## **2007 COLORADO FOOTBALL**



# INDIVIDUAL NOTES

(as of September 18 a.m.)

## EIGHT QUICK QUESTIONS

We polled the coaches on eight quick questions; here's what they told us:

=			•						
Coach	Who provided the greatest inspiration to you growing up?	Who was your favorite sports hero(es) as a youngster?	•	What did you want to be when you were little?	Favorite Song	Movie	 Food	Favorite Thing To Do In Your Spare Time	Potpourri
Dan Hawkins	My Dad	Walter Payton and Johnny Bench	1993 Willamette Univ. Football	A football player	Ventura Highway	The Cowboys	Mongolian	Read	Most Memorable Sporting Event: 1995 Pacific Lutheran vs. Willamette!
Romeo Bandison	My Mother	Ruud Gullit (Dutch soccer player)	Feyenoord (Dutch soccer team in Rotterdam)	A soccer player	Hasta Que Se Rompa el Cuero (by King Bongo		Cheesecake	Play with my kids	Most Memorable Sporting Event: 1990 Oregon-No. 4 BYU at Autzen Stadium (a 32-16 Oregon win)
Greg Brown	My Mom & Dad	My father (Irv Brown)	CU Buffaloes (I grew up as the the son of a CU coac	A football player	Adagio For Strings	There's Something About Mary	Mexican	Play with my kids	What interest do you have that no one would ever expect?  I like to draw.
Brian Cabral	My Dad	Dick Butkus	Green Bay Packers	A football player	Brother Iz' Somewhere Over The Rainbo	<i>Sandlot</i> ow	Plate Lunch	Work in the yard	What are your hobbies know one would initially expect? <i>Snowboarding and surfing.</i>
Ron Collins	My Mom & Dad	My brothers, Jack Lambert	St. Louis Cardinals	A football player	Anything by Toby Keith	The Sting	BBQ	Family Time	What interest do you have that no one might expect? / love to golf.
Jeff Grimes	Jack Catlett, HS Coach (The first coach who really believed in me)		Dallas Cowboys		Southbound 35 (Texans will know it!)	Hoosiers	Ice Cream	Kiss my kids!	Anything extraordinary about you?  How I left the business world and entered coaching 15 years ago.
Darian Hagan	My Mom, Aunt and Uncle	Walter Payton	Los Angeles Raiders	Policeman (I wanted to make South Central safe)	My First Love	Madea's Family Reunion	Jersey Mike's Subs	Golf and sleep	What interest do you have that no one would ever expect?  Cooking is a passion of mine!
Mark Helfrich	My parents	Roger Staubach	Dallas Cowboys	A fireman	Anything by The Beatles	The Longest Day	Italian	Spend time with my family	What interest do you have that no one would expect? I love to cook, especially seafood.
Eric Kiesau	My Dad	Joe Montana, Wayne Gretzky and Cal Ripken	San Francisco 49ers	A coach	Anything by the Counting Crows	A Few Good Men	Pizza	Spending time with my wife and kids	Most Memorable Sporting Event: When I was at Cal, we beat USC when they were ranked No. 3 in three overtimes
Kent Riddle	My parents	Joe Montana and Earl Campbell	San Francisco 49ers	A pro athlete	A Pirate Looks at 40	Field of Dreams	Steak and Pizza	Spending time with my family	Most Memorable Sporting Event: My first Army-Navy football game.

#### Other Tidbits / Did You Know?

- **Romeo Bandison** lists as the one person he most would most like to meet as American entrepreneur Russell Simmons, the co-founder of the hip-hop label Def Jam among his many accomplishments.
- > Greg Brown scored on his first play at UTEP as a collegian and never came close to scoring again.
- Frian Cabral was the special teams captain of the Super Bowl champion 1985 Chicago Bears; however, he did not appear in the infamous Super Bowl Shuffle song and video recorded that season. He was on hand to participate, but the session was running two hours late and he had to get to another appointment. He let us in on this secret: "It was pretty prophetic; we filmed it in week seven."
- That while the very low-key **Ron Collins** loves to golf, he was so frustrated in his first Casotti Classic that he actually tossed his golf bag in a creek.
- > Jeff Grimes left a higher-paying, higher-profile coaching job at Arizona State to be able to spend more time with his family.
- > Darian Hagan lists the 1991 Orange Bowl (national championship game for CU vs. Notre Dame) as the most memorable sporting event in his life, despite being injured (torn ACL) late in the first half.
- > Dan Hawkins said if he hadn't met his wife, Misti, when he did, he says he likely would have been destined to be a "football monk."
- > Hawkins' first car is also one he would love to find and buy in original condition: a 1959 Chevy Stepside Slant 6 Automatic Pickup Truck.
- Mark Helfrich likes almost all Beatles songs, but was born over three years *after* the group disbanded.
- Eric Kiesau is good friends with Adam Durwitz, the lead singer of the Counting Crows? Durwitz, a Cal-Berkeley grad, always used to go to the Bears' football practices (Eric said he'd miss sound checks to be at some of them).
- **Kent Riddle** spent six years on the Army staff and some of his greatest memories were the opportunities to hear some of our greatest generals like Norman Schwarzkopf speak in rooms that held less than 100 people.

## EIGHT QUICK QUESTIONS

The players had a different eight questions; here are their responses:

1 /	rem eight questions, is	The One	Your	Movie you		Sporting		Favorite
Student-Athlete	What is your cell phone ring tone?	TV Show You Try Not To Miss	Favorite Pizza	have seen more than any other	Who is your personal hero	event most one day want to go to	Favorite sports magazine	college FB reporter or announcer
Joel Adams	The Real Thing		Hawaiian	Braveheart	My Brothers	X Games	ESPN	Larry Zimmer
Ethan Adkins	Lean On Me	Heroes	Pepperoni	Braveheart	Tom Nalen	Super Bowl	SI	Lee Corso
Tyler Ahles	Crazy Train	Big Brother	Bacon, Onion	The Matrix	Rocky	Pro Bowl	ESPN	Lee Corso
Matt Bahr	Taking Back Sunday	Sportscenter	Pepperoni	300	Larry Allen	Super Bowl	SI	John Madden
Matt Ballenger	Party Like a Rockstar	Everybody Loves Raymond	Cheese	Fast Times	My Brothers	Super Bowl	ESPN	Lee Corso
Alvin Barnett	Lil' Wayne	NFL Network	Hamburger	Through the Fire	My Family	Super Bowl	NFL Draft Class Books	Chris Berman
Alonzo Barrett	What It Is	The Wire	Onions & Bell Peppers	The Program	My Brother	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
B.J. Beatty	Morning Ride	Ultimate Fighter	Sausage & Mushroom	300	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Blake Behrens	Make Me Better	Entourage	Sausage	The Godfather	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Joel Klatt
Jake Behrens	Vibrate	Lost	Pepperoni & Jalapenos	Ace Ventura	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	
Austin Bisnow	Own Song	No Time	Crispy Bacon	Meet the Parents	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	
Kyle Black	Normal	Family Guy	BBQ Chicken	300	-	Super Bowl	SI	
Jason Brace	Machine Head	Entourage	Cheese	300	My Dad/Brother	Super Bowl	SI	Keith Jackson
Cha'pelle Brown	Normal	106 <sup>th</sup> & Park	Sausage	Home Alone	My Dad	Super Bowl	ESPN	
Jalil Brown	Whoop that Trick	BET Uncut	Pepperoni & Pineapple	Lord of the Rings	My Dad	Super Bowl		
R.J. Brown	Santerig	Lost	Pineapple & Ham	Braveheart	Pat Tillman	Paddling Championships In Hawaii	SI	Lee Corso
Benjamin Burney	Athena Franklin	Family Guy	Pepperoni	300	My Brother	Super Bowl	SI	Howard Cosell
Marcus Burton		The Wire	Meat Lovers	Kicking & Screaming	Jesus Christ	X Games	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Maurice Cantrell	Vibrate	Showtime at the Apollo	Sausage & Pepperoni	Boys N' The Hood	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	Lee Corso
Kendrick Celestine	Lil' Boosie	Fresh Prince	Meat Lovers	Love & Basketball	Jesus	Super Bowl		
Hugh Charles	I'm A Flirt	Rob & Big	Cheese	Friday	My Parents	Super Bowl	SI	
David Clark	CU Fight Song	Mgyver	Sausage	Friday Night Lights	Paul Anderson	Super Bowl		
Kevin Cooney	Vibrate	Sportscenter	Cheese	Lion King	Mark Cooney	World Cup	ESPN	Dick Vitale
Tyler Cope	Ladies Love Country Boys	House	Cheese	Star Wars	Brendon Cleary	Masters	SI	
Cody Crawford			Pepperoni		My Parents	World Cup	SI	Armen Kateryian

#### 2007 Colorado Football: Eight Quick Questions / The Players ● 3-3-3

Student-Athlete	What is your cell phone ring tone?	The One TV Show You Try Not To Miss	Your Favorite Pizza Topping(s)	Movie you have seen more than any other	Who is your personal hero	Sporting event most one day want to go to	Favorite sports magazine	Favorite college FB reporter or announcer
Shawn Daniels	Normal	Dirty Jobs	Pepperoni & Sausage	Braveheart	My Brother	Super Bowl	SI	Larry Zimmer
Patrick Devenny	Vibrate	The OC		Wedding Crashers		World Cup	ESPN	
Tyson DeVree	Normal	24	Everything	Gladiator		Daytona 500		Anyone but Lee Corso
Matt DiLallo	Chris Farley	Seinfeld	Vegetables	Liar Liar	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI	Andrew DiLallo
Jordon Dizon		Family Guy	Cheese	Braveheart	My Parents	Super Bowl	FHM	C.J.
Justin Drescher	Welcome to the Jungle	Deal or No Deal	Pepperoni	Wedding Crashers	My Dad	Winter Olympics	ESPN	Keith Jackson
Jake Duren	-	South Park	Pineapple	Tears of the Sun		Super Bowl	Surfing	-
Daniel Dykes	Pop, Lock, Drop It	Rock of Love	Pepperoni	Knocked Up	My Parents	World Series	SI	
Kevin Eberhart	-		Canadian Bacon			-		
Byron Ellis	Gym Class Heroes	Heroes	Pepperoni	White Chicks	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	
Jason Espinoza	Party Like a Rockstar		Pepperoni & Sausage	The Shooter	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	
Erick Faatagi	Snickers Theme Song	Heroes	Sausage	Snatch	My Parents	Super Bowl	-	-
Joe Fruechtel	Johnny Cash	The Office	Black Olives	Legend of the Falls	My Dad	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Riar Geer	Vibrate	South Park	Meat Lovers	Dumb & Dumber	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Eugene Goree	DJ Yola	106 <sup>th</sup> & Park	-	300	My Dad	Super Bowl		
Cameron Ham	Crazy Train	Planet Earth	Pepperoni	Anchor Man	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Lionel Harris	-		Pepperoni	Friday After Next	My Little Brother	Super Bowl		
Edwin Harrison	Normal	Desperate Housewives	Sausage	Harlem Nights	My Parents	Final Four	Sporting News	
Josh Hartigan	Do the Heisman	Prison Break	Sausage & Pepperoni	Menace II Society		Super Bowl	SI	
Cody Hawkins	Tricky	Wildboyz	Pepperoni	Dumb & Dumber	Jesus Christ	BCS Champ.	ESPN	Chris Spielman
Devin Head	Volcano	24	Pepperoni Jalapenos Green Pepper	-	My Parents	Winter Olympics	SI	
Marquez Herrod	California	Heroes	Chicken & Sausage	Gladiator	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	
Drew Hudgins	Vibrate	Sportscenter	Meat Lovers	Wedding Crashers	Jesus Christ	BCS Champ.	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
George Hypolite	Vibrate	The Wire	Ham	The Wood	Angelia Davis	Super Bowl	ESPN	Lee Corso
Michael Iltis	Another Beer in Mexico	South Park	Pepperoni	Live Free or Die Hard	My Dad	Super Bowl		
Bernard Jackson	-		-	The Heat	Rosa Burgos	BCS Champ.	SI	Keith Jackson

