



# UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BUFFALOES / SPORTS INFORMATION SERVICE

Fieldhouse Annex #50, 357 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309-0357  
Telephone 303/492-5626 (FAX: 303/492-3811; E-mail: david.plati@colorado.edu)

**David Plati (Associate AD/Sports Information), Lindsay Lew (Associate SID), Andrew Green (Assistant SID),  
Troy Andre (Assistant SID/CUBuffs.com Managing Editor), Linda Poncin (Assistant SID), Erich Schubert (Graduate Assistant)**

www.CUBuffs.com

© 2007 CU Athletics

## COLORADO FOOTBALL: 2007 LETTER-OF-INTENT DAY NOTES & BIOS / INFORMATION

Copyright © 2007, University of Colorado (February 7, 2007)

### QUICKLY

It's the 2007 edition of national letter-of-intent day, as high school seniors around the nation were allowed to sign on the dotted line starting at 7:00 a.m. local time on Wednesday, February 7... The signed letters are express mailed in, but can be confirmed by FAX... The full team total cannot exceed 85 scholarships at any point, or a maximum 25 qualifiers any single year... The NCAA maximum is 56 recruiting visits allowed; the Buffs "banked" two from last year, so of the 58 Colorado had for the 2007 class, the Buffs have utilized 50 to date... The list of signees and their biographies are later in this packet.

### NAMES & NUMBERS

Here's a look at the preliminary roster numbers when taking a look at the 2007 University of Colorado football roster:

**Lettermen Returning:** 41 (19 offense, 19 defense, 3 specialists)      **Lettermen Lost:** 27 (12 offense, 13 defense, 2 specialist)

**Starters Returning (16)—Offense 9:** WR Alvin Barnett (9/8), FB Maurice Cantrell (5/5), TB Hugh Charles (19/7), TE Riar Geer (9/9), OG Edwin Harrison (16/9), QB Bernard Jackson (11/11), OT Tyler Polumbus (15/12), OG Daniel Sanders (15/11), WR Patrick Williams (7/7). **Defense 7:** ILB Jordan Dizon (34/11), SS Lionel Harris (6/6), DT George Hypolite (8/8), OLB Brad Jones (11/11), NT Brandon Nicolas (11/11), FS Ryan Walters (10/10), CB Terrence Wheatley (19/12). (*Career/2006 starts in parenthesis; calculated by those with six-plus starts or starting at the end of 2006.*)

**Others Returning With Significant Starting Experience (6; min. 3 career starts)—** CB Cha'pelle Brown (4/4), WR Cody Crawford (3/3), TE Tyson DeVree (3/3), TB Byron Ellis (5/4), DE Maurice Lucas (7/1), WR Dusty Sprague (13/2).

**Others Returning With Significant Position Game Experience (10; two or fewer career starts)—**WR DE Alonzo Barrett, DT Jason Brace, FS Benjamin Burney, ILB Marcus Burton, FB Samson Jagoras, DT Taj Kaynor, WR Chase McBride, WR Stephone Robinson, ILB Joe Sanders, ILB Michael Sipili.

**Starters Lost (9)—Offense 3:** OG Brian Daniels (45/12), C Mark Fenton (31/5), C Bryce MacMartin (7/7). **Defense 6:** S J.J. Billingsley (37/6), DE Walter Boye-Doe (15/12), CB Lorenzo Sims (31/6), CB Terry Washington (9/6), ILB Thaddaeus Washington (31/8), DE Abraham Wright (27/11).

**Others Lost With Significant Starting/Playing Experience (9)—**S Dominique Brooks (13/0), QB James Cox (19/3), TE Paul Creighton (2/2), TE Dan Goettsch (4/4), TB Mell Holliday (1/1), WR/H Nick Holz (2/2), DE Alex Ligon (20/9), WR Blake Mackey (3/0), OG Jack Tipton (6/2).

**Specialists Returning (3)—**PK Kevin Eberhart, KR Stephone Robinson, SN Justin Drescher.

**Specialists Lost (2)—**PK Mason Crosby, H Nick Holz.

**Base Spring Roster (78 players/58 scholarship)—** 17 seniors, 23 juniors, 18 sophomores, 20 freshmen (17 redshirt/3 true).

### HONOR CANDIDATES TO WATCH

Looking ahead to this fall, there are a few Colorado players who should be in the mix for some individual honors. Heading the list are **CB Terrence Wheatley**, a likely *Thorpe Award* candidate, and **ILB Jordan Dizon**, expected to be in the hunt for the *Butkus Award*. Both should be on most preseason All-America lists as well. **TB Hugh Charles**, on the official watch list for the *Doak Walker Award* in 2006, should again be on that list in 2007. Players like **TE Riar Geer**, **OL Edwin Harrison**, **DT George Hypolite**, **QB Bernard Jackson**, **OLB Brad Jones**, **NT Brandon Nicolas**, **OT Tyler Polumbus**, **OG Daniel Sanders** and **FS Ryan Walters**, among others, could emerge as All-Big 12 Conference candidates (or even All-America) with breakout seasons.

### 2007 SCHEDULE

	series
S 1 Colorado State ( <i>Denver</i> )	57-19-2
S 8 at Arizona State	0- 1-0
S 15 <b>FLORIDA STATE</b>	0- 1-0
S 22 <b>MIAMI-OHIO</b>	0- 0-0
S 29 * <b>OKLAHOMA</b> ( <i>Homecoming</i> )	16-39-2
O 6 *at Baylor	8- 6-0
O 13 *at Kansas State	43-18-1
O 20 * <b>KANSAS</b> ( <i>Family Weekend</i> )	41-22-3
O 27 *at Texas Tech	4- 4-0
N 3 * <b>MISSOURI</b>	31-37-3
N 10 *at Iowa State	47-13-1
N 23 * <b>NEBRASKA</b> ( <i>ABC, 10:00 a.m.</i> )	17-46-2
D 1 Big 12 Championship ( <i>at San Antonio, Texas</i> )	
*—Big 12 Conference game; OPEN WEEK: Nov. 17.	

### 2006 RESULTS

(Won 2, Lost 10; 2-6 Big 12)

S 2 <b>MONTANA STATE</b>	L 10-19	45,513
S 9 Colorado State ( <i>Denver</i> )	L 10-14	65,701
S 16 <b>ARIZONA STATE</b>	L 3-21	47,723
S 23 at Georgia	L 13-14	92,746
S 30 *at Missouri	L 13-28	57,824
O 7 * <b>BAYLOR</b> ( <i>Homecoming</i> ) (3 OT)	L 31-34	47,065
O 14 * <b>TEXAS TECH</b> ( <i>Family Weekend</i> )	W 30- 6	50,233
O 21 *at Oklahoma	L 3-24	84,443
O 28 *at Kansas	L 15-20	39,313
N 4 * <b>KANSAS STATE</b>	L 21-34	42,696
N 11 * <b>IOWA STATE</b>	W 33-16	43,056
N 24 *at Nebraska	L 14-37	85,800
*—Big 12 Conference game.		

**RECRUITING REVIEW**

Over the past 35 years, the bulk of CU's recruits have come primarily from three states: Colorado (218), California (187) and Texas (100). Here is a look at CU's *high school only* recruiting numbers since 1973, the year students were again able to participate as freshmen. It includes signed recruits who might not have reported to campus for whatever reason, unless that player signed again and counted toward a subsequent class; this prevents double counting. (\*—denotes how many members of the class were future NFL draft picks; 1 in every 5.6 CU recruits since 1973 has been drafted into the pros):

Year	Coach On Signing Day	Total	Colo.	Calif.	Texas	Other States	JC	NDP*
2007	Dan Hawkins	23 (2)	4	7	0	2—Florida, Hawai'i, Pennsylvania, Tennessee; 1—Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana	4	—
2006	Dan Hawkins	20	4	6	2	2—Hawaii; 1—Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, New Jersey, Washington (1—Samoa)	2	—
2005	Gary Barnett	21 (1)	9	6	1	2—Florida; 1—Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska	4	—
2004	Gary Barnett	17 (1)	2	4	2	3—Michigan; 2—Hawaii; 1—Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Oklahoma	1	—
2003	Gary Barnett	23 (1)	5	4	8	2—Tennessee; 1—Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma	2	—
2002	Gary Barnett	28 (2)	7	6	10	3—Louisiana; 2—Illinois; 1—Kansas, Wisconsin	2	2
2001	Gary Barnett	13	7	1	3	1—Hawai'i (1—Canada)	4	2
2000	Gary Barnett	19	8	3	2	1—Arizona, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana (2—Canada)	5	2
1999	Gary Barnett	16	6	3	1	1—Arkansas, Hawai'i, Idaho, Illinois, Washington, Wisconsin	2	0
1998	Rick Neuheisel	20	1	9	5	1—Alaska, Florida, Hawai'i, Oregon, Washington	1	5
1997	Rick Neuheisel	22	5	9	3	2—Arizona, Washington; 1—Missouri	1	5
1996	Rick Neuheisel	21	3	9	3	1—Arizona, Hawai'i, Maryland, Ohio, South Dakota, Washington	0	3
1995	Rick Neuheisel	22	5	10	5	1—Arizona, Tennessee	0	2
1994	Bill McCartney	18	3	6	2	3—Michigan; 1—Florida, Illinois, Oklahoma, Tennessee	0	1
1993	Bill McCartney	20	7	2	2	2—Louisiana; 1—D.C., Ga., Hawai'i, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada (1—Samoa)	0	5
1992	Bill McCartney	25	5	4	4	3—Louisiana; 1—Arizona, Hawai'i, Illinois, Mich., Minn., Mo., Ohio, Wyo. (1—Samoa)	1	10
1991	Bill McCartney	20	4	3	5	2—Louisiana; 1—Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, Utah	2	9
1990	Bill McCartney	20	6	5	4	3—Louisiana; 1—Michigan (1—Canada)	3	7
1989	Bill McCartney	20 (1)	8	7	1	2—Michigan; 1—Mississippi, Ohio	1	4
1988	Bill McCartney	22	3	8	2	2—Idaho; 1—Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, Washington	4	5
1987	Bill McCartney	12	1	5	3	2—Nevada; 1—Missouri	0	6
1986	Bill McCartney	23	7	12	2	2—Missouri	0	6
1985	Bill McCartney	23	9	6	2	3—Missouri; 2—Nevada; 1—Kansas	0	0
1984	Bill McCartney	22	12	6	2	1—Illinois, Nebraska	7	1
1983	Bill McCartney	24	11	3	0	3—Missouri; 2—Florida, 1—Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio	3	4
1982	Chuck Fairbanks	13	10	1	0	1—Arizona, Nevada	15	1
1981	Chuck Fairbanks	24	3	8	8	2—North Carolina, Pennsylvania; 1—Oklahoma	3	2
1980	Chuck Fairbanks	25	6	7	0	2—Illinois, Pennsylvania; 1—Florida, Idaho, Michigan, Missouri, N.C., N.M., Oregon, Wash.	3	5
1979	*Bob Cortese	24	9	4	2	2—New York; 1—Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington	5	0
1978	Bill Mallory	28	5	3	1	7—Florida; 3—Illinois; 2—Oklahoma, Washington; 1—Mo., Neb., Nevada, N.M., Ohio	2	0
1977	Bill Mallory	21	10	5	0	2—Illinois; 1—Arizona, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio	1	3
1976	Bill Mallory	23	2	4	4	5—Illinois, 4—Washington, 1—Kansas, Oklahoma, Oregon, Wyoming	2	9
1975	Bill Mallory	21	10	5	2	2—Illinois; 1—Oregon, 1—Washington	3	5
1974	Bill Mallory	23	9	1	6	2—Ohio, Washington; 1—Hawai'i, Kansas, New Mexico	2	3
1973	Eddie Crowder	35	12	5	3	2—Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey; 1—HI, NE, NM, OH, OK, WA (1—Canada)	3	4
<b>Totals</b>		<b>751</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Illinois 23, Florida 22, Louisiana 19, Washington 19, Missouri 16, Hawai'i 14, Michigan 13, Arizona 12, Ohio 9, Kansas 8, Nevada 7, Nebraska 6, Tennessee 6, New Mexico 5, Oklahoma 5, Oregon 5.</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>111</b>

\*—Fairbanks did not become head coach until April 4, 1979; Cortese coordinated recruiting in the interim. In this time frame, 29 percent of all Buffalo high school recruits have come from Colorado, with 25 percent from California and 13 percent from Texas. (#)—denotes (HS) players that counted toward previous class.

