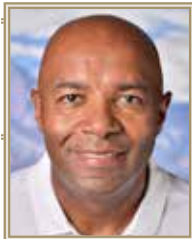




FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF



LANCE CARL
Director of Player Development
& Alumni Relations

Lance Carl, who participated in one of the key plays on the football field as a player for the University of Colorado in the mid-1980s, returned to his alma mater for the fourth time in his career when he was named associate athletic director for business development and the sports supervisor for the football program on November 5, 2013.

In the summer of 2021, he shifted into the newly created role of director of player development and alumni relations for the football program, two years after he transitioned into the associate AD for football, where he had daily interactions with head coaches Mel Tucker and Karl Dorrell, the assistant coaches, support personnel and the student-athletes.

Carl, 56, remains CU's liaison to the National Football League and its member teams with scouts and personnel staff, having worked as a scout in the late 1990s himself. In addition, he has long been active and on the board of directors with Buffs4Life, an organization of former CU athletes that help former Buffs in need. Thus his new title fits perfectly with some of what he has been coordinating since he rejoined the program in 2013.

In his new role, he immediately created the S2S (shoulder-to-shoulder) mentoring program, matching freshmen and redshirt freshmen student-athletes with local and national local football alumni. This unique undertaking has been developed, among several reasons, but most notably to provide guidance, direction, support and increased access to opportunities beyond the playing field, to improve the transition experience for the younger Buffs and introduces and establishes a deeper connection to the tradition and history of CU football.

He spent five years in his initial role, one that largely encompassed business development, community partnerships and served as the coordinator for non-game day events. His duties included working to build strategic community partnerships, improve the department's engagement with local community entities and work to attract non-game day event business to CU's athletic facilities. He has developed over two dozen key partnerships to date, as he is working to change the image and perception about athletics and its interactions in the business world. He also was the point-person working with AEG Rocky Mountain to bring the first concerts to Folsom Field in 15 years when Dead & Company played the stadium in July 2016 (and who has since returned for three additional shows).

In 2015, Carl implemented Training Day with the Buffs, a partnership between the CU football team and the Boulder and CU police departments. The program's goal is to break down barriers, improve communication and build bonds between the two groups. He also serves as the athletic department representative on the board of directors for the YMCA of Northern Colorado, as well as serving on the board of "A Precious Child," a non-profit based in Broomfield (the organization provides sports equipment, educational materials and backpacks for youth in the Boulder-Denver metro area).

He returned to CU after spending the six years (2007-13) with the Colorado Department of Higher Education, where he was a director for student motivational outreach. He was a direct liaison to all middle and high schools throughout the state, as well as for parents and administrators. He developed the Umbrella of Success motivational presentation and delivered that message to 160,000 students, parents and administrators during that time.

As a junior split end in 1986, he led the team in receiving with nine catches for 171 yards and two touchdowns, as with the Buffaloes in their second year of running the wishbone offense under coach Bill McCartney, Colorado didn't throw the ball very often.

But one of those scores was as big as they come, a 52-yard reception from O.C. Oliver on a perfectly executed halfback option that answered a Nebraska touchdown put CU back up by two scores (17-7) on the first play of the fourth quarter. That helped keep the third-ranked Huskers at an arm's length and the Buffaloes went on to win, 20-10, in a game referred to as "the turning point" for the school under McCartney.

He graduated from CU in 1991 with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Sociology; he had first returned to CU to finish his degree after signing as a free agent with the Washington Redskins and returning to his native Iowa.

Carl then came back to CU as a graduate assistant coach under Rick Neuheisel for the 1996 season. He also spent four years as a regional scout for the Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football League.

He was born September 13, 1965 in Burlington, Iowa, and graduated from Fort Madison (Iowa) High School, where he was a four-sport letterman (12 letters total) in football, basketball, baseball and track. His hobbies include coaching his kid's sports teams, golf, hiking and mountain biking; he was an assistant coach of the North Boulder Wildcats team that reached the Little League World Series in 2015. He is married to the former Jennifer Mysonhimer, also a CU graduate; she worked as a teaching assistant on campus and in the Herbst Academic Center when Carl was a graduate assistant. The couple has three children, grown sons Savoy and Jackson, and a pre-teen daughter, Alana.



BRYAN MCGINNIS
Director of Football Operations

Bryan McGinnis is in his 10th year as the director of football operations at the University of Colorado, originally joining then-head coach Mike MacIntyre's new Buffalo staff on January 2, 2013. When Mel Tucker and Karl Dorrell retained him in the same role following MacIntyre, he became the first to serve two head coaches (and now three) as their operations director at CU since the position was created in 1988.

In his position, in which he has now served the longest-ever at Colorado (by some four years), he coordinates many facets for the football program, including team travel arrangements, itineraries and scheduling.

McGinnis, 41, had served in the same capacity under MacIntyre for two seasons at San Jose State University, and thus accepted the invitation to follow him to Boulder. A life-long resident of the San Francisco Bay area, his time in Colorado has marked the first time he has ever lived outside of northern California.

Prior to being promoted to being in charge of San Jose State's football operations, he spent six years on the Spartans' coaching staff, working a variety of positions as an operations assistant in recruiting, equipment and video services. He also was a student assistant working with the defense, the linebackers in particular, the 2005 through 2007 seasons, and then switched sides, working as a graduate assistant on offense (running backs) for the 2008 and 2010 season; in-between, in 2009 he was the staff's operations assistant.

At San Jose, he was on the staffs of two teams that earned bowl invitations: the Spartans defeated New Mexico, 20-12, in the 2006 New Mexico Bowl (their first bowl since 1990) and beat Bowling Green, 29-20, in the 2012 Military Bowl. Those are the only two bowl games SJSU has ever played outside the state of California.

McGinnis played wide receiver for two years (2000-01) at Cabrillo College in Aptos, and then got into coaching, beginning his career at his alma mater, Harbor High School, where he spent two years as the school's offensive coordinator and wide receivers coach. In 2003, he joined the San Francisco 49ers staff as an intern in the player personnel department.

He then returned to school to finish his degree, graduating from San Jose State with Bachelor's in Kinesiology in 2007. While working with football, he took several graduate courses in Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation Management.

He was born June 22, 1981 in Santa Cruz, Calif., and graduated from its Harbor High School where he lettered in football and track. He is a certified speed training coach by SAC (Speed, Agility & Conditioning USA/Canada). He is married to the former Vrinda Murphy, who is a behavior therapist for children with autism; the couple has two daughters, Emily Margaret (8) and Maddalene Grace (5) and one son, Jacob Thomas (3).



BOB LOPEZ
General Manager

Bob Lopez, a veteran sports administrator and football coach, joined the Colorado football staff as the director of player personnel on February 28, 2020, one of the first hires by new CU head coach Karl Dorrell which reunited the pair from their time together at UCLA. On July 1, 2021, he was promoted to the newly created position of general manager.

In this relatively new position in college football, the role includes supporting the head coach and program overall in areas of strategic planning, hiring, oversight, management and relationship building. It also encompasses supervision of the player personnel and creative services staff while overseeing recruiting functions, including scouting, communications and on-campus recruiting.

