



Inexperience still slowing Buffs

Helfrich says MU loss wasn't a case of 'no chance'

By Kyle Ringo

Monday, November 5, 2007

When the game had gotten completely away from the Colorado Buffaloes on Saturday evening and Mark Helfrich had a few moments to reflect from his perch high above Folsom Field, Colorado's offensive coordinator said he asked himself a series of questions about what he could have done differently in a 55-10 loss to Missouri.

It turns out, there isn't much he would change from a scheme standpoint after reviewing the film Sunday and discussing the nightmare performance with players. It was the third-worst home loss in CU history.

Helfrich said the most glaring problem with his offense at this point is dealing with so many inexperienced players at once and trying to get them to play confidently instead of tentatively as they did against the Tigers.

"I thought we'd come in today and look at the film and just go, 'Well, we had no chance.' But that really wasn't the case," he said. "It was just kind of a series of one-man breakdowns, which we cannot afford, in the run game, in protection and at quarterback.

"Unfortunately it was kind of a spread-the-wealth, mistake-prone game."

The Buffs produced a season-worst 196 yards of total offense, three turnovers and a truckload of short possessions consisting of three plays and a punt.

Not wanting to short-change Missouri, Helfrich said the Tigers played a big part in disrupting everything the Buffs tried to do.

"Missouri is a very good football team," Helfrich said. "I think that is the most schematically diverse defense we've played."

But Helfrich said there were missed opportunities and plays to be made, but making them requires players not playing on their heels and executing assignments with confidence.

Coach Dan Hawkins has been pointing all season to his team's problems when it comes to a formula of experience, depth and talent. He said the experience factor was a problem against the Tigers and pointed to eight of the Buffs 12 penalties being committed by freshmen.

Hawkins put his team through a brutal conditioning session Sunday night involving wind sprints and up-downs. At one point he came to an end line where reporters had gathered and told a reporter he expected 90 up-downs from him because of a mistake he found in his copy in the Saturday newspaper.

The workout was too much for freshman wide receiver Josh Smith, who was so fatigued at one point he collapsed to the carpet inside the indoor practice bubble. Five or six of his teammates attempted to carry him at one point in order to finish their sprints, but team trainers ended that and took Smith to the side.

Helfrich said the Buffs have to continue to push themselves toward getting better and learn from the ugly outing.

"Our guys are going through a lot of firsts," Helfrich said. "A vast percentage of our issues were from guys who have just never been in that situation before. We know we have to live with those growing pains but we definitely want to limit them as much as possible."

Walters cleared

to play

Safety Ryan Walters was released from Boulder Community Hospital on Sunday and is expected to be available to play Saturday at Iowa State, coach Dan Hawkins said.

Walters spent the night in the hospital after being taken from the field on a stretcher late in the Missouri game. He was woozy on the sideline and was examined for a head injury.

If Walters is not able to play, Lionel Harris would likely start in his place.

Notable

Cornerback Terrence Wheatley (ankle) wore a boot on his left foot Sunday and looked a long way from healthy and being game-ready, but he said he is planning to play against the Cyclones. ... Several players missed Sunday's conditioning work because of Sunday evening class conflicts. Hawkins said he will find a way for those players such as tailback Hugh Charles and tight end Joe Sanders to pay the same price as their teammates. "You can't let them get out of the frivolity. Jeez, that's the best part," he said.



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First look: Iowa State

By Kyle Ringo

Monday, November 5, 2007

Game 11

Matchup: Colorado (5-5, 3-3 Big 12) at Iowa State (2-8, 1-5).

Game time: Saturday, 10:30 a.m. at Jack Trice Stadium (55,000) Ames, Iowa.

On the air: Fox Sports Central; KOA (850 AM).

Web site: www.cyclones.com

Last time

CU rolled up 463 yards in total offense as quarterback Bernard Jackson passed for two touchdowns and ran for another in the Buffs' 33-16 win last November in Folsom Field. It was the second victory of the season for the Buffs in coach Dan Hawkins' first season. The loss was the sixth in a row for Iowa State, which fired coach Dan McCarney at the end of the season.

The series

This is the 62nd meeting in a series that began Sept. 21, 1946, with a Colorado victory in Boulder. The Buffs lead the series 47-13-1, including a 24-7 mark in Ames. The Buffs have won 21 of the past 23 meetings.

The coach

Gene Chizik is 2-8 in his first season at Iowa State and his first season as a Division I head coach. Chizik came to Iowa State this year after serving as defensive coordinator at Texas.