**RECRUITING POSITION BREAKDOWNS**

Listed below are the position breakdowns of Colorado's recruiting classes since 1982. Counts include high school and junior college signees; fullbacks counted in running back totals; outside linebackers count either under defensive ends or linebackers, depending on where they eventually played:

Year	Total	Offense						Defense					Year	Total	Offense						Defense				
		OL	QB	RB	TE	WR	DE	DT	LB	DB	PK/P	OL			QB	RB	TE	WR	DE	DT	LB	DB	PK/P		
2007	28	8	2	2	1	3	2	3	2	3	5	0	1994	17	2	0	5	1	2	0	2	3	2	0	
2006	22	5	1	3	3	1	1	2	3	3	0	0	1993	19	3	2	0	1	2	1	5	4	0	1	
2005	25	3	2	3	1	3	3	4	1	4	1	0	1992	25	6	1	2	1	4	1	1	4	5	0	0
2004	19	2	1	2	0	3	3	2	4	2	0	0	1991	23	5	1	4	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	0
2003	25	4	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	6	2	0	1990	23	6	1	4	2	2	0	2	3	2	1	0
2002	30	6	1	2	1	3	3	2	5	7	0	0	1989	21	1	2	5	1	0	1	6	3	2	0	0
2001	17	3	2	2	0	2	1	5	1	1	0	0	1988	26	5	2	3	3	1	0	4	2	5	1	0
2000	24	5	2	2	2	0	3	2	3	4	1	0	1987	12	3	0	3	0	0	3	1	1	0	1	0
1999	18	4	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	3	0	0	1986	23	3	3	5	1	0	1	3	5	2	0	0
1998	21	2	3	1	0	2	2	3	3	4	1	0	1985	23	6	0	4	2	1	1	4	4	1	0	0
1997	23	5	0	4	2	2	2	1	3	4	0	0	1984	29	6	4	3	1	3	1	1	5	4	1	0
1996	23	3	1	1	1	4	2	1	3	7	0	0	1983	27	6	2	3	2	3	0	5	1	4	1	0
1995	22	6	0	4	3	1	1	2	2	2	1	0	1982	28	13	0	4	1	1	0	2	5	2	0	0

**CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS**

Several members of the 2007 recruiting class have some experience winning the top prize, as seven of the players won state (or section in Calif.) titles during their prep careers: **OL Ethan Adkins**, **OL Blake Behrens**, **OG Shawn Daniels**, **TB P.T. Gates**, **OL Ryan Miller**, **DL Chris Perri** and **CB Lamont Smith**. And **DE Lagrone Shields** owns a state title in basketball.

**STATE-BY-STATE**

The below chart indicates the last time a player from each state was on the CU roster (includes transfers and walk-ons; had to suit for at least one game). Rosters were available back to 1928; going into 2007, only two states, Rhode Island and Vermont, have never produced a CU player, with eight not having a prep recruit. A state-by-state look (**a**—last year a prep recruit signed from that state; **b**—last year a player from that state, recruit, walk-on or transfer, was on the roster):

State	a-Year	b-Year	State	a-Year	b-Year	State	a-Year	b-Year	State	a-Year	b-Year	State	a-Year	b-Year
Alabama	2004	2006	Hawaii	2006	2006	Michigan	2004	2006	North Carolina	1981	2001	Utah	1991	1995
Alaska	1998	2002	Idaho	2006	2006	Minnesota	2005	2006	North Dakota	1968	1978	Vermont	.....	.....
Arizona	2000	2006	Illinois	2002	2006	Mississippi	1989	1993	Ohio	1996	1999	Virginia	.....	1969
Arkansas	1999	2003	Indiana	1972	2001	Missouri	2005	2006	Oklahoma	2005	2006	Washington	2006	2006
California	2006	2006	Iowa	2004	2006	Montana	1991	1994	Oregon	1998	2005	West Virginia	.....	1970
<b>COLORADO</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2006</b>	Kansas	2005	2005	Nebraska	2005	2006	Pennsylvania	1981	1999	Wisconsin	2002	2003
Connecticut	1968	2005	Kentucky	2006	2006	Nevada	1993	1997	Rhode Island	.....	.....	Wyoming	1992	1996
Delaware	.....	2001	Louisiana	2004	2006	New Hampshire	.....	2002	South Carolina	.....	2001	AMER. SAMOA	2006	1996
Dist. of Columbia	1993	2006	Maine	.....	1988	New Jersey	2006	1989	South Dakota	1996	2000	CANADA	2001	2005
Florida	2006	2006	Maryland	1996	1998	New Mexico	1991	1997	Tennessee	2003	2006	ENGLAND	.....	1964
Georgia	1993	1996	Massachusetts	1983	2003	New York	1979	2006	Texas	2006	2006			

**CLASS NOTES**

Colorado signed three of the five offensive linemen on the All-Colorado team by both the *Rocky Mountain News* and *Denver Post*: **Ethan Adkins**, **Shawn Daniels** and **Ryan Miller**... Colorado inked players from 11 states, the most since 12 were represented in the '92 class (the '93 class was made up from nine states and the District of Columbia)... For the first time since 1983, Colorado did not sign a recruit from the state of Texas... Here are some quick tidbits about the **28** members of this year's recruiting class:

**OL Ethan Adkins** will join former teammate Eric Lawson at CU, as the two celebrated the Colorado state 5A title together at Douglas County High School in 2005... **ILB Tyler Ahles** is also an accomplished wrestler; he won a league championship in the 275-lb. heavyweight division at some 50-plus pounds under that weight... **OL Matt Bahr** starred at two different California high schools, Santa Margarita and Mission Viejo... **QB Matt Ballenger** had an uncle who played with Jim Plunkett at Stanford in the early 1970s... **OL Blake Behrens** will be the second in his family to try to play for the Buffaloes; his father tried out one spring when he was in school at CU but was injured in spring ball... **WR Kevin Celestine** will be nearer to some family, as his uncle, Myron Guillory, is an assistant basketball coach at Colorado State... **OG Shawn Daniels** is the younger brother of recent four-year starter Brian; should he somehow work his way into the starting lineup as a freshman, it could be possible that the same position would be manned for eight straight years by the same family, something that's never been done at Colorado (though the Andersons and Irwins came close)...

**TB P.T. Gates** is one of the few in the game who has experienced a 2,000-yard rushing season, just edging over the number with 2,005 his senior season at Marion Catholic... **DE Eugene Goree** lists one of his hobbies as watching game films with his 10-year old brother, Anfernee... **ILB Josh Hartigan** is the son of Sterling Palmer, the former Florida State Seminole and Washington Redskin linebacker/defensive end... **CB Jonathan Hawkins** officially signed in the 2006 class but delayed enrollment until this semester; he did come to Boulder last fall and worked a part-time job before enrolling... **OL Mike Ittis** has some "guns" as they say; he was the runner-up in the Florida state meet last spring in the shot put with a heave of 55 feet, 9 inches... **TE/H-Back Devan Johnson** and **DB Lamont Smith** both hail from (western) Pennsylvania; they are the first players to sign with CU from the state since 1981, when three inked letters: OG Lee Dudick (Wilkes-Barre), NT Donald Muncie (Washington) and DB Chris Yurkow (Philadelphia)... **TB Brian Lockridge** taught himself as a 5-year old to play the piano and guitar; he has since learned how to write and play his own music...

**C Kai Maiava**, who has wrestling bloodlines with "Prince" Maiava and Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson (his grandfather and uncle, respectively), had nicknames of "Smoochie" and "Baby" growing up. The former because "he used to go around kissing everybody" and the latter because he is the youngest of four... **OL Ryan Miller** was the only player from Colorado on USA Today's All-America (first) team, and the first one CU secured since 2000. When pressed for something few know about him, he responded, "I love to fly kites. I've done it since I was three or four years old..."... **DE Conrad Obi** is the first Georgian to sign with the Buffs since DT Stacy Patterson (Macon) did so in 1993; they're the only pair in the last 25 years... **WR Anthony Perkins** attended Community Christian High School in Northglenn, but through a special co-op program, he was able to play for nearby Northglenn High; he was also the first player to commit in the 2007 class (doing so in April, 2006)... **DL Chris Perri** was an accomplished baseball player as a teen; he was on the U.S. Junior National Team that went to Japan when he was 15... **DE Lagrone Shields** was the top defensive player for Ridgeway in Memphis, as his team went 24-2-1 his junior and senior years, but lost in the semifinals and the second round, respectively, in the state playoffs; but he did win a title as forward on the basketball team as a sophomore...

**WR Markques Simas** is CU's first high school All-American wide receiver recruit since Blake Mackey signed in 2002... **WR Josh Smith** might have the most effervescent personality of the entire class; he has designs on his own clothing and shoe lines—and he's already named them: Josh Fly and PF Fly's... **CB Lamont Smith** was the second player to commit to CU in this class, the first from out of state (May 2006)... **OL Sione Tau** is another musician in the class, and he can play five instruments: guitar, bass guitar, piano, drums and the ukulele... **DB Nate Vaionounga** recently took up rugby and loves it, adding it to the unique trio of sports he lettered in as a prep: football, volleyball and wrestling... **DB Anthony Wright** has a cousin with a Super Bowl ring: Michael Richardson was a defensive back on the 1985 Chicago Bears, meaning Richardson was a teammate of CU linebacker coach Brian Cabral, who the special teams captain on that team.

**HISTORY AND THE "EXPERTS"**

Recruiting services can provide a barometer outline in assessing talent and grading the various schools; however, remember most of recruiting is what coaches spot in their own evaluations, either from video or in person in summer camps, not to mention how well players are coached once in college. Here's a look back at all of Colorado's first-team Big Eight/12 performers (or better) over the past 17 years and the top honor each earned in their prep careers. The Buffs have had good success in both areas; CU has signed **166** high school all-Americans (prior to this year), and has nurtured several others into prominent careers. Of the **63** players listed below, **34** (or 54 percent) were high school all-Americans by the various services, meaning **29**, or 46 percent, were not:

POS	PLAYER	H.S. ALL-AMERICAN	HIGHEST PREP HONOR (FIRST-TEAM UNLESS NOTED): NOTES
DT	JUSTIN BANNAN	YES	all-Big 12 as a senior in 2001
OT	JUSTIN BATES	YES	All-America, all-Big 12 as a senior in 2002
OG	BRAD BEDELL	YES (H.M.)	all-region, second-team all-state
OT	TONY BERTI	NO	Second-team all-state (preseason all-American)
LB	GREG BIEKERT	NO	all-state (eventual Butkus semifinalist an 10-year pro)
TB	ERIC BIENIEMY	YES	Best-In-West Member (CU's all-time leading rusher)
CB	RONNIE BRADFORD	YES (H.M.)	Owens biggest blocked kick in school history ('91 Orange Bowl)
DE	TYLER BRAYTON	NO	third-team All-America as a senior ('02)
LB	CHAD BROWN	NO	all-state, all-CIF ('96 Pittsburgh Steelers All-Pro)
WR	RAE CARRUTH	YES	CU's second all-time leading receiver (yards)
DT	SHANNON CLAVELLE	YES	Opted for NFL after junior year; 'Super Bowl ring with Green Bay
PK	MASON CROSBY	NO	all-district, all-Midlands; CU's first All-American placekicker
QB	KOY DETMER	YES	CU's second all-time leading passer
TE	CHRISTIAN FAURIA	NO	all-CIF, all-time CU tight end reception leader
C	MARK FENTON	NO	all-district, all-city; finalist for 2005 Rimington Award
CB	DEON FIGURES	NO	all-CIF; 1992 Thorpe Award winner
PK	JEREMY FLORES	NO	all-Big 12 in 2001
OG	JOE GARTEN	NO	all-CIF, all-Orange County
TE	DANIEL GRAHAM	YES	Mackey Award winner in 2001 (best TE); top 10 at CU in catches & yards
C	ANDRE GURODE	YES	AP All-American in 2001
QB	DARIAN HAGAN	YES	Unanimous Best-In-West, led CU to 1990 national title
SS	ERIC HAMILTON	NO	all-CIF
OT	JIM HANSEN	NO	all-league; Rhodes Scholar at Colorado
NT	KERRY HICKS	YES	Three-year starter at defensive tackle
WR	ROMAN HOLLOWELL	YES	first-team All-American in 2001 (at kick returner)
DT	GARRY HOWE	NO	all-league, honorable mention all-state
CB	CHRIS HUDSON	NO	all-region, all-state; 1994 Thorpe Award winner
OG	HEATH IRWIN	YES	AP All-American in 1995
FS	TIM JAMES	NO	all-CIF
OT	RYAN JOHANNINGMEIER	YES	played three offensive line positions in 1998
WR	CHARLES JOHNSON	YES	Third all-time receiver at Colorado (yards)
TB	CORTLEN JOHNSON	YES	all-Big 12; only CU player to ever have 100 yard rush & receiving in same game
LB	TED JOHNSON	NO	all-CIF; 1994 Butkus Award runner-up
CB	BEN KELLY	YES	all-state
TE	JOE KLOPFENSTEIN	YES	SuperPrep only one to honor him as AA; set CU record for TDs by a tight end
C	JAY LEEUWENBURG	NO	all-league (eventual All-American and Orange Bowl Legend Team member)
SS	MICHAEL LEWIS	YES	third-team All-American, Thorpe semifinalist in 2001
CB	DAVE McCLOUGHAN	NO	all-state
P	MARK MARISCAL	YES	2002 Ray Guy Award winner, consensus All-America
LB	KANAVIS McGHEE	NO	all-district
OG	CHRIS NAEOLE	YES	1996 Consensus All-American
NT	RYAN OLSON	YES	all-Big 12; Academic All-American
WR	MIKE PRITCHARD	YES	Nevada Player-of-the-Year
DT	LEONARD RENFRO	NO	all-state; opted for NFL draft as a junior
OT	VICTOR ROGERS	YES	all-Big 12, second-team All-American (lesser services) in 2001
FS	STEVE ROSGA	YES (H.M.)	third-team Associated Press All-American
LB	MATT RUSSELL	YES	1996 Butkus Award winner, Consensus All-American
TB	RASHAAN SALAAM	YES	1994 Heisman Trophy winner; 2,000 yard rusher
WR	PHIL SAVOY	YES	CU's second all-time leading receiver (receptions; fourth in yards)
NT	JOEL STEED	NO	all-state ('97 all-pro with Pittsburgh in NFL)
QB	KORDELL STEWART	YES	All-time Big Eight total offense leader
C	BRYAN STOLTENBERG	NO	all-district, honorable mention all-state
FS	RYAN SUTTER	NO	first-team all-league as a prep; first-team all-Big 12
LB	JASHON SYKES	YES	CU team MVP as a sophomore
P	JOHN TORP	NO	all-conference; set CU record for punts, 50-plus kicks and inside-the-20 punts
OT	MARK VANDER POEL	NO	all-valley, all-league, Best-In-West team
PK	NEIL VOSKERITCHIAN	NO	none; CU's second all-time kick scorer
WR	MICHAEL WESTBROOK	NO	all-metro, all-region; CU's all-time reception leader
CB	TERRENCE WHEATLEY	NO	all-state (honorable mention, all-district)
CB	DAMEN WHEELER	YES	Thorpe Award watch list member in '98
LB	ALFRED WILLIAMS	YES	1990 Butkus Award winner; '96 Denver Broncos All-Pro
LB	RON WOOLFORK	YES (H.M.)	second all-time in QB sacks at CU (moved from QB to OLB)
DE	ABRAHAM WRIGHT	NO	all-district; first player at CU since Woolfork in '93 to record 10-plus sacks in a season

In this same time frame (since 1989), CU has recruited **95** others with All-America honors who have completed their CU careers that never earned first-team all-league (though **55** of the **95** started at least one season). In this same span, **46** players who were not high school All-Americans have earned all-Big Eight/12 or better, with **126** such players earning starting positions. CU has four league titles and three other division titles in these 17 seasons.

