



By: Joel Broida

Wide receiver Paul Richardson hauls in a spectacular one-handed grab against Oregon.



Brooks: Buffs' Sweet Start Snuffed By No. 2 Ducks

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By: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

BOULDER – Colorado had its early moments Saturday afternoon against No. 2 Oregon, but the Buffaloes couldn't make them last into the evening. The night belonged to Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota, his hurry-up offense and his cadre of super-fast skill players.

Shrugging off early 3-0 and 10-8 deficits that might have offered Buffs fans a flickering glimpse of a shock-the-universe upset, the unbeaten Ducks won in a walk, 57-16, before 45,944 at Folsom Field.

CU coach Mike MacIntyre said he was pleased with his team's aggressive start and its perseverance: "Our young men fought from the very beginning (and) we didn't lay down . . . we dove right in the pool and started swimming. Of course, we got beat 57-16."

MacIntyre called Oregon "a very good football team . . . Oregon is extremely good every way you turn and look."

CU dropped to 2-2 overall and 0-2 in the Pac-12 Conference. The Buffs travel to Arizona State next Saturday (8 p.m. MDT, Pac-12-Network).

Oregon won its 17th consecutive road game and beat an unranked opponent for the 32nd straight time, improving to 5-0, 2-0 and staying on track for a possible shot at the BCS Championship.

The Ducks have the quarterback to make it happen. Mariota's night was finished midway through the third quarter, but he put together a full-game worth of stats: 16 completions in 27 attempts for 355 yards and five touchdowns. He also ran seven times for 43 yards and two scores.

"Their quarterback's a great player . . . a special player," MacIntyre said.

Offered Oregon coach Mark Helfrich, the former CU offensive coordinator: "Marcus is a stud. He's such a great person first and foremost and he's – by the way – an incredible football player."

But Oregon has several more of those. Tailback Byron Marshall ran 23 times for 122 yards, and two of Mariota's receivers – Bralon Addison and Josh Huff – each turned in a 100-yard receiving game and caught two TD passes. Addison had five receptions for 158 yards, while Huff snared five passes for 103 yards.

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In their first two Pac-12 games, the Buffs have surrendered 11 touchdown passes. Oregon State's Sean Mannion torched CU for a school-record six TD passes and 414 passing yards last weekend in the Beavers' 44-17 win.

Meanwhile, CU quarterback Connor Wood, attempting to rebound from a subpar performance at Oregon State, finished 11-of-33 for 205 yards, with two interceptions – his second straight two pick game.

MacIntyre said Wood “was better (Saturday) than at Oregon State, for sure,” but added, “Yeah, we could have made some more plays.” The Buffs failed to convert any of their 15 third-down attempts.

CU receiver Paul Richardson caught five passes for 134 yards and completed one pass for 75 yards and his team's only TD. The Buffs' leading rusher was Christian Powell, with 20 carries for 78 yards.

Helfrich called Richardson “impressive, a very good football player.”

Oregon, which entered the game averaging 59.8 points, rolled up 757 yards in total offense. The Ducks have outscored the Buffs 172-32 in their last three meetings.

MacIntyre's hope was that his team would be close when the second half began. The score at intermission was 43-16 – and believe it or don't, but CU did play a fairly decent first half.

The Buffs' 16 first-half points were the most the Ducks have allowed this season, and CU headed for the locker room with 318 total yards (374 for the game). On the darker side, Oregon had 415 total yards and scored on six of its eight first-half possessions.

Two of the Ducks' scoring possessions required only 38 and 12 seconds, but they were also “pushed” into their most time-consuming scoring drive of the season – 3:38.

Didn't matter; Oregon rolls either way – fast or moderately fast, but seldom slow.

MacIntyre went unconventional from the opening kickoff, calling for an on-sides kick that the Ducks recovered. But the Buffs forced a three-and-out, took possession and drove 69 yards to position Will Oliver for a 33-yard field goal that gave CU a 3-0 lead.

All around Folsom Field, cameras and cell phones took aim at the scoreboards. The Buffs were up on the second-ranked Ducks . . . a rare photo op indeed.

But that CU advantage lasted all of 1:49 – the time required for Oregon to score on its next possession. Mariota capped the 75-yard, nine-play march with a 2-yard run, then tight end Pharaoh Brown took a direct center snap and ran for the 2-point conversion.

Oregon 8, CU 3.

But it was still early enough for the Buffs to be undaunted. They responded with a 75-yard pitch-and-catch from Richardson on a flanker reverse pass to receiver D.D. Goodson. Oliver's PAT gave CU its second lead – 10-8 with 9:35 left in the first quarter.

MacIntyre, noted corner Greg Henderson, “wanted us to dive right in and play hard from the start . . . we did what we were supposed to do, but we didn't capitalize on some things and they did.”

The rest of the quarter – indeed, the rest of the half – belonged to the Ducks. An ill-advised Wood pass under pressure was picked off by Oregon corner Terrance Mitchell, resulting in a short (43 yards) seven-play drive and a 2-yard scoring run by Thomas Tyner.

The Ducks went ahead 15-10, and MacIntyre's dream of being close at the half was beginning to disintegrate. A 75-yard Mariota-to-Addison scoring pass shot Oregon in front 22-10 and preceded Wood's second interception. Mitchell got this one, too, and the Ducks quickly capitalized, with Mariota hitting Keanon Lowe for a 17-yard score that capped a 34-second possession.

