



By: CUBuffs.com

Jered Bell's 79-yard interception return for a touchdown gave the Buffs momentum for their come from behind win.

Brooks: Buffs Put Away Bears, Move To 2-0 Under 'Mac'

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By: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

BOULDER – Nothing came easy for the resurgent Colorado Buffaloes on Saturday night, but they still came away from Folsom Field cradling their first 2-0 record since 2008.

CU rallied with three fourth-quarter touchdowns to finally put away stubborn Central Arkansas 38-24 and win its home opener under first-year coach [Mike MacIntyre](#).

“These young men keep fighting, they never get down, they just keep playing,” MacIntyre said. “It wasn’t pretty, but I’ll take a win any day . . . either way, we’re pretty fun to watch.”

In avoiding a third all-time loss to a lower division (FCS) opponent, the Buffs scored on two interception returns – [Greg Henderson](#) and [Jered Bell](#) – and received a second consecutive strong receiving performance from [Paul Richardson](#) (11 catches, 209 yards, two touchdowns).

CU quarterback [Connor Wood](#) passed for 341 yards (23-of-36) and submitted his second straight three-TD game of the season. But he suffered his first pair of interceptions this season, lost two fumbles and was sacked four times – none of which happened last week in the 41-27 opening win against Colorado State.

Still, Wood gathered himself and outdueled UCA quarterback Winrick Smothers (33-of-55, 280 yards, two TDs). Smothers, the offensive player-of-the-year last season in the Southland Conference, completed nine of his passes (89 yards, one score) to receiver Dezmin Lewis.

The game was tied at 24-24 in the fourth quarter when CU freshman [Chidobe Awuzie](#) wrestled the ball away from UCA freshman receiver Jatavious Wilson and set up the Buffs for their go-ahead touchdown.

When Ralphie V and the Buffs players couldn’t get synched up for the CU mascot’s pregame run onto the field, you had to figure the home team’s early timing might be off. The press box explanation for Ralphie staying in her pen had to do with some timing issues related to the return of the inflatable tunnel and smoke as the players entered the field.

Whatever, CU’s first series produced an illegal substitution penalty, a timeout because of a near 25-second clock violation and a punt – a not-so-silky start.

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But the Buffs finally shrugged it off and led 14-0 early in the second quarter after a 55-yard Wood-to-Richardson touchdown pass, Henderson's 46-yard interception return and a pair of PATs by Will Oliver.

All were instrumental in last weekend's win against CSU, with Wood throwing for 400 yards and three TDs, Richardson catching a pair of scoring passes and Henderson returning a fumble 53 yards for a score. Henderson's pair of defensive TDs in consecutive games marked the first time since 2002 that CU got multiple defensive scores in the same season (Jeremy Bloom, Medford Moorer).

The Bears didn't blink, and what had been an error-free season – no turnovers in the opener – for the Buffs suddenly ended. Wood, who wasn't sacked by CSU, fumbled as he was slung to the Folsom turf by defensive end Markeith Gaines. Fellow end Derek Floyd recovered at the UCA 31, and six plays later Smothers hit Lewis with a 23-yard TD pass.

Sophomore Jace Denker's PAT – his first career point – brought the Bears to 14-7, and if Buffs fans thought "so what?" it was the wrong thought.

On CU's next series, Wood suffered his first interception of the season – a deflected ball intended for slot receiver D.D. Goodson that was lunged for and grabbed by defensive back Bobby Watkins at his own 24-yard line.

Ten plays later, Smothers capped an 76-yard march with an 11-yard scoring pass to tight end Chase Dixon. Denker's extra point tied the score at 14-14 with 22 seconds remaining before intermission.

Wood finished the half 12-of-18 for 179 yards, one TD and one INT. Smothers was 16-of-22 for 158 yards and two TDs, one INT.

And Lewis (four catches, 64 yards, one TD) was every bit as effective for his team as Richardson (six catches, 122 yards, one TD) was for his.

MacIntyre called Lewis "a good player. We can't let him beat us."

Things appeared to settle down for the Buffs – at least in coming onto the field behind Ralphie. And then came the second half kickoff . . . and more CU coverage issues. After giving up an 84-yard kickoff return and a 74-yard punt return to CSU, Wilson took back Saturday's second-half kickoff 88 yards to set up a 28-yard Denker field goal and the Bears' first lead (17-14) of the game.

