

Rocky Mountain News

Hawkins predicts 10 wins for Buffaloes

CU coach optimistic about upcoming year despite down season

By **B.G. Brooks**, Rocky Mountain News ([Contact](#))

Published December 15, 2008 at 10:58 p.m.



Photo by Nati Harnik / Associated Press

Colorado coach Dan Hawkins on Sunday night laid out his expectations for next season - 10 wins in 2009.

Dan Hawkins is raising the bar - significantly - in anticipation of his fourth season as the

University of Colorado's football coach.

At the team's annual seniors awards banquet Sunday at a hotel in Broomfield, Hawkins' closing remarks included this forecast for 2009: "10 wins and no excuses."

Framing the context of the remark, Dave Plati, CU's director of athletic media relations, said Hawkins' optimism was based on the coach "seeing a lot of things in place" for the future, as well as a recent conversation Hawkins had with former Buffaloes coach Bill McCartney.

"'Mac' told him, as only 'Mac' could, 'You're close . . . you're close (to winning),' " Plati said.

Hawkins' third CU team finished 5-7, making his CU record 13-24.

Before being hired by CU, Hawkins went 53-11 in five seasons at Boise State, with his teams winning or sharing four Western Athletic Conference championships. His WAC record was 37-3.

Hawkins' first two CU teams finished 2-10 and 6-7, with the 2007 squad losing to Alabama 30-24 in the Independence Bowl.

This season, the Buffs failed to reach the necessary six wins for bowl eligibility when Nebraska placekicker Alex Henery hit a 57-yard field goal with 1:43 to play in the teams' final regular-season game.

By the time they visited Lincoln, the Buffs were

Advertisement

Office Liquidators is Now Offering Office Supplies

Office Liquidators has been Colorado's **Low Price Leader** for Office Furniture for 23 years and will now do the same with **Office Supplies!**

\$20 off
initial order of \$60
enter code PC2060

Still locally owned with the same **great service.**

OFFICE LIQUIDATORS

Profit From Our Experience

ORDER ONLINE
www.OfficeLiquidators.com

303-759-3375 11111W. 6th Ave/LAKEWOOD
Between Kipling & Simms

Hours: M-F 8:30 - 6:00, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™

Rocky Mountain News

playing with a patchwork offensive line and were minus their leading rusher and two starting safeties - all because of injuries.

All told, CU suffered 10 season-ending injuries, lost another three players to academic ineligibility, had a promising receiver leave the team and wound up fielding one of the youngest squads in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

The Buffs' final two-deep roster included 27 freshmen or sophomores.

In another football matter, Plati said Colorado State was given approval to use CU's indoor practice bubble on a "need basis" as the Rams prepare for the New Mexico Bowl on Saturday against Fresno State.

"The offer is there," Plati said. "We've always gotten along very well with (CSU's) administration, and I'm sure they would return the favor."

Advertisement

Office Liquidators is Now Offering Office Supplies

Office Liquidators has been Colorado's **Low Price Leader** for Office Furniture **for 23 years** and will now do the same with **Office Supplies!**



\$20 off
initial order of \$60
enter code PC2060

Still locally owned with the same **great service.**

OFFICE LIQUIDATORS

Profit From Our Experience

ORDER ONLINE
www.OfficeLiquidators.com

303-759-3375 11111W. 6th Ave/LAKEWOOD
Between Kipling & Simms

Hours: M-F 8:30 - 6:00, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

Print Powered By  **FormatDynamics™**