Lopez, 67, has enjoyed a professional career that has spanned over 40 years and includes significant football coaching experience. On the administrative side, he has been an athletic director, a head coach, a director of football operations, coordinated student-athlete services, enrollment and admissions, and has worked on several levels of college administration with 16 different sports overall during his career.

He was the director of football operations for five-plus years at UCLA (2003-08), where Dorrell had hired him to be on his first staff as a head coach. The two also were together on the Northern Arizona staff in 1990-91.

Lopez came to CU from the University of Delaware, where he was the associate athletic director for sport administration and student services



since November 2017. He was heavily involved in all sports throughout the Blue Hens athletic department, including team planning and operations, student-athlete engagement, as well as working closely with the school's fledgling BLUE initiative (Building Leaders Utilizing Education), a four-year educational leadership program that focused on student health & wellness, personal success, community engagement, diversity and inclusion and career preparation.

He spent the previous six-plus years at the University of Michigan, joining the Wolverines' staff in January 2011 as the director of football operations. He then served as the assistant athletic director for football from May 2013 through December 2014, which overlapped with sports administrator duties from June 2014 until he accepted the Delaware position. In his final role at UM, he worked directly with several sports, including men's and women's cross country and track & field, men's basketball, women's field hockey, men's gymnastics, and men's and women's tennis. Prior to working at Michigan, he was the director of football operations at San Diego State for three years (2008-11).

Lopez has crossed paths with CU a few times in his career, last while he was at Michigan when the Wolverines rallied for a 45-28 win over the Buffaloes in 2016. His first game as the ops director at UCLA in 2003 was in Boulder, a game CU rallied to win, 16-14. He has been involved in bowl game preparations for nine games, five at UCLA (2003 Silicon Valley, 2004 Las Vegas, 2005 Sun, 2006 Emerald, 2007 Las Vegas), one at San Diego State (2010 Poinsettia) and three at Michigan (2012 Sugar, 2013 Outback, 2013 Buffalo Wild Wings).

He spent 12 years coaching football at the college and high school levels, including stops as the head coach at Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College (1983-87) and assistant roles at Arizona Western College (1981-83) and Northern Arizona University (1987-91). He also served as Fort Scott's athletic director almost the entire time he was also the football coach for the Greyhounds, and was also NAU's recruiting coordinator during his time in Flagstaff.

His first job in coaching was a football assistant at the Loyola Academy (Wilmette, Ill.) a private school just north of Chicago's downtown. He was also a language arts teacher at the school, where he worked two for two years (1979-81). At various times, he also worked in the admissions fields at Northern Arizona, Peru State College and University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire before permanently staying in the field of athletics.

Lopez lettered four years at quarterback at Illinois State University (1973-76), where he was team's most valuable player as a senior under coach Gerry Hart. A team captain as a junior and senior, he set the school record at the time for season passing yards his senior year. The Redbirds competed on the Division I-AA level, now known as the FCS.

He earned his bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education from Illinois State in 1977, where he also received his Master's in Educational Administration in 1979.

Lopez was born March 19, 1955 in Tacoma, Wash., but his family moved to Illinois when he was a youngster; he graduated from Mendel Catholic Prep (Chicago, Ill.), where he lettered in football and basketball. One of his favorite hobbies is playing golf. He is married to the former Nancy Leek (a retired teacher) and is father of two adult sons, Tyler and Daniel; they have five grandchildren.

over 15 NFL football players to the pooling platform and assisted in the company's growth through Series A funding. He is certified in Operational Excellence (LEAN)/Six Sigma.

Dorrell graduated from Vanderbilt University in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in Economics. He lettered three years at wide receiver playing for coach Derek Mason, and was the team's fifth-leading receiver as a sophomore (10 catches for 118 yards). He began his collegiate career at Stanford University, where as a true freshman, he was a member of the Cardinal team that played Michigan State in the 100th Rose Bowl game (January 1, 2014).

The fall after he graduated from Vanderbilt, he was a volunteer video and operations assistant for the Commodores, as he assisted in logistics surrounding summer prospect camps, helped make video cutups alongside the graduate assistants for the position coaches.

He was born March 26, 1995 in Louisville, Colo., and graduated from St. Thomas Aquinas High School (Fort Lauderdale, Fla.), where he lettered in football (his position coach was Pro Football Hall of Famer Cris Carter, and he was teammates with the Bosa brothers (Joey and Nick) among numerous teammates who eventually made it to the NFL). His hobbies include playing golf (an accomplished player with a 6 handicap), basketball, snowboarding and anything outdoors. His father, Karl, is the head coach of the Buffaloes, his third tour of duty with the school; he had a long career as an NFL assistant; his younger sister, Lauren was a member of CU's volleyball team for three years. In high school, he was selected as the Junior Orange Bowl Scholar Athlete of the Year as a senior (presented to the player with the highest grade point average of each of the Florida state football championship teams).



ANDY WANG

Assistant Director of Player Personnel

Andy Wang is in his fourth year on the University of Colorado football staff, his second as the assistant director of player personnel as he was promoted to the position on July 1, 2021. In his current role, he oversees scouting, on-campus visits and recruiting while coordinating overall recruiting strategies as well

as roster management.

Wang, 28, joined the staff as a recruiting assistant full-time on July 1, 2020, where his primary duties were assisting the defensive coaches in recruiting, as well as assisting in managing graphics and social media. He was an intern in the football office for the 2019 season.

He came to Colorado from Miami (Ohio) University, where he was an intern with the RedHawks' football program through May 2019, simultaneous when he was in graduate school at nearby Xavier University. He also spent a year as a financial advisor.

Wang graduated from the University of Kentucky in 2017 with bachelor degrees in Business Administration and Business & Economics, as his fields of study included Economics, Business Management, Marketing and International Business. He earned his Master's of Education in Sports Administration from Xavier University in 2019.

He was born August 29, 1994 in Dalian, China, and graduated from duPont Manual High School in Louisville, Ky. His hobbies include spending time with his dogs, Kilo (an American Bulldog) and Clementine (a Doberman) and loves all animals. He has lived on three different continents (Asia, Europe and North America) and speaks three languages (English, Mandarin and Portuguese).



MICHAEL DOWNING

Quality Control/Defense

Michael Downing is in his first year as a quality control specialist for the defense, assisting specifically with the secondary, joining Karl Dorrell's staff on February 23, 2022.

Downing, 27, came to CU from his alma mater, Texas Christian University, where he was a defensive graduate assistant. He had the distinction of being the first player hired by TCU head coach Gary Patterson immediately following his playing career. His first year on the staff, the Horned Frogs defeated California in overtime, 10-7, in the Cheez-It Bowl. TCU was to play Arkansas in the 2019 Texas Bowl, but it was cancelled due to COVID.

Downing earned two degrees from TCU, his bachelor's in Marketing in 2017 and his master's in Liberal Arts in 2021. He lettered three times at safety playing under Patterson for the Horned Frogs. He led the Big 12 Conference in special team tackles in 2016 (13) and had one career interception. In his four years on the roster, TCU was 40-13 overall; he had started his career at TCU as a



CHANDLER DORRELL

Director of Player Personnel

Chandler Dorrell is in his second year as the director of player personnel, having been promoted to the position on July 1, 2021. He had joined his father's inaugural staff as the assistant director on February 27, 2020.

