



By: CUBuffs.com

Dal Ward was a three-year letterwinner for Oregon State (left) before coaching Colorado from 1948-58.



Dal Ward Had Oregon State Roots Prior To CU Arrival

Release: September 23, 2013

By: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

Related Links

BOULDER – Dal Ward’s name is attached to one of the most prominent buildings in University of Colorado athletics, and it could just as easily occupy a position of prominence on the campus of the Buffs’ first Pac-12 Conference opponent.

[Buy Tickets](#)

[Gameday](#)

[Dal Ward CU Athletic Hall of Fame](#)

Ward, the Buffs’ football coach for 11 seasons (1948-58) and a CU athletic administrator for another 12 years, holds the distinction of Hall of Fame membership at two schools – CU and Oregon State. The Buffs open 2013 Pac-12 play Saturday (1 p.m. MT, Pac-12 Network) against the Beavers in Corvallis.

In his tenure as CU’s coach, Ward directed the school into the Big Seven Conference, which evolved into the Big Eight and finally the Big 12. Wins and losses usually define a coach’s success, and Ward was unquestionably successful by that measure; his record of 63-41-6 included the school’s first bowl win (27-21 against Clemson in the 1957 Orange Bowl).

But numbers didn’t define Ward. Below the large etching of him in the lobby of CU’s Dal Ward Athletic Center is this inscription: “Son, you are here to get an education and play football, in that order.”

Ward’s players knew he meant it, and most never forgot it.

“He valued education,” said his daughter Barbara Ward Spengler, one of Ward’s five children who grew up in Boulder and will be among about 15 family members in attendance Saturday in Reser Stadium. “He was a wonderful father. He was strict with us and people on the outside might have thought of him as rough and gruff, but most of his players thought of him as a father figure.”

At a family reunion on what would have been Ward’s 100th birthday – Aug. 11, 2006 – his only grandson, Brian Kettler of Denver, remembered his grandfather like this:

“As much as life is full of people who make excuses, life is full of people who do not embody what they talk about. What I’ve learned about Dal, he was not this way. I assume his uncommonly favorable legacy comes from his understanding of this

principle. People have told me that Dal was this type of man who spoke with a great deal of authority, an authority that I want to believe came from his own experience of the principles he valued.

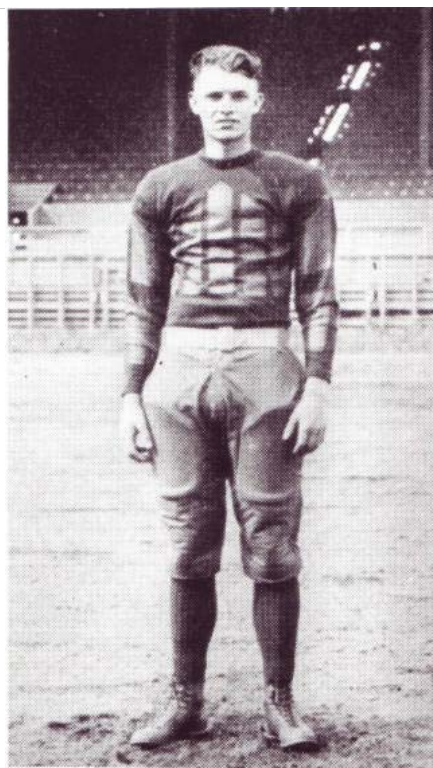
“For instance, as a coach, he could tell his players not to make excuses, because he lived this way; he could tell his players to work hard, because he lived this way; and he could tell his players to be honest because he lived this way. There is incredible power in a life arranged in this manner. It's the way I want to live and I'm grateful for the legacy in this regard.”

Under Ward, the Buffs finished second in the Big Seven twice and third four times. He was credited with revitalizing the CU football program, and at the end of his coaching career he became an assistant athletic director overseeing facilities as well as teaching in the physical education department.