**ANNUAL HISTORY LESSON**

The most players a Division I school can have on scholarship is **85**; it had been 95 for several years, until a four-year reduction that started in 1988 for Title IX purposes by the NCAA scaled it down to the current 85 over a four-year period (ending in 1992). At one time, there was no limit on the number of scholarships a school could offer (40 recruits were the norm back in the 1970s). Though with attrition, the average number of players on scholarship in Division I-A has hovered around 80, according to the AFCA figures. Colorado has **58** players on scholarship at present.

**POSITION CHANGES / NON-RETURNEES**

As of now, there are two position changes planned for spring drills: **Cha'pelle Brown** will move from cornerback to wide receiver, and **Joe Sanders** will switch back to tight end from outside linebacker. Sanders started his career at tight end but two weeks into his first spring practice moved to inside linebacker (he missed the fall of his freshman year after undergoing shoulder surgery).

Nine players will not return from the 2006 squad for assorted reasons: **OL Paul Backowski**, **OL Quinton Borders**, **S Dominique Brooks**, **WR Clayton Cammon**, **TE Steve Fendry**, **P/PK Isaac Garden**, **C Tom Grubin**, **OL Jeremy Hauck** and **WR Reggie Joseph**. Cammon, Garden and Grubin were walk-ons, with Garden opting to graduate in May and pursue non-football endeavors.

**SPRING PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

Spring practice will begin Monday, March 12, and end with the spring game on Saturday, April 14. The tentative dates are as follows: **March 12-13-15-16-19-20-22; April 2-3-5-6-9-10-12-14**. A high school coaches clinic is set for April 6. The team is allowed 15 practices over 29 days; this is the second straight year spring ball will have a format where two weeks occur prior to spring break with the drills concluding following the off time. How the practice sessions will break down, per NCAA rules: three in shorts (no contact), four in pads (no tackling), four in pads (tackling allowed 50 percent or less of the time), four in pads (tackling allowed throughout).

**COMBINE**

The National Football League combine is this month at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis (February 21-27), with three Colorado Buffaloes (among 324 players) having currently been invited to participate: **PK Mason Crosby** (one of five placekickers), **C Mark Fenton** (one of 10 centers) and **DE Abraham Wright** (one of 28 defensive ends). Other CU seniors will be showcased in CU's own pro timing day on March 17; Colorado was one of the first to host their own, starting in the late 1980s. Now most schools do it.

**PRO TIMING DAY**

Colorado's annual pro-timing day is set for **Thursday, March 15**, when around 40-plus scouts from most, if not all, of the 32 National Football League teams visit Boulder. They test CU's seniors from last fall in an assortment of drills. The schedule for the day is not finalized (they usually convene at 9 a.m. that morning for the traditional bench press and speed and agility tests (40-yard dash, shuttles, vertical jumps, etc.); testing will be done in the weight room and in Balch Fieldhouse. CU had 29 alums in the NFL last year, the second most in the Big 12 and tied for the 17th most in the nation. The current members of the CU team will go through similar workouts on Tuesday, April 17, three days after the completion of spring ball. It is not to open to the public, as all scouts must register with the football office; media can attend but must wear their 2006-07 CU Athletics credential.

**INJURY UPDATE**

The injury picture for the Buffaloes a month ahead of spring practice:

Pos	Player	Injury	Notes	Status/Spring Practice
ILB	Marcus Burton	fractured tibia	suffered in practice (Oct. 31), missed remainder of season	FULL GO
OL	Erick Faatagi	knee surgery	sat out entire 2006 season	LIMITED
WR	Michael Kachmer	knee surgery	sat out entire 2006 season	FULL GO
WR	Chase McBride	shoulder surgery	surgery was postseason to mend chronic problem	LIMITED
TE	Devin Shanahan	knee surgery	sat out entire 2006 season	LIMITED
CB	Terrence Wheatley	wrist surgery	surgery was postseason to help correct chronic pain	FULL GO

**NOTE:** Injuries are reported in conjunction with the HIPAA laws. CU releases player name, body part (but no right or left ID's), the general nature and playing status when it comes to reporting injuries. Status will be listed as either OUT, DOUBTFUL, QUESTIONABLE, DAY-TO-DAY or PROBABLE (or LIMITED if for spring or camp sessions).

**TV LAND**

Colorado has had **137** of its last **208** games dating back to 1990 broadcast nationally or regionally (66 percent). That included seven games this year, 10 games in 2005, nine games in 2004, seven games in 2003, 12 in 2002, 10 games in 2001, plus 7 in 2000, 9 in both 1998 and 1999, 10 in 1996 and 1997. Since 1996, when the Big 12 began, **100** of CU's **135** games have been either nationally or regionally televised, an impressive 74 percent (the second most in the Big 12 Conference in that time frame). In addition, CU has had **21** of its last **25** non-conference games televised on a national or regional basis.

**SCHOLLIES**

Colorado will have 58 players on scholarship for spring practice; no walk-ons from last season have yet to be placed on scholarship but Hawkins did not rule out the possibility of awarding one or more before the end of the spring semester.

**HEAD COACH DAN HAWKINS**

**Dan Hawkins** has completed one season as head coach of the Colorado program, his sixth year as a Division I-A head coach, and his 11th season as a collegiate head coach. He owns a **2-10** record at Colorado, along with a **55-21** record in the Division I-A ranks (53-11 at Boise State) and an overall career mark of **94-33-1** including five years at NAIA Willamette (Ore.) College. In his final year at Willamette (1997), his team posted a 13-1 record, falling in the NAIA Championship game, before moving on to Boise State where he was assistant head coach, coaching the tight ends and special teams while coordinating recruiting. When Dirk Koetter left BSU for Arizona State after the 2000 season, Hawkins was promoted to head coach. He took the Broncos to four bowl games in five years, with his 2004 team compiling an 11-0 regular season mark and ascending to No. 10 in the national polls; in the most anticipated non-BCS bowl game to date, Boise dropped a thriller to No. 7 Louisville (44-40). In the modern history of Division I-A football, only three coaches won more games in their first five seasons than Hawkins (53: bested by Bob Pruett, Marshall; Bob Stoops, Oklahoma; and Pete Carroll, USC). ***Hawk's Handiwork:***

	Overall	Home	Road	Neutral	Ranked	Unranked	Non-league	Big 12	Bowls
<b>Hawkins at Colorado.....</b>	<b>2-10</b>	<b>2- 4</b>	<b>0- 5</b>	<b>0- 1</b>	<b>0- 5</b>	<b>2- 5</b>	<b>0- 4</b>	<b>2- 6</b>	<b>0- 0</b>
<b>Career (NCAA I-A).....</b>	<b>55-21</b>	<b>33- 6</b>	<b>21-13</b>	<b>1- 2</b>	<b>2-10</b>	<b>53-11</b>	<b>16-12</b>	<b>3- 6</b>	<b>2- 2</b>

- ◆ **Hawkins** has been a head coach for **128** games (94-33-1), with that record and 73.8 winning percentage eighth in the nation for active coaches with 100 or more games coached for their career.
- ◆ In 11 seasons as a head coach, Hawkins' teams have never been shutout, and had never dropped more than two games in a row in the same season (which happened just three times) until this year and had won at least eight games seven times (10-plus four times).
- ◆ A sample of what **Hawkins** tells his players: "You're in America, you're going to college, you live in Colorado. You have it better than 90 percent of the people in the world."
- ◆ Hawkins has used the term "conflama" when referring to some people's desire for conflict and drama (i.e., the reason someone like Jerry Springer and that lot is even on the air). He references the term when people on the outside of a program choose to look at the negative without choosing to understand why something may very well be the way it is.
- ◆ Hawk on depth charts: "To be honest, we really don't pay too much attention to depth charts, we run a lot of personnel in and out of there at several positions. For example, I view the defensive line like hockey; they're playing in shifts as we want them fresh." As a result, especially on offense at receiver, tight end and in the backfield, CU utilizes different "groupings" as opposed to following a depth chart.
- ◆ Hawk's response about potential for disaster after the 0-3 start: "There's always potential. When you get in your car and get out on the freeway, there's potential for disaster. I knew when I left Boise State there was potential for disaster. That doesn't scare me... there's also the potential for greatness. So you can hide behind the shadow if you want, but that's not living."
- ◆ TBS play-by-play man **Ron Thulin** on Hawkins' optimism: "His glass isn't half-full, it's overflowing. He's not going to change. He said they are going to keep fighting and doing the little things everyday. I think everyone on our crew was ready to put on a football helmet after talking to this man yesterday. He is excitable and he cares." Chimed in analyst **Charles Davis**: "I was looking to get taped and get out to practice that day. If you're around him long enough you can't help but be positive."
- ◆ As with many coaches, at the end of practice, the team will run for turnovers, mistakes, missed field goals, etc. One day after PK Mason Crosby missed a kick within his range, Hawk felt a little bad as he wondered to himself, "How many coaches are making their kids run for a missed 64-yard field goal?"

**HAWKINS AMONG THE BEST**

Dan Hawkins has one of top records among all active Division I-A coaches, despite CU's 2-10 mark in 2006. He has the 12th best mark and is listed among some of the top names in the profession. A closer look through games of 2006 (#—has been dismissed as head coach):

Coch, School	W	L	T	Pct.	Coch, School	W	L	T	Pct.	Coch, School	W	L	T	Pct.
Pete Carroll, USC.....	65	12	0	.844	Phillip Fulmer, Tennessee .....	137	41	0	.770	Paul Johnson, Navy .....	99	35	0	.739
Urban Meyer, Florida.....	61	12	0	.836	Bobby Bowden, Florida State ..	366	113	4	.762	<b>Dan Hawkins, Colorado .....</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.738</b>
Bob Stoops, Oklahoma.....	86	19	0	.819	Lloyd Carr, Michigan .....	113	36	0	.758	Jim Tressel, Ohio State .....	197	71	2	.733
#—Larry Coker, Miami, Fla.....	60	15	0	.800	Steve Spurrier, South Carolina.	157	50	2	.756	Gary Patterson, TCU .....	54	20	0	.730
Mark Richt, Georgia .....	61	17	0	.782	Joe Paterno, Penn State .....	363	121	3	.748					

**FIRST YEAR COACHING COMPARISON**

**Dan Hawkins** isn't the only coach in Colorado history who struggled in his first season. In fact, for whatever reason, it's more the norm, as going back to **Dal Ward's** inaugural year (1948, when CU became a member of the Big Seven Conference), only two coaches had winning records with one other a .500 mark out of the 10 who have piloted the Buffs over the last 59 seasons. The winningest coach, **Rick Neuheisel** (10-2 in 1995) was the only one who was a member of the CU staff as an assistant the previous season (he's also the only one to win his opening game), with the other, **Gary Barnett** (7-5 in 1999), also previously serving on a Colorado staff between 1984 and 1991. All eight previous coaches before Hawkins suffered greater margins of defeat in their losses, as CU lost its 10 games by an average of 11.2 points this season, matching Ward's six setbacks his first season. A closer look at the first seasons for CU's last 10 head coaches:

Head Coach	Inaugural		---Points---		-A vg Win-		Offense-----			Defense-----			Turnover Margin	Problem Spot(s)
	Season	Record	For	Against	Win	Loss	Rush	Pass	Total	Rush	Pass	Total		
Dal Ward.....	1948	3-6	168	164	23.7	11.2	167.4	79.3	246.8	193.0	78.7	271.7	-0.22	CU: 15 INT in 120 pass attempts
Sonny Grandelius.....	1959	5-5	144	177	8.6	15.2	133.1	135.5	268.6	160.2	95.3	255.5	0.00	CU: 4-of-15 on 2-Pt. PAT
Bud Davis.....	1962	2-8	122	346	15.0	31.8	134.0	116.0	250.0	269.7	116.5	386.2	-0.90	Opponent: 51.7% on 3rd Down
Eddie Crowder.....	1963	2-8	100	245	19.5	23.0	167.0	72.2	239.2	217.9	108.9	326.8	-0.60	Outscored 62-0 in 2nd quarter
Bill Mallory.....	1974	5-6	226	307	10.4	21.7	221.9	114.4	336.3	251.3	116.8	368.1	-0.18	Opp: 32-of-40 TDs in red zone
Chuck Fairbanks.....	1979	3-8	168	274	10.0	17.0	139.8	136.9	276.7	234.5	97.4	331.8	-1.09	CU QBs sacked 55 times
Bill McCartney.....	1982	2-8-1	160	301	18.5	22.3	104.8	175/6	279.5	238.3	158.5	396.7	-0.09	Opponent +12.5 plays per game
Rick Neuheisel.....	1995	10-2	444	240	24.3	19.5	189.5	297.2	486.6	143.6	184.3	329.4	+0.18	97 penalties (Opponent: 53)
Gary Barnett.....	1999	7-5	405	311	22.6	12.8	151.2	273.7	424.9	171.5	176.1	347.6	+0.18	CU QBs sacked 32 times
<b>Dan Hawkins.....</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2-10</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>172.9</b>	<b>118.5</b>	<b>291.4</b>	<b>112.4</b>	<b>228.5</b>	<b>340.9</b>	<b>+0.67</b>	<b>Opp: 66.9 CP; 47.8 3rd Down</b>

**ROAD-SWEET-ROAD: BUFFS 11TH BEST IN ENEMY STADIUMS SINCE '88**

The Buffaloes have enjoyed a lot of success on the road over the last 19 seasons. CU has been victorious 57 of the last 91 times in enemy stadiums and is **57-35-1** overall away from home (a 61.8 winning percentage). That stands 11th nationally (eighth in raw wins) and third among Big 12 Conference teams in this span; only 11 schools have won 60 percent of their away games in this time frame. During this time frame, CU won a school record 10 straight road games between 1994 and 1996. The Buffaloes own a **46-25-1** mark in their last 71 road conference games (Big 8 & Big 12—six losses at Nebraska, two at Kansas, Kansas State, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Texas Tech; and one each at Baylor, Iowa State, Oklahoma State and Texas A&M; the tie was at K-State in 1993). CU is **21-23** on the Big 12 road since 1996 (0-4 in 2006). The chart to the right does not include neutral site games, despite some being anything but (i.e., Colorado vs. Texas at Irving for the '01 Big 12 title.)