CU cut into Oregon's 29-10 lead with another pair of Oliver field goals (22, 31 yards) to pull to within 29-16. But while the Buffs were getting three points a drive, the Ducks were doubling that. Their longest scoring possession of the season – 3:38 – resulted in another Mariota scoring run and a 36-16 advantage with 6:04 before intermission.

And Oregon added another TD – this one on a 4-yard Mariota-to-Huff pass – to take its 27-point (43-16) halftime lead.

Had the Buffs executed better in the half's final 5 1/2 minutes, MacIntyre might have had his close game entering the third quarter. But trailing only 15-10, Wood suffered his two interceptions and the Ducks

finished out the half with three late touchdowns while the Buffs managed two field goals.

It was not the kind of tradeoff that eventually produces an upset, and the Buffs' chances of doing that were done.

"I don't think we're down, we're disappointed," said Henderson, who ran his seasonal interception total to four with a pair of picks. "We came out hard and fought hard . . . we have to learn from this. There's still a long season ahead."

Oregon further blew it open by scoring on its first two second-half possession, with Mariota hitting Addison for a 44-yard score, then finding Huff for a 26-yarder. With 6:50 left in the third quarter, the Ducks were cruising 57-16 and had comfortably entered name-your-score mode.

CU freshman linebacker Addison Gillam, who finished with 15 tackles, a sack and two tackles for loss, said Mariota and the Ducks were "not so much tricky, just fast. They capitalize on your mistakes . . . the little things they noticed (in the Buffs lining up) they capitalized on."

A fumble recovery by CU linebacker Derrick Webb at the Oregon 10-yard line offered the Buffs a chance for a third-quarter score, but they couldn't take advantage. CU also got an end zone interception by Henderson but Wood and his offense were foiled after that turnover, too.

The game ended with Oregon's reserves poised on the CU 1-yard line, looking at first-and-goal with under a minute to play. Reserve QB Jeff Lockie (Oregon also used Jake Rodrigues in relieve of Mariota) took a knee and let time expire – no doubt a gesture of sportsmanship from Helfrich.

"I didn't really think about mercy," Helfrich said. "That's a good program, a proud program. We're not in the embarrassment business. We're not in the statistic business and we don't think about individual awards. That's not our deal."

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Colorado Buffaloes Football

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Mariota leads Oregon's rout of Colorado

Ducks quarterback throws for five touchdowns, runs for two more in 57-16 victory over Buffaloes

By ARNIE STAPLETON

The Associated Press



BOULDER, Colo. — Marcus Mariota threw five touchdown passes and ran for two scores as No. 2 Oregon brushed off some early trickery to rout Colorado 57-16 on Saturday.

The Ducks' sophomore connected for two touchdowns each with Josh Huff and Bralon Addison, and played only 2½ quarters.

The Buffaloes had Folsom Field in a frenzy when they kept things tight early on, but the crowd didn't like it when Colorado kept going for field goals while the Ducks were piling up the points.

Oregon (5-0, 2-0 Pac-12) has scored at least 55 points in all of its games under first-year coach Mark Helfrich, a former offensive coordinator at Colorado who took over when Chip Kelly left to coach the Philadelphia Eagles.

Forcing a three-and-out after the opening onside kick, a 75-yard TD toss from receiver Paul Richardson on a double-reverse and a fourth-down stop had the 40-point-underdog Buffaloes (2-2, 0-2) in the fight early.

Richardson also caught five passes for 134 yards.

The Ducks trailed for 6½ minutes, falling behind 3-0 and 10-8, and they were leading just 15-10 when they got the ball at their 25 with 2:08 left in the first quarter.

Within a minute, they were up 29-10.

Mariota dropped back and saw Addison blowing past his man, and he hit him in stride along the dejected Colorado sideline for a 75-yard touchdown.

After Terrance Mitchell's interception, Mariota connected with Keanon Lowe from 17 yards out for his second TD in 58 seconds, and the rout was on.

The Buffaloes reached the Oregon 5- and 14-yard lines on their next two drives but first-year coach Mike MacIntyre went for the field goals both times, just as he did when Colorado's first drive stalled at the Ducks 16.

Answering Oregon's touchdown machine with field goals wasn't an effective formula for an upset, but it did keep the Buffaloes from coming away empty-handed.

After Will Oliver's pair of chip shots made it 29-16, Oregon went for it on fourth down from the Buffs 27 and 1 and the Ducks converted each time.

Mariota walked it in to make it 36-16, capping a drive that took 3:38, a lifetime by the Ducks' quick-strike standards, and then he hit Huff from 4 yards out to put the Ducks ahead 43-16 at halftime.

The Ducks reached the 50-point plateau on their first drive after the break when Mariota found Addison uncovered for a 44-yard touchdown and he hit Huff from 26 yards out before calling it a night.

Mariota was 16 of 27 for 355 yards with no interceptions and one sack. Addison had 158 yards on five catches and Huff had 103 yards on five receptions.

Howell: All is not lost after CU Buffs' latest loss

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Nothing about the final score suggests that the Colorado Buffaloes were competitive on Saturday.

