



*CU freshman corner Kenneth Crawley bats away a pass intended for UCLA's Steven Manfro.  
Photo Courtesy: Associated Press*



## Brooks: Buffs Say Bye To September, Seek Better Times

Release: 09/29/2012 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

**BOULDER** - The calendar will say he was a day early, but shortly before 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jon Embree waved goodbye to September. It was not anywhere close to the month Colorado's second-year football coach envisioned when it started.

Before the 2012 season began, Embree reminded his team that September would be critical, with nearly half (five) of the schedule's 12 games played in the opening month. A good start was a must. In reality it was a bust.

His Buffaloes bowed out of the month just as they started it, bookending the 22-17 loss to Colorado State on Sept. 1 with a 42-14 loss to UCLA on Saturday. CU will enter October with a 1-4 record, surely not what Embree had in mind in August camp when his team broke its daily post-practice huddle with the chant, "Bowl Game!"

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For whatever reason (and you can come up with several), we're not hearing that anymore. With seven games remaining, the bowl goal - five more wins minimum - isn't dead, but it will stay on life support until the Buffs develop a more consistent running game, become consistently better tacklers, get more consistent on third down, get more consistent pass protection, consistently protect the ball ... see a theme developing here?

CU does a few things consistently well, but not enough to avoid being 1-4 and being labeled inconsistent. On Saturday, the Buffs ran for a mere 83 yards, whiffed on too many tackles to count without having instant replay available as this is written, converted just two of 15 third-down attempts, yielded four more quarterback sacks (now 22 for the season), and suffered two game-turning turnovers in the third quarter.

CU's 15 possessions on Saturday ended with 10 punts, two touchdowns, back-to-back third-quarter turnovers and also giving the ball back to UCLA on downs in the third quarter. The Buffs' offense was hit-and-mostly-miss - and Embree was left searching for a solution.

Asked if he had an answer, he answered: "I don't. I wish I did, but that will have to be something that over this bye week period we will have to address ... for whatever reason, we have not played well. We have eight to ten plays that we know we're going to start with and we practice it against the looks we are going to get. But for whatever reason we're just not able to do anything."

Despite what the scoreboard might say, the Buffs' defense - poor tackling aside - had its moments.

"Up until a certain time frame in the third quarter," said CU defensive coordinator Greg Brown, "we kind of felt as a defensive staff that our players felt, 'we're in this, we can play, we can stop the Bruins, let's get them off the field and give the ball back to our offense.'"

"But obviously, it didn't hold up and we didn't finish what we started. The bottom line is, we're not there. We're a work in progress and we have a long way to go."

Brown began the season knowing his defense would be young - and then senior safety Ray Polk was hurt in the first quarter of the CSU game and senior linebacker Doug Ripsey was injured a game later. Neither has played since. On Saturday, Ripsey's good bud and fellow senior 'backer Jon Major - the team's leading tackler - was mostly MIA due to injury.

Said Brown about the loss of precious experience due to injury: "You better adapt, you better have a little adaptability in you. Like the saying goes, there are no excuses. Whoever we put on the field are Buffs ..."

Albeit young Buffs, and the hope of Embree, Brown and the other coaches is that they mature as football players at warp speed. Embree said he can see growth: "We are, we're growing up, we don't have a lot to show for it, but we have taken strides ... There were tears in the locker room; guys still care and are still competing and fighting. At times they were just overmatched, but we have to find a way to create some plays or create something to help us."

In that same vein, they can't afford things that set them back and snuff whatever momentum they might be capable of. Not getting any points out of recovering a first-quarter UCLA fumble and consecutive third-quarter

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turnovers (the Bruins scored TDs after both) when the score was still 21-7 were the afternoon's killers.

"We are not at the point where we can overcome mistakes like that," Embree said. "Our defense gave us a chance in that third quarter, they gave us opportunities and we didn't take advantage of it. We needed to get points, somehow offensively, and we weren't able to do it."

Quarterback Jordan Webb said the offense's repeated inefficiency on third down was on him: "I'll take the blame for that; third down is a quarterback down. If you don't have good quarterback play you won't convert a lot of third downs."

Webb was the Pac-12 Conference's offensive player-of-the-week following CU's 35-34 comeback win at Washington State. He accounted for four TDs (two passing, two running) against WSU, but he had a hand in only one of CU's two scores Saturday - a second-quarter TD pass to Dustin Ebner.

Webb threw his lone interception in the third quarter after tight end Vincent Hobbs had the ball stripped from him following a reception. UCLA recovered and ultimately scored the first of back-to-back TDs to begin pulling away.

Junior linebacker Derrick Webb said the turnovers didn't demoralize the CU defense: "It's a part of football and you have to be prepared for sudden changes. That's something we train for all season . . . the mentality of our defense was to get out there and get the ball back for our offense, give our offense another chance. We don't hang our heads on turnovers."

After five weekends of games, the Buffs have next weekend off. Coaches see bye weeks as further healing and teaching time. Embree and his staff need both. Brown said it will be back to fundamentals for his defense - "Fundamentals and tackling . . . the amount of missed tackles we had (Saturday), we left a lot on the field simply by missed tackles.

"There were a lot of plays underneath that turned into big plays because of the missed tackles. That would have to be first and foremost. The bye week is all about fundamentals - get better and improve on the fundamental aspects."

The Buffs don't play again until Thursday night, Oct. 11, when Arizona State visits Folsom Field. Embree said it "would be nice to go into (the bye week) with a win."

It would have been nice, too, to win September's first three games - allegedly the easiest before the schedule really takes a rugged turn. It didn't happen, and as a former coach said at about this time last season, the only way out of something like this is straight through it.

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Photo Courtesy: Asher Vandevort



## Hard Work Pays Off For Ebner

Release: 09/29/2012 Courtesy: Ron Knabenbauer, Graduate Assistant SID

It has been a long time coming for wide receiver **Dustin Ebner**.

In his 18<sup>th</sup> career game, the Arvada, Colo., native was finally able to taste touchdown glory in the second quarter of Colorado's 42-14 loss to UCLA on Saturday at Folsom Field.

With the Buffaloes knocking on the Bruins' door for their first score of the game, quarterback **Jordan Webb** found Ebner in the end zone on a post-route to make it a 14-7 contest and give the senior his first career touchdown.

As soon as the ball was snapped, Ebner said he knew he had a chance to score.