In his role, he coordinates and leads all aspects of football recruiting, including the hiring and development of the player personnel staff, prospect discovery and evaluation, as well as driving the creative approach to the on-campus and off-campus recruitment of football prospects. He also works closely with the general manager and director of operations with all administrative aspects of recruiting.

Dorrell, 27, returned to the state in which he was born from the Miami Dolphins, where he spent the 2019 season as a volunteer assistant. In that role, he was involved in roster organization and internal team matters, assisted in practice with the wide receivers, along with handling any administrative matters needed for coaches with team, staff, and position meetings.

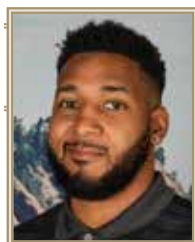
He was also a volunteer assistant with the New York Jets for the 2018 season, where he learned basics of contract negotiations in the NFL with the team's business office. He also assisted with the receivers in practice and handled several administrative matters for the coaches and staff.

Over the course of 2018-19, he was a football consultant with Pando Pooling, based in San Francisco. Pando is a financial services startup focused on helping athletes mitigate the risk of their careers by partnering with other athletes through income pooling. He joined the company after Seed Round, signed



walk-on but would earn a scholarship before his redshirt junior year. TCU went bowling every year, defeating Mississippi in the '14 Peach Bowl, Oregon in the '15 Alamo Bowl (winning 47-41 in three overtimes after trailing 31-0 at halftime), and Stanford in the '17 Alamo; the Frogs lost to Georgia in the '16 Liberty.

He was born October 23, 1994 in Atlanta, Ga., and graduated from Alpharetta (Ga.) High School, where he lettered in football and track and field and also played baseball; he played for CU assistant coach Rod Chance as a prep. His hobbies include playing golf (nearly a scratch golfer).



BRANDON GIBSON

Quality Control/Offense

Brandon Gibson is in his first year as a quality control specialist for the offense, assisting specifically with the wide receivers, joining Karl Dorrell's staff on February 2022.

Gibson, 35, came to Colorado from Kentwood (Wash.) High School, where he was the offensive coordinator for the 2020 and 2021 seasons. Previously, he was an assistant coach at Central Washington University, where he coached the wide receivers for three seasons (2017-19).

The Wildcats were the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) champions in 2017 and co-champions in 2018; CWU was 26-8 in his three seasons there and had a prolific offense: averaging 42.8 points (scoring 40 or more points 20 times and 50 or more on 12 occasion), and averaging 502.4 yards on offense (260.2 passing) in the 34 games with him on staff.

Still one of Washington State University's all-time leading receivers (he was the all-time leader at the conclusion of his playing career), in his four-year career (2005-08) he caught 182 passes for 2,756 yards (15.1 per) with 17 touchdowns. In the 2007 Apple Cup, he caught a 35-yard TD pass with 31 seconds remaining as WSU defeated Washington, 42-35; he had six catches for 137 yards and two scores that game that cemented him into Cougar lore. That was also his best year statistically, catching 67 balls for 1,180 yards with nine touchdowns in earning first-team All-Pacific 10 Conference honors (along with third-team All-American accolades). He also returned 14 punts in his career for an 18.5 average.

Gibson was selected in the sixth round (194th player overall) by Philadelphia in the 2009 NFL Draft. In six seasons in the league, he appeared in 76 regular season games with three teams (Philadelphia, St. Louis and Miami), catching 233 passes for 2,711 yards (11.6 per), with 13 touchdowns and earning 159 first downs.

He finished up his degree after his professional playing days in 2019, earning a bachelor's in Social Sciences with an emphasis in History for Washington State while he was coaching at CWU.

He was born August 13, 1987 in Landstuhl, Germany; he graduated from John R. Rogers High School in Puyallup, Wash., where he lettered in football, basketball and track. His hobbies include Marvel Comic books, playing basketball and is an avid sneaker collector. An uncle, Vaughn Williams, graduated from Denver's George Washington High School, played defensive back collegiately at Stanford and in the NFL for the San Francisco 49ers and Indianapolis Colts. He is married to the former Shaina Lawson and the couple has a boy, Isaiah Aaron.



NICK GILBERT

Quality Control/Offense

Nick Gilbert is in his first year as a quality control specialist for the offense, assisting specifically with the offensive line, joining Karl Dorrell's staff on February 23, 2022.

Gilbert, 33, came to Colorado from a second stint at the University of Idaho, where he was the Vandals' offensive line coach for the 2021 season. Idaho had a solid running game, averaging 171 yards per in ranking 31st among 123 FCS schools and set a school record with seven rushing touchdowns in a single game. The season prior (2020), he was at the University of Memphis for a second time, this as the offensive quality control analyst, where he worked with the running backs and tight ends. He played an active role in scouting and recruiting and helped manage the team of graduate assistants.

Gilbert earned bachelor's degree in Homeland Security in 2012 from Tiffin (Ohio) University, where he was a three-year letterman playing on the Dragons' offensive line. He started his collegiate career at Erie Community College.

He began his coaching career at Division III Heidelberg University as a volunteer coaching the outside linebackers. He then moved on to Idaho under

its first year coach, Paul Petrino, where he was a graduate assistant working with the offensive line for three seasons (2013-15). He got his first real taste of what aspects go into coaching, helping to coordinate practice and create offensive installs, playbooks and cut-ups. At Idaho, he earned his master's degree in Education in 2016.

For the 2016 season, he was a graduate assistant at Memphis, and the same at Louisville in 2017 and 2018, both times again working with the offensive line. During his tenure at Memphis, the Tigers finished the 2016 season ranked first in total offense (464.7 yards per game) and second in passing (298.8 ypg) in the American Athletic Conference (AAC). He worked with a potent offense at Louisville as the Cardinals ranked first in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) in total offense (544.9 yards, which was third in the nation) passing yards (299.8) and scoring (38.1 ppg) in 2017.

He worked for "another" CU in 2019, as he was the offensive line coach for Concord University (Athens, West Va.). In his time at both Idaho and Louisville, Gilbert helped mentor current NFL offensive linemen Jesse Davis (Miami Dolphins) and Geron Christian (Washington Redskins), who was also a third-round pick of Washington.

He was born May 8, 1989 in Syracuse, N.Y., and graduated from Onondaga (N.Y.) Junior/Senior High School where he lettered in football, basketball and lacrosse. His hobbies include golfing and fishing. An uncle, Joe Gilbert, is the offensive line coach for the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers and was on the staff for the team's Super Bowl LV win over Kansas City. High school teammates included Mike Hart (running backs coach at Michigan) and Latavius Murray (Baltimore Ravens running back).



JEFF SMART

Quality Control/Defense

Jeff Smart has returned to his alma mater as a quality control specialist for the defense primarily working with the inside linebackers, as he is in his second year in the role after being hired on June 14, 2021.

