



No. 16 Kansas State holds off CU women

Spears tallies 25, Richards adds 23 for Colorado

Camera staff report
Saturday, February 21, 2009

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- Brittany Spears scored 25 points and Kara Richards added 23, but their Colorado teammates were only able to chip in with a total of 12 more points on Saturday.

Those numbers didn't cut it on the road against No. 16 Kansas State and the Buffs fell 72-60 to the Wildcats, who were without star point guard Shalee Lehning (mononucleosis).

Given the inconsistent scoring from CU junior Bianca Smith and sophomore Kelly Jo Mullaney, Buffs coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said she would like to see freshman Alyssa Fressle step up and give the Buffs a much-needed third scoring threat.

"We have to find out where Alyssa is going to score," McConnell-Miller said on the KKZN post-game radio show. "We have to give her some confidence ... We need her to be successful."

Spears and Richards combined to score 48 of CU's 60 points. Smith had six, Fressle four and Mullaney 2. The Buffs did make all 16 of their free throws, however, and had only 10 turnovers.

K-State was led by Ashley Sweat's 22 points. Marlies Gipson had 16 and Kelsey Nelson filled in nicely for Lehning with a double-double -- 14 points and 13 rebounds.

The Buffs (11-13 overall, 3-9 Big 12) rallied to make it close in the second half against K-State (21-4, 8-4).

Colorado trailed 49-35 with 11:50 to play. But CU went on a 14-4 run to cut Kansas State's lead to 53-49 with about 5:30 remaining in the game.

Momentum then swung back K-State's way as the Wildcats responded with an 8-0 run to regain control and hand CU its fourth loss in its last five games.

"We start settling," Richards said of CU's scoring droughts. "We don't try to get open. Maybe it's a tired factor."

Kansas State 72, Colorado 60

COLORADO (60)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Spears 38 8-25 7-7 12 1 4 25

Richards 38 8-14 7-7 9 0 4 23

Fressle 35 1-5 2-2 3 4 4 4

Smith 30 2-7 0-0 2 1 4 6

Mullaney 28 1-4 0-0 1 1 2 2

Blythe 11 0-2 0-0 0 0 0 0

Skildum 19 0-1 0-0 2 2 5 0

Piterniece 1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 xx

Totals: 200 20-58 16-16 32 9 23 60

KANSAS STATE (72)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Sweat 33 4-13 13-16 9 2 2 22

Zanotti 28 1-3 0-0 0 2 0 3

Gipson 31 7-15 1-2 8 3 3 16

Nelson 34 6-11 0-1 13 4 3 14

Kincaid 34 2-4 1-1 3 3 0 5

Hill 6 0-1 0-0 0 0 0 0

Spani 14 1-1 2-2 3 0 1 5

Voronenko 3 0-0 2-2 0 0 0 2

Childs 16 1-4 1-3 2 1 1 3

Brown 1 1-1 0-0 0 0 1 2

Totals: 200 23-53 20-27 39 15 11 72

Score by halves:

Colorado 27 33 -- 60

Kansas State 35 37 -- 72

3-point field goals -- Colorado (4-15): Spears 2-6, Fressle 0-2, Smith 2-6, Blythe 0-1; Kansas State (6-14): Sweat 1-2, Zanoliti 1-2, Gipson 1-2, Nelson 2-4, Kincaid 0-2, Hill 0-1, Spani 1-1.

Officials --Napier, Newton, Cunningham.

Technical fouls -- None.

Attendance -- 5,753.

STEALS

Colorado (9):Spears 4, Richards, Fressle 3, Skildum.

Kansas State (4):Sweat 2, Nelson 2.

BLOCKED SHOTS

Colorado (2):Richards, Skildum.

Kansas State (2):Gipson 2.

TURNOVERS

Colorado (10):Spears 2, Richards 3, Fressle 2, Mullaney 2.

Kansas State (11):Sweat 3, Gipson 2, Nelson 4, Kincaid, Spani.



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