

SPRING FOOTBALL HISTORY

For 40 years, spring practice traditionally ended with a game between the Colorado Varsity and Alumni. Back at the turn of the century, an Alumni team usually served as the season opener for the varsity (13 times all told, with the Varsity owning an 11-0-2 edge in those games). The Varsity held a 20-3 edge in the old format of the spring series, which started back in 1953 under then head coach Dal Ward. After a pair of games, the series became dormant until 1963 when it was revived by Eddie Crowder. There was no game between 1974 and 1976, and the 1978 game was cancelled due to a blizzard.

A new format for the Varsity-Alumni game (implemented in 1988) had the alumni playing in the first and third quarters, with the first team of the varsity playing the second and fourth quarters. They were pitted against the second- and third-team members of the varsity, resulting in a competitive and fun game. The alumni and first-team varsity always wore black. This format was discontinued following 1992 for competitive reasons.

The all-time results of the Varsity-Alumni game:

Year	Score	Attend.	Year	Score	Attend.
1953 — Varsity, 6-0	2,300		1979 — Varsity, 31-0	5,277	
1954 — Varsity, 7-6	1,200		1980 — Varsity, 24-14	4,688	
1963 — Alumni, 14-6	11,500		1981 — Varsity, 24-0	3,369	
1964 — Alumni, 10-7	10,000		1982 — Varsity, 35-15	4,144	
1965 — Varsity, 13-12	6,000		1983 — Varsity, 42-0	3,804	
1966 — Varsity, 23-6	10,500		1984 — Varsity, 14-6	4,023	
1967 — *Varsity, 29-16	3,500		1985 — Varsity, 24-0	4,211	
1968 — Alumni, 23-0	7,500		1986 — Varsity, 31-7	3,855	
1969 — Varsity, 37-10	9,000		1987 — Varsity, 24-0	2,235	
1970 — Varsity, 41-12	6,500		1988 — #Black, 23-14	2,750	
1971 — Varsity, 13-0	4,500		1989 — #White, 38-35	13,642	
1972 — Varsity, 28-0	8,500		1990 — #White, 27-25	11,336	
1973 — Varsity, 14-13	6,500		1991 — #Black, 21-17	10,382	
1977 — Varsity, 43-27	9,000		1992 — #Black, 44-7	9,618	

*—played in Denver due to stadium expansion

#—First-team varsity and alumni wore black jerseys, remainder of varsity white jerseys.

The format for the game in 1993 and 1994 was to pit the first-team offense and defense against the remainder of the squad. The results of this series:

Year	Score	Attend.	Year	Score	Attend.
1993 — White, 24-13	2,500		1994 — Black, 45-3	1,650	

An intrasquad game was started in 1987 and was dubbed the "Black & White" game (which evolved into the "Black & Gold" game). The format for this has varied through the years, depending on the health of the team; most years, the team is divided by the coaching staff into two units of comparable strength. Injuries in the 2001-03 and 2005 seasons forced an offense-defense formatted game with its own unique scoring system, and in 2006-07 the team scrimmaged due to a lack of offensive linemen. In 2008, the Black team was the first-team offense, the Gold team the second and third-teamers; that year, in response to a challenge by former head coach Bill McCartney, a CU spring record crowd of 17,800 turned out for the game. A look at this series:

Year	Score	Attend.	Year	Score	Attend.
1987 — Black, 6-3	—		1998 — Silver, 14-3	7,100	
1988 — White, 7-3	—		1999 — Gold, 13-10	1,400	
1989 — Black, 14-10	—		2000 — Black, 15-6	2,000	
1990 — White, 14-10	—		2001 — Defense, 48-9	4,400	
1991 — Black, 28-9	—		2002 — Offense, 59-49	3,350	
1992 — Black, 22-19	—		2003 — Defense, 32-26	1,500	
1993 — Black, 17-7	—		2004 — Gold, 17-13	4,500	
1994 — White, 14-7	—		2005 — Defense, 26-19	2,800	
1995 — Silver, 20-6	2,600		2006 — N/A (scrimmage)	6,400	
1996 — Gold, 30-20	7,500		2007 — N/A (scrimmage)	5,800	
1997 — Gold, 14-0	6,100		2008 — Black, 28-17	17,800	



One of the most emotional moments in CU football history came at halftime of the 1989 spring game, when the varsity and alumni saluted cancer-stricken quarterback Sal Aunese (center). Aunese passed away on Sept. 23 later that same year.

MEDIA HISTORY

Throughout the history of University of Colorado athletics, three newspapers (*Boulder Camera*, *Denver Post* and *Rocky Mountain News*) and KOA-Radio have been, year-in and year-out, the ones to turn to for coverage of CU sports. Here is a look at those "beat" people who have covered the Buffaloes during the years:

Boulder Daily Camera

1935-1953	Lu P. Monroe
1954-1966	Howard Baxter
1967-1977	Dan Creedon
1978	Barney Hutchinson
1979-2000	Craig Harper
2001	Ryan Thorburn
2002-2003	Chris Dempsey
2004-	Kyle Ringo

Denver Post

1936-1955	assorted
1956-1980	Frank Haraway
1981-1982	Mike Knisley
1983-1986	Kevin Widlic
1987-1989	Natalie Meisler
1990-1994	John Henderson
1995-1996	Vicki Michaelis
1996-1999	Tom Kensler
1999-2003	Adam Thompson
2004-2005	Chris Dempsey
2006-	Tom Kensler

Rocky Mountain News

1944-1959	Chet Nelson
1960-1974	Leonard Kahn
1975-1977	Dave Nelson
1978-1984	Mike Madigan
1985-1986	Clay Latimer
1987-	B.G. Brooks

Radio Announcer Teams (Flagship, since 1973)

1973-1978	Larry Zimmer, Bob Rubin (KOA)
1979-1980	Larry Zimmer, Ron Zappolo (KOA)
1981	Larry Zimmer, Jon Keyworth (KOA)
1982-1983	Wayne Larrivee, Bobby Anderson (KHOW)
1984	Wayne Larrivee, Bobby Anderson (KRXY)
1985-1994	Larry Zimmer, Kent Groshong (KOA)
1995-2000	Larry Zimmer, Jim Ryan (KOA)
2001	Larry Zimmer, Jim Conrad (KOA)
2002-2003	Larry Zimmer, Jay Leeuwenburg (KOA)
2004-	Mark Johnson, Larry Zimmer (KOA)

NOTE: Prior to 1973, as many as four radio stations originated CU football broadcasts. Stations such as KBOL, KLZ and KHOW and personalities like Jim Kithcart, Mark Schreiber, John Henry, Starr Yelland, Pete Hansen, Bob Martin, Dick Carlson, Don Cole, Mike Wolfe, Fred Casotti, Glenn Perkins, Irv Brown and many more have called the action of CU football.

Television

Stations that have had the rights through the years for broadcasts of CU games and coaches' shows:

1952-1958	KOA-TV (NBC)	1979-1981	KBTB (ABC)
1959-1972	KLZ-TV (CBS)	1982-1983	KWGN-TV (Independent)
1973	KBTB (ABC)	1984-2000	KCNC-TV (NBC/CBS)
1974-1975	KLZ-TV (CBS)	2001-2003	ESPN2 (local window)
1976-1978	KOA-TV (NBC)	2004-	FSN Rocky Mountain