Smart, 35, joined the Colorado staff from the University of Missouri, where he was a quality control analyst for the defense for the 2020 season when the Tigers posted a 5-5 record but had their Music City Bowl date against Iowa canceled due to the COVID pandemic. He was an defensive coaching assistant for Boise State in 2019, his first full-time position in the Football Bowl Subdivision. The Broncos were the Mountain West champions, defeating Hawai'i in the league's title game, and finished 12-2 after a loss to Washington in the Las Vegas Bowl.

He served the four previous seasons (2015-18) at the University of Pennsylvania, coaching the Quaker outside linebackers and was part of two Ivy League champion teams (tri-champs in '15 and co-titlists in '16). In 2016, he coached freshman Connor Jangro to All-Ivy League honors, Penn's first freshman to earn All-Ivy distinction since 2009.

In his first season with the Quakers, he helped coach a defense which was second in the Ivy League and No. 8 among FCS programs in turnover margin in 2015 (+1.0), while the Red and Blue also led the league and were 13th nationally in quarterback sacks per game (2.9).

Smart's outside linebackers were a big part of the championship, as they were led by Tyler Drake, the 2015 Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year and third-team All-American. Penn was 2-8 the year before he arrived there, but the Quaker had four winning seasons in as many years Smart was on staff, as Columbia was 26-14 during his career there.

Prior to Penn, Smart served as Columbia University's assistant director of strength and conditioning (July 2013 to January 2014), before being promoted to inside linebackers coach for the 2014 season. He got his start at CU, as he was the defensive graduate assistant for his college position coach, Brian Cabral. He assisted Cabral with the linebackers along with general overall duties with the defense.

Smart graduated from CU in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Sociology, and earned his Masters of Education from the school in 2013. He joined the football team as a walk-on inside linebacker in August of 2005, was awarded a scholarship three weeks into the 2007 season and was named a team captain as a senior, when he was coming off second-team All-Big 12 honors his junior season (he would be named honorable mention his senior year). He won the Dave Jones Award his senior year, as his peers selected him as the most valuable defensive player in 2009.

A first-team NFF All-Colorado performer his junior and senior seasons, he finished his career ranked 18th all-time in overall tackles (291) and 13th in solo stops (188). In starting 33 of 39 career games and playing 2,003 snaps from scrimmage, he also had 12 tackles for loss (including three-and-a-half quarterback sacks), 24 third down stops, 12 passes broken up, five fumble recoveries and an interception. In 2008, he became just the third former walk-on in school history to lead the team in tackles (the first since Ryan Sutter in 1997), racking up 118 total (80 solo).

He was born November 22, 1986 in Boulder, and graduated from Boulder High School where he lettered in football and track. His hobbies include cycling, hiking and backpacking.



CHRIS REINERT

Quality Control/Special Teams

Christopher Reinert is in his third year in quality control for the special teams on the Colorado staff, having joined new head coach Karl Dorrell's team on March 9, 2020. Originally a quality control analyst, his title was changed to director of quality control for special teams in February 2021.

Reinert, 36, came to Colorado from Arizona State University, where he served as the special teams analyst for head coach Herm Edwards and coordinator Shawn Slocum for the 2019 season. He has overseen CU's entire special teams operation, which was one of the team's bright spots in 2021. The combined units were nationally ranked by both ESPN (third) and Pro Football Focus (PFF, fifth). The four units were all ranked in the top four of the Pac-12: kickoff return (28.7 avg., second); punt return (14.4 avg., third), net kickoff (40.32, fourth) and net punting (40.3, fourth). The kickoff and punt return units were also ranked fifth and ninth, respectively, in the nation.

In addition, freshman Cole Becker made 39-of-45 placekicks and a conference-best three field goals of 50 yards or longer as PFF named him its first-team All-Pac-12 kicker. Josh Watts was sixth nationally in gross punting average (47.8), Brenden Rice was 14th nationally in kickoff return average (27.6) and Trevor Woods was the Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week for the Arizona game when he returned a blocked punt for a touchdown.

In Reinert's first year on the CU staff, the punt return unit was ninth nationally (15.6 avg.), with Jaylon Jackson named second-team All-Pac-12 for a special teams performer other than a kicker/returner. In two seasons with Reinert, the Buffaloes have three blocked kicks and three return scores, including the 12th 100-yard play in school history when Nikko Reed returned a kickoff that distance at Utah in 2021.

At Arizona State, three special teams performers, receiver/returner Brandon Aiyuk, punter Michael Turk and contributor Case Hatch, earned postseason honors. Aiyuk, a first round selection by the San Francisco 49ers in the 2020 National Football League draft, finished third in the nation in both kickoff and punt return averages and was a second-team All-American (first-team All-Pac-12). ASU defeated Florida State in the Sun Bowl to cap an 8-5 season.

Prior to joining the Arizona State staff, he was the wide receivers coach and special teams coordinator for the Arizona Hotshots in the inaugural season of the AAF (Alliance of American Football League). He joined coach Rick Neuheisel's staff in 2018 in preparation for the 2019 season; he had coached with Neuheisel at UCLA seven years earlier. The Hotshots opened with a 5-3 record and was leading the Western Conference when the league suspended operations in early April.

In 2016, Reinert had a second stint at UCLA, working as a special teams analyst for the 2016 and 2017 seasons, and toward the end of 2017, was promoted to the Bruins' special teams coordinator. That year, the Bruins earned a bid to the Cactus Bowl against Kansas State. That followed two seasons as a defensive graduate assistant at Washington State University under head coach Mike Leach, where he was on the defensive staff working with the defensive backs and special teams in 2014 and then switched to the offensive side of the ball for 2015, where he worked with the quarterbacks and helped tutor All-Pac-12 quarterback Luke Falk. He also assisted Leach in game planning as he gained additional responsibilities as the special assistant to the head coach, with the Cougars leading the nation in passing and red zone offense and would go on to beat Miami (Fla.) in the Sun Bowl.

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Economics in 2009 from Vanderbilt University. He lettered four times at wide receiver for the Commodores (2005-09) under coach Bobby Johnson. He was a five-time member of the Academic All-Southeastern Conference team, and was Vanderbilt's Football Dedication Award winner as a senior (the school's most prestigious honor), when he was the SEC's special teams player of the week against Georgia. He was the team's holder that season, returning from a leg fracture that cut his junior season short after two games. He was a member of Vanderbilt's Music City Bowl champion team (a 16-14 win over Boston College), the school's first bowl game since 1982.

Reinert returned to where he grew up in southern California for his first job after graduation, serving as the defensive backs coach at Harvard-Westlake High School in Studio City for the 2010 season. He then joined Neuheisel's staff at UCLA for the 2011 season, working that year as a defensive intern for the Bruins, who would win the first Pac-12 Conference South Division title after the league expanded. Jim Mora, Jr., was named head coach ahead of the 2012 season, and retained Reinert as a graduate assistant for the defense for the 2012-13 seasons. In 2013, he was part of a Bruin staff that produced a defense that finished among the top three in the Pac-12 in pass defense, passing touchdowns allowed and third down defense. As a member of the UCLA staff, he coached in three bowl games: 2011 Kraft Fight Hunger (vs. Illinois), 2012 Holiday (vs. Baylor) and 2013 Sun (vs. Virginia Tech).