"When I got to the line of scrimmage, I saw their corner was in press coverage," Ebner said. "Jordan backpedaled and I saw their safety back off. My eyes got big because I knew it was

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Dustin Ebner

going to be a big play."

The touchdown might have been a culmination of four-and-a-half years of hard work for Ebner that began as a walk-on after the first day of fall classes in 2008.

After redshirting the 2008 campaign, Ebner saw action in eight games the following season, catching three passes for 15 yards.

However while most student-athletes usually see an increase in playing time after getting their feet wet as freshmen, Ebner wasn't able to as he missed the first half of the 2010 season with a broken fibula, suffered in the team's first full scrimmage of training camp. He was finally able to dress in the 10<sup>th</sup> game of that season, but he watched the entire final three contests from the sidelines.

He played a little bit in the 2011 season, but with the team lacking wide receivers in 2012, Ebner has seen the most playing time of his career in the first four games this season. He made his second career start in week two versus Sacramento State and picked up a 41-yard strike the following week against Fresno State.

And along with the touchdown in the week five contest versus UCLA, Ebner finished with two catches for 28 yards, marking his first multi-reception game of his career.

"Dustin is a fifth-year senior, he is a kid that has been here and worked hard," said coach **Jon Embree**. "I was happy for him. He made a few plays out there (today). It was good for him to make that play (the touchdown catch) in traffic."

For Ebner, that hard work paid off not only in the game with the Bruins but after last season as Embree and his coaching staff offered him a scholarship during spring practices.

"It was one of the best feelings I've ever felt," Ebner said of being put on scholarship. "When I was a freshman coming in here, I didn't think that I would have an opportunity to earn a scholarship. I thought I was going to just be a part of the team and I was going to do what I was asked. To get a scholarship and to be playing for the Buffs has meant the world to me."

Already a University of Colorado graduate-he got his degree Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in December 2011-Ebner is just finishing up some prerequisite courses for dental school and is still just helping out where he can on the football field.

"I come here every day to work. I just put in the effort," Ebner said. "These coaches are outstanding. I know that they are going to put the right people in the game at the right time. I go with the flow and do what I can do."

As the 2012 season continues, expect Ebner to be targeted more, and hopefully Saturday's touchdown won't be his last.

However, he will always remember his first one.

"It was awesome," Ebner said.

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*UCLA's Brett Hundley splits CU defenders Terrel Smith (left) and Greg Henderson*  
Photo Courtesy: Associated Press



## Brooks: No Comeback This Week; Bruins Bury Buffs

Release: 09/29/2012 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

**BOULDER** – Seven days after rallying for three late touchdowns to win their Pac-12 Conference opener, the Colorado Buffaloes found themselves trailing UCLA by four touchdowns barely half a minute into the fourth quarter.

This week, the hole was cavernous – and the Buffs had no miracles and no way out.

The Bruins turned a pair of third-quarter CU turnovers into touchdowns, broke open what had been a competitive game and buried the Buffs 42-14 on Saturday at Folsom Field.

CU lost for the fourth time in September and dropped to 1-4 overall and 1-1 in the Pac-12. UCLA, coming off a 27-20 home loss to Oregon State that dropped the Bruins from the national rankings, improved to 4-1, 1-1.

The Buffs have an open date next Saturday, then return to

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Folsom Field on Thursday night, Oct. 11 to face Arizona State.

As costly as CU's second-half turnovers were, poor tackling by the Buffs contributed to UCLA's offensive show. Bruins quarterback Brett Hundley completed 25-of-38 passes for 281 yards and two touchdowns. He also ran for a pair of 12-yard scores. Tailback Jonathan Franklin carried 15 times for 111 yards. The conference's leading rusher had been held to 45 yards by Oregon State.

UCLA entered the game ranked first in the Pac-12 in total offense, gaining 421.5 yards a game. Of that total, 251.5 had been gained on the ground, putting UCLA behind only Oregon in Pac-12 rushing. The Bruins gained 492 yards in total offense against the Buffs, with 211 rushing.

A week after accounting for four touchdowns in the 35-34 win at Washington State, CU quarterback Jordan Webb completed 21-of-32 passes for 184 yards and one TD. He was intercepted once and sacked four times.

Nick Hirschman replaced Webb in the fourth quarter and completed two of three attempts for 42 yards and a touchdown.

CU finished with 309 yards in total offense. At WSU, the Buffs rushed for a season-best 186 yards. The Bruins held them to 83 on 30 attempts.

The Bruins dominated the first half, rolling up 285 yards in total offense to the Buffs' 122 and taking a 21-7 lead to their locker room.

CU missed an early opportunity to possibly take the lead when defensive end Kirk Poston sacked Hundley and fellow end Samson Kafovalu recovered at the CU 41-yard line.

But after the drive advanced as far as the Bruins' 22, the Buffs were shoved into reverse. A Gerald Thomas fumble after a flat pass was recovered by tight end Nick Kasa but lost seven yards. Webb was sacked for a five-yard loss on the next play and successive five-yard penalties for an illegal formation and a false start pushed the Buffs back to Bruins' 48.

Darragh O'Neill finally got to punt, backing UCLA to its 13-yard line. But needing only nine plays and never facing third down, Hundley drove his offense 87 yards and scored on a 12-yard run. Ka'imi Fairbairn's PAT put UCLA ahead 7-0 with 4:53 left in the first quarter.

The Buffs didn't get a first down for the rest of the quarter, but neither could the Bruins score any more points. But that ended on their first drive of the second quarter, with Hundley directing a 10-play, 76-yard march capped by his 17-yard scoring pass to receiver Darius Bell. Fairbairn's extra point put CU behind 14-0, and the Folsom Field crowd of 46,893 might have sensed this one slipping away.

But CU answered with its only sustained drive of the first half, going 75 yards, mostly on Webb's passing. He completed six-of-six for 72 yards, with a 17-yard throw to senior Dustin Ebner and Will Oliver's PAT bringing the Buffs to within a touchdown at 14-7. It was Ebner's first career TD.

Two series later, UCLA pushed its lead to 21-7, taking advantage of a short field (CU's 43) and scoring in five snaps. The big play was a 28-yard screen to Franklin that initially was ruled a touchdown. Upon review, UCLA

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was given the ball at the CU 1-yard line and scored a play later on Hundley's crafty keeper with 2:14 before intermission.

The Buffs were more effective defensively to open the second half, forcing the Bruins to punt on their first two series. But CU wasn't any more effective offensively in the third quarter, having what appeared to be a promising drive stopped on fourth-and-one at the UCLA 48.