#### 2007 Colorado Football: Eight Quick Questions / The Players • 4-4-4

Student-Athlete	What is your cell phone ring tone?	The One TV Show You Try Not To Miss	Your Favorite Pizza Topping(s)	Movie you have seen more than any other	Who is your personal hero	Sporting event most one day want to go to	Favorite sports magazine	Favorite college FB reporter or announcer
Arthur Jaffee	Make It Rain	Entourage	Pepperoni	300	-	Super Bowl		
Samson Jagoras	Live For This	Rob & Big	Cheese	Old School	Pat Tillman	Super Bowl	SI	Jim Rome
Brad Jones	The Humpty Dance	College Hill	Olives & Green Peppers	The Players Club	Myself	Super Bowl	ESPN	Charles Johnson
Taj Kaynor	So Fresh So Clean	Bad Boys of Comedy		Any Given Sunday	My Mom	NBA Finals	SI	Steven A. Smith
Eric Lawson	Should Have Been A Cowboy	Sportscenter	Mushrooms	Remember the Titans		World Series	SI	
Brian Lockridge	Sephia for the Q	Planet Earth	BBQ Chicken	Gladiator	Jesus Christ	Super Bowl	SI	
Maurice Lucas	King Kong	Naruto	Mushrooms	300	Hulk	World Series	ESPN	
Kai Maiava	Pass It To Me	Friends	Sausage & Olives	Friday	Cartman	Super Bowl	SI	Joel IKlatt
Chase McBride	Vibrate	Sportscenter	Pepperoni & Sausage	Bad Boys II	My Parents	Super Bowl	SI	All of them
Gardner McKay	Vibrate	I Love NY	Sausage & Pepperoni	300	God	Super Bowl	-	Dick Vitale
Scott McKnight	California	Family Guy	Pepperoni & Sausage	Dumb & Dumber	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Steve Melton	Vibrate	Lost	Hawaiian	The Program	My Parents	Kentucky Derby	SLAM	Lee Corso
Ryan Miller	Brick House	Simpsons	Pepperoni	The Princess Bride	My Parents	Super Bowl	Rise	Joel Klatt
Kevin Moyd	l Luv It	Run's House	Pepperoni & Sausage	ATL	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	Keith Jackson
Corey Nabors	I'm a King	My Wife &Kids	Pepperoni	Lion King	My Dad	Olympics	SI	Dick Vitale
Nick Nelson	Genene	Lost	Pepperoni	Billy Madison	My Dad	World Series	SI	Kirk Herbstreit
Brandon Nicholas	Normal	Lost	Pepperoni	Dumb & Dumber	My Parents	Super Bowl	SI	
Conrad Obi	Lil' Wayne	Making the Band 4	Veggie	Dumb & Dumber	My Brother	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Wes Palazzi	Ignition	Deal or No Deal	Cheese	Wedding Crashers	My Grandfather	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Anthony Perkins	What You Know	Sportscenter	Pepperoni	Cool Runnings	My Parents		SI	
Christopher Perri	Back in Black	CSI Miami	Pepperoni & Pineapple	Remember the Titans	Mark Perri	World Series of Poker	ESPN	Rod Gilmore
Tony Poremba	Cally-Man	Laguna Beach	Pineapple	Going Greek	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI	Chris Fowler
Tyler Polumbus	Pat Green	Lost	Pepperoni	Dumb & Dumber	Jesus Christ	Final Four	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Stephone Robinson	Gym Class Heroes	CSI Miami	Meat Lovers		My Mom	Duke vs. UNC Basketball Game	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Daniel Sanders	The Game	House	Pepperoni & Sausage	Boonies	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI Swimsuit Edition	Keith Jackson
Joe Sanders	Lil' Wayne	NFL All Access	Sausage	Wedding Crashers	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler

#### 2007 Colorado Football: Eight Quick Questions / The Players • 5-5-5

		The One	Your	Movie you		Sporting		Favorite
	M/hat is vous soll	TV Show	Favorite	have seen	Who is	event most	Favorite	college FB
Ctudout Athlete	What is your cell	You Try	Pizza	more than	your	one day want	sports	reporter or
Student-Athlete	phone ring tone?	Not To Miss	i opping(s)	any other	personal hero	to go to	magazine	announcer
Travis Sandersfield	Another One Bites The Dust	24	Pepperoni	Gladiator	John Elway	Super Bowl	SI	Dick Vitale
Devin Shanahan	Vibrate	The Office	Pepperoni	Dumb & Dumber		Super Bowl	SI	
Lagrone Shields	Lil' Wayne	Nip/Tuck	Supreme	Friday	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	Dick Vitale
Markques Simas	Lil' Wayne	Law & Order	Chicken & Pineapple	He Got Game	My Aunt	NBA Finals	ESPN	Shannon Sharpe
Mike Sipili	Pussycat Dolls		Lettuce & Onion		My Mom	Super Bowl		
Jeff Smart		Lost	Pepperoni	Dodgeball		Super Bowl	ESPN	
Bret Smith	Foxy Lady	Deadliest Catch	Pepperoni	The Sandlot	Jesus Christ	BCS Champ.	ESPN	
Jimmy Smith	Jim Jones	White Rapper Show	Pepperoni	Dave Chappelle	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	
Josh Smith	You Know What It Is	Making the Band	Ham & Pepperoni	Forest Gump	My Older Brothers	Super Bowl	Buffalo Stampede	
Lamont Smith	Lil' Boosie	Sportscenter	Pepperoni	How High	Darrent Williams	Super Bowl	SI	Lee Corso
Nate Solder			Hawaiian	-		Super Bowl	SI	
Dusty Sprague	Beeps	Dancing With The Stars	Sausage & Mushrooms	Braveheart	Ed McCaffrey	Summer Olympics	SI	
Bryan Stengel		UFC	Sausage & Green Chili	Dumb & Dumber	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI	Chris Fowler
Keenan Stevens		Planet Earth	Everything	Dumb & Dumber	Walter Payton	Super Bowl	ESPN	
Tom Suazo	Sopranos Intro	The Sopranos	Pepperoni & Green Peppers			Super Bowl	SI	
Demetrius Sumler	Do the Heisman	Bad Boys of Comedy	Pepperoni & Sausage	Friday After Next	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Steven A. Smith
Sione Tau		Inuyasha	Cheese	Legend of Johnny Lingo	God	Super Bowl	SI	
Nathan Vaiomounga			Sausage & Pineapple	300	God	Super Bowl		
Ryan Walters	Jay Z	House	Pepperoni	300	My Dad	World Cup	SI	Kirk Herbstreit
Terrence Wheatley	Paul Wall	Family Guy	Mushrooms	The Day After Tomorrow	My Parents	Olympics	ESPN	
Patrick Williams	Lil' Boosie	College Hill	Pepperoni	Sister Act 2	Jesus	Super Bowl	SI	Chris Berman
Anthony Wright	Al Green	Family Guy	Cheese	The Program	My Dad	Super Bowl	Stack Magazine	Keyshawn Johnson
Jarrell Yates		Family Guy	Meat Lovers	Spider-Man	My Grandmother	Super Bowl		

#### COLORADO PRESEASON HONORS

The list of honors accumulated by the Buffaloes in both the preseason magazines as well as from national award committees prior to the 2007 season:

#### PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA

- ILB R.J. BROWN (as ST Phenom first-team: New York Post)
- P MATT DiLALLO (honorable mention: Street & Smith's)
- ILB JORDON DIZON (honorable mention: Nationalchampions.net)
- CB TERRENCE WHEATLEY (second-team: Scout.com; honorable mention: Nationalchampions.net)
- FWAA Preseason Checklist (356 players): ILB Jordon Dizon (one of 48 linebackers), CB Terrence Wheatley (one of 37 defensive backs).

