

2007 COLORADO FOOTBALL



INDIVIDUAL NOTES

(as of September 10 a.m.)

EIGHT QUICK QUESTIONS

We polled the coaches on eight quick questions; here's what they told us:

Coach	Who provided the greatest inspiration to you growing up?	Who was your favorite sports hero(es) as a youngster?	What is your all-time favorite sports team?	What did you want to be when you were little?	Favorite Song	Movie	Food	Favorite Thing To Do In Your Spare Time	Potpourri
Dan Hawkins	My Dad	Walter Payton and Johnny Bench	1993 Willamette Univ. Football	A football player	Ventura Highway	<i>The Cowboys</i>	Mongolian	Read	Most Memorable Sporting Event: <i>1995 Pacific Lutheran vs. Willamette!</i>
Romeo Bandison	My Mother	Ruud Gullit (Dutch soccer player)	Feyenoord (Dutch soccer team in Rotterdam)	A soccer player	Hasta Que Se Rompa el Cuero (by King Bongo)	<i>300</i>	Cheesecake	Play with my kids	Most Memorable Sporting Event: <i>1990 Oregon-No. 4 BYU at Autzen Stadium (a 32-16 Oregon win)</i>
Greg Brown	My Mom & Dad	My father (<i>Irv Brown</i>)	CU Buffaloes (<i>I grew up as the son of a CU coach</i>)	A football player	Adagio For Strings	<i>There's Something About Mary</i>	Mexican	Play with my kids	What interest do you have that no one would ever expect? <i>I like to draw.</i>
Brian Cabral	My Dad	Dick Butkus	Green Bay Packers	A football player	Brother Iz' Somewhere Over The Rainbow	<i>Sandlot</i>	Plate Lunch	Work in the yard	What are your hobbies know one would initially expect? <i>Snowboarding and surfing.</i>
Ron Collins	My Mom & Dad	My brothers, Jack Lambert	St. Louis Cardinals	A football player	Anything by Toby Keith	<i>The Sting</i>	BBQ	Family Time	What interest do you have that no one might expect? <i>I love to golf.</i>
Jeff Grimes	Jack Catlett, HS Coach (<i>The first coach who really believed in me</i>)		Dallas Cowboys		Southbound 35 (<i>Texans will know it!</i>)	<i>Hoosiers</i>	Ice Cream	Kiss my kids!	Anything extraordinary about you? <i>How I left the business world and entered coaching 15 years ago.</i>
Darian Hagan	My Mom, Aunt and Uncle	Walter Payton	Los Angeles Raiders	Policeman (<i>I wanted to make South Central safe</i>)	My First Love	<i>Madea's Family Reunion</i>	Jersey Mike's Subs	Golf and sleep	What interest do you have that no one would ever expect? <i>Cooking is a passion of mine!</i>
Mark Helfrich	My parents	Roger Staubach	Dallas Cowboys	A fireman	Anything by The Beatles	<i>The Longest Day</i>	Italian	Spend time with my family	What interest do you have that no one would expect? <i>I love to cook, especially seafood.</i>
Eric Kiesau	My Dad	Joe Montana, Wayne Gretzky and Cal Ripken	San Francisco 49ers	A coach	Anything by the Counting Crows	<i>A Few Good Men</i>	Pizza	Spending time with my wife and kids	Most Memorable Sporting Event: <i>When I was at Cal, we beat USC when they were ranked No. 3 in three overtimes</i>
Kent Riddle	My parents	Joe Montana and Earl Campbell	San Francisco 49ers	A pro athlete	A Pirate Looks at 40	<i>Field of Dreams</i>	Steak and Pizza	Spending time with my family	Most Memorable Sporting Event: <i>My first Army-Navy football game.</i>

Other Tidbits / Did You Know?

- **Romeo Bandison** lists as the one person he most would most like to meet as American entrepreneur Russell Simmons, the co-founder of the hip-hop label Def Jam among his many accomplishments.
- **Greg Brown** scored on his first play at UTEP as a collegian and never came close to scoring again.
- **Brian Cabral** was the special teams captain of the Super Bowl champion 1985 Chicago Bears; however, he did not appear in the infamous Super Bowl Shuffle song and video recorded that season. He was on hand to participate, but the session was running two hours late and he had to get to another appointment. He let us in on this secret: *"It was pretty prophetic; we filmed it in week seven."*
- That while the very low-key **Ron Collins** loves to golf, he was so frustrated in his first Casotti Classic that he actually tossed his golf bag in a creek.
- **Jeff Grimes** left a higher-paying, higher-profile coaching job at Arizona State to be able to spend more time with his family.
- **Darian Hagan** lists the 1991 Orange Bowl (national championship game for CU vs. Notre Dame) as the most memorable sporting event in his life, despite being injured (torn ACL) late in the first half.
- **Dan Hawkins** said if he hadn't met his wife, Misti, when he did, he says he likely would have been destined to be a "football monk."
- **Hawkins'** first car is also one he would love to find and buy in original condition: a 1959 Chevy Stepside Slant 6 Automatic Pickup Truck.
- **Mark Helfrich** likes almost all Beatles songs, but was born over three years *after* the group disbanded.
- **Eric Kiesau** is good friends with Adam Durwitz, the lead singer of the Counting Crows? Durwitz, a Cal-Berkeley grad, always used to go to the Bears' football practices (Eric said he'd miss sound checks to be at some of them).
- **Kent Riddle** spent six years on the Army staff and some of his greatest memories were the opportunities to hear some of our greatest generals like Norman Schwarzkopf speak in rooms that held less than 100 people.

EIGHT QUICK QUESTIONS

The players had a different eight questions; here are their responses:

<i>Student-Athlete</i>	<i>What is your cell phone ring tone?</i>	<i>The One TV Show You Try Not To Miss</i>	<i>Your Favorite Pizza Topping(s)</i>	<i>Movie you have seen more than any other</i>	<i>Who is your personal hero</i>	<i>Sporting event most one day want to go to</i>	<i>Favorite sports magazine</i>	<i>Favorite college FB reporter or announcer</i>
Joel Adams	The Real Thing	--	Hawaiian	<i>Braveheart</i>	My Brothers	X Games	ESPN	Larry Zimmer
Ethan Adkins	Lean On Me	Heroes	Pepperoni	<i>Braveheart</i>	Tom Nalen	Super Bowl	SI	Lee Corso
Tyler Ahles	Crazy Train	Big Brother	Bacon, Onion	<i>The Matrix</i>	Rocky	Pro Bowl	ESPN	Lee Corso
Matt Bahr	Taking Back Sunday	Sportscenter	Pepperoni	<i>300</i>	Larry Allen	Super Bowl	SI	John Madden
Matt Ballenger	Party Like a Rockstar	Everybody Loves Raymond	Cheese	<i>Fast Times</i>	My Brothers	Super Bowl	ESPN	Lee Corso
Alvin Barnett	Lil' Wayne	NFL Network	Hamburger	<i>Through the Fire</i>	My Family	Super Bowl	NFL Draft Class Books	Chris Berman
Alonzo Barrett	What It Is	The Wire	Onions & Bell Peppers	<i>The Program</i>	My Brother	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
B.J. Beatty	Morning Ride	Ultimate Fighter	Sausage & Mushroom	<i>300</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Blake Behrens	Make Me Better	Entourage	Sausage	<i>The Godfather</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Joel Klatt
Jake Behrens	Vibrate	Lost	Pepperoni & Jalapenos	<i>Ace Ventura</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	--
Austin Bisnow	Own Song	No Time	Crispy Bacon	<i>Meet the Parents</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	--
Kyle Black	Normal	Family Guy	BBQ Chicken	<i>300</i>	--	Super Bowl	SI	--
Jason Brace	Machine Head	Entourage	Cheese	<i>300</i>	My Dad/Brother	Super Bowl	SI	Keith Jackson
Cha'pelle Brown	Normal	106 th & Park	Sausage	<i>Home Alone</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	ESPN	--
Jalil Brown	Whoop that Trick	BET Uncut	Pepperoni & Pineapple	<i>Lord of the Rings</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	--	--
R.J. Brown	Santerig	Lost	Pineapple & Ham	<i>Braveheart</i>	Pat Tillman	Paddling Championships In Hawaii	SI	Lee Corso
Benjamin Burney	Athena Franklin	Family Guy	Pepperoni	<i>300</i>	My Brother	Super Bowl	SI	Howard Cosell
Marcus Burton	--	The Wire	Meat Lovers	<i>Kicking & Screaming</i>	Jesus Christ	X Games	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Maurice Cantrell	Vibrate	Showtime at the Apollo	Sausage & Pepperoni	<i>Boys N' The Hood</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	Lee Corso
Kendrick Celestine	Lil' Boosie	Fresh Prince	Meat Lovers	<i>Love & Basketball</i>	Jesus	Super Bowl	--	--
Hugh Charles	I'm A Flirt	Rob & Big	Cheese	<i>Friday</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	SI	--
David Clark	CU Fight Song	Mgyver	Sausage	<i>Friday Night Lights</i>	Paul Anderson	Super Bowl		
Kevin Cooney	Vibrate	Sportscenter	Cheese	<i>Lion King</i>	Mark Cooney	World Cup	ESPN	Dick Vitale
Tyler Cope	Ladies Love Country Boys	House	Cheese	<i>Star Wars</i>	Brendon Cleary	Masters	SI	--
Cody Crawford	--	--	Pepperoni	--	My Parents	World Cup	SI	Armen Kateryan