**ON THE ROAD (1988-2006)**

School	W	L	T	Pct.
Miami, Fla.	74	24	0	.755
Tennessee	64	22	2	.739
Florida State	66	24	0	.733
Michigan	64	25	3	.712
Ohio State	61	26	2	.697
Nebraska	62	27	3	.690
Notre Dame	58	29	2	.663
Florida	50	26	1	.656
Texas	57	34	0	.626
Alabama	54	33	0	.621
<b>COLORADO</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.618</b>

**20TH BEST IN THE NATION SINCE 1989**

Colorado has the nation's 20th best record over the last 18 seasons, or since the start of 1989, CU has posted a **142-74-4** record. From opening 1-0 in '89, through the 10th game of the 2005 season, the Buffs owned one of the top 10 overall records in the nation (**247 consecutive weeks**); that was snapped with a loss to Nebraska late in 2005. The best Division I-A records from the start of 1989 through games of 2006:

Rk	School	G	W	L	T	Pct.	vs. AP Ranked Teams		2006
							G	W-L-T	
1	Florida State	225	181	43	1	.807	95	65-29-1	7-6
2	Miami, Fla.	218	174	44	0	.798	83	50-33-0	7-6
3	Nebraska	225	177	47	1	.789	66	35-30-1	9-5
4	Florida	226	174	51	1	.772	100	57-42-1	13-1
5	Tennessee	223	170	50	3	.769	86	48-35-3	9-4
6	Ohio State	223	169	51	3	.765	90	50-37-3	12-1
7	Michigan	220	166	51	3	.761	95	57-36-2	11-2
8	Texas	220	154	64	2	.705	75	35-38-2	10-3
9	Virginia Tech	218	151	65	2	.697	58	27-30-1	10-3
10	Auburn	216	148	65	3	.692	72	31-40-1	11-2
11	Penn State	219	151	67	1	.692	82	39-43-0	9-4
12	Notre Dame	219	150	67	2	.689	85	40-43-2	10-3
<b>20</b>	<b>COLORADO</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>.655</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>40-50-2</b>	<b>2-10</b>

**THE BUFFALOES IN THE BIG 12**

The Big 12 Conference has wrapped its 11th season. Though finishing fifth in the North Division in 2006, the Buffaloes are tied for the second most division titles won with four, just behind Oklahoma's five. Just half of the schools in the conference have won a division title. A closer look:

- ➔ **Big 12 Division Titles (including 2006):** Oklahoma 5, **Colorado 4**, Nebraska 4, Texas 4, Kansas State 3, Texas A&M 2.
- ➔ **Big 12 Championship Game Records:** Oklahoma 4-1, Nebraska 2-2, Texas 2-2, **Colorado 1-3**, Texas A&M 1-1, Kansas State 1-2.

**CU VS. THE BIG 12 NORTH:** Colorado owns the best record in intra-division competition going back to the start of the 2001 season against Big 12 North Division rivals, as the Buffaloes are **21-9** in this time frame. Other records in the same span: Nebraska 19-11, Kansas State 18-12, Iowa State 11-19, Missouri 11-19 and Kansas 10-20. The Buffs are **12-3** at home in this stretch, the only losses to Nebraska (2003 & 2005) and Kansas State (this season).

**FINAL 2006 BIG 12 CONFERENCE STANDINGS**

North Division (-8)	conference					overall					Next Up
	School (AP/Coaches)	W	L	Pct.	Pts	Opp	W	L	Pct.	Pts	
Nebraska (RV/RV)	6	2	.750	236	173	9	5	.643	428	256	S 1 NEVADA
Missouri	4	4	.500	214	178	8	5	.615	391	254	S 1 Illinois (St. Louis)
Kansas State	4	4	.500	188	218	7	6	.538	296	309	S 1 at Auburn
Kansas	3	5	.375	234	225	6	6	.500	348	306	S 1 CENTRAL MICHIGAN
<b>COLORADO</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>.250</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>.167</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>S 1 Colorado State (Denver)</b>
Iowa State	1	7	.125	120	262	4	8	.333	226	369	S 1 KENT STATE
South Division (+8)	conference					overall					Next Up
School (AP/Coaches)	W	L	Pct.	Pts	Opp	W	L	Pct.	Pts	Opp	
Oklahoma (#11/#11)	7	1	.875	208	121	11	3	.786	424	242	S 1 NORTH TEXAS
Texas (#13/#13)	6	2	.750	270	173	10	3	.769	467	238	S 1 ARKANSAS STATE
Texas A & M (RV/RV)	5	3	.625	193	174	9	4	.692	362	267	S 1 MONTANA STATE
Texas Tech (--/RV)	4	4	.500	240	235	8	5	.615	422	326	S 1 at SMU
Oklahoma State	3	5	.375	264	243	7	6	.538	458	333	S 1 at Georgia
Baylor	3	5	.375	194	320	4	8	.333	283	391	S 1 at TCU

**SIXTY-FOUR PLAYERS LETTER IN 2006**

Colorado had **65** players earn letters in 2006, **30** offensive players, **31** defensive players and **four** special team performers. There are four ways a player can letter: participate in 100 plays (scrimmage snaps plus special teams); possess a special skill—punter/kicker/special teams; be a true freshman who gave up his redshirt year for the benefit of the team (unless injured and can get a medical redshirt); or be a senior in good academic standing. Sophomore **S Joel Adams** earned his first letter in football, but has two others as an alpine performer on CU's national championship ski team; he's the first player in school history to letter in the football/skiing combo. The 2006 lettermen (the 24 seniors listed in **bold**):

<b>ACKERMANN, Jason</b>	2L	<b>CARPENTER, Ben</b>	2L	<b>FENTON, Mark</b>	4L	<b>JONES, Marcus</b>	1L	<b>SIMS, Lorenzo</b>	4L
ADAMS, Joel	1L	CHARLES, Hugh	3L	<b>GARDEN, Isaac</b>	1L	<b>LIGON, Alex</b>	4L	SIPILI, Michael	1L
BACKOWSKI, Paul	1L	<b>COX, James</b>	3L	GEER, Riar	1L	LUCAS, Maurice	2L	SMART, Jeff	1L
BARNETT, Alvin	2L	CRAWFORD, Cody	1L	<b>GOETTSCH, Dan</b>	1L	<b>MACKEY, Blake</b>	2L	SPRAGUE, Dusty	3L
BARRETT, Alonzo	3L	<b>CREIGHTON, Paul</b>	4L	HARRIS, Lionel	2L	<b>MacMARTIN, Bryce</b>	2L	<b>TIPTON, Jack</b>	3L
<b>BILLINGSLEY, J.J.</b>	4L	<b>CROSBY, Mason</b>	4L	HARRISON, Edwin	3L	McBRIDE, Chase	1L	WALTERS, Ryan	2L
<b>BOYE-DOE, Walter</b>	4L	<b>CUSWORTH, Chad</b>	2L	HEAD, Devin	1L	McKAY, Gardner	2L	<b>WASHINGTON, Terry</b>	2L
BRACE, Jason	1L	<b>DANIELS, Brian</b>	4L	<b>HOLLIDAY, Mell</b>	1L	MOYD, Kevin	1L	<b>WASHINGTON, Thaddaeus</b>	4L
BROWN, Cha'pelle	1L	DeVREE, Tyson	1L	<b>HOLZ, Nick</b>	3L	NICOLAS, Brandon	1L	<b>WASHINGTON, Vance</b>	3L
BROWN, R.J.	1L	DiLALLO, Matthew	1L	HYPOLITE, George	2L	POLUMBUS, Tyler	3L	WHEATLEY, Terrence	3L
BURNEY, Benjamin	2L	DIZON, Jordon	3L	JACKSON, Bernard	1L	ROBINSON, Stephone	3L	WILLIAMS, Patrick	2L
BURTON, Marcus	2L	DRESCHER, Justin	1L	JAGORAS, Samson	1L	SANDERS, Daniel	2L	<b>WRIGHT, Abraham</b>	3L
CANTRELL, Maurice	1L	ELLIS, Byron	3L	JONES, Brad	2L	SANDERS, Joe	2L	YATES, Jarrell	1L

**2007 COLORADO FOOTBALL LETTERMEN PICTURE**

Colorado has **41** lettermen scheduled to return for 2007, including 19 on both offense and defense and three specialists; the Buffs lose **27** lettermen off the 2006 squad (12 offense, 13 defense, two specialists). CU returns 16 starters from last season (nine offense, seven defense) and loses nine (six offense, three defense); three positions, two on defense, saw two players basically split the duties (C, LCB, SS). The 2006 starters are listed in bold, and (\*\*) denotes letters earned primarily on special teams. The breakdown:

**OFFENSE**

Position	Returning (19)	Lost (12)
WR (x)	<b>Patrick Williams</b> , Cody Crawford, Jarrell Yates, **Chase McBride	Nick Holz
WR (z)	<b>Alvin Barnett</b> , Dusty Sprague, Stephone Robinson	Blake Mackey, Reggie Joseph ( <i>from 2004</i> )
LT	<b>Tyler Polumbus</b>	
LG		<b>Brian Daniels</b>
C		<b>Mark Fenton</b> , <b>Bryce MacMartin</b>
RG	<b>Daniel Sanders</b> , Devin Head	Jack Tipton
RT	<b>Edwin Harrison</b>	**Paul Backowski
TE	<b>Riar Geer</b> , Tyson DeVree	Paul Creighton, Dan Goettsch
QB	<b>Bernard Jackson</b>	James Cox
TB	<b>Hugh Charles</b> , Byron Ellis, **Kevin Moyd	Mell Holliday
FB	<b>Maurice Cantrell</b> , Samson Jagoras	

**DEFENSE**

Position	Returning (19)	Lost (13)
DE	Alonzo Barrett	<b>Abraham Wright</b>
DT	<b>George Hypolite</b>	Alex Ligon
NT	<b>Brandon Nicolas</b> , Jason Brace	Marcus Jones
DE	Maurice Lucas	<b>Walter Boye-Doe</b>
MLB	Michael Sipili, **R.J. Brown	<b>Thaddaeus Washington</b> , Jason Ackermann
WLB	<b>Jordon Dizon</b> , Marcus Burton, **Jeff Smart	
SLB	<b>Brad Jones</b> , Joe Sanders	**Ben Carpenter, **Chad Cusworth
CB	Chapelle Brown	<b>Lorenzo Sims Jr.</b> , <b>Terry Washington</b>
SS	<b>Lionel Harris</b>	<b>J.J. Billingsley</b> , Dominique Brooks ( <i>from 2004</i> )
FS	<b>Ryan Walters</b> , Ben Burney, **Joel Adams	
CB	<b>Terrence Wheatley</b> , Gardner McKay	**Vance Washington ( <i>from 2003</i> )

**SPECIALISTS**

Position	Returning (3)	Lost (2)
P	Matthew DiLallo	Isaac Garden
PK	Kevin Eberhart ( <i>from 2003</i> )	<b>Mason Crosby</b>
SN	<b>Justin Drescher</b>	

Colorado will have **78** players out for spring practice (compared to 87 in 2006), **58** of whom are on scholarship. That includes **17** seniors, all lettermen, with **16** on scholarship (WR Chase McBride is the lone senior walk-on on the roster). It's the first time since 1995 that all seniors on the roster going into a season had already earned at least one letter.