The lowdown

It will be Senior Day in Ames and Cyclones fans will be celebrating the careers of two of the best players in the program's history in Bret Meyer and Todd Blythe. ... The Cyclones are 98th in total offense and 112th in scoring in Division I. They are averaging just 18 points a game. ... The ISU return game is really struggling. The Cyclones rank 115th in punt returns and 116th in kickoff returns. ... The Cyclones are the second-least penalized team in the country behind Kansas. They have been flagged only 41 times for 369 yards. ... ISU is 96th in turnover margin with 17 takeaways and 23 turnovers.

Who to know

QB Bret Meyer: The most experienced quarterback in the Big 12. He has played in every game since the start of the 2004 season and has made 46 consecutive starts. Meyer has 9,247 yards and 48 touchdowns in his career. He also has run for 889 yards and 12 touchdowns. He has thrown 12 interceptions and only seven touchdown passes this season.

WR Todd Blythe: A fifth-year senior with the size and speed pro scouts like. He has been a bit of a disappointment this season with only three touchdown catches. He has caught 170 passes for 2,952 yards in his career. Blythe did not

play against the Buffs last year but has 11 catches for 243 yards and one score in two previous games against CU.

LB Alvin Bowen: A senior who leads the team with 85 total tackles this season. He has forced three fumbles and made one interception. Bowen was a first-team All-Big 12 Conference selection last season when he led the nation in total tackles with 155.



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Former Buff Tennyson McCarty honored at Macky

More than 500 turn out to commemorate CU, BHS star

By John Aguilar

Monday, November 5, 2007

Brian Scaglia remembers a lot of things about his friend Tennyson McCarty.

He remembers Tennyson, better known as T-Bone, lugging around a bag of food throughout the halls of Boulder High School — a constant reminder to bulk up and get big for football.

He remembers being locked in epic video game contests with Tennyson, his roommate at the University of Colorado at Boulder in the mid 1990s, a rivalry around which Tennyson designed special t-shirts the two would wear while duking it out on screen.

He remembers watching his friend, in and out of pain, play football as the tight end for the Buffs.

But Scaglia's memory is freshest about a request Tennyson made to him three weeks ago — to accompany him on a 2½ hour walk to the places in Boulder upon which both men had developed and built their 20-year friendship.

It was on that walk that Scaglia became emotional and tried to hide his tears from his friend. It was on that walk that Tennyson placed his hand on Scaglia's shoulder to calm him.

"Tennyson, you have no idea how much of an impact you've had on my life," Scaglia recalled telling his friend. "You are a giant."

"I know. I know. Thank you," Tennyson replied poignantly, Scaglia said.

The next day, the man who had committed his life to spreading the word of God to students at high school and college campuses across the nation through a unique blend of performance magic and Christian ministry, went to a favorite prayer spot near Peaceful Valley off the Peak to Peak Highway.

Tennyson's body was found three days later in a nearby creek.

No cause of death has yet been determined by the coroner's office, though a family member has said it appears that Tennyson was overcome by hypothermia.

Whatever ultimately cost the 32-year-old former high school and college football standout his life was not a topic of discussion at Macky Auditorium on the CU campus Sunday afternoon, where more than 500 friends and family members turned out in his honor.

Instead, those who gathered took turns remembering a man who seemed to have a profound effect on everyone he met.

"I'm so thankful God that you gave me an opportunity to tell my good friend how much he meant to me," Scaglia said before stepping down from the stage in tears.

Cleveland McCarty said two words — power and purity — best described his son's presence and demeanor, whether it was on the football field or in service of his faith.

Younger brother Somerset said Tennyson could have done anything with the athletic skills and intelligence he possessed.

"Most people would take these gifts and use them for self-promotion," he said. "Tennyson used them to uplift others and glorify God."

Jim Munroe, who partnered with Tennyson to form MAZE Ministries seven years ago after rekindling his friend's childhood interest in magic, said Tennyson "ate, breathed, and slept the Gospel."

Munroe said while sharing a hotel room with Tennyson one night during a visit to a college campus, he heard him speaking from his bed.

"This 240-pound giant was preaching in his sleep," Munroe said.

Tracy Wilde felt a similar spiritual kinship with Tennyson upon meeting him last February.

Even though she lived in Idaho and he traveled the country, they managed to nurture a budding romance with long-distance telephone dates and weekend visits. It eventually became full-blown love, she said.

"It was the greatest hope and it was the greatest love I've ever known," Wilde said, dabbing at her eyes with a tissue.

