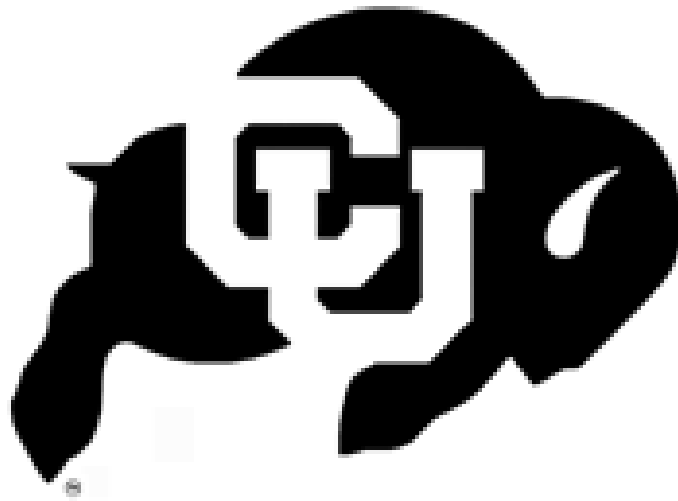


# 2003 Colorado Football



## **Individual Player Notes**

*(as of November 22)*

# Individual Player Notes

(The following is a combination of statistical and human interest notes on select CU players)

## 1 SAMMY JOSEPH, CB



- ❑ He is the brother of CU cornerbacks coach Vance Joseph, who played quarterback for the Buffs from 1990-94 and spent two years in the NFL.
- ❑ After redshirting in 2002, he has stepped into a starting role this season, as he really blossomed during spring ball.
- ❑ He was a preseason first-team all-Big 12 pick at corner by *ATS Consultants* (a preseason publication).
- ❑ 2003.
  - Sammy is an 11-game starter at corner in 2003. He owns the distinction of having two of the team's 10 interceptions on the year, his first being in the fourth quarter of the 42-35 victory over Colorado State in the season opener.
  - Snared his second interception of the season, a drive-stopper at the CU 9-yard line at Texas Tech (Nov. 1) early in the fourth quarter to keep the Buffs in the contest down 26-14. He added seven tackles (all solo) in the game.
  - Against Baylor, Joseph and Terrence Wheatley both started at corner, marking the first time in CU history that it started a pair of freshmen at the position in the same game, not to mention starting two at any point the same year.
  - He tallied a season-high 11 tackles against Florida State (Sept. 20).
- ❑ He and Vance are not the only Joseph's to play college football, as their oldest brother Mickey was a standout quarterback at Nebraska from 1987-90. Cousin Derick is currently a wide receiver at Tulane.
- ❑ Vance has said before that Sammy has a chance to be the best Joseph to play in college thus far. Vance has also acknowledged that Sammy is more athletic and faster than he or Mickey ever was.

## 2 BRIAN CALHOUN, TB



- ❑ He entered the fall listed as the co-starter with senior Bobby Purify, but since Purify went down with an injury against Washington State, Calhoun has been the starting tailback since. He had an outstanding spring, as he garnered CU's Fred Casotti Award, which is given to the most outstanding offensive back.
- ❑ The coaches have taught him to become a better north-south runner, as he is now hitting the holes much quicker and harder than he did early last season. In 2002, he had a tendency to dance around too much, getting caught in the east-west running trap, thus falling behind the line or getting little yardage as the holes closed.
- ❑ Brian has four career 100-yard rushing games. The first three 100-yard games of his career have come against some pretty tough company: Nebraska (2002), Oklahoma (2002) and Florida State (2003). His latest 100-yard performance was a 24-carry, 137-yard effort against Kansas (Oct. 11, 2003).
- ❑ Chart Watch: Calhoun is 42nd all-time at CU in rushing yards with 1,059.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He currently leads the squad in total rushing with 761 net yards on 182 carries, for a 4.2 yards per carry average and 69.2 yards per game.
  - At Iowa State (Nov. 15), he had the first multiple touchdown game of his career. His 73 rushing yards put him over 1,000 for his career, as he became the 47th player to rush for 1,000 yards in a CU career. He is the 13th player to do it as a sophomore at Colorado, and just the third under Gary Barnett, joining Cortlen Johnson and Bobby Purify.
  - Even though the Buffs only mustered 81 net yards on the ground at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), Calhoun tallied 76 yards on just 16 carries for a healthy 4.8 average.
  - His 21-yard TD reception early in the fourth quarter against Oklahoma (Oct. 25) cut the Sooners' lead to 27-14, and was his longest receiving TD of the season. He led the Buffs with 14 offensive touches (10 rush, 4 receiving) in the game.
  - Against Kansas State (Oct. 18), he led the team in rushing with 87 yards on 19 attempts (4.6 avg.). He was a major factor in the opening TD drive, touching the ball on the first three plays from scrimmage (2 rush, 1 reception), and five of the first six (3 rush, 2 receptions).
  - Also at Kansas State, he had a career-high seven receptions (for 38 yards), which tied the second most in CU history by a running back in a single game. The record is eight (John Farler, vs. Missouri in 1965), with the only other running back to snare seven being Chris McLemore against UCLA in 1982.
  - Against Kansas (Oct. 11), his 12-yard TD run in OT sealed the Buffs' 50-47 victory over the Jayhawks. In total, he had 3 rushes for 25 yards in the overtime session.

CONTINUED...

## CALHOUN, continued

- His 155-yard effort against Kansas was the second highest total of his career and his fourth 100-yard game of his career. His 24 rushes is a season high for a game.
- Brian finally scored the first rushing touchdown of his career against Baylor (Oct. 4) – coming on his 72nd carry of the season and 139th of his career (148th including the Alamo Bowl).
- He carried the ball 21 times for 118 yards, including CU's longest run of the season (49 yards) against Florida State (Sept. 20, 2003).
- He gave serious thought to transferring out of the Colorado football program when former running backs coach Eric Bienemy left Boulder for a job at UCLA following the 2002 season. Bienemy was a big reason why Calhoun signed with the Buffs instead of Wisconsin – he grew up in Oak Creek, Wisconsin and went to Oak Creek High School.

### ❑ 2002.

- He had his breakthrough game at Nebraska, as he carried 20 times for 137 yards, including a 35-yard run, all career bests. He was a workhorse in the third quarter, with Chris Brown out and Bobby Purify ailing, as he carried 10 times for 96 yards in the *quarter*. He dazzled the Huskers with eight carries of seven yards or longer, and it tied for the fourth most rushing yards in a game by a true freshman in CU history:

TOP RUSHING GAMES BY A COLORADO TRUE FRESHMAN					
Name	Date	Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD
Billy Waddy	Sept. 22, 1973	at Wisconsin	24	202	2
Lamont Warren	Nov. 23, 1991	at Iowa State	21	168	1
Marcus Houston	Sept. 9, 2000	at USC	25	150	0
O.C. Oliver	Nov. 22, 1986	at Kansas State	15	137	1
<b>Brian Calhoun</b>	<b>Nov. 29, 2002</b>	<b>at Nebraska</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>0</b>

- His 298 rushing yards as a freshman was the seventh-highest total by a freshman running back in CU history.
  - His first pair of 100-yard games came against Nebraska and Oklahoma in the 2002 campaign.
  - He caught a pass from Robert Hodge against Kansas State and raced 71 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter, the longest TD reception in CU history by a freshman at the time. Why “at the time?” It was a record for 19 minutes and 17 seconds of game time, as Hodge and another freshman, Jeremy Bloom, hooked up on a 94-yard play for a score just before halftime.
- ❑ GENERAL. He's one of the fastest players on the team, having recorded 4.28 speed in the 40-yard dash during high school. He ran track for CU this spring, participating in sprints.
  - ❑ He has yet to score that elusive rushing touchdown, but did catch a 71-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Robert Hodge in CU's win over Kansas State in 2002 (Oct. 5).
  - ❑ In high school, he competed in the World Youth Championships in Athletics, a competition that is basically a lower-level Olympics for those 18-and-under. The games were held during 2001 in Budapest, Hungary where he placed seventh in the long jump (24-3).
  - ❑ He is an accomplished drummer, as he has won several competitions over a six-year period.

## 3 MARCUS MOORE, CB



- ❑ He has already graduated, with a degree in broadcast journalism, as he marched last May.
- ❑ He made the move back to, and permanently, to defense in spring practice, as he has developed nicely at the position. That was largely due to the number of snaps he received with the first unit due to injuries.
- ❑ He has primarily been a special teams performer during his career, having also shifted between running back and receiver during his time at CU.
- ❑ He is a member of CU's track team during the spring, as he competes in sprints and the long jump. His best jump came in at an Outdoor Big 12 meet when he covered 20-9½feet.
- ❑ 2003. The majority of his play is on special teams, but he has also seen limited action at defensive back this season.
  - Saw action at defensive back in the second half of the Iowa State game (Nov. 15), recording three tackles and a pass broken up.
  - Had a monster game on special teams at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), recording two tackles on kickoff coverage as well as four stops on punt coverage. He earned CU's Special Teams Player of the Week for his efforts.
  - Down 27-20 to Oklahoma with time winding down in the game, Moore made an open field tackle on a punt return to hold the Sooners to a zero-yard return, keeping them at their own 25-yard line.
- ❑ 2002. He excelled on special teams, finishing third for the Buffs in special team points with 11. He's been exceptional on the punt coverage unit as a gunner and is usually the first person to reach the return man.
- ❑ 2001. As a sophomore, he switched into No. 7 because he was on the punt team, and when CU switched punters (from #8 Mark Mariscal to #3 Jeremy Flores), the dupe situation arose.

## 4 RON MONTEILH, WR



- ❑ His uniquely spelled last name is pronounced *mon-tay*.
- ❑ Several of his fellow wide outs have said that he has the best hands out of anybody on the receiving corps.
- ❑ 2003. Has seen action in 10 games as the backup to Derek McCoy at the “Z” receiver position.
  - He missed the Iowa State game (Nov. 15) due to a shoulder injury sustained the week before against Missouri.
  - He hauled in three catches for 33 yards against Kansas State, including a career long reception of 20 yards.
  - He put together easily his best performance of the year against Baylor (Oct. 11), grabbing a career-high five receptions for 45 yards.
  - His 18-yard dramatic sideline grab against Baylor kept the Buffs’ final drive alive in the waning minutes ... allowing Colorado to tie the game at 44-44 and send it into overtime.
  - He had a two catch, 16-yard effort against UCLA in week two (Sept. 6, 2003).
- ❑ 2002. After fighting through a nagging hamstring early in the spring and during fall camp, he came back strong and established himself as a reliable receiver. His top game came in the first game against rival Colorado State when he reeled in three passes for 18 yards.
- ❑ 2001. He sat out the year after transferring from Oregon State. There were no hard feelings about the Beavers; Corvallis just wasn’t for him.
- ❑ GENERAL. A former volunteer bereavement counselor, he serves as a big brother volunteer for the Boulder County Partners organization, a nonprofit that pairs adults with at-risk teens.
- ❑ Father (leukemia) and grandmother (breast cancer) both passed away when he was nine years old.
- ❑ Mother, Marissa, is a writer. Two of her romance novels have been published and became best sellers, and she has signed a contract with HarperCollins for two more books.
- ❑ When he set the Beverly Hills High School record in the 100-meter dash, he bested a mark that had stood for 30 years.
- ❑ His favorite class is math, which makes sense since he’s an Economics major.
- ❑ Ron tries to pattern himself after New Orleans Saints wide receiver Dante Stallworth.
- ❑ In high school, Ron once appeared in a promotional sports video, catching passes. Who was throwing them? None other than **John Elway**, the former Bronco great. Monteilh’s mother, Marissa, alerted us to this note, but was also quick to point out he received no monetary reward for appearing in the video!
- ❑ Nicknamed “90210,” he grew up in Beverly Hills, Calif. and attended Beverly Hills High School ... the one made famous as the setting for the once-popular TV show *Beverly Hills 90210*.
- ❑ He enjoys playing video games in his spare time, especially John Madden Football (and he claims he is one of the best in the country at it ... we are still waiting for someone to challenge is bold statement).

## 5 J.J. BILLINGSLEY, DB



- ❑ He entered the 2003 fall camp listed second at free safety on the depth chart (behind Medford Moorer), but moved over to the No. 1 weak safety spot after Akarika Dawn transferred to inside linebacker and fellow true sophomore Brain Iwuh switched to the top strong safety.
- ❑ He sat out the second half of spring practice to catch up on his academics, and worked hard all throughout the summer to start the 2003 fall semester in good standing.
- ❑ 2003.
  - An 11-game starter at weak safety.
  - He had his second fumble recovery of the season at the Iowa State (Nov. 15), 12-yard line, and returned it to the 4-yard line to set up a CU touchdown in the waning minutes of the first half to put the Buffs’ up 37-0.
  - He led the team with 14 tackles in win over Missouri (Nov. 8), which was his second most career tackles in a game (15 vs. San Diego State, 2002). His efforts earned him CU’s Defensive Player of the Game honors.
  - He made his first two career interceptions at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), both in the first 3 1/2 minutes of the game. He became the 10th Colorado Buffalo to make two interceptions in the same quarter, the first since Terrence Wood had a pair in the third quarter against Colorado State in 2000. His performance earned him CU’s Defensive Player of the Game honors.
  - He put in a 10-tackle effort at Kansas State (Oct. 18).
  - He had a 7-tackle effort vs. Florida State, with two third down stops and one TFL.
  - He has had at least four tackles in every game.
  - He had a touchdown save against CSU (Aug. 30), a game that the Buffs ultimately won by a 42-35 score.