#### PRESEASON ALL-BIG 12 CONFERENCE

- P MATT Dilalo (second-team: The Sporting News; third-team: Phil Steele's College Football)
- $\textbf{ILB} \quad \textbf{JORDON DIZON (first-team:} \ \textit{Athlon}, \ \text{Big 12 Summer Media}, \ \textit{Huskers Illustrated, Lindy's Big 12 Football, Street & Smith's;}$ 
  - second-team: Phil Steele's College Football, The Sporting News)
- OT EDWIN HARRISON (fourth-team: Phil Steele's College Football)
- **DE DREW HUDGINS (fourth-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football***)**
- DT GEORGE HYPOLITE (second-team: Lindy's Big 12 Football; fourth-team: Phil Steele's College Football)
- DT BRANDON NICOLAS (fourth-team: Phil Steele's College Football)
- WR DUSTY SPRAGUE (fourth-team: Pbil Steele's College Football)
- FS RYAN WALTERS (first-team: Athlon, The Sporting News)
- CB TERRENCE WHEATLEY (first-team: Blue Ribbon Yearbook, CBS SportsLine.com, Huskers Illustrated, Lindy's Big 12 Football, Scout.com, Street & Smith's; second-team: Athlon, The Sporting News; fourth-team: Phil Steele's College Football)

#### NATIONAL TOP 50 PLAYER RATINGS

Cornerback: Terrence Wheatley (No. 12, Lindy's Big 12 Football; No. 48, Phil Steele's College Football)

**Defensive End:** Drew Hudgins (No. 38, *Phil Steele's College Football*) **Defensive Tackle:** George Hypolite (No. 50, *Phil Steele's College Football*)

Inside Linebacker: Jordon Dizon (No. 9, Lindy's Big 12 Football)

Outside Linebacker: Jordon Dizon (No. 19, Phil Steele's College Football; note: Dizon plays ILB and has never played OLB)

Punter: Matt DiLallo (No. 15, Phil Steele's College Football)

#### NATIONAL UNIT RATINGS

Defensive Line: No. 27 (Phil Steele's College Football)

#### PRESEASON TEAM RANKINGS

Publication	National	Big 12 North	Publication	National	Big 12 Nor
Scout.com (CFB News)	No. 56	4th	Jim Feist's College FB		4t
CBS SportsLine.com CFB	No. 57	4th	Blue Ribbon Yearbook		4tl
Athlon Sports	No. 61	5th	DC Texas Football		4tl
Phil Steele's College Footbal	l No. 62	4th	Big 12 Summer Media Poll		5tl
Sports Illustrated	No. 70	4th	Game Plan Magazines		5tl
Lindy's Big 12 Football	No. 74	5th	Street & Smith's		5tl
The Sporting News	No. 80	5th	USA Today Sports Weekly		5th
Southern College Sports		3rd	Huskers Illustrated		6th
Surefire Scouting		t-3rd			

#### PLAYERS FOR NATIONAL AWARDS

Chuck Bednarik Award (defensive player of the year): ILB Jordon Dizon (one of 65 candidates on official watch list)

**Dick Butkus Award** (top linebacker): **ILB Jordon Dizon** (one of 66 on official watch list)

Ray Guy Award (top punter): P Matthew DiLallo (one of 41 on official watch list)

Ronnie Lott Award (top defensive impact player): ILB Jordon Dizon (one of 42 candidates on official watch list)

Dave Rimington Award (top center): C Daniel Sanders (one of 54 candidates on official watch list)

Jim Thorpe Award (top defensive back): CB Terrence Wheatley (one of 35 on official watch list)

Doak Walker Award (top running back): TB Hugh Charles (one of 51 candidates on official watch list)

#### A GREAT DAY FOR CU PLACEKICKERS

The 925 miles that separate Denver and Green Bay seemed a lot closer for former University of Colorado All-American placekicker **Mason Crosby** Saturday.

While awaiting his fate on either making the roster of the Packers and beginning his career in the National Football League, there was no better way for Crosby to bide his time by catching his old team on television and watching the Buffaloes beat Colorado State in overtime, 31-28. His former teammate and practice partner for four years, senior Kevin Eberhart, made a 22-yard field goal to send the game into the extra period and then connect on a 35-yard boot to win it.

"It was good to have the distraction. Ever since the game ended on Thursday night (referring to Green Bay's final preseason game against Tennessee), it's been a waiting game," Crosby said. "So being able to watch some college football was a great way to keep my mind from wandering, and fortunately I found a restaurant across from our hotel that was showing the CU-CSU game. It was the perfect way to pass some time while my fate was decided here.

"We were supposed to find out around 3 p.m., and that's right about when Kevin made the winning kick. I was really into the game and kind of lost track of the time."

"I have to say it was kind of weird watching he whole team playing and not being out there with them," he added. "But I knew Kevin would come through. He's an excellent kicker, and he helped me to keep pushing myself my entire time at CU. It's a great way for him to start his senior year and as the full-time kicker, and I am sure he's excited about it. I'll probably give him a call (Sunday) when everything settles down. I know how it is when you make a couple of kicks like he did, you want to celebrate with your family and enjoy it.

Crosby realized the similarities in this year's game to the 2005 contest, when he made two field goals in the final two minutes that also produced a 31-28 win over the Rams. "When it was nearing the end and we were down 28-25, I knew in my heart that we were going to get the ball back. Chase (McBride) had a really good (punt) return, and I knew that if we couldn't score a touchdown, Kevin would tie it up. I was happy to see him step up and take the reins and get after it. I knew he would do it and I am really proud of him and really everyone for coming back the way they did.

"I didn't know what was happening with me until about 3:45, that's when I got the news. So it really was a great day, watching the old team win and a good friend coming through in the clutch, not once but twice, and topping it off by solidifying my spot on a new team. You couldn't script it any better."

#### LATE BIO

Several walk-ons joined the program either in camp or on the first day of school. One who has already contributed is **PK Tyler Cope**; he had a good camp when it came to kicking off, and he did so five times in Colorado's opener against Colorado State. His bio appears below:

## 19 TYLER COPE, PK

6-1, 180, Fr., HS, Portland, Ore. (Jesuit)

AT COLORADO: This Season (Fr.)—He had a good fall camp and emerged from it as a candidate to handle some occasional kickoff chores. He kicked very well in scrimmages and had several touchbacks kicking from the 30. He joined the team as an invited walk-on for August drills.

HIGH SCHOOL—He earned first-team All-State and All-League honors his senior year at placekicker, as he connected on 6-of-8 field goals (long of 39) and converted on 83-of-86 PAT kicks for 103 points. He set a state record for PAT's made in a season. As a junior, he was perfect on the year, converting all three field goal attempts (39 long) and all 12 PAT kicks. In earning two letters under coach Ken Potter, Jesuit was 14-0 his senior season (state champs) and 13-1 his junior season (state champs). He lettered four times in track, participating in the state meet all four years, and earned first-team All-State honors as a senior in the 4x400 meter relay. As a junior, he was first-team All-State in the 300-meter hurdles (he took second in the event) and the 4x400-meter relay, helping Jesuit capture the state title; he also earned All-League

honors in the 400 and the hurdles. He also lettered once in soccer (defenseman), helping his team to runner-up honors in the state tournament.

**ACADEMICS**—He is majoring in Mechanical Engineering at Colorado. He was an honor roll student all four years in high school. As a senior, he was a member of the National Honor Society and won his school's photography award.

**PERSONAL**—Born February 2, 1989 in Ann Arbor, Mich. His hobbies include golfing, fishing, skiing and camping and he has also worked as a professional photographer. His father, Bret, played soccer at Santa Clara. zA great uncle, Chuck Lamson, played collegiately at Wyoming and played five seasons as a safety in the NFL with Minnesota (1962-63) and the Los Angeles Rams (1965-67). He has aspirations of serving as an engineer in the military after his football playing days conclude.



## 1

# **STEPHONE ROBINSON**Wide Receiver 5-8, 190, Sr.

- Robinson started his career at cornerback before making the transition to offense in 2005. His main contributions during his career have come by way of his return game; he was the successor to Jeremy Bloom in the punt return category.
- He often fields punts in traffic, sacrificing his average. But his abilities
  have led to a new special teams point category: Field Position Saves;
  His knack for fielding punts in traffic came during his first year on the
  job when the special teams unit rarely set up to block for punt returns,
  electing to go for the block instead.
- You could say he is morally opposed to making fair catches: "I just feel
  like any returner can get back there and fair catch. I feel like if I don't
  fair catch and something happens, like the gunner coming down
  misses me, I can turn it into a big play. I'm going to get tackled
  anyway, so..."

#### **Human Interest:**

 He is roommates with fellow wide receiver and punt returner Chase McBride.

#### **PUNT RETURNS**

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	12	35	269	7.7	1	41t
2005	12	25	248	9.9	1	81t
2006	12	15	76	5.1	0	36
2007	1	1	11	11.0	0	11
Totals	36	48	857	17.9	0	81t

#### KICKOFF RETURNS

Season	G	No.	<u>Yds</u>	Avg.	טו	Long
2004	12	15	269	17.9	0	27
2005	12	18	327	18.2	0	33
2006	12	15	261	17.4	0	26
Totals	36	48	857	17.9	0	33

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	12	6	61	10.2	0	14
2006	12	2	1	0.5	0	1
2007	2	1	2	2.0	0	2
Totals	26	9	64	7.1	0	14



## 2

## **HUGH CHARLES** Tailback

5-8, 190, Sr.

- Charles came back to start against Florida State, but only rushed the ball four times. His main contributions came in the passing game where he hauled in five passes for 41 yards.
- He pulled up with a strained hamstring on a 15-yard reception against CSU (fourth play of the game). He missed the ASU game, snapping a streak of 36 straight games in which he had played; the only other was the first game of his freshman year.

#### Hawkins' Take:

- "I've been on him every day—every time I see him I just keep reminding him about passion. He's so strong and so fast and so powerful that he's got to run with that Walter Payton kind of passion, and if he does he can be one of the better backs in the conference."
- His weight room numbers are off the charts. Though he stands only 5'8, 190 lbs., he is first on the team in the power clean (374 lbs.), tied for third in the hang clean (391 lbs.), third in the squat (635 lbs.), second in the bench press (420 lbs.) and third in the 40-yard dash (4.53; although he has been clocked as fast a 4.34).

#### **Human Interest:**

- He earned his solo pilot's license in a Cessna 172 as a sophomore in high school and Fox Sports did a feature on him last fall as he took a reporter and cameraman up flying with him (our BuffVision department has footage).
- He enjoys skiing, fishing and wakeboarding in his spare time. He has also taken up golf recently: in his short time playing, he is generally an 18-handicap.

#### RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	11	17	49	2.9	0	14
2005	12	176	842	4.8	6	74t
2006	12	139	779	5.6	1	44
2007	2	4	9	2.2	0	6
Totals	37	336	1679	5.0	7	74t

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	11	1	8	8.0	0	8
2005	12	26	226	8.7	1	51t
2006	12	9	85	9.4	0	33
2007	2	6	56	9.3	0	19
Totals	37	42	375	8.9	1	51t

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Passing: 1-0-0, 0 (2006). Kickoff Returns: 3-47, 15.7 avg., 18 long (2006).





NICK NELSON Quarterback 6-1, 220, Jr.

- · Nelson was inserted into the ASU game late in the fourth quarter.
- He provides grit and a winning pedigree (18-5 at Saddleback) to the Buffs' offense. He pushed starter Cody Hawkins and made a close call out of the quarterback battle—Hawkins was not named the starter until two weeks into camp even though many considered it a forgone conclusion
- He combined to complete 31-of-53 passes for 358 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions in three fall camp scrimmages.