Former CU Buffs football coach Bill McCartney, who coached Tennyson for a couple of years, said he was humbled by his former player's commitment to his faith and his willingness to sacrifice everything to share those beliefs with others.

"God just invaded his heart," McCartney said. "And he laid it all down."

Contact Camera Staff Writer John Aguilar at 303-473-1389 or aguilarj@dailycamera.com.



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DAILY TIMES-CALL

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Buffs lick wounds after loss

*By Patrick Ridgell
Longmont Times-Call*

BOULDER — The Colorado Buffaloes weren't just hurting emotionally on Sunday.

The day after losing 55-10 to Missouri, CU's reserves and redshirts scrimmaged, and most of those who played Saturday night endured a grueling conditioning session that had a few struggling to finish it. Among the Buffs who are injured, safety Ryan Walters was released Sunday from Boulder Community Hospital after spending Saturday night there for observation. Walters suffered a concussion against the Tigers and was wheeled from Folsom Field in the fourth quarter on a stretcher. CU coach Dan Hawkins said he expects Walters to play Saturday at Iowa State (10:30 a.m., FCS). If he doesn't, senior Lionel Harris will probably take his spot.

Cornerback Terrence Wheatley said he hurt his left foot Saturday returning a second quarter kickoff when he fell and rolled it awkwardly. He said did not know when he would shed the boot he wore Sunday night. He said the foot was feeling better, but getting around was a challenge.

"In the last two games of my senior season, you'd pretty much have to cut my foot off for me to not play," Wheatley said. "I plan on playing but it's not my call. It's whatever the doctor says. I feel like I'll be ready."

Wheatley added it'll be up to coaches whether he returns kicks.

"Even though you don't want to get hurt on kickoff returns, you can still get hurt on defense, too," he said. "But I guess you'd rather get hurt at your actual position."

Hawkins said linebacker Brad Jones, another Buff who suffered a concussion, will play Saturday.

Hawkins said those Buffs who missed Sunday's work due to class conflicts, including running back Hugh Charles and tight end Joe Sanders, will make it up, or as the coach put it, "You can't let them get out of the frivolity." As for the emotional toll Saturday's blowout took, Hawkins said his players' mood was "where it should be." He said they were quiet and focused. And when they huddled following their workout, one Buff shouted they should not be angry with coaches for subjecting them to so much running, because they had earned it.

"It's one game. Everybody had a bad day at the office," Wheatley said. "You look at some of the great teams, there's always ups and downs. We didn't show up to play, we weren't ready. That's on us. You know what you did, you just go to the next game." Hawkins was questioned whether CU's youth was its main problem against Missouri. Hawkins said "there's no way getting around that," and added that of the Buffs' 12 penalties, eight were committed by freshmen.

Wheatley said he isn't buying the youth excuse anymore.

"Everybody at a certain point needs to grow up," the senior said. "Especially about midway through the season. You figure everybody is beyond the freshman or sophomore stage. You have to grow up and just play. You've been through enough games that you've seen every situation there is.

"You have to grow up and say, 'I didn't do my job today and that's the end of it.'"

Patrick Ridgell can be reached at pridgell@times-call.com.



Colorado's Terrence Wheatley returns a kick off 27 yards in the third quarter against Oklahoma at Folsom Field in Boulder on Sept. 29. The Buffs were handed a tough loss at home this weekend and paid the price: a practice full of conditioning. Colorado will try again next weekend at Iowa State.

Times-Call/Joshua Buck

Rocky Mountain News

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Sunday's local college football notes

By **B.G. Brooks, Randy Holtz & Jim Benton**, Rocky Mountain News
November 4, 2007

CU

What to say?

Asked what a coach says to his team after a 45-point loss, **Dan Hawkins** answered, "You got two hours?"

No, but here's the abbreviated version: Hawkins on Sunday told the Buffaloes, "Learn, improve, move on — that's it in a nutshell."

He said his team's mood was "good — considering. They were quiet, focused."

And that's how he said the Buffs should be after Saturday's 55-10 blasting by Missouri.

As per Hawkins' regimen, Sunday's work featured extra conditioning for the number of penalties (12) committed the previous day.

Hawkins said eight of the dozen flags were thrown following mistakes made by freshmen.

Several players, among them tailback **Hugh Charles** and tight end **Joe Sanders**, missed Sunday's grueling work because of class. Freshman receiver **Josh Smith** "gassed out" early in the drills, frequently leaning on teammates to remain upright.

The player-host for visiting top national running back **Darrell Scott** (Smith is his uncle) over the weekend, Smith missed most of the running and "up-downs" while being attended to by trainers. He also missed Hawkins' post-practice team huddle while talking to receivers coach **Eric Kiesau**.