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## BILLINGSLEY, continued

- ❑ 2002.
  - He was named to both the FWAA and *The Sporting News* first-team All-American squad, as he was also a first-team freshman All-Big 12 honoree.
  - He saw extensive action as a true freshman, and his 469 snaps were the most by a true freshman in the secondary in quite some time at CU (in fact, we can't find someone with more since we've kept a play count).
  - He set two freshman tackle records, for a single game (15 against San Diego State) and for a season (67). He was in the top 10 in tackles by a true freshman in the NCAA, finishing third in the Big 12.
  - Besides his strong performances on defense, he was an outstanding special teams contributor. He finished second on the team with 13 points, racking up the most unassisted tackles (8).
  - How tough is Billingsley? He suffered the "dreaded" high ankle sprain against Texas Tech, the kind that usually keeps a player out a month or longer. He missed *one* practice and played the following week in a big game at Oklahoma.
- ❑ GENERAL. He's a crowd favorite thanks to his initials — at Folsom Field home games, fans say J.J. out loud along with the public address announcer (Alan Cass). Cass made the "alphabet kids" popular in the late 80s: O.C. Oliver and yes, J.J. Flannigan. J.J. stands for Jon, Jr.
- ❑ His father (Jon, Sr.) played college football at Central Methodist College and his cousin, Micha Billingsley, played wide receiver first at Fort Lewis and is now a junior at Northern Michigan.

## 6 PHIL JACKSON, CB



- ❑ After a slow start to open the 2003 campaign, Jackson lost his starting spot to true freshman Terrence Wheatley for the Baylor game (Oct. 4), snapping an 18-game starting streak. However, Phil returned to the starting lineup a week later against Kansas (Oct. 11) and has started 9 of 11 games on the year.
- ❑ He missed all of spring ball while recovering from shoulder surgery he had after the bowl game. After rehabbing a nagging hamstring injury suffered at the start of fall camp, he has fully recovered and looked strong in practice.
- ❑ A three-year starter, he has played in more games (44) than any other player on this year's roster, and he has started in 37 over his career, including all 13 last season.
- ❑ A second-team All-Big 12 selection by *The Sporting News*, he is poised to have a big senior year as one of the Buffs' starting corners.
- ❑ He is married (Roniesha) and they are the parents of two daughters, JaShayla (5) and Tamia (1).
- ❑ A brother (DeWayne Long) is a wide receiver at Northern Colorado, where a cousin (Martin Jones) plays cornerback. Another cousin (B.J. Williams) played basketball at Kansas, and yet another cousin (Kendall Boyd) played hoops at Mesa Community College in Arizona.
- ❑ 2003.
  - A nine-game starter at cornerback, Jackson lost his starting job to true freshman Terrence Wheatley at Baylor (Oct. 4), but has since started five out of the past six games.
  - Even though he has let up his share of big plays, Jackson's eight "passes broken up" leads the Buffs.
  - He also leads the squad with the most passes broken up in a single game ... twice recording three PBUs (CSU, WSU).
  - His best effort of the year came against Washington State when he had six tackles, with two third down stops.
- ❑ 2002. He may as well have been called Mr. Clutch, as his three interceptions all came in the red zone to thwart scoring marches by Colorado State, Iowa State and Nebraska. The first two basically came in the end zone, as he intercepted Bradlee Van Pelt in the end zone and ISU's Seneca Wallace at the goal line; the pick off of Nebraska's Jammal Lord came at the CU 13. His theft was the impetus for Colorado's first score, as CU drove 87 yards to take a 7-0 lead after his steal.
- ❑ 2001. He was continuing to rapidly grow and mature and was on a path to become one of the better cornerbacks in the Big 12, but he suffered two broken bones in his hand against Kansas State and wasn't able to tackle with the same effectiveness because of the cast he had to wear. He came in when CU played nickel and dime, but didn't see much action in the regular base defense. He recovered a fumble late in the first half against Mizzou, setting up a field goal that gave the CU the lead for good.
- ❑ 2000. Was selected to the *Sporting News*' third team freshman All-American team.
  - Made a juggling interception against Missouri, returning it 30 yards and setting up a CU touchdown.
  - Barnett said Jackson played his most consistent game as a Buff versus Oklahoma State. He led the team with 11 tackles, with eight solo (both career-bests). He also had one nice tackle for loss. It was the first time a cornerback has led the team in tackles since Ben Kelly did it on Oct. 10, 1998 against Kansas State.

CONTINUED...

## JACKSON, continued

- In making his first career start against No. 9 Washington, Jackson debuted in grand fashion. He had one interception return for a touchdown, had five tackles (one for a loss), two third down stops and recovered a fumble. His interception came near the end of the first half and gave the Buffs momentum heading into the lockerroom. He got a great jump on the ball, and Washington's Marques Tuiasosopo never saw him close in on the receiver. Jackson stepped in front of the wide out and returned it 28 yards for CU's first points of the game.
- His fumble recovery against the Huskies was also huge, as it came with Washington knocking at the door on their opening possession of the game. CU's Donald Strickland stripped the ball at the one-yard line and Jackson fell on it, giving the ball to the Buffaloes. Said Barnett of Jackson's performance: "It was exciting to see Phil play that well. I was really impressed."
- Saw a good amount of playing time against Southern California and looked very sharp. He wrapped up Carson Palmer for a seven-yard sack on a corner blitz in the fourth quarter and finished with four tackles.
- Had an impressive fall camp as a redshirt freshman, working mostly in the nickel and dime schemes.
- ❑ 1999. He spent most of the year working with the scout team.
- He has one brother and three cousins that are playing or have played football or basketball in college.
- He may have the best leaping ability on the team, as he is the main player on field goal and PAT kicks who is instructed to block the ball.
- He is a fairly good basketball player as well, as he had once thought about walking on to CU's team. He is known for making high-flying dunks and recording his aerial acrobatics on film at the student recreation center.

## 7 VANCE WASHINGTON, CB



### 2003.

- ❑ He saw action at cornerback in the second half at Iowa State (Nov. 15), tallying one solo tackle in the effort.
- ❑ He blocked a PAT against Kansas (Oct. 11) with 8:55 remaining in the game to keep the Buffs in it down just 44-38.
- ❑ His hobbies include fixing and programming computers, listening to classical music and science fiction movies.
- ❑ He is majoring in computer science and mathematics, as he is pursuing a double major at Colorado.

## 8 DANIEL JOLLY, TB



### ❑ 2003.

- Did not play the first four games of the season due to injury, as he suffered a hyper extended knee the second week of drills and didn't really get back into the swing of things in practice until just before the Florida State game.
- He carried the ball a career-high 13 times at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), finishing the day with 20 yards and TD.
- Jolly racked up a career-high at Kansas State (Oct. 18), with 28 yards rushing.
- He scored his first career TD against Baylor (Oct. 4), a one-yard run that put the Buffs up 10-7 late in the second quarter.
- A short-yardage threat with his tough, pounding style of running, Jolly added two more TDs in the third quarter against Kansas (Oct. 11), a one-yarder and a two-yarder – the former tying the game at 38-38.
- ❑ Hobbies include the Korean Martial Art "KukSool," as he started when he was just 3 and at the time was the youngest to receive the black belt at age 8 and followed that up by being the youngest to win a world championship (at age 9).
- ❑ His father (Daniel Sr.) holds the rank of the highest non-commissioned office in the Air Force: "Chief."
- ❑ He likes to just be known simply as "Jolly."

## 12 AKARIKA DAWN, ILB/SS



- ❑ He had no problem with his position move from strong safety to inside linebacker, which happened just days into CU's 2003 August practices. It was easy for him to accept, as he knew with his body style and projected weight that he would someday make the move to linebacker. He has also played some strong safety, including a start at that position at Kansas State (Oct. 18).
- ❑ His first name is pronounced *ock-ah-reek-ah*.
- ❑ He plays four musical instruments.
- ❑ He looked like a natural at his new position, and quickly emerged as a contender for starting honors at the weak-side position. However, he made his first career start against Baylor (Oct. 4), lining up at the middle linebacker spot.
- ❑ Speaks fluent Spanish... and he has to; his fiancé is from Colombia.
- ❑ 2003.
  - Put together an impressive performance at Iowa State (Nov. 15), tallying three tackles (2 solo), a forced fumble and his first career interception.

CONTINUED...

## DAWN, continued

- He had his best statistical game of the season against Missouri (Nov. 8), totaling nine tackles (7 solo), while adding a quarterback hurry.
- Dawn had his first career blocked PAT at Texas Tech (Nov. 1). The block came in the final minutes of the second quarter, keeping CU's lead at 14-9 before heading into the half with a 14-12 lead.
- Had a breakout game in his first start against Baylor, tallying six tackles (4 solo), one sack and one forced fumble.
- He added five tackles in his second career start at Kansas State (Oct. 18), including one tackle for a loss.
- ❑ 2002. He and fellow sophomore Jeremy Bloom were the members of a very prestigious club last season, as they were the only two players to score touchdowns on special teams during the year. Against San Diego State, Dawn recovered a punt catch that was botched by the opposing return man, and darted eighty yards for the score. Bloom, of course, scored touchdowns on special teams, returning two punts to the end zone.
- He finished fourth on the team in special teams points with 10.

## 13 ERIK GREENBERG, QB



- ❑ Currently the backup to starter Joel Klatt, he has worked hard since rejoining the team in spring ball after serving his Mormon Mission the past two years in Bolivia. He entered the fall listed at third on the depth chart, but worked his way up to No. 2 by showcasing his accurate arm and composure in the pocket.
- ❑ He received a lot of repetition during the spring along with Klatt and James Cox, as he completed 26-of-46 passes for 417 yards and three touchdowns; he didn't throw any interceptions either.
- ❑ **Chart Watch:** Greenberg is 31st all-time at CU in passing yards (737), and is tied for 24th in touchdown passes (6).
- ❑ 2003.
  - He has seen action in five games (2 starts vs. Florida State, Baylor), going 49-for-92 (53.3%) with 737 yards, six touchdowns and three picks.
  - He completed 16-of-29 passes for 346 yards (2 TD/1 INT) at Baylor, the second most passing yards by a walk-on or former walk-on in CU history (trailing Joel Klatt's 402 against CSU earlier this year).
  - In first collegiate start vs. Florida State, Greenberg performed efficiently, going 14-for-30 for 192 yards and a TD. He was a part of the Buffs only score in the 47-7 loss, connecting with Jeremy Bloom for an 81-yard touchdown (the second longest play of the season).
  - Threw his first collegiate passes against Washington State (Sept. 13, 2003) after replacing injured starter Joel Klatt. His 199 passing yards in that game ranks as the fourth most passing yards in a game for a former walk-on at CU.
  - He owns three of the Top-5 longest offensive plays of the season, as he hooked up with Jeremy Bloom on an 81-yarder vs. Florida State, Derek McCoy on a 67-yarder against Baylor and D.J. Hackett on a 52-yarder also against Baylor.
  - He owns the distinction of taking part in the longest non-scoring pass of the season, a 67-yarder to Derek McCoy, also against Baylor (Oct. 4)
  - He has excelled in first down passing situations, completing 20 of 31 passes (64.5%) for 231 yards and two TDs.
- ❑ 2001-02. He was on sabbatical from the team, severing his mission, which is required by all 19-year-olds in the Church of Latter Day Saints.
- ❑ 2000. His redshirt freshman season, he got into one game (Oklahoma State) but did not record any stats. That year, he earned a scholarship for his hard work and strong play.
- ❑ 1999. Joining the team as a walk-on before August drills, he redshirted even though he was listed third on the depth chart at times due to injuries.

## 14 JOEL KLATT, QB



For more information, see the "Klatt-astic" page in the Nebraska release (page 10).

- ❑ Klatt made his debut before over 76,000 at INVESCO Field at Mile High in Denver... by comparison, the largest crowd he played in front of in minor league baseball was about 3,500 in Ogden, Utah.
- ❑ He is still currently a walk-on, but head coach Gary Barnett has stated that he will receive a scholarship in January.
- ❑ **Chart Watch:** Klatt is currently 11th all-time in passing yards (2,345), is 10th in completions (207), is 15th in attempts (317) and is tied for 7th in touchdown passes (18). His 18 TD passes on the season are tied for the third most in a single year at Colorado (Mike Moschetti, 18, 1999), trailing only Koy Detmer (22, 1996) and John Hessler (20, 1995).
- ❑ After his season-opening debut performance against Colorado State, he garnered all kinds of honors. Three organizations cited him as the National Player of the Week: *The Sporting News* (for its weekly magazine and radio network), SI.com and collegefootballnews.com. He was also named the Big 12 Conference's Offensive Player of the Week, and was the inaugural winner of the Pioneer Press State of Colorado Player of the Week Award, selected by the Colorado Chapter of the National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame.

CONTINUED...