The Bruins couldn't capitalize, calling on Fairbairn to attempt a 44-yard goal that was wide right. The Buffs still trailed 21-7, but courtesy of the two third-quarter turnovers, that was about to change.

The first occurred on a third-down reception by freshman tight end Vincent Hobbs. He had gained first-down yardage but didn't protect the ball, allowing safety Tevin McDonald to poke the ball out from behind. Linebacker Eric Kendricks recovered at the UCLA 38, and seven plays later Hundley hit disturbingly open receiver Joseph Fauria in the end zone with an 8-yard TD pass.

On CU's next series, Webb was intercepted by free safety Stan McKay, and 59 seconds later tailback Jordon James ran 25 yards to give UCLA its fifth TD. Fairbairn's PAT opened a 35-7 Bruins lead, and with 14:28 to play any thoughts of the Buffs duplicating their comeback win at Washington State began fading with the day's last light.

With 10:54 remaining, the Bruins pushed the count to 42-7 on a 23-yard TD run by Damien Thigpen and Fairbairn's extra point.

CU got its second touchdown on a 31-yard pass from Hirschman to Kasa, giving the senior tight end his second scoring reception in as many games. Oliver kicked the extra point, making the score 42-14 with 2:43 to play.

It ended that way, leaving the Buffs winless this season (0-2) on their home field.

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## Hundley, Franklin lead UCLA past Colorado 42-14

ARNIE STAPLETON - AP Sports Writer (AP)

Saturday, September 29, 2012

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — The UCLA Bruins didn't just want a win at Colorado. They wanted to put a beat-down on the Buffaloes, and that's exactly what they delivered.

"It was vital for us to get this win, and definitely get it like this," tailback Johnathan Franklin said after the Bruins bounced back from a tough loss and routed Colorado 42-14 Saturday night for their best start since 2007.

Brett Hundley threw for 281 yards and two touchdowns and also ran for two scores as the Bruins (4-1, 1-1 Pac-12) improved to 30-10-2 in the weeks following a loss that dropped them from the rankings. They tumbled from No. 19 last week with a loss at home to Oregon State.

Franklin set the tone early, running for 97 of his 111 yards in the first half and catching all three of his passes for 48 yards as the Bruins jumped ahead 21-7 at the break.

Hanging tough, the Buffaloes (1-4, 1-1) were driving in the third quarter when they were stuffed on fourth-and-1 at midfield, then coughed up the ball on their next two possessions and watched the Bruins capitalize with two touchdowns.

"We're not at that point where we can overcome mistakes like that," Buffs coach Jon Embree lamented.

Leading a swarming Bruins defense were linebackers Anthony Barr and Damien Holmes, who combined for four sacks, seven tackles for loss and three hurries of quarterback Jordan Webb.

The Buffaloes rallied past Washington State last week with three touchdowns in the final seven minutes, and they needed a similar comeback this time after falling behind by three TDs through three quarters.

It was the Bruins who poured on the points this time, however, sealing their first win in Boulder since a 33-16 victory in 1984. They returned in 2003, losing 16-14.

"It was a good win," said Bruins first-year coach Jim Mora. "There's still things we feel offensively we can do better. We hurt ourselves in the first half with some penalties and some drops, just not executing the way we're capable. But it's a conference win on the road and that's a good thing."

Franklin, who was limited to 45 yards a week earlier, had a big first half, when his 28-yard bob-and-weave on a screen pass set up Hundley's 1-yard TD keeper that put UCLA ahead 21-7 at halftime.

UCLA linebacker Eric Kendricks and free safety Tevin McDonald had a monster second half, teaming up to stuff Tony Jones on fourth-and-1 at midfield in the third quarter when the Buffs still harbored hopes of an upset, then combining for a crucial takeaway on their next series.

McDonald punched the ball free after tight end Vincent Hobbs hauled in a long pass and Kendricks scooped it up.

"We were struggling," McDonald said. "The offense, they were beating themselves up a little bit. But it's a team sport and for us to be able to put together that type of performance defensively and be able to help our offense out in a time of need like that, with two big stops like that, that sparked us. That blew it open."

"It was great. We needed that," Franklin said. "We watched what Colorado did last week against Washington State and we definitely did not want that to happen tonight."

The big stops and subsequent scores showed some progress, which pleased Mora heading into next week's game at Cal.

"Last week we had a couple of takeaways and we weren't able to capitalize offensively," Mora said. "This week we got two takeaways and turned them into touchdowns. When you can do that, it's a big deal."

The Bruins piled on from there, scoring touchdowns on their next three possessions, starting with Hundley's 8-yard TD pass to Joseph Fauria.

Safety Stan McKay picked off a pass from Webb at midfield and returned it to the Colorado 35, setting up a 25-yard TD run by Jordon James. Franklin was the lead blocker on running back Damien Thigpen's impressive 23-yard touchdown on a reverse that made it 42-7.

Webb threw a 17-yard scoring strike to Dustin Ebner, the senior's first career touchdown, but that's all he had to show for 14 drives. He gave way to Nick Hirschman, who threw his first career TD pass, a 31-yarder to Nick Kasa, in his only series.

"We're growing up. We don't have a lot to show for it but we have taken strides," Embree said. "There's tears in the locker room. Guys still care. Guys are still competing and fighting. At times, we're just overmatched."

Notes: Mora said it appears WR Devin Lucien broke his clavicle. ... The injuries to the Buffaloes — TB Christian Powell (hip bruise) and ILB Jon Major (lower leg bruise) — didn't appear serious.

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## Football: Reality check for CU Buffs

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Colorado coach Jon Embree managed to put aside his disappointment for a moment Boulder Daily

Camera

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Colorado coach Jon Embree managed to put aside his disappointment for a moment with small smile Saturday night when asked if it was a good time for the bye week to arrive after his team suffered another Pac-12 Conference beat down.

The Buffs turned the ball over, missed tackles and failed to convert third downs into first downs at Folsom Field against UCLA, losing 42-14.

It's a recipe they've used numerous times in recent year and it continually leads to sour scoreboards and talk of improvement around the next corner. But the Buffs never seem to be able to fully turn that corner and it doesn't seem likely with Arizona State, USC and Oregon next on the schedule.

With defensive starters Ray Polk and Doug Rippy on the sidelines for most of the first month of the season and new injuries Saturday that included freshman running back Christian Powell and senior linebacker Jon Major, the Buffs are happy to have a week off to lick their wounds from a 1-4 start.