<i>Student-Athlete</i>	<i>What is your cell phone ring tone?</i>	<i>The One TV Show You Try Not To Miss</i>	<i>Your Favorite Pizza Topping(s)</i>	<i>Movie you have seen more than any other</i>	<i>Who is your personal hero</i>	<i>Sporting event most one day want to go to</i>	<i>Favorite sports magazine</i>	<i>Favorite college FB reporter or announcer</i>
Shawn Daniels	Normal	Dirty Jobs	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>Braveheart</i>	My Brother	Super Bowl	SI	Larry Zimmer
Patrick Devenny	Vibrate	The OC	--	<i>Wedding Crashers</i>	--	World Cup	ESPN	--
Tyson DeVree	Normal	24	Everything	<i>Gladiator</i>	--	Daytona 500	--	Anyone but Lee Corso
Matt DiLallo	Chris Farley	Seinfeld	Vegetables	<i>Liar Liar</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI	Andrew DiLallo
Jordon Dizon	--	Family Guy	Cheese	<i>Braveheart</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	FHM	C.J.
Justin Drescher	Welcome to the Jungle	Deal or No Deal	Pepperoni	<i>Wedding Crashers</i>	My Dad	Winter Olympics	ESPN	Keith Jackson
Jake Duren	--	South Park	Pineapple	<i>Tears of the Sun</i>	--	Super Bowl	Surfing	--
Daniel Dykes	Pop, Lock, Drop It	Rock of Love	Pepperoni	<i>Knocked Up</i>	My Parents	World Series	SI	--
Kevin Eberhart	--	--	Canadian Bacon	--	--	--	--	--
Byron Ellis	Gym Class Heroes	Heroes	Pepperoni	<i>White Chicks</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	--
Jason Espinoza	Party Like a Rockstar	--	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>The Shooter</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	--
Erick Faatagi	Snickers Theme Song	Heroes	Sausage	<i>Snatch</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	--	--
Joe Fruechtel	Johnny Cash	The Office	Black Olives	<i>Legend of the Falls</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Riar Geer	Vibrate	South Park	Meat Lovers	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Eugene Goree	DJ Yola	106 th & Park	--	<i>300</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	--	--
Cameron Ham	Crazy Train	Planet Earth	Pepperoni	<i>Anchor Man</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Lionel Harris	--	--	Pepperoni	<i>Friday After Next</i>	My Little Brother	Super Bowl	--	--
Edwin Harrison	Normal	Desperate Housewives	Sausage	<i>Harlem Nights</i>	My Parents	Final Four	Sporting News	--
Josh Hartigan	Do the Heisman	Prison Break	Sausage & Pepperoni	<i>Menace II Society</i>	--	Super Bowl	SI	--
Cody Hawkins	Tricky	Wildboyz	Pepperoni	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	Jesus Christ	BCS Champ.	ESPN	Chris Spielman
Devin Head	Volcano	24	Pepperoni Jalapenos Green Pepper	--	My Parents	Winter Olympics	SI	--
Marquez Herrod	California	Heroes	Chicken & Sausage	<i>Gladiator</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	--
Drew Hudgins	Vibrate	Sportscenter	Meat Lovers	<i>Wedding Crashers</i>	Jesus Christ	BCS Champ.	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
George Hypolite	Vibrate	The Wire	Ham	<i>The Wood</i>	Angelia Davis	Super Bowl	ESPN	Lee Corso
Michael Ittis	Another Beer in Mexico	South Park	Pepperoni	<i>Live Free or Die Hard</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	--	--
Bernard Jackson	--	--	--	<i>The Heat</i>	Rosa Burgos	BCS Champ.	SI	Keith Jackson

<i>Student-Athlete</i>	<i>What is your cell phone ring tone?</i>	<i>The One TV Show You Try Not To Miss</i>	<i>Your Favorite Pizza Topping(s)</i>	<i>Movie you have seen more than any other</i>	<i>Who is your personal hero</i>	<i>Sporting event most one day want to go to</i>	<i>Favorite sports magazine</i>	<i>Favorite college FB reporter or announcer</i>
Arthur Jaffee	Make It Rain	Entourage	Pepperoni	<i>300</i>	--	Super Bowl	--	--
Samson Jagoras	Live For This	Rob & Big	Cheese	<i>Old School</i>	Pat Tillman	Super Bowl	SI	Jim Rome
Brad Jones	The Humpty Dance	College Hill	Olives & Green Peppers	<i>The Players Club</i>	Myself	Super Bowl	ESPN	Charles Johnson
Taj Kaynor	So Fresh So Clean	Bad Boys of Comedy	--	<i>Any Given Sunday</i>	My Mom	NBA Finals	SI	Steven A. Smith
Eric Lawson	Should Have Been A Cowboy	Sportscenter	Mushrooms	<i>Remember the Titans</i>	--	World Series	SI	--
Brian Lockridge	Sephia for the Q	Planet Earth	BBQ Chicken	<i>Gladiator</i>	Jesus Christ	Super Bowl	SI	--
Maurice Lucas	King Kong	Naruto	Mushrooms	<i>300</i>	Hulk	World Series	ESPN	
Kai Maiava	Pass It To Me	Friends	Sausage & Olives	<i>Friday</i>	Cartman	Super Bowl	SI	Joel Klatt
Chase McBride	Vibrate	Sportscenter	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>Bad Boys II</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	SI	All of them
Gardner McKay	Vibrate	I Love NY	Sausage & Pepperoni	<i>300</i>	God	Super Bowl	--	Dick Vitale
Scott McKnight	California	Family Guy	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Steve Melton	Vibrate	Lost	Hawaiian	<i>The Program</i>	My Parents	Kentucky Derby	SLAM	Lee Corso
Ryan Miller	Brick House	Simpsons	Pepperoni	<i>The Princess Bride</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	Rise	Joel Klatt
Kevin Moyd	I Luv It	Run's House	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>ATL</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	Keith Jackson
Corey Nabors	I'm a King	My Wife & Kids	Pepperoni	<i>Lion King</i>	My Dad	Olympics	SI	Dick Vitale
Nick Nelson	Genene	Lost	Pepperoni	<i>Billy Madison</i>	My Dad	World Series	SI	Kirk Herbstreit
Brandon Nicholas	Normal	Lost	Pepperoni	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	SI	--
Conrad Obi	Lil' Wayne	Making the Band 4	Veggie	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	My Brother	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Wes Palazzi	Ignition	Deal or No Deal	Cheese	<i>Wedding Crashers</i>	My Grandfather	Super Bowl	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Anthony Perkins	What You Know	Sportscenter	Pepperoni	<i>Cool Runnings</i>	My Parents	--	SI	--
Christopher Perri	Back in Black	CSI Miami	Pepperoni & Pineapple	<i>Remember the Titans</i>	Mark Perri	World Series of Poker	ESPN	Rod Gilmore
Tony Poremba	Cally-Man	Laguna Beach	Pineapple	<i>Going Greek</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI	Chris Fowler
Tyler Polumbus	Pat Green	Lost	Pepperoni	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	Jesus Christ	Final Four	ESPN	Chris Fowler
Stephone Robinson	Gym Class Heroes	CSI Miami	Meat Lovers	--	My Mom	Duke vs. UNC Basketball Game	ESPN	Kirk Herbstreit
Daniel Sanders	The Game	House	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>Boonies</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI Swimsuit Edition	Keith Jackson
Joe Sanders	Lil' Wayne	NFL All Access	Sausage	<i>Wedding Crashers</i>	My Parents	Super Bowl	ESPN	Chris Fowler

<i>Student-Athlete</i>	<i>What is your cell phone ring tone?</i>	<i>The One TV Show You Try Not To Miss</i>	<i>Your Favorite Pizza Topping(s)</i>	<i>Movie you have seen more than any other</i>	<i>Who is your personal hero</i>	<i>Sporting event most one day want to go to</i>	<i>Favorite sports magazine</i>	<i>Favorite college FB reporter or announcer</i>
Travis Sandersfield	Another One Bites The Dust	24	Pepperoni	<i>Gladiator</i>	John Elway	Super Bowl	SI	Dick Vitale
Devin Shanahan	Vibrate	The Office	Pepperoni	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	--	Super Bowl	SI	--
Lagrone Shields	Lil' Wayne	Nip/Tuck	Supreme	<i>Friday</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	Dick Vitale
Markques Simas	Lil' Wayne	Law & Order	Chicken & Pineapple	<i>He Got Game</i>	My Aunt	NBA Finals	ESPN	Shannon Sharpe
Mike Sipili	Pussycat Dolls	--	Lettuce & Onion	--	My Mom	Super Bowl	--	--
Jeff Smart	--	Lost	Pepperoni	<i>Dodgeball</i>	--	Super Bowl	ESPN	--
Bret Smith	Foxy Lady	Deadliest Catch	Pepperoni	<i>The Sandlot</i>	Jesus Christ	BCS Champ.	ESPN	--
Jimmy Smith	Jim Jones	White Rapper Show	Pepperoni	<i>Dave Chappelle</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	SI	--
Josh Smith	You Know What It Is	Making the Band	Ham & Pepperoni	<i>Forest Gump</i>	My Older Brothers	Super Bowl	Buffalo Stampede	--
Lamont Smith	Lil' Boosie	Sportscenter	Pepperoni	<i>How High</i>	Darrent Williams	Super Bowl	SI	Lee Corso
Nate Solder	--	--	Hawaiian	--	--	Super Bowl	SI	--
Dusty Sprague	Beeps	Dancing With The Stars	Sausage & Mushrooms	<i>Braveheart</i>	Ed McCaffrey	Summer Olympics	SI	--
Bryan Stengel	--	UFC	Sausage & Green Chili	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	SI	Chris Fowler
Keenan Stevens	--	Planet Earth	Everything	<i>Dumb & Dumber</i>	Walter Payton	Super Bowl	ESPN	--
Tom Suazo	Sopranos Intro	The Sopranos	Pepperoni & Green Peppers	--	--	Super Bowl	SI	--
Demetrius Sumler	Do the Heisman	Bad Boys of Comedy	Pepperoni & Sausage	<i>Friday After Next</i>	My Mom	Super Bowl	ESPN	Steven A. Smith
Sione Tau	--	Inuyasha	Cheese	<i>Legend of Johnny Lingo</i>	God	Super Bowl	SI	--
Nathan Vaionmunga	--	--	Sausage & Pineapple	<i>300</i>	God	Super Bowl	--	--
Ryan Walters	Jay Z	House	Pepperoni	<i>300</i>	My Dad	World Cup	SI	Kirk Herbstreit
Terrence Wheatley	Paul Wall	Family Guy	Mushrooms	<i>The Day After Tomorrow</i>	My Parents	Olympics	ESPN	--
Patrick Williams	Lil' Boosie	College Hill	Pepperoni	<i>Sister Act 2</i>	Jesus	Super Bowl	SI	Chris Berman
Anthony Wright	Al Green	Family Guy	Cheese	<i>The Program</i>	My Dad	Super Bowl	Stack Magazine	Keyshawn Johnson
Jarrell Yates	--	Family Guy	Meat Lovers	<i>Spider-Man</i>	My Grandmother	Super Bowl	--	--

