

2014 COLORADO BUFFALOES



In 2013, the University of Colorado women's soccer team matched a program-best finish with a trip to the NCAA Sweet 16. The Buffaloes will look for continued success in their fourth season in the ultra-competitive Pac-12 Conference and their third under head coach Danny Sanchez. Nine newcomers will join 18 returning letterwinners to compete in three tournaments, including the fourth annual Colorado Cup, and face five opponents who received votes or ranked in the top 25 of the NSCAA Final Post-Season poll.

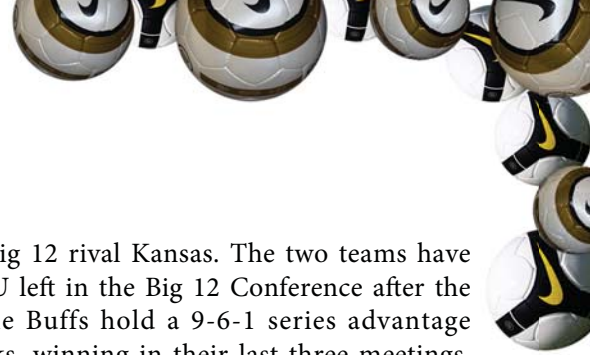
WHO'S RETURNING: The Buffs return 18 letterwinners, including seven starters. Four of the team's top five scorers return, led by sophomore Brie Hooks, who recorded 18 points off eight goals and two assists in her debut season. All but two goal scorers will be returning to the Buff attack, while defenders Alex Huynh and Heather Ward will help protect the net for a new goalkeeper. Six seniors will provide leadership on and off the pitch.

WHO'S GONE: The team bids farewell to six players, including four senior starters. Forward Anne Stuller had one of the best senior campaigns in program history, setting single season records with 93 shots attempted and 53 shots on goal, while scoring nine goals and contributing eight assists. The defense also takes a hit, with shot blocker Lizzy Herzl and 2013 co-captains Hayley Hughes and Annie Brunner all graduating from CU. In her final season, Brunner grabbed 87 saves, recorded a 1.11 goals-against average and helped the Buffs to nine shutouts. Taylor Thurmond and Sydney Carlson, who played a combined 35 minutes last season, will not be returning in 2014.

WHO'S NEW: CU welcomes eight newcomers - six freshmen and three transfers. West Coasters Courtney Fedor, Joss Orejel and Jenna Reeves look to make an early impact in the defensive unit, while Arizona's Nancy Best and Broomfield, Colo.'s Brittney Stark will add a scoring presence in the midfield and on the attack, respectively. The Buffs also add goalkeeper Scout Watson from Overland Park, Kan. Three players will continue their collegiate careers at Colorado. Aussie Kahlia Hogg (Florida State) and Colorado native Morgan Stanton (Santa Clara) help add depth to the midfield, and goalkeeper Kate Scheele (Colorado College) will support a young backline.

FORWARDS: Following a freshman season for the record books, Brie Hooks will continue to be a dominant force on the attack. Juniors Madison Krauser and Emily Paxton also have success in finding the back of the net, combining for 10 goals and nine assists in their first two seasons. Tori Cooper and Ashley Love both transition to the attack, while Hannah Dearborn, Storie Ledger, Nikki Machalek and newcomer Brittney Stark all look to make a scoring impact.

MIDFIELDERS: Seniors Darcy Jerman and Carly Bolyard will be key to the CU midfield. The duo combined for four goals and two assists in 2013. Olivia Pappalardo also adds experience, starting 13 of 16 games in her second season, while adding a goal and two assists. Alyssa Herwatt and Mikaela Kraus look to further contribute in their sophomore seasons. In her debut, Herwatt score a goal and played in 22 games. Joining the midfield are transfers Kahlia Hogg and Morgan Stanton and freshman Nancy Best. Hogg played in 18 games, including four NCAA Tournament games, in two seasons



at Florida State and was a member of the U-17 and U-20 Australian Women's National Team. Stanton played in seven games as a freshman at Santa Clara and has been a member of the U-14 to U-20 USWNT Player Pools.

