

Howell blog: Catching up with ex-CU Buff Nick Kasa

By Brian Howell, Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

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Former Colorado tight end Nick Kasa is now in his rookie season with the National Football League's Oakland Raiders.

A sixth-round draft choice in April, the 6-foot-6, 265-pound Kasa is currently playing a back-up role with the Raiders. On Monday night, he and his teammates paid a visit to Denver to take on the Broncos.

For Kasa, it was bittersweet, as his team lost 37-21, but he got to visit his home state and see family and friends. I had a chance to catch up with Kasa briefly in the Raiders' locker room after the game.

Buffzone: A couple of games into your NFL career, how are you feeling?

Kasa: Good. I want to get out there more; I think anybody would, but it's going well. I just need to keep going with practice the way that I am and when I get that opportunity I need to take advantage of it.

Buffzone: Have you gotten better since CU fans last saw you?

Kasa: Yeah, I definitely think so. That just comes with the competition. In practice, I've been doing a little scout stuff against our defense and going against any starting defense in the NFL is going to make you better. It's just stepping stones.

Buffzone: In what ways have you gotten better?

Kasa: Just all-around. Obviously run blocking is a lot harder; guys are bigger and more technique sound. But, definitely in the passing game, too. I think that's where I needed to make an improvement and I definitely did. Right now I think I need to get back to run blocking like I did in college.

Buffzone: Are you enjoying the NFL life so far?

Kasa: I'm loving it. It's awesome.

Buffzone: Did you get to see your family a little bit while you were in town?

Kasa: Yeah, it's crazy, because all of my friends are Broncos fans, so obviously that kind of stung a little bit, but it was cool to see everybody and just be back around.

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