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COLORADO FOOTBALL: 2012 LETTER-OF-INTENT DAY NOTES & BIOS / INFORMATION

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QUICKLY

It's the 2012 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 1 ... 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 (schools may "oversign," but only 25 can be admitted) ... The NCAA maximum is 56 recruiting visits allowed, with six transferable to the next recruiting cycle; the Buffs "banked" four from 2011 and have utilized 50 of the 60 to date; CU will pick up the maximum six unused visits to bank toward 2013, and thus can have 62 ... The list of signees and their biographies are later in this packet.

NAMES & NUMBERS

Here's a look at the preliminary spring numbers when taking a look at the 2012 University of Colorado football roster:

Lettermen Returning: 46 (19 offense, 22 defense, 5 specialists)

Lettermen Lost: 29 (15 offense, 13 defense, 1 specialist)

Career/2011 starts in parenthesis; calculated by those with six-plus starts in 2011 or by who played the majority of snaps at a position.]

Starters Returning (10)—Offense 4: OT David Bakhtiari (22/11), OT Ryan Dannewitz (11/11), C Gus Handler (10/10), WR Paul Richardson (13/9).

Defense 6: CB Greg Henderson (12/12), OLB Jon Major (20/13), DT Will Pericak (37/13), FS Ray Polk (26/11), ILB Douglas Rippy (8/8), ILB Derrick Webb (7/6).

Others Returning With Significant Starting Experience (7; min. 3 career starts)— OT Alexander Lewis (3/3), C Daniel Munyer (3/3), DB Parker Orms (6/6), SS Terrel Smith (6/0), WR DaVaughn Thornton (3/3), DE Chidera Uzo-Diribe (7/6), DB Kyle Washington (3/3).

Others Returning With Significant Position Game Experience (15; two or fewer career starts)— DT Nate Bonsu, WR Keenan Canty, ILB Brady Daigh, WR Dustin Ebner, TE Scott Fernandez, TB Josh Ford, OT Jack Harris, TB Tony Jones, TE Nick Kasa, WR Tyler McCulloch, DL Juda Parker.

Starters Lost (12)—Offense 7: OG Ethan Adkins (33/13), TE Matt Bahr (22/7), WR Toney Clemons (18/10), TE Ryan Deehan (31/13), QB Tyler Hansen (28/19), OG Ryan Miller (48/13), TB Rodney Stewart (28/20). **Defense 5:** DT Curtis Cunningham (30/6), DE David Goldberg (8/8), DE Josh Hartigan (19/10), SS Anthony Perkins (27/9), DB Travis Sandersfeld (12/7).

Others Lost With Significant Starting/Playing Experience (10)— FB/OLB Tyler Ahles, WR Kyle Cefalo, WR/CB Jason Espinosa, WR Logan Gray, FB Evan Harrington, ST Arthur Jaffee, TB/CB Brian Lockridge, ILB Patrick Mahnke, DT Conrad Obi, DE Tony Poremba.

Specialists Returning (5)— PK Justin Castor, P Zach Grossnickle, SN Ryan Iverson, P Darragh O'Neill, PK Will Oliver.

Specialists Lost (1)— P Mark Brundage.

Base Spring Roster (79 players/57 scholarship)— 10 seniors, 20 juniors, 32 sophomores, 17 freshmen (15 redshirt/2 true).

HONOR CANDIDATES TO WATCH

Looking ahead to this fall, there are several Colorado players who should be in the mix for some individual honors; topping the list are seniors **OLB Jon Major**, **DT Will Pericak**, **FS Ray Polk** and **ILB Douglas Rippy** and juniors **OT David Bakhtiari** and **WR Paul Richardson**. Some or all could emerge as solid All-Pac 12 Conference and/or All-America candidates who could be on lists for several postseason awards.

2012 COLORADO SCHEDULE

series

| | | |
|------|--|----------|
| S 2 | Colorado State (Denver) | 61-20- 2 |
| S 8 | SACRAMENTO STATE | ..... |
| S 15 | at Fresno State | 4- 1- 0 |
| S 22 | *at Washington State | 4- 3- 0 |
| S 29 | * UCLA (Family Weekend) | 3- 4- 0 |
| O 11 | * ARIZONA STATE | 0- 3- 0 |
| O 20 | *at Southern California | 0- 6- 0 |
| O 27 | *at Oregon | 8- 8- 0 |
| N 3 | * STANFORD (Homecoming) | 3- 4- 0 |
| N 10 | *at Arizona | 13- 1- 0 |
| N 17 | * WASHINGTON | 5- 6- 1 |
| N 23 | * UTAH | 31-24- 3 |
| N 30 | Pac-12 Championship (<i>campus site TBA</i>) | |

*—Pac-12 Conference game; OPEN WEEK: October 6.

2011 RESULTS

(Won 3, Lost 9; 2-7 Pac-12)

| | | | |
|------|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| S 3 | at Hawai'i | L 17-34 | 35,645 |
| S 10 | CALIFORNIA | L 33-36 | 49,532 |
| S 17 | Colorado State (Denver) | W 28-14 | 57,186 |
| S 24 | at Ohio State | L 17-37 | 105,096 |
| O 1 | * WASHINGTON STATE | L 27-31 | 51,928 |
| O 8 | *at Stanford | L 7-48 | 50,360 |
| O 15 | *at Washington | L 24-52 | 62,147 |
| O 22 | * OREGON | L 2-45 | 52,143 |
| O 29 | *at Arizona State | L 14-48 | 53,168 |
| N 4 | * SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA | L 17-42 | 50,083 |
| N 12 | * ARIZONA | W 48-29 | 48,111 |
| N 19 | *at UCLA | L 6-45 | 57,334 |
| N 25 | *at Utah | W 17-14 | 45,026 |

*—Pac-12 Conference game.

RECRUITING REVIEW

Over the past 40 years, the bulk of CU's recruits have come primarily from three states: Colorado (235), California (225) and Texas (118). The below is a look at CU's **high school only** recruiting numbers since 1973, the first class where students knew they would be 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. (NDP*—how many members of the class were future NFL draft picks; 1 in every 6.9 CU recruits since 1973 has been drafted into the pros):

| Year | Coach | On Signing Day | Total | Colo. | Calif. | Texas | Other States | JC | NDP* |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|-----------|------------|
| 2012 | Jon Embree | | 28 (1) | 3 | 10 | 7 | 3—Washington D.C.; 1—Arizona; Hawai'i, Louisiana, Missouri, New York | 1 | — |
| 2011 | Jon Embree | | 23 (1) | 2 | 8 | 4 | 3—Hawai'i; 2—Arizona; 1—New Mexico, North Carolina, Virginia, Washington D.C. | 1 | — |
| 2010 | Dan Hawkins | | 21 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 2—N.J.; 1—Alabama, Florida, Hawai'i, Louisiana, Maryland, Ohio, N.Carolina (1-Canada) | 2 | — |
| 2009 | Dan Hawkins | | 19 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 1—Connecticut, Illinois, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee | 1 | — |
| 2008 | Dan Hawkins | | 20 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 2—Ohio; 1—Arizona, Idaho, Kentucky, New Jersey, Utah | 1 | — |
| 2007 | Dan Hawkins | | 23 (1) | 4 | 7 | 0 | 2—Florida, Hawai'i, Pennsylvania, Tennessee; 1—Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana | 4 | 4 |
| 2006 | Dan Hawkins | | 20 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 2—Hawaii; 1—Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, New Jersey, Washington (1—Samoa) | 2 | 3 |
| 2005 | Gary Barnett | | 21 (1) | 9 | 6 | 1 | 2—Florida; 1—Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska | 4 | 1 |
| 2004 | Gary Barnett | | 17 (1) | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3—Michigan; 2—Hawaii; 1—Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Oklahoma | 1 | 4 |
| 2003 | Gary Barnett | | 23 (1) | 5 | 4 | 8 | 2—Tennessee; 1—Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma | 2 | 2 |
| 2002 | Gary Barnett | | 28 (2) | 7 | 6 | 10 | 3—Louisiana; 1—Illinois, 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—Washington 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 |
| Totals | | | 861 | 235 | 225 | 118 | Florida 23, Illinois 23, Louisiana 21, Hawai'i 19, Washington 19, Missouri 17, Arizona 16, Michigan 13, Ohio 13, Nevada 8, Kansas 7, Tennessee 7, Nebraska 6, New Jersey 6, Oklahoma 6, New Mexico 5, Oregon 5, Washington D.C. 5 | 93 | 125 |

*—Fairbanks did not become head coach until April 4, 1979; Cortese coordinated recruiting in the interim. In this time frame, 27 percent of all Buffalo high school recruits have come from Colorado, with 26 percent from California and 14 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 | | | | | |
|------|-------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|---------|----|----|------|-----|--|
| | | OL | QB | RB | TE | WR | DE | DT | LB | DB | PK/P | ATH | |
| 2012 | 28 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2011 | 23 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | |
| 2010 | 22 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| 2009 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | |
| 2008 | 21 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | |
| 2007 | 28 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2006 | 22 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2005 | 25 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | |
| 2004 | 19 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | |
| 2003 | 25 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 0 | |
| 2002 | 30 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2001 | 17 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | |
| 2000 | 24 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | |
| 1999 | 18 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1998 | 21 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1997 | 23 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | |
| 1996 | 23 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1995 | 22 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1994 | 17 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1993 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1992 | 25 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | |
| 1991 | 23 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1990 | 23 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1989 | 21 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1988 | 26 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1987 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1986 | 23 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1985 | 23 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1984 | 29 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1983 | 27 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | |
| 1982 | 28 | 13 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | |

GLASS NOTES

- ★ The 28 recruits are the most signed in a single class at Colorado since 1978, when then-head coach Bill Mallory inked 28 in what turned out to be his final recruiting class as head coach of the Buffaloes.
- ★ The nine defensive linemen represent the most signed in a recruiting class ever at Colorado; conversely, it's the first time CU didn't have at least one player designated to play linebacker sign in known history as well.
- ★ **Multi-Talented:** The class of 2012 features **23** players who played another sport at the varsity level in high school: **16** participated in track and field, **10** played basketball, **two** played baseball, **one** played soccer, and **one** wrestled.
- ★ **Champions:** A total of **20** of the **28** signees won a championship of some kind (league, division, district, CIF, state) at some point in their prep careers, combining for **49** total. **Six** won a total of **eight** outright state championships, while **three** others combined for **five** CIF (Calif.) championships.
- ★ Colorado inked players from **8** states overall plus the District of Columbia ... the same exact tally in 2011 despite signing five more players.
- ★ Here are some quick tidbits about the **28** members of this year's recruiting class

RB Donta Abron (DON-TAY ABE-BRUN) volunteers as a security guard at his church in Upland, Calif., and is one of three players the Buffs signed from Upland High School ... **CB Kenneth Crawley** intercepted 14 passes in high school, returning three for touchdowns, and is one of four players from Washington D.C.'s H.D. Woodson High School to sign under Embree ... **RB Terrence Crowder** is part of a group called the Gents Organization, of which membership is based upon principles of good citizenship, high moral standards and high academic achievement ... **QB Shane Dillon** earned a No. 7 rating at ESPN's Elite 11 camp and compiled 6,681 yards passing with 45 touchdowns as a prep; he is also actively involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes ...

DB Jeffrey Hall volunteered making Thanksgiving dinners for the homeless in LaPlace, La., and helped his high school team compile a 49-6 record in four seasons including a state championship his senior season ... **DL Tyler Henington** advanced to the Colorado wrestling semifinals his junior year in the heavyweight division while at Mullen and he's active with World Vision, an organization that sends items to those in need in Africa ... **TE Vincent Hobbs** was the only tight end listed on the 5A All-Texas football team his senior season, which was his first full season after switching from wide receiver ...

OL Jeromy Irwin and **TE Sean Irwin** (the youngest two of triplets) led a dramatic comeback for Cy-Fair throughout their careers. As sophomores, the team went 0-10 but rebounded to capture a co-District 17 championship their junior season when the team went 9-3; the improvement continued, as when they were seniors, Cy-Fair won district title outright with a 12-1 record ... **DL Kisima Jagne** (KIZ-MA JAG-KNEE) is the cousin of Kenny Wheaton, who played with the Dallas Cowboys and also had a short stint with the Colorado Crush of the AFL. He is also one of the top basketball players from the state of Arizona ... **DL Samson Kafovalu** (KOF-OH-VA-LOO) attended Arlington high school in Riverside, Calif., the same high school that former TE David Brown attended before becoming a member of CU's national championship team in 1990 ...

OL Gerrad Kough (JAIR-ED KOH) played at two high schools but for just one coach, following Anthony Rice from Colony High School to Pomona High School and Kough started on the line all four seasons for Rice ... **DL Derek McCartney** is the grandson of legendary CU coach Bill McCartney, and like his grandfather was a three-sport star in high school. Bill played football, basketball and baseball, earning 11 letters for Riverview High School in Michigan, while Derek played football, basketball and track and field for Faith Christian High School ... **DB Marque Mosley** (MAR-KEES) is the cousin of Sirr Parker, who played football at Texas A&M and was the subject of a 2001 Showtime movie titled *They Call Me Sirr* ...

FB Clay Norgard is an early enrollee and the son of former Buff Erik Norgard, who was an All-Big Eight center for the Buffs in 1987-88 before an 11-year NFL career ... **RB Davien Payne** developed and was president of a high school club that helped special education students by organizing field trips and other fun activities ... **FB Christian Powell** was the lead blocker for fellow signee Donta Abron at Upland High School, but had a few solid performances of his own, including a game against Murietta Valley where he rushed three times for 83 yards and two touchdowns ...

DL Kory Rasmussen is an honor roll student and has worked with Special Olympics in a program developed with the help of his strength coaches at Kamehameha H.S. in Honolulu ... **TE Austin Ray** is ranked as a top five tight end nationally (*SuperPrep*), helped his basketball team to the state semifinals, placed in the top five in track and field in the shot put and is a member of the national honors society, maintaining above a 3.6 grade point average ... **DL Justin Solis** (SO-LEASE) prepped at Westlake High School but grew up in Queens, N.Y. He and his grandmother have been featured by the *New York Times* for their traveling expeditions, which began when he was five-years-old and have taken them to most of the 50 states and countless foreign countries ...

DL Johnny Stuart lined up alongside fellow signee Justin Solis at Westlake and the two helped the team to a 38-3 record and two CIF championships in the last three seasons ... **WR Gerald Thomas** grew up in New Orleans and was uprooted when Hurricane Katrina hit the city. He and his parents stayed when he started the sixth grade in Plano before moving to The Colony, Texas prior to high school ... **WR Jeffrey Thomas** is a second cousin of Walter Napier, who played in the NFL for the Dallas Texans in 1964 and was the first African-American professional football player from Waco, Texas. Walter's son, Keith, played collegiately for Howard and is a member of the school's Hall of Fame ... **DL Josh Tupou** (TWO-POE) is the nephew of former Buff Viliami Maumau, who played defensive tackle for the Buffs from 1994-97; he also has three cousins playing Division I football ...

DB John Walker won a sportsmanship award through the local Boys and Girls Club in Washington, D.C., where he volunteers and through his church helped deliver turkeys on Thanksgiving during a food drive. He has attained a perfect 4.0 grade point average the last two quarters at H.D. Woodson ... **WR Peyton Williams** comes from an athletic family as his dad (Robert) and uncle (Doug) both played football at Oklahoma while his grandfather set high school track and field records in Louisiana ... **DL De'Jon Wilson** (DEE-JON) is one of three signees from H.D. Woodson high school in Washington, D.C., and like the others he is very active in the community, helping out as his local recreation center and volunteering for his former Pop Warner football team ... **DB Yuri Wright** was born in the island of Saint Vincent and calls Spring Valley, N.Y., his hometown (which is a little less than an hour northwest of New York City, on the west side of the Hudson River). For someone who only played football as a junior and senior, it's astounding that the *Sporting News* ranked him the No. 17 overall player in the nation (and the No. 2 defensive back).

DOUBLE DIPPING

Since 1983, Colorado has plucked two recruits (and in three instances, three) from the same high school in the same class **32** times, including this year's multiple signings from a record four different schools. A closer look (position listed is what they were recruited as):

2012**Cypress Fairbanks (Cypress, Texas)**

OL Jeromy Irwin, TE Sean Irwin

H.D. Woodson (Washington, D.C.)

*DB Kenneth Crawley, DB John Walker,
DL De'Jon Wilson*

Upland (Calif.)

*RB Donta Abron, DB Marques Mosley,
FB Christian Powell*

Westlake (Westlake Village, Calif.)

DT Justin Solis, DL Johnny Stuart

2011**Oak Ridge Military Academy (Greensboro, N.C.)**

ATH Jermane Clark, RB Rashad Hall

St. Louis (Honolulu, Hawai'i)

OL Paulay Asiata, DE Juda Parker

Somerset (Somerset, Texas)

DB Will Harlos, QB Stevie Joe Dorman

2009**Denver East (Denver, Colo.)**

P Zach Grossnickle, TE DaVaughn Thornton

2007**Mission Viejo (Calif.)**

OL Matthew Bahr, TB Brian Lockridge

2006**Douglas County (Castle Rock, Colo.)**

TE Steve Fendry, DL Eric Lawson

2005**Mullen (Denver, Colo.)**

CB Benjamin Burney, TB Maurice Greer

2003**Hillsboro (Nashville, Tenn.)**

CB Chris Russell, TE Joe Sanders

Mullen (Denver, Colo.)

OG Brian Daniels, WR Stephone Robinson

2002**Fairview (Boulder, Colo.)**

ILB Jason Ackermann, DE Mike Groover

Flower Mound (Texas)

OL Del Scales, OL Frederick Staugh

2001**Overland (Aurora, Colo.)**

DL Jahi Green, OT Gary Moore

2000**Mont de La Salle/ Vanier Prep (Montreal, Quebec)**

OL Marwan Hage, DE Rudy Hage

1997**Fairview (Boulder, Colo.)**

LB Kyle Cabral, DE Robert Haas

North Shore (Houston, Texas)

WR Cedric Cormier, OL Andre Gurode

1996**Berkeley (Calif.)**

S Rashidi Barnes, WR Marcus Williams Jr.

Cherry Creek (Englewood, Colo.)

OL Tom Ashworth, WR Eric McCready

1995**Berkeley (Calif.)**

DB J'Juan Cherry, LB Hannibal Navies

1993**Archbishop Carroll (Washington, D.C.)**

TE Desmond Dennis, WR Phil Savoy

1992**Boulder (Colo.)**

OL Heath Irwin, WR Deren Tadlock

1988**Locke (Los Angeles, Calif.)**

QB Darian Hagan, OT Vincent Smith

Serra (Gardena, Calif.)

QB Eric Hamilton, CB Deon Figures

1986**Pomona (Calif.)**

TB J.J. Flannigan, LB Lamarr Gray

1985**Esperanza (Anaheim, Calif.)**

TB Jim Farrell, WR Keith Pontiflet

Smoky Hill (Aurora, Colo.)

DE Terry Jones, RB Jeff Knabenshue,

DT Brad Robinson

1984**Fairview (Boulder, Colo.)**

DB Derek Fullmer, QB Tom Stone

1983**Cherry Creek (Englewood, Colo.)**

TE Jon Embree, QB Rick Wheeler

Mullen (Denver, Colo.)

PK Dave DeLine, WR David Tate

NO JUGOS IN CLASS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE...

Well, since the end of Bill Clinton's first term in office, or 16 years. The last time the Buffaloes did not sign at least one junior college player was in 1996, **Rick Neuheisel's** second recruiting class. Colorado is one of three Pac-12 schools not to sign any JUCOs, along with Cal and Stanford, and one of 14 nationally to not bring any on board (the other 11: Auburn, Clemson, LSU, Michigan, Michigan State, Notre Dame, Ohio State, South Carolina, Vanderbilt, Virginia and Virginia Tech).

SON OF A BUFF!

For the second straight recruiting class, the son of a former Buffalo has signed a letter-of-intent to play for Colorado. **FB Clay Norgard**, who has already enrolled in classes as he graduated high school in December, is the son of CU's former All-Big 8 center **Erik Norgard**. Erik earned that honor in 1988 and went on to play 107 games in the National Football League; though an offensive lineman, he caught three passes in his career, two for touchdowns. Last year, **OL Alex Kelley**, the son of former Buff **Karry Kelley** signed but was injured in the summer and decided to grayshirt. The elder Kelley rode out some tumultuous times when he played for the school from 1976-79. He was a senior on **Chuck Fairbanks'** first team ('79), and had missed the '77 season with a knee injury. He was on the same line as CU All-American tackle **Stan Brock**.

TWINS

The singing of **Jeromy** and **Sean Irwin** from Cypress Fairbanks (Texas) High School, will give CU its first set of twins since **Andrew** and **Bryant Amador** who played as freshman on the 1995 team ... except the Irwins are the second and third born out of triplets; older brother **John** was born first, then came Sean and then Jeromy (the oldest doesn't play football).

REUNITED

Of Embree's **49** high school signees in his first two classes, **19** were high school teammates with at least one other member of the two classes. H.D. Woodson in Washington, D.C. leads with four signees over the past two years (**Sherrard Harrington** in 2011; **Kenneth Crawley**, **John Walker**, **De'Jon Wilson** in 2012). In addition, CU added Georgia transfer **Logan Gray** last spring who attended the same high school (Rock Bridge in Columbia, Mo.) as 2012 signee **Austin Ray**.

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 79 or 80, according to the AFCA figures. Colorado has **57** players on scholarship at present (not including this recruiting class or medicals). A proposal to cut the overall number from 85 to 80 was soundly defeated earlier this month at the NCAA convention, but as of next year, the maximum number any school can sign will drop from 28 to 25, the latter being the maximum number that can count toward any year's class.

Embree & Co. are expected to sign 28 players to letters-of-intent this year. If all are academically eligible, 25 can enroll for this summer/fall and count toward to the 2012 class; one player is already enrolled (Clay Norgard, a December high school graduate), so he can count back to 2011, when CU signed 23 players in that class. Two players can delay enrollment and "grayshirt," but they would count forward in the 2013 class count. Alex Kelley already counted in the 2011 class and delayed his enrollment due to injury.

STATE-BY-STATE

The below chart indicates the last time a player from each state was on the CU season roster (includes transfers and walk-ons; had to suit for at least one game). Rosters were available back to 1928; going into 2011, 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, including 2012; **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 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------|--------|
| Alabama | 2010 | 2011 | Hawai'i | 2012 | 2011 | Michigan | 2004 | 2008 | North Carolina | 2011 | 2011 |
| Alaska | 1998 | 2002 | Idaho | 2008 | 2011 | Minnesota | 2005 | 2006 | North Dakota | 1968 | 1978 |
| Arizona | 2012 | 2011 | Illinois | 2009 | 2011 | Mississippi | 1989 | 1993 | Ohio | 2010 | 2011 |
| Arkansas | 1999 | 2003 | Indiana | 1972 | 2009 | Missouri | 2012 | 2011 | Oklahoma | 2009 | 2007 |
| California | 2012 | 2011 | Iowa | 2004 | 2008 | Montana | 1991 | 1994 | Oregon | 1998 | 2007 |
| COLORADO | 2012 | 2011 | Kansas | 2005 | 2011 | Nebraska | 2005 | 2009 | Pennsylvania | 2007 | 2011 |
| Connecticut | 2009 | 2010 | Kentucky | 2008 | 2008 | Nevada | 2009 | 2011 | Rhode Island | ..... | ..... |
| Delaware | ..... | 2001 | Louisiana | 2012 | 2011 | New Hampshire | ..... | 2002 | South Carolina | ..... | 2010 |
| Dist. of Columbia | 2012 | 2011 | Maine | ..... | 1988 | New Jersey | 2010 | 2011 | South Dakota | 1996 | 2000 |
| Florida | 2010 | 2011 | Maryland | 1996 | 1998 | New Mexico | 2011 | 2011 | Tennessee | 2009 | 2011 |
| Georgia | 2007 | 2011 | Massachusetts | 1983 | 2008 | New York | 2012 | 2006 | Texas | 2012 | 2011 |
| | | | | | | | | | Utah | 2008 | 2008 |
| | | | | | | | | | Vermont | ..... | ..... |
| | | | | | | | | | Virginia | 2011 | 1969 |
| | | | | | | | | | Washington | 2006 | 2008 |
| | | | | | | | | | West Virginia | ..... | 1970 |
| | | | | | | | | | Wisconsin | 2002 | 2003 |
| | | | | | | | | | Wyoming | 1992 | 1996 |
| | | | | | | | | | AMER. SAMOA | 2006 | 1996 |
| | | | | | | | | | CANADA | 2001 | 2010 |
| | | | | | | | | | ENGLAND | ..... | 1964 |

A LOOK BACK AT EMBO'S FIRST CLASS

This is just the second recruiting class at Colorado under coach **Jon Embree** and his staff, so let's look back at his first one and see how many have already contributed. Like the recruiting services (with the exception of not playing to those schools who have large subscriber bases and thus often overrate players to keep a large paying customer base happy), we'll use a star system to gauge their contributions to the program at this point in time. Here's the scale:

- ★★★★★ All-conference performer (honorable mention) or better
- ★★★★ Starter/rotated into game regularly with first unit
- ★★★ Has seen limited game action or mostly on special teams
- ★★ Reserve performer/squad member; did not/has not played
- RS** Redshirted, has not yet had chance to play
- MED** No longer on team due to medical/injury reasons
- NIP★** No longer in program but at one time played
- NIP** No longer in OR never joined program

Five stars for honorable mention All-Pac 12 or better? The only recognized All-Pac 12 team is selected by the league coaches (AP does not pick one), and as was the case in the Big 12, with that many teams, very few schools will have more than a handful of players make first-team in any one season. Of the 22 recruits Embree & Company welcomed in 2011 fall camp (does not include grayshirt Alex Kelley, who enrolled his month), seven saw significant playing time (5★/4★), with another five seeing limited action (3★); one of the latter is no longer in the program. However, six players redshirted and haven't had the opportunity to play yet, two practiced but didn't make the two-deep and did not play, and two others are no longer in the program. Thus, 12 of 16 who did not redshirt worked their way into playing time in 2011, a pretty solid percentage (75.0). A closer look by class (*—denotes junior college transfer):

2011 (22)

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ★★★★★ Greg Henderson, CB | ★★★ Woodson Greer III, OLB | RS Marc Mustoe, OL |
| ★★★★ Malcolm Creer, RB | ★★★ Will Harlos, DB | RS Stephane Nembot, OL |
| ★★★★ Brady Daigh, ILB | ★★★ K.T. Tu'umalo, ILB | RS Nelson Spruce, WR |
| ★★★★ Tyler McCulloch, WR | ★★ *Brent Burnette, QB | NIP/3★ Paulay Asiata, OL |
| ★★★★ Will Oliver, PK | ★★ *Brad Cotner, OL | NIP/1★ Austin Vincent, WR |
| ★★★★ Juda Parker, DE | RS Jermene Clark, ILB | NIP Rashad Hall, RB |
| ★★★★ Kyle Washington, DB | RS Stevie Joe Dorman, QB | |
| ★★★ D.D. Goodson, KR/DB | RS Sherrard Harrington, DB | |

★★★★ **WALK-ONS:** P Darragh O'Neill (2011)

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

With **DB Yuri Wright** listing his hometown as Spring Valley, N.Y. (he played across the N.Y.-N.J. border about five miles to the southwest at Don Bosco Prep in Ramsey, N.J.), he is the first recruit with a hometown in New York state since 1979, when QB Glenn Law (Wellsville) and RB Clyde Riggins (Glen Cove) signed in what technically was Chuck Fairbanks' first class (Fairbanks could not legally coach yet due to a court injunction at the time; Bob Cortese coordinated recruiting).

