



# Bufs earn first Big 12 win of season

## Smith sinks seven 3-pointers at Missouri

Camera staff report  
Sunday, January 25, 2009

Junior Bianca Smith tied a Colorado school record Saturday in a 61-56 victory at Missouri by making seven 3-point field goals as the Bufs broke into the win column for the first time this season in Big 12 Conference play.

Smith scored 25 points in the game -- one off her career best -- and made seven of 11 3-point attempts. Smith and several former Bufs already shared the record for most 3-pointers in a game, but no one would have predicted she would hit a hot streak again Saturday.

Smith had made just three of 22 3-point attempts in the Bufs' four road losses this season. She did most of her damage in the first half, going 5-for-5 from behind the arc.

"I think I took a three on the left wing in the first half and I kind of got bumped and felt like it was a foul and the ball still went in," Smith said during a postgame interview with KKZN radio. "At that point I figured, tonight may be a good night."

The Bufs overcame a 10-point deficit in the first half and led by 10 points early in the second half. They needed the cushion.

Coach Kathy McConnell-Miller's team has been dogged by long, scoreless stretches this season, and the Bufs were forced to fight through another one against the Tigers. CU went more than 5 minutes at one point without scoring and registered just nine points in the final 10 minutes of the game. But they won for the 50th time in McConnell-Miller's tenure as coach with defense, holding the Tigers to just 13 points in the final 10 minutes.

"I'm really proud of them right now," McConnell-Miller said in her postgame radio interview. "There was a stretch where I thought we got up and probably got a little bit careless. ... I thought the maturity tonight was a result of the first four games where they just battled and battled and battled."

McConnell-Miller is now 50-61 at CU midway through her fourth season in Boulder. The victory put Missouri in the conference cellar and allowed the Bufs to climb out, at least for a few days.

Colorado was desperate for a win after starting Big 12 play 0-4 with all four losses coming against teams ranked in the top-25. McConnell-Miller said her staff continued to stay positive through the four-game stretch reinforcing successes within those four losses, and it seemed to pay off.

The Bufs had a little more confidence in Mizzou Arena than they do most nights on the road. They have now won five conference road games since 2005 and three of them have come on the Tigers' home

court.

Smith wasn't the only CU player with a strong outing. Sophomore Brittany Spears, the team's leading scorer this season, produced her fifth double-double of the year with 11 points and 13 rebounds. Spears and Smith both played all 40 minutes for the Buffs.

The Buffs improved to 9-8 overall and 1-4 in conference play.

## Colorado 61, Missouri 56

### COLORADO (61)

**min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp**

Spears 40 4-13 3-3 13 1 0 11

Richards 27 6-8 3-6 9 1 4 15

Fressle 29 1-8 0-0 3 3 3 2

Smith 40 7-12 4-5 5 4 4 25

Blythe 33 1-4 0-0 0 3 2 2

Skildum 17 1-1 1-2 3 1 2 3

Seabrook 2 0-0 0-0 0 0 1 0

Dunn 12 1-1 0-0 1 0 2 3

**Totals: 200 21-47 11-16 36 13 18 61**

### MISSOURI (56)

**min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp**

Johnson 24 5-12 3-4 6 2 2 14

Jones 31 3-7 1-4 6 1 3 7

Mills 28 1-7 0-0 5 3 2 3

Hollins 38 3-11 1-1 4 4 1 8

Brown 35 6-11 4-6 4 2 3 17

Gee 1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0

Otote 1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0

Richbow 15 1-3 2-2 1 0 1 4

Scott 13 0-2 0-0 3 0 2 0

Flores 14 0-7 3-4 3 0 1 3

**Totals: 200 19-60 14-21 36 12 15 56**

**Score by halves:**

Colorado 35 26 -- 61

Missouri 30 26 -- 56

**3-point field goals --** Colorado (8-18): Smith 7-11, Spears 0-4, Dunn 1-1, Blythe 0-1, Fressle 0-1.  
Missouri (4-18): Hollins 1-5, Mills 1-5, Johnson 1-3, Brown 1-2, Scott 0-2, Richbow 0-1.

**Officials --**Tina Napier, Teresa Dahlem, Felicia Grinter.

**Technical fouls --** None

**Attendance --** 1,642

**STEALS**

**Colorado (8):**Spears 3, Blythe 2, Fressle, Smith, Dunn

**Missouri (10):**Brown 3, Johnson 2, Mills 2, Flores 2, Richbow.

**BLOCKED SHOTS**

**Colorado (3):**Richards 2, Dunn

**Missouri (2):**Mills, Flores

**TURNOVERS**

**Colorado (23):**Smith 7, Spear 5, Skildum 4, Fressle 3, Richards 2, Blythe, Dunn

**Missouri (13):**Flores 3, Hollins 3, Richbow 3, Brown 2, Johnson, Jones.



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