"We're growing up," Embree said. "We don't have a lot to show for it, but we're taking strides." CU fans who prefer the bright side can look at Saturday's outcome as evidence in support of that case. After all, the 2011 Buffs -- a senior-laden team -- were trounced by 39 points at the Rose Bowl by the Bruins in November. Almost a year later, a much younger and less experienced CU team actually kept it close and had momentum in the third quarter, before falling apart.

In the span of approximately six minutes of game time, the Buffs turned the ball over twice and allowed the Bruins to score three touchdowns, morphing a 21-7 game into a 42-7 laugh.

CU had streaks of success in the first half with quarterback Jordan Webb directing a passing attack utilizing short throws. He had completed six straight passes on a first-half drive that culminated in a 17-yard touchdown pass to former walk-on wide receiver Dustin Ebner, a fifth-year senior.

In the third quarter, Webb was moving the team again with the same approach. He threw across the middle to freshman tight end Vincent Hobbs, who bobbled the ball momentarily but hauled it in only to fumble it away seconds later when it was slapped out of his grasp from behind. The Bruins recovered and CU never regained the momentum.

UCLA extended its lead to three scores on the ensuing drive with a touchdown pass from quarterback Brett Hundley to tight end Joseph Fauria, the nephew of former Buff Christian Fauria. CU was unable to mount another stirring second-half comeback as it did a week ago at Washington State.

Webb threw an interception on the Buffs' next possession and UCLA quickly turned the mistake into points when running back Jordon James slithered through the CU defense on a 25-yard touchdown run on the second play of the fourth quarter.

"We had two critical turnovers that they converted into 14 points," Embree said. "We were never able to recover from that."

A week after earning the conference offensive player of the week award, Webb struggled with consistency and finding open receivers. He completed 21 of 32 passes for 184 yards with one touchdown and one interception. He was also sacked four times and was replaced in the fourth quarter by sophomore Nick Hirschman, who threw his first touchdown pass to tight end Nick Kasa late in the game.

The Buffs converted just two of 15 third downs.

"I will take the blame for that," Webb said. "Third down is a quarterback down. If you don't have good quarterback play, you won't convert a lot on third downs."

The Bruins finished with 492 yards of total offense with Hundley throwing for 281 yards and two scores. He also ran for a pair of touchdowns. UCLA tailback Johnathan Franklin came into the game as the Pac-12's leading rusher and ranked fourth nationally. He gained 111 yards on 15 carries. UCLA converted seven of 15 third downs.

"At times, we're just over-matched, but we have to find a way to create some plays or create something to help us. That is why turnovers are so critical for us. We need to move the ball. We are not at that point where we can overcome mistakes like that."

Follow Kyle on Twitter:

@KyleRingo



## Football: Time for CU Buffs' defense to regroup

By Ryan Thorburn Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

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And the defense rests.

Colorado's battered, beaten and broken unit will have a lot of healing and homework to do during the bye week.

UCLA racked up 492 yards of total offense during a 42-14 victory over the Buffs on Saturday at Folsom Field.

CU has been without starting free safety Ray Polk (ankle) since the opener and starting linebacker Doug Rippy (knee) since the Sacramento State game.

Senior linebacker Jon Major (leg contusion) did not play in the second half against the Bruins. Starting defensive end Chidera Uzo-Diribe gritted through a high ankle sprain and finished the game.

It has been well-documented that there are true freshmen being counted on along the defensive line and in the secondary.

But defensive coordinator Greg Brown doesn't want to make or hear about excuses anymore.

This is big-boy football. Time for some accountability.

"The main thing in this game is we did not tackle well. When we look at film, we look at it as an individual and ask, 'Did you do your job? Answer that question, yes or no?'

"Pretty easy."

Collectively, the Buffs (1-4, 1-1) appeared to be doing a decent job defensively into the second half.

Kirk Poston sacked quarterback Brett Hundley to spoil the Bruins' first drive of the third quarter. The redshirt freshman finished the game with a forced fumble, two sacks and three tackles for losses totaling 20 yards.

UCLA's next drive was a three-and-out. A personal foul helped thwart another drive by the visitors that ended with a missed field goal.

CU was trailing 21-7 when the offense turned the ball over on consecutive possessions -- a Vincent Hobbs fumble and a Jordan Webb interception.

The turnovers led to 14 points.

"Our defense gave us a chance in the third quarter, they gave us opportunities," Buffs head coach Jon Embree said. "And we didn't take advantage of it."

The Buffs entered the game ranked last in the Pac-12 in scoring defense (38.8 ppg) and 11th in total defense (470.0).

Down the stretch, there was no one covering UCLA tight end Joseph Fauria on his 8-yard touchdown reception, the sea parted for Jordan James' 25-yard touchdown run and the Buffs were fooled on the reverse in which Damien Thigpen scored from 23 yards out.

"I felt like we held them to a couple three-and-outs in the second half and helped keep the game close. Then they started to get away," Uzo-Diribe said. "These guys were explosive and physical. You name it, they could do it."

Now it's back to the old drawing board for Brown and the Buffs, who have some extra time to prepare for the Oct. 11 game against Arizona State. The Sun Devils (4-1, 2-0) stayed on top of the Pac-12 South Division with a 27-17 win at Cal on Saturday.

"We need to get healthy and we need to regroup," Brown said. "We have to put our heads down and go to work."

Follow Ryan on Twitter: @RyanThorburn

## Football: CU Buffs' Ebner makes most of moment

By Brian Howell and Ryan Thorburn *Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera*

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Dustin Ebner probably could have gone somewhere else and played more.

Colorado's fifth-year senior receiver wanted to be a Buff, though, and it paid off with his best moment in a CU uniform on Saturday.

Ebner caught his first career touchdown pass, a 17-yarder from Jordan Webb in the second quarter, during the Buffs' 42-14 loss to UCLA. At the time, it was a big play, as it cut UCLA's lead to 14-7.

"It was awesome," said Ebner, who had a career-high two catches for 28 yards. "It was just a great experience to celebrate with my team in the end zone and know that all the hard work that I've been putting in has paid off."

During his senior year at Pomona High School, in 2007, Ebner caught 42 passes for 815 yards and nine touchdowns - numbers that likely could have earned him a spot at a smaller school. Ebner's father and older brother attended CU, though, and Ebner wanted to follow in their footsteps.

