



Canadian pipeline pays off for CU women's golf team

Two of Buffs' top players come from Vancouver area

By Joshua Lindenstien
Saturday, September 29, 2007

Call it the Canadian connection.

When University of Colorado women's golf head coach Anne Kelly brought Brent Franklin in as a volunteer assistant in 2003 and then as a part-time assistant three years ago, she got more than someone who was accomplished on the course. She also got someone who still has a fair amount of name recognition and credibility in his home country.

Since then, the Buffs have done a good job of parlaying that status into a pipeline of talented recruits from north of the border, especially the Vancouver, British Columbia, area where Franklin is from.

Sophomores Julie Kim and Dominique Pytlewski both quickly became regulars in the Buffs' lineup last year and this year are two of the top players on the team.

Kim, who was second on the team in stroke average last year, has led the team this fall with two top-20 finishes in two events. She placed sixth at the Ptarmigan Ram Classic to open the season, one spot behind Pytlewski.

Another B.C. product, Lindsay Caljouw, led the Buffs in stroke average last season before leaving CU in the offseason, and freshman Stephanie Simich, from Ontario, has found her way into the Buffs' lineup this fall.

Pytlewski said Franklin was a major reason she chose CU over schools like Fresno State, Oregon and Oregon State.

Franklin, an All-American at BYU in the 1980s, won the Canadian PGA Championship in 1989 and went on to several successful seasons on the Canadian and Japanese tours.

"If I told anyone that I was looking at Colorado, they were like, 'Oh, Brent Franklin coaches there,'" Pytlewski said this week as the Buffs prepared to host Monday and Tuesday's Heather Farr Memorial Invitational at the Omni Interlocken Golf Club in Broomfield.

"People Brent's age were telling me how good he was. He was kind of a big deal so it was cool."

Of course, not everyone knew the coach's name.

Kim, who was born in Korea, didn't begin really playing golf until her freshman year of high school.

The first time she heard Franklin's name was in the recruiting process.

"He's really good friends with my swing coach in Canada, and I fully trust my swing coach," Kim said.

"And he told me Brent knows what he's doing."

The admiration goes both ways.

Kelly said Canada has a strong juniors program. Both Kim and Pytlewski played for the junior national team, and Pytlewski played with Simich at the junior nationals over the summer.

"(Canada has) exceptional players," said Franklin, who is married to the former Kristine Hoos, the director of men's basketball operations at CU from 1998-99 and the sister of University of Denver men's golf coach Eric Hoos. "I've been saying that for a while, and I think we got two of the best ones up there. They're both such terrific kids. We're lucky to have both of them on our team."

Franklin said it was hard for CU to recruit some of the top players in the United States when he started at the school because of the reputation Colorado has as a cold-weather climate, among other factors. With his connections to developmental coaches in Canada, it was only natural to look there to help build a strong base of talent.

"I think they trusted what we were going to do down here and so far I think they're pretty pleased with the results," Franklin said.

For the players, having the connection to home with each other was also a big factor in them picking a school so far away. Although they chose CU independently, Kim and Pytlewski knew each other in high school and get to play together in the summer when they go home. "It was probably easier for both of us to get down here and already know each other in the beginning," Pytlewski said.

With Franklin, Kelly meanwhile found not only a new stash of talent to recruit, but she also got an assistant who has proven he is adept at teaching the game as well.

"It's been really great to have somebody of that caliber to work with and have work with the team," Kelly said.



© 2006 Daily Camera and Boulder Publishing, LLC.



Buff booters drop conference opener to Texas Tech

By Joshua Lindenstein
Saturday, September 29, 2007

For openers, the Big 12 Conference has been tough on the Colorado soccer team over the years.

Despite the fact that the Buffs had dominated Texas Tech over the years, Friday was no exception.

Under the direction of first-year coach Tom Stone, the Red Raiders walked away from Prentup Field with a 1-0 victory over CU, just their second triumph ever over the Buffs and their first in Boulder.

The Buffs had owned a 9-1-1 record against the Red Raiders entering the match and hadn't allowed the visitors from Lubbock to score in four years. Still, they said they didn't take Tech lightly.

"I told our kids at halftime, 'That team is our team seven years ago,'" CU coach Bill Hempen said. "(They) weren't talented individually but they played with a great deal more urgency than our kids did and that is my fault. And I promise that will never happen again to this team. They kicked our butts. They deserved to win."

Texas Tech (3-3-1) mustered just two shots on goal all game against a stout CU defense that has posted five shutouts on the season. But Zhaleh Rezaie pooched a free kick from 25 yards out into the box and Maegan Wilber rushed in to boot it past CU goalie Kirstin Radlinski, who relieved starter Kara Linder in the second half.

The Buffs were shut out for the fifth time this season and fell to 3-9 all-time in Big 12 openers, including 2-5 under Hempen. But despite playing their fourth match in eight days, CU (4-3-3) made no excuses.

CU had ended a four-match scoreless streak with victories over Drake and Wyoming in recent days and seemed to be moving back in the right direction heading into conference play.

"It's not the way we pictured starting the conference off," CU junior forward Nikki Keller said. "There's no excuse. We've had three games in a row, but we were ready for this game. We just didn't come out the way we had prepared for it."