**STATISTICALLY SPEAKING**

Here's where the Buffs ranked statistically in select categories in the Big 12 and the NCAA in 2006 (includes bowl games):

TEAM				B12				NCAA			
B12	NCAA	Category	Stat	B12	NCAA	Category	Stat	B12	NCAA	Category	Stat
6th	22nd	RUSHING OFFENSE	172.9	4th	30th	RUSHING DEFENSE	112.4	12th	104th	PUNT RETURNS	5.6
12th	116th	PASSING OFFENSE	118.5	9th	94th	PASSING DEFENSE	228.5	9th	95th	KICKOFF RETURNS	18.2
12th	102nd	TOTAL OFFENSE	291.4	7th	66th	TOTAL DEFENSE	340.9	7th	31st	NET PUNTING	36.7
12th	107th	SCORING OFFENSE	16.3	6th	56th	SCORING DEFENSE	22.3	3rd	17th	TURNOVER MARGIN	+0.67

  

INDIVIDUAL (Top 25 in conference)				B12				NCAA			
Category	B12	NCAA	Stat	Category	B12	NCAA	Stat	Category	B12	NCAA	Stat
<b>Rushing</b>			<b>Yds/Gm</b>	<b>Receiving Yards</b>			<b>Yds/Gm</b>	<b>Field Goals</b>			<b>FG/Gm</b>
Hugh Charles	8th	71st	64.9	Riar Geer	45th	.....	21.8	Mason Crosby	1st	6th	1.58
Bernard Jackson	10th	94th	56.4	<b>Punting</b>			<b>Avg.</b>	<b>Interceptions</b>			<b>Avg./Gm</b>
Mell Holliday	19th	.....	42.7	Matt DiLallo	4th	16th	43.7	Terrence Wheatley	3rd	24th	0.42
<b>Passing</b>			<b>Yds/Gm</b>	<b>Punt Returns</b>			<b>Avg.</b>	Ryan Walters	17th	.....	0.18
Bernard Jackson	12th	.....	108.2	Stephone Robinson	11th	76th	5.1	<b>QB Sacks</b>			<b>Avg./Gm</b>
<b>Pass Efficiency</b>			<b>Rating</b>	<b>Kickoff Returns</b>			<b>Avg.</b>	Abraham Wright	1st	2nd	0.96
Bernard Jackson	12th	97th	103.3	Stephone Robinson	9th	99th	17.4	<b>Tackles For Loss</b>			<b>Avg./Gm</b>
<b>Total Offense</b>			<b>Yds/Gm</b>	<b>Scoring</b>			<b>Pts/Gm</b>	Abraham Wright	1st	20th	1.33
Bernard Jackson	11th	73rd	164.6	Mason Crosby	7th	65th	6.3	George Hypolite	5th	60th	1.08
Hugh Charles	20th	.....	64.9	<b>Kick Scoring</b>			<b>Pts/Gm</b>	<b>Tackles</b>			
<b>Receptions</b>			<b>No./Gm</b>	Mason Crosby	6th	39th	6.3	CU uses coaches' video; numbers don't match			
Riar Geer	42nd	.....	2.0								

**CAREER CHART WATCH**

Here's where several Buffs ranked on some of CU's all-time statistical charts through the 2006 season (Note: Colorado does not count bowl stats into career totals to protect past history):

- ✓ **WR ALVIN BARNETT** is tied for 53rd in receptions (38) and 90th in receiving yards (363).
- ✓ **FS J.J. BILLINGSLEY** finished 12th in total tackles (307, third most by a defensive back), ninth in solo tackles (211) and tied for 23rd in tackles for loss (25).
- ✓ **TB HUGH CHARLES** is 21st in rushing yards (1,670) and 99th in receiving yards (319).
- ✓ **PK MASON CROSBY** was first in scoring (307 points), first in field goals made (66) and attempts (88), and first in PAT kicks made (109) and attempts (117).
- ✓ **ILB JORDON DIZON** is 17th in total tackles (280), and is 20th in solo tackles (173).
- ✓ **QB BERNARD JACKSON** is 23rd in passing yards (1,357) and is 68th in rushing yards (690).
- ✓ **KR STEPHONE ROBINSON** is ninth in punt return yards (593), fifth in punt returns (75), sixth in kickoff return yards (857) and fourth in KO returns (48).
- ✓ **CB LORENZO SIMS** finished tied for 28th in interceptions (6) and tied for fourth in pass deflections (33).
- ✓ **WR DUSTY SPRAGUE** is 19th in receptions (76) and is 22nd in receiving yards (925).
- ✓ **ILB THADDAEUS WASHINGTON** finished eighth in total tackles (338), is 10th in solo tackles (202) and is tied for 21st in tackles for loss (26).
- ✓ **CB TERRENCE WHEATLEY** is tied for 12th in interceptions (9) and is tied for 14th in pass deflections (19).
- ✓ **WR PATRICK WILLIAMS** is tied for 38th in receptions (47) and is 61st in receiving yards (483).
- ✓ **DE ABRAHAM WRIGHT** finished fifth in quarterback sacks (21) and is tied for 16th in tackles for loss (29).

**SEASON POSITIVES**

There were many positives in 2006 for the Colorado Buffaloes. A look at some of what stood out that will help set the table for the future:

- ➔ **Rushing Yards.** Colorado rushed for 2,075 yards (172.9 per game), its most since 3,136 in 2002, and its most in any losing since 1974, when the 5-6 Buffs rushed for 2,441 yards. Three players rushed for over 500 yards, just the 10th time in school history that feat was accomplished (TB Hugh Charles, QB Bernard Jackson and TB Mell Holliday combined for 1,968 yards and averaged 4.9 yards per carry).
- ➔ Colorado committed just 16 turnovers, the fewest since 13 in both 1993 and 1989 (which were 11-game seasons); the 16 are thus the third fewest committed by a Buffalo team over the last 50 seasons. CU's last turnover was a fumble lost with 7:55 left in the second quarter of the Kansas State game, meaning the Buffs finished the last 10-plus quarters (157:55) of the season without a turnover (QB Bernard Jackson was not intercepted in his last 66 passes). CU's quarterbacks threw just 8 interceptions, tied for the 13th lowest total in the last 61 seasons (with the 3.1 INT percentage the seventh lowest in school annals).
- ➔ CU had four games with no turnovers, a school season best; the old season high had been three games, which had been done just three times (1956, 1989, 1993).
- ➔ CU allowed 22.3 points per game, the fewest since 1998 (19.1), and the third lowest figure in CU's 11 years in the Big 12 (the other: 18.1 in 1996).
- ➔ **Field Position.** Opponents started 56 of 138 drives at or inside their 20 (40.6%), while not up to the figure in 2005 (49.7), CU had a freshman punter compared to a Ray Guy finalist in 2005. Matthew DiLallo improved as the season progressed and had a 43.7 average, a school frosh best (just the third frosh to ever lead CU in punting).
- ➔ **TE Riar Geer.** The redshirt freshman tight end became the first frosh, true or redshirt, to lead the Buffaloes for a single season in both receptions and yards, as he finished the year with 24 catches for 261 yards (and 3 TDs). He's just the ninth tight end to lead the team, joining the likes of Jerry Hillebrand, J.V. Cain, Dave Hestera, Jon Embree and Daniel Graham, who was the last to do it in 2001.
- ➔ Colorado allowed just six plays from scrimmage of 40 yards or longer (4 pass, 2 rush); that ties the fewest since the 1987 season, when the Buffs surrendered just four (two of each). Over the past 20 years, CU has limited the foe to six three other seasons (1991, 1994, 1995), with the 13 allowed over the last two seasons the third fewest over a two-year span (trailing the 11 over the 1987-88 seasons and 12 over '94 and '95).
- ➔ **Second Down Defense.** Though opponents did convert at a 47.8 clip on third down, CU's defense shined on second and short; opponents converted just 23 of 53 times when faced with second and four or less (the same figure for the NFL Denver Broncos, a highly regarded defense, is 26-of-43).
- ➔ **Penalties.** Colorado was flagged for 63 penalties, down from 116 in 2005 and its fewest since 1986, when the Buffs were called for 60 infractions. The 559 penalty yards were the fewest since the '88 team had 535 yards marched off on calls.

**GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS**

Here are CU's starters for the 2006 season (**bold** indicates first career start):

OFFENSE	WR	WR	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	TE	QB	TB	FB (Other)
Montana State	<b>Williams</b>	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	Fenton	<b>Head</b>	Harrison	<b>Geer</b>	Cox	Charles	<b>Jagoras</b>
Colorado State	Williams	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	Fenton	D.Sanders	Harrison	Geer	<b>Jackson</b>	Ellis	<b>Goettsch</b> (TE)
Arizona State	Sprague	<b>Robinson</b>	Polumbus	Daniels	Fenton	D.Sanders	Harrison	<b>DeVree</b>	Jackson	Ellis	Goettsch (TE)
Georgia	Williams	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	Fenton	D.Sanders	Harrison	Geer	Jackson	Ellis	<b>Crawford</b> (WR)
Missouri	Sprague	Robinson	Polumbus	Daniels	<b>MacMartin</b>	D.Sanders	Harrison	Geer	Jackson	Charles	Crawford (WR)
Baylor	<b>Holz</b>	Goettsch (TE)	Polumbus	Daniels	MacMartin	D.Sanders	Harrison	Geer	Jackson	Ellis	<b>Cantrell</b>
Texas Tech	Williams	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	MacMartin	D.Sanders	Harrison	Geer	Jackson	Charles	Cantrell
Oklahoma	Williams	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	MacMartin	D.Sanders	Harrison	Geer	Jackson	Charles	Cantrell
Kansas	Holz	Mackey	Polumbus	Daniels	MacMartin	D.Sanders	<b>Backowski</b>	Geer	Jackson	Charles	Cantrell
Kansas State	Williams	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	MacMartin	D.Sanders	Harrison	Goettsch	Jackson	Charles	<b>Creighton</b> (TE)
Iowa State	Williams	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	MacMartin	D.Sanders	Geer	Jackson	<b>Holliday</b>	Cantrell	
Nebraska	Holz	Barnett	Polumbus	Daniels	Fenton	D.Sanders	Tipton	DeVree	Jackson	Charles	Creighton (TE)

  

DEFENSE	LE	DT	NT	RE	MLB	WLB	SLB	LCB	FS	SS	RCB
Montana State	Wright	<b>Hypolite</b>	<b>Nicolas</b>	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	<b>B.Jones</b>	Sims	<b>Burney</b>	Billingsley	Wheatley
Colorado State	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	B.Jones	Sims	<b>Walters</b>	Billingsley	Wheatley
Arizona State	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	B.Jones	Sims	<b>Walters</b>	Billingsley	Wheatley
Georgia	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Te.Washington (N)	Dizon	B.Jones	Sims	Walters	Billingsley	Wheatley
Missouri	Wright	<b>C.Brown (N)</b>	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	<b>Sipili</b>	<b>Burton</b>	B.Jones	Sims	Walters	Billingsley	Wheatley
Baylor	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	C.Brown (N)	Dizon	B.Jones	Sims	<b>Burney</b>	<b>Harris</b>	Wheatley
Texas Tech	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	<b>C.Brown (N)</b>	Te.Washington	Walters	Harris	Wheatley
Oklahoma	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	B.Jones	Te.Washington	Walters	Harris	Wheatley
Kansas	Wright	Hypolite	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	B.Jones	Te.Washington	Walters	Harris	Wheatley
Kansas State	Lucas	Ligon	<b>C.Brown (N)</b>	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	B.Jones	Te.Washington	Walters	Harris	Wheatley
Iowa State	Wright	Ligon	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Th.Washington	Dizon	B.Jones	Te.Washington	Walters	Billingsley	Wheatley
Nebraska	Wright	Ligon	Nicolas	Boye-Doe	Sipili	Dizon	B.Jones	Te.Washington	Walters	Harris	Wheatley

(N)—Nickel back. **CONSECUTIVE STARTS**—Daniels 22, Polumbus 13, Boye-Doe 12, Wheatley 12. **CAREER STARTS**—Daniels 43, Billingsley 37, Dizon 34, Sims 31, Th. Washington 31.

**PLAYER PARTICIPATION (dressed/played)**: Montana State 91/54; Colorado State 92/55; Arizona State 92/54; Georgia 65/56; Missouri 69/57; Baylor 90/53; Texas Tech 92/59; Oklahoma 70/58; Kansas 70/59; Kansas State 90/56; Iowa State 90/58; Nebraska 68/56.

**GRADUATION STAT(U)S**

Three of the 24 seniors on the 2006 roster graduated in August: **OLB Ben Carpenter** (business-finance; he is working on a second major in integrative physiology), **WR Nick Holz** (communication) and **DT Marcus Jones** (economics; he is working on a second major in sociology). Six more graduated December 22: **TE Paul Creighton** (psychology), **PK Mason Crosby** (communication), **C Mark Fenton** (political science), **DE Alex Ligon** (sociology), **WR Blake Mackey** (communication) and **DE Abraham Wright** (sociology). Thirteen others are on target for this May: **ILB Jason Ackermann** (sociology), **S J.J. Billingsley** (sociology), **DE Walter Boye-Doe** (business-finance & marketing), **QB James Cox** (communication), **OLB Chad Cusworth** (business-management), **PK OG Brian Daniels** (business-finance), **TE Dan Goettsch** (sociology), **TB Mell Holliday** (psychology), **CB Lorenzo Sims** (sociology), **OL Jack Tipton** (architecture-planning), **CB Terry Washington** (ethnic studies), **ILB Thaddaeus Washington** (sociology) and **CB Vance Washington** (sociology). **S Dominique Brooks** (sociology) and **OL Bryce MacMartin** (chemical engineering) will likely graduate beyond next May, Brooks due to consideration of a possible redshirt and MacMartin because his major requires additional credit hours. In addition, two juniors, **OT Tyler Polumbus** (business-management) and **WR Dusty Sprague** (business-management) are in position to graduate in May 2007.