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 and Pac-12 performers (or better) over the past 21 years and the top honor each earned in their prep careers. The Buffs have had good success in both areas; CU has signed **181** high school All-Americans (prior to this year), and has nurtured several others into prominent careers. Of the **68** players listed below, **34** (or 50 percent) were high school all-Americans by the various services, meaning **34**, or 50 percent, were not:

| Pos | Player | H.S. All-American | Top 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 |
| ILB | JORDON DIZON | NO | all-region, second-team all-state; consensus All-American, Butkus Award runner-up |
| 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 | RIAR GEER | NO | All-Midlands (SuperPrep), first-team all-state at quarterback |
| 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 |
| DT | GEORGE HYPOLITE | NO | all-region, all-league |
| 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) |
| CB | JIMMY SMITH | NO | first-team all-conference in high school |
| OT | NATE SOLDER | NO | all-state at tight end and linebacker (No. 45 TE in nation); finalist for Outland Trophy and consensus All-American in 2010 |
| DT | 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 **98** others with All-America honors who have completed their CU careers that never earned first-team all-league (though **58** of the **98** started at least one season). In this same span, **50** players who were not high school All-Americans have earned all-Big Eight/12 or better, with **137** such players earning starting positions. CU has four league titles and three other division titles in these 21 seasons.

TRIPLE DIP FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE '85

And a double-triple dip at that. No, not the dive Rodney Dangerfield performed in *Back to School* (that was the Triple Lindy), but the fact that the Buffs landed three recruits from the same high school, and twice at that this year, for the first time since 1985. **RB Donta Abron**, **DB Marques Mosley** and **FB Christian Powell** all are from Upland (Calif.) High School, while **DB Kenneth Crawley**, **DB John Walker** and **DL De'Jon Wilson** all hail from H.D. Woodson (Washington, D.C.). You have to go back 27 years to find the last time this has happened, when **DE Terry Jones**, **RB Jeff Knabenshue** and **DT Brad Robinson** signed with the Buffs out of Smoky Hill High School in Aurora. The only other time it has occurred in the last 35 years was in 1981, when **HB Ron Brown**, **OLB Wayne Carroll** and **TE Shawn Dantzler** made the trek to CU after starring together at John Muir High School in Pasadena, Calif.

SUPER BOWL TIES

One former Buff is in Indianapolis for Super Bowl XLVI this Sunday, as **OT Nate Solder** has been starting at right tackle for the New England Patriots. Solder will try to become the seventh Buffalo to earn a Super Bowl ring as a rookie in the league, joining **Terry Kunz** (Oakland, 1976), **Eric Coyle** (Washington, 1987), **Barry Helton** (San Francisco, 1988), **Matt Lepsis** (Denver, 1997), **Vili Maumau** (Denver, 1998) and **Tom Ashworth** (New England, 2001). Former CU assistant strength coach **Moses Cabrera** is also on the Patriot staff. This is just the third time the Super Bowl is being played *after* signing day.

POSITION CHANGES / NON-RETURNEES

No real position changes at this point; **DaVaughn Thornton** will make the full-time move to wide receiver from tight end, as he basically played both positions last fall, and **Alex Lewis** looks to settle in on the offensive line instead of both tackle and tight end that he played in 2011. **Jermame Clark** will remain at outside linebacker, where he moved to late last October from the secondary; **Nick Kasa** will also remain at tight end, where he played the second half of 2011 after moving over from defense (end).

Four players will not return from the 2011 squad for assorted reasons, including two walk-ons (*): **OL Paulay Asiata**, ***WR Drew Ebner**, ***DB Jordan Marquez** and **WR Austin Vincent**. Vincent was suspended by the school for the spring semester for an incident last fall on campus.

Colorado will have 57 players on scholarship for spring practice; one senior walk-on was placed on scholarship during the off-season, **WR Dustin Ebner**. There are 79 players on the spring roster as of February 1, but four are expected to miss spring practice at this point as they continue rehabilitation from assorted surgeries: **DL Nate Bonsu**, **TB Malcolm Creer**, **DB Vince Ewing** and **ILB Douglas Rippy**. The status of **QB Nick Hirschman** is yet to be determined as he underwent additional surgery for an injured foot in mid-January just before school started.

OFF-SEASON WEIGHT GAIN CHAMP: The winner is: **OL Stephone Nembot** has hit the weight room hard, going from 280 when he reported last July to 310.

COMBINE

The National Football League combine is this month at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis (February 22-28); at this time one CU senior has been invited to participate, **OG Ryan Miller**; the NFL website said the official list would be posted in late January but it was not as of February 1. For the first time, there are also eight regional combines that began Jan. 28 in Los Angeles and also will be held at team training facilities in Houston (Feb. 4), Baltimore (Feb. 11), Tampa Bay (Feb. 18), New York (Jets, Feb. 25), Chicago (March 3), Atlanta (March 10-11) and Cleveland (March 17). CU seniors will be showcased in the Buffs' own pro timing day on March 8; Colorado was one of the first to host their own, starting in the late 1980s. Now most schools do it but it is unknown what effect the regional combines will have on these.

PRO TIMING DAY

Colorado's annual pro-timing day will likely be either **Thursday, March 8**, when around 40-plus scouts from most, if not all, of the 32 National Football League teams visit Boulder to test CU's 2011 seniors in an assortment of drills. The schedule for the day is not finalized (they usually convene at 8:30 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, the practice bubble. CU had 17 alums in the NFL last year, including one in the Super Bowl this Sunday (**OT Nate Solder**, New England). CU had at least 20 players in the NFL for 17 straight seasons (1993-2009). All scouts must register with the football office; media can attend but must wear their 2011-12 CU Athletics credential; otherwise, the event is not open to the public. The current members of the CU team will go through similar workouts on a date yet to be determined (that is a private team session only).

SPRING PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Spring practice will begin **Saturday, March 10**, and end with the spring game on **Saturday, April 14**; for the second straight year, the spring finale will be played at night but most likely this time an hour earlier with a 5 p.m. kickoff. The tentative dates are as follows: **March 10-11-13-15-17-18-20-22** and **April 2-3-5-9-10-12-14**. The team is allowed 15 practices over 29 days; this is the third straight year drills will start prior to spring break (March 26-30) and will complete spring ball when the players return. 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).

AUGUST REPORTING DATE: Players will report August 6 for an evening meal and the first (non-football) meeting, with the first practice the next day (August 7) and the first full practice in pads on August 12. The first day of classes is August 27, with CU's first game set for September 2 (Colorado State in Denver). Looking way ahead, Fall/Thanksgiving Break is November 19-23, ahead of CU's game versus Utah (Nov. 23); classes end December 14 and finals are over December 20.

HEAD COACH JON EMBREE

Jon Embree is entering his second year as head football coach at the University of Colorado. He was named the school's 24th full-time head football coach (and the 26th overall including two interim) in program history on December 6, 2010, returning home to the state where he starred as a player in both high school and college as well as where he got his start in coaching.

Though this is his first head coaching position on any level, he brought 18 years of coaching experience to the CU program. That includes 10 seasons (1993-2002) as an assistant on the Colorado staff under three different head coaches, Bill McCartney (1993-94), Rick Neuheisel (1995-98) and Gary Barnett (1999-2002).

A stalwart tight end for the Buffaloes in the mid-1980s after an outstanding prep career at Cherry Creek High School, Embree returned to his alma mater from the National Football League's Washington Redskins, where he was in the process of completing his first season as tight ends coach under former Denver Bronco coach Mike Shanahan.

Embree, 46, is the first African-American ever named to the position at Colorado. He signed a five-year contract through the 2015 season, concluding his tenure as tight ends coach with the Redskins the day before he was introduced by athletic director Mike Bohn as CU's new head coach.

His first Buffalo team posted a 3-9 record, but had its moments, none bigger than the season finale when a 17-14 win at Utah snapped the longest road losing streak in program history (23 games) and kept the Utes from winning the inaugural Pac-12 South Division title. Embree's first win came against rival Colorado State in Denver, with the other verdict a 48-29 victory over Arizona in the final home game. The team suffered heart-breaking late losses to California (in overtime) and Washington State, and also endured the second-worst season in history in terms of games lost due to injury.

Embree, in fact, is just Colorado's third head football coach and the first in nearly 50 years who also graduated from the school, earning his degree in Communication in 1988. The last was Bud Davis ('51), who coached for one season (1962) to steady the waters after the Sonny Grandelius era, with the only other, Harry Heller, also coaching just one year, leading Colorado to an 8-1 record in 1894; Heller was an 1885 CU graduate.

After a stellar prep career at Cherry Creek High School in Englewood, he was a key member of the 1983 recruiting class, the first by McCartney, who had taken over as head coach just two months before the start of the '82 season. McCartney made a pitch to the top in-state recruits to pledge their allegiance to CU and to help turn around a program that had won just nine games over the previous four years. Embree and several others listened, and McCartney was on the money with what the group would accomplish.

Embree would become a four-year letterman for the Buffaloes, playing immediately as a true freshman in '83 when he earned the school's Lee Willard Award as the school's most outstanding freshman. The following year, he earned first-team All-Big 8 honors in setting school single-season records for receptions (51) and receiving yards (680). When CU moved to the wishbone on offense for his junior year, his receiving numbers naturally went down but he established himself as one of the premier blocking tight ends in the game. He ended his career in the top five in both catches (80) and yards (1,116), numbers which still have him in the school's top 20 today. After 4-7 and 1-10 records his first two years, the move to the wishbone helped the Buffs to 7-5 and 6-6 records Embree's last two seasons, including appearances in the Freedom and Bluebonnet bowls. The 13 wins over the '85 and '86 seasons were one fewer than Colorado had from 1979-84, the 14 being the fewest in college football; McCartney's plan to win with home grown talent had worked, and no one played a bigger role in that than Embree.

In 1989, fans selected CU's All-Century Team, with the 53-man team commemorating the school's first 100 years of intercollegiate football; no modern day tight ends made the first team, but Embree joined such Buffalo stalwarts as J.V. Cain, Don Hasselbeck and Jerry Hillebrand on the honorable mention squad, placing him among the best tight ends in school history.

A sixth round selection by the Los Angeles Rams in the 1987 NFL Draft, Embree played two seasons with the Rams before suffering a career-ending elbow injury in 1989 while a member of the Seattle Seahawks. He underwent "Tommy John" surgery, which requires at least a year of rehab, and he opted to turn his attention to a career outside of football. Having interned at two Denver television stations while a student at CU, he worked with his former colleagues at KCNC-TV in Denver to try and place him in a smaller market with the plan that he eventually could return to Denver.

In the midst of pursuing a television career, McCartney recruited him again, this time as a volunteer coach for the tight ends for the 1991 season. Embree had never really thought of coaching before that call, but after just one day on the field that spring, he knew it was his calling. He told Mac he loved it, but left out that he "wanted his job." From that moment on, it was his goal to become the head coach at his alma mater.

So he began his coaching career in March 1991 as a volunteer coach under McCartney, and then worked as an assistant coach at Douglas County (Colo.) High School the following year before returning CU for his first full-time position in the profession, coaching the tight ends for the last two years of McCartney's tenure. Under Neuheisel, he swapped sides of the football and tutored the defensive ends for those four seasons, before mentoring the tight ends once again in Barnett's first two years. He then switched to coaching the receivers and placekickers the next two years (2001-02), helping CU win its only Big 12 Conference title in '01, while both those squads claimed North Division titles in going 14-2 in league play over two seasons, one of the best two-year marks in the now-defunct 12-team conference's history.

As an assistant at Colorado, the Buffaloes posted an 81-39-1 record, 89-42-2 including his volunteer season; including that campaign, he coached in nine bowl games in the 11 seasons, including three New Year's Day games (all Fiesta bowls).

Embree left Colorado to join Dorrell when he was named head coach at UCLA ahead of the 2003 season. Embree coached the receivers there his first season, and then was promoted to assistant head coach and passing game coordinator in addition to tight ends coach for the 2004 and 2005 seasons. He then made his move into the NFL, where he coached the tight ends for three seasons (2006-08) under Herm Edwards with the Kansas City Chiefs.

In his career, Embree coached four of the best tight ends to ever play the game, including John Mackey Award winners Daniel Graham at Colorado and Mercedes Lewis at UCLA as well as CU's Christian Fauria, a 12-year professional, and perennial All-Pro Tony Gonzalez while with the Chiefs.

He was born October 15, 1965 in Los Angeles, and graduated in 1983 from Cherry Creek High School in Englewood (Colo.), where he lettered three times in football for legendary Colorado prep coach Fred Tesone. He also lettered three times in basketball (hitting a winning shot over Poudre in a state playoff game as a senior) and four times in track. He selected Colorado as his college of choice in the end over Ohio State, UCLA and Southern Cal.

Embree is married to the former Natalyn Grubb, and the couple still has one child at home, daughter Hannah (16). They have raised two football-playing sons, who, in keeping with the CU family theme, selected colleges under the tutelage of two former Buff coaches. The eldest, Taylor, is a senior wide receiver at UCLA, where Neuheisel is head coach (he has 117 career receptions for 1,548 yards and two touchdowns). Connor, also a receiver, redshirted as a freshman at UNLV under head coach Bobby Hauck, who was an assistant at Colorado under Neuheisel; he has since transferred to Kansas. Jon Embree was on coaching staffs with both Neuheisel (five seasons) and Hauck (four).

THE COLORADO 2012 COACHING STAFF

| | |
|--|---|
| Head Coach | Jon Embree (<i>Colorado '87</i>) |
| Assistant Head Coach / Quarterbacks | Rip Scherer (<i>William & Mary '74</i>) |
| Offensive Coordinator / Running Backs | Eric Bieniemy (<i>Colorado '01</i>) |
| Passing Game Coordinator / Tight Ends / Special Teams | J.D. Brookhart (<i>Colorado State '88</i>) |
| Offensive Line | Steve Marshall (<i>Louisville '79</i>) |
| Receivers | Bobby Kennedy (<i>Northern Colorado '89</i>) |
| Defensive Coordinator / Secondary | Greg Brown (<i>Texas El-Paso '80</i>) |
| Defensive Run Game Coordinator / Linebackers | Brian Cabral (<i>Colorado '78</i>) |
| Defensive Line / Assistant Special Teams | Kanavis McGhee (<i>Colorado '95</i>) |
| Defensive Line | Mike Tuiasosopo (<i>Pacific Lutheran '89</i>) |
| Offensive Graduate Assistant | Matt Thurin (<i>Baldwin-Wallace '07</i>) |
| Defensive Graduate Assistant | Jeff Smart (<i>Colorado '09</i>) |
| Offensive Technical Intern | Travis Smith (<i>San Luis Obispo '09</i>) |
| Defensive Technical Intern | Bert Watts (<i>California '02</i>) |
| Director of Football Operations | Jashon Sykes (<i>Colorado '02</i>) |
| Director of Player Personnel | Darian Hagan (<i>Colorado '96</i>) |
| Director of High School Relations | Kirk Jones (<i>Metro State '09</i>) |
| Assistant Director of Player Personnel | Max Allen (<i>Colorado '10</i>) |
| Director of Strength & Conditioning | Malcolm Blacken (<i>Virginia Tech '89</i>) |

INJURY UPDATE

Here's a look at Colorado's off-season injury situation as of February 1:

| Pos | Player | Injury | Notes | Status/Spring |
|-----|---------------------|----------|---|---------------|
| CB | Jered Bell | knee | suffered a torn ACL in the third fall practice (Aug. 6); scheduled for surgery | PROBABLE |
| DT | Nate Bonus | shoulder | underwent postseason surgery to clean up chronic issue | OUT |
| TB | Malcolm Creer | knee | suffered a severe sprain in the second quarter at Arizona State (Oct. 29); had November surgery | OUT |
| ILB | Brady Daigh | wrist | underwent postseason surgery to mend break that occurred late in the season | PROBABLE |
| DB | Vince Ewing | knee | will undergo surgery for chronic problems in January | OUT |
| DB | Sherrard Harrington | hip | sat out true freshman season with a stress fracture, rehabbed without surgery | PROBABLE |
| OT | Jack Harris | ankle | suffered a break in the California game, had surgery Sept. 22 | PROBABLE |
| QB | Nick Hirschman | foot | underwent additional surgery for injury sustained in camp; too early to know spring involvement | QUESTIONABLE |
| ILB | Douglas Rippy | knee | suffered torn ligaments against Washington (Oct. 15) and underwent surgery on Nov. 15 | OUT |
| WR | Alex Turbow | hernia | underwent postseason surgery | PROBABLE |

HIPAA: The players listed above have signed waivers for their injury information to be released/discussed with the media.

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 is listed as either OUT, DOUBTFUL, QUESTIONABLE, DAY-TO-DAY, PROBABLE or DEFINITE. Injuries will be updated in-game, postgame and the Sunday after the game.

FEWEST SENIORS SINCE 2000

Last year, Colorado had its most seniors (28) since there were 30 on the roster in 1987; fast-forward to 2012, and barring any attrition, will only have 10 of them suiting up for the final time as Buffaloes this fall—the fewest since nine did so in the 2000 season. It's tied for the fourth smallest CU senior class since 1962 (the last 50 years), as only the teams from 1995 (seven), 1986 (nine) and 2000 (nine) had fewer. In 1995, a rarity occurred: all seven CU seniors were invited to the Hula Bowl, likely the only time in college football history 100 percent of a school's senior class was in the same postseason all-star game).

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1982—13 | 1986—9 | 1990—24 | 1994—13 | 1998—13 | 2002—23 | 2006—26 | 2010—16 |
| 1983—25 | 1987—30 | 1991—13 | 1995—7 | 1999—22 | 2003—21 | 2007—17 | 2011—28 |
| 1984—22 | 1988—10 | 1992—11 | 1996—18 | 2000—9 | 2004—11 | 2008—17 | 2012—10 |
| 1985—16 | 1989—14 | 1993—19 | 1997—22 | 2001—26 | 2005—20 | 2009—16 | |

★ In the program's most recent heyday, 1989-96, when CU sported the fourth best record in college football (78-15-4), the average number of seniors per team was 14.9. The 1989 team that went 11-0 boasted just 14 seniors, and that 1995 team, minus 10 NFL draft selections in the first 71 picks, went 10-2 with just the seven seniors.

CU-COLORADO STATE TO BE PLAYED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

The **Cinch Jeans Rocky Mountain Showdown**, the annual in-state battle between Colorado and Colorado State, will kick off the season for both teams on Sunday, September 2; the game had been scheduled the day before (September 1), but will move so it can accommodate an expected national television audience on either ESPN or Fox Sports. Thus, the game time won't be known until television arrangements are finalized; it once again will be played in Denver at Sports Authority Field at Mile High. This will be the 84th meeting between the two, as Colorado leads the all-time series by a 61-20-2 count. It will mark the 18th straight year the rivalry will be televised on either a national or regional basis (10 day games, eight night games) and it will be the 12th time the two will play in Denver, where CU owns a 7-4 advantage, including wins in the last four played in Colorado's capital city.

PAC-12 INSTITUTIONS AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST, BUFFS WHERE THEY BELONG

The Center of World-Class Universities of Shanghai Jiao Tong University has recognized the academic excellence of Pac-12 member institutions in its 2011 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU). Stanford, Cal and UCLA were three of the top 10 U.S. universities in the rankings, leaving the Pac-12 second only to the Ivy League, which had four in the top 10. Harvard was No. 1, followed by Stanford, MIT, California and Cambridge (England). Overall, nine Pac-12 schools were ranked in the top 100 schools worldwide, including Stanford (2), Cal (4), UCLA (12), Washington (16), **Colorado** (32), USC (46), Arizona State (78), Utah (79) and Arizona (80). As for CU's former conference, the Big 12? Texas (35) and Texas A&M (100) were the only two in the top 100.

PAC-12 NETWORK UPDATE

The Pac-12 is confident it will be launching its seven networks this August, fully intent on honoring its pledge of all football games being on live television beginning with 2012 season. The approximate breakdown of live telecasts for the 2012-13 athletic year figures to be in this range: 130 events on the first platform (ABC/ESPN family; FOX/FSN/FX); 350 events on the Pac-12 Network and 500 events on the Pac-12 Regional Networks (Mountain, Arizona, Bay Area, Los Angeles, Oregon, Washington). Those who already subscribe to Comcast, Cox Communications, Time Warner and Bright House Networks will receive the Pac-12 Network and their local regional network on their basic tier; the other five regional networks could be added as part of the sports tier down the road.

A LOOK AT THE PAC-12 DIVISIONS

Late in 2010, the divisions in football for the new Pac-12 were announced: CU joined Arizona, Arizona State, Southern California, UCLA and Utah in the Pac-12 South; the Oregon and Washington schools along with Cal and Stanford comprise the Pac-12 North. Here's a look at the divisions and the all-time records of each program as listed by the NCAA through all games of 2011 (2011 records in parenthesis):

| PAC-12 SOUTH | | | | | | | PAC-12 NORTH | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------|--------|-------|------|------|-----|------|
| | Season | Games | W | L | T | Pct. | | Season | Games | W | L | T | Pct. |
| Arizona (4-8) | 108 | 1,021 | 565 | 423 | 33 | .570 | California (7-6) | 119 | 1,207 | 655 | 500 | 52 | .564 |
| Arizona State (6-7) | 99 | 941 | 561 | 356 | 24 | .609 | Oregon (12-2) | 116 | 1,120 | 602 | 472 | 46 | .558 |
| Colorado (3-10) | 122 | 1,162 | 674 | 452 | 36 | .596 | Oregon State (3-9) | 115 | 1,099 | 502 | 547 | 50 | .480 |
| Southern California (10-2) | 119 | 1,146 | 779 | 313 | 54 | .703 | Stanford (11-2) | 105 | 1,066 | 583 | 434 | 49 | .570 |
| UCLA (6-8) | 93 | 973 | 555 | 381 | 37 | .589 | Washington (7-6) | 122 | 1,138 | 670 | 418 | 50 | .611 |
| Utah (8-5) | 118 | 1,082 | 623 | 428 | 31 | .590 | Washington State (4-8) | 116 | 1,059 | 501 | 513 | 45 | .494 |
| Totals | | 6,325 | 3757 | 2353 | 215 | .611 | Totals | | 6,689 | 3513 | 2884 | 292 | .547 |

ALL-TIME PAC-12 HEAD-TO-HEAD STANDINGS

A look at the team versus team histories in the Pac-12 (won-lost-tied):

| School | UA | ASU | CAL | COLO | OREG | OSU | STAN | UCLA | USC | UTAH | WASH | WSU | Totals |
|------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|----------------|
| Arizona | ..... | 38-36-1 | 15-14-2 | 1-13 | 14-23 | 21-14-1 | 14-13 | 14-19-2 | 7-26 | 15-20-2 | 9-18-1 | 25-13 | 174-208-9 |
| Arizona State | 36-38-1 | ..... | 14-17 | 3-0 | 16-16 | 26-11-1 | 16-11 | 10-17-1 | 10-18 | 17-6 | 16-14 | 24-12-2 | 188-160-5 |
| California | 14-15-2 | 17-14 | ..... | 3-2 | 37-32-1 | 33-30 | 41-44-6 | 31-50-1 | 29-63-5 | 5-3 | 38-47-3 | 43-25-5 | 291-325-23 |
| Colorado | 13-1 | 0-3 | 2-3 | ..... | 8-7 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 2-5 | 0-6 | 31-24-3 | 5-6-1 | 4-3 | 70-65-4 |
| Oregon | 23-14 | 16-16 | 32-37-1 | 7-8 | ..... | 46-43-6 | 30-41-1 | 26-39 | 17-38-2 | 18-8 | 37-51-4 | 44-33-6 | 295-328-20 |
| Oregon State | 14-21-1 | 11-26-1 | 30-33 | 3-2 | 43-46-6 | ..... | 25-50-3 | 15-41-4 | 10-59-4 | 9-6-1 | 31-50-2 | 39-46-3 | 230-380-25 |
| Stanford | 13-14 | 11-16 | 44-41-6 | 4-3 | 41-30-1 | 50-25-3 | ..... | 34-45-3 | 27-59-3 | 2-2 | 37-40-4 | 36-25-1 | 299-300-21 |
| UCLA | 19-14-2 | 17-10-1 | 50-31-1 | 5-2 | 39-26 | 41-15-4 | 45-34-3 | ..... | 28-46-7 | 8-2 | 38-30-2 | 39-18-1 | 329-228-21 |
| USC | 26-7 | 18-10 | 63-25-4 | 6-0 | 38-17-2 | 59-10-4 | 59-27-3 | 46-28-7 | ..... | 7-3 | 50-28-4 | 58-8-4 | 430-163-28 |
| Utah | 20-15-2 | 6-17 | 3-5 | 24-31-3 | 8-18 | 6-9-1 | 2-2 | 2-8 | 3-7 | ..... | 0-7 | 6-5 | 80-124-6 |
| Washington | 9-18-1 | 14-16 | 47-38-3 | 6-5-1 | 51-37-4 | 50-31-2 | 40-37-4 | 30-38-2 | 28-50-2 | 7-0 | ..... | 59-29-4 | 341-291-23 |
| Washington State | 13-25 | 12-24-2 | 25-43-5 | 3-4 | 33-44-6 | 46-39-3 | 25-36-1 | 18-39-1 | 8-58-4 | 5-6 | 29-59-4 | ..... | 209-319-22 |

2011 FINAL PAC-12 CONFERENCE STANDINGS

| School (AP/Coaches/Harris/BCS) | conference | | | | | overall | | | | | | Next Up |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| | W | L | Pct. | Pts | Opp | W | L | Pct. | Pts | Opp | | |
| UCLA | 5 | 4 | .556 | 197 | 266 | 6 | 8 | .429 | 323 | 439 | S 1 | at Rice |
| Utah | 4 | 5 | .444 | 188 | 202 | 8 | 5 | .615 | 325 | 263 | A 30 | NORTHERN COLORADO |
| Arizona State | 4 | 5 | .444 | 308 | 255 | 6 | 7 | .462 | 431 | 372 | S 1 | NORTHERN ARIZONA |
| COLORADO | 2 | 7 | .222 | 162 | 354 | 3 | 10 | .231 | 257 | 475 | S 2 | Colorado State (Denver) |
| Arizona | 2 | 7 | .222 | 269 | 341 | 4 | 8 | .333 | 369 | 425 | S 1 | TOLEDO |
| #Southern California (#6/-/-/-) | 7 | 2 | .778 | 341 | 232 | 10 | 2 | .833 | 429 | 283 | S 1 | HAWAI'I |

| School (AP/Coaches/Harris/BCS) | conference | | | | | overall | | | | | | Next Up |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|------|-----|-----|---------|---|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| | W | L | Pct. | Pts | Opp | W | L | Pct. | Pts | Opp | | |
| Oregon (#4/#4/#5/#5) | 8 | 1 | .889 | 399 | 209 | 12 | 2 | .857 | 645 | 345 | S 1 | ARKANSAS STATE |
| Stanford (#7/#7/#4/#4) | 8 | 1 | .889 | 394 | 213 | 11 | 2 | .846 | 561 | 285 | S 1 | SAN JOSE STATE |
| Washington (--RV/-/-) | 5 | 4 | .556 | 270 | 290 | 7 | 6 | .538 | 434 | 467 | S 1 | SAN DIEGO STATE |
| California | 4 | 5 | .444 | 223 | 227 | 7 | 6 | .538 | 368 | 314 | S 1 | NEVADA |
| Oregon State | 3 | 6 | .333 | 206 | 268 | 3 | 9 | .250 | 262 | 370 | S 1 | NICHOLLS STATE |
| Washington State | 2 | 7 | .222 | 211 | 311 | 4 | 8 | .333 | 358 | 381 | S 1 | at Brigham Young |

(#—ineligible for Pac-12 championship; the CU-California game completed a previous home-and-home series and did not count as a Pac-12 game.)