COLORADO PRESEASON HONORS

The list of honors accumulated by the Buffaloes in both the preseason magazines as well as from national award committees prior to the 2007 season:

PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA

ILB R.J. BROWN (as ST Phenom — **first-team:** *New York Post*)

P MATT DiLALLO (honorable mention: *Street & Smith's*)

ILB JORDON DIZON (honorable mention: *Nationalchampions.net*)

CB TERRENCE WHEATLEY (second-team: Scout.com; **honorable mention:** *Nationalchampions.net*)

FWAA Preseason Checklist (356 players): ILB Jordon Dizon (one of 48 linebackers), CB Terrence Wheatley (one of 37 defensive backs).

PRESEASON ALL-BIG 12 CONFERENCE

P MATT DiLALLO (second-team: *The Sporting News*; **third-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football*)

ILB JORDON DIZON (first-team: *Athlon*, Big 12 Summer Media, *Huskers Illustrated*, *Lindy's Big 12 Football*, *Street & Smith's*; second-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*, *The Sporting News*)

OT EDWIN HARRISON (fourth-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*)

DE DREW HUDGINS (fourth-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*)

DT GEORGE HYPOLITE (second-team: *Lindy's Big 12 Football*; **fourth-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football*)

DT BRANDON NICOLAS (fourth-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*)

WR DUSTY SPRAGUE (fourth-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*)

FS RYAN WALTERS (first-team: *Athlon*, *The Sporting News*)

CB TERRENCE WHEATLEY (first-team: Blue Ribbon Yearbook, CBS SportsLine.com, *Huskers Illustrated*, *Lindy's Big 12 Football*, Scout.com, *Street & Smith's*; second-team: *Athlon*, *The Sporting News*; **fourth-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football*)

NATIONAL TOP 50 PLAYER RATINGS

Cornerback: Terrence Wheatley (No. 12, *Lindy's Big 12 Football*; No. 48, *Phil Steele's College Football*)

Defensive End: Drew Hudgins (No. 38, *Phil Steele's College Football*)

Defensive Tackle: George Hypolite (No. 50, *Phil Steele's College Football*)

Inside Linebacker: Jordon Dizon (No. 9, *Lindy's Big 12 Football*)

Outside Linebacker: Jordon Dizon (No. 19, *Phil Steele's College Football*; note: Dizon plays ILB and has never played OLB)

Punter: Matt DiLallo (No. 15, *Phil Steele's College Football*)

NATIONAL UNIT RATINGS

Defensive Line: No. 27 (*Phil Steele's College Football*)

PRESEASON TEAM RATINGS

Publication	National	Big 12 North
Scout.com (<i>CFB News</i>)	No. 56	4th
CBS SportsLine.com CFB	No. 57	4th
Athlon Sports	No. 61	5th
Phil Steele's College Football	No. 62	4th
Sports Illustrated	No. 70	4th
Lindy's Big 12 Football	No. 74	5th
The Sporting News	No. 80	5th
Southern College Sports		3rd
Surefire Scouting		t-3rd

Publication	National	Big 12 North
Jim Feist's College FB		4th
Blue Ribbon Yearbook		4th
DC Texas Football		4th
Big 12 Summer Media Poll		5th
Game Plan Magazines		5th
Street & Smith's		5th
USA Today Sports Weekly		5th
Huskers Illustrated		6th

PLAYERS FOR NATIONAL AWARDS

Chuck Bednarik Award (defensive player of the year): **ILB Jordon Dizon** (one of 65 candidates on official watch list)

Dick Butkus Award (top linebacker): **ILB Jordon Dizon** (one of 66 on official watch list)

Jim Thorpe Award (top defensive back): **CB Terrence Wheatley** (one of 35 on official watch list)

Ronnie Lott Award (top defensive impact player): **ILB Jordon Dizon** (one of 42 candidates on official watch list)

Dave Rimington Award (top center): **C Daniel Sanders** (one of 54 candidates on official watch list)

Doak Walker Award (top running back): **TB Hugh Charles** (one of 51 candidates on official watch list)

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES



1

STEPHONE ROBINSON
Wide Receiver
5-8, 190, Sr.

- Robinson started his career at cornerback before making the transition to offense in 2005. His main contributions during his career have come by way of his return game; he was the successor to Jeremy Bloom in the punt return category.
- He often fields punts in traffic, sacrificing his average. But his abilities have led to a new special teams point category: Field Position Saves; His knack for fielding punts in traffic came during his first year on the job when the special teams unit rarely set up to block for punt returns, electing to go for the block instead.
- You could say he is morally opposed to making fair catches: "I just feel like any returner can get back there and fair catch. I feel like if I don't fair catch and something happens, like the gunner coming down misses me, I can turn it into a big play. I'm going to get tackled anyway, so..."

Human Interest:

- He is roommates with fellow wide receiver and punt returner Chase McBride.

PUNT RETURNS

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	12	35	269	7.7	1	41t
2005	12	25	248	9.9	1	81t
2006	12	15	76	5.1	0	36
Totals	36	48	857	17.9	0	81t

KICKOFF RETURNS

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	12	15	269	17.9	0	27
2005	12	18	327	18.2	0	33
2006	12	15	261	17.4	0	26
Totals	36	48	857	17.9	0	33

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	12	6	61	10.2	0	14
2006	12	2	1	0.5	0	1
2007	2	1	2	2.0	0	2
Totals	26	9	64	7.1	0	14



2

HUGH CHARLES
Tailback
5-8, 190, Sr.

- Charles pulled up with a strained hamstring on a 15-yard reception against CSU (fourth play of the game). He missed the ASU game, snapping a streak of 36 straight games in which he had played; the only other was the first game of his freshman year.

Hawkins' Take:

- "I've been on him every day—every time I see him I just keep reminding him about passion. He's so strong and so fast and so powerful that he's got to run with that Walter Payton kind of passion, and if he does he can be one of the better backs in the conference."
- His weight room numbers are off the charts. Though he stands only 5'8, 190 lbs., he is first on the team in the power clean (374 lbs.), tied for third in the hang clean (391 lbs.), third in the squat (635 lbs.), second in the bench press (420 lbs.) and third in the 40-yard dash (4.53; although he has been clocked as fast as 4.34).

Human Interest:

- He earned his solo pilot's license in a Cessna 172 as a sophomore in high school and Fox Sports did a feature on him last fall as he took a reporter and cameraman up flying with him (our BuffVision department has footage).

- He enjoys skiing, fishing and wakeboarding in his spare time. He has also taken up golf recently; in his short time playing, he is generally an 18-handicap.

RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	11	17	49	2.9	0	14
2005	12	176	842	4.8	6	74t
2006	12	139	779	5.6	1	44
Totals	36	332	1670	5.0	7	74t

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	11	1	8	8.0	0	8
2005	12	26	226	8.7	1	51t
2006	12	9	85	9.4	0	33
2007	1	1	15	15.0	0	15
Totals	36	37	334	9.0	1	51t

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Passing: 1-0-0, 0 (2006). Kickoff Returns: 3-47, 15.7 avg., 18 long (2006).



3

NICK NELSON
Quarterback
6-1, 220, Jr.

- Nelson was inserted into the ASU game late in the fourth quarter.
- He provides grit and a winning pedigree (18-5 at Saddleback) to the Buffs' offense. He pushed starter Cody Hawkins and made a close call out of the quarterback battle—Hawkins was not named the starter until two weeks into camp even though many considered it a forgone conclusion.
- He combined to complete 31-of-53 passes for 358 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions in three fall camp scrimmages.

Colorado QBs in Combined Fall Scrimmages

	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds	TD	Rating
Hawkins	49-31-1	63.3	369	4	149.4
Nelson	53-31-3	58.5	358	2	116.4
Ballenger	28-21-1	75.0	250	1	178.3

- A team-first player, Nelson is good friends with starter Cody Hawkins and he plans to continue to push him for the starting job. Both QBs have acknowledged that teams rarely make it through a season with only one quarterback.

Season	G	Att-Com-Int	Pct.	Yds	TD	Long
2007	1	3-1-0	33.3	10	0	10
Totals	1	3-1-0	33.3	10	0	10



3

JIMMY SMITH
Cornerback
6-2, 200, Fr.-RS

- A talented corner with good size (6'2, 200 lbs.), Smith had an excellent spring, winning the team's Hale Irwin Award, given to the most improved defensive back.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	1	5	0	1-1	0-0	0-0
Totals	1	5	0	1-1	0-0	0-0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES



4

PATRICK WILLIAMS
Wide Receiver
6-2, 200, Jr.