(	Colorado QBs in Combined Fall Scrimmages						
		A-C-I	Pct.	Yds TI	D	Rating	
	Hawkins	49-31-1	63.3	369	4	149.4	
	Nelson	53-31-3	58.5	358	2	116.4	
	Ballenger	28-21-1	75.0	250	1	178.3	

 A team-first player, Nelson is good friends with starter Cody Hawkins and he plans to continue to push him for the starting job. Both QBs have acknowledged that teams rarely make it through a season with only one quarterback.

Season	G	Att-Com-Int	Pct.	Yds	TD	Long
2007	1	3- 1- 0	33.3	10	0	10
Totale	1	3.1.0	33.3	10	0	10



3

## JIMMY SMITH Cornerback 6-2, 200, Fr.-RS

 A talented corner with good size (6'2, 200 lbs.), Smith had an excellent spring, winning the team's Hale Irwin Award, given to the most improved defensive back.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plavs	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	1	5	0	1-1	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	1	5	0	1-1	0-0	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totale	٥	0	٥	0	0	_





# PATRICK WILLIAMS Wide Receiver 6-2, 200, Jr.

- Williams caught five passes for 59 yards against CSU: several of them key plays: Two of his receptions came on third-and-long situations in a key fourth quarter touchdown drive in which the Buffs drove 86 yards to bring them within a field goal of the Rams. He also had a 31-yard reception with under a minute left in the first half which set up a field goal. He drew a pass interference penalty on fourth down late in the fourth quarter which led to the tying field goal and forced overtime.
- He led off the game with a 24-yard gain on a reverse, the longest first rush of the season in CU history; he thus owns a unique pair of records, as he caught a 42-yard pass on the first play last season, the longest pass play in school annals. So he owns the longest rush and reception to open any season in Buffalo history.
- One of the more experienced wide receivers on the Buffs' roster, Williams will be counted on to fulfill his potential in his junior season.
- Williams' confidence is seemingly the only thing that has kept him from reaching the next level. Offensive Coordinator Mark Helfrich "complimented" Williams after he had a pair of touchdown receptions in the first fall scrimmage: "He's made more plays the last two days in practice than he did all last year."

#### From There to Here:

- Injuries sabotaged his true freshman season in 2004. He spent much
  of the fall with both hands in casts after a pair of freak circumstances
  led to broken bones in each. One hand was injured after becoming
  tangled in a defender's face mask.
- In high school, he was a quarterback in an option offense, leading to his slow progression as a wide receiver.

#### Human Interest:

• The deeply religious Williams can be seen kneeling and praying each time he leaves the football field.

#### **RECEIVING**

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	12	28	241	8.6	0	27
2006	12	19	242	12.7	1	42
2007	3	12	106	8.8	0	31
Totals	27	59	589	10.0	1	42

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Rushing: 7-22, 3.1 avg., 0 TD, 14 long (2006). Special Team Tackles: 0,1—1 (2005).





# **KENDRICK CELESTINE**Wide Receiver 6-0, 190, Fr.

 A lighting-quick receiver, Celestine is one of two true freshman to play for the Buffs this season.

#### Hawkins' Take:

 "He is a very, very electric guy with the bal in his hands. He has speed to burn."

#### Kiesau's Take:

"He can take a 5-yard curl or a 12-yard hitch and take it to the house.
 We haven't seen that around here in the last couple of years."

#### **Human Interest:**

 He hails from the small town of Mamou, La. When Hawkins visited receiver Kendrick Celestine, he got lost on his way to Mamou, population 3,500 and famous for its Cajun music. He was driving down a county road, and the best directions he received from locals were "turn left at the big barn." Quipped Hawkins: "You haven't lived until you've been to Mamou, La."

 He has formed a close bond with fellow freshmen wide receivers Josh Smith and Markques Simas. The three are roommates.

#### **RECEIVING**

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	3	2	17	8.5	0	11





## **GARDNER McKAY** Cornerback 5-11, 160, Jr.

 A supremely talented athlete, McKay was stuck behind veteran Terrence Wheatley at cornerback in 2006 (Wheatley played all but one defensive snap during the course of the season).

#### **Human Interest:**

• He found his way to CU because his high school teammate was Darian Hagan Jr., the son of running backs coach Darian Hagan.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	9	82	5	0-5	0- 0	0- 0
2006	6	66	3	1-4	0- 0	0- 0
2007	3	15	2	0–2	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	18	163	10	1–11	0- 0	0- 0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF PBU	<u>Int</u>	

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	1	0	0	0	1	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0
2007	2	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3	0	0	0	1	Ō





## **CODY HAWKINS** Quarterback 5-11, 190, Fr.-RS

- Hawkins was officially named the starting quarterback on August 19, the day after CU's second scrimmage of the fall. He had the advantage of being far more familiar with the playbook than Nick Nelson, and he won the job because of his consistency in executing plays.
- He combined to complete 31-of-49 passes for 369 yards, four touchdowns and one interception in three fall camp scrimmages.
- Going back to his grade school days, he has always been a quarterback. In organized games, from sixth grade through his senior year as a prep, his teams were a combined 59-0.

Colorado QBs	Colorado QBs in Combined Fall Scrimmages							
	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds TD	<u>)                                    </u>	Rating			
Hawkins	49-31-1	63.3	369	4	149.4			
Nelson	53-31-3	58.5	358	2	116.4			
Ballenger	28-21-1	75.0	250	1	178.3			

#### Dan Hawkins' Take (after Cody's first win against CSU):

"I thought he did OK. He would be the first one to tell you he missed a few throws. But in general, not bad. I was more pleased with the overall team effort. He has been around this so many times. He has been on the bus, and he's been on the big stage so for him it's just another day in the park. We knew emotionally he wasn't going to have a problem. He knows the greatest joy is going out there saying that I have the guts to play in front of 65,000 people and lay it on the line."

#### Helfrich's Take:

 "He makes almost every routine play and that's a big deal as a quarterback—just making every play that's there. And then the difference-maker-type plays, those are the ones you have to make a

majority of to be on the greater side of good. Cody has worked toward that."

#### **Human Interest:**

- On signing day of 2006, Hawkins went to school with a letter of intent for both Boise State and Colorado signed by his mother. Even Dan Hawkins did not know he committed until the letter was faxed to the
- After CU's 31-28 win over CSU in his first collegiate start, Hawkins improved to 60-0 as a starting quarterback going back to Pop Warner ball. His 201 passing yards were more than QBs Bernard Jackson or James Cox had in any game in 2006. The streak finally ended at Arizona State the following week, but you could never tell from his demeanor. He's a learn from experience and move forward kinda guy.
- Coach Hawkins said that he believes that former major leaguer Bill Buckner made a real difference when it came to Cody's confidence as a young athlete. He was his baseball coach and the combination of Buckner believing in him (Cody was a pitcher) and the expectations and demands placed on him really had an impact.

Season	G	Att-Com-Int	Pct.	Yds	TD I	Long
2007	3	127- 68- 4	53.5	669	1	38
Totals	2	74- 34- 2	46.0	363	3	32



DEMETRIUS SUMLER Tailback 5-10, 210, RS-Fr.

- Taking over for an injured Hugh Charles, Sumler was the primary tailback against CSU, rushing 16 times for 85 yards and a touchdown. He was also the workhorse against ASU, carrying the ball 16 times, and against FSU, carrying the ball eight times.
- Sumler, who finished his high school career as the San Diego area's career rushing leader, is expected to fight for carries with tailbacks Hugh Charles and Byron Ellis. He is the most powerful running back on the Buffs' roster and the player most physically suited for goal-line situations.
- He is not a burner and does not possess "breakaway speed," but he is fully capable of ripping of 40 or 50-yard runs, according to coaches.

#### On his first collegiate touchdown:

• "I've got to give all the credit to the big guys up front. It was definitely something I've dreamed about since I was a kid, to get that first touchdown in college.'

#### Hawkins' Take:

• "He's a blue-collar guy. He never misses a cut; he always maximizes every run, and if there is a crease there he is good at getting leverage and getting back to where he needs to be. I think that whole mentality brings a lot to the offense. I think you can use him anywhere. He's not a 4.4 guy but he's fast enough. We really felt like last year probably could have played and probably could have helped us. He probably felt like that, too. But I think he is a lot stronger and his body is put together a little bit better. We have total confidence in him. He is a very, very productive player."

#### RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	3	40	133	3.3	1	14
Totals	3	40	133	3.3	1	14



Daniel Dykes Safety 6-2. 205. Jr.

- · Dykes was the starter against Colorado State, playing all 83 snaps of
- He has some physical limitations, especially in space, but he makes up for it by being a smart player with great instincts. He may remind some

of former CU safety Tom Hubbard, Defensive MVP of the 2004 Houston Bowl.

#### From There to Here:

- Transferred from Idaho, where he started for the Vandals his freshman and sophomore seasons. Coming from Southern California, he didn't like the town of Moscow: "It's just a slow place, a quiet place. And it just really wasn't the environment for me. On top of that, this would have been my senior year there, and I would have had three head coaches in four years."
- He came to CU because he played against Hawkins and Boise state twice and thought he wouldn't have to re-establish himself as a player by catching on with someone who knew him.

#### Hawkins' Take:

"He's smart, he's tough, he's a playmaker and gets himself into the right position and works hard. Those guys usually surface in life, and he certainly has. Like I like to say, he has great countenance. I think that lends itself to productivity."

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-	-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	3	213	17	9-	-26	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	3	213	17	9-	-26	0- 0	0- 0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int	
2007	4	1	0	0	1	0	
Totals	4	1	0	0	1	0	



JOSH SMITH Wide Receiver 6-0, 180, Fr.

- · He saw his first action against Florida State and touched the ball on the first play of the game—an end around which went for -2 yards. He did end up with two receptions for 40 yards, including a 38-yard grab, the longest for CU this season.
- Established himself as an explosive play-maker and was one of CU's best players in fall camp before bruising his kidney during the Buffs' second scrimmage.
- · He finished the scrimmage but felt an excruciating pain in the shower after his adrenaline had worn off. He spent four nights at Boulder Community Hospital before being released. Hawkins has said doctors have indicated he could be ready to play when the Buffs face Florida State on Sept. 15.

#### Helfrich's Take:

• "Josh Smith has been kind of what we thought he was. He's an electrifying-type guy. No question, he was certainly one of our top two receivers [during camp]. At times our best, at times our second [best], but we will just have to wait and see how that all shakes down."

#### **Human Interest:**

• Known as Josh "Fly" by his teammates, he knew fellow freshman wide receiver Markques Simas in high school and the two decided to commit to CU together. Smith and Simas live with Kendrick Celestine, the third wide receiver in CU's freshman class.

#### **RECEIVING**

Season Yds Avg. TD Long 2007 8.5



BERNARD JACKSON Quarterback/Wide Receiver 6-0, 200, Sr.