FALL ACADEMIC UPDATE

The grade point average for the fall 2011 semester for all 321 CU student-athletes was 2.867, while the cumulative grade point was 2.876; it was the best fall GPA on record and the third highest ever recorded. Seven of the 14 programs (indoor and outdoor track are combined) boasted grade points of 3.0 or better for the semester, with the same seven also sporting a cumulative grade point besting the 3.0 mark. Football recorded its best semester GPA (2.661) since the information was first compiled in 1992. Overall, 229 student-athletes own grade points over 2.5 (71%), 154 over 3.0 (48%, which is also a record) and 65 over 3.5 (20%, just one percentage point shy of the previous best). The women's men's ski, women's cross country, women's tennis and the women's ski teams led the way; a closer look:

| Team | Fall GPA | Cum.GPA | Team | Fall GPA | Cum.GPA | Team | Fall GPA | Cum.GPA |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|----------------|----------|---------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Men's Basketball | 2.664 | 2.757 | Men's Golf | 2.803 | 2.706 | Women's Tennis | 3.211 | 3.314 |
| Women's Basketball | 2.853 | 2.861 | Women's Golf | 3.034 | 3.179 | Men's Track & Field | 2.794 | 2.807 |
| Men's Cross Country | 2.958 | 2.952 | Men's Skiing | 3.402 | 3.484 | Women's Track & Field | 3.067 | 3.159 |
| Women's Cross Country | 3.307 | 3.288 | Women's Skiing | 3.172 | 3.296 | <u>Women's Volleyball</u> | <u>2.830</u> | <u>2.964</u> |
| Football | 2.661 | 2.648 | Women's Soccer | 3.088 | 3.056 | All Varsity Sports | 2.867 | 2.876 |

YOUTH WAS SERVED

In 2011, 36 schools (or just under one-third of the FBS) played 10 or more freshmen last fall. Army and Texas led the way with 18, followed by Auburn, Georgia, Indiana and Tennessee (16) and then Colorado, Florida and Florida State (15), tied for playing the seventh most. That number led the Pac-12 Conference (Arizona, Cal and Oregon State were next with 10). Here's a nationwide look of true freshmen played in 2011:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|----|-----------------|-----------|---------------|----|------------|----|----------------|----|---------------|----|
| Army | 18 | Indiana | 16 | Florida State | 15 | Virginia | 12 | Marshall | 11 | Wyoming | 11 |
| Texas | 18 | Tennessee | 16 | Ohio State | 14 | Arkansas | 11 | North Texas | 11 | Thirteen with | 10 |
| Auburn | 16 | Colorado | 15 | Akron | 13 | Kentucky | 11 | South Carolina | 11 | | |
| Georgia | 16 | Florida | 15 | Clemson | 13 | Louisville | 11 | Texas Tech | 11 | | |

OVERALL FRESHMEN PLAYED (True & Redshirt): Clemson 29, Indiana 29, Auburn 26, Florida State 26, Texas 26, **Colorado 25**, Georgia 25, Mississippi State 25, South Carolina 25, UCF 25, Virginia Tech 25 (next Pac-12: Arizona 23, Oregon State 23).

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

Here's where the Buffs ranked statistically in select categories in the Pac-12 and the NCAA in 2011:

| TEAM | | | | Pac12 | | | | NCAA | | | | Category | | | | Stat | | | |
|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------|-----------------|-------|------|--|--|--|
| Pac12 | NCAA | Category | Stat | Pac12 | NCAA | Category | Stat | Pac12 | NCAA | Category | Stat | Pac12 | NCAA | Category | Stat | | | | |
| 9th | 106th | RUSHING OFFENSE | 108.7 | 10th | 89th | RUSHING DEFENSE | 183.9 | 10th | 105th | PUNT RETURNS | 4.3 | 9th | 57th | PASSING OFFENSE | 237.6 | | | | |
| 11th | 92nd | TOTAL OFFENSE | 346.3 | 8th | 97th | PASSING DEFENSE | 255.4 | 12th | 115th | KICKOFF RETURNS | 18.6 | 12th | 109th | SCORING OFFENSE | 19.8 | | | | |
| 12th | 109th | SCORING DEFENSE | 36.5 | 10th | 102nd | TOTAL DEFENSE | 439.3 | 8th | 45th | NET PUNTING | 37.3 | 12th | 109th | SCORING DEFENSE | 36.5 | | | | |
| 12th | 109th | SCORING DEFENSE | 36.5 | 12th | 109th | SCORING DEFENSE | 36.5 | 8th | 84th | TURNOVER MARGIN | -0.31 | | | | | | | | |

| INDIVIDUAL (Top 25 in conference) | | | | Pac-12 | | | | NCAA | | | | Category | | | | Stat | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|---------|-----------------|--------|-------|--------|----------------------------|---|-------|-------|--------------------|--------|-------|---------|------|--|--|--|
| Rushing | Pac-12 | NCAA | Yds/Gm | Receiving Yards | Pac-12 | NCAA | Yds/Gm | Field Goals | Pac-12 | NCAA | FG/Gm | Tackles For Loss | Pac-12 | NCAA | Pts/Gm | | | | |
| Rodney Stewart | 9th | 57th | 77.6 | Toney Clemons | 17th | ..... | 52.3 | Will Oliver | 8th | 68th | 0.92 | Josh Hartigan | 11th | ..... | 0.77 | | | | |
| Tony Jones | 22nd | ..... | 24.8 | Rodney Stewart | 18th | ..... | 51.9 | Patrick Mahnke | 20th | ..... | 0.67 | Jason Espinoza | 17th | ..... | 2 | | | | |
| Passing Yards | Pac-12 | NCAA | Avg./Gm | Punting | Pac-12 | NCAA | Avg. | Interceptions | Pac-12 | NCAA | Total | QB Sacks | Pac-12 | NCAA | Avg./Gm | | | | |
| Tyler Hansen | 9th | 44th | 221.8 | Darragh O'Neill | 5th | 31st | 42.6 | Chidera Uzo-Diribe | 4th | 59th | 0.54 | Chidera Uzo-Diribe | 9th | 92nd | 0.46 | | | | |
| Passing Efficiency | Pac-12 | NCAA | Yds/Gm | Punt Returns | Pac-12 | NCAA | Avg. | Tackles / Tackles For Loss | CU uses coaches' video; numbers don't match | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tyler Hansen | 11th | 78th | 125.5 | None qualified | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Offense | Pac-12 | NCAA | Yds/Gm | Kickoff Returns | Pac-12 | NCAA | Avg. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tyler Hansen | 8th | 52nd | 230.6 | None qualified | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rodney Stewart | 20th | ..... | 78.9 | Scoring | Pac-12 | NCAA | Pts/Gm | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All-Purpose | Pac-12 | NCAA | Yds/Gm | Will Oliver | 21st | ..... | 5.2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rodney Stewart | 3rd | 14th | 153.3 | Kick Scoring | Pac-12 | NCAA | Pts/Gm | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receptions | Pac-12 | NCAA | No./Gm | Will Oliver | 10th | 57th | 5.2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rodney Stewart | 16th | ..... | 4.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Toney Clemons | 25th | ..... | 3.3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TV LAND

Colorado has had 191 of its last 270 games dating back to 1990 broadcast nationally or regionally (71 percent), including all 13 in 2011, the first time in school history that all games were televised on a regional or national basis. Since 1996, when the Big 12 began and TV contracts changed, and not including pay-per-view, 154 of CU's 197 games have been either nationally or regionally televised, which is an impressive 78 percent. In CU's first year as a member of the Pac-12, all 13 of the Buffs' games were televised on a regional or national basis (something that never would have happened in the Big 12). In addition, CU has had 40 of its last 46 non-conference games (87%) televised on a national or regional basis (36 of 42 was easily tops in the Big 12). **ANNUAL TV APPEARANCES SINCE 1996 (153):** 1996 (10), 1997 (10), 1998 (9), 1999 (9), 2000 (7), 2001 (10), 2002 (12), 2003 (7), 2004 (9), 2005 (10), 2006 (7), 2007 (11), 2008 (10), 2009 (11), 2010 (9), 2011 (13).

HISTORICALLY

Colorado is in its second century of intercollegiate football, as the Buffaloes have completed their 122nd season of competition having played **1,162** games with an all-time record of **674-452-36**. CU currently stands 21st on the all-time win list and is 28th in all-time winning percentage (.596; those schools with at least 50 seasons in Division I-A). Only 12 Division I schools have played more seasons of intercollegiate football than Colorado; Washington is the only Pac-12 school that matches CU's total of 122, with only USC having won more games (779) and USC, Washington and Arizona State the Pac-12 schools owning higher winning percentages than the Buffs. In Boulder, the Buffs are **297-150-10** in 86 seasons on the "hilltop" (Folsom Field).

43 WINS OVER RANKED TEAMS 13TH BEST SINCE '89

CU's 43 wins over *Associated Press* ranked teams since the start of the 1989 season are the 13th most in the nation in this time frame (23 seasons). Florida State has the most with 71, followed by Florida (68), Ohio State (64), Michigan (62), Miami, Fla. (56), Southern Cal (55), Alabama (54), LSU (53), Tennessee (52), Oklahoma (49), Texas (46), Penn State (44), **Colorado (43)**, Auburn (43), Nebraska (43), Notre Dame (42) and Georgia (42); as for the Pac-12, after USC and CU, the next schools on the list are Oregon (39), Washington (39) and UCLA (38). All-time, Colorado's 66 wins over ranked teams are the 23rd most in history. **Since 1989, CU has played the sixth most ranked teams in the nation (111), trailing only Florida (124), LSU (114), Ohio State (114), Florida State (113) and Michigan (113).** (AP polls used for these figures because the coaches' poll omits teams on probation, but AP does not.)

- Colorado's last three wins over ranked teams came against No. 17 Kansas in 2009 (34-30), No. 21 West Virginia in 2008 (17-14 in OT) and No. 3 Oklahoma in 2007 (27-24), its last over a top 10/top 5 team.
- CU has lost eight straight against ranked teams (last win: 34-30 over Kansas in 2009); the Buffs have lost 18 straight road games against ranked opponents, with the last win a 31-17 over UCLA at the Rose Bowl in 2002.

2011 SENIORS

There were 28 seniors on the Colorado team this past season (22 fifth-year, six fourth-year); here's a look at where they stand academically through the fall semester. Fifteen have already graduated, including 11 in the school's December class, with the other 13 on schedule to do so this May. The 2011 senior class (*—denotes fourth-year senior; TGD—targeted graduation date):

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Cl. | Exp. | Hometown (High School/Previous College) | Major | TGD |
|---|---------------------|------|------|-----|-----|------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 63 | ADKINS, Ethan | OL | 6-4 | 290 | Sr. | 2L | Castle Rock, Colo. (Douglas County) | Sociology | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 47 | AHLES, Tyler | FB | 6-2 | 235 | Sr. | 3L | San Bernardino, Calif. (Cajon) | Sociology | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 43 | BAHR, Matthew | TE | 6-4 | 260 | Sr. | 3L | Dove Canyon, Calif. (Mission Viejo) | Communication | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 66 | BEHRENS, Blake | OL | 6-3 | 300 | Sr. | 2L | Phoenix, Ariz. (Brophy Prep) | Business & Economics (a) | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 35 | CEFALO, Kyle | WR | 5-10 | 170 | Sr. | 1L | Boise, Idaho (Bishop Kelly/Oregon State/Wenatchee CC) | History | May '12 |
| 60 | CLARK, David | OL | 6-4 | 315 | Sr. | 2L | Aspen, Colo. (Aspen) | History & Sociology | May '12 |
| 17 | CLEMONS, Toney | WR | 6-2 | 210 | Sr. | 1L | New Kensington, Pa. (Valley/Michigan) | Sociology | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 50 | *CUNNINGHAM, Curtis | DT | 6-1 | 285 | Sr. | 3L | Littleton, Colo. (Columbine) | International Affairs | May '12 |
| 68 | DANIELS, Shawn | OL | 6-3 | 275 | Sr. | 1L | Evergreen, Colo. (Denver Mullen) | Environmental Science | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 34 | *DEEHAN, Ryan | TE | 6-5 | 245 | Sr. | 3L | Poway, Calif. (Poway) | Communication | May '12 |
| 15 | ESPINOZA, Jason | WR | 5-8 | 180 | Sr. | 3L | Alamosa, Colo. (Alamosa) | Communication | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 55 | GOLDBERG, David | DL | 6-1 | 245 | Sr. | 2L | Aspen, Colo. (Aspen/Penn State) | History | May '12 |
| 9 | *HANSEN, Tyler | QB | 6-1 | 215 | Sr. | 3L | Murrieta, Calif. (Chaparral) | Communication | May '12 |
| 49 | *HARRINGTON, Evan | FB | 5-11 | 230 | Sr. | 1L | Washington, D.C. (Bowie, Md./College of the Canyons) | Sociology | May '12 |
| 17 | HARTIGAN, Josh | DE | 6-1 | 215 | Sr. | 3L | Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Northeast) | Sociology & Ethnic Studies (d) | Graduated (Dec. '10) |
| 18 | HAWKINS, Jonathan | DB | 5-11 | 195 | Sr. | 3L | Perris, Calif. (Rancho Verde) | Sociology | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 22 | JAFFEE, Arthur | DB | 5-11 | 215 | Sr. | 2L | Boulder, Colo. (Fairview) | Environmental Studies | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 20 | LOCKRIDGE, Brian | TB | 5-7 | 180 | Sr. | 3L | Trabuco Canyon, Calif. (Mission Viejo) | Communication | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 12 | *MAHNKE, Patrick | ILB | 6-1 | 210 | Sr. | 3L | Parker, Colo. (Mountain Vista) | Communication | May '12 |
| 73 | MILLER, Ryan | OL | 6-8 | 305 | Sr. | 4L | Littleton, Colo. (Columbine) | Anthropology | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 93 | OBI, Conrad | DT | 6-3 | 290 | Sr. | 3L | Grayson, Ga. (Grayson) | Ethnic Studies | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 7 | PERKINS, Anthony | DB | 5-10 | 200 | Sr. | 3L | Northglenn, Colo. (Northglenn) | Integrative Physiology & History (e) | Graduated (Dec. '10) |
| 95 | POREMPA, Tony | DE | 6-1 | 230 | Sr. | 1L | Greenwood Village, Colo. (Cherry Creek) | Economics & Business | May '12 |
| 19 | SANDERSFELD, Travis | DB | 6-0 | 205 | Sr. | 3L | Limon, Colo. (Limon) | Business/Finance | Graduated (Dec. '11) |
| 5 | *STEWART, Rodney | TB | 5-6 | 175 | Sr. | 3L | Westerville, Ohio (Brookhaven) | Sociology | May '12 |
| 79 | TAU, Sione | OL | 6-5 | 350 | Sr. | VR | Honolulu, Hawai'i (Damien Memorial) | Sociology | May '12 |
| Transferred To CU For Graduate Programs: | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | BRUNDAGE, Mark | P | 6-1 | 180 | Sr. | TR | Centennial, Colo. (Cherokee Trail/Rice) | Engineering (b) | May '13 |
| 2 | GRAY, Logan | WR | 6-2 | 190 | Sr. | TR | Columbia, Mo. (Rock Bridge/Georgia) | Education/C&I (c) | May '13 |

(a)—earned two degrees: B.S. in Business in two areas of emphasis (Finance, Accounting) and a B.A. in Economics; (b)—he graduated from Rice University in May '11 with a degree in Civil Engineering; working toward his Master's at Colorado; (c)—graduated from University of Georgia with a degree in Speech Communication in May '11; working toward his Master's at Colorado; (d)—added second major in Ethnic Studies in Dec. '11; (e)—added second major in History in Dec. 11.

GRADUATION REVIEW

Over the last decade, Colorado has had **164** of its **184** seniors graduate; these are the 2001-2010 senior classes, including those players who received medicals. That translates to **89.1** percent, with one of the 20 non-grads still in school and looking to graduate within the next year, while four are in the NFL. NCAA numbers will not match these (it doesn't allow a school to count transfers who graduate, but it does count against a school if it had a player transfer; it also does not count walk-ons). It's one of the reasons the numbers are skewed to be lower than they really are, especially at tougher academic schools like Colorado.

WR TONEY CLEMONS (after the win over Utah): "The best uniform I'll wear is that cap and gown."

SEVENTY PLAYERS LETTER

Colorado had **70** players earn letters in 2011, **32** offensive players, **33** defensive players and **5** specialists. There are five 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 (or JUCO) who gave up his redshirt year for the benefit of the team (unless injured and can get a medical redshirt); play fewer than the 100 plays but a pivotal role on scout teams, subbing for an injured player, or being lost for the season due to injury without a redshirt year available; or be a senior in good academic standing. The 2011 lettermen (28 seniors listed in **bold**):

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| ADKINS, Ethan | 3L | CUNNINGHAM, Curtis | 4L | HANDLER, Gus | 1L | LOCKRIDGE, Brian | 4L | POLK, Ray | 3L |
| AHLES, Tyler | 4L | DAIGH, Brady | 1L | HANSEN, Tyler | 4L | MAHNKE, Patrick | 4L | POREMBA, Tony | 2L |
| ASIATA, Paulay | 1L | DANIELS, Shawn | 2L | HARLOS, Will | 1L | MAJOR, Jon | 3L | RICHARDSON, Paul | 2L |
| BAHR, Matthew | 4L | DANNEWITZ, Ryan | 3L | HARRINGTON, Evan | 2L | McCULLOCH, Tyler | 1L | RIPPY, Douglas | 3L |
| BAKHTIARI, David | 2L | DEEHAN, Ryan | 4L | HARRIS, Jack | 1L | MILLER, Ryan | 5L | SANDERSFELD, Travis | 4L |
| BEHRENS, Blake | 3L | EBNER, Dustin | 2L | HARTIGAN, Josh | 4L | MOTEN, Josh | 1L | SMITH, Terrel | 2L |
| BRUNDAGE, Mark | 1L | ESPINOZA, Jason | 4L | HAWKINS, Jonathan | 4L | MUNYER, Daniel | 1L | STEWART, Rodney | 4L |
| CANTY, Keenan | 1L | EWING, Vince | 2L | HENDERSON, Greg | 1L | O'NEILL, Darragh | 1L | TAU, Sione | 1L |
| CASTOR, Justin | 2L | FORD, Josh | 1L | HIRSCHMAN, Nick | 1L | OBI, Conrad | 4L | THORNTON, DaVaughn | 2L |
| CEFALO, Kyle | 2L | GOLDBERG, David | 3L | IVERSON, Ryan | 2L | OLIVER, Will | 1L | TU'UMALO, K.T. | 1L |
| CLARK, David | 3L | GOODSON, D.D. | 1L | JAFFEE, Arthur | 3L | ORMS, Parker | 2L | UZO-DIRIBE, Chidera | 2L |
| CLEMONS, Toney | 2L | GORMAN, Justin | 1L | JONES, Tony | 1L | PARKER, Juda | 1L | WASHINGTON, Kyle | 1L |
| CRABB, Kaiwi | 1L | GRAY, Logan | 1L | KASA, Nick | 3L | PERICAK, Will | 3L | WEBB, Derrick | 2L |
| CREER, Malcolm | 1L | GREER III, Woodson | 1L | LEWIS, Alexander | 1L | PERKINS, Anthony | 4L | WILLIAMS, Lowell | 1L |

2012 COLORADO FOOTBALL LETTERMAN PICTURE

Colorado has **46** lettermen returning for 2012 (41 from the 2011 team, with an additional five from either the 2009 or 2010 seasons); they break down into 19 on offense, 22 on defense and five specialists; the Buffs lose **29** lettermen off the 2011 squad (15 offense/13 defense/1 specialist). CU returns **10** starters from last season (4 offense/6 defense), losing 12 (7 offense/5 defense); several positions had multiple personnel shuttle in and out, so there are several other players back with starting experience. The 2011 starters are listed in bold, and (*) denotes letters earned primarily on special teams. The breakdown:

OFFENSE

| Position | Returning (19) | Lost (15) |
|----------|---|---|
| WR (x) | Tyler McCulloch, DaVaughn Thornton (<i>also TE</i>), *Dustin Ebner | Toney Clemons , Kyle Cefalo |
| WR (z) | Paul Richardson , Keenan Canty | Logan Gray |
| LT | David Bakhtiari , Alexander Lewis | |
| LG | | Ethan Adkins , *Paulay Asiata, Blake Behrens |
| C | Gus Handler , Daniel Munyer, *Kaiwi Crabb | *Shawn Daniels |
| RG | | Ryan Miller , Sione Tau, *David Clark |
| RT | Ryan Dannewitz , Jack Harris | |
| TE | Nick Kasa, Scott Fernandez (<i>from 2010</i>) | Ryan Deehan , Matthew Bahr |
| QB | Nick Hirschman | Tyler Hansen |
| TB | Tony Jones, Josh Ford, Malcolm Creer, D.D. Goodson (<i>from DB</i>) | Rodney Stewart |
| FB | | Evan Harrington |

DEFENSE

| Position | Returning (22) | Lost (13) |
|----------|--|---|
| LDE | Will Pericak , Chidera Uzo-Diribe | Tony Poremba |
| NT | Nate Bonsu (<i>from 2009</i>) | Curtis Cunningham , Conrad Obi |
| RDE | Juda Parker | David Goldberg |
| JOLB | | Josh Hartigan , Tyler Ahles |
| MLB | Douglas Rippy , Brady Daigh, *Lowell Williams | |
| WLB | Derrick Webb , *Vince Ewing | |
| SLB | Jon Major , Woodson Greer III | Patrick Mahnke |
| CB | Parker Orms | Travis Sandersfeld , Jason Espinoza, Brian Lockridge |
| SS | Terrel Smith, Kyle Washington, *Will Harlos | Anthony Perkins |
| FS | Ray Polk , K.T. Tu'umalo, *Paul Vigo (<i>from 2010</i>), *Justin Gorman | |
| CB | Greg Henderson , *Jered Bell (<i>from 2010</i>), Josh Moten | Jonathan Hawkins, *Arthur Jaffee |

SPECIALISTS

| Position | Returning (5) | Lost (1) |
|----------|--|---------------|
| P | Darragh O'Neill , Zach Grossnickle (<i>from 2010</i>) | Mark Brundage |
| PK | Will Oliver , Justin Castor | |
| SN | Ryan Iverson | |

CU'S CLOUGH NAMED PRESIDENT ELECT OF FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVES ASSOCIATION

Last Nov. 12, Clough assumed the role of President of the NCAA's Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) at the organization's Fall Annual Meeting and Symposium. He is serving as president until this November representing the association of over 1,000 FARs across NCAA Divisions I, II and III. "My intent is to promote and continue FARA's role in addressing current issues in intercollegiate athletics from a faculty perspective and to ensure that FARA continues to serve as a valuable professional development resource for all FARs, and especially those new to their role," he said upon starting the position.