► **NOTE:** Over the last four years (2002-05), CU has had 77 of its 87 seniors, including medicals, graduate; that translates to 88.5 percent (with two of the 10 non-grads still in school and looking to graduate within the next year, while three are in the NFL). NCAA numbers will not match these (it doesn't allow a school to count transfers who graduate, i.e., Wayne Lucier in '02 or WR Mike Duren in '04), but it does count against a school if it had a player transfer. It's one of the reasons the numbers are skewed to be lower than they really are, especially a tougher academic schools like Colorado.

**CONFERENCE CHARTS**

A look at how Big 12 Conference teams stack up in some categories since the league's birth in 1996:

**On The Big 12 Road**

School	W	L	Pct.
Texas	28	10	.737
Oklahoma	26	13	.667
Nebraska	25	18	.581
Kansas State	24	20	.545
Texas A&M	23	21	.523
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>.477</b>
Texas Tech	19	25	.432
Oklahoma State	13	30	.302
Missouri	13	31	.295
Iowa State	10	34	.227
Kansas	6	38	.136
Baylor	2	42	.045

Does not include neutral site games  
OU-UT, '96 OSU-TTU or '98 NU-OSU.

**Inter-Division (North vs. South)**

School	W	L	Pct.
Nebraska	20	13	.606
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>.545</b>
Missouri	18	15	.545
Kansas State	18	15	.545
Iowa State	9	24	.273
Kansas	5	28	.152

**Inter-Division (South vs. North)**

School	W	L	Pct.
Texas	27	6	.818
Oklahoma	23	10	.697
Texas A&M	20	13	.606
Texas Tech	17	16	.515
Oklahoma State	15	18	.455
Baylor	8	25	.242

(does not include title games)

**2006 Network TV Appearances**

School	Tot	ABC	FSN	Oth
Oklahoma	12	6	5	1
Texas	11	6	1	4
Nebraska	10	8	2	0
Missouri	8	4	2	2
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
Texas Tech	7	1	2	4
Texas A&M	7	5	1	1
Kansas	6	1	4	1
Oklahoma State	6	1	2	3
Baylor	5	0	4	1
Kansas State	5	1	4	0
Iowa State	4	2	1	1

Does not include pay-per-view; does include other packages (TBS, ESPN, etc).

INCLUDES BIG 12 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME.

**vs. Ranked Non-League Teams**

(AP, since 1990; by games played)

School	G	W	L	T	Pct.
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.500</b>
Texas	22	7	13	2	.364
Nebraska	13	8	5	0	.615
Oklahoma	13	6	7	0	.462
Texas A&M	12	4	8	0	.333
Texas Tech	12	0	12	0	.000
Baylor	9	2	7	0	.222
Missouri	9	1	8	0	.111
Iowa State	9	1	8	0	.111
Kansas	6	0	6	0	.000
Oklahoma State	5	0	5	0	.000
Kansas State	3	1	2	0	.333

(regular season; does not include bowls)

**CAREER GAMES PLAYED/STARTED CHART**

Listed below is the career games played/started, including bowls, for the players on the 2006 Colorado Buffaloes. The players on this year's opening roster collectively had played in 1,053 games, with 273 starts. Recent past numbers entering the year: **1,080/314** (2005), **761/182** (2004), **845/239** (2003), **883/278** (2002), **694/223** (2000) and **790/229** (1999). The list (includes bowls):

Player	G	GS	Player	G	GS	Player	G	GS	Player	G	GS	Player	G	GS
ACKERMANN	30	0	CARPENTER	27	0	GOETTSCHE	18	4	LUCAS	19	7	SMITH, J.	0	0
ADAMS, Jo.	9	0	CHARLES	37	19	GRUBIN	0	0	MACKEY	24	3	SOLDER	0	0
ADAMS, Ju.	1	0	COX	19	3	HAM	0	0	MacMARTIN	18	7	SPRAGUE	35	13
BACKOWSKI	12	1	CRAWFORD	12	3	HARRIS	35	6	McBRIDE	5	0	STENGEL	0	0
BARNETT	25	9	CREIGHTON	47	2	HARRISON	34	16	McKAY	21	0	STEVENS	0	0
BARRETT	29	2	CROSBY	50	—	HAUCK	0	0	McKNIGHT	0	0	SUAZO	0	0
BEATTY	0	0	CUSWORTH	20	0	HAWKINS	0	0	MOYD	11	0	SUMLER	0	0
BEHRENS	0	0	DANIELS	47	45	HEAD	3	1	NABORS	0	0	TIPTON	24	6
BILLINGSLEY	48	37	DEVENNY	0	0	HERROD	0	0	NICOLAS	12	11	WALTERS	24	10
BISNOW	0	0	DeVREE	11	3	HOLLIDAY	12	1	NONU	0	0	WASHINGTON, Te	25	9
BORDERS	0	0	DILALLO	12	0	HOLZ	38	2	PALAZZI	0	0	WASHINGTON, Th.	49	31
BOYE-DOE	46	15	DIZON	38	34	HYPOLITE	24	8	PEREZ	0	0	WASHINGTON, V.	36	0
BRACE	10	0	DRESCHER	12	0	JACKSON	24	11	POLUMBUS	35	15	WHEATLEY	37	19
BROOKS	31	13	EBERHART	7	—	JAGORAS	12	1	ROBINSON	38	2	WILLIAMS	27	7
BROWN, C.	12	4	ELLIS	34	5	JONES, B.	25	11	SANDERS, D.	21	15	WILSON	1	0
BROWN, J.	0	0	FAATAGI	0	0	JONES, M.	16	0	SANDERS, J.	35	0	WRIGHT	39	27
BROWN, R.	17	0	FENDRY	0	0	JOSEPH	18	0	SHANAHAH	0	0	YATES	5	0
BURNEY	23	2	FENTON	42	31	KACHMER	0	0	SIMS	41	31	<b>TEAM</b>	<b>1675</b>	<b>538</b>
BURTON	22	1	FOSTER	0	0	KAYNOR	10	0	SIPILI	12	2	<b>2005 Final</b>	<b>1772</b>	<b>600</b>
CAMMON	0	0	GARDEN	2	—	LAWSON	0	0	SMART	11	0			
CANTRELL	16	5	GEER	12	9	LIGON	41	19	SMITH, B.	0	0			

**LAST TRUE FRESHMEN TO START:** CB Cha'pelle Brown, ILB Michael Sipili (2006); Maurice Lucas (2005); ILB Jordon Dizon (2004); ILB Walter Boye-Doe, CB Terrence Wheatley, S Dominique Brooks, OG Brian Daniels, DB Lorenzo Sims (2003); J.J. Billingsley, TB Brian Calhoun, DB Brian Iwuh (2002).

**LAST TRUE FRESHMEN TO START AT QUARTERBACK:** Craig Ochs (2000), Koy Detmer (1992). **IN A SEASON OPENER:** Has not occurred.

**LAST TRUE FRESHMEN TO START AT RUNNING BACK:** Brian Calhoun (2002), Marcus Houston (2000). **IN A SEASON OPENER:** Kent Kahl (1991).

**LAST REDSHIRT FRESHMEN TO START:** OT Paul Backowski, TE Riar Geer, OG Devin Head (2006); OG Daniel Sanders (2005); DE Alex Ligon, LB Thaddaeus Washington (2003).

**LAST PLAYERS TO START FOR THE FIRST TIME AS A SENIOR:** TE Paul Creighton, TE Dan Goetsch, C Bryce MacMartin, TB Mell Holliday, WR Nick Holz (2006); WR Mike Duren, OG Terrance Barreau (2004); WR D.J. Hackett (2003); DE Dylan Bird, WR Jason Burianek, OT Josh Foster, QB Robert Hodge, DB Lovell Houston, OT Rawle King (2002).

**NINETEEN SAW FIRST CU ACTION IN 2006**

In 2006, 19 players saw their first action in a Colorado Buffalo uniform. In the season opener against Montana State, 14 players stepped onto the field for the first time in a Colorado uniform, including the only four true freshmen who have played to date: **DT Jason Brace, CB Cha'pelle Brown, LS Justin Drescher** and **ILB Michael Sipili**. Last year, 16 saw their first action while 24 did so in both 2004 and 2003. The list of Buffs to hit the field for the first time in 2006 (\*—mainly special teams duty):

**TRUE FRESHMEN (4):** DT Jason Brace, \*CB Cha'pelle Brown, \*LS Justin Drescher, \*ILB Michael Sipili

**REDSHIRT FRESHMEN (6):** \*OT Paul Backowski, P Matt DiLallo, TE Riar Geer, OL Devin Head, DT Taj Kaynor, \*TB Kevin Moyd, ILB Jeff Smart

**SOPHOMORES (5):** \*S Joel Adams, \*TE Justin Adams, WR Cody Crawford, \*P Isaac Garden, S Terry Wilson

**JUNIORS (2):** TE Tyson DeVree, FB Samson Jagoras

**SENIORS (1):** TB Mell Holliday

**TWENTY-FOUR MAKE FIRST CAREER STARTS IN 2006**

Twenty-four players made their first career starts in 2006, the third-most over the last 23 seasons (15 offense, nine defense). Eight did so in the season opener against Montana State: **S Benjamin Burney, TE Riar Geer, OG Devin Head, DT George Hypolite, FB Samson Jagoras, OLB Brad Jones, DT Brandon Nicolas** and **WR Patrick Williams**. Three more followed in the CSU game in Denver: **TE Dan Goetsch, QB Bernard Jackson** and **FS Ryan Walters**; two more versus Arizona State: **TE Tyson DeVree** and **WR Stephone Robinson**; and one at Georgia: **WR Cody Crawford**. In the Big 12 opener at Missouri, **CB Cha'pelle Brown, ILB Marcus Burton, C Bryce MacMartin** and **ILB Michael Sipili** trotted on to the field first. Six players started for the first time as conference play continued: **FB Maurice Cantrell, S Lionel Harris** and **WR Nick Holz** (versus Baylor); **OT Paul Backowski** (at Kansas); **TE Paul Creighton** (against Kansas State) and **TB Mell Holliday** (Iowa State). In 2005, 11 players made their first career starts in a CU uniform, with all returning this fall. The 24 first-time starters are the most since 1998, when there were 27 first-time starters for the Buffaloes, 17 on offense and 10 on defense. The high came in 1984, when 29 made their first starts (15 on offense). The annual number of first-time starters since 1984:

**ANNUAL FIRST-TIME STARTERS:** 1984 (29), 1985 (9), 1986 (15), 1987 (14), 1988 (16), 1989 (7), 1990 (16), 1991 (23), 1992 (15), 1993 (7), 1994 (6), 1995 (11), 1996 (8), 1997 (14), 1998 (27), 1999 (14), 2000 (16), 2001 (12), 2002 (16), 2003 (20), 2004 (12), 2005 (11) and 2006 (24).

**HISTORICALLY**

Colorado is in its second century of intercollegiate football, as the Buffaloes are in their 117th season of competition with an all-time record of **652-412-36** in **1,100** games. CU currently stands 15th on the all-time win list and is 22nd in all-time winning percentage (.609; 20th for those schools with at least 50 seasons in Division I-A). Only Texas, Oklahoma and Nebraska from the Big 12 rank ahead of CU on each list, and only 12 Division I schools have played more seasons of intercollegiate football than Colorado. In Boulder, the Buffs are **282-136-10** in their 83rd season on the "hilltop" (Folsom Field). Against Big 12 opposition, CU is **245-212-13** against the other 11 members of the conference, formed in 1996.

**SCORING STREAKS**

The Buffs have scored in a school record **222** consecutive games (dating back to 1988, the longest streak in the Big 12), last being shutout on November 12, 1988 at Nebraska (7-0). CU has scored in **118** straight games at home (last shutout: a 28-0 loss to Oklahoma on Nov. 15, 1986 in a game where the Sooners did not *attempt* a single pass). The Buffs have scored in **87** consecutive road games (**113** including neutral sites). The Buffs have scored in **141** straight league games (all **91** in Big 12 play, including the four title games, and their final 50 in Big Eight competition, dating back to the '88 shutout at Nebraska). CU has scored in **120** straight games against non-conference opponents (last shutout: a 44-0 loss at home to LSU on September 15, 1979). The home shutout losses to Oklahoma in '86 and LSU in '79 are the only two times CU has not scored at Folsom Field over the course of the last **256** games (all the way back to 1963). CU has been shutout just seven times in its last **453** games (dating to October 5, 1968), but only four schools have done it: Oklahoma (three times), Nebraska (twice), Louisiana State and Michigan. **Big 12 Conference Consecutive Game Scoring Streaks (through 2006): Colorado 222, Nebraska 139, Kansas State 128, Texas Tech 117, Oklahoma 107, Kansas 50, Missouri 49, Iowa State 39, Texas A&M 38, Texas 33, Oklahoma State 20, Baylor 14.** CU is the last team to shutout both Kansas State (12-0 in 1996) and Oklahoma State (34-0 in 2005).