Given a letter of recommendation by Knute Rockne, Ward had begun his teaching/coaching career in Minneapolis at Marshall High School and later joined the football staff at the University of Minnesota (1936). The Gophers didn't forget him; after CU won the '57 Orange Bowl, Minnesota and Southern California approached him about filling head coaching vacancies.

Because of his fondness for Boulder and a belief that CU's coming seasons would be even more successful, Ward declined. His 1956 team had finished 8-2-1, but his 1957 and 1958 teams were 6-3-1 and 6-4, respectively. And in January of 1959, the school's Board of Regents asked for Ward's resignation. He refused, the regents reconsidered, then apparently bowed to outside pressure and upheld their original decision.

“After he was fired, he was offered a couple of other opportunities but he wanted to stay in Boulder,” said Barbara Ward Spengler, a CU alumna who now lives in Lander, Wyo. “CU was deep in his heart. We thought it was ironic, because after dad came (coach) Sonny Grandelius and the slush fund (1959-61) and then Bud Davis for a year (1962). But we never felt he was bitter against CU. He stayed on and taught and had tenure as a professor.”



Ward

Dal Ward is a member of Oregon State's Hall of Fame, playing for the Beavers from 1924-26
Photo Courtesy: Oregon State Sports Information



Dal Ward was 63-41-6 as Colorado's coach from 1948-58.

Ward's CU legacy earned him induction into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 1985 and CU's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008. In 1997, Oregon State inducted him into its Hall of Fame, citing his three-sport (football, basketball, baseball) career in the mid-1920s. He earned the distinction of being a team captain in all three sports, was awarded 11 letters and was honored with membership in five organizations for his academic achievements.

Barbara Ward Spengler said her father, who died in 1983, grew up “in a fairly poor family” on Oregon's eastern slope. “His father was a sheepherder and getting an education meant a lot to (Dal). It was a wonderful opportunity for him to go to college . . . to excel was nice, too.”

Four of Ward's children – Barbara, Mary, Martha and Mark – will be traveling to OSU for Saturday's game, along with two or three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. All but one is a CU grad.

Four members of the extended Ward family live in Corvallis but, according to Barbara Ward Spengler, all are fervent Buffs fans. She said their friends in Corvallis are certain where their

allegiance is on every fall weekend – except this one: “They’ll be wearing their Black and Gold on Saturday and they said everyone understands.”

NOTABLE: After a weekend off, the Buffs returned to practice Monday morning to continue their preparations for Saturday’s matchup against Oregon State. Head coach Mike MacIntyre admitted to the media after practice that slowing down a team with the nation’s third-ranked passing attack will be a tough challenge for his defense. He said Beavers quarterback Sean Mannion “makes a lot of great plays. We just have to try to keep them at bay and hopefully we can disrupt that passing game.” . . . MacIntyre watched Oregon State’s win over San Diego State on Saturday from his home and was impressed with what he saw offensively from the Beavers. He believes Oregon State’s consistently high scoring offense is a testament to long-time head coach Mike Riley and his coaching staff. “They do a great job,” MacIntyre said. “They’re stable and those kids want to be successful.” . . . MacIntyre acknowledged that the team’s three-week layoff between games in the middle of the season is the longest such layoff of his coaching career. “I’ve never had a break this long during the season and I never want it to happen again,” MacIntyre said. “It kind of reminds me of bowl time. I’d rather be playing games. I’d like to have a week off but not three.” . . . MacIntyre is happy that the team has not used the extended layoff as an excuse to relax. “In our situation I think (this situation) has actually motivated them,” MacIntyre said. “I have not seen them slack off or miss meetings or be late or not hustle in practice.” . . . MacIntyre also announced that freshman defensive lineman Timothy Coleman, Jr. has a torn Achilles and will have surgery, therefore missing the remainder of the season. Coleman did not play in the team’s first two games . . . CU’s Oct. 5 home game against Oregon will kick off at 4 p.m. and be televised by the Pac-12 Network.

Contact: BG.Brooks@Colorado.EDU

Colorado Buffaloes Football

Show Menu



Colorado football: Oregon State QB Sean Mannion presents problems for Buffs

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Colorado's defense might have caught a break when its game against Fresno State was canceled last week.