Voted as the offensive captain by his teammates, Jackson will play a "slash" role for the Buffs this season, possibly contributing as a quarterback, wide receiver, tailback and kick returner. Along with fellow senior Hugh Charles, Jackson is one of two primary "home run" threats in the Buffs' offense.

- He missed most of camp while focusing on his academics.
- He remains a long shot to play against CSU, but Hawkins declined to completely rule it out. A year ago, Jackson made his surprise debut against Colorado State, the first of 11 games he would start for the Buffs in 2006.

#### **Human Interest:**

 Jackson has a 2-year-old son named Jayden who lost an eye to cancer.

#### Hawkins' Take:

"Bernard, he's got some extenuating circumstances that would be tough on me. We always talk about life not being fair in a sense, but he's got some obligations and some other things that are tough on any person. And then you're a person that's a student, and then you're a person that's a student playing football. That's not necessarily an excuse, but my heart goes out to the guy. He's got a lot of irons in the fire."

#### **PASSING**

Season	G	Att-Com-Int		Pct.	Yds	TD	Long
2004	6	2-	2-0	100.0	59	0	41
2005	6	0-	0-0	0.0	0	0	0
2006	12	219-1	.08- 7	49.3	1298	7	63
Totals	24	221-1	10-7	49.8	1357	7	63

#### RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	6	1	3	3.0	0	3
2005	6	8	10	1.3	0	7
2006	12	155	677	4.4	7	62t
Totals	24	164	690	4.2	7	62t

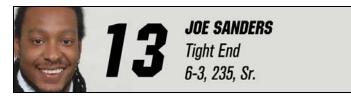
ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Sacked/Yards Lost: 28/155 (2006). Kickoff Returns: 1-25, 25.0 avg. (2005). Punt Returns: 1-minus 1, -1.0 avg. (2004).



- Sipili is eligible to return against Miami, Ohio after being suspended for three games after violating team rules.
- He would have been the likely starter at the "Mike" linebacker position, but has been practicing there in lieu of missing game action.
- His reputation for being a hard hitter has turned his last named into a verb. Early in fall camp, coaches were wincing when some players were getting "Sipili'd," so they told him to let up a little. In a drill without pads, Sipili hit senior running back Byron Ellis so hard, Hawkins said he thought he had broken Ellis' collarbone. Fortunately Ellis was OK. But make no mistake, when players are in pads Sipili has the green light.

#### **TACKLES**

INDIVEE							
Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-	-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	10	155	16	15-	-31	0- 0	0- 0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int	
2006	3	1	0	Ο	1	0	



A talented member of a deep crop of tight ends on the Buffs' roster.
 Sanders was recruited to CU as a tight end, but after switching to linebacker and playing sparingly there the last three years, he made the move back to tight end.

#### From There to Here:

 His biggest play to date came as a redshirt freshman in 2004 against Washington State in his first defensive action ever when former linebacker Brian Iwuh went down with a high ankle sprain. In the middle of the fourth quarter with CU clinging to a 10-6 lead, he picked off an Alex Brink pass and returned the interception for a 51-yard touchdown. He was nominated for ESPN's Game Changing Performance Award.

#### **Human Interest:**

 Former CU basketball center and current Indiana Pacer David Harrison helped persuade Sanders to become a Buff. Harrison, who also hails from Nashville and attended a nearby high school, has known Sanders since 1998.

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	3	4	44	11.0	0	14
Totals	2	4	44	11.0	0	14
TACKLES						

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	7	74	5	4-9	1- 1	0- 0
2005	4	26	0	0-1	0- 0	0- 0
2006	3	36	1	3–4	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	15	148	8	1–9	0- 0	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2004	0	0	0	0	0	1
2005	1	0	0	0	0	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2	0	0	0	1	0

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Return Yards: 1-51, 51.0 avg., 51t long, 1 TD (2004).



- Was named to the Ray Guy Award watch list on Sept. 18, one of 41 players nationally the committee is tracking.
- Punted twice against CSU, pinning the Rams inside their own 20 both times. He had a good punting day against ASU, with four of his seven punts inside the 20, but he threw an incomplete pass to S Daniel Dykes on a fake punt attempt in the third quarter.
- Slated as CU's starting punter, the sophomore looks to improve upon an impressive freshman campaign. He was presented the Bill McCartney Award in the spring, given to the team's most improved special teams player.
- DiLallo has considerably more confidence this year, his coach say, which should lead to more consistency and execution in crucial situations
- He had his moments as a freshman, only the third to ever handle the punting chores at CU, and he set a school frosh record for the longest punt with a 73-yard kick against Colorado State in Denver.
- A left-footed punter like his predecessor John Torp, he is on track to be a four-year starter.

#### **Human Interest:**

- He was mentored by kicking/punting guru Tony Bugeja, a former placekicker for the Osceola Ghost Riders of the World Indoor Football League. DiLallo is from the Palm Beach area where Bugeja also coached soccer and did volunteer instructional work with local punters and kickers.
- DiLallo is a pre-med major and aspires to be a surgeon.

#### **PUNTING**

Season	G	No	Yds	Avg.	Long
2006	12	47	2056	43.8	73
2007	3	17	701	41.2	56
Totals	16	64	2757	43.1	73

	In		had	Ret	Net	Net
Season	20	50+	blk	Yds	Yds	Avg.
2006	14	8	2	246	1810	38.5
2007	6	2	0	112	589	34.6
Totals	20	10	2	358	2399	37.5



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RYAN WALTERS Safety 5-11, 200, Jr.

 Firmly entrenched as the Buffs' starting free safety, Walters is healthy, and after a summer or heavy workouts, he claims to be "faster and stronger" than ever before.

#### From There to Here:

- He nearly saved the day for the Buffs against Kansas in 2006. With the
  Jayhawks up 20-9 and driving inside the Colorado 10-yard line to seal
  the win, Walters caught a Todd Reesing [Kansas QB] fumble at the 5yard line and returned it 95 yards for a touchdown, bringing the Buffs
  to within five points of Kansas.
- He started to develop as an excellent young player as a redshirt freshman. During the spring of 2005, he was the recipient of the Dick Anderson Award for the most improved player on defense.

#### **Human Interest:**

 He grew up in the apartments that overlook CU's practice fields. He lived there while his father, Marc, played quarterback for the Buffs from 1986-89.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	9	163	12	4-16	0- 0	0- 0
2006	11	553	41	16-57	1- 3	0- 0
2007	3	216	13	16-29	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	23	932	66	36–102	1- 3	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	0	2	0	0	5	0
2006	4	0	1	1	3	2
2007	3	1	0	1	2	0
Totals	7	3	1	2	10	2

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Return Yards: 2-minus 2, -1,0 avg., 0 long (2006). Fumble Returns: 1-95, 95.0 avg., 95 long, 1 TD (2006). Special Team Tackles: 3,0—3 (2005).



17

**ALVIN BARNETT**Wide Receiver
5-11, 190, Sr.

 Barnett missed an early portion of fall camp while finishing up summer classes and will face stiff competition at the wide receiver position.

#### From There to Here:

 He struggled as a sophomore in 2005 after transferring from NE Oklahoma A&M and having to adapt to the fast pace of Division 1 football.

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	12	17	131	7.7	0	19
2006	12	21	232	11.0	1	38
Totals	24	38	363	96	1	38

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Rushing: 2-28, 14.0 avg., 20 long (2005); 1-minus 2, -2.0 avg. (2006). Fumble Returns: 1-9, 9.0 avg. (2006).



19

**TYLER COPE**Placekicker
6-1, 180, Fr.

- He is one of four true freshman to see playing time this season, serving as CU's kick off specialist.
- Cope has the edge over senior placekicker Kevin Eberhart in kick off distance, but Everhart has the edge in hang time. But as Hawkins said, "If you kick it out of the end zone it doesn't matter what your hang time is."



SCOTTY McKNIGHT Wide Receiver 5-10. 185. Fr.-RS

- McKnight has led the team in receptions and receiving yards in each of the Buffs' three games.
- He scored the Buffs' only offensive points against ASU and led the team in receptions and yards.
- McKnight was one of Cody's Hawkins' go-to receivers against CSU, catching eight passes for 106 yards and a touchdown. His 106 receiving yards are the most by any player in CU history in his debut. His touchdown came on a 32-yard catch which capped the Buffs' first drive and put them on top 7-0.
- One of the Buffs' most consistent route-runners, McKnight has vaulted to the top of the depth chart at the "z" receiver grouping.
- He is a walk-on who will be given strong consideration for a scholarship.
- He broke his ankle during the first day of spring football, but was fully recovered by the start of fall camp.

#### Helfrich's Take:

"Scotty has had a good camp. The word consistent would apply to him.
He is catching the ball really well; he's not the fastest guy in the world
but he runs consistent good, clean routes. He will definitely be in the
mix."

#### Human Interest:

- He attended an Elite 11 Quarterback Camp in Mission Viejo before his senior year of high school, where he shagged balls, caught passes and struck up a friendship with future teammate Cody Hawkins.
- He trained with, and got a serious sales pitch from former CU wide receiver John Minardi.

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	3	20	231	11.6	2	32
Totals	3	20	231	11 6	2	32



22

KEVIN MOYD Tailback 5-7, 195, So.

- Switched jersey numbers from No. 23 into No. 22 as he and Jalil Brown are both on special team units together; after California was flagged against Tennessee for two players wearing the same number, CU audited its numbers and moved to be sure it won't happen here.
- Had the first carry of his career against CSU, a nine-yard gain on a pitch which set up Demetrius Sumler's touchdown two plays later in the third quarter.
- A speedy tailback, Moyd will try to crack the line up amidst a deep crop
  of running backs. Most of his production will likely come on special
  teams.

#### **RUSHING**

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	3	2	7	3.5	0	9
Totals	2	2	7	35	0	9



JALIL BROWN Cornerback 6-1, 205, Fr.-RS

- Made his collegiate debut against CSU, playing on special teams.
- The last addition to Hawkins' first recruiting class, he was largely overlooked in the recruiting process because he was home-schooled and it was difficult for coaches to track down all of his necessary academic records.



Daniel Dykes started at safety against CSU ahead of Harris.

#### From There to Here:

 He started six of the Buffs' last seven games in 2006, yielding his start against Nebraska to senior J.J. Billingsley for Senior Day.