- Williams caught five passes for 59 yards against CSU: several of them key plays: Two of his receptions came on third-and-long situations in a key fourth quarter touchdown drive in which the Buffs drove 86 yards to bring them within a field goal of the Rams. He also had a 31-yard reception with under a minute left in the first half which set up a field goal. He drew a pass interference penalty on fourth down late in the fourth quarter which led to the tying field goal and forced overtime.
- He led off the game with a 24-yard gain on a reverse, the longest first rush of the season in CU history; he thus owns a unique pair of records, as he caught a 42-yard pass on the first play last season, the longest pass play in school annals. So he owns the longest rush and reception to open any season in Buffalo history.
- One of the more experienced wide receivers on the Buffs' roster, Williams will be counted on to fulfill his potential in his junior season.
- Williams' confidence is seemingly the only thing that has kept him from reaching the next level. Offensive Coordinator Mark Helfrich "complimented" Williams after he had a pair of touchdown receptions in the first fall scrimmage: "He's made more plays the last two days in practice than he did all last year."

From There to Here:

- Injuries sabotaged his true freshman season in 2004. He spent much of the fall with *both* hands in casts after a pair of freak circumstances led to broken bones in each. One hand was injured after becoming tangled in a defender's face mask.
- In high school, he was a quarterback in an option offense, leading to his slow progression as a wide receiver.

Human Interest:

- The deeply religious Williams can be seen kneeling and praying each time he leaves the football field.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	12	28	241	8.6	0	27
2006	12	19	242	12.7	1	42
2007	2	8	81	10.1	0	31
Totals	26	55	564	10.3	1	42

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Rushing: 7-22, 3.1 avg., 0 TD, 14 long (2006). Special Team Tackles: 0,1—1 (2005).



5

KENDRICK CELESTINE
Wide Receiver
6-0, 190, Fr.

- A lightning-quick receiver, Celestine is one of two true freshman to play for the Buffs this season.

Hawkins' Take:

- "He is a very, very electric guy with the ball in his hands. He has speed to burn."

Kiesau's Take:

- "He can take a 5-yard curl or a 12-yard hitch and take it to the house. We haven't seen that around here in the last couple of years."

Human Interest:

- He hails from the small town of Mamou, La. When Hawkins visited receiver Kendrick Celestine, he got lost on his way to Mamou, population 3,500 and famous for its Cajun music. He was driving down a county road, and the best directions he received from locals were "turn left at the big barn." Quipped Hawkins: "You haven't lived until you've been to Mamou, La."

- He has formed a close bond with fellow freshmen wide receivers Josh Smith and Markques Simas. The three are roommates.

RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	2	2	17	8.5	0	11



6

GARDNER MCKAY
Cornerback
5-11, 160, Jr.

- A supremely talented athlete, McKay was stuck behind veteran Terrence Wheatley at cornerback in 2006 (Wheatley played all but one defensive snap during the course of the season).

Human Interest:

- He found his way to CU because his high school teammate was Darian Hagan Jr., the son of running backs coach Darian Hagan.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	9	82	5	0-5	0-0	0-0
2006	6	66	3	1-4	0-0	0-0
2007	2	7	1	0-1	0-0	0-0
Totals	17	155	9	1-10	0-0	0-0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	1	0	0	0	1	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0
2007	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2	0	0	0	1	0



7

CODY HAWKINS
Quarterback
5-11, 190, Fr.-RS

- Hawkins was officially named the starting quarterback on August 19, the day after CU's second scrimmage of the fall. He had the advantage of being far more familiar with the playbook than Nick Nelson, and he won the job because of his consistency in executing plays.
- He combined to complete 31-of-49 passes for 369 yards, four touchdowns and one interception in three fall camp scrimmages.
- Going back to his grade school days, he has always been a quarterback. In organized games, from sixth grade through his senior year as a prep, his teams were a combined 59-0.

Colorado QBs in Combined Fall Scrimmages

	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds	TD	Rating
Hawkins	49-31-1	63.3	369	4	149.4
Nelson	53-31-3	58.5	358	2	116.4
Ballenger	28-21-1	75.0	250	1	178.3

Dan Hawkins' Take (after CSU win):

- "I thought he did OK. He would be the first one to tell you he missed a few throws. But in general, not bad. I was more pleased with the overall team effort. He has been around this so many times. He has been on the bus, and he's been on the big stage so for him it's just another day in the park. We knew emotionally he wasn't going to have a problem. He knows the greatest joy is going out there saying that I have the guts to play in front of 65,000 people and lay it on the line."

Helfrich's Take:

- "He makes almost every routine play and that's a big deal as a quarterback—just making every play that's there. And then the difference-maker-type plays, those are the ones you have to make a majority of to be on the greater side of good. Cody has worked toward that."

Human Interest:

- On signing day of 2006, Hawkins went to school with a letter of intent for both Boise State and Colorado signed by his mother. Even Dan

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

Hawkins did not know he committed until the letter was faxed to the CU football offices.

- After CU's 31-28 win over CSU in his first collegiate start, Hawkins improved to 60-0 as a starting quarterback going back to Pop Warner ball. His 201 passing yards were more than QBs Bernard Jackson or James Cox had in any game in 2006. The streak finally ended at Arizona State the following week, but you could never tell from his demeanor. He's a learn from experience and move forward kinda guy.
- Coach Hawkins said that he believes that former major leaguer Bill Buckner made a real difference when it came to Cody's confidence as a young athlete. He was his baseball coach and the combination of Buckner believing in him (Cody was a pitcher) and the expectations and demands placed on him really had an impact.

Season	G	Att-Com-Int	Pct.	Yds	TD	Long
2007	2	74-34-2	46.0	363	3	32
Totals	2	74-34-2	46.0	363	3	32



8

DEMETRIUS SUMLER

Tailback

5-10, 210, RS-Fr.

- Taking over for an injured Hugh Charles, Sumler was the primary tailback against CSU, rushing 16 times for 85 yards and a touchdown. He was also the workhorse against ASU, carrying the ball 16 times.
- Sumler, who finished his high school career as the San Diego area's career rushing leader, is expected to fight for carries with tailbacks Hugh Charles and Byron Ellis. He is the most powerful running back on the Buffs' roster and the player most physically suited for goal-line situations.
- He is not a burner and does not possess "breakaway speed," but he is fully capable of ripping off 40 or 50-yard runs, according to coaches.

On his first collegiate touchdown:

- "I've got to give all the credit to the big guys up front. It was definitely something I've dreamed about since I was a kid, to get that first touchdown in college."

Hawkins' Take:

- "He's a blue-collar guy. He never misses a cut; he always maximizes every run, and if there is a crease there he is good at getting leverage and getting back to where he needs to be. I think that whole mentality brings a lot to the offense. I think you can use him anywhere. He's not a 4.4 guy but he's fast enough. We really felt like last year probably could have played and probably could have helped us. He probably felt like that, too. But I think he is a lot stronger and his body is put together a little bit better. We have total confidence in him. He is a very, very productive player."

RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	2	32	119	3.7	1	14
Totals	2	32	119	3.7	1	14



9

DANIEL DYKES

Safety

6-2, 205, Jr.

- Dykes was the starter against Colorado State, playing all 83 snaps of the game.
- He has some physical limitations, especially in space, but he makes up for it by being a smart player with great instincts. He may remind some of former CU safety Tom Hubbard, Defensive MVP of the 2004 Houston Bowl.

From There to Here:

- Transferred from Idaho, where he started for the Vandals his freshman and sophomore seasons. Coming from Southern California, he didn't

like the town of Moscow: "It's just a slow place, a quiet place. And it just really wasn't the environment for me. On top of that, this would have been my senior year there, and I would have had three head coaches in four years."

- He came to CU because he played against Hawkins and Boise state twice and thought he wouldn't have to re-establish himself as a player by catching on with someone who knew him.

Hawkins' Take:

- "He's smart, he's tough, he's a playmaker and gets himself into the right position and works hard. Those guys usually surface in life, and he certainly has. Like I like to say, he has great countenance. I think that lends itself to productivity."

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	2	158	13	7-20	0-0	0-0
Totals	2	158	13	7-20	0-0	0-0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2007	4	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	4	0	0	0	1	0



9

JOSH SMITH

Wide Receiver

6-0, 180, Fr.

- He was cleared to practice for the week leading up to the Florida State game.
- Established himself as an explosive play-maker and was one of CU's best players in fall camp before bruising his kidney during the Buffs' second scrimmage.
- He finished the scrimmage but felt an excruciating pain in the shower after his adrenaline had worn off. He spent four nights at Boulder Community Hospital before being released. Hawkins has said doctors have indicated he could be ready to play when the Buffs face Florida State on Sept. 15.

Helfrich's Take:

- "Josh Smith has been kind of what we thought he was. He's an electrifying-type guy. No question, he was certainly one of our top two receivers [during camp]. At times our best, at times our second [best], but we will just have to wait and see how that all shakes down."

Human Interest:

- Known as Josh "Fly" by his teammates, he knew fellow freshman wide receiver Markques Simas in high school and the two decided to commit to CU together. Smith and Simas live with Kendrick Celestine, the third wide receiver in CU's freshman class.



10

BERNARD JACKSON

Quarterback/Wide Receiver

6-0, 200, Sr.

- Voted as the offensive captain by his teammates, Jackson will play a "slash" role for the Buffs this season, possibly contributing as a quarterback, wide receiver, tailback and kick returner. Along with fellow senior Hugh Charles, Jackson is one of two primary "home run" threats in the Buffs' offense.
- He missed most of camp while focusing on his academics.
- He remains a long shot to play against CSU, but Hawkins declined to completely rule it out. A year ago, Jackson made his surprise debut against Colorado State, the first of 11 games he would start for the Buffs in 2006.