"When it comes down to it, the Big 12 is going to be the hardest conference no matter who you play, and we need to have the mind-set in every game we play from here on out."

The Buffs controlled possession for much of the first half but managed just one shot on goal before the break and four in all. Although leading scorer Nikki Marshall got a few chances, the Red Raiders had someone in her face on every one. The Buffs' final chance, a shot by Gianna DeSaverio from 12 yards out, sailed wide right.

Texas Tech, meanwhile, seemed to get stronger as the match went on.

"A little-known fact is that Lubbock sits at 3,400 feet," said Stone, who played at Duke when Hempen was an assistant for the men's team there. "So coming here isn't a big adjustment for us."

The Red Raiders were picked by the coaches in the preseason to finish 10th in the Big 12.

"The nice thing about this game is they got a result to show for how hard they've been working," Stone said. ""We dodged a few bullets, got away from (Marshall) a few times and escaped, and then made the most of a set piece."

For the Buffs, who host Nebraska on Oct. 5, the scoring woes of past weeks crept back into their minds once again. CU came up empty on six corner kicks.

"We've consistently had a problem finishing and they just outworked us today," Keller said.



© 2006 Daily Camera and Boulder Publishing, LLC.



No. 7 Longhorns sweep aside Buffs spikers

Camera staff report

Saturday, September 29, 2007

AUSTIN, Texas — The University of Texas volleyball team swept Colorado to hand the Buffs their fifth straight Big 12 loss.

The No. 7 Longhorns beat the Buffs 30-19, 30-20, 30-27 at Gregory Gym on Friday night.

Colorado hit .211 in the match with 41 kills. Emilee Sisco led the Buffs with 13 kills, while Schylur Edelman recorded the best hitting percentage on the night at .455 with five kills on 11 errorless attacks. Lauren Schafer and Alex Buth each added nine kills for CU.

Texas hit .400 with 62 kills in the match. Juliann Faucette led the Longhorns with 18 kills on 34 attacks (.412).

The Buffs (5-8, 0-5 Big 12) return home for a pair of matches next week. They will try again for their first conference win of the season Wednesday against Missouri at 6:30 p.m. at the Coors Events Center. The match will be televised live on FSN.

Tennis team opens

own tourney strong

The Colorado tennis team won 11 of 14 singles matches and two out of three doubles matches Friday — the first day of the CU Invitational.

The tournament includes squads from Colorado State, Northern Colorado and Oklahoma.

In singles play, CU sophomores Camilla Belassi and Melisa Esposito each won a pair of matches in their respective bracket and advanced to the semifinals.

Belassi defeated Tiffany Knop of Northern Colorado, 6-3, 6-0, then defeated freshman teammate Abbie Probert in the second round, 6-3, 6-4.

In the lower bracket, Esposito rallied in her opening round match to defeat Oklahoma's Tara Eckel in a third set tie-breaker, 1-6, 6-0, 7-6(2). She then beat junior teammate Franziska Jendrian in the second round, 6-1, 6-4.

In doubles play, Gleisy Torres Torres teamed up with Probert for a doubles win against Oklahoma's Chelsea Orr and Tara Eckel, 8-5. The other CU doubles win came from Victoria Almagno and Christian Pheil who beat Karen Groll and Tiffany Knop of Northern Colorado, 8-5.

Play in the tournament resumes today at 9 a.m. at the South Campus Tennis Courts with singles matches only.

CU Invitational

Singles

Round 1 — Christiane Pheil (CU) def. Luiza Xavier (UNC) 6-0, 6-0; Tori Almagno (CU) def. Natalia Agarycheva (UNC) 6-2, 6-3; Rachael Cox (OU) def. Greer Satherlie (CSU) 6-1, 6-3; Elena Antakova (OU) def. Anette Pohjalainen (CSU) 6-7(2), 6-3, 6-2; Jodi Ciarvella (UNC) def. Brittany Baldy (OU) 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Round 2 — Christiane Pheil (CU) def. Natalia Agarycheva (UNC) 6-1, 6-4; Tori Almagno (CU) def. Elena Antakova (OU) 6-2, 2-6, 6-4; Greer Satherlie (CSU) def. Jodi Ciarvella (UNC) 6-3, 5-7, 6-2; Rachael Cox (OU) def. Anette Pohjalainen (CSU) 6-1, 6-3; Brittany Baldy (OU) def. Luiza Xavier (UNC) 6-1, 6-1.

Doubles

Gold Pool — Tabatha Knop/Santos (UNC) def. Strasburger/Tyler (CSU) 8-5; Constantinescu/Kalashnikova (OU) def. Esposito/Belassi (CU) 8-4.

Black Pool — Neal/Pohjalainen (CSU) def. Ciarvella/Agarycheva (UNC) 8-4; Probert/Torres Torres (CU) def. Orr/Eckel (OU) 8-5.

Silver Pool — Pheil/Almagno (CU) def. Groll/Tiffany Knop (UNC) 8-5; Baldy/Antakova (OU) def. Baxley/Cox (OU) 8-5.



© 2006 Daily Camera and Boulder Publishing, LLC.