Yet, oddly, they were.

Maybe not competitive in the "chance to win the game" category, but for the first time in three meetings with the Oregon Ducks since 2011, Colorado made some plays, provided its fans with at least a little excitement and should actually walk away feeling OK about how it played.

If ever a team can feel OK about a 57-16 loss, this is it.

"Any game you play, you take the positive out of it," quarterback Connor Wood said. "I think we had a lot of positive things today."

Some day, the Buffaloes are going to need to get an actual win against a great team. But, considering the state of the program over the past few years, they're still in the market for moral victories, and on Saturday, they got one.

Nobody outside of the CU locker room gave the Buffs a shot to win this game. That's more a testament to the awesome power of Oregon than it is a slight to Colorado.

Oregon has pounded every team on its schedule so far, and it would have been a miracle had CU managed to stay in this thing for four quarters. As it were, the Buffaloes stayed in it for a quarter and a half. That's a quarter and a half longer than they stayed in the game against the Ducks in 2011 and 2012.

Even as Oregon kept scoring touchdowns, there was never a sense that Colorado gave up -- like so many games that felt that way a year ago. Yes, the Buffs were overmatched, but they never gave up. And, there's no shame in being overmatched by Oregon. That puts CU in the same category as 90 percent of the teams in the country.

The fact that this CU team has some fight in it should be a breath of fresh air for Buffs fans. It should also be a good sign that the Buffs weren't satisfied with that.

"I would agree with you," Wood said about the team showing some fight. "At the same time, coach (Mike) MacIntyre really said it well at the end. We're competing with them, but we have to be more pissed off in a way.

"We're not imploding. We're not having divisions starting to happen if we go down like we did last year. We're staying together as a team, which is great, but we have to keep pushing. Even if we're down a couple of touchdowns, we have to keep pushing and be kind of pissed off, which is what good teams do."

CU isn't a good team yet, but did show signs of getting there.

CU's offense made some plays against a very good Oregon defense. Sure, one of them was a trick play -- a 75-yard touchdown pass from receiver Paul Richardson to receiver D.D. Goodson -- but the Buffs still executed it. That was one of several early plays in which the Buffs tried to throw a punch at the Ducks.

"We felt like we had to come out with the shots that we felt gave us a chance to stay on them early and get the crowd into it and get our guys into it," offensive coordinator Brian Lindgren said.

The crowd was certainly into it early. In fact, CU nearly recovered a kickoff midway through the second quarter that would have given them the ball deep in Oregon territory and a chance to pull within a touchdown.

Unfortunately for the Buffs, Oregon pounced on that kickoff and ran away with the game after that.

But, for a program trying to rebuild, it shouldn't be taken lightly that the Buffs did some good things against one of the elite teams in the country.

"Of course, we got beat 57-16 and we're not happy about that one bit, but I was happy with them going out and fighting from the very beginning, believing they could win and I thought they executed some things good and I thought they fought hard," MacIntyre said.

Eventually, that won't be good enough. But, for now, it's a start, and the Buffs and their fans should take it.

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Colorado football: Paul Richardson flashes strengths, versatility

By Sarah Kuta Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Wide receiver Paul Richardson was a bright spot in Colorado's 57-16 loss to Oregon on Saturday afternoon at Folsom Field.

Late in the first quarter, Richardson made a diving, one-handed catch for a 28-yard gain while being defended by Oregon cornerback Ifo Ekpre-Okumu, who was flagged for pass interference.

Ekpre-Okumu led the Pac-12 last year with 20 pass breakups and was tied for first in the conference with six forced fumbles. Last year, Ekpre-Okumu forced 10 turnovers.

"We played a little better as the day went on, but that guy, wow, a couple of the one-handed catches," Oregon coach Mark Helfrich said of CU's standout receiver. "That guy's impressive. A very good football player."

Richardson finished the game with 134 receiving yards, and proved he can pass, too. Early in the first quarter, CU quarterback Connor Wood pitched the ball to Richardson, who then threw to D.D. Goodson for a 75-yard touchdown.

That play gave Colorado its second and final lead over Oregon, 10-8, but more also showed Richardson's versatility.

"He was good as a passer," Colorado coach Mike MacIntyre said. "We've been working on that (play) hard. We timed that out really well and we thought it had chance to come open and it did. He did a good job. It was a great pass, great execution."

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Football: Buffs' Ryan Severson in return role

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

True freshman Ryan Severson seems to have taken a hold on the job at the Buffs' deep return man on kickoffs.

On Saturday, he had his best game, with 134 yards on five returns -- an average of 26.8 per return.

"I have a lot more confidence in me now, so I'm doing great," Severson said. "Coach has really allowed me to take the role, so I'm just going out there and returning kicks and loving it."

Severson tweaked his hamstring late in the game and was replaced by Michael Adkins, but Severson said he'll be OK for next week.

Notable

Defensive Chidera Uzo-Diribe had his fourth forced fumble of the season. He has nine in his career, two shy of the CU career record (Brian Cabral had 11 from 1974-77). ... Freshman linebacker Addison Gillam had 15 tackles. Gillam has 48 tackles in four games. ... Punter Darragh O'Neill had five punts downed inside the 20. ... CU became the first team this season to score on four different possessions against Oregon. ... CU's 374 yards in total offense is the most allowed by Oregon this season. ... CU was in the lead for 6:29. Coming in, Oregon had trailed for just 3:15 all season.