#### **Human Interest:**

 He was an accomplished bull rider from seventh to 10th grade, as he earned one win and a runner-up finish in organized competitions.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	1	6	1	0-1	0- 0	0- 0
2005	4	30	1	0-1	0- 0	0- 0
2006	8	431	40	27-67	3- 7	0- 0
2007	1	6	1	0-1	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	14	473	43	27–70	3- 7	0- 0
_						

Season	305	Hurr	FK	<u> </u>	PBU	<u>inτ</u>
2004	1	0	0	0	0	0
2005	1	0	0	0	0	1
2006	5	0	1	2	2	1
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	0	1	2	2	2

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Returns: 1-0, 0.0 avg. (2005); 1-2, 2.0 avg. (2006).



- On the third snap from scrimmage against ASU, Wheatley stepped in front of a Rudy Carpenter pass and returned it 35 yards for a touchdown. Both of his interceptions returned for scores have come against formidable quarterbacks. His other one, back in 2004, came off of former Texas QB Vince Young.
- Thus, his two picks in '07 helped CU win in overtime over CSU and got the Buffs on the board in 102-degree heat in Arizona.
- Wheatley was all over the field against CSU, highlighted by his interception of QB Caleb Hanie in the end zone in overtime. He also returned three kickoffs for 135 yards, including a 68-yard return in the third quarter.
- The Denver Broncos have Champ Bailey; the Colorado Buffaloes have Terrence Wheatley. A legitimate Jim Thorpe Award candidate, Wheatley has all the physical tools to be a lockdown corner.

- Played in a team-high 776 snaps from scrimmage in 2006.
- He is likely the fastest player on the Buffs, as he has been clocked at a sub-4.3 in the 40-yard dash.
- He has had four surgeries on his wrist, missing the 2005 season after having a metal plate inserted in his wrist. His last surgery was performed the day after CU's final 2006 game against Nebraska.

#### From There to Here:

 His first career interception came as a sophomore in 2004, as he scored CU's only touchdown of the day against Texas. He intercepted a pass by Vince Young and returned it 37 yards for a score.

#### Hawkins' Take:

"When the pro scouts come by, I just jump on the table for that guy. I think he is a very solid individual, he is a hard worker, he is a smart guy, he is dependable, he is very, very consistent and he is a special player. I could see that guy, if he continues, being an All-American type player. It is awesome to have him in the return game, too, because we know how fast he is and now that his wrist is healed up and it's not as big a problem as it was last year, he can do some great things there. But he is a great kid, he really is."

#### **Human Interest:**

• He goes by the nickname "T-Wheat."

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2003	6	268	19	2-24	0- 0	0- 0
2004	12	535	27	6-33	1- 1	0- 0
2006	12	776	46	11-57	4-8	1½- 5
2007	3	213	7	2–9	1- 2	0- 0
Totals	32	1716	99	24-123	6-11	11/2- 5

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2003	0	0	0	0	5	0
2004	5	0	0	0	3	4
2006	11	2	2	1	11	5
2007	3	1	0	0	3	2
Totals	19	3	2	1	22	11

#### KICKOFF RETURNS

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2003	6	2	57	28.5	0	38
2004	12	16	357	22.3	0	59
2006	12	1	17	17.0	0	17
2007	3	11	311	28.3	0	68
Totals	33	30	668	24.7	0	68



27

BYRON ELLIS Tailback 6-0, 215, Sr.

 CU's bulkiest tailback, he's a solid inside runner and is often called upon in short yardage situations. An added benefit is that he has good hands and offers another option out of the backfield. He is CU's best running back in pass protection.

#### **Human Interest:**

 For seven years as a youth, Ellis lived in a two-bedroom apartment at the gated 601-unit Mar Vista Gardens, a federal housing project in Culver City, Calif. When interviewed by an *L.A. Times* reporter about staying out of gangs, Ellis said, "I don't want to live at Mar Vista gardens forever. I want to be tops in life in everything I do. I compete with the nerds; I compete on the football field.

#### RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg. TI	Long
2004	9	19	61	3.2 0	11
2005	12	75	216	2.9 0	25
2006	12	38	126	3.3 1	11
2007	3	6	4	0.7 0	2
Totals	36	138	407	2.9 1	25

## **ELLIS**, continued

RECEIVING	
Season	

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	. TD	Long
2004	9	1	3	3.0	0	3
2005	12	6	70	11.7	0	38
2006	12	4	26	6.5	0	7
2007	1	1	-2	-2.0	0	-2
Totals	34	12	97	8.1	0	38

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Kickoff Returns: 1-25, 25.0 avg. (2005); 2-43, 21.5 avg. (2006); 1-15, 15.0 avg. (2007).



Briefly switched to wide receiver during the off season, but returned to the secondary where he will likely be the primary nickel corner.

#### **TACKLES**

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Returns: 1-0, 0.0 avg. (2006). Punt Returns: 1-1, 1.0 avg. (2006). Special Team Tackles: 4,2—6 (2006).



- In a battle with senior Samson Jagoras for the starting fullback position.
- A converted linebacker, Cantrell possesses ideal size for a fullback. **Human Interest:**
- He goes by the nickname "Moe."

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.		TD Long
2006	12	2	38	19.0	0	20



R.J. BROWN Inside Linebacker 6-1, 225, Jr.

- Why was Brown named special teams captain? Through two games, Brown has racked up 12 special teams points; Only two players had more than 12 special teams points all of last season (Terry Washington, 20; Ben Carpenter, 15).
- · Playing in his first career action on defense against CSU, Brown started for the Buffs and had a solid effort with six total tackles and a third down stop. Defensive coordinator Ron Collins said Brown made many mistakes but they were all correctable.
- Named the special teams captain by his teammates, Brown sits atop the depth chart at the "Mike" linebacker position due to the indefinite suspension of sophomore Michael Sipili.

- · Special teams coach Kent Riddle frequently shows a highlight reel of Brown's kamikaze-like heroics on special teams during meetings.
- Brown is one of only two former walk-ons since 1980 to be named a team captain (QB Joel Klatt being the other).
- He was put on scholarship when he returned from Big 12 Media Days in San Antonio in July.

#### Hawkins' Take:

"When he asked me why I put him on a scholarship I said 'Well because you're a tough guy, you're a hard worker, you're a good leader, you do things right and you're the kind of guy we want in the program and we want to reward that.' He will do whatever, whenever. He gets it done in the classroom, he's there early and he's there late. He's a no-excuse guy, a tough guy and I think he's one of those guys where in a good system, which I think we have, that you can compensate sometimes for some physical things for some mental and intangible things."

#### Dizon's Take:

• "He hasn't played a snap at linebacker, but he was named a captain of the team. That's self-explanatory. The whole team respects him."

#### **Human Interest:**

- His father is a Marriott Hotel executive, and his profession brought Brown and his family all over the world. Usually attending international schools, often taught by English citizens, Brown played soccer in Saudi Arabia and Vietnam and rugby in Australia.
- Playing for Punahou High School, he played against current teammate Jordon Dizon (Waimea High)
- He came to CU as an invited walk-on at the advice of Jeff Cabral, an assistant on the Punahou staff and brother of CU linebacker coach Brian Cabral.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-	-тот	TFL	Sacks
2007	3	102	7	5-	-12	1- 2	0- 0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int	
2007	2	0	0	0	0	0	



- . McBride was CU's starting punt returner against CSU. His third return, a 43-yarder in the fourth quarter, set up the Buffs at the CSU 34-yard line, where they would eventually tie the game with a field goal.
- McBride will compete for playing time as a punt returner in 2006.

#### From There to Here:

· He spelled roommate and teammate Stephone Robinson as the punt returner at Kansas last season after Robinson had fumbling problems.

- He garnered 11 all-state awards in high school, staring at Colorado's Broomfield High School (four times in football and basketball and three times in baseball). After hurting his foot, CU and Colorado State backed off recruiting him so he went to Wyoming. He transferred to CU after his freshman season.
- He says if he was a few inches taller he may be playing Division 1 basketball right now. The ultra-quick McBride is listed at 5-8, but he apparently has an excellent 3-point shot.

#### **PUNT RETURNS**

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	1	1	-2	-2.0	0	-2
2006	4	6	41	6.8	0	20
2007	3	10	85	8.5	0	43
Totals	8	17	124	7.3	0	43



39

## KEVIN EBERHART

Placekicker 5-11, 195, Sr.

- Eberhart struggled against Florida State, missing both of his field goal attempts (from 37 and 46 yards). If you count his 0-for-2 performance against Florida State back in 2003, he is 0-for-4 against the Seminoles and 4-of-6 against everyone else.
- Succeeding All-American and the mega record-setting Mason Crosby as the team's primary placekicker, as he resumed his career with a bang, nailing 3-of-4 field goals against CSU, including the 35-yard OT winner. He is the first Buff to kick a game-winning field goal in overtime. He also drilled a 22-yarder with :13 left to tie the game.
- Eberhart had the misfortune of being in the same recruiting class as Crosby and took a back seat to Crosby when he could have been starting for many Division 1 teams.

#### From There to Here:

 He actually saw game action before Crosby, as he was just the third placekicker in CU history to play as a true freshman. After he missed two field goals at Florida State (22 and 42 yards), Crosby took over.

#### **SCORING**

Season	G	EP-EPA	FG-FGA	Long	PTS
2003	5	1- 1	0- 2	0	1
2005	2	0- 0	1- 2	23	3
2007	3	5- 5	3- 6	38	14
Totals	9	6- 6	4- 10	38	18

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Kickoffs: 24 Total, 9 TB, 15 Ret. (2003); 1 Total, 1 Ret (2005).



40

**BRAD JONES**Outside Linebacker
6-3, 225, Jr.

- Jones enters his second year as a starting outside linebacker.
- Because of his size (6'3, 225 lbs.), he matches up well against tight ends and is valuable defending against the run and the pass.

#### From There to Here:

- He played in all 13 games as a redshirt freshman in 2005, but the starting position was occupied by current NFL linebacker Brian Iwuh. Iwuh joked that he was glad he was a senior because Jones "was getting better and better."
- Linebackers coach Brian Cabral said this is the year he expects Jones to make a leap to the next level.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	12	198	16	4—20	1- 3	0- 0
2006	12	644	41	31—72	1- 5	½- 5
2007	3	210	11	8—19	0-0	0- 0
Totals	27	1052	68	43—111	2. 8	1/2. 5

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	2	1	0	0	1	0
2006	6	2	0	0	1	1
2007	4	2	0	0	2	0
Totals	12	5	0	0	4	1

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Return Yards: 1-10, 10.0 avg., 0 TD (2006).



BENJAMIN BURNEY Cornerback 5-11, 195, Jr.

- He started his first career game at cornerback against CSU (he started two games at free safety in 2006), playing all 83 snaps from scrimmage on defense.
- Currently listed atop the depth chart at cornerback opposite Terrence Wheatley, Burney is a smart player who possesses good speed for a cornerback.