SPRING GAME ATTENDANCE

Former CU head coach **Bill McCartney** has challenged the 1,500-plus in attendance at CU's annual recruiting luncheons in Denver to help fill Folsom Field for the spring game. While filling Folsom hasn't happened (yet), the 17,800 in attendance in 2008 did set a spring record, with the second most attending in Jon Embree's first game (2011), also the first nighttime affair. CU has now had six occasions where 10,000 or more fans attend its final spring scrimmage/game. The previous mark stood for 19 years, a crowd of 13,642 in 1989 when many came out to honor **Sal Aunese**, the CU quarterback stricken with stomach cancer the previous month. The next two games drew 11,336 and 10,382 respectively. Below are the top CU spring game crowds in the school's history (#—first team Varsity and Alumni were on the same team and wore black jerseys):

| Year | Score | Attendance | Notes |
|------|----------------------|------------|--|
| 2008 | Black 28, Gold 17 | 17,800 | A record crowd come out in answer to coaches Hawk and Mac's challenge to fill Folsom |
| 2011 | (none/O-D scrimmage) | 15,655 | Jon Embree's first spring game also featured a first: it was the first one played at night |
| 1989 | #White 38, Black 35 | 13,642 | A then-record crowd for the spring game showed up to honor Sal Aunese, who fighting stomach cancer |
| 2009 | Black 17, Gold 10 | 11,700 | Third largest spring crowd despite going up against a Nuggets playoff game and the NFL Draft |
| 1990 | #White 27, Black 25 | 11,336 | Coming of an 11-1 season, CU was in everyone's top five entering 1990 |
| 1991 | #Black 21, White 17 | 10,382 | Fans braved 49 degree weather with 17 mph winds and saw the late John Zisch ('48) score on a 53 yard run |
| 1992 | #Black 44, White 7 | 9,617 | Perfect weather (61 degrees, sunny) come out after CU signs its top recruiting class in history |
| 2010 | Gold 37, Black 27 | 9,100 | Teams are determined by the players drafting themselves |

CAREER CHART WATCH

Here's where several Buffs ranked on some of CU's all-time statistical charts at the conclusion of the 2011 season (*Note: Colorado does not count bowl stats into career totals to protect past history, thus career number will differ from NCAA*):

- ⇒ **WRTONEY CLEMONS** finished tied for 18th in receptions (**86**), 17th in receiving yards (**1,060**) and tied for ninth in touchdown receptions (**11**).
- ⇒ **TE RYAN DEEHAN** finished 30th in receptions (**64**) and 37th in receiving yards (**723**);
- ⇒ **QB TYLER HANSEN** finished fourth in passing yards (**5,705**), third in pass completions (**505**), third in passing attempts (**872**), fourth in touchdown passes (**35**), fourth in total offense (**6,183**) and eighth in adjusted rushing yards by a quarterback (**1,095**);
- ⇒ **TB BRIAN LOCKRIDGE** finished seventh in kickoff return yards (**968**), tied for eighth in returns (**44**) and 102nd in rushing (**412**);
- ⇒ **SS ANTHONY PERKINS** finished 41st in total tackles (**236**);
- ⇒ **FS RAY POLK** is 69th in total tackles (**192**);
- ⇒ **TE PAUL RICHARDSON** is 25th in receptions (**73**), 21st in receiving yards (**1,069**), is tied for ninth in touchdown receptions (**11**) and is 63rd in scoring (**80** points).
- ⇒ **TB RODNEY STEWART** finished second in rushing yards (**3,598**), first in rushing attempts (**809**), 14th in receptions (**93**), 26th in receiving yards (**969**, first by a RB), first in yards from scrimmage (**4,567**), first in all-purpose yards (**4,828**), 10th in rushing touchdowns (**25**) and tied for 18th in scoring (**150** points).

SECOND WORST INJURY YEAR ON RECORD

Colorado endured its second-worst season when it came to games lost due to injury by players who figured in either the two-deep or prominently on special teams, which was 20.1 percent of the possible 572 games (13 games times 44). Colorado lost a total of **115** games by those players in 2011 to injury, second only to the 20.8 percent (110 of 528) lost in 2008. The number jumped to 141 games lost when counting all players that were not ticketed to redshirt (with that 12.8 percent figure being the highest since the info started to be tracked in 1987).

The injuries mounted throughout the year, mainly in the secondary and then perhaps the final straw coming in the 52-24 loss at Washington when the Buffaloes lost its two offensive playmakers, junior **ILB Douglas Rippy** (torn knee ligaments), and his cousin, senior **TB Rodney Stewart** (severely sprained knee), though both have since returned. Stewart led the Buffs in rushing (473 yards) and was second in both receptions (28) and receiving yards (435) with his 1,169 all-purpose yards represented 38 percent of CU's team total (3,082) at the time; Rippy was Colorado's leading tackler with 62 when he went down.

Below are the worst regular seasons for injuries/illness for the CU program over the last 25 years (KEY: GL—Games lost to injury; GL/2—Games lost by 2-deep scrimmage players; MG—"Man games" as defined by as the total number of games if all players NOT ticketed to redshirt played every game; Pct. Lost – percentage of man games lost, knowing that in actuality, the number is higher as third-team players and reserves don't see that much action; 2/MG—2-deep man games, or starting 22 positions plus backups):

| Season | G | GL | MG | Pct. Lost | GL/2 | 2/MG | Pct. Lost | Season | G | GL | MG | Pct. Lost | GL/2 | 2/MG | Pct. Lost |
|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------|----|-----|------|-----------|------|------|-----------|
| 2008 | 12 | 121 | 1008 | 12.0 | 110 | 528 | 20.8 | 2010 | 12 | 103 | 924 | 11.1 | 88 | 528 | 16.7 |
| 2011 | 13 | 141 | 1066 | 12.8 | 115 | 572 | 20.1 | 2002 | 13 | 139 | 1118 | 12.4 | 80 | 572 | 14.0 |
| 1998 | 11 | 101 | 864 | 11.7 | 89 | 484 | 18.4 | 2003 | 12 | 74 | 876 | 8.4 | 58 | 528 | 11.0 |
| 2000 | 11 | 101 | 880 | 11.5 | 82 | 484 | 16.9 | 1997 | 11 | 51 | 770 | 6.6 | 41 | 484 | 8.5 |

Dating back to 1987, only eight times has CU lost over five percent of its "man game" count due to injury (1995-97-98-2000-02-03-08-10).

NO REST FOR THE WEARY

Colorado and Tulane (13 games) and Central Michigan (12) were the only three schools in the FBS without a bye week in 2011. It was the first year that Colorado did not have a Saturday off since the 1988 season (which was an 11-game schedule). Fast-forward to 2012, the Buffaloes have a bye on October 6, ahead of a Thursday night home game against Arizona State (Oct. 11); CU is obviously off the next Saturday (Oct. 13) as well.

2011 SEASON HONORS**ALL-AMERICAN**

OG RYAN MILLER (second-team: Walter Camp; **third-team:** Associated Press)
AP RODNEY STEWART (fourth-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*)
MID-SEASON ALL-AMERICAN: **OG RYAN MILLER** (first-team: *Phil Steele's College Football*; **second-team:** CBSsports.com)

FRESHMAN ALL-AMERICAN

CB GREG HENDERSON (second-team: collegefootballnews.com)
P DARRAGH O'NEILL (second-team: collegefootballnews.com, *Phil Steele's College Football*)

SOPHOMORE ALL-AMERICAN

OT DAVID BAKHTIARI (second-team: collegefootballnews.com)
WR PAUL RICHARDSON (honorable mention: collegefootballnews.com)

ALL-PAC 12 CONFERENCE

OG ETHAN ADKINS (honorable mention: Pac-12 Coaches; **third-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football*, collegesportsmadness.com)
OT DAVID BAKHTIARI (second-team: Pac-12 Coaches, *Phil Steele's College Football*, collegesportsmadness.com)
DE JOSH HARTIGAN (honorable mention: Pac-12 Coaches; **third-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football*, collegesportsmadness.com)
CB GREG HENDERSON (honorable mention: Pac-12 Coaches)
OG RYAN MILLER (first-team: Rivals.com)
DT WILL PERICAK (honorable mention: Pac-12 Coaches)
ILB DOUGLAS RIPPY (honorable mention: Pac-12 Coaches)
TB RODNEY STEWART (**third-team:** *Phil Steele's College Football*)
ALL-PAC-12 UNDERRATED TEAM (ESPN.com): **DE JOSH HARTIGAN**
MID-SEASON ALL-PAC-12 (*Phil Steele's College Football*): **OG RYAN MILLER** (first-team); **TB RODNEY STEWART** (second-team); **P DARRAGH O'NEILL**,
WR PAUL RICHARDSON, **ILB DOUGLAS RIPPY** (third-team).

FRESHMAN ALL-PAC 12

CB GREG HENDERSON (first-team: Rivals.com)
P DARRAGH O'NEILL (first-team: Rivals.com)

BUFFALOES ON NATIONAL AWARD LISTS**(SEMIFINALIST, FINALIST, WATCH)**

AFC Good Works Team (top 11/community service): **TB Brian Lockridge** (first-team; one of 11 selected out of 132 nationally nominated)
Biletnikoff Award (top receiver): **WR Paul Richardson**, **TB Rodney Stewart** (two of 95 on official watch list)
Burlsworth Trophy (walk-on who made an impact): **DB Travis Sandersfeld** (one of 50 nominated)
William V. Campbell Award/NFF Scholar-Athlete: **CB Travis Sandersfeld** (one of 127 nominations)
Lombardi Award (top interior linemen/backer): **OG Ryan Miller** (one of 125 on official watch list)
Maxwell Award (most outstanding player): **TB Rodney Stewart** (one of 66 on official watch list)
Outland Trophy (top interior linemen): **OG Ryan Miller** (one of 65 on official watch list)
Doak Walker Award (top running back): **TB Rodney Stewart** (one of 51 on official watch list)
Lowe's Senior CLASS Award (community/class/character/competition): **TB Brian Lockridge** (CU nomination)

PAC-12 CONFERENCE PLAYERS-OF-THE-WEEK

WR PAUL RICHARDSON (September 10 vs. California: 11-284, 2 TD receiving, 10 first downs earned, all CU records, 297 all-purpose yards)
TB TRAVIS SANDERSFELD (November 12 vs. Arizona: 14 tackles, 11 solo, three tackles for loss including a quarterback sack, one interception)
ILB JON MAJOR (November 25 vs. Utah: 9 tackles, 6 solo, two tackles for loss including a quarterback sack, three third down stops, one touchdown save)

INTERSPORT PERFORMANCES OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

WR PAUL RICHARDSON (September 10 vs. California: 11-284, 2 TD receiving, 10 first downs earned, all CU records, 297 all-purpose yards)
TB RODNEY STEWART (November 12 vs. Arizona: 24-181, 3 TD rushing; 2-23 receiving, 1-1, 14, 1 T passing, 10 first downs earned, 204 all-purpose yards)
Honorable Mention—**Punter Performer of the Week:** **Darragh O'Neill** (Colorado State, Oregon, UCLA).
Honorable Mention—**Tight End Performer of the Week:** **Ryan Deehan** (Southern California).
Honorable Mention—**Defensive Back Performer of the Week:** **Travis Sandersfeld** (Arizona).

NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION SCHOLAR-ATHLETE NOMINEE

CB TRAVIS SANDERSFELD (Business-Finance, 3.38 grade point average)

COLORADO CHAPTER/NFF COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME PLAYERS-OF-THE-WEEK

WR PAUL RICHARDSON (September 10 vs. California: 11-284 receiving, 2 TD, 10 first downs earned, all CU records, 297 all-purpose yards)
TB RODNEY STEWART (November 12 vs. Arizona: 24-181, 3 TD rushing; 2-23 receiving, 1-1, 14, 1 T passing, 10 first downs earned, 204 all-purpose yards)
QB TYLER HANSEN (November 25 vs. Utah: 22-of-36, 264 yards, 1 TD/1 INT passing; 7-4, 1 TD rushing)

2011 SEASON HONORS, CONTINUED

LOU GROZA AWARD STARS-OF-THE-WEEK

PK WILL OLIVER (September 10 vs. California: 4-4 FG (27, 52, 32, 22), 3-3 PAT, 15 points; 52 FG longest by a freshman in CU history)

ESPN HELMET STICKERS

QB TYLER HANSEN (September 10 vs. California: 49-28-0, 474 yards, 3 TD passing; 7-26 rushing; 500 yards total offense; set CU passing and total offense marks)
 WR PAUL RICHARDSON (September 10 vs. California: 11-284 receiving, 2 TD, 10 first downs earned, all CU records, 297 all-purpose yards)
 TB RODNEY STEWART (November 12 vs. Arizona: 24-181, 3 TD rushing; 2-23 receiving, 1-1, 14, 1 T passing, 10 first downs earned, 204 all-purpose yards)
 HIT OF THE WEEK: ILB Derrick Webb (November 4 vs. Southern California: tackle of USC's Robert Woods on kickoff coverage)

CU ATHLETES-OF-THE-WEEK

WR PAUL RICHARDSON (September 6-12: vs. California: 11-284 receiving, 2 TD, 10 first downs earned, all CU records, 297 all-purpose yards)

PAC-12 ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

DT WILL PERICAK (first-team: Business-Finance, 3.43 GPA) DE TONY POREMBA (second-team: Economics, 3.34 GPA)
 S TRAVIS SANDERSFELD (first-team: Business-Finance, 3.38 GPA) OL DAVID CLARK (honorable mention: History, 3.01 GPA)
 DT NATE BONSU (second-team: International Affairs, 3.47 GPA) C DANIEL MUNYER (honorable mention: Communication, 3.17 GPA)
 DB JUSTIN GORMAN (second-team: Business-Finance, 3.70 GPA)

COLORADO CHAPTER/NFF COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME ALL-COLORADO TEAM

OT DAVID BAKHTIARI (first-team) TB RODNEY STEWART (first-team) DT WILL PERICAK (second-team)
 DE JOSH HARTIGAN (first-team) OG ETHAN ADKINS (second-team) FS RAY POLK (second-team)
 ILB JON MAJOR (first-team) WR TONEY CLEMONS (second-team)
 OG RYAN MILLER (first-team) CB GREG HENDERSON (second-team)

COLORADO TEAM AWARDS

(Selected by coaches unless otherwise indicated)

Zack Jordan Award (most valuable player, selected by teammates): TB Rodney Stewart
 John Mack Award (outstanding offensive player): WR Toney Clemons, QB Tyler Hansen
 Dave Jones Award (outstanding defensive player): OLB Josh Hartigan, DT Will Pericak
 Lee Willard Award (outstanding freshman): CB Greg Henderson
 Dean Jacob Van Ek Award (academic excellence): OG Blake Behrens, SS Anthony Perkins, CB Travis Sandersfeld
 Best Interview (selected by team beat media): WR Toney Clemons
 Buffalo Heart Award (selected by "the fans behind the bench"): TB Rodney Stewart

POSTSEASON ALL-STAR GAMES

WR TONEY CLEMONS (Player's All-Star Classic)
 QB TYLER HANSEN (East-West Shrine)
 OG RYAN MILLER (East-West Shrine)
 TB RODNEY STEWART (Casino Del Sol)

COLORADO COACHES' WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

A look at Colorado's weekly award winners for each game as selected by the coaching staff (none selected following losses):

| Opponent | Offensive | Defensive | Special Teams | Scout Team Offense | Scout Team Defense |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Colorado State | TB Rodney Stewart | SS Anthony Perkins | SS Terrell Smith | not awarded | not awarded |
| Arizona | multiple | multiple | | | |
| Utah | (all seniors received game balls) | | | | |

CU'S 131 WINS OVER BCS TEAMS RANKS 19TH

Looking inside the above numbers, Colorado's 132 wins over BCS teams rank as the 19th most nationally over the last 23 seasons (or since the start of the 1989 season). A closer look through games of 2011:

| Rk | School | Wins | Rk | School | Wins | Rk | School | Wins | Rk | School | Wins |
|----|---------------------|------|----|------------|------|----|---------------|------|----|------------|------|
| 1 | Florida State | 190 | 7 | Miami-Fla. | 163 | 13 | Alabama | 143 | 19 | Colorado | 132 |
| 2 | Ohio State | 189 | 8 | Texas | 161 | 14 | Virginia Tech | 141 | 20 | Auburn | 129 |
| 3 | Florida | 184 | 9 | Oklahoma | 158 | 15 | Oregon | 140 | 20 | Virginia | 129 |
| 4 | Nebraska | 176 | 9 | Penn State | 158 | 16 | Georgia Tech | 138 | 22 | Texas A&M | 127 |
| 5 | Southern California | 175 | 11 | Tennessee | 154 | 16 | Notre Dame | 138 | 23 | LSU | 126 |
| 6 | Michigan | 168 | 12 | Georgia | 152 | 18 | Clemson | 135 | 24 | Washington | 125 |

2011 GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

Here were CU's starters for the 2011 season (**bold** indicates first career start); this list often does not reflect who might be "listed" first at a position, as especially on offense, the first play selected often involves personnel for a specific play:

| OFFENSE | WR | WR | LT | LG | C | RG | RT | TE | QB | TB | FB |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------|----------------|--------|---------------|--------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Hawai'i | Bahr (TE) | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Munyer | Miller | Harris | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Harrington |
| California | McCulloch | Richardson | Dannewitz | Adkins | Munyer | Miller | Harris | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Bahr (TE) |
| Colorado State | McCulloch | Richardson | Lewis | Adkins | Munyer | Miller | Tau | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Bahr (TE) |
| Ohio State | Clemons | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Bahr (TE) |
| Washington State | Clemons | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Slavin (TE) |
| Stanford | Clemons | Canty | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Lewis (TE) |
| Washington | Clemons | Gray | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Bahr (TE) |
| Oregon | Clemons | Lewis (TE) | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Jones | Bahr (TE) |
| Arizona State | Clemons | Canty | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hirschman | Jones | Thornton (TE) |
| Southern California | Clemons | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Gray (WR) |
| Arizona | Clemons | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Bahr (TE) |
| UCLA | Clemons | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Bahr (TE) |
| Utah | Clemons | Richardson | Bakhtiari | Adkins | Handler | Miller | Dannewitz | Deehan | Hansen | Stewart | Gray (WR) |

| DEFENSE | LDE | NT | RDE | JOLB | MLB | WLB | SOLB | LCB | SS | FS | RCB |
|---------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Hawai'i | Pericak | Obi | Uzo-Diribe | Hartigan | Rippy | Orms (N) | Major | Sandersfeld | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |
| California | Pericak | Obi | Uzo-Diribe | Hartigan | Rippy | Webb | Major | Sandersfeld | Perkins | Polk | Orms |
| Colorado State | Pericak | Obi | Uzo-Diribe | Hartigan | Rippy | Webb | Major | Orms | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |
| Ohio State | Pericak | Obi | Poremba | Hartigan | Rippy | Webb | Major | Orms | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |
| Washington State | Pericak | Obi | Parker | Hartigan | Rippy | Smith (N) | Major | Espinoza | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |
| Stanford | Pericak | Obi | Goldberg | Hartigan | Rippy | Webb | Major | Smith | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |
| Washington | Uzo-Diribe | Obi | Goldberg | Pericak (RDE) | Rippy | Espinoza (N) | Major | Smith | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |
| Oregon | Uzo-Diribe | Cunningham | Goldberg | Pericak (DT) | Major | Goodson (N) | Mahnke | Hawkins | Perkins | Washington | Henderson |
| Arizona State | Uzo-Diribe | Cunningham | Goldberg | Pericak (DT) | Major | Webb | Sandersfeld (N) | Moten | Washington | Polk | Henderson |
| Southern California | Pericak | Cunningham | Goldberg | Hartigan | Major | Mahnke | Goodson (N) | Sandersfeld | Washington | Smith | Henderson |
| Arizona | Pericak | Cunningham | Goldberg | Hartigan | Major | Sandersfeld (N) | Mahnke | Orms | Smith | Polk | Henderson |
| UCLA | Pericak | Cunningham | Goldberg | Hartigan | Major | Webb | Mahnke | Sandersfeld | Smith | Polk | Henderson |
| Utah | Pericak | Cunningham | Goldberg | Hartigan | Major | Sandersfeld (N) | Mahnke | Orms | Perkins | Polk | Henderson |

(N)—Nickel back. CONSECUTIVE STARTS— Pericak 37, Miller 28, Adkins 23. CAREER STARTS— Miller 48, Pericak 37, Adkins 33, Cunningham 30.

PLAYER PARTICIPATION (dressed/played): Hawai'i 71/58; California 83/58; Colorado State 79/58; Ohio State 64/57; Washington State 71/53; Stanford 62/55; Washington 63/54; Oregon 72/55; Arizona State 61/55; Southern California 68/55; Arizona 76/58; UCLA 67/55; Utah 67/55.

CAREER GAMES PLAYED/STARTED CHART

Listed below are the career games played/started, including bowls, for the players on the 2011 Colorado Buffaloes. The players on the 2011 opening roster collectively had played in **890** games, with **303** starts entering the season. Recent past numbers entering a season have been **877** games played/**313** started (2010), **847/236** (2009), **817/277** (2008), **853/251** (2007), **1,053/295** (2006) and **1,080/314** (2005). The list (includes bowls):

| Player | G | GS | Player | G | GS | Player | G | GS | Player | G | GS | Player | G | GS |
|------------|----|----|----------------|----|----|----------------|----|----|-------------|----|----|-------------------|-------------|------------|
| ADKINS | 39 | 33 | DAIGH | 12 | 0 | HARRINGTON, S. | 0 | 0 | MUSTOE | 0 | 0 | SCHROCK | 0 | 0 |
| AHLES | 45 | 4 | DANIELS | 8 | 0 | HARRIS | 2 | 2 | NEBOT | 0 | 0 | SLAVIN | 7 | 1 |
| ALLEN | 0 | 0 | DANNEWITZ | 35 | 11 | HARTIGAN | 47 | 19 | NICHOLS | 0 | 0 | SMITH | 19 | 12 |
| ASIATA | 8 | 0 | DARDEN | 2 | 0 | HAWKINS | 33 | 2 | NOBRIGA | 11 | 5 | SPRUCE | 0 | 0 |
| BAHR | 42 | 22 | DEEHAN | 49 | 31 | HENDERSON | 13 | 12 | O'NEILL | 13 | — | STEWART | 43 | 28 |
| BAKHTIARI | 23 | 22 | DORMAN | 0 | 0 | HIRSCHMAN | 5 | 1 | OB | 41 | 7 | TAU | 13 | 1 |
| BEHRENS | 18 | 16 | EBNER, Dr. | 0 | 0 | IVERSON | 25 | 0 | OLATOYE | 14 | 0 | THOMPSON | 0 | 0 |
| BELL | 12 | 1 | EBNER, Du. | 13 | 1 | JAFFEE | 35 | 0 | OLIVER | 12 | — | THORNTON | 23 | 3 |
| BONSU | 19 | 0 | ESPINOZA | 35 | 7 | JONES, C. | 0 | 0 | ORMS | 7 | 7 | TU'UMALO | 8 | 0 |
| BRISCO | 0 | 0 | EWING | 11 | 0 | JONES, T. | 13 | 2 | PAPILLION | 0 | 0 | TURBOW | 0 | 0 |
| BRUNDAGE | 0 | 0 | FERNANDEZ | 14 | 1 | KASA | 26 | 1 | PARKER | 9 | 1 | TUSO | 0 | 0 |
| BURNETTE | 0 | 0 | FORD | 12 | 0 | KOCH | 0 | 0 | PERICAK | 37 | 37 | UZO-DIRIBE | 25 | 7 |
| CANTY | 12 | 2 | GOLDBERG | 27 | 8 | LaMAR | 0 | 0 | PERKINS | 38 | 27 | VIGO | 10 | 1 |
| CASTOR | 13 | — | GOODSON | 4 | 2 | LEWIS | 12 | 3 | PLIMPTON | 0 | 0 | VINCENT | 1 | 0 |
| CEFALO | 20 | 1 | GORMAN | 12 | 0 | LOCKRIDGE | 32 | 3 | POLK | 34 | 26 | WALKER | 0 | 0 |
| CLARK, D. | 31 | 0 | GRAY | 13 | 3 | MAHNKE | 47 | 11 | POREMB | 11 | 1 | WASHINGTON | 9 | 3 |
| CLARK, J. | 0 | 0 | GREER | 5 | 0 | MAJOR | 27 | 20 | POSTON | 2 | 0 | WEBB | 25 | 7 |
| CLEMONS | 25 | 18 | GROSSNICKLE | 12 | — | MARQUEZ | 0 | 0 | PUGH | 6 | 0 | WILLIAMS | 9 | 0 |
| COTNER | 0 | 0 | HANDLER | 13 | 10 | McCULLOCH | 13 | 2 | RICHARDSON | 21 | 13 | WOOD | 1 | 0 |
| CRABB | 13 | 0 | HANSEN | 33 | 28 | MILLER | 51 | 48 | RICHTER | 1 | 0 | YATES | 0 | 0 |
| CREER | 2 | 0 | HARLOS | 3 | 0 | MOTEN | 7 | 1 | RIPPY | 24 | 8 | TEAM | 1616 | 589 |
| CUNNINGHAM | 49 | 30 | HARRINGTON, E. | 25 | 1 | MUNYER | 7 | 3 | SANDERSFELD | 38 | 12 | 2010 Final | 1548 | 577 |

LAST TRUE FRESHMEN TO START: DB D.D. Goodson, CB Greg Henderson, OL Alexander Lewis, WR Tyler McCulloch, OLB Juda Parker; S Kyle Washington (2011), SS Jered Bell, WR Paul Richardson, SS Terrel Smith, DE Chidera Uzo-Diribe (2010), WR Will Jefferson (2009); TE Ryan Deehan, FS Patrick Mahnke, TB Darrell Scott, TB Rodney Stewart, OG Max Tuioti-Mariner (2008); TB Brian Lockridge, OG Kai Maiava, OT Ryan Miller, WR Josh Smith (2007); CB Cha'pelle Brown, LB Michael Sipili (2006).