Wood and CU answered with a 55-yard march that positioned Oliver – he had missed from 53 yards in the first half – for a 31-yard field goal that tied the score at 17-17 with 11:28 left in the third quarter.

It held until UCA's Gaines got his hands on Wood once more – and once again Wood fumbled. Defensive end Jonathan Woodard scooped up the ball and ran to the CU 16 before being hauled down from behind by Buffs tackle Stephane Nembot.

The Bears ran six plays and advanced to the Buffs' 1-yard line, where on the first play of the fourth quarter Smothers scored on a quarterback sneak. Denker's PAT pushed UCA up 24-17 with all but four seconds of the last quarter remaining for CU to pull itself together and avoid being flipped by another FCS opponent.

Time was on the Buffs' side, but the Bears weren't clock watching – they were zeroing in on Wood. The pressure continued, and Wood tossed his second interception of the game – this one picked by free safety Marvin Mitchell at the UCA 44.

Smothers drove the Bears as far as the Buffs' 24-yard line before CU safety Jered Bell stepped in front of a Smothers pass, picked it and ran 79 yards for the TD – coupled with Oliver's PAT – that tied the game once more (24-24).

The Buffs went ahead with 9:16 to play when Awuzie pilfered the football from Wilson after a short reception and set up Wood & Co. at the UCA 30-yard line. On the second play, Wood found Richardson open again – this time for 30 yards and their fourth TD hookup of the season.

Oliver's extra point gave CU another seven-point lead (31-24) but the Buffs couldn't take a deep breath until Wood hit Nelson Spruce on a third-and-20 receiver screen and Spruce took it 39 yards for a touchdown down the sideline in front of the Buffs bench.

With 4:24 remaining, Oliver kicked CU ahead 38-24 and UCA was left to search for miracles. There were none after CU corner Kenneth Crawley intercepted Smothers in the end zone with 1:50 to play. The Buffs took over at their 20-yard line, got one first down and put a period on a wild home opener.

NOTABLE: Saturday's attendance of 35,168 was the lowest at Folsom Field since 1988 (32,617 vs. Kansas State) . . . The Buffs evened their all-time record against FCS opponents at 2-2, while UCA lost for the second time in two seasons to a FBS school . . . The Buffs had not won at home since Nov. 11, 2011 – a 48-29 victory over Arizona . . . UCA's Wallace suffered a dislocated ankle in the second half and was taken from the field on a stretcher . . . UCA coach Clint Conque still needs one win to reach his 100th career win . . . The Buffs return to Folsom Field next Saturday to play Fresno State (12:05 p.m.). Fresno State bashed CU 69-14 last season.

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College football players with show of solidarity

Richardson leads Colorado past Cent. Ark. 38-24

Published: September 8, 2013



Colorado defensive back Parker Orms wields a sledgehammer as he leads his teammates on to the field to face Central Arkansas in the first quarter of a college football game in Boulder, Colo., on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013.

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI — AP Photo

By ARNIE STAPLETON — AP Sports Writer

BOULDER, Colo. — Paul Richardson isn't wasting any time making up for lost time.

Six days after his 10-catch, 208-yard performance against Colorado State, Richardson topped that by catching 11 passes for 209 yards and two more long scores in helping the Buffaloes outlast FCS power Central Arkansas 38-24.

That's 417 yards and four TDs for the junior who missed all of last season with a torn left ACL.

So eager was he to play at Folsom Field again that Richardson led the Buffaloes onto the field before their real, live buffalo mascot, "Ralphie V," could race around the field in one of college football's coolest pregame traditions.

With smoke billowing out of the players' tunnel, things got confusing and Ralphie got spooked. Richardson broke free down the sideline, his teammates trailing in a frenzy while the big beast's handlers calmed her down and corralled her back to her trailer to wait for her halftime romp instead.

"I was so caught up in the moment," Richardson said. "I wanted to race Ralphie. We were standing under our tunnel and I'm like, 'Let's go! Let's go! I see the fans going crazy, I'm like, 'Where's Ralphie?' I thought Ralphie went already, Ralphie hadn't gone yet.

"I think Ralphie is good with the outcome, though."

Under new coach Mike MacIntyre, Colorado has already doubled last year's win total even though this victory was witnessed by the smallest crowd at Folsom Field in 25 years — 35,168.