Colorado football: Powell proves himself worthy of starting spot

By Sarah Kuta Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

After true freshman Michael Adkins II rushed 14 times for 98 yards last week against Oregon State, sophomore running back Christian Powell didn't need any other motivation to play well against Oregon and hang on to his starting spot on the depth chart.

Powell rushed 20 times for 81 yards against Oregon, and though it wasn't enough to help the Buffs win, the performance gave Powell renewed confidence in himself.

"I knew eventually I would have to get myself going," Powell said. "I've been working on it all week. Just little fundamentals as far as getting my pads down, getting my feet up. I feel like that's what I had to do all week and it kind of carried over to the game."

Colorado coach Mike MacIntyre said he and other coaches sat down with Powell and asked him what kind of runs "fit him best." MacIntyre said he thought they found a niche for Powell against Oregon.

But there's nothing like a little healthy competition to get a player moving, MacIntyre added.

"Competition always lights a fire," he said. "I've always said the better players you have, the more you have, and the more guys that can play, then you're going to keep competing and playing. That's beneficial for us."

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Signal-caller struggling in Pac-12 play with four picks in two games

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Despite a couple of subpar games in a row, the Colorado Buffaloes are still confident in Connor Wood.

On Saturday, the junior quarterback completed just 11 of 33 passes for 205 yards and two interceptions in a 57-16 loss to Oregon at Folsom Field.

That came on the heels of a 44-17 loss to Oregon State on Sept. 28, when Wood completed just 14 of 34 passes for 146 yards, two interceptions and two touchdowns.

"Yeah, Connor is our guy," CU offensive coordinator Brian Lindgren said. "He played really well for us the first two weeks. This week, he's had his ups and downs. He's got to keep improving and we've got to make that evaluation with what's best, but he's our guy.

"We have confidence in him and we're going to run with him until we determine that he doesn't give us the best chance to win."

Wood, in his first season as the starter, got off to a great start this season. Through two games, he completed 68.3 percent of his passes (56 of 82) for 741 yards and six touchdowns. He was among the top 10 quarterbacks in the country in yards per game.

Since Pac-12 play started, though, he has completed just 37.3 percent of his throws (25 of 67) for 351 yards and two touchdowns.

Saturday was the third game in a row that he threw two interceptions.

"You almost have to be (perfect against Oregon)," Wood said. "We came into the game knowing we have to eliminate our turnovers and we didn't do that tonight. So, we have to find ways to get better next week."

On one of his interceptions, Wood was being chased by an Oregon defender and he appeared to be trying to throw the ball away. It got picked off instead.

"There are some decisions in the game that you'd love to have back," Lindgren said.

More than anything, Lindgren said, the Buffs need more production from Wood on third down. The Buffs were 0-for-15 on third downs Saturday, after going 2-for-15 a week earlier. Wood agrees that has to improve.

"We have to convert on third downs," Wood said. "We're just going to keep working on that. If you're going to pin-point some things that we're going to work on this week: third-down conversions, limit the turnovers and also score in the red zone."

With very little experience behind Wood -- Sefo Liufau, Jordan Gehrke and Stevie Joe Dorman have thrown a combined zero passes at the Division I college level -- the Buffs still feel Wood is the best option. But, there's no question they'd like to see him return to his form from the first two weeks.

"He made some big throws for us, but he's just got to be more consistent," Lindgren said.

"He's got to do a better job.

"He's just got to be more consistent."

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Colorado football: Buffs family turns out to honor Bill McCartney

By Sarah Kuta Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Former coach Bill McCartney didn't anticipate seeing so many familiar faces at Folsom Field.

Nearly 100 former players turned out Saturday to honor "Coach Mac" -- the winningest coach in school history -- who will be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame this December.

"It choked me up," McCartney said after being recognized on the field at halftime during the Buffs' 57-16 loss to No. 2 Oregon. "It's hard to find words. I've been out of coaching 19 years, so I hadn't seen them. I just lost it. I love these guys."

The words "Coach Mac" were emblazoned across both 25-yard lines on the field -- a friendly reminder of Colorado's past success as the Buffs struggled to keep pace with the Ducks.

McCartney joins six former Buffs in the Hall of Fame, and is the first Colorado coach to be inducted. He was 93-55-5 in 13 seasons at CU, and coached the Buffs to their first and only national championship. McCartney also led Colorado to three Big 8 conference titles in 1989, 1990 and 1991.

McCartney became Colorado's 20th head coach on June 9, 1982, and in the thirteen years that followed, he coached CU in nine bowl games, more than any coach in school history. McCartney retired in 1995 after the Buffs' 41-24 Fiesta Bowl win over Notre Dame.

Throughout Saturday's game, the top five Mac moments were played on the field's video boards, including the Buffs' 1985 21-17 win over Oregon.

McCartney, who lives in the Denver metro area but still attends Cornerstone Church in Boulder, said he's still amazed at how it feels to be on campus.

"I love this place," he said. "There's no place like Boulder. Of all the college campuses I've ever been on, this is the pacesetter."