**KLATT, continued**

- ❑ His 402 passing yards against Colorado State ranked as the fourth most passing yards ever by a walk-on in an NCAA game ... and the most ever by a CU quarterback... until he exceeded it with 419 yards against Baylor.
- ❑ **2-0.** Klatt was only the 10th quarterback (out of 38) to win his first two starts for the Buffaloes dating back to the 1959 season. The best start ever was another sophomore, Darian Hagan, who led CU to 11 straight wins in 1989, followed by another soph, Kordell Stewart, who won his first eight starts in 1992. Junior Mike Moschetti won his first five in 1998 and was the last player to open 2-0 before Klatt. The complete list since 1959:

**11**—Darian Hagan, Soph. (1989); **8**—Kordell Stewart, Soph. (1992); **5**—Bobby Anderson, Soph. (1967), Bill Solomon, Jr. (1978), Mike Moschetti, Jr. (1998); **4**—Ken Johnson, Soph. (1971); **2**—Paul Arendt, Soph. (1969), Mark Hatcher, Soph. (1985), Charles Johnson, Jr. (1990), **Joel Klatt, Soph. (2003).**

- ❑ An invited walk-on in 2002, he was named CU's starting quarterback halfway through fall camp. He entered the 2003 season with an edge up on his competitors for the No. 1 job, as he impressed the coaches with his poise and maturity during the spring. He has the best foot-speed of the QBs.
- ❑ In three major spring scrimmages, he showed he could handle being under intense pressure (the quarterbacks were live), as he only threw one interception and was never sacked (in any scrimmage, even the brief ones at the end of the daily sessions). He displayed some solid escaping ability, gaining 43 yards on seven runs.
- ❑ After spending two years in minor league baseball (A ball) with the San Diego Padres organization, he came to the realization that he wanted to return to his first love—football. He reported to spring training in Arizona with the Padres, and had his mind made up: if at the end of the normal spring training period, if he was assigned to San Diego's top Class A team, Fort Wayne, he'd play baseball at least one more year. If he had to remain for the extended spring training, he'd walk away from it. He didn't get make the Fort Wayne team, so he basically hung around long enough to collect one last paycheck, around \$250 after taxes, as he needed the gas money to drive back to Colorado.
- ❑ He had been in touch with CU offensive coordinator Shawn Watson, and the two talked prior to his departing for spring training in '02. He also applied to the school that winter.
- ❑ Had a great one-liner when repeatedly asked about if he could play quarterback on the major college level: "I'm just trying to remember to buckle my chin strap, because I didn't have to do that in baseball."
- ❑ Shawn Watson on "What makes Klatt special... he has great investment and great will."
- ❑ 2003.
  - > His 21 completions at Iowa State (Nov. 15) gave him 207 for the season, one behind the single-season school record of 208 set by Koy Detmer in 1996. His 288 yards passing improved his season total to 2,345, a sophomore season record, topping the 2,156 John Hessler had in 1995. His 2,264 yards of total offense is also a sophomore record, passing Hessler's 2,246 in 1995.
  - > At Iowa State, Klatt engineered a touchdown drive on CU's first possession for the third straight game, and for the fifth time in the past six games. His effort covered 69 yards, while completing 4-of-4 passes for 59 yards.
  - > With his 187 passing yards against Missouri (Nov. 8), Klatt became the fifth player in CU history to throw for 2,000 yards in a season, joining Kordell Stewart (three times), John Hessler (twice), Mike Moschetti (twice) and Koy Detmer (once – but the only player to top 3,000). Klatt joins Stewart and Hessler as the lone sophomores to do it.
  - > He was a part of all three TDs scored against Oklahoma (Oct. 25) in the 34-20 loss, completing three TD passes to three different receivers. His 24-for-33 performance was good for a 72.7 completion percentage, the 5th best percentage in school history in a game where a QB attempted 30 or more passes.
  - > He has started nine of 11 games this season ... missing two starts due to a shoulder injury... the Buffs are 5-3 in games he has started *and* finished.
  - > Against Kansas State (Oct. 18), Klatt started the game completing seven consecutive passes (56 yards) until his first pass fell incomplete at the 6:17 mark of the first quarter. He completed 6-of-6 passes for 55 yards and had two rushes for 7 yards on the opening drive, including a fourth-down sneak for a first down.
  - > Also at Kansas State, he found nine different receivers in the game, completing 29 of 45 passes for 290 yards and a TD. That was the sixth time in the seven games that at least eight players have had one or more catches this year.
  - > He had the second 400-yard game of his career against Kansas (Oct. 11), completing 38-of-54 passes for 419 yards and two TDs (he had 402 in his first career start against CSU earlier this season). In addition to throwing for the fourth most yards in CU history, he set individual school records for the most passing attempts in a game with 54 (old record – 51 by Randy Essington vs. Nebraska in 1982 and Steve Vogel at Kansas State in 1982) and completions with 38 (topping the 33 by Koy Detmer against Oklahoma in 1992). His stellar performance earned him Colorado's offensive player of the game honors.
  - > Also against Kansas, he had 424 yards of total offense, the seventh 400-plus yard performance in school history. His 58 plays ties for the fourth most.
  - > Against Baylor, Klatt's streak of consecutive passes thrown without an interception was halted at 92 when a pass was tipped and picked off late in the fourth quarter. It tied for the sixth longest streak all-time and the third at the start of a career. (The list with names and dates is on page 209 of CU's 2003 media guide).
  - > He is part of the longest offensive play of the season for the Buffs, an 82-yard touchdown strike to Derek McCoy in the season opener against Colorado State.

CONTINUED...



## KLATT, continued

- ❑ 2002.
  - He took a few snaps at the end of the Baylor game, just to get his feet wet in college football. It was his first game action since 1999, the last time he stepped on a football field in a game situation.
  - He also saw action for a couple of games on the punt team, playing one of the protectors up front.
- ❑ Former CU receiver and Arvada West High School head coach Dave Logan said that Klatt was the most difficult to prepare for out of every quarterback in the talented Jefferson County League.
- ❑ His father, Gary, recently retired after 30 years as a coach in the Colorado high school ranks. Twenty-five of those years were spent at Pomona, including 10 as a head coach. He was one of the most respected coaches in Colorado.

## 15 JEREMY BLOOM, WR



- ❑ For the second year in a row, he has decided to forgo skiing endorsements to play football. This season, he is on track to once again show people why he may be the most electrifying player in college. A triple threat running, receiving and returning, he will play a big part for the Buffs this season.
- ❑ There are several plays in CU's playbook designed especially for him, but the occasion hasn't always arisen for those to be called. Offensive coordinator Shawn Watson said that will change this year, and it has; the Buffs have him involved in several different ways.
- ❑ During the bye week, the coaches asked him to try cornerback—not as a position move, but as an addition to his repertoire. He's a bit raw at the positions, but he made the three-deep after just three practices there.
- ❑ Having a better idea of the offensive scheme, he should see many more balls thrown and handed off (on reverses) this season. And once again, he will resume top punt return duties and will tackle kick returning duties as well.
- ❑ ***Chart Watch (CU all-time):*** Bloom is 7th all-time in punt return yards (612) and is tied for fifth in punt return touchdowns (2); is 11th in kickoff return yards (618), and is 53rd in all-purpose yards (1,733).
- ❑ 2003.
  - He made his first career start at Iowa State (Nov. 15), lining up as one of three wide receivers. He finished the day with 63 all-purpose yards, including two catches for 36 yards and two punt returns for 30 yards.
  - His 36-yard kickoff return against Oklahoma (Oct. 25), gave the Buffs a start at their own 44-yard line. More importantly, the return set up Colorado's first touchdown of the game to cut the Sooners' lead to 14-7.
  - Bloom notched his first career kickoff return for a touchdown at Kansas State (Oct. 18), an 88-yarder that pulled the Buffs within 15-13 with 30 seconds remaining in the first half. Was the fifth play of his 23-game career over 75 yards (all for touchdowns).
  - Against Kansas (Oct. 11), he touched the ball a career-high 12 times, racking up 204 all-purpose yards (14 rushing, 97 receiving, 23 punt return & 70 kickoff return).
  - Also against Kansas, he had a career-high five catches for 97 yards.
  - A special teams guru, Bloom set a CU record against Baylor (Oct. 4), racking up 250 yards on kick returns (143 kickoff, 107 punt). In the process, he was named CU's special teams player of the week.
  - His 81-yard touchdown grab at Florida State was the Buffs' only score in the 47-7 loss, and is currently the second longest play from scrimmage for CU this year.
  - His 33-yard sideline grab in the waning minutes of the Colorado State game set up the winning touchdown in the Buffs' 42-35 victory.
  - He owns the team's longest kick return (88, TD) of the season and the longest punt return (37).
- ❑ 2002.
  - He was a first-team Freshman All-American by both the FWAA and collegefootballnews.com, as *The Sporting News* named him to its Freshman All-American third-team.
  - His "firsts" collectively totaled 207 yards. His first punt return went for 75 yards (and a TD) against Colorado State; his first reception came in the Kansas State game, also for a score, covering a school-record 94 yards; and his first kickoff return was in the Nebraska game, one he returned 38 yards into NU territory. That's an average of 69.0 yards for those—but he is human: his first rush, a reverse against CSU, went for no gain.
  - He averaged 15.0 yards on 23 punt returns, scoring a touchdown in his first collegiate game against Colorado State and in the Big 12 Championship against Oklahoma. He lost three quality punt returns—about 150 yards worth—due to penalties, so he's even more dangerous than his numbers appeared.
- ❑ His lawyers filed an appeal with U.S. District Court regarding his lawsuit against the NCAA, which was killed in a lower court in Boulder, but not without the judge scolding the NCAA for missing an opportunity to do what most think would be the right thing. The suit is based on NCAA rules that don't allow Jeremy to make any endorsements based on his World Cup skiing career, the only way competitive ski racers have of making money, and in Bloom's case, money to train for the 2006 Olympic games.

CONTINUED...

## BLOOM, continued

- ❑ In 2002, he was named the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame tabbed him its Amateur Athlete of the Year.
- ❑ After football season in 2003—when he hadn't even had much time to train—he nabbed a gold medal in the dual moguls and a silver in individual moguls at the World Championships. He finished 13th during the World Cup season and had four top-four finishes.
- ❑ He finished ninth in the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics in the men's moguls, but rebounded to win the World Cup in the same event the following month.
- ❑ This past March, he won the 30th annual Superstars competition held in Jamaica. He defeated nine professional athletes in the general competition, all of which had to choose seven of 10 events to participate in. Bloom performed extremely well in all, and stole wins in the half-mile run and 100-yard dash, which he finished in 9.41 seconds.
- ❑ During this past summer, he visited the MTV Beach House in the Hamptons, and hosted a couple music video shows. Also during the summer, he put together the Athlete's Bill of Rights, a bill he has been introducing across America to help improve the conditions and lives of NCAA athletes.
- ❑ The bill Jeremy worked on this past summer for student-athlete rights:

INTRODUCED BY: Jeremy Bloom

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 15.3 (commencing with Section 67370) is added to Part 40 of the Education Code, to read:

### CHAPTER 15.3. STUDENT ATHLETES' BILL OF RIGHTS

67370. This chapter shall be known and cited as the "Student Athletes' Bill of Rights."

67370.5. The Legislature finds and declares that every student attending an institution of higher education in this state shall have the same rights and benefits, and shall not be differentiated from other students by the amount of a scholarship or by terms dictated by an outside entity.

67371. An institution of higher education may not agree to, or be subject to, the rules or policies of any organization, nor make a contract with any party, that dictates the terms, value, and conditions of student athlete scholarships of any of the following:

- (a) The ability to fund a scholarship athlete home for school dismissed holidays.
- (b) The ability to help fund an athlete's family members to post-season tournaments or bowl games.
- (c) The ability to secure bona fide employment not associated with his/her amateur sport.
- (d) Health Insurance.
- (e) The ability to obtain representation in making career choices.
- (f) The ability for the University to sell jerseys with the name of the athlete on them, as well as, the ability to give that athlete a percentage of the dollars generated by the sale of the athlete's jersey.

- (g) Impose a cap on scholarships that is below the cost of attendance.

## 16 MASON CROSBY, PK



- ❑ A true freshman this year, he is CU's starting placekicker as he won the job halfway through fall camp. After losing the job to fellow freshman Kevin Eberhart for the Florida State game, Crosby regained that role the following week against Baylor.
- ❑ After a heated battle with J.T. Eberly and fellow freshman Kevin Eberhart, Barnett gave him the nod after he displayed a powerful leg and great consistent accuracy. In just his first few days of practice, he impressed the entire team by constantly hitting 60-yard plus field goals with room to spare.
- ❑ He is the first true freshman to earn placekicking duties at CU since Eric Hannah did in 1987, and also was the first to kick in a season opener since Tom Field in 1979. No other true freshmen have kicked placements in the last 50 years at Colorado.
- ❑ 2003.
  - > His 26-yard field goal and five extra point conversions at Iowa State (Nov. 15) gave him eight points on the day and 48 for the season – tying a CU freshman record of 48 previously set by PK Tom Field (1979) and TB Herchell Troutman (1994).
  - > Against Missouri (Nov. 8), all four of his kickoffs went for touchbacks, upping his season numbers to 19 touchbacks out of 24 kickoffs.
  - > At Kansas State (Oct. 18), his 53-yard field goal attempt that sailed wide left early in the second quarter ended his streak of five straight makes to open his career – falling on shy in his bid to tie Jeremy Aldrich for the most made to start a CU career (Aldrich made his first six over the 1996 and '97 seasons).

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## CROSBY, continued

- Against Kansas (Oct. 11), Crosby handled kickoff duties for the first time as a collegian, kicking off nine times with Kansas' starting field position its own 19.8; eight went for touchbacks, seven through the end zone, with the lone return for 5-yards which was at the end of regulation that KU returned to its 18. He also converted three field goals on three attempts (23, 41, 23). He earned Big 12 Special Teams Player of the Week and CU's special teams Player of the Game honors in the process.
- He made history against UCLA, after splitting the uprights on his first collegiate field goal attempt for 40 yards – the fifth longest in CU history by a true freshman (Tom Field has the four longest, all in 1979, including the true frosh long of 51).
- ❑ In high school, he booted the third-longest field goal in Texas state history, tying the record with a 59-yarder his senior year.
- ❑ He spent several years growing up in Fort Collins, and even managed to come to a few CU games when he was younger.
- ❑ His father (Jim) was a fullback at UTEP in the mid-1970's, and a grandfather (Harry Crosby) ran track at Marshall.