"You couldn't tell it was the smallest," said Richardson, whose exploits had the place rocking like it was as sellout.

In their first game against a Pac-12 school, the Bears (1-1) of the Southland Conference were in line for their second win over a FCS opponent to go with their victory against Western Kentucky in 2009 when things fell apart in the fourth quarter.

The Bears were leading 24-17 and driving deep into Buffs territory when Jered Bell picked off Wynrick Smothers' pass and returned it 79 yards, diving over the goal line just as Smothers was bringing him down, tying the game and snatching momentum.

"What a run," MacIntyre said. "What a run to the end zone. To me, that's when it turned."

After Colorado freshman cornerback Chidobe Awuzie ripped the ball from Jatavious Wilson's arms, Connor Wood overcame a four-turnover night by finding Richardson weaving free over the middle for a 30-yard go-ahead touchdown with 9:16 left.

Nelson Spruce capped the comeback when he turned Wood's short screen pass into a 39-yard TD that made it 38-24 and Kenneth Crawley sealed it with an interception in the end zone at the two-minute mark.

"We played with those guys the whole game but we shot ourselves in the foot," said Smothers, who finished 33 of 55 for 280 yards, two TDs and three interceptions, two of which were returned for scores.

The Buffs matched the Bears' four turnovers.

"We're pretty fun to watch, either way," MacIntyre said after the Buffaloes snapped a six-game skid at Folsom Field and improved to 2-2 against lower-tier schools with their first 2-0 start since 2008.

Richardson also had a 55-yard catch to start the scoring on a pass that Wood was sure the speedy receiver would never reach.

"I was holding my helmet, saying 'Oh, I overthrew him,'" Wood said. "And he just — whoosh! — got it."

"Just flat out ran by us," Bears coach Clint Conque said.

The Buffs have had five 200-yard receiving games in school history, three now by Richardson, the junior who had a school record 284 yards against Cal in 2011 before missing all of last year.

Wood finished 23 of 36 for 341 yards and three TDs. He threw two interceptions and fumbled twice on sack-strips by Markeith Gaines, both of which led to Bears touchdowns.

Gaines' first sack-strip was recovered by Derek Floyd and Smothers capitalized with a 22-yard TD toss to Dezmin Lewis to get the Bears on the board. His second sack-strip came at the Colorado 16 and Smothers' sneak on fourth-and-1 put the Bears on top 24-17 on the first play of the fourth quarter.

Colorado cornerback Greg Henderson stepped in front of Courtney Whitehead to intercept Smothers' pass and then raced 46 yards for the TD that put Colorado on top 14-0. It was the Buffs' first interception since Sept. 22, 2012, ending a streak of 267 pass attempts by opponents without a pick-off.

"When you play a Pac-12 school that's deeper, you can't turn the ball over four times. That ultimately did

us in," Conque said.

Notes: The Bears lost defender Aum'Arie Wallace to a dislocated left ankle in the second half.

AP college football site: <http://collegefootball.ap.org>

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College football players with show of solidarity

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Football: CU Buffs top UCA 38-24 to improve to 2-0

By Kyle Ringo Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

There appears to be a recipe for wins so far in the Mike MacIntyre era at Colorado.

Establish a double-digit lead, give it all away and then some, but storm back to send Buffs fans home happy.

MacIntyre's first team in Boulder proved to be a gritty bunch again Saturday winning his debut in front of the home crowd at Folsom Field 38-24 against Central Arkansas, ranked No. 5 in the nation in the Football Championship Subdivision.

The victory snapped the Buffs' six-game home losing streak. CU is 2-0 to start the season for the first time since starting 3-0 in 2008.

"These young men keep fighting," MacIntyre said. "They never get down. They keep playing. Yeah, we made some mistakes, but they just keep playing."

"...Our kids kept fighting, kept battling and kept clawing and never hung their head. I just can't tell you how proud of them I am, of their fight."

The game was played in front of the smallest crowd to see the Buffs play at Folsom Field since the 1988 home finale against Kansas State. The announced attendance Saturday was 35,168. It is the first time CU has attracted fewer than 40,000 fans to a home game since that same game 25 years ago.