"Regardless of if I was going to be playing football in college, I wanted to be at the University of Colorado," he said. "That's why I decided to walk-on."

After redshirting in 2008, Ebner caught three passes for 15 yards in 2009, but didn't have another catch until two weeks ago, during CU's 69-14 loss at Fresno State. He has played a lot this year, but mostly as a run blocker. His two catches Saturday upped his career total to six.

"The thing with run blocking is that it's all effort and that's what I really strive for in myself, just to go out there and put all my effort into each play," said Ebner, who was rewarded with a scholarship after the 2011 season. "So, being rewarded with pass plays is awesome, to get that recognition. Not everybody recognizes when you're blocking."

He was recognized on Saturday, but forgot to keep the ball from his touchdown.

"It was more important for me to celebrate with the team than to remember to hold onto that ball," he said.

A first for Hirschman

Backup quarterback Nick Hirschman threw the first touchdown pass of his career, a 31-yarder to Nick Kasa late in the fourth quarter.

"It was really exciting to get the first touchdown of my career, but it's hard to be excited when we lose like that," the redshirt sophomore said.

Hirschman completed 2 of 3 passes for 42 yards.

Kasa bonita

Kasa is emerging as a productive tight end in his first full season playing the position.

Unfortunately, the 6-4 senior's touchdown catch in the fourth quarter was too late to spark a comeback, unlike Kasa's 70-yard touchdown reception at Washington State.

During three seasons playing on the defensive line, Kasa never recovered a fumble. He recovered his second fumble in as many weeks Saturday.

Rubbing it in

UCLA senior receiver Joseph Fauria got his first chance to play in the stadium that his uncle, Christian, made home from 1991-94. Christian was a standout tight end for the Buffs.

"It was crazy. Apparently I haven't been here since I was 2 ½ years old and it was good to be in this stadium," Fauria said.

The younger Fauria caught two passes for 20 yards, including a 12-yard touchdown that put UCLA ahead 28-7 in the third quarter.

"It was awesome; I can't wait to rub it in his face," he joked.

Odd man out

With sophomore cornerback Greg Henderson back in the lineup after nursing an ankle injury, freshman Yuri Wright was relegated to the bench.

Wright had started the previous three games, but didn't see much of the field on Saturday, as Henderson and Kenneth Crawley got the starting nods.

Center of attention

Daniel Munyer started for the second consecutive game at center instead of right guard.

Brad Cotner started at center against Fresno State but is out indefinitely with turf toe; regular starter Gus Handler has missed the last three games with an ankle sprain.

The patchwork offensive line allowed Jordan Webb to be sacked four times on Saturday and CU has allowed 24 sacks on the season.

Crawley shines

Kenneth Crawley continues to impress. On Saturday the true freshman cornerback led the Buffs with eight tackles and had a pass break up.

Redshirt freshman Kirk Poston also played at a high level with two sacks and a forced fumble.

Injuries

Linebacker Jon Major missed the second half with a leg contusion.

"I couldn't bend my leg halfway through," he said. "It's a good thing it's the bye week; I'll be back."

Tailback Christian Powell (hip) also left the game in the first half, and defensive end Chidera Uzo-Diribe was hobbling on a sore left ankle after the game.



## Notable

The Buffs converted just 2 of 15 third-down attempts. UCLA was 7-for-15 on third downs. ... Receiver Tyler McCulloch had a career-high seven catches (for 69 yards). ... Defensive tackle Nate Bonsu recorded his first career sack. ... Linebacker Paul Vigo and defensive tackle Josh Tupou both played after suffering concussions a week earlier.

## Football: CU Buffs' running game is still lacking

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

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Buffzone.com

Once again, the Colorado run game was grounded on Saturday.

In a 42-14 loss to UCLA, the Buffs managed just 83 yards on 30 rushing attempts. That included 37 yards on 10 fourth-quarter attempts, when the game was already decided.

"Let's give kudos to their defense. Their defense did a hell of a job," CU offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy said. "We obviously didn't click on offense for whatever reason. We have to keep grinding, we have to keep getting better."

UCLA came into the game with the 82nd-ranked run defense in the country, allowing 173.8 yards per game and 4.8 yards per attempt. CU never came close to those marks, and it didn't help that freshman tailback Christian Powell went out with a hip bruise in the first half.

The 6-foot, 235-pound Powell had 29 yards on seven attempts (4.1 per rush) when he got hurt.

"It really doesn't change too much, but at the end of the day, obviously you would like that guy in the game," Bieniemy said.

Powell's presence might have helped the Buffs on a key situation in the third quarter. CU had 3rd-and-1 from the UCLA 48-yard line, trailing 21-7. They handed the ball to 5-7, 190-pound Tony Jones who was stuffed for no gain. Then the Buffs went for it on 4th-and-1 and Jones was stuffed for no gain again. (A penalty on CU would have voided a first down on that play anyway, though).

"I think I got the first down, but with the penalty, that brought us back," Jones said. "We just have to keep grinding, we just have to keep chopping wood."

Jones, who came into the year as the starting tailback, finished with a team-best 31 yards on eight carries, but didn't have a run longer than nine yards.

"It changes things," Jones said of Powell's injury, "but at the same time, I'm ready."

Jones knows the Buffs need a full complement of backs going forward, though.

"We love Christian and definitely hope he's getting healthy," he said.

CU also used Donta Abron (19 yards on four carries) and Josh Ford (1 yard on 2 carries) during Saturday's loss.

"We've got some guys who can do some things," Bieniemy said. "We just have to hammer it out. We've just got to get better."

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## Colorado struggles at home, loses 42-14 to UCLA

By Tom Kensler The Denver Post The Denver Post

Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — The next step for Colorado's young football team in its rebuilding effort will be to protect the home turf.

The Buffaloes showed Saturday they have a ways to go before getting that done. Failing to slow an explosive UCLA offense that spreads the field with its speed, Colorado couldn't keep up in a 42-14 loss to the Bruins before 46,893 at Folsom Field.

Coming off a spectacular come-from-behind victory at Washington State a week earlier, Colorado (1-4, 1-1 Pac-12) failed to muster any second-half magic this time before the home crowd. Last year in the school's inaugural season in the Pac-12, CU went 1-3 at home in conference action, with the win coming against an Arizona team that had fired its head coach.

After Saturday's game, Colorado coach Jon Embree said holding serve at home has become "a first step," evidently putting Pac-12 road wins against Utah last year and Washington State behind him.