LAST TRUE FRESHMEN TO START AT QUARTERBACK: Tyler Hansen (2008), Craig Ochs (2000), Koy Detmer (1992). **IN A SEASON OPENER:** Has not occurred.

LAST TRUE FRESHMEN TO START AT RUNNING BACK: Darrell Scott (2008), Rodney Stewart (2008), Brian Lockridge (2007), Brian Calhoun (2002), Marcus Houston (2000). **IN A SEASON OPENER:** Kent Kahl (1991).

LAST REDSHIRT FRESHMEN TO START: QB Nick Hirschman, TB Tony Jones, CB Josh Moten, C Daniel Munyer, TE Kyle Slavin (2011); OT David Bakhtiari, UB Scott Fernandez, ILB Liloa Nobriga, S Parker Orms, TE DaVaughn Thornton, CB Paul Vigo, ILB Derrick Webb, DE Forrest West (2010); WR Dustin Ebner, T Bryce Givens, OT Will Pericak, FS Ray Polk, OLB Doug Rippy (2009); OT Matt Bahr, OG Blake Behrens, S Anthony Perkins (2008)).

LAST PLAYERS TO START FOR THE FIRST TIME AS A SENIOR: OLB David Goldberg, WR Logan Gray, FB Evan Harrington, DT Conrad Obi, DE Tony Poremba, OG Sione Tau (2011);

TE Luke Walters (2010); TB Kevin Moyd, OLB Bryan Stengel (2009); WR Steve Melton (2008), TE Joe Sanders (2007); Paul Creighton, TE Dan Goettsch, C Bryce MacMartin, TB Mell Holliday, WR Nick Holz (2006); WR Mike Duren, OG Terrance Barreau (2004).

TRENDS

1985-2011

Since 1985, when the Buffs returned to their traditional winning ways after six frustrating years, Colorado is **192-133-4**; in these 329 games spanning 27 seasons, CU has posted the following records (including bowls):

| | | | |
|--|----------|--|----------|
| ◆ with 400-plus yards total offense | 109-23-2 | ◆ when holding opponent under 300 yards total offense | 91-19-1 |
| ◆ with 500-plus yards total offense | 53- 6-0 | ◆ when leading at halftime | 154-25-2 |
| ◆ when converting 50 percent or better on 3rd down | 75-10-1 | ◆ when leading after three quarters (154-16-3 in last 173) | 159-19-3 |
| ◆ when punting three or fewer times | 67-20-1 | ◆ when scoring 24 or more points | 157-29-2 |
| ◆ with zero turnovers (141-46-2 with two or fewer) | 35-15-2 | ◆ when held to 13 points or less | 3-50-0 |
| ◆ when holding opponent to 17 points or less | 112-19-1 | ◆ when not committing a turnover or allowing a sack | 14- 1-0 |
| ◆ when holding opponent under 100 yards rushing | 99-14-1 | ◆ when holding edge in 1st downs & possession time | 107-24-2 |

TRENDS II

1989-2011

Since 1989, when the Buffs became a regular in the national rankings for the next 16 seasons, Colorado has posted an overall record at **164-114-4**. Here are some trends during this time frame (282 games over 23 seasons, including bowls):

| | | | |
|--|----------|---|----------|
| ➤ when running more plays than the opponent | 94-46-3 | ➤ when rushing for 200-plus yards | 83- 5-1 |
| ➤ with 400-plus yards total offense (48-6 with 500-plus) | 95-23-2 | ➤ when rushing for 250-plus yards | 56- 2-1 |
| ➤ when scoring 30 or more points | 107-10-1 | ➤ when rushing for 300-plus yards | 31- 0-1 |
| ➤ when leading in possession time (54-76-1 when not) | 110-38-3 | ➤ when rushing and passing for at least 200 yards | 37- 2-0 |
| ➤ when making 20-plus first downs | 104-39-1 | ➤ when passing for 200-plus yards | 89-58-2 |
| ➤ when converting 50 percent or better on 3rd down | 61- 9-1 | ➤ when passing for 300-plus yards (10-1-1 400-plus) | 25-18-1 |
| ➤ when scoring first | 102-32-1 | ➤ when passing for more yards than rushing | 83-98-2 |
| ➤ with zero turnovers (124-70-2 with two or fewer) | 29-15-2 | ➤ when holding edge in 1st downs & possession time | 89-24-2 |
| ➤ when holding opponent to 17 points or less | 87-13-1 | ➤ when holding edge in field position | 125-31-1 |
| ➤ when holding opponent under 100 yards rushing | 83-14-1 | ➤ when not committing a turnover or allowing a sack | 13- 1-0 |
| ➤ when holding opponent under 300 yards total offense | 69-14-1 | ➤ when out-rushing the opponent | 134-16-3 |
| ➤ when average field position is CU 30+ (26-3 40+) | 117-47-2 | ➤ when owning the edge in return yards | 117-41-2 |
| ➤ when play selection is 50 percent rushing calls | 136-35-2 | | |

TRENDS III

EMBREE ERA (2011)

Jon Embree took over the Buffalo program for the 2011 season (**3-10** record); so it's obviously early but we'll chart his numbers in below categories:

| | | | |
|---|------|---|------|
| Category | | Category | |
| ➤ when scoring 20 or more points (1-7 when not) | 2- 3 | ➤ when leading after three (0-9 trailing, 0-0 tied) | 3- 1 |
| ➤ when scoring 30 or more points | 1- 1 | ➤ when holding opponent under 100 yards rushing | 3- 1 |
| ➤ when scoring 40 or more points | 1- 0 | ➤ when holding opponent under 300 yards offense | 2- 0 |
| ➤ when scoring 50 or more points | 0- 0 | ➤ when rushing for 200-plus yards | 1- 0 |
| ➤ when holding opponent to 17 points or less | 2- 0 | ➤ when rushing for 250-plus yards (0-0 300-plus) | 1- 0 |
| ➤ in games decided by 7 points or less | 1- 2 | ➤ when rushing for more yards than passing | 1- 0 |
| ➤ with two or fewer turnovers (1-3 with zero) | 3- 8 | ➤ with a 100-yard rusher | 1- 1 |
| ➤ when turnover margin was plus or even | 2- 5 | ➤ when rushing and passing for at least 200 yards | 1- 0 |
| ➤ when scoring first (1-8 when not) | 2- 2 | ➤ when passing for 200-plus yards | 3- 7 |
| ➤ when leading at halftime | 3- 1 | ➤ with 400-plus yards total offense | 1- 2 |
| ➤ when trailing at halftime (0-0 when tied) | 0- 9 | ➤ with 500-plus yards total offense (0-0 with 600-plus) | 1- 1 |

TURNOVERS ARE INDEED COSTLY

Most head coaches believe that when it comes to turnovers, they are one of the single most important factors in winning or losing ball games. Statistics back up the argument, as the below shows that it is definitely better to take than to give over the last 23 seasons. A closer look:

| | Turnovers Committed | Turnovers Forced | +/- | Scoring Off Turnovers PF | PA | +/- |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 164 WINS | 270 | 407 | + 137 | 1,326 | 551 | +775 |
| EMBREE ERA (3 WINS) | 4 | 6 | + 2 | 14 | 7 | + 7 |
| 114 LOSSES (& 4 TIES) | 279 | 188 | - 91 | 447 | 901 | -454 |
| EMBREE ERA (10 LOSSES) | 15 | 9 | - 6 | 23 | 49 | - 26 |
| 23-SEASON TOTALS (282 Games) | 549 | 595 | + 46 | 1,773 | 1,452 | +321 |
| EMBREE ERA (13 GAMES) | 19 | 15 | - 4 | 37 | 56 | - 19 |

COLORADO BY THE NUMBERS IN 2011

- 1** The number of turnovers CU had in its first three games, tied for the lowest total in the nation (and the fewest in CU history after three games).
- 2:53** The length of the Stanford and Washington games, tied for the 11th quickest played in by the Buffs since 1990.
- 6** The number of consecutive field goals **PK Will Oliver** made to open his career, second best in school history (record: 7) before one was blocked.
- 6** The number of punts inside-the-20 that **P Darragh O'Neill** had against Oregon to go with four inside-the-10, both school records.
- 9/7** The number of punts in plus territory by **P Darragh O'Neill** and the number of which he has placed inside-the-20.
- 10** The number of overtime games in Colorado history, as the loss to Cal was the first CU game extended into extra time since 2008 (WVU).
- 13** The number of players who have returned kickoffs for CU in 2011 (record is 14 in 1956, followed by 13 in 1949-1951-1953-1959 and now 2011).
- 17** The number of yards allowed in the first quarter by Utah, the season low by an opponent for a single quarter in 2011.
- 17-17** Colorado was 2-of-2 in the red zone against CSU, thus is now 17-of-17 (11 TDs) when cracking the 20 in the last six season openers.
- 21** The number of first-time starters in 2011 for Colorado (**13 offense/8 defense**).
- 21-of-72** The opponents' combined efforts on third down inside-the-CU 20 (or **29.2** percent) in the last 36 games (dating to 2008).
- 23** The consecutive number of games that Colorado had lost on the road before ending the year with a 17-14 win at Utah.
- 25.8** The average length of **WR Toney Clemons'** 11 career receiving TDs (44, 11, 4, 21, 37, 10, 15 & 20 this year, 73, 26, 23 in 2010 for **284** total yards).
- 26** The number of games played in less than three hours since 1990 (out of **268** games; includes four in 2011).
- 26** The number of head coaches in Colorado history with the hiring of Jon Embree on December 6 (**24** full-time).
- 34.9** The third down efficiency of opponents against Colorado in the state's borders since the '09 opener (**87-of-249**).
- 37.2** The average length of the 11 field goals freshman **PK Will Oliver** made this season (**409** total yards).
- 43** The number of games CU has had at least one sack in out of the last **45**; it include runs of 25 and 11 in a row, the latter ended by Stanford).
- C47** The average starting field position for Ohio State on its 12 possessions against the Buffs (seven in CU territory, three others at the OS40, 40, 34).
- 82.1** The career conversion percentage on 3rd/4th-&-1 runs by **TB Rodney Stewart** (**32-of-39**; 3-of-4 this season, 18-of-22 in 2010).
- 185** The number of yards gained in the first quarter at Utah, the season high for a single quarter.
- 199** The number of opponent PAT kicks between blocks by Colorado (Will Pericak vs. Cal this year, James Garee vs. Clemson in 2005).
- 284** The number of receiving yards that **WR Paul Richardson** had against California, a school record and the third-most in Pac-12 history.
- 474** The number of passing yards that **QB Tyler Hansen** had against California, a school record.
- 3,351** The approximate number of air miles between Denver (DIA) and Honolulu, as CU played at Hawai'i for the first time since 1925.

EXPERIENCE ANALYSIS

A look at annual fluctuations in the percentage of upperclassmen starting games over the last decade or so at Colorado; in 2010, juniors and seniors made the most starts since 2005. In 2004, seniors started the fewest percentage of games (**25.1**) since the 1995 team (which had only seven seniors), while **38.8** percent of the starts were made by underclassmen; that's when the current cycle of youth really started. A year-by-year glance at starts by class since 1999:

| Season | G | SR | JR | SO | FR (RS-True) | UpperCl% | Fr-Pct. | Season | G | SR | JR | SO | FR (RS-True) | UpperCl% | Fr-Pct. | | |
|--------|----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|----------|---------|--------|------|----|-----|-----|--------------|----------|---------|------|------|
| 1999 | 12 | 115 | 42 | 86 | 21 | (20-1) | 59.5 | 8.0 | 2006 | 12 | 92 | 84 | 71 | 17 | (11-6) | 66.7 | 6.4 |
| 2000 | 11 | 55 | 116 | 38 | 33 | (15-18) | 70.7 | 13.6 | 2007 | 13 | 89 | 106 | 38 | 53 | (29-24) | 68.2 | 18.5 |
| 2001 | 13 | 102 | 95 | 83 | 7 | (0-7) | 68.9 | 2.4 | 2008 | 12 | 106 | 54 | 63 | 41 | (24-17) | 60.6 | 15.5 |
| 2002 | 14 | 155 | 130 | 14 | 9 | (0-9) | 92.5 | 2.9 | 2009 | 12 | 57 | 90 | 89 | 28 | (24-4) | 55.7 | 10.6 |
| 2003 | 12 | 105 | 49 | 78 | 32 | (14-18) | 58.3 | 12.1 | 2010 | 12 | 82 | 111 | 37 | 34 | (22-12) | 73.1 | 12.9 |
| 2004 | 13 | 72 | 103 | 100 | 11 | (0-11) | 61.2 | 3.8 | 2011 | 13 | 141 | 55 | 57 | 33 | (10-23) | 68.5 | 11.5 |
| 2005 | 13 | 116 | 112 | 48 | 10 | (4-6) | 79.7 | 3.5 | | | | | | | | | |

THE PRIMO TWENTY-FOUR

Colorado is one of just **24** schools in I-A/FBS history to be able to make the claim of winning (or sharing) a national championship and also having a Heisman Trophy winner. The criteria for national championship consideration included those crowned by the *Associated Press*, the coaches and the BCS; 30 total schools at one point in the past have been able to claim the throne. This prestigious short list (Alabama is the latest to join, doing so in 2009, with Auburn doing it again in 2010):

| School | National Championships | Heisman Trophies | School | National Championships | Heisman Trophies |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama | 1961-64-65-73-78-79-92 | 2009 | Nebraska | 1970-71-94-95-97 | 1972-83-2001 |
| Army | 1944-45 | 1945-46-58 | Notre Dame | 1943-46-47-49-66-73-77-88 | 1943-47-49-53-56-64-87 |
| Auburn | 1957-2010 | 1971-85-2010 | Ohio State | 1942-54-57-68-2002 | 1944-50-55-74-75-95-2006 |
| Brigham Young | 1984 | 1990 | Oklahoma | 1950-55-56-74-75-85-2000 | 1952-69-78-2003-08 |
| Colorado | 1990 | 1994 | Penn State | 1982-86 | 1973 |
| Florida | 1996-2006-08 | 1966-96-2007 | Pittsburgh | 1937-76 | 1976 |
| Florida State | 1993-99 | 1993-2000 | Syracuse | 1959 | 1961 |
| Georgia | 1980 | 1942-82 | Texas | 1963-69-70-2005 | 1977-98 |
| Louisiana State | 1958-2003 | 1959 | Texas A&M | 1939 | 1957 |
| Miami, Fla. | 1983-87-89-91-2001 | 1986-92 | TCU | 1938 | 1938 |
| Michigan | 1948-97 | 1940-91-97 | UCLA | 1954 | 1967 |
| Minnesota | 1936-40-60 | 1941 | USC | 1962-67-72-74-78-2003-04 | 1965-68-79-81-2002-04-05 |

Schools with national championships and no Heisman winner are Michigan State (2), Tennessee (2) and Clemson, Georgia Tech, Maryland and Washington (all 1).

COLORADO BY THE NUMBERS ALL-TIME HISTORIC

- 5** The number of CU players enshrined in the College Football Hall of Fame (White, Romig, D. Anderson, B. Anderson, Williams)
- 14-1** Colorado's record in games since 1972 when not committing a turnover or allowing a quarterback sack.
- 16** The number of career interceptions by CU's all-time leader, **S John Stearns** (1970-72).
- 24** The number of national championships CU has won in its athletic history: 18 skiing, 5 cross country (3 men's/2 women's), 1 football.
- 30** The number of tackles by **LB Jeff Geiser** against Kansas State on Nov. 24, 1973, CU's single game record (5 solo, 25 assists).
- 35** The number of career quarterback sacks by CU's all-time leader, **OLB Alfred Williams** (1987-90).
- 41-29** Colorado's all-time record in games decided by one (26-17) or two (15-12) points.
- 60** The length of the school record field goal **PK Mason Crosby** made against Iowa State in 2004.
- 62-36** The final score of CU's 2001 win over BCS No. 1 Nebraska, which earned the Buffs the Big 12 North title.
- 64** The length of the pass from **QB Kordell Stewart** to **WR Michael Westbrook** (via **WR Blake Anderson** tip), known as "The Catch" at Michigan.
- 66** The number of wins Colorado has over teams ranked in the Associated Press weekly polls (23rd most all-time; **43** since 1989, 12th most).
- 67** The length of **TB Charlie Davis'** TD run against Oklahoma State on Nov. 13, 1971, one that put him over the 1,000-yard mark for the season.
- 67** The length of **TB Rashaan Salaam's** TD run against Iowa State on Nov. 19, 1994, one that put him over the 2,000-yard mark for the season.
- 72** The number of yards that 64-yard pass was in the air, thrown from the CU 32 to four yards deep in the end zone to rally CU to a 27-26 win.
- 78-15-4** Colorado's record in games from 1989-96, the nation's fourth best overall record in the nation during that time frame.
- 93** The number of wins by Bill McCartney, CU's all-time winningest coach (93-55-5, 1982-94).
- 191** The number of national or regional regular season games CU has had on television since 1990, one of the top 10 figures in the nation.
- 198, 6** The number of rushing yards and touchdowns, respectively, by **TB Chris Brown** against Nebraska on Nov. 23, 2001 in CU's 62-36 win.
- 212-5** Colorado's all-time record in games when it has scored 35 or more points (**300-15-1** with 30 or more points, with **111-1** with 43 or more).
- 215** The number of career receptions by CU's all-time reception leader, **WR Scotty McKnight** (2007-10).
- 225** The number of players from CU who have played in the National Football League, a top 20 figure nationally.
- 242** The number of consecutive games Colorado scored in between 1988 and 2008, the ninth-longest all-time in Division I football.
- 284** The number of receiving yards by **WR Paul Richardson** (vs. California, Sept. 10, 2011), breaking the old mark of **222** first set by **WR Walter Stanley** (vs. Texas Tech, Sept. 12, 1981) and then matched by **WR Rae Carruth** (at Missouri, Nov. 2, 1996).
- 293** The number of times Colorado has been ranked in the Associated Press weekly poll (23rd most all-time).
- 297** The number of wins Colorado has at Folsom Field since it opened on Oct. 1, 1924 (297-146-10).
- 307** The number of career points by CU's all-time scoring leader, **PK Mason Crosby** (2003-06).
- 342** The number of rushing yards by **TB Charlie Davis** against Oklahoma State on Nov. 13, 1971, CU's single-game rushing record.
- 362** The number of all-purpose yards by **TB Rashaan Salaam** at Texas on Oct. 1, 1994, CU's single-game record (317 rushing, 45 receiving).
- 465** The number of passing yards by **QB Mike Moschetti** against San Jose State on Sept. 11, 1999, CU's single-game passing record.
- 481** The number of games long-time announcer **Larry Zimmer** has called on the radio for the Buffaloes, the most by anyone in CU history.
- 493** The number of career tackles by CU's all-time leading tackler, **ILB Barry Remington** (1982-86).
- 533** The number of passing yards against Northeast Louisiana on Sept. 16, 1995, CU's single-game record.
- 551** The number of rushing yards at Arizona on Oct. 11, 1958, CU's single-game record.
- 674** The number of wins Colorado has in its history (21st most all-time).
- 767** The number of yards of total offense against San Jose State on Sept. 11, 1999, CU's single-game record.
- 1,149** The number of receiving yards by **WR Charles Johnson** in 1992, CU's single-season record.
- 1,162** The number of games Colorado has played in its history (122 seasons of intercollegiate football).
- 2,055** The number of rushing yards **TB Rashaan Salaam** had in 1994 (the fourth at the time with a 2,000-yard season), on his way to the Heisman.
- 2,548** The number of career yards by CU's all-time receiving leader, **WR Michael Westbrook** (1991-94).
- 3,156** The number of passing yards by **QB Koy Detmer** in 1996, CU's single-season record.
- 3,940** The number of career yards by CU's all-time rushing leader, **TB Eric Bienenmy** (1987-90).
- 5,345** The elevation in feet of CU's Folsom Field (field level), the third highest stadium elevation in the FBS (behind Wyoming and Air Force).
- 7,409** The number of career yards by CU's all-time passing leader, **QB Cody Hawkins** (2007-10).
- 7,770** The number of career yards by CU's all-time total offense leader, **QB Kordell Stewart** (1991-94).

CU FOOTBALL STILL SECOND MOST POPULAR PER-GAME SELL IN STATE

The final home attendance figure for 2011 was 251,777, an average of 50,355 for five home games, marking the 17th straight season that Colorado football was the second largest draw per game in the state behind the NFL Denver Broncos (and the 35th time in the last 37 years). The fledgling Colorado Rockies took over the second spot the two years they played at old Mile High Stadium, averaging in the mid-to-upper 50s in 1993 and 1994. The Broncos wrestled the state's top spot away from the Buffs permanently in 1975 after first doing so in 1969, with six years of see-sawing in-between (CU had been the state attendance leader since Folsom Field was built in 1924). CU continues to have the second largest public and overall season ticket base in the state (CU's season ticket count in 2011 was 24,471 public and 35,304 overall when adding in student holders, as those tickets are purchased, just at a discounted rate).

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|----|--|----|-----|
| 33 | ALLEN, Cordary | TE | 6- 1 | 245 | So. | VR | Phenix City, Ala. (Central) | S | 3/3 |
| 59 | BAKHITIARI, David | OL | 6- 4 | 290 | Jr. | 2L | Burlingame, Calif. (Junipero Serra) | S | 2/2 |
| 21 | BELL, Jered | DB | 6- 0 | 190 | So. | 1L | Ontario, Calif. (Colony) | S | 3/3 |
| 94 | BONSU, Nate | DT | 6- 1 | 300 | Jr. | 1L | Allen, Texas (Allen) | S | 2/2 |
| 40 | BRISCO, Brandon | DB | 5-11 | 170 | Fr. | RS | Oakland, Calif. (Bishop O'Dowd) | WO | 4/4 |
| 10 | BURNETTE, Brent | QB | 6- 3 | 215 | Sr. | VR | Maryville, Tenn. (Maryville/Arizona Western) | S | 1/1 |
| 84 | CANTY, Keenan | WR | 5- 9 | 160 | So. | 1L | New Orleans, La. (Edna Karr) | S | 3/3 |
| 40 | CASTOR, Justin | PK | 6- 4 | 200 | Jr. | 2L | Golden, Colo. (Arvada West) | S | 3/2 |
| 30 | CLARK, Jermane | OLB | 6- 2 | 200 | Fr. | RS | Winston-Salem, N.C. (Oak Ridge Military Academy) | S | 4/4 |
| 64 | COTNER, Brad | OL | 6- 4 | 280 | So. | VR | Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Westlake/Ventura CC) | S | 3/3 |
| 54 | CRABB, Kaiwi | OL | 6- 3 | 285 | So. | 1L | Honolulu, Hawai'i (Punahou) | S | 3/3 |
| 44 | CREER, Malcolm | TB | 5-11 | 205 | So. | 1L | Los Angeles, Calif. (Palisades) | S | 4/3 |
| 54 | DAIGH, Brady | ILB | 6- 2 | 245 | So. | 1L | Littleton, Colo. (Mullen) | S | 4/3 |
| 53 | DANNEWITZ, Ryan | OL | 6- 6 | 310 | Sr. | 3L | San Jacinto, Calif. (San Jacinto) | S | 1/1 |
| 82 | DARDEN, Jarrod | WR | 6- 5 | 210 | Jr. | VR | Keller, Texas (Central) | S | 2/2 |
| 12 | DORMAN, Stevie Joe | QB | 6- 3 | 205 | Fr. | RS | Somerset, Texas (Somerset) | S | 4/4 |
| 83 | EBNER, Dustin | WR | 6- 1 | 180 | Sr. | 2L | Arvada, Colo. (Pomona) | S | 1/1 |
| 27 | EWING, Vince | ILB | 6- 0 | 205 | Sr. | 2L | Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad) | S | 1/1 |
| 99 | FERNANDEZ, Scott | TE | 6- 3 | 255 | Jr. | 1L | Broomfield, Colo. (Legacy) | WO | 2/2 |
| 29 | FORD, Josh | TB | 5- 9 | 195 | Jr. | 1L | Denver, Colo. (Mullen/Barton Community College) | WO | 2/2 |
| 21 | GOODSON, D.D. | TB | 5- 7 | 165 | So. | 1L | Rosenberg, Texas (Lamar Consolidated) | S | 4/3 |
| 14 | GORMAN, Justin | DB | 6- 0 | 195 | So. | 1L | Manheim, Pa. (Manheim Central) | WO | 3/3 |
| 37 | GREER III, Woodson | OLB | 6- 3 | 225 | So. | 1L | Carson, Calif. (Junipero Serra) | S | 4/3 |
| 15 | GROSSNICKLE, Zach | P | 6- 2 | 190 | Jr. | 1L | Denver, Colo. (East) | S | 2/2 |
| 76 | HANDLER, Gus | OL | 6- 3 | 295 | Jr. | 1L | Barrington, Ill. (Barrington) | S | 2/2 |
| 28 | HARLOS, Will | DB | 6- 3 | 195 | So. | 1L | Somerset, Texas (Somerset) | S | 4/3 |
| 23 | HARRINGTON, Sherrard | DB | 6- 1 | 175 | Fr. | RS | Washington, D.C. (Howard D. Woodson) | S | 4/4 |
| 75 | HARRIS, Jack | OL | 6- 5 | 305 | Jr. | 1L | Parker, Colo. (Chaparral) | S | 2/2 |
| 20 | HENDERSON, Greg | DB | 5-11 | 180 | So. | 1L | Corona, Calif. (Norco) | S | 4/3 |
| 8 | HIRSCHMAN, Nick | QB | 6- 3 | 230 | So. | 1L | Los Gatos, Calif. (Los Gatos) | S | 3/3 |
| 29 | HUNTER, Harrison | DB | 5-10 | 175 | So. | TR | Fountain, Colo. (Fountain-Fort Carson/Fort Lewis) | WO | 3/3 |
| 69 | IVERSON, Ryan | SN | 6- 0 | 215 | Jr. | 2L | Newport Beach, Calif. (Newport Harbor) | S | 3/2 |
| 57 | JONES, Clayton | SN | 6- 1 | 215 | Fr. | RS | Palo Alto, Calif. (St. Francis) | WO | 4/4 |
| 26 | JONES, Tony | TB | 5- 7 | 175 | So. | 1L | Paterson, N.J. (Don Bosco Prep) | S | 3/3 |
| 44 | KASA, Nick | TE | 6- 6 | 265 | Sr. | 3L | Thornton, Colo. (Legacy) | S | 2/1 |
| 74 | KELLEY, Alex | OL | 6- 3 | 315 | Fr. | HS | Oceanside, Calif. (Vista) | S | 5/4 |
| 97 | KOCH, Kyle | DL | 6- 6 | 255 | Fr. | RS | Englewood, Colo. (Cherry Creek) | WO | 4/4 |
| 65 | LaMAR, Keegan | SN | 6- 1 | 255 | Fr. | RS | Boulder, Colo. (Fairview) | WO | 4/4 |
| 71 | LEWIS, Alexander | OL | 6- 6 | 275 | So. | 1L | Tempe, Ariz. (Mountain Pointe) | S | 4/3 |
| 31 | MAJOR, Jon | OLB | 6- 2 | 230 | Sr. | 3L | Parker, Colo. (Ponderosa) | S | 1/1 |
| 87 | McCULLOCH, Tyler | WR | 6- 5 | 200 | So. | 1L | Albuquerque, N.M. (Eldorado) | S | 4/4 |
| 39 | MOTEN, Josh | DB | 6- 0 | 185 | So. | 1L | Carson, Calif. (Narbonne) | S | 3/3 |
| 52 | MUNYER, Daniel | OL | 6- 2 | 295 | So. | 1L | Tarzana, Calif. (Notre Dame) | S | 3/3 |
| 72 | MUSTOE, Marc | OL | 6- 7 | 280 | Fr. | RS | Broomfield, Colo. (Arvada West) | S | 4/4 |
| 77 | NEMBOT, Stephane | OL | 6- 8 | 310 | Fr. | RS | Van Nuys, Calif. (Montclair Prep) | S | 4/4 |
| 58 | NICHOLS, Andre | DL | 6- 4 | 225 | So. | VR | Colorado Springs, Colo. (Rampart) | WO | 3/3 |
| ... | NORGARD, Clay | FB | 6- 1 | 240 | Fr. | HS | Highlands Ranch, Colo. (Mountain Vista) | S | 5/4 |
| 8 | O'NEILL, Darragh | P | 6- 2 | 185 | So. | 1L | Louisville, Colo. (Boulder Fairview) | WO | 3/3 |
| 91 | OLIVER, Will | PK | 5-10 | 195 | So. | 1L | Los Angeles, Calif. (Harvard-Westlake) | S | 4/3 |
| 13 | ORMS, Parker | DB | 5-11 | 195 | Jr. | 2L | Wheat Ridge, Colo. (Wheat Ridge) | S | 2/2 |
| 27 | PAPILLION, Tommy | WR | 6- 4 | 210 | Jr. | VR | Englewood, Colo. (Cherry Creek/Arizona) | WO | 2/2 |
| 2 | PARKER, Juda | DL | 6- 3 | 245 | So. | 1L | Aiea, Hawai'i (St. Louis) | S | 4/3 |
| 83 | PERICAK, Will | DL | 6- 4 | 285 | Sr. | 3L | Boulder, Colo. (Boulder) | S | 1/1 |
| 38 | PLIMPTON, Nick | FB | 5-11 | 220 | Fr. | RS | Phoenix, Ariz. (Chaparral) | WO | 4/4 |
| 26 | POLK, Ray | DB | 6- 1 | 205 | Sr. | 3L | Scottsdale, Ariz. (Brophy Prep) | S | 1/1 |
| 91 | POSTON, Kirk | DL | 6- 1 | 255 | So. | VR | Houston, Texas (St. Pius X) | S | 3/3 |
| 6 | RICHARDSON, Paul | WR | 6- 1 | 170 | Jr. | 2L | Gardena, Calif. (Serra) | S | 3/2 |
| 70 | RICHTER, Eric | DL | 6- 3 | 315 | Sr. | VR | Mission Viejo, Calif. (Capistrano Valley/Saddleback College) | S | 1/1 |
| 3 | RIPPY, Douglas | ILB | 6- 3 | 240 | Sr. | 3L | Columbus, Ohio (Trotwood-Madison) | S | 1/1 |
| 14 | SCHROCK, John | QB | 6- 4 | 215 | Fr. | RS | Kansas City, Kan. (Shawnee Mission East) | WO | 4/4 |
| 88 | SLAVIN, Kyle | TE | 6- 4 | 245 | So. | VR | Littleton, Colo. (Chatfield) | S | 3/3 |
| 41 | SMITH, Terrel | DB | 5- 8 | 180 | Jr. | 2L | Paterson, N.J. (Passaic County Tech) | S | 3/2 |
| 22 | SPRUCE, Nelson | WR | 6- 2 | 195 | Fr. | RS | Westlake Village, Calif. (Westlake) | S | 4/4 |
| 38 | THOMPSON, River | DB | 5- 9 | 155 | Fr. | RS | Denver, Colo. (East) | WO | 4/4 |
| 85 | THORNTON, DaVaughn | WR | 6- 4 | 220 | Jr. | 2L | Denver, Colo. (East) | S | 2/2 |

