

Colorado football: Richardson, Adkins still day-to-day

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

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Receiver Paul Richardson (sprained ankle) and tailback Michael Adkins (concussion) were both injured Saturday. Both were listed as being day-to-day, and according to CU, that status did not change on Sunday.

Richardson, who caught seven passes for 132 yards on the night, was injured late in Saturday's loss.

"Somebody rolled on top of me or I rolled my ankle," he said. "I don't know what happened. I'll get it checked out."

Richardson tweeted "Boot Life." with a photo of a walking boot on Sunday evening.

Adkins led CU with 54 rushing yards on 16 carries. He has a team-leading 369 yards this season.

No issues with effort

Although the results in Pac-12 play have been ugly, the players and coaches have liked the effort put out by the Buffaloes.

"Coach (Mike) MacIntyre was telling us how much he loved our effort," offensive lineman Alex Kelley said. "The game kind of got away from us, but we never took our foot off the pedal. We just kept going."

Wide receiver Nelson Spruce said that CU's effort against the Wildcats was encouraging.

"That is something we can build on," Spruce said. "As long as we have that, then we can keep building as a team."

Notable

Saturday was the first time in nearly two years that CU did not give up a sack. CU quarterbacks had been sacked at least once in 20 consecutive games, dating back to Arizona's previous trip to Folsom Field, in 2011. Those two games against Arizona are the only games in the last 30 that CU avoided sacks. ... CU converted 41 percent (7-for-17) of its third-down opportunities. The Buffs came in ranking 110th nationally, at 31 percent. ... In the Pac-12, Oregon (8-0), Stanford (7-1) and Oregon State (6-2) are all bowl eligible already. Arizona State (5-2), Arizona (5-2), UCLA (5-2), USC (5-3) and Washington (5-3) are just a win away from eligibility. Utah (4-4)

and Washington State (4-4) are within reach, too.

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Colorado football: Buffs face uphill climb to bowl eligibility

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Last week, Colorado head football coach Mike MacIntyre said it was important for his team to get a win against Arizona so that the Buffaloes could make November matter again in Boulder.

The final month of the season isn't officially meaningless -- in terms of bowl game implications -- but it certainly looks less important after Saturday's 44-20 loss to Arizona at Folsom Field.

At 3-4 (0-4 Pac-12), the Buffaloes need to win three of their final five games to reach bowl eligibility. Facing back-to-back road games at No. 17 UCLA (5-2, 2-2) and Washington (5-3, 2-3) in the next two weeks, CU has its back against the wall.

Including dates with Southern Cal (5-3, 2-2) and Utah (4-4, 1-4), CU might have four bowl teams to face in last five games. The Buffs also play California (1-7, 0-5).

"This game hurt us, so we definitely are going to remember this feeling," linebacker Derrick Webb said Saturday after the loss to the Wildcats (5-2, 2-2).

On Sunday, the Buffs took an unexpected day off. CU generally holds a short practice the night after a game, but made a late announcement that, for the first time this year, Sunday's practice was cancelled.

CU provided no reason for the practice being cancelled. It was clear following Saturday's game, however, that the Buffs felt the sting of this loss more than any other this season.

"It hurts because they're definitely a team we thought we could beat, so it hurts from that point," senior defensive end Chidera Uzo-Diribe said.

MacIntyre seemed to take the loss particularly hard. For the first time this year, MacIntyre was short with the media during his post-game press conference and made it clear that he had no desire to be at the podium.

He spent all of 14 seconds answering the first three questions thrown at him -- and interrupted two of those three to give a quick answer.

To MacIntyre's credit, he did stick around longer than he said he would. He initially said he would answer just three questions, but actually fielded 24. Still, it was unusual behavior for MacIntyre, who perhaps knew how costly the loss was in CU's quest to get to a bowl game

"We shoulda won the game," he said.

Because they didn't, the Buffs now face an Everest-like climb to get to bowl eligibility, and the schedule doesn't get any easier.

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