Fresno State quarterback Derek Carr is torching the opposition and the school has since launched a web site to promote their star as a Heisman Trophy candidate.

Of course, CU doesn't exactly have an easy task this week, either. On Saturday, the Buffs (2-0) open Pac-12 play with a visit to Oregon State (3-1, 1-0 Pac-12).

Beavers quarterback Sean Mannion may not have the résumé or reputation that Carr has, but he's been one of the country's best quarterbacks so far this season. In fact, his numbers are better than those of Carr.

Mannion leads the nation in both passing yards (1,604) and passing touchdowns (15). He has completed 71.5 percent of his throws (133 of 186), tossed just one interception and his 169.5 efficiency rating ranks 12th in the country.

"Sean makes a lot of great plays and (receivers Brandin Cooks and Richard Mullaney) are really, really good football players that make big, big-time plays," CU head coach Mike MacIntyre said. "We've got to keep them at bay and hopefully disrupt their passing game."

The 6-foot-5 Mannion has been the engineer of the passing game. His numbers are staggering for a player who wasn't announced as the starter until a few days before the season opener. Mannion battled with senior Cody Vaz for the starting job throughout the offseason, and even for most of last year.

"At the time, obviously (battling for the job) was tough," Mannion said last week on The Fan 1080-AM in Portland, Ore., "but I think in the end it's made me a better player. I think I've learned to take care of what I can control and not worry about everything else."

Mannion had a nice season in 2011, but a combination of ineffectiveness and injury forced him to split time with Vaz a year ago. Mannion threw 15 touchdown passes last year, but also 13 interceptions.

So far this year, Mannion has looked like a much different player, leading an offense that averages 41.0 points per game.

"He's confident, he's seeing things real well, been making good decisions," OSU head coach Mike Riley told ESPN.com. "He's been very accurate with the ball."

For the Beavers, that's been a welcomed change. While Mannion came into the year with 18 starts under his belt, he also had 31 career interceptions to go with his 31 touchdown

passes. He had also been prone to throwing those interceptions in bunches, including four against Washington and four against Oregon last year.

Through four games this season, Mannion has avoided mistakes and been more accurate than ever before.

"That's something I spent a lot of time working on in the offseason," he said on Portland's 1080-AM. "I'm trying to use my check-downs well, knowing when to take a shot, when to check it down. That's always going to help us is if we can get a positive gain, even if the play isn't looking great."

To this point, Mannion has led the Beavers to a lot of great plays. Colorado might have been able to avoid Carr and Fresno State, but with Mannion leading OSU, the Buffaloes certainly expect to get a tough test through the air this week.

"Every game they've played they've scored a ton of points, so we'd better score some," MacIntyre said. "Hopefully we can slow them down enough that it's not a 50-55 game or something like that. I'd rather it be a lot less scoring than that, for sure, but they have the firepower to do it."

Contact staff writer Brian Howell at howellb@dailycamera.com or twitter.com/BrianHowell33.

CU at Oregon State

When/where: Saturday, 1 p.m. at Reser Stadium in Corvallis, Ore.

TV/Radio: Pac-12 Network/KOA (850 AM)

The Beavers at a glance

2013 record: 3-1, 1-0 in Pac-12

2012 record: 9-4, lost in Alamo Bowl

Last week: Defeated San Diego State, 34-30

Head coach: Mike Riley, 13th season (84-68)

Key players: WR Brandin Cooks, 5-10, Jr.; DE Scott Crichton, 6-3, Jr.; LB Jabral Johnson, 6-1, Jr.; QB Sean Mannion, 6-5, Jr.; WR Richard Mullaney, 6-3, So.; CB Steven Nelson, 5-11, Jr.; RB Storm Woods, 6-0, So.; S Tyrequek Zimmerman, 6-0, Jr.

