



CU rolls to Ron Moore Invitational win

Grady earns individual title; Tolan finishes 2nd

By Gary Baines For the Camera
Wednesday, September 17, 2008

DENVER -- It was a homecoming to remember for the University of Colorado men's golf team.

Competing in Colorado as a team in a major college tournament for the first time in eight years, the Buffs trampled their competition and smashed CU's scoring record for a 54-hole event.

Colorado finished at 39-under-par 825 in the Ron Moore Invitational at Green Valley Ranch Golf Club, easily eclipsing the old school record of 24 under par, set in 2005.

"There's no way I thought we'd shoot 39 under par," CU coach Roy Edwards said. "But I do have a lot of confidence in our players' abilities. In any case, I feel good about it."

Only one other school in the 17-team University of Denver tournament broke par for three rounds. Air Force finished second at 5-under -- 34 shots behind the Buffs, who broke the school record for largest victory margin in a major tournament (29 strokes, set in 1991).

Meanwhile, a week after teammate Derek Tolan notched his first individual victory in a college tournament, fellow senior Pat Grady did likewise. Grady, who finished sixth at the HealthOne Colorado Open at Green Valley Ranch in July, fashioned a 4-under-par 68 Tuesday to hold off Tolan for the title. Grady's 12-under-par 204 total matches John Lindberg's CU scoring record for 54 holes, set two decades ago.

"I always wanted to win a college tournament," said Grady, the 2007 amateur of the year in Colorado. "It's been one of my top goals. Not a lot of guys win one because you have pretty elite fields."

Even though Grady has won most of the biggest amateur events in Colorado, he called his performance this week "definitely my biggest win."

Tolan, like Grady a top-10 finisher in the Colorado Open, closed with a 67 Tuesday to end up at 11-under-par 205. In two college tournaments this season, Tolan has finished first and second.

"I expected a lot coming into this season," he said. "I know it's a cliché, but I've been doing a very good job of staying in the present and concentrating on the shot at hand. By the end of the season, I want (CU) to be ranked in the top 10 in the nation, and I want to finish as a first-team All-American. And if I stay on the right path, it should work out." In all, CU placed four players in the top nine individually. State Match Play champion Luke Symons, who like Grady and Tolan grew up in Colorado, finished sixth overall (70-210), while freshman Kevin Kring was ninth (76-212).

The team win was the Buffs' third in the last 6½ months.

"We were real excited about our spring, and we're off to a good start this season," Edwards said. "We've made strides every semester. Everyone is buying in to what we're doing. The seniors are doing a great job leading, and we're pushing one another."

"As far as our team goes, this is the best we've played. It's early in the year, but we hope this is a building block for what's to come."

Ron Moore Invitational

Par-72 Green Valley Ranch GC in Denver

Team scores -- 1. Colorado 825; 2. Air Force 859; 3. New Mexico State 864; 4. Weber State 865; 5. Boise State 866; 6. Cal State Northridge 869; 7. Denver 872; 8. Campbell 872; 9. UTEP 885; 10. Utah State 886; 11. Central Arkansas 888; 12. Northern Colorado 894; 13. Utah 897; 14. Cal-Riverside 899; 15. Loyola College 919; 16. Wyoming 922; 17. Utah Valley State 925.

Top individuals -- 1. Pat Grady, Colorado, 67-69-68--204; 2. Derek Tolan, Colorado, 70-68-67--205; 3. (tie) Tom Whitney, Air Force, 68-71-68--207; Kyle Bailey, Air Force, 67-70-70--207; Nick Delio, Cal State-Northridge, 68-69-70--207; 6. (tie) Luke Symons, Colorado, 72-68-70--210; Travis Reid, New Mexico State, 67-72-71--210; Zak Drescher, Campbell, 73-71-66--210; 9. (tie) Kevin Kring, Colorado, 67-69-76--212; Jordan Herzog, Weber State, 69-77-66--212; Blake Brown, Boise State, 67-74-71--212; Eric Jarvey, Cal State-Northridge, 71-72-69--212.

Other CU scores -- 14. Sebastian Heisele* 67-73-74--214; 18. Michael Imperato* 71-72-74--217; 26. Justin Bardgett 72-77-70--219.

* -- competing only as an individual.



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Buff booters host weekend Classic

By Ryan Thorburn

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Next week the Big 12 soccer season will be getting started.

The team to beat?

Colorado.

No. 8 Texas A&M and No. 13 Oklahoma State will have a lot to say about it of course.

But the Buffs (5-1-1 overall, 1-0 conference) -- who are making their first appearance in the National Soccer Coaches Association poll this week at No. 21-- have been alone in first place since Aug. 29, when they beat Texas Tech in an unusually early Big 12 matchup.

The victory in Lubbock was CU's first of the season after an 0-1-1 start and sparked a five-game winning streak the team will ride into this weekend's Colorado Soccer Classic at Prentup Field.

The Buffs will play Gonzaga at 4 p.m. on Friday and Fresno State at 1 p.m. on Sunday. The University of Denver will play Fresno State at 2 p.m. on Friday and Gonzaga at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

"We've been very fortunate. But it's nice to be able to win on the road, no doubt about it," CU head coach Bill Hempen said. "Winning on the road in conference is very difficult and winning at Texas Tech really helped with our confidence."

CU is now 3-0 away from Boulder after beating Mississippi (3-2 in overtime) and Memphis (2-1) last weekend.