Human Interest:

- Jackson has a 2-year-old son named Jayden who lost an eye to cancer.

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

Hawkins' Take:

- "Bernard, he's got some extenuating circumstances that would be tough on me. We always talk about life not being fair in a sense, but he's got some obligations and some other things that are tough on any person. And then you're a person that's a student, and then you're a person that's a student playing football. That's not necessarily an excuse, but my heart goes out to the guy. He's got a lot of irons in the fire."

PASSING

Season	G	Att	Com-Int	Pct.	Yds	TD	Long
2004	6	2-	2-0	100.0	59	0	41
2005	6	0-	0-0	0.0	0	0	0
2006	12	219-108-7		49.3	1298	7	63
Totals	24	221-110-7		49.8	1357	7	63

RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	6	1	3	3.0	0	3
2005	6	8	10	1.3	0	7
2006	12	155	677	4.4	7	62t
Totals	24	164	690	4.2	7	62t

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Sacked/Yards Lost: 28/155 (2006). Kickoff Returns: 1-25, 25.0 avg. (2005). Punt Returns: 1-minus 1, -1.0 avg. (2004).



- Sipili is suspended through the Florida State game for violating team rules.
- He would have been the likely starter at the "Mike" linebacker position, but has been practicing there in lieu of missing game action.
- His reputation for being a hard hitter has turned his last named into a verb. Early in fall camp, coaches were wincing when some players were getting "Sipili'd," so they told him to let up a little. In a drill without pads, Sipili hit senior running back Byron Ellis so hard, Hawkins said he thought he had broken Ellis' collarbone. Fortunately Ellis was OK. But make no mistake, when players are in pads Sipili has the green light.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	10	155	16	15-31	0-0	0-0
Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2006	3	1	0	0	1	0



- A talented member of a deep crop of tight ends on the Buffs' roster. Sanders was recruited to CU as a tight end, but after switching to linebacker and playing sparingly there the last three years, he made the move back to tight end.

From There to Here:

- His biggest play to date came as a redshirt freshman in 2004 against Washington State in his first defensive action ever when former linebacker Brian Iwuh went down with a high ankle sprain. In the middle of the fourth quarter with CU clinging to a 10-6 lead, he picked off an Alex Brink pass and returned the interception for a 51-yard touchdown. He was nominated for ESPN's Game Changing Performance Award.

Human Interest:

- Former CU basketball center and current Indiana Pacer David Harrison helped persuade Sanders to become a Buff. Harrison, who also hails

from Nashville and attended a nearby high school, has known Sanders since 1998.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	2	4	44	11.0	0	14
Totals	2	4	44	11.0	0	14

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	7	74	5	4-9	1-1	0-0
2005	4	26	0	0-1	0-0	0-0
2006	3	36	1	3-4	0-0	0-0
Totals	15	148	8	1-9	0-0	0-0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2004	0	0	0	0	0	1
2005	1	0	0	0	0	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2	0	0	0	1	0

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Return Yards: 1-51, 51.0 avg., 51t long, 1 TD (2004).



- Punted twice against CSU, pinning the Rams inside their own 20 both times. He had a good punting day against ASU, with four of his seven punts inside the 20, but he threw an incomplete pass to S Daniel Dykes on a fake punt attempt in the third quarter.
- Slated as CU's starting punter, the sophomore looks to improve upon an impressive freshman campaign. He was presented the Bill McCartney Award in the spring, given to the team's most improved special teams player.
- DiLallo has considerably more confidence this year, his coach say, which should lead to more consistency and execution in crucial situations.
- He had his moments as a freshman, only the third to ever handle the punting chores at CU, and he set a school frosh record for the longest punt with a 73-yard kick against Colorado State in Denver.
- A left-footed punter like his predecessor John Torp, he is on track to be a four-year starter.

Human Interest:

- He was mentored by kicking/punting guru Tony Bugeja, a former placekicker for the Osceola Ghost Riders of the World Indoor Football League. DiLallo is from the Palm Beach area where Bugeja also coached soccer and did volunteer instructional work with local punters and kickers.
- DiLallo is a pre-med major and aspires to be a surgeon.

PUNTING

Season	G	No	Yds	Avg.	Long
2006	12	47	2056	43.8	73
2007	2	9	347	38.6	48
Totals	15	56	2403	42.9	73

Season	In	had	Ret	Net	Net
	20	50+	blk	Yds	Yds Avg.
2006	14	8	2	246	1810 38.5
2007	6	0	0	28	319 35.4
Totals	20	8	2	274	2129 38.0



COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

- Firmly entrenched as the Buffs' starting free safety, Walters is healthy, and after a summer or heavy workouts, he claims to be "faster and stronger" than ever before.

From There to Here:

- He nearly saved the day for the Buffs against Kansas in 2006. With the Jayhawks up 20-9 and driving inside the Colorado 10-yard line to seal the win, Walters caught a Todd Reesing [Kansas QB] fumble at the 5-yard line and returned it 95 yards for a touchdown, bringing the Buffs to within five points of Kansas.
- He started to develop as an excellent young player as a redshirt freshman. During the spring of 2005, he was the recipient of the Dick Anderson Award for the most improved player on defense.

Human Interest:

- He grew up in the apartments that overlook CU's practice fields. He lived there while his father, Marc, played quarterback for the Buffs from 1986-89.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	9	163	12	4-16	0- 0	0- 0
2006	11	553	41	16-57	1- 3	0- 0
2007	2	161	11	12-23	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	22	877	64	32-96	1- 3	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	0	2	0	0	5	0
2006	4	0	1	1	3	2
2007	2	0	0	1	2	0
Totals	6	2	1	2	10	2

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Return Yards: 2-minus 2, -1.0 avg., 0 long (2006). Fumble Returns: 1-95, 95.0 avg., 95 long, 1 TD (2006). Special Team Tackles: 3,0-3 (2005).



17

ALVIN BARNETT
Wide Receiver
5-11, 190, Sr.

- Barnett missed an early portion of fall camp while finishing up summer classes and will face stiff competition at the wide receiver position.

From There to Here:

- He struggled as a sophomore in 2005 after transferring from NE Oklahoma A&M and having to adapt to the fast pace of Division 1 football.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	12	17	131	7.7	0	19
2006	12	21	232	11.0	1	38
Totals	24	38	363	9.6	1	38

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Rushing: 2-28, 14.0 avg., 20 long (2005); 1-minus 2, -2.0 avg. (2006). Fumble Returns: 1-9, 9.0 avg. (2006).



19

TYLER COPE
Placekicker
6-1, 180, Fr.

- One of two true freshman to play against CSU, Cope had five kickoffs, averaging 53.6 yards per.
- Cope has the edge over senior placekicker Kevin Eberhart in kick off distance, but Eberhart has the edge in hang time. But as Hawkins said, "If you kick it out of the end zone it doesn't matter what your hang time is."



21

SCOTTY McKNIGHT
Wide Receiver
5-10, 185, Fr.-RS

- He scored the Buffs' only offensive points against ASU and led the team in receptions and yards.
- McKnight was one of Cody's Hawkins' go-to receivers against CSU, catching eight passes for 106 yards and a touchdown. His 106 receiving yards are the most by any player in CU history in his debut. His touchdown came on a 32-yard catch which capped the Buffs' first drive and put them on top 7-0.
- One of the Buffs' most consistent route-runners, McKnight has vaulted to the top of the depth chart at the "z" receiver grouping.
- He is a walk-on who will be given strong consideration for a scholarship.
- He broke his ankle during the first day of spring football, but was fully recovered by the start of fall camp.

Helfrich's Take:

- "Scotty has had a good camp. The word consistent would apply to him. He is catching the ball really well; he's not the fastest guy in the world but he runs consistent good, clean routes. He will definitely be in the mix."

Human Interest:

- He attended an Elite 11 Quarterback Camp in Mission Viejo before his senior year of high school, where he shagged balls, caught passes and struck up a friendship with future teammate Cody Hawkins.
- He trained with, and got a serious sales pitch from former CU wide receiver John Minardi.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	2	14	169	12.1	2	32
Totals	2	14	169	12.1	2	32



22

KEVIN MOYD
Tailback
5-7, 195, So.

- Switched jersey numbers from No. 23 into No. 22 as he and Jalil Brown are both on special team units together; after California was flagged against Tennessee for two players wearing the same number, CU audited its numbers and moved to be sure it won't happen here.
- Had the first carry of his career against CSU, a nine-yard gain on a pitch which set up Demetrius Sumler's touchdown two plays later in the third quarter.
- A speedy tailback, Moyd will try to crack the line up amidst a deep crop of running backs. Most of his production will likely come on special teams.

RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2007	2	2	7	3.5	0	9
Totals	2	2	7	3.5	0	9



23

JALIL BROWN
Cornerback
6-1, 205, Fr.-RS

- Made his collegiate debut against CSU, playing on special teams.
- The last addition to Hawkins' first recruiting class, he was largely overlooked in the recruiting process because he was home-schooled

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

and it was difficult for coaches to track down all of his necessary academic records.



25

LIONEL HARRIS

Safety

6-0, 195, Sr.

- Daniel Dykes started at safety against CSU ahead of Harris.

From There to Here:

- He started six of the Buffs' last seven games in 2006, yielding his start against Nebraska to senior J.J. Billingsley for Senior Day.

Human Interest:

- He was an accomplished bull rider from seventh to 10th grade, as he earned one win and a runner-up finish in organized competitions.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	1	6	1	0-1	0-0	0-0
2005	4	30	1	0-1	0-0	0-0
2006	8	431	40	27-67	3-7	0-0
2007	1	6	1	0-1	0-0	0-0
Totals	14	473	43	27-70	3-7	0-0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2004	1	0	0	0	0	0
2005	1	0	0	0	0	1
2006	5	0	1	2	2	1
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	0	1	2	2	2

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Returns: 1-0, 0.0 avg. (2005); 1-2, 2.0 avg. (2006).