## 17 MEDFORD MOORER, FS



- ❑ He was elected a team captain by his teammates, as he's very vocal, and is the player who makes all the defensive checks when on the field.
- ❑ He is maybe the most ferocious hitter on the defense. He was on the watch list for the 2003 Jim Thorpe Award, and he has named to most preseason All-Big 12 teams. He was also tabbed a preseason honorable mention All-American by *Street & Smith's*.
- ❑ ***Chart Watch:*** Moorer is currently tied for 26th place all-time at CU with 248 career tackles (the 8th DB) and is 16th in solo stops (172).
- ❑ **2003.**
  - Moorer is a nominee for the 2003 *FWAA/ESPN The Magazine Courage Award*, given to the college football player who shows great courage in the face of adversity. The winner will be announced in mid-November and presented the award Jan. 4 at the FWAA awards breakfast held in conjunction with the Nokia Sugar Bowl.
  - Against Missouri (Nov. 8), Moorer tallied 12 tackles (9 solo), one pass deflection, a forced fumble and a third down stop. His key third down stop ended the Missouri drive at CU's two-yard line to hold the Tigers to a field goal and keep the Buff's lead, 7-3. The forced fumble was also deep in Colorado territory, as he knocked the ball out of QB Brad Smith's arms at the goal line with under two minutes left to play in the first half to keep the lead. 14-9.
  - Moorer had an impressive game at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), leading the squad with 11 tackles (5 solo) while adding a QB hurry, one pass broken up and one of five team picks on the day. His interception return of 72 yards is the longest such return of the season for the Buffs.
  - He led the squad with 13 tackles at Kansas State (Oct. 18), while adding two tackles for a loss and his first sack of the season.
  - He has two interceptions on the season (Washington State, Texas Tech). He now has seven career INTs, which is currently tied for 21st place all-time in CU history.
  - He has led the team in tackles in 6 of 11 games and leads the squad in overall tackles with 103.
  - He also owns the distinction of being tied for the team lead with the most tackles in a game (14, vs. CSU, Kansas State). Besides his 14 tackles against CUS, he had a forced fumble and one third down stop.
- ❑ **2002.**
  - He had several big plays during the year, returning an interception 51 yards against Texas Tech for a TD (he got the nod as the league's player of the week that game, as he also had eight tackles and four third down stops) and brought back a fumble 71 yards for a score against Iowa State.
  - He earned honorable mention All-Big 12 honor selection by the coaches and *Associated Press*.
- ❑ **2001.**
  - Another in a long line of Buffs to return his first career interception for a touchdown—64 yards against Texas in the Big 12 title game, which gave CU a 29-10 lead late in the first half.
  - While undergoing rehab from major ACL surgery, he fell on campus in the spring and was originally thought to be out until the first of October. But he persevered, and was ready to play by the season opener.
  - His father was shot to death in June ('01) while going to work one morning in Los Angeles; he was very close to his dad and it's been very hard on him as one could imagine. He was a pleasure to talk to during Medford's recruiting, as he was so proud of his son and predicted, quite accurately, big things for him. In his spare time, he enjoys making large art sketches of his father.
- ❑ **2000.** Suffered a torn ACL last season against Texas and underwent season-ending surgery on Oct. 26.
  - The injury kept him out of spring drills and slowed him for much of the summer and into fall camp.
  - He made his tackles count as a redshirt frosh, as he had two third down stops in only 20 snaps against K-State.

CONTINUED...

## MOORER, continued

- He had five tackles in his first collegiate game against Colorado State but had an amazing three third down stops in only 13 plays from scrimmage. He made two of those stops by himself and was aided by Michael Lewis on another.
- Building off an excellent spring, he had a solid fall and figured into CU's dime and nickel coverage schemes.
- He tied for the team lead with 16 tackles in the two spring scrimmages. He had an outstanding performance in the annual Black & Gold Spring Game. He had a game-high eight tackles, forced two fumbles and recovered another.
- He won the Most Improved Defensive Player Award for the spring.
- ❑ 1999. He spent his redshirt season of 1999 practicing at both free and strong safety.
- ❑ He hails from the same high school (Locke) that produced former CU All-American quarterback Darian Hagan.
- ❑ His pregame ritual consists of listening to James Brown before every game.
- ❑ He has worked with kids in day care several summers and is interested in becoming a special education teacher after college.

## 18 DOMINIQUE BROOKS, S



### 2003

- ❑ A true freshman, he has seen action in nine contests in 2003, including three starts as the dime back.
- ❑ He owns the distinction of having the most third/fourth down stops in a single game with his four stops against Missouri – the most by a CU player in six years.
- ❑ Brooks had easily his most memorable performance of the year against Missouri (Nov. 8), recording his first two career interceptions, two third-down stops and a pass broken up. His second pick of the day ended the Mizzou drive with 1:58 left to play in the game and kept the Buffs in the lead, 21-16. For his efforts, Brooks earned the Collegefootballnews.com Big 12 Defensive Player of the Week.
- ❑ His two INTs against Missouri marked the 69th time a CU player had two or more picks in the same game. (The last true freshman to have two in a game was CB Damen Wheeler, who had two against Kansas State in Boulder on Nov. 16, 1996). In addition, the only other time in CU history that a true freshman made two thefts in the same game was in 1988, when CB Deon Figures had two against Iowa State in Boulder on Oct. 29, 1988. Thus, Brooks is only the third true frosh to accomplish the feat.
- ❑ Against Kansas (Oct. 11), he stayed at home on a fake punt and was able to make a solo tackle to stuff the play
- ❑ He saw his first collegiate action against Washington State (Sept. 13), playing 28 snaps while recording four tackles (3 solo) and two passes broken up.
- ❑ Recorded 17 snaps at Florida State (Sept. 20), adding three tackles, one third down stop and one tackle for loss.
- ❑ Had a breakout performance at Baylor (Oct. 4) in his first collegiate start, tallying three total tackles, one for a loss, one pass broken up and one QB sack. He was also responsible for two touchdown saving tackles in a game that could have been a lot worse than the 42-30 final score.
- ❑ As a senior at North Mesquite High School in Mesquite, Texas, he earned first-team all-Dallas/Fort Worth Area and all-district (10-5A) honors, with *Prep Football Report* and *SuperPrep* naming him to their all-Southwest teams and *PrepStar* tabbing him all-Midlands. Rivals.com ranked him as the No. 33 safety in the nation, *SuperPrep* had him as the No. 40 player in Texas and *PFR* the No. 57 player in the region (the ninth defensive back).

## 20 CLYDE SURRELL, S



- ❑ He missed spring drills while recovering from shoulder surgery, entered the season second on the depth chart at weak safety, but has started six games since (5 at strong safety, 1 at dime back).
- ❑ He is 3rd place all-time at CU in the most sacks by a defensive back category with five.
- ❑ He is the father of a daughter, Jada (born March 26, 2002).
- ❑ 2003.
  - Did not see any game action until week four at Florida State, as he was suspended for the first game due to legal troubles and then had to overcome the death of his younger brother after he was murdered Aug. 24 in a shooting in Stockton, Calif.
  - His QB sack at Iowa State moved him into third place all-time at CU for the most sacks by a defensive back (5).
  - Against Missouri (Nov. 8), he recorded eight tackles (7 solo), a tackle for a loss and two third down stops. After a personal foul penalty against Colorado early in the fourth quarter and the Buffs leading 21-9, Missouri marched to the Buffs' 20-yard line, but Surrell forced a fumble (his team-leading third of the year) from QB Brad Smith, and recovered the ball (also his team-leading third of the season) to end the Tigers' scoring threat.
  - He was a menace on the field at Texas Tech (Nov. 1) as the team's second leading tackler (10), while adding a third down stop, a quarterback chasedown and a fumble recovery. His fumble recovery was an important drive-stopper at the Buff's own 18-yard line to keep the Colorado lead 14-12 in the third quarter.
  - Surrell tied a CU record against Oklahoma ... the most forced fumbles in a game (2). The last player to do it was Gabe Nyenhuis vs. Texas Tech in Boulder (Oct. 26, 2002).

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## SURRELL, continued

- Had his best game of the season, if not career, against Oklahoma (Oct. 25). He played a part in all three Buffs' forced fumbles, as he was credited with two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery. He added a quarterback sack, 6 tackles (5 solo) and one tackle for a loss. Coach Barnett on his performance: "That's the Clyde that I thought would be here. He played recklessly all week." He earned CU's Player of the Game honors for his performance.
  - His QB sack on Oklahoma's last drive of the first half forced a fumble, halting the Sooner drive at CU's 22-yard line. It also kept the Buffs in the game, 17-7, going into halftime. His other forced fumble ended an Oklahoma drive at the Buffs' 4-yard line with the Sooners ahead 20-7 in the third quarter.
  - Surrell saw his first action of the year on kick return duty at Kansas State (Oct. 18), returning two kicks for 35 yards (17.5). He had a career long kick return for 24-yards with his previous long being a 20-yarder as a sophomore in 2001.
  - In his first game back at safety (starter vs. Florida State), he had an exceptional performance, leading the squad with 13 tackles (10 solo), while adding a tackle for loss, one third down stop and one quarterback chase down.
- 2002.
- He saw action primarily in CU's dime package, but ascended to the top of the depth chart at the weak safety position towards the end of the year.
  - He had a monster game against Texas Tech, one of the reasons CU was able to keep Kliff Kingsbury and the Red Raiders in check. He had 17 tackles, 15 solo, with an interception and a tackle for loss.
  - He also had 12 tackles against San Diego State (10 solo), at the time his career high until he topped it with the performance against Tech. Another Aurora Eaglecrest High School product, J.J. Billingsley, had 15 tackles that game, so the buzz after the game was that Eaglecrest alums accounted for 27 tackles against the Aztecs.
  - He missed spring practice as he tended to his academics (he was suspended for the season opener as part of his punishment), but he's totally turned things around academically.

## 22 LORENZO SIMS, S



- A true freshman, he made his first career start – also his first career play – against Washington State (Sept. 13). He took 38 snaps and recorded four tackles, including three solo stops in his only game of the season.
- He saw plenty of action in the 44-10 blowout of Iowa State (Nov. 15), leading the team with seven tackles (all solo) and adding a pass broken up.
- His cousin (Ricky Manning) was a defensive back at UCLA, while another (DeShawn Stevenson) plays guard for the Utah Jazz; second cousin (Bruce Bowen) is a forward for the San Antonio Spurs.
- He went to the same high school, Edison in Fresno, Calif., that produced Manning and current Oklahoma defensive back Aaron Miller.
- His nickname is "Spiderman."

## 26 TERRENCE WHEATLEY, CB



- 2003.
  - A true freshman cornerback, he made his first career start at Baylor, replacing senior Phil Jackson in the lineup. He made his first college start in his home state of Texas, as Waco is about 90 miles from his home of Plano, a Dallas suburb. He tallied eight tackles (6 solo) in the loss. He is one of the few true freshmen to ever start at cornerback for the Buffs.
  - He matched his Baylor effort in his third start at Kansas State (Oct. 18), racking up 8 tackles, while leading the squad with two passes broken up in the contest.
  - Against Baylor, Sammy Joseph and Terrence Wheatley both started at cornerback, marking the first time in CU history that it started a pair of freshmen at the position in the same game, not to mention starting two at any point in the same season.
  - At Florida State, he replaced Phil Jackson at corner in the second half and immediately made his mark, breaking up a pass while recording three tackles.
  - He saw most of his action on special teams in the first three games, earning three points on three unassisted tackles.
- As a senior at Plano East HS in Richardson, Texas, Rivals.com tabbed him the No. 56 cornerback in the nation, as he earned all-state honorable mention honors, all-district (9-5A) first-team honors and was named to the *Dallas Morning News* all-area first-team as a cornerback and receiver.
- As a senior, he was in on 82 tackles (three for loss), along with making five interceptions, nine pass deflections, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery. On offense, he caught 25 passes for 410 yards and three touchdowns, and he averaged 35 yards per kick return and 15 yards per punt return on special teams.

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## WHEATLEY, continued

- ❑ He still holds the Plano East school record in the 100 meters (10.5 seconds), as well as the school marks in the triple jump and long jump.
- ❑ He is interested in architectural engineering as his major at Colorado.
- ❑ His father (Randolph) ran track at Arizona State.

## 27 BRIAN IWUH, S



- ❑ Last name is pronounced *E-woo*.
- ❑ He has had to overcome two deaths in the immediate family in the same week (Oct. 4-11), as his stepfather passed away from cancer during the Baylor game and his older brother (23) just three days later.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He is a four-game starter at strong safety, but has seen action in 10 of 11 contests.
  - His second career fumble recovery came against Iowa State (Nov. 15), resulting in a CU field goal to put the Buffs up 30-0 in the waning minutes of the first half.
  - His first career fumble recovery could not have come at a better time against Missouri (Nov. 8), as he recovered a Brad Smith fumble in the CU end zone to halt the Missouri drive and keep the edge, 14-9 going into the half.
  - He had his first career PAT block at Kansas State (Oct. 18), keeping the Buffs in the contest, 15-7, with 40 seconds remaining in the first half.
  - His best defensive games were against Colorado State (Aug. 30) and Baylor (Oct. 4) when he tallied seven tackles and one for a loss in each contest.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He cracked the starting lineup for the final two games of 2002 ... not many can say their first career start came in the Big 12 Championship game. His 14 tackles against the Sooners tied him for the second most ever in a game by a true frosh at Colorado.
- ❑ He has three most distant cousins: baseball players Reggie Jackson (his grandfather's third cousin) and Ralph Garr, and Outland Trophy winner Russell Maryland.
- ❑ He has been an active participant in the Houston area Junior Olympics, as his 4x400 relay team has won a gold medal every year since fifth grade.

## 29 JOHN TORP, P



- ❑ He may very well be the heir apparent to Mark Mariscal, who won the Ray Guy Award last season. After posting a solid performance during spring drills, Barnett proclaimed him the team's punter half way through fall camp, and also put him on scholarship.
- ❑ Gary Barnett on Torp: "He's got a big-time leg, he just needs to play. We don't want him to kick more (in games), but he needs to. But I think based on this first-time experience, he's going to be a tremendous kicker."
- ❑ 2003.
  - He has booted 57 punts through the first 11 games of the season for a 42.5 average. 14 of his punts have landed inside the opponent's 20-yard line.
  - Against Missouri (Nov. 8), Torp had a career-best day with six punts for a 50.7 average, with three inside-the-20 and two landing inside-the-10. His 61-yard punt in the fourth quarter was his longest of the season; with punts of 61 and 60 yards, those were the second and third of his career over 60 yards (he had a 63-yard boot against USC in 2002). His performance earned him CU's Special Teams Player of the Game.
  - He executed his second fake punt of the season at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), a successful 10-yard jaunt on fourth-and-two in the fourth quarter. It proved to be a vital play in the Buffs' 17-play, 76-yard TD drive that eventually cut the Tech lead to 26-21.
  - Against Oklahoma (Oct. 25), Torp executed a fake punt, taking the snap and scampering 20-yards for a first down at the end of the third quarter to keep the Buffs' drive alive down 27-7. The fake punt ultimately salvaged what turned into a 76-yard touchdown drive.
  - Torp had two punts blocked at Kansas State (Oct. 18), only the fourth time in history that Colorado has had two punts blocked in the same game, and the first time since Oct. 25, 1958 when Nebraska blocked two in Boulder.
  - Down 14-7 early in the second quarter against Kansas (Oct. 11), and following a four-and-out possession that netted zero yards from their own two-yard line, Torp booted a 53-yard punt from deep in the end zone to get the Buffs out of trouble.
  - His season long (at the time) was a 57-yarder against Florida State, just one of 12 50-plus yarders this season.
  - Torp has been lauded by head coach Gary Barnett for his defensive abilities, most notably his tackling. He has made two touchdown-saving tackles – one in each of the first two games.