Asked if Smith had a virus, Hawkins said, "Yeah, a conditioning virus."

Secondary ailing

With cornerback **Terrence Wheatley**'s left foot/ankle in a boot and safety **Ryan Walters** (concussion) released Sunday after an overnight hospital stay, secondary coach **Greg Brown** isn't sure who his starters might be Saturday at Iowa State.

"We'll see who can go, but we'll have guys that'll step up," said Brown, noting **Lionel Harris** likely would spell Walters, whose status is to be determined, while a decision on Wheatley's replacement wouldn't be made until later in the week — if necessary.

Wheatley, though, said, "With only two games left in my senior season, they'd have to cut my foot off to keep me out. . . . But it's up to the doctors — whatever they say."

Two QB system

Iowa State used quarterbacks **Bret Meyer**, a senior, and **Austen Arnaud**, a redshirt freshman, in its 31-20 upset of Kansas State. Together, they went 17-for-26 passing for 288 yards and one touchdown.

Arnaud, from Ames (Iowa) High School, entered the game on the Cyclones' third offensive series and directed a 90-yard touchdown drive. In the fourth quarter, he directed a march to a field goal that ended Iowa State's scoring.

Meyer, a three-year starter, has received the bulk of the snaps this season, while Arnaud had thrown just seven passes in the nine previous games before Kansas State.

First-year Iowa State coach **Gene Chizik**, who got his first Big 12 win as a 15-point underdog, probably won't hesitate to use Arnaud on Saturday against CU.

Etc.

- CU linebacker **Jordon Dizon** has slipped to fifth among the national tackle leaders (11.9 a game), but he remains No. 1 in solo stops (8.5).
- Three finalists for the Butkus Award, given annually to the nation's top linebacker, will be announced Thursday. Dizon was among the 10 semifinalists.
- CU finished 3-0 against the Big 12 South but is 0-3 against the North.

Numbers game

12 penalties against Missouri was a season high for CU, which is averaging 6.9 a game.

He said it

"You cannot play your 'A' game one week and then your 'C' game the next week . . . if you do that, you're not going to have a chance. We've won one game in November, so now let's see what happens."

Gary Pinkel, Missouri coach, whose team has struggled in past Novembers.

CSU

It's getting old (cont.)

CSU coach **Sonny Lubick**, who mostly has been positive after CSU's succession of frustrating losses this season and last, had some choice words for his players at halftime Saturday. Then afterward, for the first time this season publicly, his frustration at his players bubbled to the surface.

"I might be foolish, but I thought we could play with these guys," he said after CSU's 35-16 loss against Brigham Young at LaVell Edwards Stadium. "I get so darned angry at the players because I think we're a better team than we've shown. That's the stuff that frustrates you."

Maybe the best news for the Rams on Saturday came after their game, when their next opponent, New Mexico, was throttled at Texas Christian 37-0 on Saturday night. The Lobos, who play host to CSU at 1 p.m. Saturday on the mtn., were outgained 417-119 by a Horned Frogs team that has yo-yo'd up and down throughout the season.

A week after a comeback home win against Air Force, the Lobos were beaten physically from start to finish at TCU's Amon Carter Stadium. New Mexico quarterback **Donovan Porterie** continually was harassed in the pocket and completed just 7-of-23 passes for 76 yards. The Lobos' top runner, **Rodney Ferguson**, ran 13 times for only 28 yards, 81 below his per-game average.

The Lobos, though, still have a shot at one of the Mountain West Conference's four guaranteed bowl berths after falling to 6-3 overall and 3-2 in the MWC.

Red-zone blues

The hardest thing for the Colorado State Rams to take about their latest loss was their inability to score when they reached prime scoring position.

CSU had first-and-goal situations inside the opponent's 10-yard line three times in the first half of Saturday's loss at BYU but came away with just three points to show for it. CSU squandered the other two scoring opportunities. **Jason Smith** pulled a 30-yard field-goal try wide right, and a fake field-goal attempt fizzled when holder **Jimmie Kaylor** misfired on a pass for **Tommie Hill** that didn't fool the Cougars.

"When you get down there, there are no magic plays," CSU co-offensive coordinator **Dan Hammerschmidt** said of the Rams' red-zone woes. "You've got to be able to knock guys out of there and get in the end zone. It's no different in the red zone than anywhere else on the field."

Etc.