"I haven't said anything to the team about it — another loss at home," Embree said. "They're aware of it."

With UCLA redshirt freshman quarterback Brett Hundley getting enough time to survey the field, the Bruins (4-1, 1-1) took a 21-7 lead into halftime. Hundley, looking every bit like a future star, accounted for all three of those scores: 12- and 1-yard touchdown keepers and a 17-yard TD pass to Darius Bell. Hundley added another TD pass in the second half and finished the game 25-of-38 passing for 281 yards and no interceptions.

Colorado has needed to spring some big plays, as the Buffs did against Washington State. But in the first half Saturday, CU managed only one run of more than 10 yards (a 15-yarder by freshman Christian Powell) and only one pass completion of more than 20 yards (22, from Jordan Webb to Tyler McCulloch).

For the game, Colorado converted only 2-of-15 third downs. That's not the way to go toe-to-toe with a league foe that's more talented, experienced and athletic.

"I take responsibility for that," Webb said. "That's definitely something we need to fix."

Colorado has a bye before hosting Arizona State on Oct. 11, a Thursday night game.

"We have a lot to work on," said Webb, who finished 21-of-32 for 184 yards passing and was sacked four times.

Down by 14 points at halftime, Colorado came up empty on two possessions that penetrated UCLA territory in the third quarter. Sophomore tailback Tony Jones was stopped for no gain on fourth-and-1 at the UCLA 48. And freshman tight end Vincent Hobbs fumbled at the Bruins' 38 after a 31-yard reception.

Then, after a UCLA touchdown, Webb was intercepted by safety Stan McKay and the Bruins turned that into another score.

CU had a three-and-out series, and UCLA drove for yet another touchdown. In about eight minutes, spanning the third and fourth quarters, Colorado went from being down 21-7 to getting blown out 42-7.

"We're growing up, though we don't have a lot to show for it," Embree said. "At times we're overwhelmed (by more talented opponents), but we have to get points when we have opportunities. That's why turnovers are so critical."

First-year UCLA coach Jim Mora acknowledged that Colorado was more competitive than the final score may indicate.

"I think (the Buffs) played well," Mora said. "They played inspired football coming off a win last week."

UCLA's defense entered the game ranked just ninth among Pac-12 teams in yards allowed. The Bruins aren't afraid to gamble, however. Linebacker Anthony Barr blitzed often and the Bruins flushed Webb from the pocket more often than the two first-half sacks would suggest.

On a third-quarter scramble, Webb was shaken up with an ankle injury but returned to the lineup for CU's next series.

Not making life any easier for Webb was Colorado failing to jump-start its running game. The Buffs netted only 18 yards on 13 carries in the first half and finished with a net 83 yards, averaging 2.8 yards per carry.

Meanwhile, UCLA senior tailback Johnathan Franklin already had 97 yards rushing by halftime en route to a 111-yard day. He also slipped out of the backfield to become the Bruins' top first-half receiver with three catches for 48 yards.

Colorado defenders had trouble keeping up with UCLA's motion and bubble screens. The Bruins' up-tempo, no-huddle offense didn't allow much time for adjustments.

"They were able to get the ball in space, which is what they like to do," said CU junior linebacker Derrick Webb.

For the most part, Colorado at least made UCLA work for its points — thanks in large part to the Buffs' outstanding punter, Darragh O'Neill. The sophomore from Boulder's Fairview High School averaged 44.5 yards on 10 punts, with four boots backing up UCLA inside its 20-yard line.

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## Woody Paige: Lay off CU Buffs coach Jon Embree until 2014

By Woody Paige The Denver Post The Denver Post

Posted:

DenverPost.com

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BOULDER — On rare days CU eats the bear; most days the bear eats CU. On this late September Saturday afternoon, the Bruins consumed the Buffaloes, who customarily are the banquet meat.

Colorado was munched again, 42-14.

UCLA wasn't some common, furry brown bear that wandered into the CU student housing area and climbed up a tree, was tranquilized and hauled away.

The Bruins have turned back into a quality Pac-12 team under coach Jim Mora this season.

The Buffs are in the same conference with the Bruins, but not in the same league, or class.

"At times, we are overmatched," CU coach Jon Embree said. Practically all the time.

Check back, though, in 2014, when the bears pause in Boulder again.

The Buffaloes will be all grown up by then.

How's that for a positive Colorado spin?

For their 2012 Pac-12 home opener, the Buffs offered 10 starters who are sophomores and freshmen (true or redshirt), 24 players on their two-deep chart who are in their first two seasons and at least 48 players who could be with CU when UCLA returns in two seasons.

And, perhaps, the Folsom playing Field will be level at that time. If not, Colorado will have to reconsider — once more.

The Buffs still stumble rather carelessly (two terrible turnovers) — as we have seen this season against three schools from cities in California (Los Angeles, Sacramento and Fresno). Somehow, and don't ask anyone how, the Buffs did win in Washington state.

This is going to be a two- or three-victory season, best-case scenario, for CU, so get used to it in 2012 and, in all likelihood, 2013. Don't make postseason party reservations.

But 2014 will, and properly should, determine where the Buffs, Embree and his coaching staff stand or sit — as bear kibbles or big-game hunters.

In two years, UCLA will revisit, along with Arizona State, Oregon State, Utah and Washington. The Buffs will travel to Arizona, Cal and a couple of big dogs that eat — Oregon and USC. The 2014 nonconference schedule consists of CSU, Massachusetts and Hawaii. You'd think the Buffs could win eight games and be in a bowl not sponsored by auto parts or a lizard.

Lay off Embree until then. Lay off athletic director Mike Bohn until then. It's not happening until then. I'm more impatient than most, but Embree inherited scorched turf from coach What's-his-name & Son, and deserves to have four full years to prove himself.

The current six-season-plus stretch with 26-54 record is the worst since the Buffs were 20-56-1 from 1978-84 under Bill Mallory, Chuck Fairbanks and Bill McCartney. (Mallory and McCartney were at the team reunion over the weekend.)

As McCartney, who was given enough seasons to prove himself, and did, told me recently, the key to success at CU is recruiting, and the key to recruiting is hiring assistant coaches who can recruit. Embree surrounded himself with recruiters. He could use a couple of more assistants who can coach. I think Embree is missing an associate head coach who has been around the Pac-10 (12) for a while.

Somebody like Rick Neuheisel.