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ALPHABETICAL ROSTER, CONTINUED

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Class | Exp | Hometown (High School/Previous College) | Status |
|-----|---------------------|------|------|-----|-------|-----|--|--------|
| 42 | TU'UMALO, K.T. | DB | 6- 2 | 200 | So. | 1L | Honolulu, Hawai'i (Punahou) | S 4/3 |
| 86 | TURBOW, Alex | WR | 6- 1 | 195 | Jr. | VR | San Luis Obispo, Calif. (San Luis Obispo) | WO 2/2 |
| 51 | TUSO, John | DL | 6- 4 | 265 | Fr. | RS | Englewood, Colo. (Cherry Creek) | WO 4/4 |
| 9 | UZO-DIRIBE, Chidera | DL | 6- 3 | 255 | Jr. | 2L | Corona, Calif. (Corona) | S 3/2 |
| 32 | VIGO, Paul | DB | 6- 1 | 195 | Jr. | 1L | New Brunswick, N.J. (New Brunswick) | S 2/2 |
| 92 | WALKER, Casey | DL | 6- 4 | 215 | Fr. | RS | Grand Junction, Colo. (Grand Junction) | WO 4/4 |
| 4 | WASHINGTON, Kyle | DB | 6- 1 | 215 | So. | 1L | Pasadena, Calif. (Florence (Ariz.) HS) | S 4/3 |
| 1 | WEBB, Derrick | ILB | 6- 0 | 220 | Jr. | 2L | Memphis, Tenn. (Whitehaven) | S 2/2 |
| ... | WILHELM, D.J. | P | 6- 2 | 195 | So. | TR | Clear Lake, Iowa (Clear Lake/Northern Iowa) | WO 3/3 |
| 45 | WILLIAMS, Lowell | ILB | 6- 1 | 200 | So. | 1L | Missouri City, Texas (Marshall) | S 3/3 |
| 46 | WOOD, Alex | TE | 6- 2 | 250 | Jr. | VR | Steamboat Springs, Colo. (Steamboat Springs) | WO 2/2 |
| 5 | WOOD, Connor | QB | 6- 3 | 225 | So. | TR | Houston, Texas (Second Baptist/Texas) | WO 3/3 |
| 33 | YATES, Richard | DB | 6- 2 | 180 | So. | RS | Lakewood, Colo. (Kent Denver) | WO 4/4 |

Heights and weights recorded as of January 18, 2012. **EXPERIENCE KEY:** #L—indicates number of letters earned through 2011; HS—high school; JC—junior college transfer; RS—freshman redshirt in 2011; TR—transfer; VR—varsity reserve performer. **STATUS KEY:** S—scholarship, WO—walk-on; #/#—clock as of start of 2012 season, i.e., 2/1: two years available to play one in eligibility.

Inactive Roster Players (Injured/Ineligible, Etc.)

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Class | Exp. | Hometown (High School/Previous College) | Reason | Status |
|------|--------|------|-----|-----|-------|------|---|--------|--------|
| None | | | | | | | | | |

Spring Walk-Ons

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Class | Exp. | Hometown (High School/Previous College) | Status |
|-----|----------------|------|------|-----|-------|------|---|--------|
| ... | CASTILLO, Gabe | WR | 6- 2 | 185 | So. | VR | Sunrise, Fla. (North Broward Prep) | WO 3/3 |

No Longer On Team (left program after the end of the 2011 season)

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Class | Exp. | Hometown (High School/Previous College) | Status |
|-----|-----------------|------|------|-----|-------|------|---|--------|
| 50 | ASIATA, Paulay | OL | 6- 5 | 295 | So. | 1L | Honolulu, Hawai'i (St. Louis) | S 4/3 |
| 89 | EBNER, Drew | WR | 5-11 | 200 | Fr. | VR | Arvada, Colo. (Pomona) | WO 3/3 |
| 36 | MARQUEZ, Jordan | DB | 6- 1 | 185 | Fr. | VR | Arvada, Colo. (Arvada West) | WO 3/3 |
| 81 | VINCENT, Austin | WR | 6- 2 | 185 | Fr. | VR | DeSoto, Texas (DeSoto) | S 4/3 |

DONTA ABRON, RB

5-9, 190, Upland, Calif. (Upland)

HIGH SCHOOL—ESPN ranked him the No. 34 running back in the nation, as well as the No. 94 player overall in the West region and the No. 65 prospect out of California. After playing at Alta Loma as a sophomore, he transferred within the Baseline League to Upland and coach Tim Salter. A three-time first-team All-Baseline League selection, he was the Offensive Most Valuable Player of the league as a senior. He also was a first-team All-CIF Inland Division selection as a senior after receiving third-team honors as a junior and second-team as a sophomore. For his career, he racked up 4,242 rushing yards and 52 touchdowns on 627 carries (6.8 yards per carry). He had 23 career receptions for 177 yards and one touchdown, in addition to one pass completion for 30 yards while at Alta Loma. He also served as a kickoff returner while at Upland, with a long return of 70 yards. As a senior, he totaled 1,754 rushing yards on 252 carries (7.0 per carry), reaching the end zone 33 times on the ground with a longest run of 80 yards. Against Charter Oak in the second round of the playoffs of his senior season, he rushed for 191 yards and four touchdowns on 32 carries to lead the Scots to a 51-13 victory. In a 49-21 win against Los Osos, he had 26 carries for 195 yards and five touchdowns, while in a 59-21 victory over Murrieta Valley, he tallied 14 carries for 123 yards and two touchdowns. Over a three-game stretch of his senior season (against Serrano, Norco, and Loyola), he compiled 609 yards and 10 touchdowns on 73 rushing attempts. As a junior, he led the Highlanders with 1,132 rushing yards and 12 touchdowns on 149 carries. His best performance that season came in a 40-35 win over Chaparral, when he rushed 18 times for 177 yards and two scores. In his one season on varsity at Alta Loma, he rushed for 1,356 yards and seven touchdowns on 226 attempts. His top game as a sophomore came in a 45-21 loss to Claremont, when he had 30 carries for 221 yards and two touchdowns. He compiled a 20-15 record in high school, including a 20-5 mark the past two seasons (12-1 and Baseline League champions as a senior; 8-4 as a junior; 0-10 at Alta Loma as a sophomore).

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major, but is interested in Finance.

PERSONAL—He was born February 20, 1993, in Los Angeles, Calif. His father, also Donta Abron, played cornerback at Northern Arizona. He is nicknamed “A-Train” because, as he puts it, “It’s hard to bring me down.” He volunteers as a security guard at his church, and enjoys playing Madden in his free time. His high school teammate, Marques Mosley, is also a 2012 signee for CU. *(Name is pronounced DON-TAY ABE-BRUN)*

KENNETH CRAWLEY, DB

6-1, 170, Washington, D.C. (H.D. Woodson)

HIGH SCHOOL—He ranked as the No. 10 player in the MidAtlantic Region and was the second defensive back listed by Super-Prep, which also placed him as the No. 2 prospect out of Washington, D.C. ESPN slotted him as the No. 18 cornerback in the nation

and Rivals.com ranked him the No. 22 corner. MaxPreps ranked him the No. 17 safety in the country, as most services considered him to be the No. 2 prospect out of the District. The Washington Post selected him the D.C. Player of the Year for his senior season, when the paper also named him a first-team All-Met selection. As a senior, he was named first-team All-District, in addition to being first-team All-Eastern League for the second consecutive year. Following his senior season, he participated in the Chesapeake Bowl All-Star Game in Edgewater, Md. The game featured top seniors from D.C., Maryland, and Virginia taking on seniors from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. A three-year letterman, he played wide receiver in addition to cornerback at Woodson. For his career, he intercepted 14 passes and returned three for touchdowns. He also had eight touchdowns receiving, one punt return for a touchdown, one kick return for a touchdown, and one blocked punt returned for a touchdown, giving him 14 career touchdowns in five different ways. As a senior, he had 43 tackles, five interceptions (96 return yards, including a 30-yard touchdown), eight pass breakups, one fumble recovery, and one blocked punt on defense. On the other side of the ball, he had 12 receptions for 280 yards and four touchdowns. He also made an impact on special teams, returning both a kickoff (100 yards) and a punt (66 yards) for touchdowns in his senior season. Top games as a senior included a 24-6 win over Wilson (three catches, 77 yards, two touchdowns, 100-yard kickoff return touchdown, blocked punt) and a 35-14 loss to Washington (three receptions, 46 yards, 66-yard punt return touchdown, seven tackles). In his junior season, he had 32 tackles, seven interceptions, five pass breakups, and three blocked punts, scoring once on an interception return and once on a blocked punt return, in addition to four receiving scores on offense. His best performance as a junior came in a 28-12 win over Fairmont Heights when he intercepted the opposing quarterback three times in the game. As a sophomore, he only recorded eight tackles yet had two interceptions, one of which he returned for six points. Under coach Greg Fuller, Woodson went 24-12 in his three seasons (6-5 as a senior; 9-3 as a junior; 9-4 as a sophomore), winning the Eastern League in both his sophomore and junior years. He also runs track, participating on the 4x100- and 4x200-meter relay teams.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major, but is interested in Psychology.

PERSONAL—He was born February 8, 1993, in Washington, D.C. He enjoys going to movies and hanging out with friends in his spare time. He also serves his community by assisting at a group home in D.C. At Woodson, he teamed with Buff defensive back Sherrard Harrington, as well as fellow CU 2012 signees John Walker and De’Jon Wilson.

TERRENCE CROWDER

5-10, 210, Galena Park, Calif. (Galena Park)

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked as the No. 97 running back in the country by Scout.com and the No. 18 back out of the state of Texas. ESPN ranked him the No. 106 running back nationally

Terrence Crowder, continued

and the No. 246 player overall out of Texas. He missed almost all of his senior season, tearing his ACL after just three carries for 25 yards in Galena Park's season opener. He earned unanimous first-team All-District 19 honors following his junior season after rushing for 1,338 yards and 15 touchdowns on 193 carries with a longest rush of 70 yards. A four-year letterman, he totaled 1,556 yards rushing over his final three years despite hardly playing in his senior season. In addition to running back, he also blocked punts and kicks on special teams, paving the way on kick returns as well as protecting the punter. Top games from his junior season include rushing for 145 yards and two touchdowns in a 46-12 win over Sam Rayburn, and a 44-7 win over Goose Creek, when he ran for over 150 yards and two scores. Galena Park went 7-4 in his junior season, finishing third in the district and advancing to the state playoffs where Galena Park lost to Beaumont Central in the opening round. While he was sidelined his senior season, coach Ray Zepeda's Yellowjackets went 3-7. He also has lettered three times in track as a sprinter, participating in the 100-meter dash as well as the 4x100 and 4x200 meter relay teams.

ACADEMICS—He is interested in majoring in Biology at Colorado. In high school he carried a 3.5 grade point average and was a member of the Academic Honor Roll for his district.

PERSONAL—He was born December 14, 1993, in Houston, Texas. He works in his community through the Gents Organization, a group at his high school based upon principles of good citizenship, high moral standards, and high academic achievement. His hobbies include working out and playing video games.

SHANE DILLON, QB

6-6, 195, El Cajon, Calif. (Christian)

HIGH SCHOOL—One of the top ranked quarterbacks nationally by most of the recruiting publications, PrepStar ranked him as the No. 7 and Rivals the No. 13 pro-style quarterback nationally. He finished the prestigious Elite 11 camp as the the No. 7 player in the camp prior to his senior season. SuperPrep slotted him as the No. 66 player in the Far West region, the No. 61 player out of California, and the No. 5 quarterback in the Golden State. Scout ranked him as the No. 28 signal caller in the nation, and ESPN ranked him as the No. 115 player in the West region. As a senior, he was named Coastal League Player of the Year, and a first-team All-Coastal League and All-San Diego County selection in leading the Patriots to a league title. He also was selected by ESPN Cal-Hi Sports as a first-team All-State small school selection and was the second-team All-CIF San Diego Section. As a junior, he was named first-team All-San Diego County, second-team All-Coastal League, and was chosen to participate in the Cal State 5 Star High School Game following the season. He set every passing record at Christian in his three years there, two of which he spent as the starting quarterback, after lettering as freshman at The Bishop's School. For his career at Christian, he completed 441-of-800 attempts (55.1 percent) for 6,681 yards and 45 touchdowns with

29 interceptions. He also ran for nine touchdowns and had two receiving touchdowns in his time with the Patriots. In his senior season, he was 200-of-338 passing (59.2 percent) for 3,301 yards and 22 touchdowns, throwing only nine interceptions. He also gained 70 yards rushing for the season, scoring seven times on the ground, had one reception for 19 yards, and had two punts totaling 68 yards. One of his best performances as a senior came on the biggest stage as he led Christian to a 32-29 win that avenged a previous loss to Santa Fe Christian in the CIF San Diego Section Championship. He was 13-of-29 passing (44.8 percent) in the game, throwing for 316 yards and two touchdowns, and added a rushing touchdown. Other top games as a senior came in a 34-12 over Verbum Dei (18-of-27 passing for 304 yards and two touchdowns, 21 rushing yards and one rushing touchdown) and in a 49-0 victory against El Cajon Valley (17-of-20 passing for 224 yards and two touchdowns, one rushing touchdown). As a junior, he threw for 2,978 yards on 206-of-388 passing (53.1 percent) with 19 touchdowns and 14 interceptions. His top performance as a junior came against his former school, Bishop's, as he completed 28-of-43 pass attempts for 454 yards and five touchdowns in a 56-44 defeat. As a sophomore, he played both quarterback and wide receiver, throwing for 402 yards and four touchdowns on 35-of-74 passing. He also had seven catches for 61 yards and two receiving touchdowns as a sophomore. In his freshman season at Bishop's, he completed one pass that went for a 32-yard touchdown on three attempts. Under coach Matt Oliver, he led Christian to a 16-9 record the past two seasons (10-3 as a senior; 6-6 as a junior; 7-5 as a sophomore) with a CIF San Diego Championship as a senior. He also is an accomplished basketball player and was recruited by several schools to play on the hardwood. He is averaging 19.0 points and 13.0 rebounds per game as a senior after averaging 25.0 points and 12.0 boards per game as a junior. He was named first-team All-Central League and first-team All-East County for his efforts as a junior. As a sophomore, he was a second-team All-East County selection. He also played on the varsity baseball team as both a freshman and a sophomore.

ACADEMICS—He is planning on majoring in Communications at Colorado. In high school, he was named academic first-team All-Coastal League for both football and basketball.

PERSONAL—He was born January 14, 1994, in El Cajon, Calif. Hobbies include hanging out with friends and family, and playing video games. He is actively involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and also coaches a fourth-grade basketball team.

JEFFREY HALL, DB

5-11, 175, LaPlace, La. (St. Charles Catholic)

HIGH SCHOOL—He ranked as the No. 198 athlete in the nation and the No. 84 prospect overall out of Louisiana. A four-year letterman, he played cornerback, wide receiver and running back for St. Charles. He earned first-team All-State, All-River Parish, All-Metro and All-District honors as a senior. He was a second-team All-District honoree as a junior, and was first-team All-Metro and All-District as a sophomore. In his senior season, his first year

Jeffrey Hall, continued

playing in the defensive secondary, he recorded 55 tackles, 4 1/2 sacks, and forced four fumbles, in addition to nine interceptions, one of which he returned for a touchdown. On offense, he ran 28 times for 176 yards and five touchdowns, also catching three passes for 125 yards and another score. He returned a punt 64 yards for a touchdown as a senior as well, giving him eight touchdowns in four different ways. His top performance as a senior came in a 49-6 win in the state playoffs against Kaplan, when he had touchdowns both rushing and on a punt return, an interception, a caused fumble, and a fumble recovery. Three times in his senior season he had multiple interceptions in the same game as he had two picks each against Miller-McCoy Academy (won 55-2), Northshore (won 36-8), and Port Allen (won 48-0). He played wide receiver as a junior, snagging 28 balls for 608 yards, and running back as a sophomore, averaging over seven yards per carry in gaining 530 yards on 74 rushes. In his four seasons under coach Frank Monica, St. Charles went 49-6 (15-0 as a senior, 13-2 as a junior, 12-2 as a sophomore, and 9-2 as a freshman), winning the state championship his senior season. The Comets advanced to at least the state semifinals in all three of his seasons as a starter. He also plays centerfield for St. Charles' baseball team, where as a junior he batted .453 and hit five home runs in earning first-team All-River Parish, All-Metro, and All-District honors, as well as being named honorable mention All-State. He has earned first-team All-District honors in four sports, as in addition to football and baseball, he earned the distinction in soccer and track. He runs the 100- and 200-meter dashes for the track squad.

ACADEMICS—He is interested in majoring in Accounting at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born March 22, 1994, in Metairie, La. He enjoys working out and playing different sports in his free time. He also serves his community by making dinners for the homeless at Thanksgiving.

TYLER HENINGTON, DL

6-3, 275, Centennial, Colo. (Mullen)

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked the No. 8 prospect in Colorado and the state's No. 1 defensive lineman by both Rivals and Scout. SuperPrep ranked him as the No. 10 player in the state of Colorado, the No. 49 player in the Midlands Region, and the No. 3 defensive tackle in the Midlands. He is ranked as the No. 38 defensive tackle in the country and the No. 7 player in Colorado by ESPN. He earned Colorado Defensive Player of the Year honors from The Denver Post for his senior season, in addition to earning All-Colorado honors from the paper. He also was All-State (5A) as a senior, and honorable mention All-State (5A) as a junior. A three-year starter on the defensive line, as a senior he was in on 111 tackles and had 10 quarterback sacks. He also saw some action at fullback on offense, catching one pass for a gain of five yards. He made 109 tackles (11 sacks) as a junior, and 80 tackles (six sacks) his sophomore season. Top games as a senior included a 42-13 win over Cherry Creek (seven tackles, three sacks) and a

12-7 loss versus Grandview (eight tackles, two sacks). Under the direction of former CU All-American Dave Logan, Mullen compiled a 37-3 record in his three season (9-3 as a senior; 14-0 as a junior; 14-0 as a sophomore) and back-to-back 5A state championships. He also wrestles for Mullen, advancing to the state semifinals as a junior in the heavyweight division.

ACADEMICS—He plans on majoring in Business at Colorado. He held a 3.5 grade point average and was a member of the Honor Roll at Mullen.

PERSONAL—He was born September 21, 1993, in Torrance, Calif. Both his father (Troy), and grandfather (Scott), played defensive tackle in college at Texas Tech and New Mexico, respectively. Hobbies include hunting and fishing. He works in the community with World Vision, an organization that packs shoes, clothes, and other items to send to those in need in Africa.

VINCENT HOBBS, TE

6-3, 240, Dallas, Texas (Mesquite Horn)

HIGH SCHOOL—One of the top tight ends out of Texas, SuperPrep ranks him as the No. 87 player in the state and he's the No. 3 tight end on that list. Rivals ranks him the No. 31 tight end nationally and the No. 79 player from Texas and he's the second tight end listed. Scout tabs him the No. 61 tight end. He was named first-team All-State and was the only tight end listed on the 5A Texas Football All-Texas team. He earned first-team All-5A District 11 and first-team All-Mesquite Independent School District his senior season. He played wide receiver as a sophomore and began the transition to tight end his junior season when Horn had two wide receivers go on to play in the Big 12 conference. In his career, he had 72 catches for 926 yards and two touchdowns. His senior season, he caught 49 passes for 598 yards and two touchdowns. He had eight catches for 114 yards and a touchdown in a 16-3 win over North Mesquite. He caught five passes for 92 yards against Central Highland in a 20-0 win and in a loss to DeSoto, he caught for key passes and had a good game blocking for Horn. His junior season, he caught 16 passes for 214 yards and his top game was against North Mesquite in a 49-21 win when he had six catches for 80 yards. As a sophomore, he caught seven passes for 114 yards. He also plays basketball at Horn and averages 15.0 points and 10.0 rebounds per game and is in the process of earning his fourth letter. He was invited to participate in an AAU All-American camp in Las Vegas last summer.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado but is interested in Sports Management.

PERSONAL—He was born December 8, 1993 in Dallas. He enjoys playing basketball and video games in his spare time. He has participated in several community service projects including several helping younger kids.

JEROMY IRWIN, OL*6-5, 290, Cypress, Texas (Cypress Fairbanks)*

HIGH SCHOOL—He ranked as the No. 47 offensive guard in the nation by ESPN, and the No. 89 offensive tackle nationally by Scout.com. He earned Texas Top 100 honors from The Houston Chronicle following his senior season. As both a junior and a senior, he was a unanimous first-team selection to the All-5A District 17 team, earning honorable mention distinction as a sophomore. A three-year starter at left guard, he only gave up one sack in his career, not allowing any in his final two seasons. Cy-Fair averaged over 250 rushing yards per game in his senior. A top performance as a senior came in a 52-7 win over Cypress Springs, when he helped paved the way for an offensive attack that gained 398 yards on the ground. Another memorable moment was a 21-14 victory over Cinco Ranch in the playoffs that sent Cy-Fair to the 5A Division I Regional Finals. Under coach Ed Pustejovsky, Cy-Fair improved dramatically each season (0-10 as a sophomore, 9-3 as a junior, 12-1 as a senior) with a District 17 championship his senior season. He also throws the shot put, advancing to Regional's as a junior. His personal record is a toss of 51 feet. He played basketball early in high school but gave it up to concentrate on football.