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## TORP, continued

- He earned CU's Special Teams Player of the Game honors for his performance in the season-opening win over CSU. In the contest, Torp booted 10 punts for a 40.8 average and a long of 50. Two of his punts landed inside the opponent's 20-yard line.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He saw the first action of his career, booting three punts on the season, for a most healthy 49.7 average. All three pinned the opponent inside their 20, and only one was returned (for a single yard). His career long was a 63-yard rocket against USC, from inside CU's 25 no less, with his two other boots coming in the lopsided win over Baylor.
- ❑ He's the first player ever on CU's roster from nearby Lafayette's Monarch High School, one of the newer programs in the state.

## 32 J.P. dIZEREGA, FB



- ❑ Last name is pronounced *dee-zair-ig-uh*.
- ❑ He's listed at second on the depth chart at fullback, as he switched from defensive end after the 2001 season.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He is a regular member of the PAT/FG unit.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He saw mostly special teams duty, as he was on the FG/PAT unit, but he played several snaps on offense and started one game (San Diego State).
- ❑ An uncle (Scott Klune) played football for CU in the early 1970s, and a grandfather played at Northern Colorado.

## 33 WALTER BOYE-DOE, LB



- ❑ *Last name is pronounced "boy-doe."*
- ❑ 2003.
  - A true freshman, he made his first career start at Kansas State (Oct. 18), becoming the fifth member of the 2003 recruiting class to start a game in 2003. He has started three games on the year.
  - Had an impressive game against Oklahoma (Oct. 25), recording six tackles and a quarterback hurry.
  - He has twice been named the Scout Team Defense Player of the Week (Washington State & Florida State).
- ❑ He was born in Koforidua, Ghana (Africa), but moved to the Dallas area when he was four as his father took a job in the states. His parents are also Ghana natives.
- ❑ Rivals.com ranked him as the No. 57 linebacker in the nation coming out of high school.
- ❑ An older brother, Howard, is a junior linebacker at Stephen F. Austin.
- ❑ Walter is active in volunteer work, including the Special Olympics, Adopt-A-Highway and local blood drives.

## 34 LAWRENCE VICKERS, FB



- ❑ The replacement for bruiser Brandon Drumm, he can play tailback as well if injuries dictate such; he's practiced at the position on occasion and has displayed some strong running ability. He can also catch the ball out the backfield, as he rumbled for a 47-yard touchdown on a pass from Joel Klatt during one fall camp scrimmage.
- ❑ Head coach Gary Barnett called him potentially "the best that's every played" his position at CU.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He had his highest rushing total of the season at Iowa State (27 yards), including his longest run of the year – a 19-yarder in the third quarter of the 44-10 victory.
  - Vickers scored his first career collegiate touchdown on a 3-yard reception early in the second quarter in the 21-16 upset victory over No. 22 Missouri (Nov. 8).
  - Had his most productive receiving game of the season at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), grabbing two catches for 42 yards with a career long reception of 29 yards.
  - Had one of his longest runs of the season against Kansas (Oct. 11), a 14-yarder to the two-yard line that set up Joel Klatt's one-yard touchdown run to put the Buffs up 14-7 in the first quarter of the 50-47 overtime victory.
  - His first career start came against Colorado State in the season opener (Aug. 30, 2003).
  - He saw the most action running the ball against Florida State, rushing four times for 18 yards. After the game, *head coach Gary Barnett said of Vickers*, "He has come around to where he's a guy who's going to have to be in the mix somewhere; he's going to have to be on the field."

CONTINUED...

## VICKERS, continued

- 2002.
  - Received most of his touches against Baylor, gaining 25 yards on 6 attempts, and had one reception for 7 yards.
  - He had a few carries in the Nov. 23 “Buff Bowl,” when the third-teamers and scout players have an extensive scrimmage. In fact, he was so good, the coaches had to yank him out of there.
  - He saw playing time solely as a blocker when CU lined up in its “Cadillac” formation, which is basically a Stack-I with two fullbacks and a tailback.
- His infant son, Jayvier Vickers, was injured in a car accident in September of 2002, but he is doing fine.

## 35 J.T. EBERLY, PK



- A backup placekicker, he remained in a tight battle for the starting job during the spring and early in camp. He has displayed some excellent accuracy, and also has the ability to kick-off in pooch situations.
- Was named Cigna Student Athlete of the Week for the week of September 13, 2003. He is a two-time member of the Big 12 Commissioner’s Honor Roll.
- 2002. He saw some light action, making one extra point and kicking off four times.

## 39 KEVIN EBERHART, PK



- 2003.
  - After winning the battle for the starting placekicker role in spring camp, the true freshman performed admirably in his first five collegiate starts. He has 24 total kickoffs with 9 touchbacks and three placed inside the opponent’s 20-yard line. Four of his kicks have gone through or over the end zone as well.
  - He was named the PAT/Field Goal starting kicker at Florida State, but missed both of his field goals tries, including his first career field goal attempt of 22 yards. Has since lost the job to fellow freshman Mason Crosby.
  - Eberhart was named CU’s special teams player-of-the-week against UCLA (Sept. 6).
- He is majoring in aerospace engineering at Colorado and wants to work for NASA or Ball Aerospace as an engineer after graduation. He was one of 11 scholar-athletes in Colorado for 2002 as selected by the Colorado Chapter National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame.
- As a senior at Broomfield High School, he earned first-team all-Colorado (*Denver Post*, *Rocky Mountain News*), all-state (4A), all-region (*Boulder Camera*) and all-Skyline League honors. He finished his career as Colorado’s all-time state leader in points by kicking (255) and field goals made (36), along with tying the record for the most career extra points made (147).

## 42 BOBBY PURIFY, TB



- His season officially came to an end on November 21, when he had calcium deposits removed from an ankle, the same one in which he suffered a nasty high sprain against Washington State.
- On the original Doak Walker Award watch list, he entered the fall listed as a co-starter with Brian Calhoun. Having played in 33 games since his freshman year, he has established himself as one of the Big 12’s top dual running/receiving threats.
- He is currently tied for 15th in all-time rushing yards (1,999), tied for 47th in receptions (36) and 27th in all-purpose yards (2,342) at CU.
- Has missed eight games with a foot injury and should reach a decision in the near future on whether or not to apply for a medical redshirt.
- 2003.
  - He is currently second on the team in rushing yards (167) and rushing attempts (52), averaging 3.2 yards per carry.
  - Best rushing game of the year came against UCLA, when he carried the ball 22 times for 80 yards and a TD.
  - As a receiver, Purify has four catches for 27 yards, as his specialty is making yardage on the screen pass.
  - He is 4-7 on third/fourth down rushing attempts with one touchdown.
- 2002. Though he did not receive many carries while playing behind All-American Chris Brown, he always found a way to get the job done when the Buffs needed a big play out the backfield.
  - He had his first career back-to-back 100-yard games when he had 119 against Missouri, followed up by 174 against Iowa State.
  - He was the team’s second leading receiver with 21 catches for 224 yards, and combined with his rushing yards, he had 963 all-purpose yards. Three of his catches were for 20 yards or more in averaging 10.7 yards per on the year.

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## PURIFY, continued

- ❑ 2001. He had three 100 yard games (the first ones of his career), as his very first century effort was memorable, as he galloped for 191 yards and a TD on just 21 carries in CU's 41-14 win over Colorado State. He has missed two other 100-yard games by just eight yards, as he also had 92 against San Jose State and Missouri.
  - He had 154 yards and a score on just 20 carries against Nebraska, when he also had a 78-yard TD run called back due to a hold away from the play.
  - With 916 yards, he was just shy of becoming the fourth sophomore at CU to rush for 1,000 yards; Charlie Davis (1971), Eric Bieniemy (1988) and Darian Hagan (1989) are the ones who have done it; Purify and Chris Brown became just the fourth and fifth sophomores to have 900 or more in a single season.
  - He worked with the No. 1 and No. 2 offense for the majority of fall camp, splitting time with Cortlen Johnson in the early portion and Chris Brown in the latter.
  - Ended the spring atop the depth chart at tailback, after rushing for 128 yards in major scrimmage action.
- ❑ 2000. He had his best career day in the home finale against Iowa State, rushing 78 yards on 11 carries---a firm 7.1 per-carry avg.
  - Made his first career start against Oklahoma State but was held in check, rushing 12 times for 26 yards.
  - Was very impressive in his first collegiate action against Kansas. His first carry went for 13 yards, where he put a nice move on all-Big 12 safety Carl Nesmith and picked up a first down. He had a total of three carries for 19 yards and also looked good in pass protection.
  - CU then went into its two-minute offense mid-way through the fourth quarter against the Jayhawks and since Purify didn't have a lot of work there yet, he did not play for the rest of the game.
- ❑ Barnett said Purify is simply a natural and a real instinctive back. He runs with a lot of forward lean, or as some coaches say, 'he runs behind his pads.' He has speed of a great open-field runner but he also runs hard inside as well.
- ❑ Broke a bone in his foot on the very first day of freshman two-a-days in August and missed the first three games of 2000. He took him some time to get back into playing shape and although he could have physically played by the beginning of October, the coaches wanted to get him as near to 100% as possible.
- ❑ Barnett's recruitment of Purify did not take very long. Running backs coach Jon Wristen brought a tape of Purify, who was a junior at the time, to Barnett not long after his hiring in Feb. of 1999 and said this kid was the leading rusher in the state. Barnett said it only took about eight plays to see his tremendous ability. The coaches invited Purify to the first spring practice of '99 and he signed not long after in early April.
- ❑ Purify committed almost a year before Marcus Houston did; not only did Houston's signing not upset Purify, he actually called him to encourage him to enroll at CU. They discussed how great it would be to play in the same backfield. Purify told Barnett it didn't matter where they wanted him, he just wanted the chance to play.
- ❑ Likely gained the most rushing yards (1,832) with the fewest career starts (5) in the NCAA heading into 2003.
- ❑ One of his uncles is Webster Slaughter, who played in the NFL for the Cleveland Browns and Houston Oilers.
- ❑ And remember the pop-soul group James & Bobby Purify from the 1960's? James is his uncle and Bobby his grandfather. They teamed on such songs as "I'm Your Puppet," "Let Love Come Between Us," and a remake of "Shake A Tail Feather."
- ❑ He is well-versed in sign language, which he learned his sophomore year of high school and used to help coach a Pop Warner football team that had several deaf youngsters on it.
- ❑ He helped lead Palmer High School to the 5A state basketball title in 2000, as he was named the MVP for the tournament.

## 50 CHRIS HOLLIS, LB



- ❑ Hollis made the switch from linebacker to defensive end after the Missouri (Nov. 8) game, helping to add speed and depth to the defensive line, in a move that Barnett called "natural" for the 6-foot-1, 235-pounder.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He has played in nine games at LB/DE, with his first collegiate start coming against Colorado State in week one. He missed the Baylor game (Oct. 4) and Kansas game (Oct. 11) with an ankle injury.
  - Had easily his best performance of the year at Kansas State (Oct. 18), finishing fourth on the team with six tackles.
- ❑ He had a fine spring, racking up 12 tackles (nine solo, three for losses with a sack) in the three main scrimmages.
- ❑ 2002. He saw action in five games over the first half of the season, getting in on defense in four games (24 plays, no tackles). He had three special teams points on the strength of two tackles and a knockdown block.
- ❑ He was hospitalized with a life-threatening virus prior to the Buffs' departure for the Alamo Bowl, and did not suit up for the game.
- ❑ He is very active with his church, playing the drums in an ensemble and mentoring for the youth group *Purity*.

## 51 ALEX LIGON, DE



- 2003. With the injury to Marques Harris, Ligon is now second on the depth chart behind James Garee at DE.
  - He had possibly the best game of his career at Iowa State (Nov. 15), recording his first two career sacks, two tackles for a loss and three total tackles.
  - He made his first career start at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), becoming the eighth freshman to start a game for CU this season (five true, three redshirt). He finished the game with three tackles, a QB sack and a forced fumble.
  - Ligon had a fumble recovery in the Oklahoma game (Oct. 25), an important drive-stopper with time winding down in the first half, keeping the Sooners in check, 17-7, going into halftime.
  - He suffered a concussion in practice before the Baylor game and did not play.
  - He had seven tackles, including two for losses and a sack, with two hurries in the three main spring scrimmages.
- 2002. Redshirted; did not see any game action. He was a monster on the scout team as he was a three-time defensive scout award winner.
- His father (Alfred) played free safety at UNLV in 1982-83 and signed with the Kansas City Chiefs as a free agent, but injuries cut short his attempt to make the team.
- He is active in his community, as he volunteers at a center for neglected children over the Christmas holidays.

## 52 DEREK STEMRICH, OG(C)



- He currently is a starting guard for CU, even though he started the first three games at center. His first career start at offensive guard was against Florida State (Sept. 20).
- He missed all spring drills recovering from a knee surgery, after having several knee problems in the past; but he was 100% in time for fall camp.
- 2003.
  - He has started 10 of 11 games (three at center, seven at guard).
  - Stemrich missed the Texas Tech game (Nov. 1) with a knee injury suffered against Oklahoma the week before.
  - He owns the distinction of being tied for second on the team with the most knockdown blocks in a single game with five against Colorado State, and is second on the team in total knockdown blocks with 20.
  - His first career start came in the season opener against Colorado State.
- 2002. Played in eight games on the FG/PAT unit, and took 16 snaps from center in three games. In bowl practices he suffered a sublexation of his patella, and missed the bowl game. He earned the speed-strength and conditioning title in his weight class during the spring.
- 2001. He only played in two games, however was honored with the Scout Team Offense Award for his play leading up to the Iowa State game and Big 12 Championship against Texas.
- 2000. Redshirted; did not see any action, but practiced with the offensive line.
- An architecture major, he was an academic second team all-Big 12 honoree his sophomore season.