**SCORING STREAKS II**

The school record **222** consecutive games in which Colorado has scored is now the **fifth** longest active streak in the nation; Wake Forest's 30-0 shutout of Florida State ended the Seminoles streak at 232, the ninth longest all-time (see next chart). The list of the nine Division I-A schools that have scored in every game since at least the start of the 1993 season, through games of 2006:

<b>School</b>	<b>Streak</b>	<b>Last Shutout</b>		<b>School</b>	<b>Streak</b>	<b>Last Shutout</b>
Michigan	275	Oct. 20, 1984 at Iowa (0-26)		TCU	177	Nov. 16, 1991 at Texas (0-32)
Washington State	261	Sept. 15, 1984 at Ohio State (0-44)		Nevada	175	*—All games: joined Div I-A in 1992
Oregon	257	Sept. 28, 1985 at Nebraska (0-63)		Air Force	168	#—Dec. 31, 1992 vs. Mississippi (0-13)
Florida	230	Oct. 29, 1988 vs. Auburn (0-16)		(*—317 games dating back to I-AA days; #—Liberty Bowl)		
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>Nov. 12, 1988 at Nebraska (0-7)</b>				

**222 AND COUNTING**

Colorado's **222**-game scoring streak currently is the 11th longest in Division I-A college history:

<b>School</b>	<b>Streak</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Ended By</b>		<b>School</b>	<b>Streak</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Ended By</b>
Brigham Young	361	9/27/1975 - 11/15/2003	Utah		Nebraska	233	1/01/1974 - 11/29/1991	Miami, Fla.
Texas	281	11/29/1980 - 10/02/2004	Oklahoma		Florida State	232	9/10/1988 - 11/11/2006	Wake Forest
Michigan	275	10/27/1984 - present	.....		Florida	230	11/05/1988 - present	.....
Washington	271	11/14/1981 - 10/16/2004	USC		<b>Colorado</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>11/19/1988 - present</b>	.....
Washington State	261	10/22/1984 - present	.....		Hawaii	219	12/04/1976 - 11/04/1995	Colorado State
Oregon	257	10/05/1985 - present	.....		Arizona	214	9/09/1972 - 12/15/1990	Syracuse
UCLA	245	10/02/1971 - 10/17/1992	Arizona State		Virginia	195	9/15/1984 - 10/28/2000	Georgia Tech

**ANATOMY OF THE SCORING STREAK**

Colorado has more often than not extended its scoring streak rather quickly. In the **222**-game run, CU has scored on its first possession **89** times, plus another two occasions where it scored on returns on its first touch of the game. The Buffs have scored in the first quarter **155** times during the streak, and had it extended by halftime **202** times. A closer look (\*—includes score on a kickoff return to start the 1998 Aloha Bowl and an interception return prior to the first offensive position in the 2002 Alamo Bowl):

		<b>Scored On/In:</b>				<b>Points Scored-----</b>														
<b>Season</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>1st Poss.</b>	<b>1Q</b>	<b>2Q</b>	<b>3Q</b>	<b>4Q</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>Ties</b>		<b>Season</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>1st Poss.</b>	<b>1Q</b>	<b>2Q</b>	<b>3Q</b>	<b>4Q</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>Ties</b>
1988	2	2	2	0	0	0	73	—	—		1998	12	3*	9	2	0	1	248	54	—
1989	12	7	9	2	1	0	452	6	—		1999	12	4	6	3	1	2	313	92	—
1990	13	4	8	3	1	1	346	22	31		2000	11	3	6	4	1	0	91	161	—
1991	12	3	7	5	0	0	250	60	19		2001	13	7	10	3	0	0	367	45	—
1992	12	3	6	4	2	0	287	29	24		2002	14	8*	10	1	2	1	335	63	—
1993	12	4	9	3	0	0	269	83	16		2003	12	5	9	3	0	0	173	146	—
1994	12	7	11	0	1	0	432	7	—		2004	13	3	11	0	1	1	245	59	—
1995	12	2	9	3	0	0	399	45	—		2005	13	5	7	5	0	1	253	52	—
1996	12	5	9	3	0	0	327	25	—		2006	12	7	10	0	1	1	63	133	—
1997	11	4	7	3	1	0	183	117	—		<b>Totals</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5106</b>	<b>1199</b>	<b>90</b>

Colorado has a **144-74-4** record during the scoring streak, averaging **35.5** points in the wins and **16.2** points in the losses (and 23.5 the four tied games). On only eight occasions have the Buffs extended the streak in the fourth quarter.

**SCORING DUEL JUST 25 MILES APART**

Colorado has scored in **222** straight games dating back to 1988; down the road, the NFL Denver Broncos have scored in **229** consecutive contests, the second longest active pro streak which dates back to 1992. Their fiercest rivals inflicted the last shutouts of each: Nebraska and the Raiders (then in L.A.). Combined, the pair has scored in **451** straight games. Many traits are eerily similar; the Broncos have extended it on their first possession 90 times, in the first quarter 151 times and by halftime on 219 occasions, although have had to wait to extend it in the fourth quarter just once.

**TRENDS**

Since 1985, when the Buffs returned to their traditional winning ways after six frustrating years, Colorado is **170-93-4**, the 19th best record nationally in this span). In these 267 games, CU has posted the following records (including bowls):

◆ with 400-plus yards total offense	101-16-2	◆ when holding opponent under 300 yards total offense	83-16-1
◆ with 500-plus yards total offense	50- 5-0	◆ when leading at halftime (123-15-2 in last 140)	139-17-2
◆ when leading in time of possession	111-24-3	◆ when leading after three quarters (139-12-3 in last 154)	143-14-3
◆ when converting 50 percent or better on 3rd down	66- 7-1	◆ when scoring 24 or more points	138-18-2
◆ when punting three or fewer times	62-13-1	◆ when scoring 14 or more points	167-53-4
◆ when scoring first	110-27-1	◆ when held to 13 points or less	3-39-0
◆ with zero turnovers (123-45-2 with two or fewer)	31-10-2	◆ when not committing a turnover or allowing a sack	12- 0-0
◆ when holding opponent to 17 points or less	102-17-1	◆ when passing for more yards than rushing	70-58-2
◆ when holding opponent under 100 yards rushing	86-10-1	◆ when holding edge in 1st downs & possession time	93-17-2

**TRENDS II**

Since 1989, when the Buffs became a regular in the national rankings, Colorado has posted the nation's 20th best overall record at **142-74-4**. Here are some trends during this time frame (220 games, including bowls):

➤ with 400-plus yards total offense (45-5 with 500-plus)	87-16-2	➤ when rushing for 200-plus yards	75- 5-1
➤ when scoring 30 or more points	94- 6-1	➤ when rushing for 250-plus yards	51- 2-1
➤ when leading in possession time (52-51-1 when not)	90-22-3	➤ when rushing for 300-plus yards	30- 0-1
➤ when making 20-plus first downs	91-25-1	➤ when rushing and passing for at least 200 yards	32- 2-0
➤ when converting 50 percent or better on 3rd down	52- 6-1	➤ when passing for 200-plus yards	75-33-2
➤ when scoring first (77-18-1 the last 96 times)	88-21-1	➤ when passing for 300-plus yards (10-0-1 400-plus)	25-11-1
➤ with zero turnovers (105-39-2 with two or fewer)	25-10-2	➤ when passing for more yards than rushing	70-58-2
➤ when holding opponent to 17 points or less	78-10-1	➤ when holding edge in 1st downs & possession time	75-16-2
➤ when holding opponent under 100 yards rushing	70-10-1	➤ when holding edge in field position	113-19-1
➤ when holding opponent under 300 yards total offense	62-11-1	➤ when not committing a turnover or allowing a sack	11- 0-0
➤ when average field position is CU 30+ (23-2 40+)	102-30-2	➤ when out-rushing the opponent	115-13-3
➤ when play selection is 50 percent rushing calls	119-28-2	➤ when owning the edge in return yards	107-28-2

**TRENDS III**

Some trends of new Colorado coach **Dan Hawkins** both overall and at his former school, Boise State; totals are for **76** games including bowls (**55-21**; the Broncos were 53-11 under his guidance in five seasons):

Category	At CU	Overall	Category	At CU	Overall
➤ when scoring 20 or more points (0-13 when not)	2- 2	55- 8	➤ when leading after three (6-16 trailing, 2-1 tied)	2- 2	47- 3
➤ when scoring 30 or more points	2- 1	49- 3	➤ when holding opponent under 100 yards rushing	1- 3	33- 5
➤ when scoring 40 or more points	0- 0	35- 2	➤ when holding opponent under 300 yards offense	1- 4	25- 4
➤ when scoring 50 or more points	0- 0	19- 0	➤ when rushing for 200-plus yards	2- 1	34- 1
➤ when holding opponent to 17 points or less	2- 2	31- 2	➤ when rushing for 250-plus yards (6-0 300-plus)	1- 1	23- 1
➤ in games decided by 7 points or less	0- 4	10- 9	➤ when rushing for more yards than passing	2- 6	20- 7
➤ with two or fewer turnovers (8-2 with zero)	2- 8	40-16	➤ with a 100-yard rusher	1- 2	28- 2
➤ when turnover margin was plus or even	2- 7	41-14	➤ when rushing and passing for at least 200 yards	1- 0	26- 0
➤ when scoring first (17-12 when not)	2- 6	38- 9	➤ with 400-plus yards total offense (41-0 last 40)	1- 0	45- 2
➤ when leading at halftime	2- 3	45- 6	➤ with 500-plus yards total offense (5-0 with 600-plus)	0- 0	23- 1
➤ when trailing at halftime (4-0 when tied)	0- 6	6-14			

**TURNOVERS ARE INDEED COSTLY**

**Dan Hawkins** falls in line with most, if not all, head coaches when it comes to turnovers, and that they are one of the single most important factors in winning or losing ball games. He has penalties and rewards daily in the practice dependent on the number of turnovers committed or forced. Gary Barnett drilled home to his teams the importance of taking care of the football, which he learned from the legendary Bill McCartney. Statistics back up the argument, as the below will show that it is definitely better to take than to give over the last 18 seasons, in which CU owns the nation's 20th best overall record:

	Turnovers		+/-	Scoring Off Turnovers		
	Committed	Forced		PF	PA	+/-
142 WINS	237	362	+125	1,201	462	+739
HAWKINS ERA (2 WINS)	2	5	+ 3	3	6	- 3
74 LOSSES (& 4 TIES)	191	130	- 61	287	623	-336
HAWKINS ERA (10 LOSSES)	14	19	+ 5	25	41	- 16
<b>18-SEASON TOTALS (220 Games)</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>+64</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>+403</b>
HAWKINS ERA (12 Games)	16	24	+ 8	28	47	- 19

**COLORADO BY THE NUMBERS IN 2006**

- 0** The number of Colorado turnovers in the season's final 10 quarters (and the number by the opponent in the season's final 12 quarters);
- 3** The number of players who have rushed for 100-plus yards against CU in the last 25 games.
- 5.4** The number of yards **Matthew DiLallo** averaged over the previous best by any frosh punter in CU history (43.7; Andy Mitchell averaged 38.3 in 1994).
- 21-9** Colorado owns the best intra-division mark over the last five seasons against fellow Big 12 North teams at 21-9.
- 25.0** The conversion percentage for the opponent on 3rd-&-Goal from the Colorado 1 in 2006 (**2-of-8**).
- 31** The number of records Mason Crosby has set in his career, many of them falling into place in 2006.
- 37** The number of points CU has scored on its first possession in 2006.
- 40.6** Opponents starting **40.6** percent of their drives (**56 of 138**) either inside or at the 20-yard line for the season; that number was **49.7** in 2005.
- 53** The number of second down plays the opponent had with just 1 to 4 yards needed for a first down (out of **268**).
- 13-57** The raw third down conversion number for opponents on 3rd-and-10 or longer in 2006 (CU was 9-of-52 in similar circumstances).
- 65** The length of a Mason Crosby field goal attempt in the fourth quarter against Iowa State, the fifth attempt of 60 yards or longer in school history (Crosby has three of the five and the only make from that distance, 60 yards against Iowa State in 2004).
- 71.4** The length in centimeters that Crosby's 65-yard try fell short (less than a yard, about 30 inches).
- 222** Colorado has scored in 222 consecutive games, now the fifth longest active streak in the nation (and the 11th longest of all-time).
- 618** The combined number of career tackles from CU starting linebackers Thaddaeus Washington (**335**) and Jordon Dizon (**268**); the most two players simultaneously have had while playing on the same team were **599** by Ted Johnson (409) and Matt Russell (190) at the end of the '94 season.
- 653** The difference in the number of rushing yards gained (**2,075**) compared to passing (**1,422**) by Colorado in 2006, the first time since 2002 the Buffs will gain more on the ground than in the air (1,229 edge that season).
- 1100** The Nebraska game to close the season was the 1,100th in Colorado history.
- 1600** The mileage in each direction Ralphie IV traveled to appear at the Georgia game, her first regular season appearance outside of Colorado since 1989.
- 92746** The third largest crowd CU has ever played before, coming at Georgia's Sanford Stadium.