Not Rick, of course, but somebody with a similar résumé and a better grasp of matters. I suggested to CU athletic officials in the offseason that Fisher DeBerry, the former Air Force coach, be brought up to Boulder as an adviser. As usual, my recommendation was rejected. How about Paul Wulff, who was at Eastern Washington and Washington State for years before being fired. He's a quasi-offensive assistant with the 49ers. The Buffs could use a veteran's touch.

They also still need more speed at the skill positions, and they've got to find wide receivers and, certainly, a high-class quarterback who can compete in the Pac-12.

They Buffs are just too inexperience and way too ... too average.

It was evident in the first half when UCLA raced, literally, to a 21-7 lead. The CU students must not have gotten the memo that there was a football game starting at 4 p.m. Saturday. Several thousand didn't arrive until well after the game kicked off; several thousand didn't bother to arrive at all, although it was the kind of immaculate afternoon that has lured the world to live and study in this state.

Actually, the Buffs were somewhat competitive for a half against the superior Bruins, despite only 18 net yards rushing in the first half and 2-of-15 third-down conversions overall.

Afterward, Embree's news conference was televised on the mammoth scoreboard screens. His words echoed in a totally empty stadium.

On this day, like other days in the Pac-12, and the Big 12 before, the bear ate the Buffaloes.

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## UCLA's Brett Hundley evolving into an unflappable quarterback

Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — UCLA redshirt freshman quarterback Brett Hundley has a skill set wider than the San Fernando Valley. But there's one quality that first-year Bruins coach Jim Mora especially appreciates.

"The thing that's great about Brett is he's unflappable," Mora said Saturday after the Bruins' 42-14 victory over Colorado. "If there's a mistake that's been made, when he comes to the sideline he gets it corrected."

Hundley didn't make many mistakes Saturday at Folsom Field. He hit 25-of-38 passes for 281 yards and two touchdowns, without an interception.

"I can be better," Hundley said. "Not everyone's going to be perfect. But as long as we're putting points on the board, we're cool."

That's the kind of attitude any coach wants to hear.

"It's going to be really fun to watch him grow," Mora said.

Worth the wait. Colorado senior receiver Dustin Ebner, a former walk-on from Arvada West High School, finally scored his first college touchdown. He was put on scholarship for the first time this season.

On a post pattern from left to right, Ebner caught a 17-yarder from Jordan Webb with 8:18 left in the second quarter for CU's only TD of the first half.

"I was happy for him," Buffs coach Jon Embree said of Ebner. "He runs good routes and does a good job of catching the ball."

Love that L.A. area. Colorado's active roster includes 24 players from greater Los Angeles. Another nine players hail from elsewhere in California.

Even Embree has ties to Southern California. He was born in Los Angeles, though he grew up in Denver and played high school football at Cherry Creek.

Since the day he was hired by CU, his alma mater, Embree has said the most recruiting emphasis will be placed on Colorado, California and Texas.

Think pink. CU players wore pink shoes and pink gloves Saturday to acknowledge breast cancer awareness month. CU's live buffalo mascot, Ralphie, was adorned with a pink harness.

Also, CU and UCLA coaches wore "Coach to Cure MD" patches as part of the coaches association's efforts to raise awareness and funding for muscular dystrophy research.

Footnotes. CU senior linebacker Doug Rippe missed his third consecutive game because of a sprained knee suffered against Sacramento State. He returned to practice last week and was hoping to see some action. ... The touchdown pass thrown late in the game by CU backup quarterback Nick Hirschman was the first of the sophomore's career. ... The reunion of members of CU's 1970s teams included former head coach Bill Mallory and former assistant coach Jim Mora, whose son, of course, is the current UCLA head coach. Tom Kensler, The Denver Post



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images\]](#) The ESPN logo, featuring the word "ESPN" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font.

Saturday, September 29, 2012

## Hundley, Bruins crush Colorado, 42-14

By Kevin Gemmell

There would be no second-half comeback this week for the [Colorado Buffaloes](#). [Brett Hundley](#) and the [UCLA Bruins](#) saw to that.

Hundley accounted for four UCLA touchdowns, completing 24 of 37 passes for 307 yards and two touchdowns in leading the Bruins (4-1, 1-1) to a [42-14 win](#) over Colorado (1-4, 1-1). Hundley also rushed for a pair of scores.



Both of Hundley's rushing touchdowns came in the first half, helping the Bruins take a 21-7 lead at halftime before they broke the game open in the fourth quarter. After Hundley hit [Joseph Fauria](#) with an 8-yard strike late in the third to increase their lead to 28-7, the Bruins added on two more scores in the fourth quarter.

The Buffs, who shocked Washington State last week with a fourth-quarter comeback, were plagued by mistakes on both sides of the ball and managed just 83 rushing yards on 30 attempts.

Quarterback [Jordan Webb](#) was 21 of 32 for 176 yards with a touchdown and an interception -- the 17-yard scoring strike coming midway through the second quarter to [Dustin Ebner](#).

For the Bruins, it was a bounce-back victory after dropping a close home game last week to Oregon State. The Bruins sacked Webb three times and limited the Buffs to just 2 of 15 on third downs.

After a disappointing performance against the Beavers last week, UCLA running back [Johnathan Franklin](#) returned to form, carrying 15 times for 111 yards (7.4 per). He also caught three balls for 78 yards.

Franklin, however, still hasn't had a rushing touchdowns since his three-score performance in Week 1 at Rice.

latimes.com/sports/college/football/la-sp-ucla-colorado-20120930,0,786543.story

**latimes.com**

## UCLA will take 42-14 win at Colorado, leave some of the rest

**Brett Hundley, Johnathan Franklin and others have nice moments as Bruins rebound from loss to Oregon State, but uneven play and low quality of opponent give pause.**

By Chris Foster

8:30 PM PDT, September 29, 2012

BOULDER, Colo. — Ricky Marvray, a junior wide receiver for UCLA, popped out of the locker room and, bare chested, let loose a primal scream.

"I love winning," Marvray shouted to no one in particular.

That was one way to look at it.

Another?

Well, after a 42-14 win Saturday over Colorado at Folsom Field, the Bruins were left with the giddiness of victory and the somber knowledge that maybe this wasn't an effort worthy of chest pounding.

This was just what teams usually do to Colorado.

"We had some great plays out there, but we struggled a little bit," guard Jeff Baca said. "When you look at the scoreboard, it looks great."

When the Bruins look at the tape, "we will have to fix some of those mistakes," Baca said.