McCartney reminded the halftime crowd that in his first three seasons at Colorado, he won just seven games. But then-athletic director Bill Marolt renewed his contract anyway, and because of that "everything changed," he said.

The group of former players formed a huddle around McCartney and spontaneously broke into the Colorado fight song.

Rick Wheeler, who was part of McCartney's first recruiting class and played quarterback from 1983 to 1987, remembered that the early years were tough but taught him and his fellow teammates about perseverance and dedication.

"When we came here, we weren't highly recruited but we were committed to turning the program around," Wheeler said. "We embodied a lot of the qualities that you needed to do that. It was a great time and we got the program turned back around and headed in the right direction."

Boulder High graduate and Colorado football alum Ariel Solomon said even after playing six years in the NFL, the 1990 national title game is still the highlight of his career.

Solomon said he wasn't surprised to see so many former teammates show up to honor their coach. McCartney often talked to them in the locker room and during practice about being more than just a team, and that held true more than 20 years later.

"He was a great motivator and he taught us how to come together," Solomon said. "That's why there are so many people here today because we became a family. That's really what he taught us. I think that's why so many guys have come back. It's like a big family reunion."

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Colorado football: No. 2 Ducks topple Buffs

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Give the Colorado football team this much at least: It chose not to die a slow death against the No. 2 Oregon Ducks on Saturday at Folsom Field.

When a bully comes to town, you punch him in the mouth, which is exactly what coach Mike MacIntyre chose to do from the opening kickoff.

The Buffaloes tried to surprise the Ducks with an onside kick to start the game. It didn't work, but it set a different tone and made for a much more competitive and entertaining first half before Oregon ultimately pulled away to win 57-16.

"We talked about, 'Don't stick your toe in the water.' You know how sometimes the pool is cold?" MacIntyre said. "You go, 'I don't know if I want to get in.' Well you can do that with Oregon. You know, 'Do I want to go play?' We dove right in the pool and we started swimming.

"... I was pleased with how hard we played. I was pleased with our fight. I was pleased with our aggressiveness. I thought we did some good things."

While the Buffs had plenty to feel good about in the early going, the aggressive approach they chose to take led to Oregon piling up 755 yards of total offense, the second most by an opponent in CU history.

For the second week in a row, CU had more than its share of missed opportunities players and coaches will surely lament. Perhaps their biggest failure was executing on third downs offensively. CU went 0-for-15.

The Buffs (2-2 overall, 0-2 Pac-12) surprisingly took a 3-0 lead on a 33-yard Will Oliver field goal less than 3 minutes into the game. It was one of three field goals from Oliver in the game, but the Buffs knew settling for field goals wasn't going to lead to a victory over the Ducks, who came in averaging 59.8 points per game.

"I felt like if we would have kept coming away with nothing, that might have deflated us," MacIntyre said. "I felt that gave us a little bit of energy."

Third down is a quarterback's down and while CU junior Connor Wood made some good throws in the game, he finished 11 of 33 for 205 yards and two interceptions. It is the second week in a row he has failed to complete at least 50 percent of his passes.

Meanwhile, his counterpart, Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota accounted for seven touchdowns against the Buffs, passing for five and rushing for two in just 21/2 quarters of playing time. He completed 16 of 27 passes for 355 yards.

The highlight of the day from the CU perspective came in the first quarter. The Buffs brought a crowd of 45,944 to its feet when wide receiver Paul Richardson threw a touchdown pass to fellow wide receiver D.D. Goodson on a well-designed trick play that covered 75 yards.

The Buffs became the first team in the past two years to hold two separate leads over the Ducks in regulation. CU led 10-8 but it didn't last long and once the Buffs lost the lead, they never regained it. Oregon (5-0, 2-0) outscored them 49-6 the rest of the way.

"Knowing that we can play a good first quarter or play a good first half isn't enough," Richardson said. "We need to put four quarters together and we have to be able to finish games."

Richardson made five catches in the game for 134 yards, including a highlight reel one-handed grab against cornerback Ifo Ekpre-Okolomu, who is considered perhaps the best cornerback in the nation.

Colorado has now lost 10-straight Pac-12 Conference games. The Buffs are 3-17 since joining the conference prior to the 2011 season.

Saturday's loss was the 15th time in 20 Pac-12 games the Buffs have lost by 25 or more points.

Contact staff writer Kyle Ringo at ringok@dailycamera.com or twitter.com/kyleringo.

Oregon 57, Colorado 16

Oregon 29 14 14 0--57

Colorado 10 6 0 0--16

First Quarter

Col -- FG Oliver 33, 12:02.

Ore -- Mariota 2 run (Brown run), 10:13.

Col -- Goodson 75 pass from Richardson (Oliver kick), 9:35.

Ore -- Tyner 2 run (Wogan kick), 4:55.

Ore -- Addison 75 pass from Mariota (Maldonado kick), 1:54.

Ore -- Lowe 17 pass from Mariota (Wogan kick), :56.

Second Quarter

Col -- FG Oliver 22, 13:24.

Col -- FG Oliver 31, 9:48.

Ore -- Mariota 1 run (Maldonado kick), 6:04.

Ore -- Huff 4 pass from Mariota (Wogan kick), :57.

Third Quarter

Ore -- Addison 44 pass from Mariota (Maldonado kick), 10:39.