#### **Human Interest:**

 His father, Jacob, has been the defensive line coach for the Denver broncos since 2002.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	4	43	4	2-6	0- 0	0- 0
2006	9	195	14	9-23	1- 1	0- 0
2007	3	213	10	7-17	1- 4	<u> 0- 0</u>
Totals	16	451	28	18–46	2- 5	0- 0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF PBU	Int	

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	0	0	0	0	0	1
2006	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	1



43

**SAMSON JAGORAS**Fullback
5-10, 225, Sr.

- · Jagoras was the starting fullback against CSU.
- Although he is a bit undersized, he plays with a mean streak and coaches love him because of his selfless, blue-collar attitude.
- Tailback Hugh Charles said Jagoras "plays with a nut loose, which is a good thing for a fullback."
- He transferred to CU from Western New Mexico where he played linebacker.

#### **Human Interest:**

• His favorite athlete is the late Pat Tilmon.

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD L	ong
2007	3	20	231	11.6	2	32
Totals	3	20	231	11.6	2	32



44

JORDON DIZON Inside Linebacker 6-0, 225, Sr.

- Dizon racked up 23 total tackles against CSU (23 on defense; one on special teams). His 22 tackles on defense was the most by any CU player in nearly a decade—since LB Hannibal Navies had 28 tackles against Missouri on Nov. 1, 1997. Dizon's 17 solo stops against the Rams are the third most in CU history.
- In his last two games (CSU and the 2006 regular season finale against Nebraska), he has accounted for 41 total tackles.
- Named the defensive captain by his teammates, Dizon enters his fourth year as a starter at linebacker and is the nation's fourth active leading tackler (280).
- He pushes his body so much during games that a post game IV has become commonplace.

 Asked where Dizon stacks up against some of CU's all-time linebacker greats like Barry Remington, Matt Russell, Greg Biekert, Kanavis McGhee and Alfred Williams, linebackers coach Brian Cabral said, "Not many of those guys have started for four years, so he's up there."

#### From There to Here:

- He was recruited as an "athlete," as the coaches figured to try him at a number of positions. He started his freshman camp at safety, but after five practices the coaches moved him to inside linebacker to see him in that role. It didn't take long for him to make an impression at linebacker, as he zoomed to the top of the depth chart after just six practices.
- In 2004, he was the starter at the "Will" inside linebacker spot, as he became the first true freshman inside linebacker to start a season opener in CU history. He was also just the sixth true freshman to start an opener in school history and the first since 1991.
- As a freshman, he easily broke the single-season record for tackles by a freshman (80; the previous record was 67 by J.J. Billingsley).

#### Cabral's Take:

"He's a fourth-year starter and I'm expecting his best season yet. He's
played in a lot of big games and has made a lot of plays for us."

#### **Human Interest:**

- A Hawaiian native, Dizon can often be seen trudging to class through slush, snow and 20-degree weather in his flip-flops.
- He perfected the art chasing wild boars on hunting trips when he was younger. His mother, an undercover narcotics police officer in Hawai'i, never allowed him to use a gun. Instead he tracked the animals with help from dogs, pinned them to the ground and killed them with a knife. But according to Dizon, he is not into that anymore. "Those days are over," he joked. "My knees are too bad for that. My eyesight is going. I'm getting too old for that kind of stuff."
- He has become an avid golfer, and after only 18 months of playing his high score is a 78; he won an informal tournament organized by teammates during the summer.

#### **TACKLES**

2007

**Totals** 

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-	TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	12	597	51	31–	82	6- 14	1- 6
2005	12	475	42	19-	-61	7- 42	3-36
2006	12	679	80	57-	137	11- 39	9 4-26
2007	3	213	40	11-	-52	2- 3	2- 13
Totals	389	1964	213	118–3	321	26- 98	10-81
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int	
2004	7	1	0	1	4	0	
2005	5	4	0	0	1	0	
2006	17	2	2	1	1	0	



 Smart will back up starter Jordon Dizon at the "Will" linebacker position and see playing time subbing in for ILB R.J. Brown in certain packages.

3

#### LB Jordon Dizon's Take:

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 "If you think of Jeff Smart, the No. 1 word that comes to mind is reliable. He does everything he has to do, he does it right, he does it precisely, and his last name says it all."

#### **TACKLES**

IACKLES							
Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-	<u>—тот</u>	TFL	Sacks
2006	4	7	0	0	—0	0- 0	0- 0
2007	3	117	8	10	—18	3-15	0- 0
Totals	7	124	8	10	<b>—18</b>	3-15	0- 0
Season	3D:	S Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int	
2006	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2007	3	1	1	1	0	0	

Totals 3 1 1 1 0 0



**ALONZO BARRETT** Defensive End 6-3, 235, Sr.

 Barrett is the starter at the right defensive end position and the lone senior on the defensive line.

#### **Human Interest:**

 He has been a CU fan since his youth, with one of his favorite players being Heisman Trophy winner Rashaan Salaam. It was natural, for his aunt (father's sister) is married to Salaam's uncle (father's brother).

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	10	99	10	4-14	4- 6	2- 2
2005	6	144	9	6-15	0- 0	0- 0
2006	11	144	6	6-12	0- 0	0- 0
2007	3	178	5	1- 6	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	29	565	30	17–47	4- 6	2- 2

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2004	0	1	0	0	0	0
2005	3	4	0	0	2	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0
2007	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	5	5	0	0	2	0



48

**CODY CRAWFORD**Wide Receiver
5-11, 175, Jr.

 Currently listed second in the "x" wide receiver grouping, Crawford has earned a reputation for being a tough player who takes care of details—Hawkins' mantra. He was placed on scholarship this fall.

#### From There to Here:

- He was singled out by Hawkins in the 2006 preseason because he fractured a rib early in camp and played through it so he could earn playing time and a chance to travel with the team.
- He was rewarded for his hard work and made his first career start at Georgia.

#### **RECEIVING**

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	12	15	222	14.8	0	31
2006	3	3	19	6.3	0	9
Totals	12	15	222	14.8	0	31



KAI MAIAVA Offensive Line 6-0, 295, Fr.

- Maiava and fellow freshman Ryan Miller are the two players closest to breaking the line up on the offensive line.
- The last addition to CU's 2007 recruiting class, Maiava quickly worked his way up the depth chart and has played with the first team at times.
   Human Interest:
- His father, Scott Mahoney, was an offensive lineman for the Buffs from 1969-71.

- His biggest role models are his brothers. His middle brother, Kaluka, is a linebacker for USC, and his oldest is in the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Has an uncle, "The Rock," Dwayne Johnson, a famous modern day wrestler and former Miami Hurricane football player.



*52* 

BRYAN STENGEL Inside Linebacker 6-2, 210, So.

 Stengel will vie for playing time behind junior Brad Jones at the "Sam" linebacker position.



56

KEENAN STEVENS

Offensive Line 6-3, 275, Fr.-RS

 Stevens was a favorite during spring practices when only a few healthy linemen were available, but he descended down the depth chart in the fall after missing the first part of camp finishing up summer classes.



57

JAKE DUREN Outside Linebacker 6-0, 230, So.

Duren made his first career start against Arizona State.

#### From There to Here:

 Transferred from Northern Colorado where he started all 11 games as a freshman. He was second on the team in tackles (103) trailing only current NFL player Reed Doughty.

#### **TACKLES**

 Season
 G
 Plays
 UT
 AT—TOT
 TFL
 Sacks

 2007
 2
 7
 2
 0—2
 0-0
 0-0
 0-0

 Season
 3DS Hurr
 FR FF PBU Int

 2007
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0



59

**B.J. BEATTY**Outside Linebacker
6-1, 230, Fr.-RS

 Beatty will vie for playing time behind junior Brad Jones at the "Sam" linebacker position.

#### **Human Interest:**

 His uncle, Chris Naeole, was a former CU All-American offensive guard who has played the last nine years in the NFL with New Orleans and Jacksonville.



ERICK FAATAGI Offensive Line 6-2, 310, Jr.

- Finally healthy after sitting out the 2006 season following knee surgery, Faatagi should be in the mix for playing time at the guard position.
- He missed the early part of fall camp while finishing up summer classes.

#### **Human Interest:**

 He has a passion for graphic design, and he has designed tattoos for several teammates.



64

MIKE ITLIS
Offensive Line
6-2, 290, Fr.

 Currently listed as a back up at the left guard position, Iltis could see playing time as a true freshman.

#### **Human Interest:**

He was fired up about being a Buffalo long before signing in February.
 Said Hawkins: "He was living and dying with us during the season. He would be as mad as we were when we lost."



WES PALAZZI
Offensive Line
6-1, 285, Fr.-RS

- Palazzi missed the first part of fall camp to finish summer courses but was still able to shoot to the top of the depth chart at the left guard position.
- Perhaps making up for his missed time in fall camp was his extensive work in the spring when he was one of only six healthy offensive linemen.



69

**ERIC LAWSON**Defensive Tackle
6-3, 260, Fr.-RS

Lawson will battle for playing time behind defensive end Alonzo Barrett.



70

JUSTIN DRESCHER Snapper 6-1, 230, So.

- Drescher is the starting long and short snapper for the Buffs. He has handled every punt and placement snap for the team since the first game of his true freshman year.
- As a freshman in 2006, he was tutored by former CU long snapper Greg Pace who volunteered as a specialty coach.



**DEVIN HEAD**Offensive Line
6-4, 285, So.

 Head started the opener for the second straight season; in 2006, he subbed for an injured Daniel Sanders; this time around, he earned the starting job at right guard.

#### **Human Interest:**

 Multi-talented off the field, as he has the late Chris Farley's Saturday Night Live character Matt Foley down to a T. You know the bit, "You're gonna end up eating a steady diet of government cheese, and living in a van down by the river!" and, "We-e-e-ell... la-de-freakin'-da!



73

RYAN MILLER Offensive Line 6-7, 320, Fr.

- Miller, the most highly-touted of the Buffs' 2007 recruits, will likely see playing time this season.
- He has played mostly guard during fall camp, but he projects as a tackle eventually.

#### Hawkins' Take:

"He is a tremendous, tremendous athlete; he's a great football player. I told him if he went to a Division III school he would still be an NFL player. He is totally our kind of guy. He loves Colorado; he is a very humble kid, he's a blue-collar guy and he is a guy that when he is in your football program everybody knows that he is a marquee player and a marquee guy too. He is a guy that sets the bar not only for the talent that you want but also your attitude and approach to off the field, school and everything else. I totally see him as a guy that can come in here and be an All-American and help us win a National Championship and get drafted by the Broncos."



