



CU confirms K-Mac's hiring of Strother

Camera staff report

Saturday, November 3, 2007

As expected, the Colorado women's basketball program announced Friday it has hired WNBA veteran and former Colorado high school standout Ann Strother as the director of operations.

The Camera first reported Strother's hiring on Oct. 20.

Strother, 23, is the third full-time staff member to hold the women's director of basketball operations position. She replaces Carla Morrow, who left CU earlier this fall for an assistant coach position at Xavier University.

Strother played the 2007 WNBA season with Indiana, averaging 2.3 points per game and hitting 40 percent from 3-point range, helping the Fever to a 21-13 record and a spot in the Eastern Conference Finals.

She was a second-round draft pick by the Houston Comets in 2006, before being acquired by Phoenix in a draft-day trade. Strother played eight games with the Mercury as a rookie before joining the Fever in an off season trade. She also played professionally in Russia last winter and briefly in Spain, before joining the Buffaloes for this season.

"I'm really excited to be back in Colorado and to be a part of this staff and team," Strother said in a CU release. "I feel like I can learn a lot from the staff, and as far as coaching, I can get a good idea of what it takes to be prepared for the Big 12 Conference and the competition we will face. It will also give me a good idea of what goes on behind the scenes as far as the business aspect, preparing for travel, hotels and things of that nature."

A two-time All-Big East and WBCA All-District performer, Strother played four years at the University of Connecticut (2002-06) where her teams compiled a record of 125-18 and won two NCAA championships (2003-04), two Big East regular season titles (2003-04) and two Big East Tournament crowns (2005-06).

She led UConn in scoring as a senior at 13.6 points per game and her 86 3-point field goals were the fourth-best single-season total in team history. She ranks seventh on the Huskies' all-time scoring list with 1,699 points and is also second in 3-point field goals (290), fifth in games played (143), ninth in blocked shots (120) and 10th in assists (418).

"She's going to make an immediate impact on this program," CU coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said. "Her leadership and her ability to share her experiences as an elite college player and as a professional will benefit our players in many ways. She's an exceptional young woman that has a great mind for the game and a great future in collegiate coaching. We're honored to have Ann return to Colorado to be a part of the great tradition of CU Basketball."

Strother, a native of Castle Rock, was the 2002 Naismith, USA Today, WBCA, Parade Magazine and Gatorade National High School Player of the Year for Highlands Ranch High School.



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Loss leaves CU 7th in Big 12

Bufs will face Texas again in first round of conference soccer tourney

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AUSTIN, Texas — The Colorado women's soccer team closed out the regular season with a 4-1 loss to No. 12 Texas on Friday.

The Buffs finished the regular season 9-7-3 overall and 5-5 in Big 12 action, ending up in seventh place in the conference.

CU will have a rematch with second-seeded Texas in the first round of the Big 12 tournament Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in San Antonio.

In other pairings, No. 1 Texas A&M will face No. 8 Iowa State, No. 3 Kansas will play No. 6 Oklahoma State and No. 4 Missouri will meet No. 5 Texas Tech.

"The opportunity was there and we didn't take it," CU coach Bill Hempen said after Friday's loss. "We got out and scored early, but we weren't able to stay in the game and keep control."

CU notched the first goal as junior Gianna DeSaverio netted her fourth goal of the season just two minutes into the game.

Texas responded in the ninth minute and capitalized on a Colorado foul as Caitlin Kennedy scored to equalize the score at 1-1. The Longhorns would strike again in the 27th minute when Niki Arlitt broke through the Colorado defense and buried a shot in the upper corner of the goal for the 2-1 lead.

Texas would hold its momentum in the second half and went on to score two more goals and finish out the game with the 4-1 victory.

Texas outshot CU 14-9 for the game.



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