He was born November 9, 1985 in Sarasota, Fla., and graduated from Servite High School (Anaheim, Calif.) where he lettered in football and track and field. His hobbies include golf, skiing and fishing. He is married to the former Emily Tyson, an instructor, trainer and development Jazzercise specialist. An older brother, Matthew, was a wide receiver at the University of Pennsylvania; a younger sister, Rachel Reinert, is a country music artist; a former member of the band Gloriana, in March 2020 she released her first solo album, *Into The Blue*.



JAMIE GUY

Director of Football Video

Jamie Guy is in his 19th year as CU's director of football video and his 20th year overall on the Colorado staff, as he joined the department in August 2001. He was promoted to director of sports video over all sports in the fall of 2004 after working just over three years as the assistant director. He now

mainly coordinates football needs but on occasion helps out with some of CU's other varsity programs.

Guy, 47, came to CU from the Chicago Enforcers of the now-defunct XFL, where he worked the lone season of the league's existence.

In CU's first year in the Pac-12 Conference (2011-12), he was named the Pac-12 Video Coordinator of the Year as selected by a majority vote of his peers. He was twice selected as the video coordinator of the year in the Big 12 Conference, first in 2005-06 and again in 2009-10. The awards are coordinated and voted by members of the Collegiate Sports Video Association; members of each conference select the winner for their respective leagues, and the recipients are placed on the national ballot for the overall CSVA award, the Bob Matey National Video Coordinator of the Year.

As talented as there is in the profession, Guy has coordinated the production of several video shorts showcasing in particular, the CU football program. Along with his former assistant John Snelson, the two were been honored twice with Heartland Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATA) Emmy awards, first in 2014 for their work called "Seasons," the story of a dream and the lifetime experience of being a Colorado Buffalo, and then again for 2015 for the series entitled, "Forward." The duo was also nominated in 2015 for their "Forever" video, his personal favorite because of the time, execution and passion that went into creating it (an all-encompassing look at what it means to be a Colorado Buffalo, on and off the field, as well as in 2016 for "The Rise," which documented CU's first Pac-12 South Division title and return to the postseason. "Forever" did win the 2015 FootballScoop FBS Video of the Year honor. In 2020, another production, "The Light Shines On," was one of five nominations for a Heartland Emmy.

Guy graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in general studies. As a student, he worked in the Bearcats' sports video office for four years. Prior to entering the sports video profession, he worked as an electrician's apprentice and as a staff manager at Fitworks Fitness.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, he graduated from Lawrence Central High School (Indianapolis, Ind.) in 1994, where he lettered in track and football. His hobbies include collecting football memorabilia and playing the guitar. He is married to the former Kimberly Ernst. He was the recipient of the Alumni C Club's "Honorary C" award in 2019 for his dedication to the department.



JOHN SNELSON

Creative Services Manager

John Snelson returned to his alma mater for a second stint in the athletic department, as he began his new role as creative services manager for the football program on July 20, 2021.

Snelson, 33, left CU in 2017 to start his own company, Snelson Films, where he served as a director, cinematographer, editor and producer for multiple projects and series, including features and documentaries. In 2019, he was named creative director for Second Wind Creative, which is based in Lawrence, Kan., but he was able to work out of Denver. He was the director of photography, post-production manager, editor, and producer on multiple television and web projects ranging from feature-length documentary to short TV features. He worked directly with television network clients focusing on development, production, post-production of non-fiction documentaries, series, features and branded content.



He returned to CU from Second Wind Creative, where some of his projects appeared on ESPN, FOX and the NFL Network and well as working with the UFC.

He had previously worked six years as the assistant director of sports video for CU athletics (2011-14) and then as football's video production manager (2014-17). In his first time employed full-time by the department, he worked on video projects for the athletic department, including several award-winning productions that earned national acclaim, the most prominent being "The Rise," a documentary on CU's football resurgence in 2016. It aired nationally on the Pac-12 Network.

He originally joined the Colorado staff in 2010 as a student assistant in video and football operations, and he held the position until he graduated from the university in 2011. He has a bachelor's degree in Economics with a business emphasis from CU.

Along with his supervisor, Jamie Guy, the two were honored twice with Heartland Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATA) Emmy awards, the first in 2014 for their work called "Seasons," the story of a dream and the lifetime experience of being a Colorado Buffalo, and then again for 2015 for the series entitled, "Forward." The duo was also nominated in 2015 for their "Forever" video, which was an all-encompassing look at what it means to be a Colorado Buffalo, on and off the field. "Forever" did win the 2015 FootballScoop FBS Video of the Year honor.

Prior to being hired full-time by CU, he was in coach support in Lincoln, Neb., for a technology company known as Hudl, a computer program the Buffs and many college use for video and in recruiting.

Born January 21, 1989 in Dallas, Texas, he graduated from Chatfield Senior High School in Littleton, Colo., in 2007, where he lettered in cross country and track. His hobbies include golf and photography.

Marckel graduated from Bowling Green State University in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Technology & Visual Communication Technology.

His first job in the design field was right out of high school when he was just 18, working as a production artist intern at Haas-Jordan Umbrellas in Toledo. He joined the company as its full-time head graphic artist shortly thereafter and held that position until he graduated from BGSU.

He was born April 27, 1993 in Toledo, Ohio, and graduated from Whiteford High School in Ottawa Lake, Mich., where he lettered in football (team captain) and baseball. His hobbies include drawing; as a kid, he used to draw pictures of Toledo Rocket football players and give those to them after each home game; he is also an accomplished sports photographer.



BRIAN CABRAL

Character Coach

Brian Cabral, a Colorado Buffalo to the core, came out of retirement in May 2019 to become the school's character coach. Brought back to the program by then-head coach Mel Tucker, new head coach Karl Dorrell maintained his presence on the staff. He works primarily with football, though he has worked with the basketball programs and is available to all 17 of CU's varsity programs.

Cabral, 66, was inducted into CU's Athletic Hall of Fame in its 2018 class, as he spent 24 years on the sidelines as an assistant coach (1989 through 2012) – the last 23 full-time in assorted capacities including interim head coach, associate head coach, assistant head coach and defensive run game coordinator. Those 23 years as a full-time assistant rank as the most in CU history, not only for football but for all sports, as he passed the previous record holders (two legendary "Franks," Potts and Prentup, both of whom assisted Buff head football coaches for 18 seasons).

From 2013-16, he was the defensive coordinator at Indiana State University, where he also coached the inside linebackers. The Sycamores were 1-11 in his first season there, but went 8-6 in year two, advancing to the second round of the FCS playoffs. The six-game improvement was the best in the FCS ranks that season.

He first joined the Buffalo staff as graduate assistant in 1989, and has always coached the inside linebackers, and occasionally had the outside 'backers under his direction. From 1999 through 2005, he also coached the punt return unit on special teams, and served as the director of CU's summer football camps from 1995 through 2005 and for a brief time as recruiting coordinator. He had returned to Colorado, his alma mater, from Purdue, where he coached the inside linebackers for two seasons (1987-88).