It began in ominous fashion when players stormed out of the tunnel leading to the locker room through a cloud of smoke and past Ralphie V, who traditionally leads them on to the field. It was the first time Ralphie missed her run since 2002.

"I was so caught up in the moment I wanted to race Ralphie," wide receiver Paul Richardson said. "... I don't think Ralphie is mad at us. I think everything is all right."

It became obvious almost immediately that the CU offensive line would struggle with the Central Arkansas defensive front when CU failed to do much with its first two possessions.

CU quarterback Connor Wood found wide receiver Paul Richardson 10 minutes into the game for a 55-yard touchdown pass. The beautiful pitch and catch was the third scoring connection of the season between the tandem. There was more to come.

Richardson produced his second consecutive 200-yard receiving game with 11 catches for 209 yards and two scores. He is the first player in CU history to put together two such games and is now less than 50 yards shy of surpassing the leading receiver on last year's team in terms of yardage for the season.

Wood faced plenty of pressure and was responsible for four turnovers but he also threw three touchdown passes.

The Buffs extended their lead to 14-0 early in the second quarter when cornerback Greg Henderson intercepted a pass from Central Arkansas quarterback Wyrnick Smothers and returned it 46 yards for a touchdown.

It was CU's first interception in nine games, dating back to the Washington State game early last season. It was the second return for a touchdown by Henderson this year. He also scored on a fumble return in a Week 1 victory over Colorado State.

CU looked like it might finally make it look easy against an FCS opponent after losing to Montana State in 2006, squeaking by Eastern Washington in 2008 and losing to Sacramento State last season.

But the Bears proved to be resilient and determined.

Smothers directed his team on a pair of scoring drives in the final 5 minutes of the second quarter to tie the score at 14.

Smothers connected with wide receiver Dezmin Lewis for an impressive 23-yard touchdown pass and a little more than 4 minutes later he found tight end Chase Dixon in the corner of the end zone to tie it. Both Central Arkansas receivers made highlight-reel catches to score.

The Buffs' special teams woes returned at the start of the second half when they allowed an 88-yard kickoff return that set up a 28-yard go-ahead field goal from the Bears. Central Arkansas led 17-14 and was brimming with confidence.

CU later tied the score with a 31-yard field goal from Will Oliver.

On the first play of the fourth quarter facing a deafening roar in the south end of the stadium in front of the student section, Central Arkansas took a 24-17 lead when Smothers punched it in a 1-yard quarterback sneak that came on fourth down.

On the ensuing drive, Wood threw an interception that gave the Bears the ball near midfield and the Buffs looked like they might be in trouble.

But the defense came up with a momentum changing play for the second straight week when safety Jered Bell intercepted a tipped ball and returned it 79 yards for a tying score. The last time the Buffs returned two interceptions for touchdowns in the same game was the Insight.com Bowl against Boston College in 1999.

CU true freshman Chidobe Awuzie came up with another turnover minutes later when he ripped the ball away from a Central Arkansas receiver. The CU offense made the most of the opportunity and reclaimed the lead when Wood found a remarkably wide-open Richardson in the middle of the field for 30-yard score.

The Buffs added some insurance later when Wood connected with Nelson Spruce for his third touchdown pass of the night. Cornerback Kenneth Crawley ended a late attempt to rally by the Bears when he made his first career interception in the end zone.

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

Colorado 38, Cent. Arkansas 24

Cent. Arkansas 0 14 3 7--24

Colorado 7 7 3 21--38

First Quarter

Col -- Richardson 55 pass from C.Wood (Oliver kick), 4:58.

Second Quarter

Col -- Henderson 46 interception return (Oliver kick), 11:55.

CeAr -- Lewis 23 pass from Smothers (Denker kick), 4:37.

CeAr -- Dixon 11 pass from Smothers (Denker kick), :22.

Third Quarter

CeAr -- FG Denker 28, 13:54.

Col -- FG Oliver 31, 11:28.

Fourth Quarter

CeAr -- Smothers 1 run (Denker kick), 14:56.

Col -- Bell 79 interception return (Oliver kick), 10:43.

Col -- Richardson 30 pass from C.Wood (Oliver kick), 9:16.

Col -- Spruce 39 pass from C.Wood (Oliver kick), 4:24.

A -- 35,168.

