



# Bufs receive record gift

## Reed's estate worth more than \$4.75 million

By Brandon Schatsiek Camera Staff Writer

Saturday, June 27, 2009

BOULDER, Colo. — She may not have known it at the time, but Louise Bennett Reed gave the University of Colorado athletic department its largest financial gift ever.

Reed passed away at the age of 103 last June, but in 1996 she informed CU that she would make the athletic department the sole beneficiary of her estate, Jeremy Simon, spokesman for the CU Foundation, said.

On Friday, Simon and the university revealed how much that estate was worth: more than \$4.75 million.

That money will benefit the Louise Bennett Reed Scholarship Fund for football and men's and women's basketball. The scholarship can fund as many as 10 full scholarships each year in perpetuity, depending on whether students are in-state or out-of-state residents.

"It's an incredible shot in the arm for a department to have this kind of gift to have to go toward scholarships when the time of affordability of education is on everyone's minds," Simon said. "The fact of it to be able to support students directly is fantastic. It will have a tangible impact immediately."

Reed took summer classes at CU in 1929, but earned her bachelor's and master's degrees elsewhere. It wasn't until after her retirement from teaching at the college level, that Reed developed her interest in CU athletics. She volunteered as a career counselor and academic counselor for football players in the 1970s.

"She could see the impact personal attention could make on these athletes during a real crucial period in their development," Simon said.

"She wanted to do something obviously and she counseled them," family friend Victor Fabrizio, 74, said. "She traveled with the team and helped them decide on what careers to choose. She was just enamored by athletics, she loved it."

Reed was born in a mining camp outside Redstone, in 1905, but called Boulder's Chautauqua area her home. Her father and brother-in-law operated the Black Diamond Mine in Lafayette.

Reed had a special place in her heart for athletics. She taught skiing in Telluride, where she was paid in gold nuggets. She also coached girls high school basketball in Erie in the 1930s and led the team to the state tournament.

CU athletics was the sole beneficiary of Reed's estate as she had no surviving immediate family

members.



© 2006 Daily Camera and Boulder Publishing, LLC.

# denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

college football

## Reed bequeaths \$4.75 mil to CU

By Natalie Meisler  
The Denver Post

Posted: 06/27/2009 01:00:00 AM MDT

BOULDER — Louise Bennett Reed, a coal miner's daughter, bequeathed the University of Colorado athletic department her entire estate valued at \$4.75 million, the school announced Friday.

The record single donation to the department will annually fund six out-of-state equivalent scholarships, beginning this fall, athletic director Mike Bohn said.

Reed, who died a year ago at age 103, was a volunteer academic/career counselor for CU football players during the mid-1970s.

Her affinity for CU football grew during the Bill McCartney era, and she had a game-day parking space near the stadium.

"This is a powerful and inspirational gift that means so much to us on so many levels," Bohn said. "I couldn't be more touched."

The donor specified CU should use the estate for

football and men's and women's basketball scholarships. Bohn said in order to preserve a perpetual fund, the department will use \$250,000 a year for scholarships.

With annual Buff Club donations producing about \$5.9 million, Bohn said the endowment will put CU over the \$6 million mark.

"It's inspiration for someone who had so much confidence in our program but might also trigger thoughts in other people's estate planning," Bohn said. "This makes a significant dent in our \$8.2 million scholarship bill."

Bohn and CU Foundation spokesman Jeremy Simon said school officials had known for years of Reed's intention to include the department in her will. She had no surviving immediate family.

"Our development team worked with Louise. I went over to see her a couple of times," Bohn said. "We knew her intentions, but when they were realized, they were more meaningful and special to all of us."

A native of Redstone, her father and brother-in-law operated the long-closed Lafayette Black Diamond coal mine.

Natalie Meisler can be reached at 303-954-1295 or [nmeisler@denverpost.com](mailto:nmeisler@denverpost.com)

Advertisement

Visit our 50,000 square foot showroom of New & Used Office Furniture



SHOP ONLINE WITH FREE STATEWIDE DELIVERY

**OfficeLiquidators.com**  
Save even more by entering promo code 61689 in our online shopping cart

**OFFICE LIQUIDATORS**  
Profit From Our Experience  
11111 W 6th Ave  
Between Kipling & Simms  
303-759-3375

**SHOWROOM COUPON**  
**\$50 OFF**  
MARKED PRICE ON ITEMS TOTALING \$300 OR MORE

You must present this while visiting our showroom at time of purchase. One per customer. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires 10-31-07

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™