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cu football

Buffs impress FSU staff

By Tom Kensler
The Denver Post

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Rodney Stewart, who rushed for 166 yards last week against West Virginia, will have Florida State's attention when CU and the Seminoles meet Saturday. (Reza A. Marvashti, The Denver Post)

BOULDER — Colorado's fast start and improvement from last season has caught the attention of Florida State's coordinators.

"They're a very, very talented football team," longtime Seminoles defensive coordinator Mickey Andrews said Monday during a news conference in Tallahassee, Fla. "Based on what we've seen (on game films) and have been able to determine, they'll be as good a football team as we'll play this year."

Colorado (3-0) plays Florida State (2-1) on Saturday in Jacksonville, Fla. The Seminoles like to play one home game in Jacksonville for recruiting purposes and to make it easier for some fans to attend. Last year, the Seminoles played one of their best games in Jacksonville, a 21-14 victory over Alabama.

Florida State won 16-6 in 2007 at Boulder.

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Colorado Football

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"(Colorado) has improved their ballclub," Andrews said. "Their skill positions are stronger and better, especially at running back."

Said Florida State offensive coordinator Jimbo Fisher of CU's defense: "They can put pressure on you. They're coached well and play extremely hard, they really do. In the third year of their program (under Dan Hawkins), you can see a difference in the little things. It will be a difficult test for us."

Bright lights.

Colorado's next home game, Oct. 4 against Texas, will be telecast nationally over Fox Sports Net affiliates, beginning at 5 p.m., CU announced

Monday.

CU games against Colorado State and West Virginia also were shown nationally. This week's game against Florida State will be an ABC regional telecast, with a 1:30 p.m. MDT kickoff.

Footnotes.

Sophomore kicker Aric Goodman was named Big 12 Conference special teams player of the week. Goodman, who attended Cherry Creek High School, booted the game-winning, 25-yard field goal in overtime Thursday night in CU's 17-14 victory over West Virginia. He was awarded a scholarship by Hawkins following the game. "He was fired up," Hawkins recalled Monday of Goodman's reaction. . . Among key Florida State players returning this week from a three-game suspension for their role in a 2007 academic cheating scandal are defensive tackle Justin Min-cey, defensive end Neefy Moffett, cornerback Patrick Robinson, linebacker Dekoda Watson and tight end Caz Piurow-ski. All are considered first-teamers.

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colorado classics

Anderson's legacy: "Always be a Buff"

Reporter Irv Moss writes about stars from the past

By Irv Moss
The Denver Post

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Bobby Anderson was a super athlete from his high school days in Boulder to CU and the Broncos. (AP file photo)

Bobby Anderson was adorned with the title Mr. Colorado, and it wasn't for winning a bodybuilding contest.

Anderson earned the title in football, and it stemmed from an all-Colorado career from his playing days at Boulder High School, to the University of Colorado and on to the Broncos.

The defining memories go back to when he was 5 years old and growing up in Boulder. He and his older brother, Dick, whose career path took him to the Miami Dolphins, would pretend they were the

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top CU players of the day in make-believe games in the backyard.

"We were Frank Bernardi and Carroll Hardy in our minds," Anderson said. "From those days on, being a Colorado Buffaloes always was in my blood. I always wanted to be a Buff and I'll always be a Buff."

Along the way, the achievements emphasized the fame. The 1963 Boulder football team, with Bobby Anderson at quarterback, won the state championship. Dick Anderson and Phil Irwin, Hale Irwin's younger brother, were on the team. Hale Irwin also played football for Boulder High School and CU before going on to professional golf fame.

"We had wonderful coaches in Emerson Wilson and Sam Pagano," Anderson said. "They had a very organized program that had us prepared for the demands of college football."

Wilson credited Anderson for being a coach's dream.

"Bobby probably was the best total player I had at Boulder," Wilson said. "He was a complete person, a great athlete on the field and a quality student in the classroom."

Anderson, a winner of The Denver Post's Gold Helmet Award as the state's top player-scholar, was a three-sport athlete in high school. In basketball, he helped Boulder to a consolation state title, and he was a noted baseball catcher. Although football became his trademark sport, Anderson also played on two National Baseball Congress championship teams for Bauldie Moschetti and the famed Boulder Collegians.