CeAr Col

First downs 19 23

Rushes-yards 26-60 34-84

Passing 280 341

Comp-Att-Int 33-55-3 23-36-2

Return Yards 14 125

Punts-Avg. 6-42.3 3-46.7

Fumbles-Lost 1-1 3-2

Penalties-Yards 6-51 8-64

Time of Possession 33:18 26:42

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING -- Cent. Arkansas, Matthews 13-32, Smothers 10-18, Wilson 2-9, Veasley 1-1. Colorado, T.Jones 12-58, Powell 6-22, Goodson 1-9, Abron 8-9, C.Wood 6-3, Team 1-(minus 17).

PASSING -- Cent. Arkansas, Smothers 33-55-3-280. Colorado, C.Wood 23-36-2-341.

RECEIVING -- Cent. Arkansas, Lewis 9-89, Matthews 7-46, Gardner 4-49, Dixon 4-36, Wilson 4-21, Murphy 1-13, Watts 1-9, Burdette 1-6, Hart 1-6, D.Smith 1-5. Colorado, Richardson 11-209, McCulloch 5-50, Spruce 4-62, Canty 1-8, Ross 1-7, Powell 1-5.

Squad has come up with big plays in first two games

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

Throughout the 2012 season, the Colorado defense proved to be easy pickings for the opposition.

Two games into this season, the Buffaloes have turned the tables.

Colorado's defense has come up with game-changing plays in both games this year, helping the Buffaloes to a 2-0 start.

"They're focused," head coach Mike MacIntyre said of his defense. "Our coaching staff does a great job of preparing them. Our saying is, 'Knowledge equals confidence equals playing fast.' That gives you an ability to go make plays and jump things and do things that you see. They've taken advantage of that."

In the season opener against Colorado State on Sept. 1, defensive end Chidera Uzo-Diribe caused a fumble that cornerback Greg Henderson picked up and returned 53 yards for a touchdown. That turned a two-point CU lead into a 33-24 advantage, sparking CU to a 41-27 victory.

Saturday against Central Arkansas, Henderson and Jered Bell both had interceptions that they returned for touchdowns in a 38-24 win.

"The coaches are really emphasizing turnovers, because turnovers and ball security will win the game," Henderson said. "We're just trying to be ball hawks and just make plays. Nobody said the defense can't score, too, so we're just trying to help the team get the victory."

Through the first two games, CU has caused six turnovers. The Buffs caused just 15 all of last year and didn't intercept a pass in any of the final eight games of 2012.

It's not just the turnovers that have made a difference for CU. So far, the Buffs have been more sound as a whole than they were a year ago.

"Every day we're working on turnovers, we're working on tackling and we're working on all the fundamentals of defense," defensive tackle Nate Bonsu said. "It's just good to see that translate. It's just exciting to see us putting everything together."

Opposing quarterbacks have competed just 58.5 percent of their passes, averaging just 5.12 yards per attempt.

The run defense -- which ranked 118th in the country last year by allowing 226.0 yards per game -- has allowed just 154 yards in the first two games (77.0 per game). Central Arkansas had just 60 yards on 26 rushes on Saturday.

"Stopping the run was real low for us last year and through the first two games, it's been a high, so we want to keep it that way," Bonsu said.

Bonsu said the other difference for the defense is how it has played late in games. The Buffs have allowed just 10 fourth-quarter points, with seven of those coming as a result of a 1-yard touchdown run on the first play of the fourth quarter on Saturday.

Together, CSU and Central Arkansas have had nine fourth-quarter possessions and five have ended in turnovers.

"That's a testament of (strength coach Dave Forman's) workouts in the summer and in the spring and just our work every day, all the reps we do in practice," Bonsu said.

Henderson and Bonsu both acknowledge that the Buffs have tougher opponents coming up. Stopping CSU and Central Arkansas is one thing; finding success against Oregon, Arizona State, UCLA, or even this week's opponent, Fresno State, is another. But, both said they're seeing things that make them believe the Buffs can keep this up. The Buffs are being more aggressive, tackling better, communicating more and knowing their assignments.

"We knew we had the guys to be a good defense," Bonsu said. "We had growing pains before. We're going to have way harder teams to play as the season goes, but it's good that we're building that foundation now."

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Football: CU Buffs focusing on the run

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

In the running game, CU's offense is averaging just 96.5 yards per game and 2.72 yards per carry. They managed just 84 against UCA.