Notable: Cooks has 43 catches for 639 yards and seven touchdowns already. He has at least seven catches and 92 yards in each game. ... Oregon State has scored at least 33 points in each game so far this season. ... In 2011, the Beavers went 3-9. They are 12-5

since then. ... OSU averaged 124.4 rushing yards last season. This year, the Beavers are averaging 55.0 yards per game and 2.1 yards per carry. They have totaled just 110 yards on the ground in the past three weeks, including 10 last week against San Diego State. Woods missed last week with a concussion. ... OSU opened the season with a loss to Eastern Washington, ranked No. 3 in FCS.

Colorado football: Rick George still working on makeup game

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Colorado athletic director Rick George's first big test in his new job is becoming a doozy.

George is trying to schedule a 12th game for the Colorado football team in the midst of the season in which he needs that game to be played.

The Buffs' Sept. 14 game against Fresno State was postponed because of historic and deadly flooding in and around Boulder and it appears unlikely the Buffs will be able to reschedule the game with the Bulldogs this season because their bye weeks don't align.

So George is in Dallas this week at a meeting with most of the other athletic directors from Football Bowl Subdivision schools trying to find one of his peers who is willing to send his or her football team to Boulder either Oct. 19 or at the end of the season in December for a game at Folsom Field.

George and coach Mike MacIntyre said they had no news to report on rescheduling Monday. MacIntyre was back on the practice fields preparing his team for its first road game of the season this week at Oregon State (3-1, 1-0).

The Honolulu Advertiser reported Monday that Hawaii had turned down CU's offer of \$600,000 to play the Buffs on Oct. 19. It would have meant a record seven road games for the Hawaii program this year and approximately three weeks away from classes to play three of those road games in consecutive weeks.

Two other possibilities could be San Jose State, the team MacIntyre and many of his assistants used to coach, and San Diego State. Both have open dates Oct. 19 and both have the ability to schedule a 13th game because they play on the road at Hawaii this season.

The NCAA allows teams that travel to Hawaii to play an extra game to help cover the additional costs of travel to the islands.

George is most interested in trying to convince an FBS team to come to Boulder because the Buffs already played and beat an FCS team in Central Arkansas. NCAA rules allow only one win over an FCS team to count toward bowl eligibility. It's possible CU could get a waiver from the NCAA to be bowl eligible with two FCS wins under these extraordinary circumstances, but scheduling an FBS team would mean all of CU's games could be counted toward a possible bowl berth without the need for a waiver.

CU is encouraging fans who had tickets to the Fresno State game to hold on to them because they will be honored for whatever makeup game is eventually scheduled.

Notable

The Oregon at Colorado football game on Saturday, Oct. 5 will kickoff at 4:00 p.m. MDT, and will be televised on the Pac-12 Network.

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

CU Buffs raring to start Pac-12 schedule after unusually long layoff

By John Henderson *The Denver Post* *The Denver Post*
Posted:

DenverPost.com

BOULDER — For three weeks, they will have remained undefeated. For three weeks, Paul Richardson will have led the nation in receiving yards per game. For three weeks, they'll have received pats on the back, if not chest bumps on campus.

But for three weeks, the Colorado Buffaloes also will not have played a game. How much does the glow of their 2-0 start dim in the wake of potential rustiness as Saturday's 1 p.m. MDT Pac-12 opener at Oregon State (3-1) looms?

"Hopefully, we'll have fresh legs," coach Mike MacIntyre said after Monday's practice. "We're still getting in that game mode, that game thing where you click in and don't get as tired sometimes. We've been trying to practice hard. We've been trying to run to the football. We've been trying to go high tempo, to keep that energy going.

"But there's nothing like simulating a game."

The flood-driven cancellation of the Sept. 14 Fresno State game, combined with last Saturday's scheduled bye, places CU with Navy and Iowa State as the only NCAA Division I teams that have played only two games.

MacIntyre held two scrimmages last week and another scrimmage, sans tackling, Monday. For a team that looks transformed offensively and defensively, it looks to recoup momentum.

"We're getting back to using practice as a time to get better," sophomore receiver Nelson Spruce said. "We've really tried to practice at a fast tempo just to replicate the speed of the game."