**DANIEL SANDERS**Offensive Line
6-3. 305. Jr.

- A starter at guard his sophomore season and part of his redshirt freshman season, Sanders will get the opportunity to lead the offensive line as the starting center.
- Offensive line coach Jeff grimes said Sanders has the best grasp of the offense among the linemen, fitting for his role as the center who calls out assignments.

#### **Human Interest:**

· He goes by the nickname "Girthy."



76

EDWIN HARRISON Offensive Line 6-4, 300, Sr.

Harrison enters his senior season as the Buffs' starting right tackle.

#### **Human Interest:**

 His grandfather, Calvin Jones, won the Outland Trophy as the nation's outstanding interior lineman as a senior at Iowa in 1955; Jones was the first two-time consensus All-American in Iowa history, and his No. 62 was retired by the Hawkeyes.



77

**TYLER POLUMBUS**Offensive Line
6-8, 300, Sr.

- He served as the offensive captain against CSU in the absence of QB/WR Bernard Jackson.
- Polumbus is the starting left tackle and the protector of starting quarterback Cody Hawkins' blind side.
- The vocal leader of the offensive line, Polumbus has become somewhat of a pseudo-captain with the absence of Bernard Jackson.

#### **Human Interest:**

 Two members of his family played sports at CU: Father, Tad, lettered in football, basketball and golf (1965-66), and an uncle, Gary Polumbus, lettered three years in golf and twice made it to the NCAA Championships.



JASON BRACE Defensive Tackle 6-4, 265, So.

 Brace, who saw playing time as a true freshman in 2006, will vie for spot duty on the interior defensive line behind incumbent starters Brandon Nicolas and George Hypolite.



80

JARRELL YATES Wide Receiver 5-11, 200, So.

Yates had a solid fall camp, and although he is listed near the bottom
of the depth chart at wide receiver, he should be in the mix for playing
time as many players are shuffled in and out of the position.

#### From There to Here:

 He had barely played at all in 2006 before the coaches called on him in the second quarter against Texas Tech; he had the first reception of his career on a 29-yard touchdown pass from Jackson. It was one of only two receptions on the year for Yates.

#### RECEIVING

<u>Season</u>	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TI	D Long
2006	5	2	43	21.5	1	29t



83

**DUSTY SPRAGUE**Wide Receiver
6-4, 190, Sr.

Sprague is the veteran among those in the "z" receiver grouping. He is
poised to finish in CU's top 20 in both receptions and receiving yards.

#### From There to Here:

- As a sophomore in 2005, he played in all 13 games, making 11 starts.
  He led the Buffs in receptions in the regular season with 43, good for
  468 yards and a touchdown. He was the first sophomore to lead CU in
  receiving since Michael Westbrook in 1992.
- As a freshman in 2004, he turned into one of Joel Klatt's favorite targets before suffering a broken collarbone midway through the season.

#### **Human Interest:**

 His family is no stranger to college football or the CU-CSU rivalry, as two older brothers (Aaron and Russell) both played receiver at Colorado State.

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD L	.ong
2004	9	22	278	12.6	1	34
2005	12	43	468	10.9	1	62t
2006	12	11	179	16.3	0	63
2007	3	4	42	10.5	0	20
Totals	36	80	967	12.1	2	63

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Rushing 1-11, 11.0 avg. (2006).



84

**TYSON DEUREE**Tight End
6-5, 245, Sr.

 DeVree caught a 10-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter against CSU, and then added an 11-yard one on fourth down from Cody Hawkins against Florida State. The significance of that one was the fact that it kept CU's scoring streak alive—extending it to 225 games, the fifth longest of all-time.

#### From There to Here:

- He suffered a rib injury late in 2006 fall camp and had to miss some practice and the home opener against Montana State. The misplaced rib caused an air pocket to form in his lungs and he had to stand on the sidelines at practice breathing from an oxygen canister because doctors feared that his lungs could collapse. He returned to practice after doctors used a catheter to remove the air pocket.
- After transferring from Western Michigan, he had to sit out the 2005 season. He impressed coaches and teammates by catching "everything in sight" while a member of the scout team.

#### **RECEIVING**

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	11	4	36	9.0	1	18
2007	3	5	65	13.0	2	18
Totals	14	9	101	11.2	3	18



86

**GEORGE HYPOLITE** Defensive Tackle 6-1, 285, Jr.

 Hypolite's two multi-sack career games (two in each) have come against top notch competition: Georgia and Florida State.

#### • From There to Here:

 He had an outstanding fall camp as a freshman in 2005 that moved him to second on the depth chart at nose tackle behind incumbent senior Vaka Manupuna. The coaches never considered redshirting him.

#### **Human Interest:**

 One of the more outspoken members of the team, Hypolite interned for the athletic marketing department at CU and helped sell season tickets.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT TFL	Sacks
2005	11	203	5	5—10 1- 1	0- 0
2006	12	601	31	19-50 13-44	2½-18
2007	3	198	15	3—18 3-6	3- 22
Totals	26	1002	51	27—78 17-51	51/2-40

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	3	3	0	0	1	0
2006	4	7	2	1	3	0
2007	2	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	9	10	2	1	4	0



87

RIAR GEER Tight End 6-3, 245, So.

- He caught a key two-point conversion in the third quarter against CSU which brought the Buffs within a field goal of the Rams.
- Geer, the first-ever freshman to lead CU in receiving, sits atop the depth chart at tight end and should be a solid contributor again in 2007.

 Hawkins said Geer has the size and ability to become one of CU's next great tight ends.

#### From There to Here:

 He came almost out of nowhere in 2006 against Georgia to lead the Buffs in receiving with seven catches for 71 yards. He was the primary reason the Buffs were able to keep the Bulldogs off-balance for most of the day after coaches decided the best way to attack the Georgia defense was on the perimeter and in the flats. Said QB Bernard Jackson: "Obviously, today he was the man. I just get the ball to him and let him make plays."

#### RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long	
2006	12	24	261	10.9	3	28t	
2007	3	5	46	9.2	0	32	
Totals	15	29	307	10.6	3	32	
ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Passing: 1-0-1, 0 (2006).							

90

**MARQUEZ HERROD**Defensive End
6-2, 255, Fr.-RS

- · Herrod saw his first playing time on defense against Arizona State.
- Although undersized for a defensive end, nobody works harder than him, according to several teammates.

#### **Human Interest:**

- He overcame a rough childhood, as he was a foster child who moved every eight to 12 months, and once lived at the Polinsky Children's Center for two years, an emergency shelter for children in San Diego.
- He is the first member of his family to attend college.

#### **TACKLES**

<u>Season</u>	<u> G P</u>	lays	UT	AT-	<u>—тот</u>	TFL	Sacks
2007	1	8	0	0	<b>—</b> 0	0- 0	0- 0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int	
2007	0	Ω	0	Ω	Ω	0	



91

**MAURICE LUCAS**Defensive End
6-4, 255, Jr.

 Lucas will be counted on to help replace departed team sack leader Abraham Wright at the defensive end position. He got off to a good start, racking up 8 tackles (6 solo) with a career-best two sacks against Colorado State.

#### From There to Here:

He was originally ticketed to redshirt the 2005 season, but was
activated in the sixth game of the season and made his collegiate
debut against the eventual National Champion Texas Longhorns—in
Austin. He ended up playing in eight games of his true freshman
season, starting the last six.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	7	296	11	9—20	4- 16	0- 0
2006	11	167	5	9—14	1- 4	1- 4
2007	3	169	11	3—14	3- 17	2- 16
Totals	21	632	29	21—48	8- 37	3- 20

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	1	5	1	0	0	0
2006	1	2	0	0	0	0
2007	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3	7	1	0	0	0



92

NATE SOLDER Tight End 6-8, 270, Fr.-RS

 Solder, the tallest member of the Buffs, will compete for playing time in a deep pool of tight ends.

#### Hawkins' Take:

 "He is about 265 and his body fat is 2.9 percent. He's a naturally strong guy but we hope he continues to fill out. A big guy like that can generally be a 280-pound guy."



93

**CONRAD OBI**Defensive Line
6-3, 250, Fr.

 Obi will compete for playing time at defensive end behind Alonzo Barrett in his true freshman season.



94

**BRANDON NICOLAS** Defensive Tackle 6-3, 280, Jr.

 Nicolas is entrenched at the Buffs' starting nose tackle in his junior season.

#### From There to Here:

- In 2005, he sat out the entire season after transferring to Colorado from Notre Dame. He also used the time to have surgery to mend chronic shoulder problems.
- He came from legendary football power Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, Calif., and was recruited to Notre Dame by former coach Tyrone Willingham. He did not play as a freshman in 2004, but Willingham told him his chances of playing as a sophomore were promising. After Charlie Weiss was hired to replace Willingham, Nicolas felt uncomfortable with the system. He decided to transfer to Colorado over UCLA in large part because he thought it would be fun to play for former CU head coach Gary Barnett. After the coaching change at Colorado and with Nicolas finding himself with his third coaching staff in three years, he is finally comfortable.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT	<u>—TOT</u>	TFL	Sac	cks
2006	12	611	31	26	<u>—</u> 57	4- 5	0-	0
2007	3	198	10	3	<del>-13</del>	4- 5	2-	15
Totals	15	809	41	29	<b>—70</b>	8-10	2-	15
Season	3D	S Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int		
2006	5	4	0	2	0	0		
2007	5	0	0	0	0	0		
Totals	10	4	0	2	0	0		



97

**TAJ KAYNOR**Defensive Tackle
6-4, 265, So.

 Kaynor will provide depth on the defensive interior behind Brandon Nicolas and George Hypolite.

#### From There to Here:

 It was almost Kaynor who was activated from his redshirt season in 2005 to play defensive end; instead coaches went with Maurice Lucas because he was more physically developed for the position.

#### **TACKLES**

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	10	32	0	1—1	0- 0	0- 0
2007	1	4	0	0—0	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	10	36	0	1—1	0- 0	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2006	0	0	0	0	1	0
2007	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	1	0



98

EUGENE GOREE Defensive Line 6-2, 285, Fr.

 Goree will compete for playing time along the interior defensive line as a true freshman.



99

Defensive Line 6-3, 270, Jr.

CHRISTOPHER PERRI

- Perri is eligible to return against Miami, Ohio after being suspended for three games after violating team rules.
- He was granted a medical hardship (summer 2007) for his true freshman season at San Diego State, as he was injured in the third game of the season (knee) and did not return.
- Coaches have been impressed with his aggressiveness and non-stop motor during fall camp.