Ore -- Huff 26 pass from Mariota (Wogan kick), 6:50.

A -- 45,944.

Ore Col

First downs 31 15

Rushes-yards 62-349 36-94

Passing 406 280

Comp-Att-Int 19-34-2 12-34-2

Return Yards (-1) 5

Punts-Avg. 3-40.7 8-40.8

Fumbles-Lost 2-1 0-0

Penalties-Yards 5-41 2-20

Time of Possession 31:54 28:06

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING -- Oregon, Marshall 23-122, Forde 9-82, Mariota 7-43, Tyner 10-30, Huff 2-23, C.Allen 0-14, Lockie 2-12, Rodrigues 3-10, Roseberry 1-7, Cassell 1-6, Bassett 3-1, Team 1-(minus 1). Colorado, Powell 20-78, Adkins 6-18, T.Jones 3-5, Abron 1-1, Goodson 1-0, C.Wood 5-(minus 8).

PASSING -- Oregon, Mariota 16-27-0-355, Rodrigues 1-4-1-37, Lockie 2-3-1-14. Colorado, C.Wood 11-33-2-205, Richardson 1-1-0-75.

RECEIVING -- Oregon, Addison 5-158, Huff 5-103, Tyner 2-29, Marshall 2-17, C.Allen 1-37, Brown 1-24, Lowe 1-17, Mundt 1-13, Delaney 1-8. Colorado, Richardson 5-134, Spruce 3-36, Goodson 1-75, Adkins 1-20, Slavin 1-8, S.Irwin 1-7.

No. 2 Oregon races away from Colorado in 57-16 victory

By John Henderson The Denver Post The Denver Post

Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — If Mike MacIntyre is looking for little steps in returning Colorado to respectability, he found some Saturday. Unfortunately, second-ranked Oregon doesn't take little steps. It stomps and kicks and sprints to numbers as gaudy as its uniforms and facilities.

The Buffaloes fell in line with the Ducks' other bludgeoned victims this season, getting blasted 57-16 at Folsom Field. Colorado showed some moxie, pulling out tricks from a bag frustrated Buffs didn't know existed the last few years.

But eventually, the onside kick to open the game, the bomb to Paul Richardson on the first play and Richardson's 75-yard pass for Colorado's first touchdown eventually got overrun by the Ducks' pinball machine of an offense.

The nation's second-highest-scoring team rolled up 755 yards, the second-most in Oregon history and second-most given up in Colorado history. Sophomore Marcus Mariota solidified his Heisman Trophy candidacy with a personal-best seven TDs: five passing and two running.

"He's really, really good," MacIntyre said. "That was a stupid statement."

Oregon's speed, which comes at opponents like NASCAR on grass, is pretty obvious. The Buffaloes (2-2, 0-2 Pac-12), 39½-point underdogs, couldn't compete man for man, so they used their No. 1 man.

The onside kick didn't work. However, Connor Wood's 55-yard pass to Richardson set up a field goal that put Oregon (5-0, 2-0) behind for the second time all season. When Richardson took an end around and threw a strike to D.D. Goodson, who outran the world on a 75-yard TD for a 10-8 lead, Oregon trailed for the third time all season.

"We talked about 'don't stick your toe in the water,' " MacIntyre said. "You know the pool sometimes is cold? You're, 'Oh, I don't know if I want to get in'? You can't do that with Oregon.

"We dived right in the pool. And we started swimming."

However, these guys may be Ducks, but they play like sharks. Mariota was simply magnificent. When he wasn't throwing a 75-yard touchdown to Bralon Addison for a 22-10 lead in the first quarter, he was using sleight of hand a magician would envy to waltz in untouched for two touchdowns.

Oregon is the biggest slaughterhouse since the Chicago stockyards. Since the start of last year, Mariota has appeared in the fourth quarter in only four games. By the time he finished

16-of-27 for 355 yards and five touchdowns, he was on the bench with 6:50 left in the third quarter.

Of Oregon's eight TD drives, only two lasted two minutes.

"At first we were doing pretty well," said Colorado linebacker Addison Gillam, the Pac-12's leading tackler, who added 15 to his total. "Then as the game got on and they got faster, we still did pretty good, but there were little things they kept noticing and capitalized on."

Colorado's offense improved from its moribund performance at Oregon State the week before. The Buffs had 318 yards by halftime before Oregon stiffened and Richardson, the nation's leader in receiving yards per game, had 134 more on five catches.

But the Buffs were awful on third down. They went a school-record zip-for-15. Wood was 0-for-11 with an interception on his way to 11-of-33 for 205 yards and two picks.

"We had a few problems on third down," MacIntyre said. "They caused a few of them. We missed a few. We dropped a couple."

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Key play

After taking a 22-10 lead on Marcus Mariota's 75-yard bomb to Bralon Addison, cornerback Terrance Mitchell stepped in front of Paul Richardson and intercepted a quick out pass at the Buffaloes' 26. Two plays later, Mariota found Keanon Lowe on a 17-yard TD for a commanding 29-10 advantage in the first quarter.

Key stat

Oregon, third nationally in total offense, had 415 yards — in the first half. It led to a 43-16 halftime lead.

