box.

Along with that, quarterbacks coach Rip Scherer will remain in the coaches' box and help Bieniemy with play calling.

"I don't know if it helps," Bieniemy said. "But, I do know this: I've always been a hands-on type of individual. I've always fed off of energy. My job is to make sure our guys are holding themselves accountable in detail and in work, so I want to make sure I can get a feel for what's going on and grab a guy here and there and talk through it."

Through three games, CU has had a terrible season on both offense and defense, but the Buffs are hoping this move can help their struggling offense a bit.

CU is last in the Pac-12 in total offense (289.7 yards pergame, 113th nationally) and 11th in scoring (19.7 points per game, 105th nationally). CU's pass efficiency rating (100.2) is, by far, the worst in the conference. Oregon State is 11th at 118.1. Only two Pac-12 teams have been worse at running the ball.

Moving Bieniemy's game-day position may seem minor, but the Buffs hope it has a major impact. Bieniemy is a fiery coach and his presence on the sidelines could help.

"He's a not coach to be messed with," tackle David Bakhtiari said. "He'll make sure no heads go down and I'm pretty sure all the kids will be too scared to ever put their head down."

The Buffs figure to add quite a bit of needed passion to the sidelines with Bieniemy there.

"They're missing that energy and that enthusiasm," Bieniemy said the players. "Hopefully coming down there, it'll give them some type of boost."

Bieniemy said he and Embree have talked for weeks about Bieniemy moving to the field. After Saturday's 69-14 loss at Fresno State, he approached Embree and said it was time to make the change.

"There's nothing like stepping on the field," he said. "I'm looking forward to it. I just want to be down in the atmosphere and have some fun. Now I get to get down on the field, get a hold of everybody, sit them down, communicate more between series and just talk to them."

Scherer said the offensive players need their "general" down on the field.

"I think he connects with our players; he creates some emotion," Scherer said.

Bieniemy has always preferred to be on the field during games, and coached from the sidelines during CU's opener in 2011. He decided at that point, however, that being up top gave him a better perspective when trying to make

play calls.

Since the second game of 2011, Bieniemy and Scherer have sat next to each other in the coaches' box during games. Now that they've worked together for a while, Bieniemy feels he can trust Scherer to be "my eyes and my ears" from the box. Scherer's role in that regard will become critical.

"It puts pressure on myself and it puts a little more pressure on the graduate assistants upstairs," Scherer said. "I'm more of a press box guy, (Bieniemy) is more of a sideline guy, so I think it'll work."

Bieniemy has been calling CU's plays and that won't change. Scherer said he would continue to make suggestions, as he always has, but that since he will have a clearer view of the field than Bieniemy, "he may rely on me more."

"Where I may be more involved is between series, giving him suggestions," Scherer said.

With CU's struggles, the play calling has become a bit of a target of critical fans. Asked to assess his play-calling through three weeks, Bieniemy said, "Obviously we're 0-3. Not good enough."

The hope is that this move will make a difference, but regardless of where Bieniemy coaches on game day, he said the results have to change.

"It all starts right here with me," he said. "We have to do a better job of getting our guys ready. For whatever reason, it's just not transferring over on game day. We've got to fix that."

Follow Brian on Twitter:

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Bill McCartney pleads to CU Buffs boosters for support of current football

staff

By Tom Kensler *The Denver Post* *The Denver Post*

Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — In light of the criticism voiced against Colorado football coach Jon Embree after his team's 0-3 start, the program's most legendary figure, Bill McCartney, decided that Embree's media luncheon Tuesday would provide a perfect forum to offer a history lesson.

This week's media luncheon was held in a hotel ballroom and was attended by Buff Club members.

McCartney reminded the audience that his teams managed only seven victories in his first three seasons (1982-84), but the school's administration and the program's supporters stuck with him while he built a foundation. What followed was the greatest period of success in CU history.

Embree faces a similar monumental rebuilding challenge, McCartney said. The Buffs have begun Embree's second season with losses to Colorado State, Sacramento State and Fresno State. That's not exactly a Murderers' Row. And the 69-14 pasting in Fresno, Calif., could have been worse. Fresno State scored 55 points in the first half, then rested its stars. Embree stands 3-13 as coach of his alma mater.

"I recruited Jon Embree, and when he was a sophomore (1984) he was first-team all-Big Eight (as a tight end) and caught more than 50 passes," McCartney said. "Then, we announced we were going to the wishbone. Embree hardly saw another pass. But he didn't hang his head. He was totally into team, and he was a part of the resurgence of Colorado football.

"He understands the sacrifices you have to make when you're rebuilding something. ... He's going to get the job done — even though right now the progress is below the ground, and we can't see it. There's no shortcut. We're in over our heads right now. This isn't going to get easier. It's going to get harder this year."