Cabral worked under five head coaches during his coaching tenure: Bill McCartney, Rick Neuheisel, Gary Barnett, Dan Hawkins and Jon Embree. For all seven seasons under Barnett, Cabral also was the assistant head coach, which included a three-month period in 2004 as interim head coach when Barnett was on paid administrative leave. In that role, he continued to coach his position players but also took care of day-to-day operational details of the program.

Hawkins promoted him to associate head coach in February 2008, citing his leadership in noting that "no one person has had more influence in the success of Colorado football than Brian Cabral." When Hawkins was relieved of his duties as head coach on November 8, 2010, Cabral was once again named interim head coach, this time having to finish out the season and pilot the Buffs in game situations. He led Colorado to a 2-1 record, with wins over Iowa State (34-14) and Kansas State (44-36) before a 45-17 loss at Nebraska ended CU's hopes for a bowl invitation as the Buffs finished the year with a 5-7 record.

You could also call him an ambassador for his native Hawai'i, as he has worked youth camps in the state as well as all-Polynesian camps in the states. He is a founding board member of the Polynesian Coaches Association, formed ahead of the 2007 season.

In the summer of 2002, he was one of 500 nationwide recipients of the AFLAC National Assistant Coach-of-the-Year Award. Coaches on all levels were honored, from youth to professional, and he was one of 10 selected regionally to receive the award. In 2008, CBSSportsline.com selected him to its "All-Coach" team at the linebacker position.

Known as one of the top linebacker coaches in the nation, his students have included Matt Russell, the 1996 Butkus Award winner, all-Big Eight performers Greg Biekert, Chad Brown and Ted Johnson, all of whom went on to stardom in the National Football League, and all-Big 12 linebacker Jordon Dizon, a consensus All-American who was also the league defensive player of the year for 2007. He also recruited tailback Rashaan Salaam, the 1994 Heisman trophy winner, and Chris Naeole, a 1996 All-American guard.

His 2001 punt return team led the nation with a 17.4 average, and also boasted the nation's top individual return man in Roman Hollowell, who averaged 18.0 per return and scored two touchdowns. In 2002, Jeremy Bloom



PAUL MORISSETTE

Design & Creative Content Assistant

Paul Morisette is in his first year as the football programs assistant for design and creative content, having joined the department on April 1, 2022.

Morisette, 25, came to CU from Michigan State University, where he was the social media manager for the 2021 season; he had been a full-time digital content intern for two seasons (2019-20), under head coaches and Mark Dantonio who hired him and then Mel Tucker. He worked two bowl games, both wins (over Wake Forest in the '19 Pinstripe and over Pittsburgh in the '21 Peach) and enjoyed the fact that the Spartans were 2-1 versus rival Michigan during his time there.

He earned his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Compass College of Film & Media in 2019. Based in Grand Rapids, Mich., he was afforded the opportunity to work as a digital content intern with the Grand Rapids Drive (now the Gold) of the National Basketball Association's G League (he was hired to shoot the 2018 NBA All-Star Game at the Staples Center in Los Angeles).

He was born June 23, 1997 in Mt. Clemens, Mich., and graduated from Grand Blanc (Mich.) High School. His hobbies include sports, cooking and attending concerts.



DEREK MARCKEL

Senior Art Director

Derek Marckel is in his first year in his second stint for the University of Colorado football program, as he returned in February 2022 as the senior art director and graphic artist.

Marckel, 29, was hired as CU's graphic designer for football on April 8, 2019 under former head coach Mel Tucker, and joined him at Michigan State when Tucker left after the 2019 season. He spent two years supervising the Spartans' creative team that produced original graphics and recruiting. Simultaneously, he signed on as the freelance graphic artist for USA Water Polo, assisting in the rebranding of the organization's visual identity and created social media content for the men's and women's teams for the 2020 Summer Olympics.

He joined the CU staff from the University of Toledo, where he was the assistant director of creative services for nearly three years (2016-19; since he graduated college). He worked with all 15 varsity sports for the Rockets and was responsible for creating everything from billboards, posters, program covers, ticket designs and schedule cards to graphics for social media, the web and videoboards. He won several awards for his work for the athletic department. He had previously completed a graphic design internship for Toledo's athletic marketing department in 2014, during the summer before his junior year in college.



averaged 15.0 yards per return and was 13th in the nation as a freshman (ranking 21st as a sophomore in '03). Cabral prided himself on the team being composed largely of non-starters, drawing comparison to his roots when he was special teams captain of the Chicago Bears.

He is a 1978 CU graduate, as he earned a B.S. degree in therapeutic recreation. He lettered three seasons for the Buffs at linebacker from 1975 to 1977 under Coach Bill Mallory, as he was a captain and played a big role on CU's Big Eight champion team in 1976. He led CU with 13 tackles (12 solo) in the 1977 Orange Bowl against Ohio State. As a senior, he was honored as the Big Eight Conference's player of the week for a monster 25 tackles in a CU 27-21 win over Stanford and shared the team's Sure Tackler Award with Mark Haynes. That 25-tackle game included 13 solo stops and is still tied for the fourth most in a single game in CU history.

Cabral had 297 tackles in his CU career (120 solo, 177 assisted), a number that still has him tied for 16th on Colorado's all-time list. A unique fact is that he has coached 10 of the other 19 players in CU's all-time top 20, including eight players on the list ahead of him: Matt Russell, Greg Biekert, Ted Johnson, Chad Brown, Michael Jones, Jashon Sykes, Thaddeaus Washington and Jordon Dizon (seven rank in the top nine). His players through the years have registered over 6,000 tackles wearing the Black & Gold he once wore.

He was a nine-year NFL veteran, as Atlanta drafted him in the fourth round in 1978. He played two seasons with Atlanta, one with Green Bay and six with Chicago. As the captain of the Bears' special teams, he was a member of Chicago's Super Bowl XX champion team in 1985. He was selected as the Frito-Lay Unsung Hero in the Bears' win over New England, as he had two solo and two assisted tackles on special teams.

He was born June 23, 1956, in Fort Benning, Ga., but grew up in Kailua, Hawaii. He is married to the former Becky Lucas, and they have three grown children, son Kyle and daughters Maile and Mele. He is an active member in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He has authored a book ("Second String Champion"), and his hobbies include surfing, skateboarding and snowboarding.

RECORD—He coached in 352 Division I-A games as a full-time coach, owning a record of 154-124-4 at Colorado (165-125-4 including his graduate assistant year); Purdue was 7-14-1 when he was on the Boilermaker staff and Indiana State was 18-30. He coached in 14 bowl games (six New Year's Day).



JOHN GARDNER

Defensive Graduate Assistant

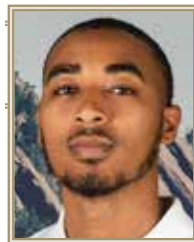
John Gardner is in his first year as graduate assistant for the defense, as he joined the Colorado staff in February 2022. He works specifically with the defensive line.