DEFENDERS: Veteran back Bianca Jones will serve as a leader for the Buffs' defense. The senior has played in 61 games, and in addition to her defensive presence, has also contributed two goals and two assists. Junior Heather Ward played in 20 games and scored her first goal in 2013. Alex Huynh was the only CU freshman to start all 23 games and contributed three assists in her debut season. Brooke Rice saw action in 16 games in her first season at CU and will transition to defense in her senior season. Freshmen Courtney Fedor, Joss Orejel and Jenna Reeves will all look to help fill the void left by Lizzy Herzl and Hayley Hughes.

KEEPERS: In her senior season, Annie Brunner solidified herself as one of the best goalkeepers in CU history. Three Buffs will look to fill Brunner's cleats in 2014. Sophomore Kenzie Tillitt is the only keeper with experience in CU's net, playing 25 minutes in two games last fall and minding the net in every spring outing. Colorado College transfer Kate Scheele comes to CU with two years of Division I experience. Scheele started 32 games at CC, posting a 19-6-7 record. As a sophomore, she recorded an impressive 0.77 goals-against average. Freshman Scout Watson of Overland Park, Kan. will also compete for the job. Watson had a strong prep career, helping her team to the 2013 state and regional championships.

THE SEASON: The 2014 schedule will feature 13 home games and three tournaments. The Buffs will face five opponents who received votes or ranked in the top 25 of the NSCAA Final Post-Season poll. In its third year, the Pac-12 Networks will air 69 women's soccer games, including nine of the Buffaloes' match-ups.

The Buffs kick off their season with the fourth annual Colorado Cup. This year's Cup will see a few changes, with the inclusion of Colorado State, who added women's soccer last season. CU will play all three of its Cup matches at Prentup Field. Colorado will open the tournament against CSU on Friday, August 22 and continue play against UNC on Sunday, August 24. Both games will be broadcast on the Pac-12 Networks.

CU next makes a trip to Las Vegas for the UNLV Invitational. The Buffs begin the trip against host team UNLV, whom the Buffs defeated 3-1 in the 2013 Omni Hotels Colorado Women's Soccer Classic. The Buffs will then face a brand new opponent in Kent State on Friday, August 29.

The Buffs next return to Prentup for a six-game home stand. The Buffs begin the home streak on Friday, September 5

against former Big 12 rival Kansas. The two teams have not met since CU left in the Big 12 Conference after the 2010 season. The Buffs hold a 9-6-1 series advantage over the Jayhawks, winning in their last three meetings.

CU then takes on Detroit on Sunday, September 7. The teams have met just once prior, a resounding 3-0 home win for CU in 2005.

The Colorado Cup concludes on Friday, September 12, as the Buffs host last year's tournament champion, Denver. The in-state rivals met twice last season, with the Buffs earning their first win over the Pioneers since 2010 with a 1-0 win in the first round of the NCAA Championship.

The Buffs conclude non-conference play against two fairly fresh faces in the Omni Classic. On Friday, September 19, CU will face another new opponent: Bryant. CU will take on San Francisco for the first time since 2008 (and just the fourth time overall) on Sunday, September 21.

CU ends its home stand as it opens Pac-12 Conference play, with a match-up against California on Saturday, September 27.

The Buffs then head west for five conference games. The trip begins in Los Angeles, with CU taking on USC on Friday, October 3 and reigning NCAA Champions UCLA on Sunday, October 5. The Buffs then head to the Northwest for games against Oregon State and Oregon on October 10 and 12, respectively. CU takes its final trip of the season on Thursday, October 16 to face perennial Pac-12 threat Stanford.

The Buffs return to Boulder to conclude the regular season with five home games. First up, CU hosts Washington State on Friday, October 24 and Washington on Sunday, October 26. After travelling to Arizona for two consecutive seasons, Arizona State and Arizona will return to Prentup for the first time since 2011, the Buffs' inaugural season in the Pac-12. The Buffs face the Sun Devils on Friday, October 31 and the Wildcats on Sunday, November 2.

Colorado concludes the regular season against conference rival Utah. The teams take the pitch on Friday, November 7.

