



Red Raiders surge past Buffs

Texas Tech's 14-0 run in second half sinks CU

By Chris Shelton
Wednesday, January 28, 2009

BOULDER, Colo. — One game after scoring a season-high 25 points, Colorado junior Bianca Smith was held to five points with four turnovers in 36 minutes on Wednesday.

Combined with center Kara Richards' foul trouble, Smith's troubles on the court opened the door for Texas Tech and the Lady Raiders rumbled their way through for a 66-60 victory in the Coors Events Center.

"Not the outcome we had hoped for," Colorado coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said. "Not the performance we prepared for."

Colorado, which won Saturday at Missouri, lost for the fifth time in its last six games to fall to 9-9 overall and 1-5 in the Big 12.

Texas Tech (12-7, 3-3) pulled away quickly in the second half.

With the game tied at 40, the Lady Raiders scored the next 14 points over four minutes and 44 seconds to take a 54-40 lead with nine minutes to play.

"We were soft and tentative," McConnell-Miller said. "They went right at us."

The Buffs made a run at the Lady Raiders and Brittany Spears' 3-pointer with 4:14 to play cut Texas Tech's lead to 57-53. But the Buffs had three turnovers on their next three possessions and Texas Tech regained the upper hand.

Spears led CU with 26 points, a career-high in Big 12 play. Freshman Alyssa Fressle and Richards each added 13.

Texas Tech coach Kristy Curry credited Dominic Seals' defense for shutting down Smith. Seals, meanwhile, went on to lead Texas Tech with 18 points.

"They're real physical on defense," Smith said. "They face-guarded me and Spears and it was just tough to get open shots."

Richards, who scored 11 points in the second half, picked up her second foul less than four minutes into the game and spent much of the first half on the bench. CU had built a 14-4 lead to start the game, but with Richards on the bench Texas Tech went on a 13-0 run to lead 17-14 with nine minutes left in the first half. Similarly in the second half, Richards went to the bench with her fourth foul and 11:08 to play,

which came just as Texas Tech made its big run.

Afterward, the Buffs lamented a chance to begin a win streak, especially with another home game coming up against Nebraska on Saturday.

"We were at home," Spears said, "and it would have given us more confidence in our next games."

Texas Tech 66, CU 60

TEXAS TECH (66)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Roberson 37 4-5 0-1 7 1 4 9

Seals 35 7-15 4-6 4 2 2 18

Mallard 26 2-9 4-4 9 1 4 8

Murphree 30 5-8 3-4 8 4 4 13

Henderson 16 1-3 0-1 1 1 1 2

Barncastle 19 4-4 0-0 2 0 1 9

Moore 22 2-7 0-1 1 3 3 5

Martin 4 0-0 2-2 1 0 0 2

Brown 11 0-0 0-0 1 0 0 2

Totals: 200 25-51 13-19 38 13 19 66

COLORADO (60)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Spears 40 10-22 2-3 6 1 1 26

Richards 24 5-5 3-3 6 0 4 13

Fressle 32 5-15 3-4 2 4 3 13

Smith 36 2-5 0-0 4 2 3 5

Blythe 34 0-5 0-0 0 3 2 0

Skildum 6 0-2 0-0 1 0 2 0

Seabrook 5 0-0 0-0 2 0 1 0

Mullaney 8 1-2 1-2 2 0 0 3

Dunn 15 0-2 0-0 3 0 2 0

Totals: 200 23-58 9-12 30 10 18 60

Score by halves:

Texas Tech 30 36 -- 66

Colorado 27 33 -- 60

3-point field goals -- Texas Tech (3-10): Moore 1-4, Roberson 1-2, Barncastle 1-1, Mallard 0-1, Murphree 0-1, Henderson 0-1. Colorado (5-22): Spears 4-11, Smith 1-4, Blythe 0-4, Fressle 0-2, Dunn 0-1.

Officials --Beverly Roberts, Bob Trammell, Randy Campbell

Technical fouls -- None

Attendance -- 1,267

STEALS

Texas Tech (4):Roberson, Mallard, Henderson, Brown

Colorado (9):Spears 3, Blythe 3, Fressle, Smith, Skildum

BLOCKED SHOTS

Texas Tech (4):Mallard 2, Roberson 2

Colorado (1):Spears

TURNOVERS

Texas Tech (16):Murphree 4, Seals 3, Barncastle 2, Mallard, Henderson

Colorado (13):Smith 4, Spears 3, Richards, Blythe, Skildum



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