"In the non-conference, because of the lack of familiarity with the opponent, it's a little easier on the road," Hempen said. "There's usually no history and you don't really know what you're getting into."

The victories in Oxford, Miss., and Memphis were both of the come-from-behind variety. Alex Cousins and Kelly Butler scored second-half goals to erase the Tigers' 1-0 lead; Nikki Marshall scored two goals and Nikki Keller another as the Buffs erased a 2-0 deficit against Ole Miss.

"When we've been down it hasn't been because we were outplayed. I think the kids have realized that we're getting our opportunities and just need to stick one," Hempen said. "And when we score that first goal it seems to energize us again and it's like, 'Let's get the next one.'"

Keller's goal, which tied the game late against the Rebels, was perhaps the most important of the trip.

"Nikki Keller doesn't score a lot but she picked a good time to get us even against Ole Miss," Hempen

said. "She has been an unsung hero for us."

Marshall, Butler and goalkeeper Kirstin Radlinski swept the Big 12 players of the week honors for CU for all conference games played Sept. 9-15.

Volleyball

Speaking of good road teams, CU volleyball is 6-0 away from Boulder this season.

And 0-3 at home after four-game losses to Colorado State, Florida and North Carolina last weekend.

The Buffs (6-3) hope to change their fortunes at the Coors Events Center tonight when they host Kansas in the Big 12 opener. The match is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and fans wearing black will be admitted for \$1.

"I think we just have to look forward to Kansas coming in here. That's going to start off the Big 12 season, and I think we just have to look forward on what we can do with them," CU junior Kaitlyn Burkett said. "I think we could start a real good winning streak right there with Kansas. I think that's what we're looking forward to right now."

The Buffs had their chances in each of the last three matches against marquee opponents but failed to come up with big points late in games.

"It has been a tough experience but we can learn a lot from this," sophomore Schylur Edelman said. "It really helped to see some better competition. Now we know what to expect, now we know what to look for, we've got to prepare ourselves every day in practice."

The Jayhawks are also 6-3 so far this season. CU will put its perfect road record to the test on Saturday night against No. 18 Kansas State in Manhattan at 6 p.m.

Cross country

Mark Wetmore's nationally ranked cross country teams return to action on Saturday at the Iowa State Invitational in Ames.

On the women's side, freshmen Emma Coburn (23:39) and Katie Cumming (23:39) placed 1-2 at the CU Time Trial last month to open the schedule. The men's team took eight of the top 10 spots in their race, led by Brett Walters (27:02) in third place.

The CU men are ranked third in the USTFCCA preseason poll and the women are ranked 23rd.

Golf

The women's golf team will compete at the New Mexico Invitational Thursday through Saturday in Albuquerque.

Freshman Emily Childs (71-67-71--209) took second place in her first collegiate tournament to lead the Buffs to a runner-up finish in the Colorado State Classic at Ptarmigan last week.

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sports - region report

Bufs among soccer's top 25

Denver Post staff and wire services

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After sweeping two games on a road trip, the Colorado women's soccer team entered the NSCAA Division I coaches poll at No. 21 on Tuesday.

The Buffaloes (5-1-1), riding a five-game winning streak, defeated Mississippi 3-2 in overtime Friday and topped Memphis 2-1 on Sunday.

Notre Dame took over the No. 1 spot in the poll, replacing UCLA, which dropped to No. 2. In addition to CU, the Big 12 has No. 8 Texas A&M, No. 10 Texas, No. 13 Oklahoma State and No. 25 Kansas in the poll.

CU's Nikki Marshall, Kirstin Radlinski and Kelly Butler were selected Big 12 players of the week.

The Buffs host the Colorado Soccer Classic this weekend in Boulder, with the University of Denver playing Fresno State at 2 p.m. Friday, followed by CU vs. Gonzaga at 4 p.m. DU takes on Gonzaga at 11 a. m. Sunday, then the Buffs meet Fresno State at 1 p.m.

- The Fort Lewis men's soccer team jumped to No. 7 in the NSCAA Division II coaches poll, up from the 13th spot last week. The Skyhawks are joined by two other Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference teams: Metro State moved up 10 spots to No. 15 and Mesa

State entered the poll at No. 23.

- In the Division II women's poll, Metro State is ranked No. 14.

CU ranked high in men's cross country.

The defending Big 12 champion Colorado men's cross country team is ranked No. 3 nationally in the U.S. Track and Field preseason coaches poll. The Buffs have 12 consecutive conference titles, but Oklahoma State will start the season ranked above them at No. 2.

The CU women's team, winner of nine consecutive Big 12 titles and 11 of the past 12, will start the season ranked No. 23. The Buffs are joined by No. 12 Texas Tech and No. 24 Baylor from the Big 12.

Roy's son pleads not guilty.

The son of Hockey Hall of Fame goaltender and former Avalanche star Patrick Roy pleaded not guilty to assault Tuesday for his attack on a player last March during a game in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League.

Jonathan Roy's lawyer entered the plea and asked to get more evidence in a case that has been put off until Nov. 10. Roy, who was not in court, faces a maximum fine of \$2,000 or up to six months in prison.

Roy, a goalie with the Quebec Remparts, skated the length of the ice and attacked goalie Bobby Nadeau in a playoff game against the Chicoutimi Saguenéens on March 22. Nadeau says he didn't retaliate because his coach told him never to fight.

The case prompted some Quebec politicians to call for a fighting ban. The league has not gone that far but has introduced stiffer penalties.

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