

2010 COLORADO BUFFALOES



The University of Colorado women's soccer program celebrates its 15th season in 2010. Head coach Bill Hempen has coached the Buffs for nine of those and owns a record of 102-66-23 going into this season. Colorado welcomes back eight starters from last season and is excited to announce that eight newcomers including three transfers will be joining the team this year.

WHAT RETURNS: Colorado returns 16 letterwinners from a year ago and eight starters from last year's squad. Seniors Amanda Foulk, Kym Lowry, Kelly Ross, Taryn Vitacca and Mel Hicks will lead the team in 2010.

CU will return 65.4 percent of its goals scored (17-26), 64.7 percent of its assists (44-68), and 66.3 percent of its shots (171-258) from last season. Juniors Kelly Butler and Kassidy Fitzpatrick both contributed four goals each in 2009 and earned the second and third spots respectively on CU's overall offensive leaders list behind Nikki Marshall. Sophomore Amy Barczuk was named second-team All-Big 12 at the conclusion of the '09 season, along with earning a spot on the Big 12 Newcomer team with teammate Erin Bricker. Sophomore midfielder Quinn Krier earned a Big 12 Newcomer of the Week honor after she assisted the Colorado defense in posting back-to-back shutouts against Nebraska and Iowa State, both 1-0 CU victories.

WHAT DOESN'T: The Buffs lost six letterwinners, three of which were starters last year. Ally Goodman, Nikki Marshall, Kara Linder and Kelly Menachof led the team to a 9-10-0 record during their senior campaigns.

Nikki Marshall's eight goals and one assist for 17 points last season earned her the top spot on CU's all-time leading scorers list with 93 points. She was named first-team all-central region in 2009 as well as first-team All-Big 12. Following the season, Marshall was picked in the first round of the 2010 WPS draft by the Washington Freedom.

Linder was CU's starting goalkeeper in '09 and recorded 71 saves on the season which moved her into sixth place on CU's top saves list with 126 career saves. She earned six shutouts in '09 and has recorded the third most career shutouts as goalie with 12. Linder is only the third Buff to log 20 or more career wins.

WHAT'S NEW: CU welcomes seven newcomers including two junior transfers Amy Steiner (Arizona) and Hannah Perry (St. Louis), a sophomore transfer Kayla Millar (CU-Colo. Springs) and five freshmen who are all from Colorado. The group includes Annie Brunner (Arvada), Alex Dohm (Colorado Springs), Lizzy Herzl (Littleton), Hayley Hughes (Highlands Ranch) and Anne Stuller (Boulder).



THE FORWARDS: Colorado's front line will look a little different this year after losing leading scorer Nikki Marshall, but it will also provide this season's forwards an opportunity to make their mark in the record book. Bricker and Amanda Foulk are the only two returners at this position. Bricker recorded two goals and four assists during her freshmen campaign. Foulk contributed one assist last season. Hicks will have to sit out her last season due to a back injury. Dohm and Stuller enter the lineup to help CU score goals in '09.

THE MIDFIELDERS: Three of Colorado's five top scorers from last year return to the midfield. Butler was last year's second leading scorer with four goals and two assists. Fitzpatrick had four goals and one assist and was one of the nine players to see action in all 19 games. Barczuk, Caroline Danneberg, and Lauren Shaner also played all 19 games last season, and Barczuk scored a single goal for the Buffs in '09. Kate Russell was the fifth leading scorer last season with one goal and two assists. Krier earned a Big 12 Newcomer of the Week honor last season after she assisted the Colorado defense in posting back-to-back shutouts against Nebraska and Iowa State, both 1-0 CU victories. Shaye Marshall scored a goal last season while she played 17 of CU's 19 games during her freshmen campaign.

THE DEFENSE: Veterans Ross, Lowry and Vitacca lead the defense this season. Lowry started 13 of the 15 games she saw action in last season, missing a string of games mid-season due to a concussion. She also managed to score the game-winning goal for the Buffs when they beat Utah 2-1. Maggi Steury returns to the defense for her junior year. Transfer Amy Steiner and freshmen Hughes and Lizzy Herzl also join the defense in 2010.

THE KEEPERS: Colorado lost its starting goalkeeper from last season, so there will be four goalies competing for the starting position. Kelly Moore is the only returner in this position from last year's squad. During 2009, She played two games in the goal for the Buffs. Freshman Brunner played with the Buffs during the spring before her freshman season, which gave her experience before starting her first regular season. Junior Perry was the starting goalie at St. Louis, and recorded 121 saves during her two years at SLU. Sophomore Millar played in 14 of the 18 games when she was at CU-Colorado Springs last season and recorded 90 saves on the season.

THE SCHEDULE: The 2010 schedule features five match-ups against teams in the 2009 Women's College Cup, including UCLA, who advanced to the national semifinals, Denver and Purdue prior to conference play and Oklahoma State and Texas A&M in conference play. The Buffs will play 19 regular season games and one exhibition contest, set for Aug. 15 at home against Air Force.

To open the season, the Buffs will partake in a few regional match-ups as Wyoming will visit Boulder on Aug. 22 followed by Northern Colorado on Aug. 29. The Buffs will then play a pair of games at Denver, first against the Pioneers on Sept. 4 and then against either Drake or UNLV on Sept. 6.

A trip to the northeast to face Gonzaga on Sept. 10 and Washington State on Sept. 12 precedes the Buffs' home tournament, which is set for Sept. 17 when the Buffs will face Purdue Sept. 17 and UCLA on Sept. 19. Big 12 play begins as September winds down and the Buffs travel to College Station to play Texas A&M on Sept. 24 before hosting Texas on Sept. 26 to close out the month.

A busy October opens with a trip to Texas to face Texas Tech on Oct. 1 and Baylor on Oct. 3, before returning home to face Missouri on Oct. 8 and Iowa State on Oct. 10. The Oklahoma swing begins with a trip to Stillwater to face Oklahoma State on Oct. 14, followed by the trip to Norman to face Oklahoma on Oct. 17.

The Buffs then close with the final two regular season games at home, Kansas visits on Oct. 24 and Nebraska on Oct. 29.

The Big 12 championship will take place Nov. 3-7 in San Antonio, Texas, at the Blossom Soccer Stadium. The NCAA Tournament will then begin Nov. 12 and conclude with the 2010 College Cup on Dec. 3-5 in Cary, N.C.