**40 WINS OVER RANKED TEAMS SEVENTH BEST SINCE '89**

CU's 40 wins over *Associated Press* ranked teams since the start of the 1989 season is tied for the seventh most in the nation in this time frame. Florida State has the most with 65, followed by Michigan (57), Florida (56), Ohio State (50), Miami, Fla. (50), Tennessee (48), **Colorado (40)** and Notre Dame (40). Penn State (38), Nebraska (35) and Alabama and Texas (34 each) round out the top 10. As for the Big 12, after CU, NU and UT, the next schools on this list are Oklahoma (31), Texas A&M (20) and Texas Tech (17). All-time, Colorado's 63 wins over ranked teams are the 23rd most in history. (*AP polls used for these figures because the coaches' poll omits teams on probation, but AP still ranks those teams.*)

**CLOCK RULE CHANGE ANALYSIS**

It is safe to say that the NCAA Rules Committee change that quickened college football games has not been overly popular. By starting the clock faster on possession changes (and on kickoffs when foot meets ball), original estimates were that each team might lose three or four plays per game. Hmmm... not so. Colorado wound up running **10** fewer plays per game, the opponent almost seven, as the combined total dropped from 142.1 in 2005 to **126.3** this year. CU and the opponent also combined for **51** fewer possessions than a year ago. Here's a summation of game play counts in 2006 and notes related to other years:

Game	Colorado	Opp.	Total	Notes
Montana State	54	70	124	Only the 11th time fewer than 125 plays were run in last 234 Colorado games.
Colorado State	48	57	105	Fourth fewest plays in a CU game since <b>1946</b> ; two of the three games with fewer took place in '46 (other in '54)
Arizona State	62	74	136	Count aided by 26 incomplete passes, 31 third down plays
Georgia	66	56	122	Georgia's 56 plays tied for the second fewest by an opponent in a win over CU since 1981
Missouri	63	77	140	Season regulation high (would have been fourth lowest by a hair in '05), plus Missouri runs hurry-up offense
Baylor	74	70	144	118 total at end of regulation; 26 run in OT (18 by Baylor, 8 by Colorado)
Texas Tech	65	60	125	Last two games in series (2002-03) averaged 153.5 plays per game
Oklahoma	44	75	119	Matched CU low for fewest plays in a game in last 25 seasons (also had 44 against OU in 2004 Big 12 title loss)
Kansas	70	62	132	Count aided by 29 incomplete passes, 30 third down plays
Kansas State	58	64	122	Teams combine for just 21 possessions
Iowa State	57	59	116	Teams combine for just 19 possessions
Nebraska	54	76	130	Huskers run some no-huddle; 22 incomplete passes in game aid clock stoppages
<b>2006 Totals</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>12-Game Average: 126.3 (Colorado 59.6; Opponent 66.7)</b>
<b>2005 Totals</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>12-Game Average: 142.1 (Colorado 69.0; Opponent 73.1)</b>

- ◆ Neither CU nor the opponent had a game with **80** plays; that had happened just one time in the previous **44** seasons (1998).
- ◆ Colorado (135) and opponents (138) combine for 273 total possessions; that number in 2005 was 324 (Colorado 161, Opponents 163).
- ◆ The average time of a Colorado game in 2005 took 3 hours and 29 minutes; that dipped to 3 hours and 5 minutes in 2006. The CU-CSU contest lasted all of 2:48, tied for the third shortest since 1990, and there were four sub-three hour games overall.
- ◆ Colorado averaged **59.6** plays per game, the fewest run by the Buffaloes since 1963, when they averaged 57.6 plays per game in Eddie Crowder's first year as head coach (10-game season; the fewest in an 11-game campaign was 63.2 in 1967).
- ◆ Overall, CU and its opponent ran 125 or fewer plays SEVEN times; that's only three less than the total in the previous 233 games heading into the season.

**TURNOVER MARGIN**

Colorado finished +0.67 in turnover margin, having committed 16 on the year while forcing 22; that is tied for second in the Big 12 and 17th nationally. It was the best by a CU teams since 1993, when the Buffs were a healthy plus-13 (fourth best in the NCAA). There have been only eight seasons in school history where the number was better than a plus-six: 1951 (+8), 1956 (+18), 1960 (+10), 1967 (+17), 1972 (+11), 1976 (+16), 1989 (+12), 1993 (+13) and now 2006 (+8).

**CU ADDS SIX HOME-AND-HOME SERIES OVER NEXT 12 SEASONS; 2007, 2009, 2012 & 2013 SCHEDULES COMPLETE**

Colorado is working to fill its football schedules over the next decade, and since mid-summer, the Buffaloes have agreed to six home-and-home series with a school from each time zone. The additions have completely filled four of CU's next seven schedules, with one open date left three other years. This followed agreements with the **University of Georgia** and the **University of Minnesota** that were inked the previous year.

In July, Colorado and **Miami, Ohio** agreed to a home-and-home series that enabled the Buffaloes to complete their 2007 and 2009 schedules. The RedHawks will come to Boulder on September 22, 2007, with the Buffs set to return the game on September 12, 2009 (in Oxford, about 30 miles north of Cincinnati). ESPN has already guaranteed the schools that it will televise the second game. A CU connection with the RedHawks is their athletic director **Brad Bates**, who was CU's strength and conditioning coach between 1982-84, coming to Boulder with **Bill McCartney**. It will be the first time the schools will play in football, and just the second game for CU against current Mid-America Conference opponents; the Buffs own a 42-0 win over Kent State in 1977.

On September 16, CU announced home-and-home arrangements with three other schools, all opponents CU has a previous history with in **Louisiana State University**, the **University of Oregon** and the **University of Utah**. Colorado has played the trio a combined 78 times in its history, but there have been no regular season games with any of the three since 1987. Each series has its own special moments and place in school annals.

The CU-LSU series is first up, as the Buffs will travel to Baton Rouge on Sept. 24, 2011, with the Tigers returning the game to Boulder on Sept. 15, 2012. The Buffs and Utes will resume play after a 50-year layoff in their series, as Utah will come to Boulder on Sept. 22, 2012 with Salt Lake City to play host on Sept. 21, 2013. The Oregon series is a bit further out, with Eugene to be the site in 2014 (Sept. 13), with the Ducks' return trip to Boulder set for 2017 (Sept. 16). A closer look:

**Colorado-Louisiana State.** While LSU leads the all-time series by a 5-1 count, CU's lone victory in the series was most significant. In the 1971 season opener, the unranked and sophomore-laden Buffs traveled to Baton Rouge and upset the No. 9 Tigers, 31-21. That win propelled CU to No. 12 in the polls the following Monday and coach **Eddie Crowder's** Buffaloes went on to finish 10-2 and No. 3 in the nation. The two first met in the 1962 Orange Bowl, a 25-7 LSU victory, and last played in 1980, when LSU edged the Buffs with a field goal with 35 seconds remaining to escape with a 23-20 verdict.

**Colorado-Utah.** Other than the 78 games played against in-state rival Colorado State, the 57 games the Buffs have played against the Utes are the second most against any other non-conference school, as CU leads the series, 30-24-3. But the two schools, just 512 miles apart, have not met since 1962 after meeting every year from 1910 through 1958 (and twice in 1943 during World War II). The two first met on Oct. 3, 1903 in Boulder (a 22-0 Colorado win), as Utah was just the third school from outside the state to make a trip to Boulder; CU returned the game the following year, just the second time in Colorado's history that the then Silver & Gold had ever left the state to play a game.

Old-timers will tell you that Utah was CU's first real rival, and after the Utes reeled off nine straight wins between 1925 and 1933 to take a 16-11-1 edge in the series, Utah clearly had staked its claim as the dominant program in the old Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. But behind **Kayo Lam** and the school's first All-American, **Byron White**, the newly named Buffaloes won the next four. The Buffs won eight straight from 1951 to 1958 to go up by eight on the Utes, and after a two-year hiatus, the series resumed in 1961 when Utah inflicted a painful 21-12 setback on CU—its only regular season loss in a 9-1 campaign. The last game in the series was on Sept. 22, 1962, a 37-21 Utah win in Salt Lake City; thus the series will resume 50 years to the day of the last meeting. The two schools are fierce ski rivals and have won 14 of the last 24 NCAA titles between them since the sport went coed in 1983.

**Colorado-Oregon.** The Buffs lead the most-entertaining 15-game series by an 8-7 count, as the two last met in the regular season in 1987 but have squared off in bowl games three times since then. The first meeting was in 1949, a 42-14 Oregon win, signaling the start of five home-and-home agreements between the two, including a four-game set between 1984 and 1987. The 1979 game, a 33-19 Duck win, was the first for CU coach **Chuck Fairbanks** and also the first game televised by a then-fledgling television network called ESPN. The 1984 game in Eugene yielded one of the sadder moments in school history, when tight end **Ed Reinhardt** suffered a near-fatal brain injury and had his life forever changed, but it also stabled a bond between the two schools that remains to this day. In 1985, after the Buffs opened with a win over CSU to match their entire win total the previous season, one of the first early key moments in the success of the **Bill McCartney** Era occurred. The Buffs owned a 21-17 lead but UO drove inside the CU 10 in the final minute of the game; on a 4th-and-goal from the CU 3, **Mickey Pruitt** sacked Duck quarterback **Chris Miller** as time ran out to preserve the win, and the Buffs went on to finish 7-4 and earn a Freedom Bowl berth. The schools met in the 1996 Cotton Bowl (a 38-6 CU win to cap a 10-2 year under first-year coach **Rick Neuheisel**), in the 1998 Aloha Bowl (Neuheisel's last game as CU coach as the Buffs won a shootout, 51-43), and in the 2002 Fiesta Bowl; in the latter, it was just the sixth postseason match-up of No. 2 (Colorado) versus No. 3 (Oregon) and the Pac-10 champion Ducks got the best in this one, winning 38-16.

Then on November 7, CU and **Arizona State University** jointly announced extending their series after the two met for the first time ever this past September (a 21-3 ASU win in Boulder). The Sun Devils will visit Boulder in 2013, and CU returns that one in 2018, the furthest confirmed game out currently on any CU football schedule. CU returns the game in the current series next September in Tempe.

On January 25, the latest series was announced, as Colorado and the **University of Washington** mutually agreed to a home-and-home series, renewing a rivalry that will have begun exactly 100 years prior to the series resuming in 2015. Colorado will host the Huskies in Boulder on September 12, 2015, with the Buffaloes to return the game in Seattle on September 10, 2016. A look at this series:

**Colorado-Washington.** The 11-game series has had several memorable moments for both schools, not to mention that it's been an even one: each school has five wins with one ending in a tie. Washington won the first meeting in 1915 by a 46-0 score in Seattle; it was the first time in the then-CU program's 25 year history that the school traveled beyond four neighboring states (Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, Wyoming) for a football game. The second meeting didn't occur until 1953, when Colorado returned to Seattle but this time left with a 21-20 win; the difference was a missed extra point in an evenly fought game. The schools played twice more that decade and again in 1976, with a 1985 Buff-Huskies battle in the Freedom Bowl the first postseason appearance by the Buffaloes in nine seasons. Washington staved off two late CU rallies to win that one, 20-17.

The 1989 meeting Seattle was wrought with emotion for the Buffaloes, as quarterback **Sal Aunese** passed away the previous Saturday following a six month battle with stomach cancer. CU played like a team possessed that day, topping the No. 21 Huskies, 45-28, after building a 38-6 lead late in the third quarter. The Buffaloes went on to win the Big Eight and finish the regular season 11-0, their best regular season record in history.

In 1990, **Deon Figures'** interception in the end zone in the final minute preserved a 20-14 win in CU's final non-league game en route to the national championship. In the 1996 Holiday Bowl, the Buffaloes recorded the fifth-largest postseason comeback ever at the time in rallying from 14-0 down early for a 33-21 win as **Koy Detmer** passed for 371 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Buffs.

Most recently, the Huskies won back-to-back thrillers over the Buffaloes in 1999 (31-24 in Seattle) and 2000 (17-14 in Boulder). **Rick Neuheisel**, who was CU's head coach from 1995-98, moved on to UW in '99 and would defeat his former school twice, the latter on the way to the Huskies winning the Pac-10 Conference title and the Rose Bowl.

Colorado's future non-conference schedules are complete for 2007, 2009, 2012 and 2013; the Buffs are in need of one opponent in 2008, 2010 and 2011. Here's a closer look:

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
S 1 Colorado State (Denver)	A30 Colorado State (Denver)	S 5 #Colorado State	S 4 #Colorado State	S 3 TBA
S 8 at Arizona State	S 6 HOME TBA	S12 at Miami, Ohio	S11 at California	S10 CALIFORNIA
S15 FLORIDA STATE	S13 NORTH CAROLINA	S19 WYOMING	S18 HOME TBA	S17 TBA
S22 MIAMI, OHIO	S20 at Florida State	S26 at North Carolina	O 2 GEORGIA	S 24 at Louisiana State
S29 *OKLAHOMA (H)	O 4 *TEXAS	O10 *at Texas	O 9 *at Missouri	O 1 *MISSOURI
O 6 *at Baylor	O 11 *at Kansas	O17 *KANSAS	O16 *BAYLOR	O15 *at Baylor
O13 *at Kansas State	O 18 *KANSAS STATE	O24 *at Kansas State	O23 *TEXAS TECH	O22 *at Texas Tech
O20 *KANSAS (FW)	O 25 *at Missouri	O31 *MISSOURI	O30 *at Oklahoma	O29 *OKLAHOMA
O27 *at Texas Tech	N 1 *at Texas A & M	N 7 *TEXAS A& M	N 6 *at Kansas	N 5 *KANSAS
N 3 *MISSOURI	N 8 *IOWA STATE	N14 *at Iowa State	N13 *IOWA STATE	N12 *at Iowa State
N10 *at Iowa State	N15 *OKLAHOMA STATE	N21 *at Oklahoma State	N20 *KANSAS STATE	N19 *at Kansas State
N23 *NEBRASKA	N28 *at Nebraska	N27/28 *NEBRASKA	N26/27 *at Nebraska	N25/26 *NEBRASKA

  

2012	2013	Other Years
S 1 TBA	A 31 TBA	2014 S13 at Oregon
S 8 at Minnesota	S 7 MINNESOTA	2015 S12 WASHINGTON
S15 LOUISIANA STATE	S 14 ARIZONA STATE	2016 S10 at Washington
S 22 UTAH	S 21 at Utah	2017 S16 OREGON
O 6 *TEXAS	O 5 *at Texas	2018 S15 at Arizona State
O13 *at Kansas	O12 *KANSAS	
O20 *KANSAS STATE	O19 *at Kansas State	
O27 *at Missouri	O26 *MISSOURI	
N 3 *at Texas A & M	N 2 *TEXAS A & M	
N10 *IOWA STATE	N 9 *at Iowa State	
N17 *OKLAHOMA STATE	N16 *at Oklahoma State	
N23/24 *at Nebraska	N29/30 *NEBRASKA	

FW—Family Weekend; H—Homecoming; \*—Big 12 Conference game; #—site to be determined.