"We just need to get better at it," Mike MacIntyre said. "We didn't break tackles, we didn't make people miss, we didn't block the right people all the time. Good running backs make people miss, so we've got to start doing that. I think we've got good running backs; we just haven't broken any long runs yet and we need to do that."

Notable

Sophomore Clay Jones, who plays on special teams, hurt his neck against UCA, but it's just sore and he'll be OK, MacIntyre said. ... CU has had eight penalties in each game, but MacIntyre said he's not concerned with most of them. "The ones I was concerned about was the substitution one, offsides," he said. "Those type of things we cannot have." ... Asked for a first impression of Fresno State, MacIntyre said, "Really fast, really fast, really fast, really, really, really, really fast. Really fast."

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Football: Henderson ends CU Buffs' interception drought

By Brian Howell Buffzone.com Boulder Daily Camera

Posted:

Buffzone.com

If not for Paul Richardson, Greg Henderson would be Colorado's big-play artist of the season so far.

While Richardson has been explosive on offense, Henderson has made the two biggest plays on defense this season.

On Saturday, Henderson picked off a Central Arkansas pass and returned it 46 yards for a touchdown, giving CU a 14-0 lead in the second quarter.

Six days earlier, Henderson's 53-yard fumble return for touchdown sparked the Buffs to a 41-27 win against Colorado State.

Henderson's interception was the first for the Buffs in 10 games, since Jon Major picked off a Washington State pass in the fourth quarter of CU's 35-34 win on Sept. 22, 2012. CU opponents had thrown 267 passes in between interceptions.

Henderson also became the first CU player in 11 years to post two return touchdowns in the same season. In 2002, Jeremy Bloom had two punt returns for touchdowns and Medford Moorhead had an interception and fumble return for touchdowns.

In the fourth quarter, safety Jered Bell matched his teammate, with a 79-yard interception return for touchdown. That tied the game at 24-24.

It's the first time CU has had two interceptions returned for touchdowns in the same game since the 1999 Insight.com Bowl against Boston College.

Negative returns

For the second consecutive game, CU gave up a long play in the kicking game.

UCA's Dillion Winfrey returned the opening kickoff of the second half 88 yards to the CU 12-yard line. That set up a Bears field goal that gave them a 17-14 lead early in the third quarter.

In the opener against CSU, the Buffs gave up 192 yards on five returns (38.4 average), including an 84-yard return that set up a CSU touchdown.

No Ralphie

CU's live buffalo mascot, Ralphie V, was in her cage and seemingly ready to do her usual pre-game run on the field, but she never left the cage. The team ran onto the field without her and her handlers walked her back to her trailer.

Disappointed fans chanted, "Ralphie! Ralphie! Ralphie!" after she didn't run.

According to CU officials, the team ran onto the field to the cue of the smoke in the tunnel, rather than to the cue of Ralphie. The smoke bothered Ralphie and for safety reasons, her handlers decided it was best to not run her.

She did make her run around the field to start the second half.

This is the first time since a game in 2002 that Ralphie did not do a pre-game run. In that case, Ralphie IV was in heat.

In memoriam

CU left an empty seat in the press box for former Daily Camera sports editor Dan Creedon, who passed away on July 3. He was 75.

Creedon was a writer, columnist and editor for the Camera from 1962-2001, covering CU athletics for much of that time. Creedon was honored with seat 37 in the first row of the Fred Casotti press box -- named for the former CU sports information director who was a close friend of Creedon's. The CU staff placed flowers and Diet Pepsi bottles -- Creedon's favorite drink -- at his seat.

CU also held a moment of silence in the press box for Creedon and former Rocky Mountain News sports writer Lynn DeBruin, who passed away Saturday morning after a battle with breast cancer.

Notable

True freshman Jimmie Gilbert recorded the first sack of his career for the Buffs, while fellow true freshman Devin Ross recorded his first collegiate catch. ... True freshman Ryan Severson was the deep man on kickoff returns in the first half. On his one return opportunity, he fumbled the ball out of bounds at the 2-yard line. He had returns of 29 and 21 yards in the second half. ... The temperature at kickoff was 90 degrees, tied for the second-warmest ever for a CU home game. ... UCA's Aum-Arie Wallace was carted off the field midway through the third quarter with a dislocated ankle.

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