At least this year is different. Players are BMOCs again rather than trying not to snap at muffled insults, as in past years.

But 2-0 isn't exactly putting CU on a cloud too high to be distracting.

"In our situation, I think it'll be good," MacIntyre said. "They've gone around for a while not getting that. That has motivated them. I have not seen them slack off, be late for meetings, not show up, not hustling in practice. That's when you notice."

MacIntyre spent Saturday night doing a rarity: watching his next opponent play live. Unfortunately for him, he watched quarterback Sean Mannion lead Oregon State to a 34-30 comeback win at San Diego State. Mannion leads the nation in passing yards.

The Buffaloes started preparing for the Beavers last Wednesday. In his entire coaching career, Mac Intyre has never been with a team that had two consecutive games weeks off in the middle of the season.

"And I don't want to have it again, either," he said. "It kind of reminds you of a bowl. You get going and you get excited. ... I'd rather be playing games. I'd like a week off, but not (more).

"I definitely want to play. I think my wife wants me out of the house."

Added Spruce: "I'm super anxious. The first week was kind of weird, but this week I'm sitting around. Two weeks without playing. Dang. It doesn't feel like a normal season.

"I think everybody's ready to go."

John Henderson: jhenderson@denverpost.com or twitter.com/johnhendersondp



Oregon State Beavers rundown: Sneak peek at Colorado

PAUL-RICHARDSON-090713.JPG

Colorado receiver Paul Richardson averages a national-best 208.5 receiving yards per game. (*The Associated Press*)

Lindsay Schnell | Ischnell@oregonian.com By **Lindsay Schnell | Ischnell@oregonian.com**

Follow on Twitter

on September 23, 2013 at 8:10 AM, updated September 23, 2013 at 10:16 AM

OREGON STATE vs. COLORADO

When: Noon Saturday at Reser Stadium

On the air: TV on Pac-12 Networks, radio on KEX1190

Last games: Oregon State (3-1, 1-0 Pac-12) went down to the wire again, and came out victorious when Steven Nelson picked off a San Diego State pass with 2:31 to play, returning it 16 yards for the go-ahead touchdown. OSU held on for the 34-30 road win. Colorado (2-0) hasn't played since Sept. 7, when the Buffaloes beat Central Arkansas 38-24.

Bufs this season: Colorado is in the middle of a big rebuilding project, but the Buffs seem to be taking steps in the right direction under first-year coach Mike MacIntyre, who went to Boulder from San Jose State. Two wins -- twice as many as the Buffs had all of 2012 -- have no doubt given Colorado increased confidence, and it appears this team isn't a guaranteed win like it was most of 2012. But after postponing its game with Fresno State due to severe flooding in Boulder and a bye week, the Buffs might be rusty when they come to Corvallis.

Did you know: Oregon State and Colorado haven't played since 1988, when the Buffs won a 28-21 contest in Boulder. Oregon State last beat Colorado in 1964.

Star power: Junior receiver Paul Richardson leads the country in receiving yards per game with a 208.5 average.

Threat level (1-5): 3 This certainly isn't the Colorado of old and Oregon State can't continue to live on the edge with so many self-inflicted mistakes.

Early prediction: The Beavers will be back at home, and have more talent. And one of these days, the running game is going to reappear. Oregon State 37, Colorado 21.

The links ...

OSU Insider: It's not pretty, but Beavers are finding a way ... **and that could pay off in November**

Mike **Riley post-San Diego State**: "We were fortunate, and we made good fortune"

Storm **Woods watches his teammates win on TV**, can't wait to be reunited with them

Jerry **Palm predicts the Beavers** will be in the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl

Notebook: **Beavers continue to deal with injuries**, Mannion leads nation in passing

Bufs' Stephane Nembot is a **mountain of potential**

Colorado uses extra time off to work on anemic running game

Colorado's Mike **MacIntyre is starting his own traditions** in Boulder

The **Bufs are starting to come together** on defense

© 2013 OregonLive.com. All rights reserved.