Gardner, 26, came to Colorado from Austin Peay State University, where he was the assistant defensive backs coach for the 2021 season; he was also the scouting coordinator for six months there before he was promoted to recruiting coordinator his last two months on the staff, helping sign the Governor's 2022 recruiting class.

He previously spent a year-and-a-half on the University of Missouri staff (February 2020-June 2021), first as an offensive graduate assistant working with the receiver, and then as a recruiting analyst for his last six months in Columbia. His first taste of coaching came at his alma mater, the University of Washington, where he was an offensive assistant for the 2019 season. He worked mainly with the receivers and at times with the quarterbacks and had general duties in assistant with projects for the assistant coaches, including video breakdown.

Gardner graduated from Washington in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Economics. He lettered three years as a receiver for the Huskies, and was on the 2016 team that defeated CU for the Pac-12 Conference title and earned a berth in the College Football Playoff (the second Pac-12 school to do so). Academically, he was on the Dean's List throughout his college career and was Academic All-Pac-12 on two occasions (first-team as a junior; second-team as a senior).

He was born September 26, 1995 in Seattle, Wash., and graduated from Inglemoor High School (Kenmore, Wash.), where he lettered in football and basketball. His hobbies include playing basketball. In the past, he has been a guest speaker at youth football camps and has volunteered as a Little League coach.



CORDALE GRUNDY

Defensive Graduate Assistant

Cordale Grundy is in his first year as graduate assistant working with the defense, as he joined the Colorado staff on February 24, 2022. He coaches the nickel position and assists Brett Maxie with the safeties.

Grundy, 25, came to Colorado from the Miami Dolphins, where he was the assistant cornerbacks coach for the 2021 season in his second year with the club. In 2020, he was an offensive assistant coach for three months and then shifted into scouting (both college and pro). He began his coaching career at the University of Minnesota in 2019, but it was short-lived as the COVID pandemic hit; he was recommended for hire there by his junior college coach – and current CU tight ends coach – Clay Patterson.

He graduated from the University of Texas-San Antonio in December 2019 with a bachelor's degree in Multidisciplinary Studies. At UTSA, he was a dual threat quarterback and in two seasons, passed for 993 yards and five touchdowns while rushing for 164 yards and one TD. He started nine games as a junior in 2018, including the season opener at Arizona State, and led the Roadrunners to a 25-21 win over rival Texas State.

Grundy began his college career at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, where as a freshman and sophomore he combined to rush for 534 yards and seven touchdowns and pass for 1,408 yards with 11 TD's. NEO claimed the Southwest Junior College Football Conference title his sophomore year.

He was born February 5, 1997 in Tulsa, Okla., and graduated from Tulsa's Booker T. Washington High School, where he lettered in football and basketball. His hobbies include playing basketball and working out. An All-State performer as a senior in high school, he passed for 1,633 yards and 18 touchdowns and rushed for 460 yards and four scores.



NATE DODSON

Offensive Graduate Assistant

Nate Dodson joined the CU staff as a graduate assistant for the offense on January 17, 2022. He works particularly with the quarterbacks.

Dodson, 28, came to Colorado from the University of Minnesota, where he was an offensive graduate assistant for the Gophers, working with the quarterbacks and wide receivers. He coached under offensive coordinator Mike Sanford, who was named to the similar position at Colorado in December 2021; at UM, he was responsible for opponent film breakdown, film project development and all advanced opponent personnel scouting in addition to numerous responsibilities during games.

Prior to his time at Minnesota, he spent two seasons as an operations intern with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams. With the Rams, he communicated with coaches on a daily basis to assist in the setup of drills and other on-field logistics.

Dodson graduated with a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Marketing in 2017 from Menlo College in Atherton, Calif. He lettered three times at quarterback for the Oaks football team, and also earned three letters as an outfielder and the captain of the baseball team. He owns the distinction of being the only athlete in Menlo school history to both hit a home run and throw a touchdown pass.

He was born May 31, 1994 in Los Angeles Calif., and graduated from Palisades Charter (Calif.) High School, where he lettered in football and junior varsity baseball. His hobbies include working out and exploring the outdoors.



KOLTER SMITH

Offensive Graduate Assistant

Kolter Smith is his first year as graduate assistant for the offense, as he was elevated to the position in January 17, 2022. He works with offensive line coach Kyle DeVan assisting with film breakdown and coaching among several other duties.

Smith, 24, was an offensive volunteer coach for the Buffaloes for the 2021 season, also working specifically with the offensive line. That followed three years as a student assistant coach, again working with the big guys up front.

He graduated from CU with a bachelor's degree in Business (Finance) in August 2020, also earning a certificate in the Business of Sports. He enrolled at CU in the fall of 2016 as a walk-on offensive guard and was on the team for two years before taking a medical. He remained with the program as a student coach for the next three years (2018-20) working with the O-linemen.

He was born March 5, 1998 in Omaha, Neb., and graduate from Deer Creek High School (Edmond, Okla.), where he lettered in football. His hobbies include cooking and working on his truck (Ford 150). His father, Kyle, was a two-year starter at left tackle for the Buffaloes; during his five-year CU career in the mid-90's, he was a part of Colorado teams that appeared in two Fiesta Bowls, one Cotton Bowl, one Holiday Bowl and one Aloha Bowl. He is married to the former Braelyn Smith.



ARMOND HAWKINS JR.

Asst. Director/High School Relations

Armond Hawkins Jr. joined the CU football program as the assistant director of high school relations on August 1, 2022.

Hawkins, 27, came to CU from the University of Southern California, where was the director of high school relations for the Trojans' football team for a little over two years (for the 2020 and 2021 seasons).

He graduated from the University of Idaho in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in Organizational Science. He was a four-year letterman for the Vandals at defensive back, appearing in 44 games (18 starts), with 129 career tackles (eight for losses), with two interceptions, nine passes broken up, five fumble recoveries and three forced fumbles.

He was born December 6, 1994 in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., and graduated from Rancho Cucamonga High School, where he lettered in football. Hobbies include video games, bowling and watching movies (all-time favorite is *The Wood*). A brother, Chris, was a defensive back at USC (2014-17) and a graduate assistant coach (2019) who now is coaching in the high school ranks.



EMILY GIUSTI

Recruiting Assistant

Emily Giusti is in her second year on the University of Colorado staff as a football recruiting assistant, as she joined the staff full-time on March 15, 2021. She had previously worked as a volunteer since September 2020.

Giusti, 24, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Economics from The Ohio State University in 2020. She worked as student operations and recruiting assistant for the Buckeyes' football team from 2017-2020. She was a part of the three Big Ten Conference title teams (2017-2019), and worked three bowl games for the school: the 2018 Cotton (a win over Southern California), the 2019 Rose (a victory over Washington) and the 2020 Fiesta (a loss to Clemson), the latter of which was also a College Football Playoff semifinal game.

She was born January 22, 1998 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and graduated from its St. Thomas Aquinas High School, where she lettered in softball (she was a member of a two-time state champion team). Her hobbies include taking her dog hiking, listening to podcasts and exploring all the food Colorado has to offer.

