



Pirates throttle K-Mac's Buffs

CU unable to overcome early 11-0 deficit

Camera staff report

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. -- The Colorado women's basketball team was picked to finish 11th in the Big 12 this season.

Imagine if the Buffs were in the Big East.

CU lost 77-40 to Seton Hall on Tuesday night at Walsh Gymnasium. The Pirates were picked to finish 14th in the 16-team Big East by the conference's coaches.

"Right now we've got some good basketball players, but we're not showing a good team on the floor," CU head coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said on the 760 AM postgame show. "And I'm going to take responsibility for that. We'll get back in the gym and we'll be ready for Friday night."

The only positive news for the Buffs (3-4) -- who lost by 34 points at Virginia in their only other road game -- is that they begin a four-game home stand against Southern on Friday at the Coors Events Center.

McConnell-Miller's team fell behind Seton Hall 11-0 out of the gate, 18-3 after missing 15 of its first 16 shots, and trailed 43-13 at the intermission.

The 13 points were the fewest in program history for a first half. The Buffs scored 10 points in the second half of a game at Texas Tech in 1998.

"This is the game of basketball and you have to have a passion and a love for the game," McConnell-Miller said. "In the first 10 minutes it didn't look like we had that and it got away from us."

Bianca Smith finally got the visitors on the scoreboard with a 3-pointer nearly five minutes into the game. The Pirates made seven of their first nine shots and took a 31-8 lead after the Buffs' 10th turnover with 6:27 remaining in the half.

The Pirates (6-1) pushed the lead to as many as 39 points in the second half before Kelly Jo Mullaney's shot with two-tenths of a second left ended the scoring.

Seton Hall finished with 34 points in the paint compared to eight for CU with a 28-8 advantage in points off turnovers and a 12-0 edge in fast-break points.

CU shot 30 percent for the game after shooting 18.5 percent in the first half. Seton Hall shot 48 percent from the field and out-rebounded the Buffs 52-24.

Brittany Spears led the Buffs with 13 points.

"The only thing I think is happening right now is these young players are being prepared for the future," McConnell-Miller said. "When they can put it together and they can do it consistently, I think it's going to be a result of all the struggles they went through as freshmen and sophomores."

Seton Hall's top three performers -- Noteisha Womack (12 points, 17 rebounds), Ebonie Williams (16 points on 7-for-9 shooting) and Nicole Emery (16 points, nine rebounds) -- outscored CU's entire team 44-40.

"It's going to take a while to get through that film and find the good parts," McConnell-Miller said.

Seton Hall 77, Colorado 40

COLORADO (40)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Skildum 10 0-0 0-2 2 0 0 0

Spears 34 4-14 3-5 3 0 1 13

Richards 26 1-5 0-0 4 0 3 2

Smith 13 1-5 0-0 0 0 2 3

Mullaney 25 3-4 0-0 2 3 1 6

Fressle 28 2-9 0-0 0 2 3 4

Blythe 23 3-5 0-1 3 2 1 7

Seabrook 22 0-2 0-0 3 1 2 0

Piterniece 4 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0

Dunn 15 1-6 2-2 3 1 2 5

Totals: 200 15-50 5-10 24 9 15 40

SETON HALL (77)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Emery 32 6-14 4-6 9 2 2 16

Womack 28 5-11 2-3 17 0 3 12

Joseph 26 2-3 0-0 1 2 2 4

Booker 25 3-3 2-2 5 2 3 8

Williams 24 7-9 0-0 2 2 0 16

Brown 15 0-2 0-0 2 1 0 0

Heber 13 1-3 0-2 0 1 0 2

Rhodin 11 3-6 0-0 2 1 1 7

Wood 8 1-2 2-2 0 0 2 4

Green 18 2-10 4-6 10 1 2 8

Totals: 200 30-63 14-21 52 12 15 77

Score by halves:

Colorado 13 27 -- 40

Seton Hall 43 34 -- 77

3-point field goals -- Colorado (5-16): Spears 2-5, Smith 1-3, Fressle 0-2, Blythe 1-2, Dunn 1-4; Seton Hall (3-6): Williams 2-3, Rhodin 1-2, Wood 0-1.