26

TERRENCE WHEATLEY

Cornerback

5-10, 185, Sr.

- On the third snap from scrimmage against ASU, Wheatley stepped in front of a Rudy Carpenter pass and returned it 35 yards for a touchdown. Both of his interceptions returned for scores have come against formidable quarterbacks. His other one, back in 2004, came off of former Texas QB Vince Young.
- Thus, his two picks in '07 helped CU win in overtime over CSU and got the Buffs on the board in 102-degree heat in Arizona.
- Wheatley was all over the field against CSU, highlighted by his interception of QB Caleb Hanie in the end zone in overtime. He also returned three kickoffs for 135 yards, including a 68-yard return in the third quarter.
- The Denver Broncos have Champ Bailey; the Colorado Buffaloes have Terrence Wheatley. A legitimate Jim Thorpe Award candidate, Wheatley has all the physical tools to be a lockdown corner.
- Played in a team-high 776 snaps from scrimmage in 2006.
- He is likely the fastest player on the Buffs, as he has been clocked at a sub-4.3 in the 40-yard dash.
- He has had four surgeries on his wrist, missing the 2005 season after having a metal plate inserted in his wrist. His last surgery was performed the day after CU's final 2006 game against Nebraska.

From There to Here:

- His first career interception came as a sophomore in 2004, as he scored CU's only touchdown of the day against Texas. He intercepted a pass by Vince Young and returned it 37 yards for a score.

Hawkins' Take:

- "When the pro scouts come by, I just jump on the table for that guy. I think he is a very solid individual, he is a hard worker, he is a smart guy, he is dependable, he is very, very consistent and he is a special

player. I could see that guy, if he continues, being an All-American type player. It is awesome to have him in the return game, too, because we know how fast he is and now that his wrist is healed up and it's not as big a problem as it was last year, he can do some great things there. But he is a great kid, he really is."

Human Interest:

- He goes by the nickname "T-Wheat."

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2003	6	268	19	2-24	0-0	0-0
2004	12	535	27	6-33	1-1	0-0
2006	12	776	46	11-57	4-8	1½-5
2007	2	159	5	2-7	1-2	0-0
Totals	31	1662	97	24-121	6-11	1½-5

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2003	0	0	0	0	5	0
2004	5	0	0	0	3	4
2006	11	2	2	1	11	5
2007	3	0	0	0	2	2
Totals	19	2	2	1	21	11

KICKOFF RETURNS

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2003	6	2	57	28.5	0	38
2004	12	16	357	22.3	0	59
2006	12	1	17	17.0	0	17
2007	2	8	237	29.6	0	68
Totals	32	27	668	24.7	0	68



27

BYRON ELLIS

Tailback

6-0, 215, Sr.

- CU's bulkiest tailback, he's a solid inside runner and is often called upon in short yardage situations. An added benefit is that he has good hands and offers another option out of the backfield. He is CU's best running back in pass protection.

Human Interest:

- For seven years as a youth, Ellis lived in a two-bedroom apartment at the gated 601-unit Mar Vista Gardens, a federal housing project in Culver City, Calif. When interviewed by an *L.A. Times* reporter about staying out of gangs, Ellis said, "I don't want to live at Mar Vista gardens forever. I want to be tops in life in everything I do. I compete with the nerds; I compete on the football field."

RUSHING

Season	G	Att.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	9	19	61	3.2	0	11
2005	12	75	216	2.9	0	25
2006	12	38	126	3.3	1	11
2007	2	5	4	0.8	0	2
Totals	35	137	407	3.0	1	25

ELLIS, continued

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	9	1	3	3.0	0	3
2005	12	6	70	11.7	0	38
2006	12	4	26	6.5	0	7
2007	1	1	-2	-2.0	0	-2
Totals	34	12	97	8.1	0	38

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Kickoff Returns: 1-25, 25.0 avg. (2005); 2-43, 21.5 avg. (2006); 1-15, 15.0 avg. (2007).

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES



29 **CHA'PELLE BROWN**
Cornerback
5-7, 175, So.

- Briefly switched to wide receiver during the off season, but returned to the secondary where he will likely be the primary nickel corner.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	10	305	19	16-35	3- 4	0- 0
2007	2	74	3	0-3	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	12	379	22	16-38	3- 4	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2006	1	0	0	0	2	1
2007	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	1	0	0	0	3	1

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Returns: 1-0, 0.0 avg. (2006). Punt Returns: 1-1, 1.0 avg. (2006).
Special Team Tackles: 4,2—6 (2006).



32 **MAURICE CANTRELL**
Fullback
6-0, 240, Jr.

- In a battle with senior Samson Jagoras for the starting fullback position.
- A converted linebacker, Cantrell possesses ideal size for a fullback.

Human Interest:

- He goes by the nickname "Moe."

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	12	2	38	19.0	0	20



34 **R.J. BROWN**
Inside Linebacker
6-1, 225, Jr.

- Why was Brown named special teams captain? Through two games, Brown has racked up 12 special teams points; Only two players had more than 12 special teams points all of last season (Terry Washington, 20; Ben Carpenter, 15).
- Playing in his first career action on defense against CSU, Brown started for the Buffs and had a solid effort with six total tackles and a third down stop. Defensive coordinator Ron Collins said Brown made many mistakes but they were all correctable.
- Named the special teams captain by his teammates, Brown sits atop the depth chart at the "Mike" linebacker position due to the indefinite suspension of sophomore Michael Sipili.
- Special teams coach Kent Riddle frequently shows a highlight reel of Brown's kamikaze-like heroics on special teams during meetings.
- Brown is one of only two former walk-ons since 1980 to be named a team captain (QB Joel Klatt being the other).
- He was put on scholarship when he returned from Big 12 Media Days in San Antonio in July.

Hawkins' Take:

- "When he asked me why I put him on a scholarship I said 'Well because you're a tough guy, you're a hard worker, you're a good leader, you do things right and you're the kind of guy we want in the program and we want to reward that.' He will do whatever, whenever.

He gets it done in the classroom, he's there early and he's there late. He's a no-excuse guy, a tough guy and I think he's one of those guys where in a good system, which I think we have, that you can compensate sometimes for some physical things for some mental and intangible things."

Dizon's Take:

- "He hasn't played a snap at linebacker, but he was named a captain of the team. That's self-explanatory. The whole team respects him."

Human Interest:

- His father is a Marriott Hotel executive, and his profession brought Brown and his family all over the world. Usually attending international schools, often taught by English citizens, Brown played soccer in Saudi Arabia and Vietnam and rugby in Australia.
- Playing for Punahou High School, he played against current teammate Jordon Dizon (Waimea High)
- He came to CU as an invited walk-on at the advice of Jeff Cabral, an assistant on the Punahou staff and brother of CU linebacker coach Brian Cabral.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	2	88	7	4-11	1- 2	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2007	2	0	0	0	0	0



38 **CHASE McBRIDE**
Wide Receiver
5-7, 160, Sr.

- McBride was CU's starting punt returner against CSU. His third return, a 43-yarder in the fourth quarter, set up the Buffs at the CSU 34-yard line, where they would eventually tie the game with a field goal.
- McBride will compete for playing time as a punt returner in 2006.

From There to Here:

- He spelled roommate and teammate Stephone Robinson as the punt returner at Kansas last season after Robinson had fumbling problems.

Human Interest:

- He garnered 11 all-state awards in high school, starting at Colorado's Broomfield High School (four times in football and basketball and three times in baseball). After hurting his foot, CU and Colorado State backed off recruiting him so he went to Wyoming. He transferred to CU after his freshman season.
- He says if he was a few inches taller he may be playing Division 1 basketball right now. The ultra-quick McBride is listed at 5-8, but he apparently has an excellent 3-point shot.

PUNT RETURNS

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2005	1	1	-2	-2.0	0	-2
2006	4	6	41	6.8	0	20
2007	2	7	79	11.3	0	43
Totals	7	14	118	8.4	0	43



39 **KEVIN EBERHART**
Placekicker
5-11, 195, Sr.

- Succeeding All-American and the mega record-setting Mason Crosby as the team's primary placekicker, as he resumed his career with a bang, nailing 3-of-4 field goals against CSU, including the 35-yard OT winner. He is the first Buff to kick a game-winning field goal in overtime. He also drilled a 22-yarder with :13 left to tie the game.
- Eberhart had the misfortune of being in the same recruiting class as Crosby and took a back seat to Crosby when he could have been starting for many Division 1 teams.

From There to Here:

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

- He actually saw game action before Crosby, as he was just the third placekicker in CU history to play as a true freshman. After he missed two field goals at Florida State (22 and 42 yards), Crosby took over.

2006	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	1

SCORING

Season	G	EP-EPA	FG-FGA	Long	PTS
2003	5	1- 1	0- 2	0	1
2005	2	0- 0	1- 2	23	3
2007	2	5- 5	3- 4	38	14
Totals	9	6- 6	4- 8	38	18

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Kickoffs: 24 Total, 9 TB, 15 Ret. (2003); 1 Total, 1 Ret (2005).



43

SAMSON JAGORAS
Fullback
5-10, 225, Sr.

- Jagoras was the starting fullback against CSU.
- Although he is a bit undersized, he plays with a mean streak and coaches love him because of his selfless, blue-collar attitude.
- Tailback Hugh Charles said Jagoras “plays with a nut loose, which is a good thing for a fullback.”
- He transferred to CU from Western New Mexico where he played linebacker.

Human Interest:

- His favorite athlete is the late Pat Tilmon.