While on his way to All-America status, Anderson's time at CU was marked by two games: a 31-21 win over Miami in the 1967 Bluebonnet Bowl to complete

a 9-2 season, and a 47-33 victory over coaching legend Bear Bryant and Alabama in the 1969 Liberty Bowl in an 8-3 season.

Before the third game of his senior season in 1969, Buffs coach Eddie Crowder moved Anderson from quarterback to tailback, a position that had been hit by injuries.

"Eddie said he needed my experience at tailback," Anderson said. "In the back of my mind, I wanted to play quarterback. I had been at quarterback for 23 games, but I said I'd do whatever was best for the team. I played my last nine college games at tailback."

The Broncos took notice and made Anderson their No. 1 draft pick in 1970. Anderson's highlight in the NFL was the 1973 season and being part of the first Broncos team to record a winning record at 7-5-2. But injuries took their toll.

"I had four operations in three years, two knees and both shoulders," Anderson said. "Football is a fun game only when you're healthy."

Anderson's pro football career ended in 1976 after Broncos coach John Ralston brought him back to Denver after brief stops with Dallas, Washington and New England.

"It was tough for me to leave the game because there aren't many things you do that equals the rush and excitement of getting ready to play in the football arena," Anderson said.

After his playing days, Anderson was connected to CU football for 29 years as a member of the radio broadcast team. But two years ago, he entered private business and moved to La Quinta, Calif.

He keeps ties to Boulder and returned two weeks

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ago to attend memorial services for Crowder.

"I count it as a blessing that I played for the teams in my home state and for people such as Eddie Crowder," Anderson said. "That sequence was a unique situation for me."

Anderson bio

Born: Oct. 11, 1947, in Midland, Mich.

High school: Boulder High School

College: University of Colorado

Family: Wife Marty, sisters Pat and Janis, brother Dick

Hobbies: Reading, golf — although he claims to be too old to become a better player.

Noteworthy: Inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2006.

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Florida St. to continue rotation at quarterback

By Patrick Ridgell

Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — Preparing for Florida State didn't figure to be easy.

But with the Seminoles (2-1) expected to continue to rotate two quarterbacks Saturday when they play Colorado in Jacksonville, the Buffs have that much more on their plate. There's even a chance CU could see three quarterbacks if Florida State coaches choose to use Drew Weatherford.

"We need a month," CU coach Dan Hawkins said about preparation time. "I'm going to call Bobby (Bowden) and see if we can reschedule, or say he gets to play only one of them."

Sophomore Christian Ponder remains the starter after going 6-for-18 with three interceptions in Florida State's 12-3 loss to Wake Forest on Saturday. Sophomore D'Vontrey Richardson also went 6-for-18 Saturday and threw two interceptions.

"We've seen enough from them to know they've got what it takes to work themselves out of (their struggles)," Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said Sunday.

Seminole offensive coordinator Jimbo Fisher said Monday he did not consider using Weatherford, a senior, on Saturday night. Weatherford has 33 starts, including one in Boulder last season that Florida State won. He's thrown only two passes in 2008.

Ponder blamed himself for Saturday's problems.

"I had a lot of things I messed up on," he said. "There's definitely guys I missed, and I made a lot of mistakes."

Hawkins said Ponder and Richardson are both good running quarterbacks, something CU saw plenty of last week when West Virginia's Pat White ran for 148 yards. That aspect should remain fresh in the Buffs' minds.

"You'd love to have more time (to prepare), but you don't," Hawkins said.

COMING BACK: Eight Seminoles are expected to return to the team this week after missing the season's first three games due to suspension for academic misconduct.

Among them are a few listed as starters in the media guide, including defensive tackle Justin Mincey, defensive end Neefy Moffett, linebacker Dekoda Watson and cornerback Patrick Robinson.

"These guys were starters last year," defensive coordinator Mickey Andrews said. "If they come back and play to the level they're capable of, that makes us a better defense, it gives us more depth, and maybe we won't have to rely quite as much on some freshmen as we have in the first three games."

Florida State has allowed one touchdown this season. The Seminoles opened the season with big wins against Chattanooga and Western Carolina.

Offensively, tight end Caz Piurowski is coming back. He's also listed as a starter.