Officials --Spence, Danaher, Vaszily.

Technical fouls -- None.

Attendance -- 250.

STEALS

Colorado (5):Spears 2, Smith, Fressle 2.

Seton Hall (10): Emery 2, Joseph, Booker, Brown, Heber, Rhodin 4.

BLOCKED SHOTS

Colorado (3):Spears, Seabrook, Dunn.

Seton Hall (3):Womack 2, Williams.

TURNOVERS

Colorado (23):Spears 7, Richards 3, Mullaney 4, Fressle 3, Blythe, Seabrook, Dunn 3.

Seton Hall (16):Emery 2, Womack, Joseph, Booker 3, Williams 3, Brown 2, Heber 2, Rhodin.

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Baskets kept under wrap in Buffaloes' loss to Seton Hall

Times-Call wire report

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. — Colorado was limited to a school record-low 13 first-half points and never recovered as Seton Hall marched to a 77-40 win Tuesday evening at Walsh Gymnasium.

Colorado (3-4) trailed, 43-13, at halftime in a period filled with missed shots and mistakes. The Buffaloes shot just 19 percent in the first half (5-of-27) and committed 12 turnovers.

Colorado missed its first six shots and added four turnovers as Seton Hall (6-1) scored the first 11 points of the game. The Buffaloes didn't score until junior Bianca Smith hit a 3-pointer at the 15:08 mark of the first half.

The Buffaloes, who have lost nine straight road games dating back to last season, struggled with Seton Hall's pressure defense and never could get into a rhythm.

Most of CU's 12 first-half turnovers came on errant passes, and the Pirates took advantage, outscoring the Buffaloes, 16-2, off turnovers in the first 20 minutes.

"The caliber of (opponent) and the youth of our team is contributing to the outcome of these games, but right now, we're looking like we don't have a solid point guard," CU head coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said. "Not that Kelly Jo (Mullaney) isn't a solid player or Britney Blythe isn't a solid point guard, but we're just not getting into (our offense) right now. We're totally on our heels half the time."

Seton Hall's defense held Colorado's top two scorers, Brittany Spears and Kara Richards, to just one point in the first half — a Spears free throw. Spears finished with a team-high 13 points.

SETON HALL 77, COLORADO 40

COLORADO (3-4)

Skildum 0-0 0-2 0, Spears 4-14 3-5 13, Richards 1-5 0-0 2, Smith 1-5 0-0 3, Mullaney 3-4 0-0 6, Fressle 2-9 0-0 4, Blythe 3-5 0-1 7, Seabrook 0-2 0-0 0, Piteriece 0-0 0-0 0, Dunn 1-6 2-2 5. Totals 15-50 5-10 40.

SETON HALL (6-1)

Emery 6-14 4-6 16, Womack 5-11 2-3 12, Joseph 2-3 0-0 4, Booker 3-3 2-2 8, Williams 7-9 0-0 16, Brown 0-2 0-0 0, Heber 1-3 0-2 2, Rhodin 3-6 0-0 7, Wood 1-2 2-2 4, Green 2-10 4-6 8. Totals 30-63 14-21 77.

Halftime—Seton Hall 43-13. 3-Point Goals—Colorado 5-16 (Spears 2-5, Dunn 1-4, Smith 1-3, Blythe 1-2, Fressle 0-2), Seton Hall 3-6 (Williams 2-3, Rhodin 1-2, Wood 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Colorado 24 (Richards 4), Seton Hall 52 (Womack 17). Assists—Colorado 9 (Mullaney 3), Seton Hall 12 (Emery 2, Joseph 2, Booker 2, Williams 2). Total Fouls—Colorado 15, Seton Hall 15. A—250.