



Vaughns sweep meet titles for Buffaloes

By Michael Sandrock

Sunday, September 30, 2007

Years from now, when they are recalling their college years, Sara and Brent Vaughn will likely recall Saturday's 22nd Rocky Mountain Shootout fondly, as they tell their daughter, Ciara, of the double Vaughn victory she witnessed.

In the season-opening varsity race for the University of Colorado cross country team, Sara led the No. 3 women to the win while Brent took the men's title. It was a strong performance by Colorado that shows both squads are in position to challenge for national crowns once again.

The CU men won the NCAA championship in 2006, with the women placing second.

Saturday, both CU squads won the team competition, with Wyoming second in each. Western State took the Division 2 team race on both the men's and women's sides.

"We did talk about it (both getting wins)," Sara Vaughn said, after she and Erin Marston, second on Saturday, led their young teammates on a cool-down run. "Neither of us had won (collegiate) cross country races before, and I beat Brent to it. By about 45 minutes." Vaughn did it in savvy fashion, with the help of Marston, the lone senior on the Buffs. After trailing Wyoming's Gretchen Fagley-Johnson up Jawbone Hill on the first lap, the two Buffs went into the lead. After running together for more than two miles, Marston got a gap on Vaughn going up Jawbone the second, and final, time.

However, with 800 meters to go, Vaughn used her 1,500-meter speed to pull away for the win, clocking an excellent 21 minutes flat.

"I knew Sara had a kick," said Marston, who was happy with her personal best of 21:18 on the tough Buffalo Ranch course.

Behind the two CU veterans came some talented freshmen, Laura Thweat (sixth in 22:12) and Allison Sawyer (eighth, 22:31). Redshirt freshman Anna Chase was Colorado's fifth runner in, placing 11th.

That is a strong team that will only get stronger if NCAA steeple champ Jenny Barringer races later in the season, and if sophomore Aislinn Ryan continues gathering strength after taking time off to let an injury heal.

"We have a lot of depth, and are going to be good this year," said Sara Vaughn, who also ran a personal best. "It is exciting to be part of that."

"We are very happy with the way the young women are running," assistant coach Heather Burroughs said, as she shouted encouragement to the runners out on the course.

Added Wetmore, "I really think our trajectory for improvement between now and November can be

even steeper than it normally is. I am very happy."

For Brent Vaughn, Saturday's win was a bit of sweet revenge. In the 2006 Shootout, Wyoming's Mark Korir, a native of Eldoret, Kenya, beat Vaughn by roughly 40 seconds. Afterward, he was quoted as saying the win was "a jog" for him.

Vaughn remembered those words, giving him the impetus to wage an exciting race with Korir. The two were part of a pack that passed the mile in 5 minutes. By two miles, passed in 10 minutes flat, the two had separated themselves from Buffs Stephen Pifer and Kenyon Neuman.

Korir led through a 5:03 following mile, with Vaughn perched right on his shoulder. Coming up Jawbone Hill for the third and final time, Korir surged, getting a slight lead. But Vaughn caught him just before four miles, passed in 20:20, and when he came into sight on the final straightaway, Vaughn had a clear lead, and finished in 24:46.

Pifer was third, with Kenyon Newman fourth. Freshmen Richard Medina and Matt Tebo, along with Peter Janson, all also placed in the top 10.

"It is a big day for the Vaughn family," Vaughn said, after getting greeted by a congratulatory kiss from Sara. "It's fun and I am really happy for Sara ... I want to race and compete this year, and the times will take care of themselves."



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sports

Colorado wins team titles

The Denver Post

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Husband and wife Brent Vaughn and Sara Vaughn led the University of Colorado men's and women's cross country teams, respectively, to titles Saturday at the Rocky Mountain Shootout at Buffalo Ranch on the CU campus.

It was the first collegiate victories for both runners. Brent Vaughn finished the men's 8K in 24 minutes, 46 seconds, topping Wyoming's Mark Korir who finished in 25:01.

Sara Vaughn, who married Brent in July, finished the women's 5.8K in 21:00, and teammate Erin Marston was second at 21:18.