ACADEMICS—He is interested in majoring in Business Management at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born July 8, 1993, in North Little Rock, Ark. He is the youngest of a set of triplets, born moments after his brothers John and Sean. Sean also is a member of CU's 2012 recruiting class. Grandfather (Roby Irwin) played football at TCU, and an uncle (Jack McClelland) ran track at Texas. His hobbies include playing computer games, working out and eating. He serves his community through PALS, an organization that mentors kids and does other projects such as feeding the homeless.

SEAN IRWIN, TE*6-4, 230, Cypress, Texas (Cypress Fairbanks)*

HIGH SCHOOL—He ranked as the No. 39 tight end in the nation by Scout.com despite missing the majority of his senior season with an ankle injury. ESPN slotted him as the No. 72 tight end nationally and as the No. 210 player overall from the state of Texas. As a junior at Cy-Fair, he was named by The Houston Chronicle to the All-Greater Houston first team, and also earned first-team All-5A District 17 honors. He only played in four games as a senior after an ankle injury sustained during two-a-days caused him to miss the Bobcats' first nine games. For his career, he compiled 24 receptions for 495 yards and four touchdowns, the bulk of which came during his junior season (16 catches, 305 yards, two touchdowns). One of his top games as a senior came in the 5A Division I Regional Finals versus Fort Bend Hightower; with Cy-Fair trailing 14-0, he caught a 20-yard touchdown pass to put the Bobcats on the board and provide the team some momentum. Fort Bend Hightower would ultimately win the game 21-14 and advance all

the way to the state championship game. Top outings from his junior season came in a 31-7 win over Cypress Falls in which he had several pancake blocks in a big victory for Cy-Fair, and in a 28-14 loss to Cy-Woods, when he had two catches for 30 yards. A two-year starter and three-year lettermen at tight end, he played a key role in Cy-Fair's turnaround from 0-10 in his sophomore season to 9-3 and a share of the 5A District 17 title as a junior and then a 12-1 record and outright 5A District 17 championship as a senior under coach Ed Pustejovsky. He also played on the varsity basketball team as a sophomore and throws the discus on the track and field team.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado but is considering Business.

PERSONAL—He was born July 8, 1993, in North Little Rock, Ark. He is the middle of a set of triplets, born moments after his brother, John, and before his brother, Jeromy. Jeromy also is a member of CU's 2012 recruiting class. Grandfather (Roby Irwin) played football at TCU, and an uncle (Jack McClelland) ran track at Texas. His hobbies include playing computer games and paintballing.

KISIMA JAGNE, DL*6-5, 235, Phoenix, Ariz. (Chandler)*

HIGH SCHOOL—Ranked one of the top players in Arizona by most of the recruiting sites, including No. 6 by ESPN, No. 9 by Rivals and No. 13 by SuperPrep. Rivals also has him as the No. 28 strong side defensive end nationally, while ESPN ranks him the No. 52 defensive end and Scout No. 54. He was a second-team All-Arizona Division I selection both his junior and senior year and also named first-team All-Division I Section II both seasons. He led the state in tackles his senior season averaging more than 10.0 per game and finished the season with 10 quarterback sacks, three forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries. He blocked two punts on special teams. His top two games came against rival Hamilton, combining for 33 tackles and five sacks in the two games. As a junior, he finished the season with 71 tackles and 17 sacks to go along with two forced fumbles and three fumble recoveries. Along with the punt and field goal block teams, he also played on the kickoff return team that season. He played his first two seasons of high school at Chavez High School, earning two letters and starting as a sophomore. He helped Chandler High School to a 16-8 record (9-4 as a senior; 7-4 as a junior) for coach Shaun Aguano. He also plays basketball and averages 20.0 points and 15.0 rebounds per game as a senior. He earned second-team All-Arizona honors as a junior at Chandler and was fourth-team All-Arizona as a sophomore at Chavez. He led Chavez to two regional championships as a freshman and sophomore while Chandler advanced to the conference playoffs last season.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born October 30, 1993 in Phoenix. His cousin, Kenny Wheaton, played football at Oregon and was a third round draft pick in the 1997 NFL Draft and played three seasons with the Dallas Cowboys. He also played Arena Football and in the Canadian Football League, including a brief stint with the Colo-

Kisima Jagne, continued

rado Crush in the AFL. Another cousin, Derrek Wheaton, signed to play football at Oregon, but was killed in a drive-by shooting prior to attending the school; the Arizona Junior High Basketball Tournament MVP honors are named in his honor. Another cousin, Marquese Wheaton, just finished his college career at Southern Mississippi while his cousin Markus Wheaton is playing football at Oregon State. *(Name is pronounced KIZ-MA JAG-KNEE)*

SAMSON KAFOVALU, DL

6-3, 250, Riverside, Calif. (Arlington)

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked as the No. 77 player in the Far West region by SuperPrep, and is ranked as the No. 4 defensive end out of the state of California. Scout ranked him as the No. 64 defensive end prospect in the nation. In both his junior and senior seasons, he earned recognition as a first-team All-CIF Southern Section Central Division defensive lineman. As a sophomore, he was a second-team All-CIF Southern Section Central Division performer. A three-year starter and four-year letterman, he was Arlington's defensive lineman of the year in both his junior and senior seasons. For his career, he compiled 127 tackles, four quarterback sacks, two forced fumbles, and a fumble recovery. As a senior, he had 56 tackles (12 solo) and 2 1/2 sacks that totaled 13 lost yards. Top performances include a 63-14 win over Vista del Lago during his senior season, when he had six tackles and scored on a 2-yard touchdown run in his only career carry. Other top games as a senior came in a 31-14 loss to La Sierra (nine tackles, one sack) and in a 28-0 loss to Rancho Verde (five tackles, one fumble recovery). Under coach Pat McCarthy, the Lions went 29-15 in his four seasons (5-6 his senior year, 9-3 his junior year, 10-2 his sophomore year, 5-6 his freshman year). He also played basketball as a freshman, but did not letter and gave the sport up to concentrate on football.

ACADEMICS—He had a 3.3 grade point average in high school, and is considering Communication as his major at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born February 17, 1994, in Riverside, Calif. Hobbies include playing basketball and helping his family around the house. He attended the same high school as former CU tight end David Brown, a member of the 1990 national championship team. *(Last name is pronounced KOF-OH-VA-LOO)*

ALEX KELLEY, OL

6-3, 305, Oceanside, Calif. (Vista)

HIGH SCHOOL—As a senior, SuperPrep named him to its All-Far West team, ranking him the No. 98 player overall in the region, the No. 15 offensive lineman but the first center on the list. Scout.com ranked him as the No. 122 player from California and No. 22 center in the country (the top center in California and the No. 2 center in the west). ESPN also ranked him the No. 122 player from California, the No. 16 center in the country (No. 2 from California).

He also earned first-team All-CIF San Diego Section and second-team All-State (by Cal-Hi Sports) honors. He garnered first-team All-League honors twice, in the Avocado League as a senior and in the Palomar League as a junior; Vista switched leagues for the 2010 season. He recorded 108 pancake blocks his senior year, anchoring an offensive line that helped Vista score 34.2 point per game (30 or more points in eight games). The offense racked up 416.8 yard of offense per game (234.7 rushing), totaling over 3,000 net yards rushing for the year, featuring a 1,500-yard rusher. His junior season, he had 60 pancake blocks as Vista averaged 31.3 points per game and 343 yards per game on offense (226 on the ground). As a sophomore, he had 30 pancake blocks. His top game his senior year came when Vista defeated heavily favored Torrey Pines 24-21 in the CIF semifinals en route to the championship. His junior year, his favorite moment came when Vista defeated La Costa Canyon, 47-7, snapping its 23-game win streak in the CIF semifinal match-up. Under coach Dan Williams, Vista was 29-9 in his three seasons there, including two championship seasons his junior (10-3 record) and senior (12-1) years. VHS won the Avocado League and CIF San Diego Section Championship in 2010 after claiming the Palomar League title his junior year, when they advanced to the CIF San Diego Section championship game. He also lettered three times in wrestling, earning first-team All-CIF San Diego Section honors as a junior and senior and a three-time, first-team All-Palomar League performer as a heavyweight.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado but is interested in sports medicine or coaching as a possible career after football. As a senior in high school, he was named to the 2010 All-Academic Team by the San Diego Union-Tribune for maintaining above a 3.0 grade point average.

PERSONAL—He was born December 1, 1992 in Madrid, Spain, where his parents were working as missionaries. His hobbies include hanging out with friends and going to the beach. His father (Karry) lettered three times at offensive tackles for the Bufaloes from 1976-79, starting his senior year; an older brother (Hal) completed his career at Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo in 2010, where he started at center for two seasons. He spent two weeks in the summer of 2010 in Haiti passing out supplies to earthquake victims and helping build an orphanage.

GERRAD KOUGH, OL

6-5, 270, Pomona, Calif. (Pomona)

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked the No. 113 offensive tackle in the nation by ESPN and is also ranked as the No. 99 player overall in California. As a senior at Pomona, he was named a first-team All-CIF Southern Section Mid-Valley Division offensive lineman, and was also placed on the Inland Empire All-Star team. In both his junior and senior seasons, he earned recognition as a first-team All-Valle Vista League performer. He followed coach Anthony Rice to Pomona before his junior season after playing his first two seasons at Colony High School in Ontario, Calif. As a sophomore, he was named second-team All-Mount Baldy League as an offensive lineman at Colony. As a senior at Pomona, he compiled over 50 pancake blocks as he paved the way for an offense that

Gerrad Kough, continued

averaged 217 rushing yards per game. He also played defensive tackle, totaling 38 tackles and recovering two fumbles in his senior season for the Red Devils. Despite losing 24-7, one of his most memorable games as a senior came against Monrovia in the playoffs when he had four tackles. Another top performance from his senior season came in a 45-14 win versus Northview when he had eight tackles and two sacks on defense, and Pomona rushed for 240 yards offensively. Under coach Rice, Pomona went 11-10 in his two seasons starting for the Red Devils. At Colony, he started as a sophomore for a squad that went 10-2 and won the Mount Baldy League, and he also played varsity as a freshman. In addition to football, he throws the shot put on the track and field team.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born March 26, 1994, in La Habra, Calif. His brother (Robert) plays on the defensive line at Army. He enjoys fishing in his free time. While at Colony, he teamed with CU defensive back Jered Bell and CU's roots are deep at Pomona, as he joins former CU players Jo Jo Collins (1984-88), J.J. Flannigan (1986-89), and Lamarr Gray (1986-90) on that list. (*Name is pronounced JAIR-ED KOH*)

DEREK McGARTNEY, DL

6-4, 215, Westminster, Colo. (Faith Christian)

HIGH SCHOOL—He earned first-team 2A All-State and All-Flatirons League honors in each of his three seasons as a starter for Faith Christian. He played both defensive end and tight end for the Eagles, compiling 132 tackles and 30 quarterback sacks on defense, and 15 catches for 187 yards and a touchdown in his career. As a senior, he had 62 tackles (42 solo), 16 sacks, three forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries, and two pass deflections, in addition to blocking both a punt and a field goal. On offense, he had eight catches for 53 yards. His top games as a senior came in a 35-7 win against Platte Valley (11 tackles, three sacks, blocked punt) and a 23-13 loss to Kent Denver (eight tackles, three sacks). In his junior season, he tallied 40 tackles (23 solo), including six sacks and four forced fumbles on defense, while also catching five balls for 47 yards and a touchdown at tight end. As a sophomore, he had 30 tackles with eight sacks and two fumble recoveries, also intercepting three passes on defense. Offensively, he had two receptions for 87 yards. In his four years as a letterman, Faith Christian went 44-7 under coach Blair Hubbard. The Eagles won the Flatirons League in all four seasons, and were 14-0 state champions in his sophomore season. He also plays basketball and throws the shot put. In basketball he earned second-team 2A All-State honors as a junior, and helped the Eagles to a No. 1 ranking as a senior. He finished second in the state as a junior in the shot put.

ACADEMICS—A member of the Honor Roll in high school, he is interested in majoring in Integrative Physiology at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born November 22, 1993, in Chicago, Ill. His grandfather is legendary Buffs coach Bill McCartney, and his father is former CU and Green Bay Packers defensive lineman Shannon Clavelle. His half-brother, T.C. McCartney, played football at LSU and is now a graduate assistant for the Tigers. He enjoys

reading and hanging out with friends in his free time. He also assists his grandfather with his organization, Promise Keepers.

MARQUES MOSLEY, DB

6-1, 175, Upland, Calif. (Upland)

HIGH SCHOOL—He ranked as the No. 91 safety in the nation and the No. 128 player overall out of California by ESPN. He played defensive back, wide receiver, and returned kicks at Upland. As a senior, he was named first-team All-Baseline League as a defensive back, in addition to being named second-team All-Baseline League as a wide receiver. He also earned first-team All-CIF Inland Division honors as a senior. He was an honorable mention All-Baseline League selection as a junior. In his senior season, he recorded 64 tackles (43 solo), had two interceptions, four pass breakups, and one fumble recovery. On offense, he had 19 receptions for 387 yards and three touchdowns, and 326 yards rushing with five touchdowns on 19 carries, with a long rush of 78 yards. His best game as a senior came in a 54-27 win over Norco, when he returned two kickoffs for touchdowns (83 and 95 yards), had one catch for a 48-yard touchdown, recorded one interception, and compiled eight tackles. Another top contest came against Los Osos, when he had four carries for 68 yards and one touchdown on offense, in addition to an interception, five tackles, and a pass breakup on defense in a 49-21 Upland victory. A two-year starter on defense, as a junior he tallied 65 tackles (47 solo), one interception, two pass breakups, one forced fumble, and one fumble recovery. Under coach Tim Salter, the Scots were 43-10 in his four seasons (12-1 his senior year, 8-4 as a junior, 12-2 as a sophomore and 11-3 as a freshman), winning the Baseline League title in his senior season. He also participates in track and field, competing in the 100- and 200-meter dashes, the 4x100-meter relay, triple jump, and high jump. He played basketball as a freshman but did not letter.

ACADEMICS—He plans on majoring in Business at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born May 31, 1994, in Artesia, Calif. His hobbies include hanging out with friends and playing video games. He gives back to the community by working at his local church, in addition to coaching Pop Warner football. A cousin, SIRR Parker, played running back at Texas A&M and in the NFL. Parker scored on a 32-yard touchdown pass in the 1998 Big 12 Conference championship to give the Aggies a 36-33 overtime victory over Kansas State, and his life was the subject of a 2001 Showtime movie entitled They Call Me SIRR. He played in high school with fellow CU 2012 signee Donta Abron. (*First name is pronounced MAR-KEES*)

CLAY NORGARD, FB

6-1, 240, Highlands Ranch, Colo. (Mountain Vista)

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked the No. 4 fullback in the nation by Rivals, which also lists him as the No. 7 prospect out of the state of Colorado. MaxPreps ranked him as the No. 21 inside linebacker. Scout tabbed him as the No. 105 defensive end nationally and the

Clay Norgard, continued

No. 11 player overall from Colorado. EPSN ranked him as the No. 56 defensive end nationally, the No. 101 player in the Midlands, and No. 7 player from Colorado. The Denver Post tabbed him as a first-team All-Colorado and first-team All-State selection at the 5A classification both his junior and senior seasons at Mountain Vista where he also earned first-team All-Centennial League his sophomore through senior seasons. A three-year starter, he compiled 218 tackles, including 88 for a loss with 32 quarterback sacks, 19 forced fumbles and 10 fumble recoveries over his last two seasons. He had 115 tackles as a senior, including 45 for a loss with 17 sacks while forcing 10 fumbles and recovering six. In a playoff game against Douglas County in a 18-14 victory, he recorded 15 tackles and a pair of sacks. He opened the season in a 50-7 win over Smoky Hill with 11 tackles, including nine solo. His junior season, he had 103 tackles, including 43 for a loss with 15 quarterback sacks, forcing nine fumbles and recovering four. He played defensive tackle, defensive end and both inside and outside linebacker throughout high school. Mountain Vista was 4-6 his senior season, 4-6 his junior season and 7-4 his sophomore season under coach Ric Cash. He also lettered three times in track and was named first-team All-State at the 5A classification by the Denver Post. He set school records in the shot put, discus and javelin.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on his major at Colorado, but is interested in Architecture.

PERSONAL—He was born November 1, 1993 in The Woodlands, Texas. His father (Erik) played center at Colorado from 1987-88 and was named All-Big Eight as a senior before going on to enjoy an 11-year NFL career with the Houston Oilers organization. His mother (Lisa) also attended CU and was a cheerleader. His hobbies include snowboarding and long boarding, and his favorite athlete is Clay Matthews. He lists the biggest moment of his prep career as when he earned All-Colorado honors his junior season.

DAVIEN PAYNE, RB

5-11, 225, Perris, Calif. (Citrus Hill)

HIGH SCHOOL—SuperPrep ranked him as the No. 129 player in the Far West Region, which included being the No. 121 player overall and No. 6 running back from California. Rivals ranks him as the No. 46 running back nationally, the No. 98 player from California and No. 5 running back from the Golden State. ESPN ranks him as the No. 49 running back, No. 84 player from California and No. 123 player in the West Region, while Scout tabs him the No. 58 running back nationally. He earned first-team All-Southern Section Eastern Division and first-team All-Mountain Pass League honors and was the Citrus Hill Most Valuable Player both his junior and senior seasons. He was also the Mountain Pass Most Valuable Player his junior season. In his career, he rushed 529 times for 3,806 yards and 57 touchdowns. He had 18 career games with 100-plus yards, seven with 200-plus and one game over 300 yards. He scored touchdowns in 21 of 24 games spanning his junior and senior seasons, and in that span had multiple touchdowns 15 times. He also had four-or-more touchdowns six

times, five-or-more four times, and six touchdowns twice. He also caught 14 passes for 218 yards. As a senior, he rushed 171 times for 1,500 yards and 28 touchdowns. He had eight 100-yard rushing games and three games with 200-plus yards. He ran for multiple touchdowns in eight games and had four-or-more scores three times. He compiled 208 yards and two touchdowns on just 12 carries in a 42-0 win over Perris, and in a 49-14 thrashing of Tahquitz, he had six touchdowns and 215 yards rushing on just 15 carries. The next game in a 69-28 win over West Valley, he had four more touchdowns with 14 carries for 112 yards. Against Norte Vista, he had 15 rushes for 166 yards and five touchdowns. More one-dimensional as a junior, he had 318 carries for 1,928 yards and 27 touchdowns. In 11 games on the season, he went over 100 yards on 10 occasions, with four 200-yard performances and a 300-yard game. He scored touchdowns in 10 of 11 games with multiple touchdowns seven times and four-or-more on three occasions. In his first start, he ran 34 times for 325 yards and four touchdowns in a 51-25 win over Canyon Springs, and followed up that game with 30 carries for 235 yards and five touchdowns in a 41-13 win over Moreno Valley. After being held under 100 yards the only time that season, he responded with 32 carries for 228 yards and six touchdowns in a 48-19 win over Tahquitz. In a 15-13 win over West Valley, he scored both touchdowns with 45 carries for 190 yards and followed that up with another 40 carry game, this time 41 for 241 yards and two touchdowns in a 21-18 win over San Jacinto. As a sophomore playing mainly junior varsity, he still racked up 40 carries for 319 yards and two touchdowns in spot duty on varsity. Citrus Hill was 39-6 in his three years there (12-1 as a senior; 7-4 as a junior; 10-1 as a sophomore) and won two Mountain Pass League championships. He played basketball on the junior varsity team earlier in his high school career and also ran track and field, participating in a variety of events including the 100- and 400-meter dashes and the 4x100- and 4x400-meter relays, and the shot put.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado but is interested in Criminal Justice. He has a career grade point average of over 3.0 and was honored as Citrus Hill's student of the month in October for attaining a 3.6 grade point average.

PERSONAL—He was born November 24, 1992 in Perris, Calif. He enjoys spending time with his family, relaxing, hanging out with friends and working out. He developed and was president of a club in high school that helped special education students by organizing field trips and fun activities. He is the first member of his immediate family to attend college.

CHRISTIAN POWELL, FB

6-0, 250, Upland, Calif. (Upland)

HIGH SCHOOL—One of the top-ranked fullbacks in the country, he was listed as the No. 3 prospect at the position by ESPN and No. 4 by Scout. SuperPrep slotted him as the No. 97 player in the Far West region, and the No. 2 fullback out of the state of California. He was listed by Rivals as the No. 55 athlete in the nation. He earned first-team All-CIF Southern Section Inland Division and All-Baseline League honors on the defensive line as both a junior

Christian Powell, continued

and a senior. He also was named first-team All-Baseline as a full-back for his senior season. In his sophomore season, at Alta Loma High School, he was an honorable mention All-Baseline League selection as a defensive lineman. In his senior season, he rushed 40 times for 400 yards and seven touchdowns, while catching seven balls for 116 yards, and clearing the way for fellow CU signee Donta Abron to rush for 1,754 yards and 33 touchdowns. On defense, he notched 90 tackles (50 solo), including 15 sacks. Top games as a senior included a game against Murrieta Valley in the first round of the playoffs, when he rushed three times for 83 yards and two touchdowns, breaking one for a career-long 53 yards. He also had six tackles in the 59-21 victory for the Highlanders. Another top game from his senior season was a 54-27 win versus Norco when he had a career-high 17 tackles. As a junior, he had 63 tackles (36 solo), eight sacks, five forced fumbles, and an interception on defense, while toting the ball four times for 45 yards and catching two passes for 17 yards and a touchdown on offense. His best performance as a junior came in a 41-14 win against Glendora, when he sacked the quarterback four times and recorded six total tackles. In his sophomore season with Alta Loma, he had 104 tackles (51 solo), three sacks, two fumbles caused, and two recovered fumbles. On the other side of the ball, he rushed 27 times for 150 yards and four scores, while catching seven passes for 42 yards. In his two seasons at Upland under coach Tim Salter, the Scots went 20-5, winning the Baseline League in his senior season. He also throws the shot put and was the Baseline League champ as a junior.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado. He was a member of the Honor Roll in high school.

PERSONAL—He was born March 3, 1994, in Loma Linda, Calif. His hobbies include working out and relaxing. He was high school teammates with fellow CU 2012 signees Donta Abron and Marques Mosley.

KORY RASMUSSEN, DL

6-4, 260, Ewa Beach, Hawai'i (Kamehameha)

HIGH SCHOOL—SuperPrep ranks him as the No. 3 player in the state of Hawai'i, the top defensive tackle on that list, and the No. 69 player in the Far West Region. Rivals ranks him as the No. 10 player from Hawai'i and he's the top defensive tackle on the list. Scout ranks him the No. 85 defensive tackle nationally. His senior season, he earned defensive player of the year honors for the ILH (Interscholastic League of Hawai'i, the state's private school league). ESPNHS named him to its All-Hawai'i team and the Honolulu Star Advertiser named him first-team All-ILH and second-team All-State. He earned honorable mention All-ILH as a junior. Kamehameha recorded a 23-10 record in his three seasons as a letter winner there, 7-4 as a senior, 5-5 as a junior and 12-1 as a sophomore, winning the ILH state championship his sophomore season and losing in the final game his senior season. Kamehameha doesn't keep defensive statistics, encouraging players not to keep track of them, but the team allowed just 88.1 rushing yards per game his senior season. His top game was playing in the rotation on the defensive line as a sophomore and winning the state

championship. In his senior season against rival Punahoe, he had two interceptions and a sack despite it being in a losing effort. He also played baseball and track and field on the junior varsity level before focusing on football.

ACADEMICS—He plans to major in Business at Colorado. An honor roll student, he has maintained above a 3.3 grade point average throughout high school.

PERSONAL—He was born March 1, 1994 in Honolulu. He enjoys body surfing, hanging out at the beach and working out. In a program through his weight lifting coaches, he has participated in community service, working with the Special Olympics.

AUSTIN RAY, TE

6-6, 235, Columbia, Mo. (Rock Bridge)

HIGH SCHOOL—A SuperPrep All-American, he is ranked the No. 5 tight end in the nation by that publication, which also ranks him the No. 21 player in the Midlands Region where he is the second tight end listed, and the No. 6 player from Missouri. Rivals ranks him as the No. 15 player from Missouri and he is the top tight end on that list. He is ranked the No. 29 tight end nationally by ESPN where he is the No. 125 player from the Midlands Region and No. 11 player from Missouri, and Scout ranks him as the No. 34 tight end in the country. ESPNHS Missouri magazine named him first-team All-State and he also earned All-District and All-Conference honors both his junior and senior seasons. A three-year starter for Rock Bridge and coach A.J. Ofofide, the team advanced to the first round of the playoffs his senior season with a 7-4 record. Playing in a run-oriented offense, he made the most of his opportunities and caught 16 touchdown passes in his career off of 47 receptions. His senior season, he caught 22 passes for 338 yards and five touchdowns. His junior season, he had 18 catches for 250 yards and eight touchdowns. His sophomore season he had seven catches for 150 yards and three scores. He was also the long snapper for the punt unit on special teams. His top games included beating Rock Bridge's rival, Hickman, each of his three seasons. Played at the University of Missouri's Tiger Stadium, he caught a touchdown in the game as a sophomore and made key catches in each his junior and senior seasons. An accomplished three-sport athlete, he lettered in basketball three times and track and field once. On the hardwood, he averages 11.0 points and 8.0 rebounds per game, helping Rock Bridge advance to the state semifinals as a junior. In track, he placed fifth in the state in the shot put and also went to state throwing the discus.

ACADEMICS—He plans to major in either Business or Architectural Engineering at Colorado. A member of the National Honor Society, he has maintained above a 3.6 grade point average throughout high school.

PERSONAL—He was born October 12, 1993 in Columbia, Mo. He enjoys all sports recreationally, hunting, fishing and hanging out with friends. He and his football team helped assist with a breast cancer awareness fundraiser.

