



Bufs make it 11 in a row

CU opens Big 12 play with victory at Missouri

Camera staff report
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

COLUMBIA, Mo. -- The road wasn't a dead end for the Colorado women's basketball team on Wednesday.

The Buffs opened Big 12 play on the road with a 70-58 win over Missouri. Colorado came into the game with just one league road win in each of the last three years.

"We needed this game," CU coach Kathy McConnell-Miller said on the KKZN post-game radio show. "We wanted this game. And we came out and performed. It's great to be 1-0 on the road in the Big 12."

The No. 23 Buffs (12-2, 1-0) now own four roads wins in five tries this season as they extended their overall win streak to 11 games.

CU's first win in a Big 12 road opener since 2004 came behind 24 points and seven rebounds from forward Brittany Spears, a freshman making her league debut.

"When she realizes how good she's going to be, it's going to be scary," McConnell-Miller said. "She's an exciting player and it's only going to get better."

The game turned in CU's favor when Bianca Smith drained her first 3-pointer of the second half. Her treypulled CU within 32-31 and her next 3 sparked a 14-0 run as the Buffs took a 45-34 lead with 12:11 left in the game.

Along the way Spears began making 3-pointers, as well, to open up the scoring and CU led by as many as 20 points with less than two minutes remaining in the game.

During much of the run, McConnell-Miller turned to freshman point guard Britney Blythe to run the offense. Blythe played just three minutes in CU's previous game, but she logged a season-high 17 minutes against Missouri (7-7, 0-1).

"Britney Blythe did a nice job getting us into our stuff," McConnell-Miller said. "She did a nice job of settling us down."

After a physical first half, CU's shots began to fall in the second half. The Buffs made 64 percent of their shots in the second half and 52 percent overall, while Missouri shot 31 percent for the game.

Scoring for CU came from four players. In addition to Spears, senior Jackie McFarland had 17 points and seven rebounds, sophomore Aija Putnina scored 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds and Smith

finished with 14 points.

Junior Alyssa Hollins led Missouri in scoring with 22 points.

Colorado 70, Missouri 58

COLORADO (70)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Spears 34 9-13 3-3 7 2 1 24

Putnina 32 4-8 4-4 10 0 5 12

McFarland 36 6-8 5-8 5 2 1 17

Skildum 21 0-1 1-2 2 1 2 1

Powers 24 0-3 1-2 5 0 0 1

Smith 22 5-10 0-0 2 1 3 14

Houston 2 0-0 1-2 0 0 0 1

Blythe 17 0-0 0-0 2 0 0 0

Dunn 3 0-1 0-0 1 0 0 0

Dow 7 0-1 0-0 2 1 0 0

Richards 2 0-1 0-0 0 0 0 0

Totals: 200 24-46 15-21 40 7 12 70

MISSOURI (68)

min fg-fga ft-fta rb ast pf tp

Hanneman 31 2-11 3-4 3 3 2 7

Johnson 24 2-10 4-4 7 4 3 9

Wilson 16 1-3 0-0 2 0 3 2

Richbow 33 0-4 0-0 4 5 2 0

Hollins 33 8-20 0-0 4 3 3 22

Otote 18 1-3 0-0 1 0 1 3

Pickens 8 1-2 0-0 2 1 1 3

Brown 6 0-1 0-0 2 0 0 0

Jones 31 5-11 2-6 6 1 3 12

Totals: 200 20-65 9-14 35 17 18 58

Score by halves:

Colorado 28 42 -- 70

Missouri 23 35 -- 58

3-point field goals -- Colorado (7-18): Spears 3-4, Putnina 0-2, Skildum 0-1, Powers 0-2, Smith 4-7, Dunn 0-1, Dow 0-1; Missouri (9-21): Hanneman 0-2, Johnson 1-3, Richbow 0-2, Hollins 6-10, Otote 1-3, Pickens 1-1.

Officials --Barlow, Stewart, Caudle.

Technical fouls -- None.

Attendance -- 1,207.

STEALS

Colorado (5):Spears, McFarland 2, Smith, Dunn.

Missouri (8):Johnson 2, Richbow 3, Hollins, Otote, Brown.

BLOCKED SHOTS

Colorado (2):McFarland, Richards.

Missouri (3):Pickens, Jones 2.

TURNOVERS

Colorado (21):Spears 2, Putnina 3, McFarland 8, Skildum 2, Powers 2, Smith 2, Houston, Blythe.

Missouri (15):Hanneman 2, Johnson 5, Wilson 3, Richbow, Hollins 3, Jones.



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Longmont, Colorado
Friday, January 11, 2008



Publish Date: 1/10/2008

CU women tip off Big 12 play with win

Victory over host Missouri is Buffaloes' 11th straight

Staff and wire reports

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The University of Colorado women's basketball survived a scare and aced its Big 12 Conference opener.

Brittany Spears had 24 points, and Jackie McFarland chipped in 17 Wednesday night to lead 23rd-ranked Colorado to a 70-58 win over host Missouri.

CU, which won its 11th straight game, led 28-23 at the half. But Missouri roared back early in the second half with nine unanswered points to take a 32-28 lead.

The Buffaloes (12-2, 1-0 Big 12) responded with a 27-6 run on the strength of five 3-pointers to go ahead, 55-38.

CU stretched the lead to 21 late in the game before Missouri rallied.

Bianca Smith had 14 points for Colorado, and Aija Putnina had 12 points and 10 rebounds as the Buffaloes won their first Big 12 road opener since beating Baylor in 2004.

Alyssa Hollins led Missouri (7-7, 0-1) with 22 points, while Shakara Jones added 12.

CU's Big 12 home opener is set for Sunday as Iowa State visits for a 2 p.m. game.

denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

cu women 70, missouri 58

Buff's win 11th straight

By The Associated Press

Article Last Updated: 01/09/2008 11:58:03 PM MST

CU Basketball

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- Visit the CU Stats Page for women's boxscores, Big 12 standings, player pages and more
- Visit Tom Kensler's All Things Buffs blog for a behind-the-scenes look at CU sports

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COLORADO (12-2) Spears 9-13 3-3 24, Putnina 4-8 4-4 12, McFarland 6-8 5-8 17, Skildum 0-1 1-2 1, Powers 0-3 1-2 1, Smith 5-10 0-0 14, Houston 0-0 1-2 1, Blythe 0-0 0-0 0, Dunn 0-1 0-0 0, Dow 0-1 0-0 0, Richards 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 24-46 15-21 70. **MISSOURI (7-7)** Hanneman 2-11 3-4 7, Johnson 2-10 4-4 9, Wilson 1-3 0-0 2, Richbow 0-4 0-0 0, Hollins 8-20 0-0 22, Otote 1-3 0-0 3, Pickens 1-2 0-0 3, Brown 0-1 0-0 0, Jones 5-11 2-6 12. Totals 20-65 9-14 58. Colorado 28-23. 3-point goals — Colorado 7-18 (Smith 4-7, Spears 3-4, Skildum 0-1, Dow 0-1, Dunn 0-1, Putnina 0-2, Powers 0-2), Missouri 9-21 (Hollins 6-10, Pickens 1-1, Otote 1-3, Johnson 1-3, Richbow 0-2, Hanneman 0-2). Fouled out — Putnina. Rebounds — Colorado 40 (Putnina 10), Missouri 35 (Johnson 7). Assists — Colorado 7 (McFarland, Spears 2), Missouri 17 (Richbow 5). Total fouls — Colorado 12, Missouri 18. A — 1,207.

MISSOURI (7-7)

Halftime —

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