The CU men won with 19 points, followed by Wyoming at 44 points. The women won with 20 points, Wyoming was second with 39. The CU men's team is ranked No. 2 nationally in the USTF college cross country poll. The CU women are ranked third.

Rams spikers earn MWC victory. The Colorado State volleyball team stayed atop the Mountain West Conference standings after a 3-1 victory over visiting Nevada-Las Vegas at Moby Arena, winning 30-25, 30-27, 23-30, 30-28.

It was the eighth straight home win for CSU. Jaime Strauss paced the Rams with 23 kills and eight digs.

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Belassi, Esposito fall in CU Invite

Camera staff report
Sunday, September 30, 2007

Colorado sophomores Camila Belassi and Melisa Esposito each lost Saturday in the semifinals of the CU Invitational.

Belassi lost to Oklahoma's Ana-Maria Constantinescu 6-4, 6-3 and Esposito fell to OU's Chelsea Orr 6-3, 6-4.

Buff senior Victoria Almagno and freshman teammate Christiane Pheil went undefeated in round-robin play, meanwhile.

Almagno defeated OU's Rachael Cox 6-2, 6-3 and Pheil beat OU's Brittany Baldy 6-3, 6-4.

Another Buff picked up a win when junior Franziska Jendrian defeated OU's Maria Kalashnikova 6-4, 6-2 in the consolation singles back draw.

The tournament resumes at 9 a.m. today on CU's South Campus.

CU Invitational

Saturday's singles results

Christiane Pheil (CU) def. Brittany Baldy (OU) 6-3, 6-4; Greer Satherlie (CSU) def. Luiza Xavier (UNC) 6-3, 6-1; Tori Almagno (CU) def. Rachael Cox (OU) 6-2, 6-3; Elena Antakova (OU) def. Jodi Ciarvella (UNC) 6-3, 6-3; Natalia Agarycheva (UNC) def. Anette Pohjalainen (CSU) 6-3, 6-7, 6-1; Franziska Jendrian (CU) def. Maria Kalashnikova (OU) 6-4, 6-2; Abbie Probert (CU) def. Gleisy Torres Torres (CU), 6-1, 4-6, 6-1.

Today's singles matches

Christiane Pheil (CU) vs. Anette Pohjalainen (CSU); Greer Satherlie (CSU) vs. Brittany Baldy (OU); Tori Almagno (CU) vs. Jodi Ciarvella (UNC); Elena Antakova (OU) vs. Luiza Xavier (UNC); Natalia Agarycheva (UNC) vs. Rachael Cox (OU)

Today's doubles Gold Pool matches

Tabatha Knop/Santos (UNC) vs. Esposito/Belassi (CU); Strasburger/Tyler (CSU) vs. Constantinescu/Kalashnikova (OU).





CU's Pat Grady shares lead at City Amateur

Camera staff report

Sunday, September 30, 2007

University of Colorado golfer Pat Grady shot a 1-under-par 69 Saturday at Flatirons Golf Course to share the lead after the first round of the Boulder City Amateur.

The Broomfield golfer is tied for the top spot with Ross McLean going into today's final round. The leaders will tee off at 1:50 p.m.

Two shots behind the co-leaders are David Hatfield, Wesley Johnson and Matt Rubin.

Grady, who has won the amateur State Stroke Play, State Match Play and State Publinks, is in the midst of a redshirt season for the Buffs.

Boulder City Amateur At Par-70 Flatirons GC

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Pat Grady 69; Ross McLean 69; David Hatfield 71; Matt Rubin 71; Wesley Johnson 71; Mario Garcia 72; Joe Schwark 72; Owen Ellis 73; Drew Haywood 73; Jake Jacobs 73; Daniel Aldaz 74; Dean Clapp 74; Grand Porter 74; Kyle Dinkel 75; Mike Glaesel 75; Scott Huelskamp 75.

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Frank Beck 73; Bob Campiglia 73; Rob Clark 74; Larry Pate 74; David Williams 76.

NET FLIGHT

Andrew Shaw 66 net; Jeff Straight 67; John Hickman 68; Mark Bronstein 69; John McWethy 69.



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