The numbers look right for the Bruins, who improved their record to 4-1 overall, 1-1 in Pac-12 Conference play.

Quarterback Brett Hundley completed 25 of 38 passes for 281 yards and two touchdowns. He also had touchdown runs of 12 and one yard.

The Bruins had 211 yards rushing, with Johnathan Franklin gaining 111 to pull within 365 yards of Gaston Green's UCLA career rushing record. He also caught three passes for 48 yards. His 28-yard run help set up one score. His 28-yard reception set up another.

The defense had four sacks, 12 tackles for losses, and forced two turnovers. Eric Kendricks' fumble recovery and Stan McKay's interception led to touchdowns.

Yet the job-well-done feel wasn't entirely there.

"We strive to play at the highest level, that's Bruin football," McKay said. "We weren't playing Bruin football for a while tonight."

But, they were playing Colorado.

The Buffaloes (1-4, 1-1) have lost to Sacramento State — a Football Championship Subdivision team — and were blasted by Fresno State, 69-14.

So UCLA's wandering into Boulder and rolling up points won't shock the college football world. The Buffaloes provided the Bruins time to get their footing.

"We made a lot mistakes tonight and we have to get better," Franklin said. "But I'm happy with a win."

The Bruins were on their way to a touchdown on their first drive. Then Franklin's 18-yard reception to the Colorado nine-yard line was wiped out by a holding call. Hundley was sacked and fumbled on the next play.

Another penalty wiped out Steven Manfro's 36-yard punt return late in the first quarter.

The other way to look at it was, "As long as we're putting points on the board, we're cool," Hundley said.

The Bruins were cool enough, but finished with 492 total yards, below their season average of 577.5. Fresno State had 516 yards against Colorado . . . in the first half.

Coach Jim Mora said, "You always have to give credit to the other team."

But, he added: "There were penalties, a couple dropped passes, maybe a couple quarterback reads that weren't great. It slowed us down a little bit. Fortunately we were able to gather ourselves."

UCLA wrenched control of the game in the third quarter.

Colorado's Vincent Hobbs was headed into UCLA territory after making a third-down reception. Kendricks stripped the ball from him and then recovered the fumble.

Hundley turned it into an eight-yard touchdown pass to Joseph Fauria.

Colorado quarterback Jordan Webb then threw a perfect pass . . . to McKay. He returned the interception to the Colorado 35.

Jordon James scored on a 25-yard run.

Quicker than Colorado mascot Ralphie could run around the field, a 21-7 lead became 35-7.

It was progress. A week ago, in a 27-20 loss to Oregon State, the defense forced two turnovers in the third quarter. The offense failed to score both times.

"Last week, we had a couple of take-aways and weren't able to capitalize," Mora said. "This week we got two and turned them into touchdowns. It's a big deal."





## UCLA's defense smothers Colorado

By [EARL BLOOM](#)

2012-09-29 21:01:04



BOULDER, Colo. – Colorado's football team wore pink shoes and gloves Saturday, because the Buffaloes dedicated their game against UCLA to breast-cancer awareness.

Ralphie V, the buffalo mascot, even wore more than a smattering of pink on her two mad dashes around Folsom Field.

Buffaloes quarterback Jordan Webb was properly geared in support of the cause. But he also wore UCLA outside linebackers Damien Holmes and Anthony Barr, too, as undesired accessories to his uniform – and body -- during much of the Bruins' 42-14 Pac-12

Conference victory before 46,893.

Holmes and Barr kept meeting at Webb, combining for four sacks (three by Holmes) and four hurries (three by Barr) to thoroughly frustrate Colorado's short-passing-based attack. Holmes, moving from inside linebacker to replace the injured Jordan Zumwalt, totaled five tackles for losses, and Barr had two.

"We were just trying to eat," Holmes said, speaking defender-ese, of joining Barr as a relentless pass-rusher on the edge for the Bruins. "I think a lot of it was because of the emphasis we put on effort all this week in practice. Our defensive line got after it, too."

Along the way to shaking off last week's home loss to Oregon State, the Bruins (4-1, 1-1 Pac-12) also welcomed back steady right guard Jeff Baca from a two-game absence, and rediscovered senior tailback Johnathan Franklin, who rushed for 111 yards after being silenced by the Beavers.

Franklin outgained Colorado, rushing and receiving, with 145 first-half yards to 122. And Bruins redshirt freshman Brett Hundley ran for two TDs – both set up by Franklin – and threw TD passes to Darius Bell (his first as a Bruin) and Joseph Fauria.

But defense was a huge part of the Bruins turnaround, and it didn't catch Colorado unawares.

"We knew they were going to come in here and get after us," Colorado coach Jon Embree said after the Buffaloes (1-4, 1-1 Pac-12) went only 2-of-15 on third-down conversions, averaged just 2.8 yards per rushing attempt and were held to just 65 offensive plays in a game UCLA led by 35 points before the substitutes were beckoned.

Inside linebacker Eric Kendricks said Holmes "has the biggest motor on the team. He gets everyone going."

At UCLA, outside linebackers are often found: Barr was a hybrid running back/tight end who asked for a switch to defense in the spring, and leads the Bruins with six sacks on the season. Holmes, a defensive end for three years before 2012, said it doesn't matter where he plays, just as long as he does.

"Effort is the only thing you can really control," the senior said. "I'll play wherever the coaches want me. I'm not even thinking about it."



UCLA coach Jim Mora said "it's just more natural" for Holmes to play outside in the Bruins' 3-4 alignment.

"He used to be a defensive end, he's used to playing on the end of the line of scrimmage," Mora added. "He did a nice job."

With Zumwalt – injured in a scooter accident – expected back soon, Mora said "we'll just have to figure out how to best use our personnel."

Neither Mora, who two road victories has won twice as many road games as the Bruins managed in all of 2011, nor Franklin was totally pleased by the UCLA offense.

"We made a lot of mistakes today; we have to get better," Franklin said. "I'm happy we came out with a win."

UCLA didn't take a 21-7 lead until late in the second quarter, and left a lot of first-half points on the table.

"I feel like offensively there are a lot of things we can do better," Mora said. "We hurt ourselves in the first half with penalties and drops, and by not executing, but it's a conference win on the road, so that's a good thing."

The offense did, though, convert two defensive takeaways – Kendricks' fumble recovery and an interception by Stan McKay – into third-quarter touchdowns, something the Bruins were unable to do after two takeaways against Oregon State.

"When you can do that, it's a big deal," Mora said.

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