44

JORDON DIZON
Inside Linebacker
6-0, 225, Sr.

- Dizon racked up 23 total tackles against CSU (23 on defense; one on special teams). His 22 tackles on defense are the most by any CU player in nearly a decade—since LB Hannibal Navies had 28 tackles against Missouri on Nov. 1, 1997. Dizon's 17 solo stops against the Rams are the third most in CU history.
- In his last two games (CSU and the 2006 regular season finale against Nebraska), he has accounted for 41 total tackles.
- Named the defensive captain by his teammates, Dizon enters his fourth year as a starter at linebacker and is the nation's fourth active leading tackler (280).
- He pushes his body so much during games that a post game IV has become commonplace.
- Asked where Dizon stacks up against some of CU's all-time linebacker greats like Barry Remington, Matt Russell, Greg Biekert, Kanavis McGhee and Alfred Williams, linebackers coach Brian Cabral said, “Not many of those guys have started for four years, so he's up there.”

From There to Here:

- He was recruited as an “athlete,” as the coaches figured to try him at a number of positions. He started his freshman camp at safety, but after five practices the coaches moved him to inside linebacker to see him in that role. It didn't take long for him to make an impression at linebacker, as he zoomed to the top of the depth chart after just six practices.
- In 2004, he was the starter at the “Will” inside linebacker spot, as he became the first true freshman inside linebacker to start a season opener in CU history. He was also just the sixth true freshman to start an opener in school history and the first since 1991.
- As a freshman, he easily broke the single-season record for tackles by a freshman (80; the previous record was 67 by J.J. Billingsley).

Cabral's Take:

- “He's a fourth-year starter and I'm expecting his best season yet. He's played in a lot of big games and has made a lot of plays for us.”

Human Interest:

- A Hawaiian native, Dizon can often be seen trudging to class through slush, snow and 20-degree weather in his flip-flops.
- He perfected the art chasing wild boars on hunting trips when he was younger. His mother, an undercover narcotics police officer in Hawai'i, never allowed him to use a gun. Instead he tracked the animals with help from dogs, pinned them to the ground and killed them with a knife. But according to Dizon, he is not into that anymore. “Those days are over,” he joked. “My knees are too bad for that. My eyesight is going. I'm getting too old for that kind of stuff.”



40

BRAD JONES
Outside Linebacker
6-3, 225, Jr.

- Jones enters his second year as a starting outside linebacker.
- Because of his size (6'3, 225 lbs.), he matches up well against tight ends and is valuable defending against the run and the pass.

From There to Here:

- He played in all 13 games as a redshirt freshman in 2005, but the starting position was occupied by current NFL linebacker Brian Iwuh. Iwuh joked that he was glad he was a senior because Jones “was getting better and better.”
- Linebackers coach Brian Cabral said this is the year he expects Jones to make a leap to the next level.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	12	198	16	4—20	1- 3	0- 0
2006	12	644	41	31—72	1- 5	½- 5
2007	2	161	10	8—18	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	26	1003	67	43—110	2- 8	½- 5

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	2	1	0	0	1	0
2006	6	2	0	0	1	1
2007	3	1	0	0	1	0
Totals	11	4	0	0	3	1

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Interception Return Yards: 1-10, 10.0 avg., 0 TD (2006).



42

BENJAMIN BURNEY
Cornerback
5-11, 195, Jr.

- He started his first career game at cornerback against CSU (he started two games at free safety in 2006), playing all 83 snaps from scrimmage on defense.
- Currently listed atop the depth chart at cornerback opposite Terrence Wheatley, Burney is a smart player who possesses good speed for a cornerback.

Human Interest:

- His father, Jacob, has been the defensive line coach for the Denver broncos since 2002.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	4	43	4	2—6	0- 0	0- 0
2006	9	195	14	9—23	1- 1	0- 0
2007	2	158	8	5—13	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	15	396	26	16—42	1- 1	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	0	0	0	0	0	1

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

- He has become an avid golfer, and after only 18 months of playing his high score is a 78; he won an informal tournament organized by teammates during the summer.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	12	597	51	31-82	6- 14	1- 6
2005	12	475	42	19-61	7- 42	3- 36
2006	12	679	80	57-137	11- 39	4- 26
2007	2	159	31	8-39	2- 3	2- 13
Totals	38	1910	204	115-319	26- 98	10- 81

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2004	7	1	0	1	4	0
2005	5	4	0	0	1	0
2006	17	2	2	1	1	0
2007	5	1	0	1	1	0
Totals	34	8	2	3	7	0



45 **JEFF SMART**
Inside Linebacker
5-11, 210, So.

- Smart will back up starter Jordon Dizon at the "Will" linebacker position and see playing time subbing in for ILB R.J. Brown in certain packages.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	4	7	0	0-0	0- 0	0- 0
2007	2	75	5	6-11	1-11	0- 0
Totals	6	82	5	6-11	1-11	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2006	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	2	1	1	1	0	0
Totals	2	1	1	1	0	0



47 **ALONZO BARRETT**
Defensive End
6-3, 235, Sr.

- Barrett is the starter at the right defensive end position and the lone senior on the defensive line.

Human Interest:

- He has been a CU fan since his youth, with one of his favorite players being Heisman Trophy winner Rashaan Salaam. It was natural, for his aunt (father's sister) is married to Salaam's uncle (father's brother).

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT-TOT	TFL	Sacks
2004	10	99	10	4-14	4- 6	2- 2
2005	6	144	9	6-15	0- 0	0- 0
2006	11	144	6	6-12	0- 0	0- 0
2007	2	132	4	1- 5	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	28	519	29	17-46	4- 6	2- 2

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2004	0	1	0	0	0	0
2005	3	4	0	0	2	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	4	5	0	0	2	0



48 **CODY CRAWFORD**
Wide Receiver
5-11, 175, Jr.

- Currently listed second in the "x" wide receiver grouping, Crawford has earned a reputation for being a tough player who takes care of details—Hawkins' mantra. He was placed on scholarship this fall.

From There to Here:

- He was singled out by Hawkins in the 2006 preseason because he fractured a rib early in camp and played through it so he could earn playing time and a chance to travel with the team.
- He was rewarded for his hard work and made his first career start at Georgia.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	12	15	222	14.8	0	31



51 **KAI MAIAVA**
Offensive Line
6-0, 295, Fr.

- The last addition to CU's 2007 recruiting class, Maiava quickly worked his way up the depth chart and has played with the first team at times. He is one of the linemen who could see playing time as a true freshman.

Human Interest:

- His father, Scott Mahoney, was an offensive lineman for the Buffs from 1969-71.
- His biggest role models are his brothers. His middle brother, Kaluka, is a linebacker for USC, and his oldest is in the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Has an uncle, "The Rock," Dwayne Johnson, a famous modern day wrestler and former Miami Hurricane football player.



52 **BRYAN STENGEL**
Inside Linebacker
6-2, 210, So.

- Stengel will vie for playing time behind junior Brad Jones at the "Sam" linebacker position.



56 **KEENAN STEVENS**
Offensive Line
6-3, 275, Fr.-RS

- Stevens was a favorite during spring practices when only a few healthy linemen were available, but he descended down the depth chart in the fall after missing the first part of camp finishing up summer classes.



57 **JAKE DUREN**
Outside Linebacker
6-0, 230, So.

- Duren made his first career start against Arizona State.

From There to Here:

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

- Transferred from Northern Colorado where he started all 11 games as a freshman. He was second on the team in tackles (103) trailing only current NFL player Reed Doughty.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	2	7	2	0—2	0- 0	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0



59

B.J. BEATTY
Outside Linebacker
6-1, 230, Fr.-RS

- Beatty will vie for playing time behind junior Brad Jones at the "Sam" linebacker position.

Human Interest:

- His uncle, Chris Naeole, was a former CU All-American offensive guard who has played the last nine years in the NFL with New Orleans and Jacksonville.



61

ERICK FAATAGI
Offensive Line
6-2, 310, Jr.

- Finally healthy after sitting out the 2006 season following knee surgery, Faatagi should be in the mix for playing time at the guard position.
- He missed the early part of fall camp while finishing up summer classes.

Human Interest:

- He has a passion for graphic design, and he has designed tattoos for several teammates.



64

MIKE ITLIS
Offensive Line
6-2, 290, Fr.

- Currently listed as a back up at the left guard position, Itlis could see playing time as a true freshman.

Human Interest:

- He was fired up about being a Buffalo long before signing in February. Said Hawkins: "He was living and dying with us during the season. He would be as mad as we were when we lost."



65

WES PALAZZI
Offensive Line
6-1, 285, Fr.-RS

- Palazzi missed the first part of fall camp to finish summer courses but was still able to shoot to the top of the depth chart at the left guard position.
- Perhaps making up for his missed time in fall camp was his extensive work in the spring when he was one of only six healthy offensive linemen.



69

ERIC LAWSON
Defensive Tackle
6-3, 260, Fr.-RS

- Lawson will battle for playing time behind defensive end Alonzo Barrett.



70

JUSTIN DRESCHER
Snapper
6-1, 230, So.

- Drescher is the starting long and short snapper for the Buffs.
- As a freshman in 2006, he was tutored by former CU long snapper Greg Pace who volunteered as a specialty coach.



72

DEVIN HEAD
Offensive Line
6-4, 285, So.

- Head started the opener for the second straight season; in 2006, he subbed for an injured Daniel Sanders; this time around, he earned the starting job at right guard.

Human Interest:

- Multi-talented off the field, as he has the late Chris Farley's Saturday Night Live character Matt Foley down to a T. You know the bit, "You're gonna end up eating a steady diet of government cheese, and living in a van down by the river!" and, "We-e-e-ellll... **la-de-freakin'-da!**"



73

RYAN MILLER
Offensive Line
6-7, 320, Fr.