- BYU extended its record winning streak in Mountain West Conference games to 12 and has a chance to become the first MWC team to run the table in league play two straight seasons. Next up for the Cougars is an intriguing matchup with improving TCU on Thursday night at LaVell Edwards Stadium. Versus will televise the game live at 7 p.m.

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cu football

Freshman mistakes ache

By Tom Kensler
The Denver Post

Article Last Updated: 11/04/2007 11:23:26 PM MST

BOULDER — Colorado's topsy-turvy results come with the territory when so many young football players are being force-fed into the fray, CU players and coaches said Sunday after reviewing film of Saturday's 55-10 thumping by Missouri.

The same Colorado defense that had intercepted four passes against Texas Tech's spread offense in Lubbock almost looked a week later like it had never seen that formation.

"I think a lot of our problems were because of youth," CU redshirt freshman quarterback Cody Hawkins said Sunday after a two-hour workout.

A review of the game film revealed that eight of Colorado's 12 penalties against Missouri were committed by freshmen.

"We saw all the mental errors, and something like 70 percent of those were freshman mistakes," Hawkins added. "This is a team that has to play a lot of young guys. But we can't let that happen. We have to follow up

a bad game with a good one. We've done that before."

Colorado Football

- Visit [the CU Stats Page](#) for box scores, Big 12 standings, team leaders and more
- Visit [Tom Kensler's All Things Buffs blog](#) for a behind-the-scenes look at CU sports

Colorado (5-5, 3-3 Big 12), one game shy of becoming bowl eligible, plays Saturday at Iowa State (2-8, 1-5).

"It was just a bad game," said senior cornerback Terrence Wheatley, wearing a boot on his sprained left foot Sunday. Wheatley hoped he would be ready by Saturday. "Everybody has a bad day at the office."

The key is to learn from it, CU coach Dan Hawkins said.

"There's no question there is joy from big wins and sadness in losses," he said Sunday. "Guys have to work through that. You have to put that away and move on."

Walters released. Dan Hawkins said junior safety Ryan Walters was released Sunday from a Boulder hospital after remaining there overnight for precautionary reasons. Walters apparently suffered a concussion against Missouri.

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Walters did not practice Sunday, but Hawkins said Walters "is fine" and may be cleared to play this weekend against Iowa State.

Footnotes. According to research by CU sports information director Dave Plati, last weekend marked only the third time that the Buffs and Broncos both lost games by more than 20 points in the same weekend. The others happened in 1972 and during the Broncos' inaugural 1960 season. ... Freshman wideout Josh Smith struggled through conditioning work Sunday. Asked if Smith had a virus, Dan Hawkins said, "Maybe a conditioning virus." Smith served as the player host during the weekend for the nation's top-rated high school senior running back, Darrell Scott of Ventura, Calif., who happens to be Smith's nephew. Scott did not commit to the Buffs but told reporters that CU had an advantage because of his uncle.

Tom Kensler: 303-954-1280 or
tkensler@denverpost.com

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cu football

Eye on ... the Cyclones

Colorado at Iowa State, 10:30 a.m. Saturday

By The Denver Post

Article Last Updated: 11/04/2007 11:25:17 PM MST

TV: Fox College Sports Central (Comcast 414 in some packages).

For the record: Under first-year coach Gene Chizik, Iowa State improved to 2-8 and 1-5 in the Big 12 on Saturday, gaining its first league win with a 31-20 home win over Kansas State. ISU's other victory came against archrival Iowa on Sept. 15.

Streaking: Before a 30-16 Iowa State home win over a Gary Barnett-coached Colorado team in 2005, the Cyclones had lost 10 straight times to CU in games played in Ames.

Who's hot: Wide receiver Todd Blythe. The 6-foot-5, 209-pound senior caught two passes for 91 yards against Kansas State (ISU's two longest plays of the season, for 51 and 40 yards). He has become ISU's all-time record-holder for receptions (170).

Who's not: Quarterback Bret Meyer. The senior from Atlantic, Iowa, has thrown for more

than 9,000 career yards but is not going out the way he would have liked. Entering the Kansas State game, Meyer ranked 10th among Big 12 passers. He has thrown for only seven touchdowns.

Key stat: Iowa State was a 15-point underdog against Kansas State but snapped a six-game losing streak.

FYI: Meyer shared time with ISU's quarterback of the future, redshirt freshman Austen Arnaud. A homegrown product of Ames High School, Arnaud completed 5-of-7 passes for 130 yards.

Coachspeak: "(The seniors) practice like they're 10-0." ISU's Chizik, on the hard work finally paying off with the win over K-State

Tom Kensler

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