John Henderson, The Denver Post

755

Total yards for Oregon on Saturday against Colorado. The Buffs added 374 total yards for a combined 1,129. The Ducks had 262 yards in the first quarter and scored 29 points; CU had 231 yards and 10 points. Oregon finished with 415 yards in the first half, while CU had 318. The Buffs, however, were limited to 56 yards and no points in the second half.

CU Briefs: Buffs' Christian Powell has strong game against Oregon

By John Henderson and Terry Frei The Denver Post The Denver Post

Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — Colorado's tailback is back.

Christian Powell, the returning starter who was hampered by a thigh bruise and low production, had his welcome-back game Saturday against the No. 4 scoring defense in the country.

The sophomore rushed for 78 yards on 20 carries in Colorado's 57-16 loss to second-ranked Oregon. The 78 yards almost matched his season total of 85 through three games.

"We sat down with him and said, 'What runs fit you the best?' " Colorado coach Mike MacIntyre said. "We felt some of them did and utilized him in different ways."

Prodding him back to his productive self was true freshman Michael Adkins II, who started Saturday after debuting with 98 yards the week before at Oregon State.

"I knew eventually I'd have to get myself going, and I had been working on it all week," Powell said. "It's the little fundamentals as far as getting my pads down, getting my feet up."

Mac's moments. Bill McCartney, the Buffs' coach from 1982-94, was honored at halftime in part to commemorate his upcoming December induction into the College Football Hall of Fame. More than 100 of his former players were present, and five of the top "Mac Moments" in his tenure were played on the scoreboard.

No. 5 came from another CU-Oregon game. It was Mickey Pruitt's sack of Oregon quarterback Chris Miller — who briefly was with the Broncos during his NFL career — that preserved the Buffs' 21-17 victory over the Ducks in 1985 in Boulder.

The other CU representatives in the Hall of Fame are Byron "Whizzer" White, Joe Romig, Dick Anderson, Bobby Anderson, Alfred Williams and John Wooten.

Squibbed. Colorado was last nationally in kickoff return defense. It solved the problem by squibbing kicks most of the game. Oregon had only three returns for 5 yards.

Meanwhile, Colorado's moribund return game received a boost from freshman Ryan Severson, who had five for 134 yards, including a long of 30.

Good and bad. Since the start of the 2004 season, Colorado is 3-32 against ranked teams. Its last win over a ranked team was a 34-30 win over No. 17 Kansas in 2009.

Oregon has won 32 straight over unranked teams by an average score of 52-17. Its last loss to an unranked team was 52-41 against Stanford in 2009.

Injuries. Colorado's lone injury was to defensive tackle Josh Tupou, who sprained an ankle.

Hoops. Coach Tad Boyle and the Colorado men's basketball team congregated on the north goal line and were introduced during the break after the first quarter, drawing a nice hand.

Former CU Buffs coach Bill McCartney honored at halftime

By Terry Frei The Denver Post The Denver Post
Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — Bill McCartney, the Buffs' coach from 1982-94, was honored at halftime in part to commemorate his upcoming December induction into the College Football Hall of Fame. More than 100 of his former players were present, and five of the top "Mac Moments" in his tenure were played on the scoreboard.

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First-quarter numbers. With Oregon so capable of quick strikes, time of possession is only marginally relevant as the measure of a game's competitiveness when the Ducks are involved. But the Buffaloes actually had 7:38 of possession time and 231 yards of total offense in the first quarter. Problem was, Oregon had put up 262 yards and taken a 29-10 lead.

Road warriors. The Ducks had a sizable fan contingent in Folsom, almost reminiscent of when Nebraska fans showed up in red and in huge numbers. And they saw the Ducks get their 17th consecutive road victory.



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The simple search for UO students.

Oregon vs. Colorado: Oregon secondary battles against Colorado's star wide receiver Paul Richardson



Oregon junior defensive back Terrance Mitchell (27) secures an interception against the Colorado Buffaloes during the first quarter. The No. 2 Oregon Ducks play the Colorado Buffaloes at Folsom Field in Boulder, Co. on Oct. 5, 2013. (Michael Arellano/Emerald)

Posted by [Beth Maiman](#) on Saturday, Oct. 5 at 8:30 pm.

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Heading into Oregon's game today against Colorado, one of the biggest match-ups to watch was star wide receiver Paul Richardson against the Ducks' secondary, led by cornerbacks Terrance Mitchell and Ifo Ekpre-Olomu.

And all it took was Colorado's first offensive play of the game to prove why.

The junior wide receiver, who leads the nation in receiving yards per game with 162.3, beat Mitchell down the sideline to catch a 55-yard pass from quarterback Connor Wood to put the Buffaloes in scoring position at Oregon's 30-yard line.

The talent of Richardson appeared to be the first true challenge for Oregon's secondary so far this season.

"We got tested, they did make a few plays, we just got to learn from them," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said that after what happened in the first quarter today, the team will take this as a learning experience coming into the next game and the rest of the season, but both Oregon cornerbacks couldn't deny that Richardson's talent was some of the best they have ever faced.

"I can't knock him, he did good," Mitchell said. "He (Richardson) was a little better than I expected."

Mitchell also stated that he couldn't even make up an excuse for the first play to Richardson and said he needs to be locked in.