## 54 SEAN TUFTS, ILB



- A Butkus Award candidate, Tufts was also selected by his teammates as a captain for the 2003 season. Finally completely healthy, he resumes his role as a leader for the defense, and is ready to have a breakout year.
- Head coach Gary Barnett and linebacker coach Brian Cabral think Tufts has the mettle to be the best inside linebacker CU's ever had, and that's saying something with the likes of Greg Biekert, Ted Johnson, Matt Russell and Jashon Sykes coming through Boulder.
- *Phil Steele's College Football* selected him as a fourth-team preseason All-America, also making him a second-team all-conference pick in ranking him as the No. 8 inside linebacker in the nation. *Lindy's Big 12 Football* ranked him the No. 15 ILB, while *The Sporting News* tabbed him No. 19.
- 2003.
  - He is an 11-game starter at ILB and also a contributor on special teams.
  - Tied his season-high with a 13-tackle effort against Missouri (7 solo), while adding a tackle for a loss.
  - He showed his senior leadership mettle as he led the team with 12 tackles (5 solo) in the loss to No. 1 Oklahoma (Oct. 25). He also added a fumble recovery at the Buffs' five-yard line, keeping the score to a 20-7 Sooner lead.
  - Had a monster game at Baylor, tying a career-high with 13 tackles, three tackles for a loss and one third-down stop in one of the gutsiest performances of the year. His 3 tackles for a loss are tied for a single-game best this year with Gabe Nyenhuis.
  - He earned CU's defensive player of the game honors for his effort against UCLA (Sept. 6).

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## TUFTS, continued

- ❑ 2002. He suffered a nasty high ankle sprain against Kansas State, and he would miss the next six games. He returned against Nebraska and played pretty well, making nine tackles with a TFL and a fumble recovery.
- ❑ 2001. Progressed very well as a sophomore, with his playing time increasing throughout the season, as he might very well be CU's next great inside linebacker. He posted a career-high 11 tackles in two of his last four games, against Missouri and then Nebraska. He had four solo stops in the Big 12 title win over Texas.
  - The coaches were pleased with his maturation process and how he was able to get the defense into the right formation.
  - He had an outstanding spring, leading the team in tackles with 35 in four full scrimmages (16 solo). He was named the Most Improved Defensive Player by the coaching staff.
- ❑ 2000. Played in six games on defense during his freshman season, with his two best performances coming versus Kansas State and at Texas A&M.
  - He threw the key block that sprung Roman Hollowell on his 66-yard punt return touchdown against Kansas.
  - Performed well against Texas, making three tackles with one for a loss on a big hit.
  - Tufts made his first career start against Texas A&M and Barnett said he played one of the better games of anyone on the defense. He had four tackles and shared a sack with Jashon Sykes.
  - Tufts earned the increase in playing time because of his impressive performance against No. 5 Kansas State. Tufts' day versus the Wildcats included a fumble recovery in KSU territory and a huge TFL, where he filled the gap and put on a big-time hit on Josh Scobey.
  - Saw his first action at linebacker against Washington, playing in nine snaps.
- ❑ One of his hobbies includes making everyday items like shoes and wallets out of duct tape.
- ❑ When asked what keeps him going on a bad day, he replied: "The pride and tradition of the Colorado Buffaloes will not be entrusted to the weak and timid."
- ❑ Father (David) played football at Colorado State in the 1960s, and an uncle (Dan Upham) played halfback at Wyoming.

## 59 GREG PACE, SN



- ❑ CU's starting short snapper and backup long snapper, he became the first freshman walk-on to play at Colorado since 1986, when wide receiver Jeff Campbell did so.
- ❑ He was pretty smart preparing for college ball. He went to special teams camps throughout high school and won numerous long snapping awards.
- ❑ His father (Greg, Sr.) played football at the University of Illinois; an uncle (Bill Dickenson) was a defensive tackle at Cornell; and twin cousins are on the water polo team at Miami of Ohio.
- ❑ 2003. He has been the short snapper for every play from scrimmage on the FG/PAT team.

## 60 MATT McCHESNEY, DT/DL



- ❑ His solid play enabled the coaches to have the luxury of moving Sam Wilder from DT to OT; coordinator Vince Okruch says that he will play both tackle and end, estimating he'll be on the inside probably 75 percent of the time.
- ❑ He had a tremendous spring, as he was in on 15 tackles (six for loss) including four-and-a-half sacks.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He owns two sacks on the season – a 9-yarder against UCLA (Sept. 6) and an 8-yarder against Oklahoma (Oct. 25).
  - His sack against Oklahoma halted the Sooners' first drive of the fourth quarter to keep the Buffs in the game down 27-14.
  - McChesney earned CU's defensive player-of-the-week honors for his performance against UCLA (Sept. 6), racking up four tackles, two tackles for a loss, a fumble recovery and a sack.
  - Best effort of the year was in the season opener against CSU – totaling six tackles, including five solo.
- ❑ 2002. He did not play the entire year due to a combination of injuries and academics, but he had a redshirt year available to him so he did not lose a year of eligibility.
- ❑ 2001. He was coming on at the end of the season, with some big plays against both Nebraska and Texas (he had a tackle for loss and a fumble recovery in the Big 12 title game). But he was suspended for the Fiesta Bowl as he violated team rules early in December.
  - He had a career-high six tackles in the win at Iowa State, and has shown flashes of being a terror at other times, including when he had two sacks (for 24 yards in losses) at Kansas State.
  - A natural end, McChesney was moved inside to play the tackle position, mainly due to the fact that the Buffs only had one returning experienced DT.

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## McCHESNEY, continued

- Got off to a great start during fall camp but suffered a sprained elbow that sidelined him a week. He had also missed one day of practice earlier in camp due to what Barnett said was Giardia, a protozoan parasite that is most commonly picked up by drinking out of a stream. McChesney said it just felt like a bad case of the flu.
- ❑ 2000. Suffered a dislocated elbow against Missouri in November, which ended his rookie season.
  - He was beginning to get a lot of playing time as a freshman. His time increase started at Texas A&M, where he responded by establishing a career-best five tackles, including one for a loss.
  - He played 37 snaps against Texas, the most he saw in a game as a true freshman.
  - Got in the first snap of his collegiate career at the start of the second half against Washington. Tyler Brayton was in the lockerroom receiving treatment and McChesney was rushed onto the field unexpectedly.
  - He suffered a sprained ankle in the third week of camp that forced him to miss a couple of practices.
  - He was the first to commit of the 2000 class, fulfilling a childhood dream of wanting to play at CU since he was in grade school.

## 62 MARWAN HAGE, C/G



- ❑ *His last name is pronounced similar to age or gauge with an "H."*
- ❑ Chosen by his teammates to be a captain, he is one of the top leaders for the Buffs, guiding with both his voice and his actions. He is Colorado's lone returning starter on the offensive line from 2002, and has played in 43 games (40 starts) over his career. His 40 career starts are the most on the team.
- ❑ He moved from starting guard to starting center prior to the Florida State game and has remained there (Sept. 20). The move has bolstered the line as Hage has emerged as a true anchor at center. It's helped the O-line improve as a whole, with a steady four-year starter now making all the line calls.
- ❑ Taking pride in his ability to finish blocks, he has tried to pattern his style of play after former Buff and current Dallas Cowboys starter Andre Gurode. Gurode was dominating blocker, and it is evident that he rubbed off on Hage, who finished last year with a team-high 43 knockdown stuffs, and was second only to Gurode in 2001.
- ❑ ***OL Coach Dave Borbely On What He Does Best:*** "He's a great finisher, finishes his blocks and gets the knockdown. He is very good at staying with his man."
- ❑ *The Sporting News* selected him as a preseason first-team All-American (and No. 2 guard in the nation), while *Street and Smith's* tabbed him with the honorable mention honor. He is a first-team all-Big 12 member in every major publication and he won CU's Joe Romig Award honoring the top offensive lineman in the spring.
- ❑ A dedicated tape studier, he organizes film sessions for the O-linemen and makes it his prerogative to keep every player focused in the film room. When CU had a couple sub-par games last season, Hage made sure all the linemen ate their lunches in the film room, instead of up in the player lounge with the rest of the team.
- ❑ 2003.
  - Hage is a collegefootballnews.com midseason All-American.
  - He saw first start of his career at the center position against Florida State, a move that became permanent the rest of the year. ***Head Coach Gary Barnett said,*** "We did it for two reasons: (1) It is more of a natural position for him for the next level, and (2) He had Brian Daniels on the other side, and as an experienced player, Marwan can help him out. I think it's a good permanent move for us."
  - He is also a regular member of the PAT/FG unit.
  - He leads the team in every offensive line statistical category and graded out with his best, and top OL grade of the season, against Oklahoma (Oct. 25) with a 93.1.
  - He owns the distinction of having the most knockdown blocks in a single game with six (Kansas State, Oct. 18).
  - Against Kansas, he graded out to a 91.6-percent. He earned CU's Offensive Player of the Game for his efforts.
  - His 40 career starts is 19th among active O-linemen in the NCAA, with his 38 consecutive career starts 12th by current OL's.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He graded out to 83.4-percent in 13 games (13 starts) and was named to the honorable mention all-Big 12 team by the coaches and *Associated Press*. Due to injuries in the Alamo Bowl, he was forced to play center in the second half, a position that he had not even practiced since his freshman year.
  - Besides being a big-time run blocker, he allowed only one sack and was never called for a penalty all year.
- ❑ 2001.
  - He played his best game of the year against Nebraska, and few realize he had the second most domination blocks by the offensive linemen with 94.
  - Struggled with dehydration in the season opener against Fresno State but did return in the latter stages of the game.
  - Added close to 25 pounds of muscle during the off-season and solidified himself as the starter at split guard in camp.
- ❑ 2000.
  - He was a first team Academic All-Big 12 selection in 2000 (and a second-team member in 2001).

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## HAGE, continued

- He had a very solid game against Oklahoma State as a true freshman. He finished with 96.5 points, rounded out to a 1.462 average-per-play, based on offensive line coach Steve Marshall's grading system. He also had two downfield blocks and an outstanding eight domination blocks. The eight "DB's" were the third most by any Buff in one game this season.
- Started his first career game at Kansas, and came away with a decent 1.404 average score.
- The Montreal, Quebec citizen (he's a native of Lebanon) became just the fourth Canadian to ever start a game for the Buffaloes, the first since QB Craig Keenan started the last four games of the 1984 season. Hage was also the first foreign-born player/high school prep to start for CU since safety Donnell Leomiti in 1996.
- Played mostly on the PAT teams for the early portion of the 2000 season.
- ❑ Marshall called Hage, "a good young prospect with the chance to be an outstanding player." Marshall said Hage definitely has the technique to be a good one it's just a matter of getting bigger, which he has done.
- ❑ Has an abundance of athletic talent in his family. His mother (Hayat) was a member of the Lebanese National Volleyball Team. One older brother (Rudy) is a defensive lineman at CU, and another (Elias) plays football at East Texas State. A cousin (Fadi Bouras) played defensive tackle at UTEP, and a distant cousin (Hisham el Mashtoub) played collegiately at Arizona and with the Houston Oilers and in the CFL.
- ❑ The Hage family moved to Montreal from his native Beirut, Lebanon, fleeing a war-torn neighborhood to a Canadian city that had a sizeable Lebanese community. Hage is fluent in English, French and Arabic.
- ❑ His secret passion is acting, as he would like to star in his own movie or commercial someday.

## 66 BRIAN DANIELS, OG



- ❑ First collegiate start came against Florida State (Sept. 20) at the offensive guard position. *Said head coach Gary Barnett* regarding his performance, "He played pretty well for a freshman. He had to have learned a ton, splitting reps with Karl Allis. He did a pretty good job, being his first time out there and being matched up with a pretty good player."
- ❑ 2003.
  - He has seen action in 10 games (8 starts), but has been a fixture in the starting lineup since the fourth game of the year at Florida State. He is only the seventh true frosh to start on the offensive line since 1973, he has started eight games, tied for the most in school history by a true freshman OL (Clint Moore started eight at OG in 1991).
  - He is second in the team lead with a single game best 5 knockdown blocks at Texas Tech (Nov. 1).
  - His play has earned him Freshman All-American/All-League consideration.

## 69 KARL ALLIS, OG



- ❑ Entered the fall as the starting spilt guard, and is the only other O-lineman besides Marwan Hage who has significant playing experience. Of the 22 games he played in coming in, he had 9 starts, with six of them during his true freshman year.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He suffered a fractured thumb in practice on Sept. 25, and will play in a cast for the foreseeable future. The same week (CU's bye week), he was shifted from guard to tight tackle in an attempt to shore up the offensive line.
  - He graded out as CU's top offensive lineman at Texas Tech (Nov. 1) with an 87.5.
  - He has three starts on the year at the split guard position, and six starts at tight tackle.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He broke a bone in his foot in summer conditioning, and it forced him to miss the first three games of the season. Even after his return, it flared up and bothered him for a couple of more games (soreness more than anything else).
  - He figured to contend for one of the openings on the offensive line prior to the injury, but only saw limited action in five games (52 plays); he graded out with an 83.4 on the year.
- ❑ 2001.
  - A regular member of the PAT/FG unit, he saw action for 41 plays from scrimmage.
  - Saw playing time at guard in the season opener, spelling Marwan Hage while Hage was getting fluids.
  - Missed spring practice undergoing rehabilitation following shoulder surgery last fall.
- ❑ 2000.
  - Suffered a sprained shoulder on the first series against Texas that limited his time the rest of the season.
  - Played sparingly in CU's wins over Oklahoma State and Missouri. He had six snaps in each game. Did not play against Iowa State or Nebraska.
  - Played about half the snaps against Kansas State and Texas A&M, as Ryan Gray played center for half of the game and Andre Gurode moved into Allis' position.