- Miller, the most highly-touted of the Buffs' 2007 recruits, will likely see playing time this season.
- He has played mostly guard during fall camp, but he projects as a tackle eventually.

Hawkins' Take:

- "He is a tremendous, tremendous athlete; he's a great football player. I told him if he went to a Division III school he would still be an NFL player. He is totally our kind of guy. He loves Colorado; he is a very humble kid, he's a blue-collar guy and he is a guy that when he is in your football program everybody knows that he is a marquee player and a marquee guy too. He is a guy that sets the bar not only for the talent that you want but also your attitude and approach to off the field, school and everything else. I totally see him as a guy that can come in here and be an All-American and help us win a National Championship and get drafted by the Broncos."



75

DANIEL SANDERS
Offensive Line
6-3, 305, Jr.

- A starter at guard his sophomore season and part of his redshirt freshman season, Sanders will get the opportunity to lead the offensive line as the starting center.

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

- Offensive line coach Jeff Grimes said Sanders has the best grasp of the offense among the linemen, fitting for his role as the center who calls out assignments.

Human Interest:

- He goes by the nickname "Girthy."



- Harrison enters his senior season as the Buffs' starting right tackle.

Human Interest:

- His grandfather, Calvin Jones, won the Outland Trophy as the nation's outstanding interior lineman as a senior at Iowa in 1955; Jones was the first two-time consensus All-American in Iowa history, and his No. 62 was retired by the Hawkeyes.



- He served as the offensive captain against CSU in the absence of QB/WR Bernard Jackson.
- Polumbus is the starting left tackle and the protector of starting quarterback Cody Hawkins' blind side.
- The vocal leader of the offensive line, Polumbus has become somewhat of a pseudo-captain with the absence of Bernard Jackson.

Human Interest:

- Two members of his family played sports at CU: Father, Tad, lettered in football, basketball and golf (1965-66), and an uncle, Gary Polumbus, lettered three years in golf and twice made it to the NCAA Championships.



- Brace, who saw playing time as a true freshman in 2006, will vie for spot duty on the interior defensive line behind incumbent starters Brandon Nicolas and George Hypolite.



- Yates had a solid fall camp, and although he is listed near the bottom of the depth chart at wide receiver, he should be in the mix for playing time as many players are shuffled in and out of the position.

From There to Here:

- He had barely played at all in 2006 before the coaches called on him in the second quarter against Texas Tech; he had the first reception of his career on a 29-yard touchdown pass from Jackson. It was one of only two receptions on the year for Yates.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	5	2	43	21.5	1	29t



- Sprague is the veteran among those in the "z" receiver grouping. He is poised to finish in CU's top 20 in both receptions and receiving yards.

From There to Here:

- As a sophomore in 2005, he played in all 13 games, making 11 starts. He led the Buffs in receptions in the regular season with 43, good for 468 yards and a touchdown. He was the first sophomore to lead CU in receiving since Michael Westbrook in 1992.
- As a freshman in 2004, he turned into one of Joel Klatt's favorite targets before suffering a broken collarbone midway through the season.

Human Interest:

- His family is no stranger to college football or the CU-CSU rivalry, as two older brothers (Aaron and Russell) both played receiver at Colorado State.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2004	9	22	278	12.6	1	34
2005	12	43	468	10.9	1	62t
2006	12	11	179	16.3	0	63
2007	2	2	14	7.0	0	10
Totals	35	78	939	12.0	2	63

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Rushing 1-11, 11.0 avg. (2006).



- DeVree caught a 10-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter against CSU.

From There to Here:

- He suffered a rib injury late in 2006 fall camp and had to miss some practice and the home opener against Montana State. The misplaced rib caused an air pocket to form in his lungs and he had to stand on the sidelines at practice breathing from an oxygen canister because doctors feared that his lungs could collapse. He returned to practice after doctors used a catheter to remove the air pocket.
- After transferring from Western Michigan, he had to sit out the 2005 season. He impressed coaches and teammates by catching "everything in sight" while a member of the scout team.

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	11	4	36	9.0	1	18
2007	2	1	10	10.0	1	10
Totals	13	5	46	9.2	2	18



- Hypolite, a starter at defensive tackle, returns with the most experience of any defensive lineman.

From There to Here:

- He had an outstanding fall camp as a freshman in 2005 that moved him to second on the depth chart at nose tackle behind incumbent senior Vaka Manupuna. The coaches never considered redshirting him.

Human Interest:

COLORADO FOOTBALL INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

- One of the more outspoken members of the team, Hypolite interned for the athletic marketing department at CU and helped sell season tickets.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	11	203	5	5—10	1- 1	0- 0
2006	12	601	31	19—50	13-44	2½-18
2007	2	148	7	1—8	2- 5	1- 8
Totals	25	952	43	25—68	16-50	3½-26

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	3	3	0	0	1	0
2006	4	7	2	1	3	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	10	2	1	4	0



87

RIARD GEER
Tight End
6-3, 245, So.

- He caught a key two-point conversion in the third quarter against CSU which brought the Buffs within a field goal of the Rams.
- Geer, the first-ever freshman to lead CU in receiving, sits atop the depth chart at tight end and should be a solid contributor again in 2007.
- Hawkins said Geer has the size and ability to become one of CU's next great tight ends.

From There to Here:

- He came almost out of nowhere in 2006 against Georgia to lead the Buffs in receiving with seven catches for 71 yards. He was the primary reason the Buffs were able to keep the Bulldogs off-balance for most of the day after coaches decided the best way to attack the Georgia defense was on the perimeter and in the flats. Said QB Bernard Jackson: "Obviously, today he was the man. I just get the ball to him and let him make plays."

RECEIVING

Season	G	No.	Yds	Avg.	TD	Long
2006	12	24	261	10.9	3	28t
2007	2	1	32	32.0	0	32
Totals	14	25	293	11.7	3	32

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS—Passing: 1-0-1, 0 (2006).



90

MARQUEZ HERROD
Defensive End
6-2, 255, Fr.-RS

- Herrod saw his first playing time on defense against Arizona State.
- Although undersized for a defensive end, nobody works harder than him, according to several teammates.

Human Interest:

- He overcame a rough childhood, as he was a foster child who moved every eight to 12 months, and once lived at the Polinsky Children's Center for two years, an emergency shelter for children in San Diego.
- He is the first member of his family to attend college.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2007	1	8	0	0—0	0- 0	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
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2007 0 0 0 0 0 0



91

MAURICE LUCAS
Defensive End
6-4, 255, Jr.

- Lucas will be counted on to help replace departed team sack leader Abraham Wright at the defensive end position. He got off to a good start, racking up 8 tackles (6 solo) with a career-best two sacks against Colorado State.

From There to Here:

- He was originally ticketed to redshirt the 2005 season, but was activated in the sixth game of the season and made his collegiate debut against the eventual National Champion Texas Longhorns—in Austin. He ended up playing in eight games of his true freshman season, starting the last six.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2005	7	296	11	9—20	4- 16	0- 0
2006	11	167	5	9—14	1- 4	1- 4
2007	2	129	8	3—11	2- 16	2- 16
Totals	20	592	26	21—45	7- 36	3- 20

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2005	1	5	1	0	0	0
2006	1	2	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2	7	1	0	0	0



92

NATE SOLDER
Tight End
6-8, 270, Fr.-RS

- Solder, the tallest member of the Buffs, will compete for playing time in a deep pool of tight ends.

Hawkins' Take:

- "He is about 265 and his body fat is 2.9 percent. He's a naturally strong guy but we hope he continues to fill out. A big guy like that can generally be a 280-pound guy."



93

CONRAD OBI
Defensive Line
6-3, 250, Fr.

- Obi will compete for playing time at defensive end behind Alonzo Barrett in his true freshman season.



94

BRANDON NICOLAS
Defensive Tackle
6-3, 280, Jr.

- Nicolas is entrenched at the Buffs' starting nose tackle in his junior season.

From There to Here:

- In 2005, he sat out the entire season after transferring to Colorado from Notre Dame. He also used the time to have surgery to mend chronic shoulder problems.
- He came from legendary football power Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, Calif., and was recruited to Notre Dame by former coach Tyrone Willingham. He did not play as a freshman in 2004, but Willingham

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told him his chances of playing as a sophomore were promising. After Charlie Weiss was hired to replace Willingham, Nicolas felt uncomfortable with the system. He decided to transfer to Colorado over UCLA in large part because he thought it would be fun to play for former CU head coach Gary Barnett. After the coaching change at Colorado and with Nicolas finding himself with his third coaching staff in three years, he is finally comfortable.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	12	611	31	26—57	4- 5	0- 0
2007	2	147	5	2—7	2- 3	1- 7
Totals	14	758	36	28—64	6- 8	1- 7

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2006	5	4	0	2	0	0
2007	4	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	9	4	0	2	0	0



- Kaynor will provide depth on the defensive interior behind Brandon Nicolas and George Hypolite.

From There to Here:

- It was almost Kaynor who was activated from his redshirt season in 2005 to play defensive end; instead coaches went with Maurice Lucas because he was more physically developed for the position.

TACKLES

Season	G	Plays	UT	AT—TOT	TFL	Sacks
2006	10	32	0	1—1	0- 0	0- 0
2007	1	4	0	0—0	0- 0	0- 0
Totals	10	36	0	1—1	0- 0	0- 0

Season	3DS	Hurr	FR	FF	PBU	Int
2006	0	0	0	0	1	0
2007	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	1	0



- Goree will compete for playing time along the interior defensive line as a true freshman.



- Perri is suspended for the Buffs' first three games for violating team rules.
- Coaches have been impressed with his aggressiveness and non-stop motor during fall camp.