Mitchell was able to redeem getting beat on the first play of the game by picking off two of Wood's passes today. However, the junior from Sacramento, Calif. wasn't completely satisfied.

"As a competitor, I rather have zero completions than picks. Picks are important but I would of rather held him to zero catches," Mitchell said.

Ekpre-Olomu agreed and stated that Richardson was one of the best down-field receivers he has ever faced.

"I thought he was a good receiver. They put him in ways that he can get the ball in the open field and made it difficult on our defensive backs. He is a good receiver, so far one of the best that I have played this year," Ekpre-Olomu said.

Defensive coordinator Nick Aliotti echoed that the team did not come out as focused as he would of hoped.

"We didnt start very well," Aliotti said. "I don't know if we had their full attention, there's no excuse about that."

However, Aliotti stated that at halftime he had some words for the team, urging them to wake up and reminding them that this is not how they play.

The wake up call seemed to work and Oregon held the Buffaloes to four first downs and 56 yards in the second half.

"I was not happy with the way it started, but all in all ... the third down defense was really good ... the red zone defense was really good. We settled down and we got their attention."

Allioti said that he always encourages his unit to not even get into red-zone situations and to shut every team down, but realized that in the tough game of football that is not always realistic.

"I'd love for us to think that we want to shut everybody out and not let them score at all, but in today's football game it's hard ... it's such a spread game that all it takes is one great athlete beating another great athlete, and that Paul Richardson was a really good football player. He had a really great game and he played well."



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The simple search for UO students.

Ducks defeat Buffaloes in first Pac-12 road game



Oregon sophomore wide receiver Bralon Addison (11) hauls in a long pass from Oregon sophomore quarterback Marcus Mariota (8). Addison would complete the carry for a touchdown during the first half. The No. 2 Oregon Ducks play the Colorado Buffaloes at Folsom Field in Boulder, Co. on Oct. 5, 2013. (Michael Arellano/Emerald)

Posted by [Lindsey Tucker](#) on Saturday, Oct. 5 at 6:30 pm.

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Oregon adds to its streak of games with 50 plus points, making it five after trampling over Colorado 57-16.

45,944 fans were in attendance at Folsom Field as it started out at 61 degrees with blue skies.

The game started out in the Buffaloes' favor, putting the first points on the board with a 33-yard field goal. Oregon answered with a touchdown from quarterback Marcus Mariota. The Ducks then went for a two-point conversion and scored. The Buffaloes received the ball next, and quarterback Connor Wood handed the ball to Michael Adkins, who tossed to Paul Richardson, who then threw 75-yards to fellow wideout D.D. Goodson. The touchdown brought the score to 10-3.

However, after that, the Ducks continued to lead on the scoreboard until the final buzzer.

Tight end Colt Lyerla did not travel with the team to Boulder after serving a one game suspension, so backup Pharaoh Brown took over and caught his first reception of the season after recovering from surgery.

De'Anthony Thomas still remains sidelined for the Ducks after an ankle sprain during the California game. He was dressed in uniform, but also with a boot on his right ankle. Byron Marshall and Thomas Tyner took over for the running back position. Marshall ran for 122 yards and Tyner added 30 yards.

Colorado completed its 16 points all during the first half, which included one touchdown and three field goals.

Colorado's Richardson leads the nation in yards received per game with 162.3 before playing the Ducks. However, Oregon held him to just 134 yards.

"We played a little better as the day went on, but that guy, wow, a couple of those one-handed catches. That guy's impressive; a very good football player," Oregon head coach Mark Helfrich said of Richardson.

In the third quarter, Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota completed a pass to Bralon Addison for a 44-yard touchdown, bringing the score to 50-16 after Alejandro Maldonado's kick. Addison led the game in receiving with 158 yards.

Mariota then completed a 26-yard pass to wide receiver Josh Huff after tugging his way into the end zone to score another touchdown for the Ducks.

Huff completed the 100th reception in his career with his second reception of the game from Mariota. Huff added three more receptions to his résumé after the 100 mark, totaling five catches for 103 yards.

Mariota would finish the game with 355 passing yards and seven total touchdowns. Mariota has thrown 14 touchdown passes this season without any interceptions.

The Honolulu native's seven touchdowns are a career high for the sophomore.

"As a whole unit, us guys, we've gotten better with Marcus since last year," Addison said of Mariota. "Last year, you saw a lot of times where we would disconnect on things, and I think the past off-season we worked with Marcus a lot and I think it's going to pay off. We continue to get better each week.

"That guy can do some amazing things with his legs, and he has a great arm to compliment those legs. He just improvises out there, and it's kind of like he's playing a video game."

Helfrich replaced the starters with the back-up players during the third quarter, including Jeff Lockie who took over for Mariota. Lockie then threw an intercepted pass intended for Eric Dungy. It was the first interception of the season for the Ducks. Oregon previously led the nation with zero interceptions.

Both Lockie and Jake Rodrigues split reps until the game's end, but the two combined for two interceptions.

Oregon finished out the night with its back-ups racking up time as it completed its first Pac-12 road game overcoming the Buffaloes and accumulating 756 yards of total offense.

"We're 5-0, that's our best statistic, and we haven't played remotely to what we can in any phase in any game, so that's encouraging. The guys we have on this team are excited to get better, excited to come to work and get better on Monday," Helfrich said.