

Bufs' wide receiver admires OSU's effort to get Cooks ball

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

As Paul Richardson watched Oregon State's Brandin Cooks tear through the Colorado defense on Saturday afternoon, he couldn't help but be impressed.

Cooks caught nine passes for 168 yards and two touchdowns in Oregon State's 44-17 win against the Buffaloes at Reser Stadium in Corvallis, Ore. It wasn't the statistics as much as the way Oregon State used Cooks that impressed Richardson.

"We can take the page out of Oregon State's book," said Richardson, who caught five passes for 70 yards to lead CU. "I really like how they force-fed Brandin the ball. He's a good receiver, but when you're giving him that many touches, he was able to be productive. He's doing punt return, he's doing fly sweeps, reverses, short routes. They were passing it to other players and then when (CU) started playing honest D, then they go back to him. His numbers showed that."

Cooks caught his nine passes on 13 targets from Beavers quarterback Sean Mannion. Cooks also ran for 47 yards on five attempts.

Richardson came into the game leading the country with 208.5 receiving yards per game. Through three quarters, he had just one catch for 2 yards -- and that came on CU's sixth play of the game.

On Sunday, Richardson did not complain about how he was used during the game. Rather, he said the Buffs could learn a few things from how the Beavers attacked the CU defense.

"I trust (offensive coordinator Brian) Lindgren and I trust (head coach Mike) MacIntyre with what they do on offense," Richardson said. "I think everything is going to come full circle eventually, so I can't say that we should have forced me the ball."

"I'm saying the route that Lindgren is going is good. We had to try different things. We had to try to run the ball, we had to try to get other players the ball on third downs, we had to try read plays. I think we tested the waters this past game and I think we're going to test other options as the season goes on."

Richardson actually touched the ball on three of CU's first six plays -- a 7-yard run, and two catches -- but one of his catches was called back after a holding penalty.

According to the final official game book, Richardson had as many passes thrown his way (13) as Cooks had, but seven times CU quarterback Connor Wood threw incomplete.

"We had some chances to get it to him," said MacIntyre, who pointed out the holding penalty wiping out one catch and a mid-play whistle that prevented the Buffs from hitting Richardson wide open on a post route during the second quarter, when they trailed just 10-3.

After two huge games to start the season, Richardson said Saturday "was different," but that he can learn from this one.

"Of course, as a receiver I want the ball," he said. "I just have to be patient and know that sometimes I'm going to have to wait. That was the biggest thing, just working on my patience this past game and letting the game come to me. I still was out there blocking and doing what I could."

Richardson said Oregon State didn't double-cover him. The Beavers played pretty much a straight-up defense against the CU receivers.

"To me, that was to our favor," he said.

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Colorado football: Buffs get back to work

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

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Buffzone.com

Sunday night's practice was the first time the CU football got on the field after a loss. Coach Mike MacIntyre said his team "came out and practiced well."

After looking over the game film, MacIntyre said a few plays here or there could have changed the complexion of the game for CU.

"It just goes back to turnovers and it goes back to making plays when you have a chance to make them," MacIntyre said. "It wasn't that big of a discrepancy. It's never as bad as it seems and it's never as good as it seems."

MacIntyre said he was pleased with the effort of his team from start to finish.

Notable

MacIntyre said he never considered letting true freshman quarterback Sefo Liufau get into the game. Liufau is No. 2 on the depth chart behind Wood, who had his first down game, going 14-for-34 for 146 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions. ... Guard Daniel Munyer, who was benched after an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty in the second quarter, will have a chance to get back into the starting lineup this week, MacIntyre said.

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CU Buffs' eyes on the Oregon Ducks, 4 p.m. Saturday, Pac-12 Networks

By John Henderson The Denver Post The Denver Post
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DenverPost.com

Eye on ...The Ducks

Oregon (4-0, 1-0) at Colorado (2-1, 0-1) , 4 p.m. Saturday, Pac-12 Networks

For the record: Oregon defeated visiting California 55-16 in its Pac-12 opener Saturday night to improve to 4-0. Colorado dropped its Pac-12 opener at Oregon State 44-17 on Saturday. **Streaking:** Oregon has scored at least 50 points in each of its first four games for the first time in school history.

Who's hot: Oregon leads the nation in rushing (332.5 yards per game), led by De'Anthony Thomas' 84.5 ypg. However, he sprained his ankle on the opening kickoff Saturday, and his status for Saturday is uncertain.

Who's not: The Ducks haven't settled on a kicker. Senior Alejandro Maldonado, who missed key field goals in losses to USC and Stanford the last two years, is 2-for-3. True freshman Matt Wogan is 1-for-1. They alternate extra points.

Key stat: Marcus Mariota has thrown a touchdown pass in all 17 games he has played and has had at least one TD pass and one scoring run in his last six games.

FYI: Of Mariotta's 17 games, he has played the entire game only four times.

John Henderson, The Denver Post