Colorado opens Pac-12 Conference play Saturday at Washington State (2-1) and likely will not be favored in any remaining game. McCartney asked supporters to "circle the wagons" and stick with the current staff, pointing out that most have coached at the highest level (NFL) and have a successful track record.

"Stand with these guys. Let's believe in these guys," McCartney said. He added: "This (coaching staff) is special. This is not an ordinary group of leaders. This thing is going to springboard at some point. (But) I can't say when."

Bieniemy to the sideline. Embree announced that offensive coordinator/running backs coach Eric Bieniemy will move down from the coaching box for Saturday's game at Washington State and coach from the sideline, where his energy and enthusiasm can be contagious.

"Bieniemy is the single most competitive guy I've ever been around," Mc Cartney said. "I don't know if that will work or not; he's a live wire. It will be interesting. Keep the cameras on him."

Quarterbacks coach Rip Scherer will remain in the booth upstairs and help Bieniemy with the play-calling.

No change in QB rotation. It will be the same as last week, Embree said, with junior Jordan Webb as the starter. Sophomore Connor Wood again will be the first reserve and is assured of some playing time. Both threw two interceptions against Fresno State, but Embree said he saw some positive things from them when reviewing the game film.

Footnotes. Starting sophomore cornerback Greg Henderson will play Saturday after missing two games with an ankle injury. Linebacker Doug Rippey (knee), safety Ray Polk (ankle) and center Brad Cotner (toe) are out, Embree said. Center Gus Handler (ankle) is doubtful. ... Embree said during the luncheon that he had met with every member of the travel squad since the disaster vs. Fresno State. "We shared ideas about how to get out of this," he said. "I'm excited to practice; I can't wait."

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The Field House — Blogs — The Denver Post

SEPTEMBER 19, 2012, 7:28 AM

Colorado's Darragh O'Neill prefers punting over tackling

By **TOM KENSLE** |  No Comments

BOULDER — That sheepish grin spoke volumes. Colorado sophomore punter Darragh O'Neill was asked if he considered tackling among his skill set.

O'Neill became one of the few bright spots last weekend in the 69-14 loss at Fresno State by averaging 42.8 yards on 10 punts, including four that landed inside the opponent's 20-yard line.

He also helped force a fumble in the first quarter when Fresno State's Isaiah Burse lost the ball on a 14-yard return from the Bulldogs' 21-yard line. Colorado's Christian Powell was officially credited with the forced fumble and tackle, and another CU freshman, cornerback Jeffrey Hall, recovered the fumble.

But O'Neill got in Burse's way and was the first to slow the returner's progress. The punter even reached for Burse's arm and almost caused the fumble before Powell arrived.

O'Neill didn't shy away from the contact. He didn't hesitate or flinch before sticking his nose in the play.

"In my mind I think (tackling is) a strength of mine," O'Neill said with a grin. "But I've never worked on it.

"And as (Burse) got closer, he looked a lot bigger. So, no, I don't think that's a strength of mine at all.

"Getting a turnover on special teams is a pretty big deal," O'Neill added. "Seeing us get the ball was pretty exciting."

My take: O'Neill, 6-foot-2 and 185 pounds, was a standout in basketball and soccer at Fairview High School and this is an example why college coaches love athletic punters and place-kickers. On occasion, they may be called upon to make a regular football play.

ARTICLE PRINTED FROM THE FIELD HOUSE

<http://blogs.denverpost.com/colleges/2012/09/19/colorados-darragh-oneill-prefers-punting-tackling/24860/>

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The Field House — Blogs — The Denver Post

SEPTEMBER 18, 2012, 2:26 PM

Jon Embree, Colorado Buffaloes sticking with same QB rotation

By **TOM KENSLE** |  No Comments



Colorado QB Jordan Webb. (Hyoung Chang, The Denver Post)

BOULDER — Colorado coach Jon Embree announced Tuesday during his weekly media luncheon that last week's quarterback rotation will again be used for Saturday's game at Washington State — Jordan Webb as the starter, with Connor Wood being the first back-up and also assured of some playing time against the Cougars.

Other news from the luncheon:

Offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy will move down from the coaching box and coach from the sideline, with quarterbacks coach Rip Scherer remaining in the box to help with play calling.

Linebacker Doug Rippy (knee), safety Ray Polk (ankle), center Brad Cotner (toe) are out for Saturday's game in Pullman, Wash. Center Gus Handler (ankle) is doubtful. Cornerback Greg Henderson, who has missed two games with an ankle sprain, is probable.

Colorado football legend Bill McCartney made an impassioned plea to support the current coaching staff during the media luncheon that was held at a Boulder hotel and also included members of the Buff Club.

ARTICLE PRINTED FROM THE FIELD HOUSE