BUFFS-LONGHORNS: FSN will nationally televise CU's Big 12 opener, Oct. 4 against Texas in Boulder. It will start shortly after 5 p.m.

EXTRA POINTS: The Big 12 named CU kicker Aric Goodman its special teams player of the week. Goodman kicked the game-winning field goal Thursday in overtime. ... Running back Rodney Stewart, who rushed for 166 yards, lost the league's weekly offensive award to Missouri quarterback Chase Daniel, who set a Big 12 single-game record with 20 straight completions during Saturday's defeat of Buffalo. ... Bowden will join Amos Alonzo Stagg and Joe Paterno as the only major college head coaches to coach in 500 games on Saturday. ... Florida State is 8-1 in Jacksonville under Bowden, 9-1-1 there all time. ... Hawkins said he wants punter Matt DiLallo to improve his hang time. DiLallo is averaging 43.14 yards a kick. DiLallo could be busy Saturday. Last year against Florida State, he punted eight times.

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



CU report: Reinforcements arrive

By B.G. Brooks

Monday, September 22, 2008

Florida State will get four veteran defensive players and an experienced tight end back for Saturday's game against Colorado in Jacksonville, Fla. (1:30 p.m. MDT, KMGH-Channel 7).

Florida State defensive coordinator **Mickey Andrews** said Monday that tackle **Justin Mincey**, end **Neefy Moffett**, linebacker **Dekoda Watson** and cornerback **Patrick Robinson** will be available for the first time this season.

They were suspended for last year's Music City Bowl and this season's first three games for their roles in a cheating scandal last winter that involved 61 student-athletes. Of that number, 18 football players were implicated.

"If they come back and play to the level we think they can, it should make us a better defense," Andrews said. "We won't depend so much on freshmen as we did in the first three games."

The returning tight end is **Caz Piurowski**, whom offensive coordinator **Jimbo Fisher** also believes will contribute.

Homecoming, sort of

CU has a handful of players with Florida roots - reserves **Josh Hartigan** (linebacker) and **Kevin Moyd** (running back) as well as **Josh Smith** (receiver, return specialist), **Darrell Scott** (running back) and **Matt DiLallo** (punter).

Smith and Scott were born in Tallahassee, Fla., but Smith later moved to California to be raised by his older sister, **Alexis** - Scott's mother.

Buffaloes coach **Dan Hawkins** acknowledged returning to their home state would be a special experience for Smith and Scott but added, "When you play Florida State, everybody gets fired up. I think for both of them, they just want to get better."

Goodman honored

Sophomore placekicker **Aric Goodman** was chosen the Big 12 Conference's Special Teams Player of the Week for his 25-yard field goal in overtime that beat West Virginia 17-14 on Thursday.

Goodman, a 2006 transfer from Wyoming, had been a scholarship candidate through preseason camp, and his winning kick provided the final nudge.

Said Hawkins: "It was a big kick, and he made it. I told him in the locker room (about going on scholarship). He was fired up."

The other Big 12 honorees: Offensive Player of the Week, Missouri quarterback **Chase Daniel**; Defensive Player of the Week, Missouri linebacker **Sean Weatherspoon**.

Ponder to start for FSU

Christian Ponder will start at quarterback for Florida State and **D'Vontrey Richardson** will remain the backup.

Neither sophomore was effective in a 12-3 loss to Wake Forest, but **Drew Weatherford**, who has 33 career starts, never left the bench.

"It wouldn't do any good except to cause more confusion," coach **Bobby Bowden** said of the decision to not use Weatherford.

Ponder and Richardson combined for 118 passing yards and five interceptions.

Hawkins, on having to prepare for two, and possibly three, Florida State quarterbacks

Etc.

* CU's Big 12 Conference opener on Oct. 4 against Texas at Folsom Field will begin at 5 p.m. and be televised nationally (FSN Rocky Mountain).

* On Saturday, the Buffs play their second game of the season in an NFL venue (Jacksonville Municipal Stadium). Hawkins sees little difference in being there or in Tallahassee. "It's still a home game for them," he said. "They'll have a ton of fans there."

* Defensive end **Nosa Equae**, a 6-foot-2, 24-pounder from Summit High School in Mansfield, Texas, committed to CU after the West Virginia game. He is the fourth known commitment for 2009.

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