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## ALLIS, continued

- Had his first career start in his first career game against Colorado State. Allis held his own and helped CU to a big day on offense.
- Said Barnett of Allis' first game: "He played pretty well. He had a few errors but after that I think he was pretty solid."
- Due to an injury to Gray, Allis was moved from split tackle to tight guard. He spent most of the 2000 camp working with the top offense.
- He spent most of the spring practicing with the first team at the split guard position, filling in for an injured Tom Ashworth.
- ❑ Grandfather (Ed Allis) was an accomplished amateur golfer who won many national tournaments.

## 73 CLINT O'NEAL, OT



- ❑ He entered the fall listed at the No. 1 split tackle position, but found himself in a battle with fellow sophomore Gary Moore for the starting tight job – the only battle that lasted into game week. He won the job and is getting about three-fourths of the reps during games. His first career start came in the season opener against Colorado State.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He has seen action in 10 of 11 games to date.
  - Saw first action of career lining up at tight end at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), backing up starter Jesse Wallace. The lack of depth was due to starting TE Joe Klopfenstein not making the trip because of flu-like symptoms and TE Quinn Sypniewski out for the year with a medical redshirt.
- ❑ 2002.
  - Saw playing time in six games, as well as the Alamo Bowl. He graded out with 17 plus plays and seven minus plays on the year.
- ❑ 2001.
  - He redshirted the season. After losing 30 pounds during a bout with mononucleosis, he worked hard (by eating and lifting weights) to get back to his playing weight.
- ❑ He is a member of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) and works with The Link Program (helps handicapped kids).
- ❑ He was the second Buff to commit to the 2001 class, doing so two weeks after going to the 2000 Buffalo Football Technique School.
- ❑ He was selected for the United States Olympic Academy (on leadership and athletic ability) to teach individuals to be leaders on and off the playing field and to help bring back to your state the knowledge for programs to help your school be successful.
- ❑ His cousin (Kerry Knox) played baseball at Texas Christian and was drafted by the San Diego Padres.

## 74 SAM WILDER, OT



- ❑ During the first week of fall camp, he switched from the defensive line to offensive tackle, the position he was originally recruited to play. Because of his athleticism and versatility, he earned a starting spot and has started all 10 games at the split tackle spot.
- ❑ Barnett on Wilder's Move: "Sam brings playing experience, toughness and athleticism to our offensive line," stated Barnett. "When we recruited him we projected him as an offensive tackle, but he played so hard on defense that we couldn't justify moving him. Now with depth on the D-line, we have the luxury of moving him."
- ❑ 2003.
  - An 11-game starter at split tackle, he graded out to a high of 80.5 in the season opener against CSU (Aug. 30).
- ❑ 2002.
  - He became a permanent fixture in the starting lineup in the fourth game at UCLA, and he made at least four tackles in six of the nine games after becoming a starter.
  - He had 10 tackles for losses, and finished second place on the team in quarterback sacks with five.
  - His career high of five tackles came in CU's win over Kansas State.
- ❑ Originally committed to Colorado State, but had a change of heart at the last minute, phoned the coaches at CU, who had a scholarship available for him back in the 2000 recruiting class.
- ❑ He was a "halftime" baby, as he was born on Jan. 10, 1981 during the halftime of the '81 NFC Championship game between Dallas and San Francisco (the game that included the famous Joe Montana to Dwight Clark catch).
- ❑ A great uncle (Ted Wilder) played college football at Iowa.

## 79 GARY MOORE, OT



- ❑ He entered the fall listed at the No. 1 tight tackle position, but found himself in a battle with fellow sophomore Clint O’Neal for the starting job after Sam Wilder took over the split side. Moore is now listed second on the depth chart at the tight guard position after Derek Stemrich moved from center to guard for the Florida State game (Sept. 20).
- ❑ 2003.
  - He has seen action in 10 of 11 games to date, but made his first career start at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), subbing for the injured Derek Stemrich at the tight guard spot.
- ❑ 2002.
  - Received playing time in five games as well as the Alamo Bowl, adding three knockdown blocks and one downfield block on the year.
- ❑ 2001.
  - After arriving in Boulder at 370 pounds, he worked hard to get his weight down to 325. He redshirted the season.
- ❑ Hobbies include singing, especially in his church choir. After the Sept. 11 attacks, in the following week’s game against Kansas, he sang *God Bless America* in front of 50,00 fans at Folsom Field. He was also CU’s scout team player of the week for that game.

## 80 DEREK MCCOY, WR



- ❑ A three-year starter for CU, he has started 36 of his 47 career games, and this season should get a look as a Biletnikoff Award candidate. *Street & Smith* selected him as a preseason honorable mention All-American.
- ❑ **Chart Watch (CU all-time):** McCoy is climbing up the charts at CU in both **career** receptions and receiving yards, now ensconced in the Top 10 on both lists. He has 131 career receptions for 5th all-time at CU and his 1,987 career receiving yards puts him in 6th place on the all-time CU receiving yards list. McCoy is also tied for 2nd all-time in TD receptions (19), is first in two-point conversions made (4) and is tied for 26th in scoring (122 points, 2nd most by a receiver).
- ❑ His TD reception against Oklahoma (Oct. 25) put him over the 100-point barrier, becoming only the fifth receiver in CU history to score 100 career points.
- ❑ He owns the school record for most games played in with 47.
- ❑ He owns a school record with four career catches of 75 yards or longer, surpassing Rae Carruth (3) and breaking a tie with Ron Brown (2) in 2003.
- ❑ He’s been a key component to CU’s running success—he has always been an exceptional blocker (“outstanding” as the coaches put it), and he hustles downfield to often get in two blocks on the same running play.
- ❑ His coaches say the area that he has most improved in is running after the catch. He’s really learned how to break tackles and make guys miss, which was evident on his 75-yard touchdown reception against San Diego State in 2002.
- ❑ An uncle, Marcus McCoy, was a cornerback at Colorado State in the 1970s, and his father (Leander) played junior college football.
- ❑ He cites former receivers Javon Green and Eric McCreedy as his “CU role models.”
- ❑ He is the father of a daughter, Alexandria Marie, born March 28, 2000.
- ❑ 2003.
  - His 10 TD receptions leads the receiving corps and is a CU single season record for most TD catches, surpassing Charles Johnson (1993) and Rae Carruth (1995).
  - He has had 21 consecutive games with at least one reception, dating back to Sept. 21, 2002 at UCLA.
  - His 832 yards receiving and 10 touchdowns this season are both career highs. 34 of his 60 receptions have been for 10-plus yards.
  - He owns the longest pass play of the year as he and Joel Klatt connected for an 82-yarder against Colorado State (also the 10th all-time longest passing play in CU history). Among his 10 scores, he has touchdowns of 82, 78, 46 and 29 yards.
  - He owns five career 100-yard receiving games, as he has notched three of them this season. His first was a 192-yard effort against Colorado State (the third most in a single game in CU history), the second a 131-yard effort against Washington State and the last being 171 yards at Baylor.
  - His 60 receptions on the year are the 3rd most in a single season at Colorado, while his 832 receiving yards is the 6th most in a CU single season.
  - The Iowa State game (Nov. 15) marked his 47th career game for Colorado (49 including bowls), setting the school mark as he passed Tyler Brayton, who had played 46 between 1999 and 2002.
  - His first quarter TD grab against Missouri (Nov. 8) enabled him to become the first player in Colorado history to record 10 touchdown receptions in a single season. That catch also extended his streak to 20 straight games with at least one reception.
  - His two TD receptions at Texas Tech (Nov. 1) gave him 18 for his career ... putting him in third place (at the time) all-time at Colorado (Rae Carruth leads with 20 and Michael Westbrook had 19).

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## McCOY, continued

- His 9-yard TD reception against Oklahoma (Oct. 25) with 5:05 remaining in the game, capped a 61-yard drive to bring the Buffs within a touchdown, 27-20.
- Recorded his first career blocked punt against Kansas (Oct. 11) in the first quarter.
- Against Baylor (Oct. 4), McCoy (6-171) and D.J. Hackett (4-143) both had 100-plus yards receiving – only the 11th time in CU history that the Buffs had two 100-yard receivers in the same game. The two did it for the second time this season, as the pair also accomplished it in the opener against Colorado State.
- Against Washington State he tied the school record for receptions in a game with 11, joining pretty good company: the other two to do it were Michael Westbrook at Baylor and Charles Johnson at Missouri, both in 1992.
- McCoy earned CU's offensive player of the game for his play against Washington St. – an 11 catch, 2 TD, 131-yard effort.
- 2002.
  - He had seven TD receptions on the year (reaching No. 7 against Nebraska), the most since Javon Green hauled in seven in 1999. It tied for the seventh most in a single season in CU history.
  - He caught three or more passes in eight games, and had 70 yards receiving or more in five contests.
  - He scored two 2-point conversions on the year, giving him four for his career, an all-time CU record.
  - He was a threat on the reverse, with runs of 20 and 28 yards.
- 2001.
  - He emerged as one of the team's legitimate deep threats, as he averaged 17.1 yards per catch, with six catches over 30 yards on the season. The 17.1 figure was fourth best in the Big 12 among those with 10 or more receptions.
  - His top game was against Texas A&M, when he caught five passes for 113 yards; his long reception was 75 yards against Kansas.
  - He was very impressive in his starting debut, catching a team-high six passes for 76 yards against Fresno State.
  - Made plenty of highlight catches during fall camp and eventually emerged as the starter opposite John Minardi at the "z" position.
  - Showed his speed as he caught a 60-yard bomb from Craig Ochs at the end of one of the morning sessions during camp.
  - Had a "breakout" spring, catching nine passes for 94 yards during full scrimmage action.
- 2000.
  - Played mostly special teams in 2000. He finished third on the team in special teams points with 10, on the strength of five solo tackles, three knockdown blocks a forced fair catch an a recovered blocked kick.
  - He was involved in a big play at Texas A&M as he recovered Marques Harris' blocked punt at the Aggie four-yard line, where CU would cash in for a touchdown three plays later. He actually co-recovered it as Joey Johnson also had a hold of the ball and neither would let go.
  - A late bloomer, he was not highly recruited out of high school, but has really developed into a great receiver for the Buffs since he arrived in Boulder.

## 82 JAMES GAREE, DE



- He continues to impress the coaches, as he finally cracked the starting lineup at defensive end in game five.
- He always seems to post big numbers during practice scrimmages, as he had nine tackles during the spring, seven of them being sacks.
- Before the Kansas State game head coach **Gary Barnett** said of Garee: "James is the toughest guy on our football team. He will not miss practice. He had (a medial collateral ligament) sprain last week that 99 out of 100 guys would have refused to go to the practice field with. He refused to not practice. And then he ran all of the sprints on top of that. That guy loves to play the game."
- 2003.
  - An 11-game contributor at DE, but has not lost the starting spot since he cracked the starting lineup against Baylor (Oct. 4). He is also tied for the team lead with four sacks on the year (Gabe Nyenhuis).
  - Garee wreaked havoc on Missouri (Nov. 8), totaling five tackles (4 solo), three tackles for a loss, and two QB sacks. He earned CU's Defensive Player of the Game honors for his efforts.
  - His first career start came at DE against Baylor (Oct. 4). He totaled two tackles in 65 plays from scrimmage.
  - One of his best efforts of the year was against Oklahoma, as he totaled five tackles (4 solo) and one tackle for a loss.
- 2002.
  - He played in seven games during the year, posting five tackles and one sack against Baylor. Other than that, he saw most time on special teams, finishing with three points.
- 2001.
  - He was the recipient of the Lee Willard Award, given to the most outstanding freshman; he was the first freshman to win it since 1972. On the scout team, he was named the defensive player of the week three times.
- What a sight: At 6-5, 255 pounds, he is an avid trampoline jumper.



## 85 JOHN DONAHOE, WR



- ❑ One of the most reliable and hard working targets, he has developed into a solid possession receiver with good hands. He backs up D.J. Hackett at the “X” position and has played in 30 games over his career with 10 starts, all coming last season.
- ❑ He is one of the fastest players on the team with a 4.4, 40-yard speed.
- ❑ Several CU quarterbacks have said that he is the most precise route runner out of any of the wide outs.
- ❑ 2003.
  - Donahoe scored his second career touchdown at Iowa State (Nov. 15), a 20-yard pass from QB Joel Klatt that put the Buffs ahead 27-0 in the second quarter. He finished the day with two receptions for 25 yards.
  - He was a part of a fake field goal against Oklahoma (Oct. 25), as he took the snap (holder) and lofted a pass intended for TE Jesse Wallace. The pass was intercepted, but the Sooners were called for pass interference keeping the Buffs’ scoring drive alive early in the fourth quarter to cut OU’s lead to 27-14.
  - A conversion receiver, 14 of his 15 receptions have been for 10-plus yards, with three of them for 20-plus yards.
  - His best game of the season as of yet was against Washington State, as he grabbed three receptions for 53 yards.
  - He scored his first career touchdown, a 45-yarder in the season opener against Colorado State.
  - He is also the team’s holder for FG/PATs, as he has held all snaps from scrimmage on the season.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He made some spectacular catches during the year, and finished with 13 on the season for a 12.3 average per.
  - His top game was in the season opener, when he caught three passes for 77 yards against Colorado State. He was the player thrown to on fourth down near the goal line in the final 20 seconds, but in a bang-bang play, the ball fell incomplete though he may very well have been interfered with.
  - Also in line to occasionally return punts; he had one on the year for 12 yards.
- ❑ He has a unique pet: a monkey.