JUSTIN SOLIS, DL

6-3, 300, Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Westlake)

HIGH SCHOOL—A member of the PrepStar Top 150 All-America team, he was ranked the No. 141 overall player and No. 7 defensive tackle in the country by that publication. SuperPrep ranked him the No. 48 player in the Far West Region and he was the No. 43 player from California and third-ranked defensive tackle on that list. Scout ranked him the No. 36 defensive tackle while Rivals ranks him the No. 45 defensive tackle in the country and No. 2 defensive tackle from California. ESPN ranks him as the No. 48 defensive tackle nationally, the No. 66 player from California and No. 95 player in the West Region. He earned Defensive Player of the Year honors for the CIF Sothern Section Northern Division as well as for Ventura County and the Marmonte League. The Ventura County Star also named him the Defensive Player of the Year. He also earned first-team honors on the CIF Southern Section Northern Division, Ventura County (coaches and Ventura County Star) and Marmonte League. As a junior, he earned Defensive Lineman of the Year for the CIF SS Northern Division, Ventura County and the Marmonte League. He earned first-team honors for the CIF SS Northern Division, Ventura County and Marmonte League and was selected to play in the California High School All-State Game. He moved to California from New York prior to his sophomore season when he was named first-team All-Marmonte League, first-team All-Ventura County and first-team All-CIF SS Northern Division. MaxPreps named him an All-American and he was named to the Cal-Hi All-State Sophomore team. As a three-year starter for Westlake, he helped coach Jim Benkert to a 40-3 record (14-1 as a senior, 12-2 as a junior, 14-0 as a sophomore) with three Marmonte League championships and two CIF Southern Section Northern Division titles. He also helped the freshman team to a perfect 10-0 record. He compiled 296 tackles and 23 quarterback sacks in his career. As a senior, he had 102 tackles, 61 solo, with seven sacks, two forced fumbles, two recovered fumbles and an interception. His junior year, he had 99 tackles, 42 solo, with nine sacks and one fumble recovery. As a sophomore, he racked up 95 tackles, 37 solo, with seven sacks, a fumble recovery and pass break-up. He also participated on the PAT and field goal units on special teams. His biggest games were the CIF championship games his sophomore and senior seasons and his junior season when he recorded five sacks and eight tackles in a 38-7 win over Newberry Park.

ACADEMICS—He plans to major in History at Colorado. He has maintained above a 3.0 grade point average throughout high school.

PERSONAL—He was born June 28, 1994 in Woodland Hills, Calif. He grew up in Queens, N.Y., and moved to California with his grandmother, Barbara Owens, prior to the start of his freshman year. His mother, Shannon, attended Westlake and the family felt he needed out of New York. His hobbies include working out, hanging out with friends, scuba diving and traveling. He and his grandmother were featured in The New York Times for their traveling habits, which started when he was 5-years old and have

taken the duo to most of the 50 states and countless places around the world including China, Egypt, Russia, Germany, Poland, England, France, Italy and many more. He has spent the last three summers working with kids' sports camps at Westlake. (*Last name is pronounced SO-LEASE*)

JOHNNY STUART, DL

6-4, 250, Westlake Village, Calif. (Westlake)

HIGH SCHOOL—He ranked as the No. 112 player in the Far West Region by SuperPrep, who also slotted him as the No. 9 defensive end in California. Scout tabbed him as the No. 97 defensive end nationally, while ESPN ranked him at No. 144 at the position and No. 116 in the Golden State. A first-team All-Ventura County and All-Marmonte League selection as a junior and a senior, he also earned first-team All-CIF Southern Section Northern Division honors as a senior. As a sophomore, he was a second-team All-Marmonte League honoree. For his career, he totaled 168 tackles (74 solo), 15 quarterback sacks, six forced fumbles, five fumble recoveries, two interceptions and 19 pass deflections in three seasons as a starter. He also played tight end at Westlake, catching 15 passes for 104 yards and six touchdowns in his career. As a senior, he tallied 46 tackles (25 solo), seven sacks, and three forced fumbles. His best performances as a senior included a 62-0 win over Thousand Oaks in which he had three tackles, one sack, and an interception returned 42 yards for a touchdown. His top game offensively came in a 59-12 win versus Eastside, where he had two catches for 12 yards with both going for touchdowns. In his junior season, he had 68 tackles, five sacks, three forced fumbles, an interception, and 10 deflections. As a sophomore, he compiled 54 tackles (18 solo), three sacks, three recovered fumbles, and eight pass breakups. As a three-year letterman for Westlake, he helped coach Jim Benkert to a 40-3 record (14-1 as a senior, 12-2 as a junior, 14-0 as a sophomore) with three Marmonte League championships and two CIF Southern Section Northern Division titles. He also played basketball for the Warriors, lettering his final three seasons.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born June 3, 1994 in Westlake Village, Calif. One brother, Michael, played defensive end at Fresno State from 2006-08, while another, Tommy, is a junior defensive tackle at New Mexico State. Hobbies include playing video games, painting, and skiing.

GERALD THOMAS, WR

5-11, 175, New Orleans, La. (Colony [Texas])

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked the No. 147 wide receiver by Scout and No. 148 by ESPN, which also ranked him the No. 198 player in Texas. He was named the Texas 4A District 4 Special Teams Player of the Year as a senior when he was also tabbed second-team All-4A District 4. He was the offensive player of the year, wide receiver of the year and special teams player of the year as a senior at Colony under coach Rudy Rangel. As a junior, he earned

Gerald Thomas, continued

first-team All-4A District 4. He became the starting wide receiver near the end of his freshman season and kept it throughout his career and owns seven of eight receiving records in school history. He caught 127 passes for 2,345 yards and 22 touchdowns in his career. His senior year, he caught 37 passes for 945 yards and 10 touchdowns, adding four additional touchdowns on the ground. His junior season he had 71 catches for 1,270 yards and 10 touchdowns and added three rushing touchdowns. That season, he averaged 36.0 yards per kick return and 23.0 yards per punt return. He listed two of his top games against Wichita Falls both his freshman and junior seasons. As a freshman, he scored his first touchdown in the homecoming game against Wichita Falls, and his junior season he had six catches for 276 yards and three touchdowns setting the school record for receiving yards in a game and longest passing play, a 91-yard reception. He also participated in track and field, competing in the 400-meter dash and the 4x100- and 4x400-meter relays. He won the district title in the 400-meter dash and tied for third at regionals with a time of 47.9 seconds. Three athletes advanced to the state meet and he lost out by less than a tenth of a second, but his time of 47.9 seconds would've placed him eighth at the state championships.

ACADEMICS—He is interested in majoring in Business at CU.

PERSONAL—He was born May 8, 1994 in New Orleans. He grew up in New Orleans and his family was uprooted when Hurricane Katrina hit the city. He and his family totaling 12 stayed in a hotel in Dallas for three months before moving to Plano for another three months. After things settled down, Gerald and his parents stayed in Plano while the rest of his family returned to New Orleans. After spending sixth and seventh grade in Plano, his family moved to The Colony where he played in high school. He is a distance cousin of current Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Mike Wallace. In his spare time, he enjoys working out, hanging out with friends and playing video games.

JEFFREY THOMAS, WR

6-3, 190, Dallas, Texas (Duncanville)

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked the No. 117 wide receiver in the nation by Scout and No. 119 wide receiver by ESPN, where he is also ranked the No. 140 player from Texas. He earned All-5A District 5 first-team honors as both a junior and senior. A three-year letter winner and two-year starter at Duncanville, under coach Jeff Dicus, he finished his career catching 87 passes for 1,338 yards and 21 touchdowns. As a senior, he caught 59 passes for 899 yards and 12 touchdowns and was used in spot duty as a kick returner. In a double overtime 56-55 win, he caught six passes for 92 yards and two touchdowns against Cedar Hill, the first time Duncanville beat its rival in six years. He caught at least four passes in 10 of the 11 games that season, catching six-or-more in five games. He had two 100-yard performances and five games with two touchdown receptions, and Duncanville was 4-1 in those five games (7-4 on the season). His junior year, he caught 21 passes for 338 yards and eight touchdowns, helping Duncanville to a share of

the district championship. Against Mansfield, he had seven receptions for 114 yards and the game-winning touchdown in a 41-35 victory. He had three catches for 78 yards and two touchdowns in a 51-13 win over Midlothian. As a sophomore, he had seven catches for 100 yards and a score. He also played basketball for three seasons.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado, but is interested in physical therapy as a possible field of study or career choice.

PERSONAL—He was born February 7, 1994 in Concord, Calif. He is a second cousin to Walter Napier, who played in the AFL for the Dallas Texans in 1964 and was the first African-American professional football player from Waco, Texas. Walter's son, Keith Napier, played collegiately for Howard and is in the school's hall of fame as a four-time All-MEAC performer and two-time All-American. He enjoys playing chess and is active in the community, helping with food drives throughout northern Texas.

JOSH TUPOU, DL

6-3, 305, Long Beach, Calif. (Buena Park)

HIGH SCHOOL—Despite only playing on defense his senior season, SuperPrep ranks him as the No. 88 player in the Far West Region and the No. 82 player from California (No. 5 defensive tackle). Scout ranks him as the No. 70 defensive tackle in the country. As a senior at Buena Park, he was named the Freeway League Defensive Player of the Year, and earned first-team All-Freeway League, first-team All-CIF Southern Section and second-team All-Orange County. He transferred to Buena Park from Orange High School prior to his senior season. At Orange, he was a first-team All-Golden West League selection on the offensive line as a junior. He played both ways as a defensive tackle and offensive guard as a senior, as well as both field goal units on special teams. He had 60 tackles with three-and-a-half sacks and four forced fumbles his senior year. He claims he doesn't have a top or most memorable game in high school because he plays at the same speed all the time. He also threw the shot put on the track and field team.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado but is interested in Psychology or History as possible areas of study.

PERSONAL—He was born May 2, 1994 in Long Beach, Calif. He has three cousins playing college football, including two in the Pac-12. A cousin, David Moala, plays at Arizona State, while Walton Taumoepeau plays at New Mexico State and Siosifa Tufunga at Washington. His uncle is former CU defensive tackle Vili Maumau, who played defensive tackle from 1994-97 for the Buffaloes and in the NFL with the Broncos. He enjoys hanging out with his family and playing football and basketball. **(Last name is pronounced TOE-PU)**

JOHN WALKER, DB*5-10, 170, Washington, D.C. (H.D. Woodson)*

HIGH SCHOOL—Despite playing on the defensive side of the ball full time for the first time as a senior at H.D. Woodson, he earned a ranking of the No. 51 cornerback in the country by ESPN, which also ranked him as the No. 6 player from the District of Columbia and No. 118 player in the Atlantic Region. SuperPrep ranked him as the No. 7 player from Washington D.C., and No. 48 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region where he is the No. 8 defensive back in the region. He was named All-Met (Metro Area Washington D.C.) by the Washington Post and the Pigskin Club of Washington D.C. as a senior when he recorded 84 tackles (57 solo) with four quarterback sacks, three forced fumbles and two interceptions while averaging over three pass break-ups per game. Three of his forced fumbles were picked up by fellow CU signee De'Jon Wilson. He was stellar on special teams as the gunner on punt return and also played on kickoff return. He blocked three kicks on the season, two punts and a field goal. H.D. Woodson was his third high school, he attended Carroll High School his sophomore and junior seasons, playing quarterback as a sophomore and adding cornerback duties as a junior. He attended Frost Friendship Collegiate his freshman year but did not play sports.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado, but is interested in Criminal Justice. He has been on his school's honor roll throughout high school and has attained a perfect 4.0 each of the past two quarters and is Woodson's salutatorian.

PERSONAL—He was born July 23, 1994 in Washington D.C. His sister, Sydney Leonard, played basketball at St. Thomas, while a cousin, Tavon Wilson, played cornerback at Illinois. His uncle, Julian Peterson, played football at Michigan State and in the NFL for the San Francisco 49ers, Detroit Lions and Seattle Seahawks. He is active in the community including helping at his church on Thanksgiving delivering turkeys and with a food drive. He won a sportsmanship award through the Boys & Girls Club. He enjoys playing basketball, swimming and snow skiing in his free time.

PEYTON WILLIAMS, WR*6-1, 190, Southlake, Texas (Southlake Carroll)*

HIGH SCHOOL—He is ranked the No. 105 wide receiver in the nation by Scout and No. 137 wide receiver by ESPN, which also ranks him the No. 167 player in Texas. He was a first-team All-5A District 7 selection both his junior and senior seasons, when the Dallas Morning News also named him second-team All-Area. In his career, he racked up 154 receptions for 1,986 yards and 18 touchdowns. As a senior, he caught 92 passes for 1,196 yards and 10 touchdowns, helping Southlake Carroll to the 5A State Championship with a perfect 16-0 record and No. 6 national ranking by MaxPreps. He was injured in the state semifinal game and could not play in the state championship game. Against Coppell, he set a school record with 14 receptions for 101 yards in a 27-10 victory.

In a 23-16 win over Plano East, he caught 12 passes for 137 yards and a touchdown. He caught at least seven passes in six games and multiple touchdowns in two contests. His junior season, he caught 56 passes for 684 yards and six touchdowns. Against Guyer, in a 27-14 loss, he scored both touchdowns with eight catches for 89 yards. He got revenge as a senior against Guyer, also catching two touchdowns (four catches, 146 yards) but that time in a 42-29 victory. His sophomore season, he caught six passes for 106 yards and two touchdowns. Under coach Hal Wasson, he helped Southlake Carroll to a 37-6 record (10-4 as a junior, 11-2 as a sophomore). He also participated in track and field as part of the 4x100, 4x200 and 4x400-meter relay teams and as a high jumper. He won a district championship in the high jump and state championship in the 4x400-meter relay, setting a school record with a time of 3:13.

ACADEMICS—He is interested in majoring in Business at Colorado, specifically Finance. He was a member of his school's A-B Honor Roll, meaning he achieved all A's and B's on his report card.

PERSONAL—He was born November 14, 1993 in Arlington, Texas. His dad, Robert, played safety at Oklahoma from 1981-84. An uncle, Doug Williams, also played collegiately at Oklahoma. His grandfather set high school track records in Louisiana. He enjoys hunting, fishing and hanging out with his friends. He is very active in the community and enjoys volunteering as much as he can, particularly when it involves coaching kids.

DE'JON WILSON, DL*6-3, 250, Washington, D.C. (H.D. Woodson)*

HIGH SCHOOL—SuperPrep ranks him the No. 27 player from the Mid-Atlantic Region and was the eighth defensive lineman and fourth player from Washington D.C. on that list. He was also the No. 4 player from the District of Columbia by Rivals and No. 6 by Scout and No. 7 by ESPN. The Pigskin Club of Washington, D.C., named him first-team All-Metropolitan as a junior and senior, an honor he also earned from the Washington Post and DCSports.com. He earned the defensive player of the year honors for the DCIAA Eastern Division his junior season. He attended three high schools in the D.C. area and lost credits with one of the transfers and originally was not able to play this past season, his fifth season of high school. An emergency change in the rules allowed him to play after missing the first two weeks of the season. He finished his senior season with 60 total tackles with over half for a loss and 18 quarterback sacks. He forced six fumbles and had one interception. He returned three fumbles for touchdowns on the season, with all three forced by teammate John Walker. Against Fairmont Heights, a 22-8 victory, he recorded 11 tackles with one sack and against Wilson in a 24-6 win, he had eight tackles with two sacks. His junior season he set school records with 33 tackles for a loss and 21 sacks and he also had 4 forced fumbles. In that span, he helped H.D. Woodson to a combined 15-8 record (6-5 as a senior, 9-3 as a junior) and a perfect 8-0 mark in the DCIAA Eastern Division, earning Woodson a spot in the Turkey Bowl (DCIAA championship) both seasons, which the team won. He also played basketball and ran track and field for H.D. Woodson. On the hard court, he was named most improved player two years in a row and

De'Jon Wilson, continued

as a senior is averaging 17 points per game and eight rebounds per game. In track and field, he ran the relay teams and shot put and was twice named first-team All-Met.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado, but is interested in Computer Science. He was named H.D. Woodson's student of the week a total of eight times in his high school career.

PERSONAL—He was born January 7, 1993 in Washington, D.C. His cousin, Joelil Thrash, played football at Illinois. He was named Homecoming King as a senior and his hobbies include hanging out with his friends, playing games and sports like basketball and football. He is active in his community through the local rec center, helping coach kids whenever he can. He also enjoys volunteering for his former Pop Warner football team and volunteers around his neighborhood. (First name is pronounced DEE-JON)

YURI WRIGHT, DB

6-2, 175, Spring Valley, N.Y. (Don Bosco Prep [N.J.]

HIGH SCHOOL—A SuperPrep All-American, he was ranked the No. 27 defensive back in the country by the publication and was the No. 10 player from New Jersey and the top cornerback from the Garden State on that list. A PrepStar Dreamteam member ranked the No. 52 player and No. 2 cornerback in the country. ESPN ranks him No. 40 on its ESPNU150 list where he is the No. 4 cornerback, No. 2 player from New Jersey and No. 8 player in the Atlantic Region. ESPNHS tabbed him second-team All-America. Rivals ranks him as the No. 85 player in the country, the No. 7 cornerback and he is the top cornerback from New Jersey and No. 3 player from the state on its lists. Scout lists him on its Scout300 list and he is the No. 10 defensive back nationally. 247Sports ranks him as the No. 47 prospect nationally and he's the No. 4 cornerback and No. 3 player from New Jersey on the list. MaxPreps/Lemming ranks him as the No. 100 player in the country and No. 7 cornerback. He played in the Army All-American Bowl Game as one of 90 participants in San Antonio. As a senior, he earned first-team All-New Jersey by MGSVarsity and ESPNHS while also earning first-team All-North Jersey and first-team All-Bergen County honors. His junior season was his first playing varsity at Don Bosco and he earned second-team honors on the All-North Jersey and All-Bergen County squads. He compiled 83 tackles and nine interceptions in his career. As a senior, he had 38 tackles with three interceptions and 10 pass break-ups. He returned one fumble recovery into a touchdown. Playing spot duties at wide receiver, he caught four passes for 55 yards and a touchdown. His junior season he had 45 tackles and six interceptions, two of which he returned for touchdowns. On special teams, he played on several special teams units including punt blocks and on kickoffs. Under coach Greg Tool, Don Bosco Prep compiled a perfect 23-0 record during his two years (11-0 as a senior; 12-0 as a junior) and was ranked the No. 1 team in the country by most ranking services his senior year and in the top three by most his junior season. He originally favored basketball and lettered three seasons at Don

Bosco, helping the team to a 55-23 record (15-7 as a junior; 18-10 as a sophomore; 22-6 as a freshman) in his three seasons playing varsity.

ACADEMICS—He is undecided on a major at Colorado.

PERSONAL—He was born March 5, 1993, in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, an island in the southern portion of the Windward Islands at the southern end and eastern border of the Caribbean Sea. He enjoys playing basketball, fishing and cricket. In his spare time, he volunteers at a soup kitchen and at a daycare.

SOLDER PREPS FOR SUPER SUNDAY, REFLECTS ON JOURNEY

By Cole Mickelson, CU Graduate Assistant SID

INDIANAPOLIS (Jan. 30) — Six years ago, **Nate Solder** was a senior at Buena Vista High School in the tiny Colorado mountain town. Now, he is a starting offensive lineman for the New England Patriots as they prepare to take on the New York Giants in Super Bowl XLVI.

"A lot of hard work," Solder, who at 6-8 and 319 pounds is as understated as he is oversized, said when asked about his journey that has led to the grandest of stages in Indianapolis.



A consensus All-American and Outland Trophy finalist in 2010 at Colorado, the offensive tackle was drafted 17th overall in the first round of the 2011 NFL Draft by New England. He played in all 16 of the Patriots' games, and started 13 in being named to *Pro Football Weekly's* All-Rookie Team.

"It was a learning experience," he said on his adjustment to the NFL in his rookie season. "I learned from it this year and I continue to learn every day, and I'm going to continue to learn in the years to come. I need to keep improving on a lot of my technique and things like that because it's just a different game than it was in college. I have a lot of room to improve, for sure."

Solder is seeking to become the seventh Buffalo to earn a Super Bowl ring in his rookie season, and the first since **Tom Ashworth**, also a Patriots offensive lineman, in 2001. Overall, CU has had 31 different alumni win 47 Super Bowl rings as Solder hopes to become No. 32. "It's the pinnacle of what everyone works for in the NFL. To be a part of it and if we win it, it would be a really unique, amazing experience," he said on the possibility of winning a ring as a rookie.

Despite his small town roots, Solder doesn't expect to be distracted by the spectacle of the Super Bowl. Head coach Bill Belichick and New England's core group of leaders will make sure of that, as Solder opined, "I think it helps that Belichick has been there a number of times. A lot of the leaders have been there at least once and were there in 2007. I think that really helps to keep guys focused with that kind of leadership."

Starter at right tackle in both of the Patriots' playoff victories, the Buffs were guaranteed at least one representative in the Super Bowl as Solder faced former CU cornerback **Jimmy Smith** (also a rookie) and offensive lineman **Andre Gurode** of the Baltimore Ravens in the AFC Championship Game. Smith intercepted Tom Brady with 7:22 left in the game on an outstanding diving catch of a deflected ball in the end zone.

"I did talk to Jimmy (after the game), to just congratulate him on a good season and he made that spectacular play, so I had to say, 'nice play,'" Solder said on reuniting with his fellow 2011 first round draft pick, the first pair of Buffs to both be selected in the first round since **Chris Naeole** and **Rae Carruth** in 1997.

The Ravens' offense stalled following Smith's interception, and their field goal attempt in the final minute missed wide left, sending the Patriots to Indianapolis. "It took a second before it registered that it was the end of the game," Solder said on watching Billy Cundiff's missed kick. "I was ecstatic. It was neat to be with that group of guys. Over the course of the year you build strong relationships, and it was just neat that we were all together and did that whole thing together."

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO FOOTBALL



2012 LETTER-OF-INTENT SIGNEES



High School (28*)

| Player | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Hometown (High School) |
|-------------------|------|------|-----|--|
| ABRON, Donta | RB | 5- 9 | 190 | Upland, Calif. (Upland) |
| CRAWLEY, Kenneth | DB | 6- 1 | 170 | Washington, D.C. (H.D. Woodson) |
| CROWDER, Terrence | RB | 5-10 | 210 | Galena Park, Texas (Galena Park) |
| DILLON, Shane | QB | 6- 6 | 195 | El Cajon, Calif. (Christian) |
| HALL, Jeffrey | DB | 5-11 | 175 | LaPlace, La. (St. Charles Catholic) |
| HENINGTON, Tyler | DL | 6- 3 | 275 | Centennial, Colo. (Mullen) |
| HOBBS, Vincent | TE | 6- 3 | 240 | Dallas, Texas (Mesquite Horn) |
| IRWIN, Jeromy | OL | 6- 5 | 290 | Cypress, Texas (Cypress Fairbanks) |
| IRWIN, Sean | TE | 6- 4 | 230 | Cypress, Texas (Cypress Fairbanks) |
| JAGNE, Kisima | DL | 6- 5 | 235 | Phoenix, Ariz. (Chandler) |
| KAFOVALU, Samson | DL | 6- 3 | 250 | Riverside, Calif. (Arlington) |
| KOUGH, Gerrad | OL | 6- 5 | 270 | Pomona, Calif. (Pomona) |
| McCARTNEY, Derek | DL | 6- 4 | 215 | Westminster, Colo. (Faith Christian) |
| MOSLEY, Marques | DB | 6- 1 | 175 | Upland, Calif. (Upland) |
| *NORGARD, Clay | FB | 6- 1 | 240 | Highlands Ranch, Colo. (Mountain Vista) |
| PAYNE, Davien | RB | 5-11 | 225 | Perris, Calif. (Citrus Hill) |
| POWELL, Christian | TE | 6- 0 | 250 | Upland, Calif. (Upland) |
| RASMUSSEN, Kory | DL | 6- 4 | 260 | Ewa Beach, Hawai'i (Kamehameha) |
| RAY, Austin | TE | 6- 6 | 235 | Columbia, Mo. (Rock Bridge) |
| SOLIS, Justin | DL | 6- 3 | 300 | Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Westlake) |
| STUART, Johnny | DL | 6- 4 | 250 | Westlake Village, Calif. (Westlake) |
| THOMAS, Gerald | WR | 5-11 | 175 | New Orleans, La. (Colony HS, The Colony Texas) |
| THOMAS, Jeffrey | WR | 6- 3 | 190 | Dallas, Texas (Duncanville) |
| TUPOU, Josh | DL | 6- 3 | 305 | Long Beach, Calif. (Buena Park) |
| WALKER, John | DB | 5-10 | 170 | Washington, D.C. (H.D. Woodson) |
| WILLIAMS, Peyton | WR | 6- 1 | 190 | Southlake, Texas (Southlake Carroll) |
| WILSON, De'Jon | DL | 6- 3 | 250 | Washington, D.C. (H.D. Woodson) |
| WRIGHT, Yuri | DB | 6- 2 | 175 | Spring Valley, N.Y. (Don Bosco Prep, N.J.) |

*—December high school graduate; enrolled at CU for spring semester and counts back to 2011 class.

Grayshirt (previously announced, counts in 2011 class; enrolled this semester)

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|------|-----|---------------------------|
| KELLEY, Alex | OL | 6- 3 | 305 | Oceanside, Calif. (Vista) |
|--------------|----|------|-----|---------------------------|

Breakdown

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Total | 28 (28 high school, 0 junior college transfers) |
| By State | California 10, Texas 7, Colorado 3, Washington D.C. 3, Arizona 1, Hawai'i 1, Louisiana 1, Missouri 1, New York 1 (Note: Gerald Thomas was a Texas high school player, but wanted New Orleans listed as his hometown) |
| By Position | Offense 14 (4 tight ends, 3 receivers, 3 running backs, 2 linemen, 1 fullback, 1 quarterback) Defense 14 (9 backs, 9 linemen—ends/tackles, 0 linebackers) Specialists 0 |