## 86 JESSE WALLACE, TE



- ❑ Has developed into a solid tight end during the absence of ailing starter Quinn Sypniewski. He had a good spring, as he was one of 13 players to earn prestigious Victory Club honors. He has continued to push Joe Klopfenstein for the No. 1 spot while Sypniewski remains out, but with the stellar play of Klopfenstein he still remains second on the depth chart.
- ❑ 2003.
  - An 11-game contributor (5 starts), he has 10 receptions for 56 yards.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He caught his first career touchdown against Kansas State, as the 1-yard grab from Robert Hodge increased CU’s lead to 35-14 at the time. The Buffs went on to win, 35-31.
- ❑ An uncle, Lamonte Winston, has been a member of the Kansas City Chiefs player personnel department for 10 years, the last six as the director of player development.
- ❑ He is a regular participant in “Read With the Buffs,” for are fifth-graders in Boulder.

## 88 D.J. HACKETT, WR



- ❑ His 10 catches against Colorado State in the season opener (Aug. 30) enabled him to become only the sixth player in school history to catch 10 or more passes in a game (no one has done it twice).
- ❑ He really developed into a big-play receiver towards the end of last season, as it wasn’t uncommon to see him come down with a ball that was thrown up for grabs. He entered the fall listed second at the “X” position, but never lost his starting role after an impressive opening day performance.
- ❑ ***Chart Watch (CU all-time):*** Hackett is 15th in receiving yards (1,100), and is 12th in receptions (84).
- ❑ 2003.
  - His 69 receptions on the year are the 2nd most in a **single season** at Colorado, becoming only the second player in school history to record 60 receptions in a single season (Michael Westbrook, 76, 1992).
  - His 919 receiving yards this year are the 6th most in a CU single season. He needs 81 yards against Nebraska (Nov. 28) to record CU’s sixth 1,000-yard receiving season.
  - He has had four or more receptions in 11 straight games for a CU all-time record.
  - A quality third/fourth down receiver, Hackett has grabbed 20 receptions on these pivotal downs, while converting 85% (17 receptions) for first downs.

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## HACKETT, continued

- Against Missouri (Nov. 8), Hackett earned CU's Offensive Player of the Game honors for the third time this season. He grabbed 5 catches for 84 yards, but more importantly, he converted the longest third-down conversion of the season for the Buffs (3<sup>rd</sup>-and-18) and hooked up with Joel Klatt for three third down conversions on the day (passes covering 29, 22 and 20 yards).
- With four receptions (for 54 yards) at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), he recorded four or more in nine straight games, a school record; the old mark of eight was held by Charles Johnson, which he set over the 1992 and 1993 seasons.
- Hackett grabbed three receptions for 31 yards in the Buffs' first TD drive against Oklahoma (Oct. 25), including a 3-yard TD catch. He finished the day with 7 receptions for 64 yards and a TD, while earning CU's Offensive Player of the Game for his efforts.
- He had the lone receiving touchdown for the Buffs at Kansas State (Oct. 18), a 34-yarder from Joel Klatt in the final minutes of the game. He led the team in receiving yards (106) in the game and was tied for the lead with 7 catches.
- Also at Kansas State, he recorded his third 100-yard receiving game of the season (7-106).
- Against Kansas (Oct. 11), his diving 26-yard catch in the waning minutes, and in a 3<sup>rd</sup>-and-10 situation, set up Mason Crosby's game-tying field goal with 14 seconds remaining to send the game into overtime – the Buffs eventually won 50-47.
- Against Baylor (Oct. 4), Hackett (4-143) and Derek McCoy (6-171) both had 100-plus yards receiving – only the 11th time in CU history that the Buffs had two 100-yard receivers in the same game. The two did it for the second time this season, as the pair also accomplished the feat in the opener against Colorado State.
- One of his best games came in the season opener against Colorado State when he hauled in 10 receptions for 103 yards. For his efforts, Hackett earned CU's offensive player-of-the-game.
- A reliable receiver, he has hauled in at least six receptions in seven of 11 games. He also owns the CU record for most consecutive games with six or more receptions (4).
- His first career start for the Buffs came in the season opener against Colorado State.
- ❑ 2002.
  - His best games came against Iowa State when he caught four balls for 69 yards and a touchdown, and then against Wisconsin in the Alamo Bowl where he snagged three passes, including two touchdowns that were thrown on fade routs in the end zone corners.
  - He had at least one reception in nine straight games, and finished the year with a 12.1 yards per catch mark.
- ❑ He was a player without a team in November 2001. A star receiver at Division II CSU-Northridge, the school eliminated its program following the 2001 season. Northridge's linebacker coach, Terry Johnson, was an ILB at Colorado in the late 1980s, and called the CU coaches to tell them about this great receiver they had. Hackett took a recruiting trip to CU the weekend of CU's 62-36 win over Nebraska, and soon committed to transfer to CU. Because CSU-N dropped its football program, he didn't have to sit out the usual year.
- ❑ His father (Eddie) played briefly with the Minnesota Vikings, with two cousins also having played college football, Orlando Hackett (Arizona State) and Jay Hackett (Montana State).

## 89 JOE KLOPFENSTEIN, TE



- ❑ Last name is pronounced: *klof-N-stein; the P is silent*
- ❑ He came on very strong during the spring and fall camp, as currently he is the No. 1 tight end while Quinn Sypniewski remains sidelined. He had a breakout spring, leading all players on offense with 11 catches for 137 yards (12.5 per reception) and two touchdowns.
- ❑ Tight ends coach John Wristen on Klopfenstein's development: "He really knows what to do now instead of thinking about it, he's reacting." The results, at least in practice, indicate the Buffs very well may have a secret weapon in his ability to get open, catch and run.
- ❑ 2003.
  - First career start came in the season opener against Colorado State and he has started nine of 11 games ... he missed the Texas Tech game (Nov. 1) with a bad case of the flu.
  - He had a career long reception of 48 yards against Kansas (Oct. 11), a TD strike from Joel Klatt that tied the game at 7-7 in the first quarter.
  - His first collegiate touchdown was the game winner, as he and Joel Klatt connected on a 6-yard pass with 2:15 remaining in the 16-14 victory over UCLA in week two.
  - Had five catches for 25 yards and a TD against UCLA. About his performance **coach Barnett** said: "He had three catches and the last one was for a touchdown. That's a young guy who can play. He had a tremendous freshman year. I've been preaching to the players that we have a lot of guys out there who can make plays ... He's just one more weapon for us."
  - He had a two-touchdown game against Washington State, including a three-yarder from Klatt and a two-yarder from Erik Greenberg.
- ❑ 2002. He saw action in seven games, but didn't post any stats, as most of his duty was on special teams.

## 93 VAKA MANUPUNA, DT



- ❑ *First name is pronounced vah-ka; last name pronounced ma-na-poooh-na.*
- ❑ He made strong strides during fall camp, as he made a case to contend for some serious playing time at one of the tackle spots this year. He is listed second on the depth chart at one of the tackles spots.
- ❑ He missed a good portion of spring practice when his mother suffered a heart attack and passed away. Prior to leaving for his native Hawaii, he had been switched to the offensive line; but he didn't practice much at his potential new position, and upon his return for the final week of drills, the coaches decided to move him back to his old spot.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He made his first career start at Kansas State (Oct. 18) as the Buffs opened in a 4-3 defense for the first time on the season. He recorded two tackles and one pass broken up.
  - In his second career start against Oklahoma (Oct. 25), he recorded two tackles, one third down stop and one quarterback hurry.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He saw spot action from scrimmage, but did see time early on the kickoff return unit on special teams.
- ❑ One of the several Buffs that have found their way over to Boulder via the Hawaiian Islands, he is very adept in husking — coconuts.

## 94 DeANDRE FLUELLEN, DT



- ❑ 2003.
  - A part-time starter at DT, he is in the rotation at tackle and has done a decent job of clogging the middle against the run.
- ❑ 2002.
  - He started the first two games of the year, but saw less time after the emergence of Sam Wilder.
  - He checked in 20 pounds lighter (300) at the start of the year, and played at a high level throughout the season. Of his 17 tackles during the season, one went for a loss.
- ❑ 2001.
  - He saw more and more playing time as the year progressed, peaking with 52 plays against Nebraska. He had two tackles in the game, and a huge fumble recovery at the CU 1 when Nebraska was threatening to score on its first possession of the second half. The ball literally landed in his lap and he just had to grab it to end the Husker threat.
  - He had a career-high five tackles the previous week against Iowa State.
- ❑ Originally signed with Oklahoma State out of high school, as he was intent for playing for Bob Simmons, the former OSU head coach who logged seven years at Colorado as OLB and assistant head coach; but when Simmons was fired, he decided to look elsewhere and landed at Colorado.

## 97 GABE NYENHUIS, DE



- ❑ He is one of CU's starting ends, and according to coach Barnett he is having his best year since transferring to Colorado from Garden City Community College prior to the 2002 season. Barnett said, "With Gabe being our best pass rusher, he's drawing double teams, but he's still making plays. I think that speaks to how hard he's playing and what kind of player he is."
- ❑ He won the Dan Stavely Award during spring ball, an honor given to the top D-lineman; he had nine tackles (six for losses) in three main scrimmages.
- ❑ He is playing a little heavier this year, about 13-15 pounds more than he was at in 2002.
- ❑ 2003.
  - An 11-game starter at DE, he is tied for first on the squad with four QB sacks (James Garee).
  - At Iowa State (Nov. 15), Nyenhuis recorded his fourth QB sack of the season, while adding four tackles, one tackle for a loss, a forced fumble and one pass broken up. The forced fumble resulted in a touchdown drive for the Buffs, putting them up 37-0 going into halftime.
  - Against Missouri (Nov. 8), he had two tackles and a QB hurry, but more importantly, he tipped a Brad Smith pass in the waning seconds of the second quarter to force fourth down and a hail-mary pass that was ultimately intercepted in the end zone. The Buffs went into the half with a 14-9 lead.
  - Holds single game bests for most tackles for a loss (3 vs. Washington St.) and most quarterback hurries (5 vs. Washington St.).
  - As you could probably guess from the aforementioned stat, he had one of his best games of the season against Washington St., recording six tackles (five solo), three tackles for a loss and five quarterback hurries.
  - However, he had a monster game against Baylor (Oct. 4), tallying five tackles (all solo), two QB hurries and a fumble recovery.

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## NYENHUIS, continued

- He followed that up with a stellar game against Kansas (Oct. 11), tallying two QB sacks, one tackle for a loss, one third down stop, one QB hurry and seven tackles (6 solo).
- He led the squad with two tackles for a loss against Oklahoma (Oct. 25).
- ❑ 2002.
  - He had a big breakout season after transferring from Garden City Community College, earning all-Big 12 honorable mention honors. He quietly put together an impressive season, turning plenty of heads and setting the table for some awards his way in 2003.
  - He spent what seemed like the entire game in the Nebraska backfield, as he registered four tackles in the game, all four for losses including one quarterback sack.
  - He was the overall speed-strength and conditioning champ for the spring (and also for his weight class). Included in his results was a team-best 10-7 standing long jump — not bad for a guy who boasts a 6-foot-4, 275-pound frame.
- ❑ His first passion before football is BMX racing; he was a 1998 World Cup champion and he's raced as far away as Costa Rica and Vancouver, B.C.

## 98 BRANDON DABDOUB, DT



- ❑ Developed into one of CU's top defensive linemen during the spring and fall camp, and is listed at one of the starting tackle positions. He earned Victory Club honors during the spring, being only one of 13 players to do so.
- ❑ Defensive line coach Chris Wilson has been very pleased with his progression, noting that he has "developed into a more mature and consistent player."
- ❑ 2003.
  - An eight-game starter at DT, but has seen action in all 11 contests.
  - He had his first career interception at Texas Tech (Nov. 1), and the first by a CU defensive *tackle* in seven seasons — going back to Viliami Maumau's 33-yard return for a touchdown at Colorado State on Sept. 7, 1996.
  - He had a breakout performance against UCLA (Sept. 6) in which he tallied three tackles, one for a loss and two quarterback hurries. He followed that up with a three tackle, one tackle for a loss and one QB hurry at Baylor (Oct. 4).
- ❑ 2002.
  - Didn't seen a lot of action the second half of the season, mainly due to the play of others at the position, yet he still added depth and remained a solid backup figure.
  - He finished with 11 tackles on the year, three of which went for losses and one sack.
- ❑ 2001.
  - He was one of only a handful freshman or redshirt freshman who saw any real action on scrimmage plays. And with so few defensive tackles playing as freshmen, he stood a good chance of earning some kind of frosh All-American recognition, and did—*The Sporting News* tabbed him second-team.
  - His second career start, at Kansas State, came on his 20th birthday (Oct. 13). He responded with a career-high five tackles, or two more than he had in the first four games of his career.
  - What did the native Louisianan receive prior to that game for his birthday from back home? A cake, some Tabasco sauce and some Cajun spice mix.
  - Made his first career start against Kansas, as he was elevated to first-team status late in the practice week.
- ❑ He fell in love with the Buffaloes in eighth grade, when he was watching the CU-Michigan game when Kordell Stewart threw the Hail Mary touchdown pass to Michael Westbrook. Stewart grew up in nearby Marrero, Louisiana, not far from Dabdoub's hometown of Metairie. "I pictured myself in CU's black & gold back then."
- ❑ As one would imagine, nicknames include "Dabba" and "Dabba-dabba-do."
- ❑ He boasts the team's top bench press at 480 pounds; and was the spring's super-heavyweight strength champ.

## 99 MCKENZIE TILMON, DT/DE



- ❑ He initially signed with the Buffs out of high school, but had to go the JUCO route prior to returning this past summer. When he did report, he was a little heavier than the coaches wanted him to be, but he dropped 25 pounds in about two months to get back down to a solid playing weight of 305.
- ❑ 2003.
  - He is the backup to Gabe Nyenhuis at one of the DE positions and has seen action in four games.
- ❑ He collects Deion Sanders memorabilia, ranging from cards and photos/posters to figurines, and got to meet him as a gift on his 16th birthday.
- ❑ He is an accomplished drag racer; he belongs to a racing club that participates annually in the "Texas Drag Wars."