She has a video on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbvzvelGVA>) where she tells a story about being involved in a tragic boat accident as a teenager in high school where she lost a close friend and overcame severe injuries.



D.J. BRYANT

Asst. Player Personnel Director (Scouting)

D.J. Bryant is in his third year on the University of Colorado staff, his first as the assistant director of player personnel for scouting, which followed his promotion from lead recruiting assistant on July 1, 2021. He had joined the staff full-time on October 19, 2020 as an assistant in recruiting. His primary duties are overseeing the scouting

of high school prospects on the offensive and defensive sides of the football.

Bryant, 33, joined the CU program from Towson (Md.) University, where he had been the defensive quality control assistant since September 2018. At Towson, he worked with the full-time coaching staff with game scouting reports, videotape and other materials to develop schematic game strategies on upcoming opponents, along with a significant role in helping to coach the defensive ends.

He also was in defensive quality control for his alma mater, James Madison University, from September 2017 through July 2018. JMU was ranked No. 1 most of the '17 season, finishing 14-1 overall and No. 2 after a 17-13 setback to North Dakota State in the FCS Championship game. He was on the staff at Furman University for the 2015 and 2016 seasons, first as an intern working with the defensive line and in quality control, and then coaching the defensive ends in his second year.

He graduated from James Madison in December 2011 with a bachelor degree in Health & Physical Education and Recreation. He lettered four times for the Dukes at defensive end, making 123 career tackles (60 solo), recording 29 tackles for loss that included 13½ quarterback sacks. As a senior, when JMU lost in the second round of the FCS playoffs to eventual champion North Dakota State, he earned second-team All-America honors at end, along with first-team All-Colonial Athletic Association recognition and was the Dukes' most valuable player on defense.

Bryant signed as an undrafted free agent with the National Football League's Houston Texans and participated in the team's 2012 preseason training camp, playing the outside linebacker position. He then went on to be on the practice squads for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Indianapolis Colts and the New York Jets that same season, before signing in December with the Baltimore Ravens and remaining with the team into 2014 until knee injuries cut short his career. He was a member of the Ravens' Super Bowl champion team that defeated San Francisco, 34-31, to cap the 2013 season. He did remain in football, spending the fall of 2014 as the defensive backs coach at Milford Mill High School (Windsor Mill, Md.).

He was born March 3, 1989 in Baltimore, Md., and graduated from Randallstown (Md.) High School, where he lettered in football and basketball (forward; he was member of a 3-time state champion and his teams lost just five games in

three years). His hobbies include playing basketball, Xbox and spending time with family. He is engaged to be married to Annell Barrimond; he has two sons Camryn (7), and Bryce Kobe (born last Feb).

TANNER NORTON

Recruiting Assistant (Scouting)

Tanner Norton is in his first year on the University of Colorado staff as a football recruiting assistant (scouting), as he joined the staff in May 2022.

Norton, 27, came to from the Coors Brewing Co., where he was in merchandising for about six months; but he has returned to the profession of his first love, as previously he was with the NFL's Denver Broncos as a scouting assistant for two years (June 2019 through May 2021). With the Broncos, he was involved in the evaluation and grading of professional teams, attending local pro days, coordinating free agent information including hosting them, and assisting in filming practice periods.

He was an offensive assistant for Oklahoma State University for the 2018 season, working for a year in assisting the quarterback, receivers and running back coaches in various daily tasks. The Cowboy offense finished 10th in the nation in total offense (500.2 yards per game) and 13th in scoring (38.4 points per game). He also helped run the scout special teams unit for the regular season. OSU was 7-6 that season, but 4-1 against ranked teams and were the Liberty Bowl champions with a 38-33 win over Missouri.

Norton graduated from Oklahoma State with a bachelor's degree in University Studies in 2018, also earning a minor in Coaching Science; he was a member of the Dean's Honor Roll with a 3.5 grade point average. As a student, he was an assistant with OSU's summer football camps and was a recruiting assistant for four years (2014-17).

He was born December 11, 1994 in Durango, Colo., and graduated from Durango (Okla.) High School, where he lettered in football, basketball and baseball. His hobbies include golf, snowboarding and working out. He married to the former Tianna McDonald.



MAILEKA SLAYTON

Assistant Director/On-Campus Recruiting

Maileka Slayton is in her first year on the University of Colorado staff as the assistant director for on-campus recruiting, as she joined the department on May 24, 2022.

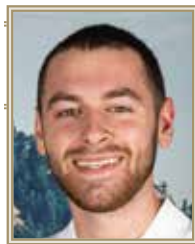
Slayton, 27, came to Colorado from Samford University in Homewood, Ala., where she was the donor relations coordinator from February 2021 until she left for CU. Included among her many duties were donor recognition, stewardship and acknowledgment; planning and executing donor hospitality events at home football and basketball games and Samford's annual Hall of Fame celebration and golf tournament; and managing a team of 20 student workers and Samford ambassadors.

She previous had worked as an events and hospitality intern for the Reese's Senior Bowl (January 2019-January 2020), where she was responsible for registered over 200 members of the media and NFL scouts along with game day administration and management.

Slayton also worked as a recruiting assistant for the Auburn University football team (2018 season) and as an operations intern for Kennesaw State University for the 2017 season.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Sports Management from Kennesaw State in December 2017. A four-year letterwinner on the Owls track team, she earned multiple All-Atlantic Sun (ASUN) Conference honors in sprints and relays across four events and was a USTFCCA second-team All-American in the 4x100 relay as a freshman. She had collegiate bests of 23.59 in the 200 and 55.16 in the 400.

She was born February 16, 1995 in Norcross, Ga., and graduated from Greater Atlanta Christian High School where she lettered in track. A two-time state champion in the 100- and 200-meter dashes (personal bests as a prep of 11.84 and 24.38, respectively), she set four school records and was on the relay teams that set two state marks (4x100 and 4x400).



BRANDON KRONETHAL

Recruiting Assistant (Scouting)

Brandon Kronethal is in his second year on the University of Colorado staff as a football recruiting assistant (scouting), as he joined the staff full-time on June 7, 2021. He had previously worked as a volunteer for the previous three months.

Kronethal, 23, came to Colorado from Wake Forest University, where he was a recruiting intern in the football office. He had several responsibilities, among them evaluating prospects' video for the director of player personnel and his assistants; assisting the coaching staff in on-field duties on game days and in practice; managed and updated recruiting boards; and assorted data entry to track seasons of top prospects and commits and entering other pertinent information on team members and recruits.

A 2020 graduate of Penn State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Public Relations, as an undergrad he was a football recruiting intern for the Nittany Lions for just under two years, covering the 2018 and 2019 seasons. He reported directly to the recruiting coordinator (and the running backs coach) and among his many duties, helped identify and evaluate high school prospects. A few other responsibilities included assisting with visit and game day operations and monitoring the NCAA transfer portal.

During his senior year at Penn State, he was a scouting intern for Optimum Scouting/XFL, where he was tasked with creating 223 player biographies and college scouting reports for XFL Showcases and NFL roster cuts. He also worked with the director of analytics breaking down video and inputted prospect information for almost 2,000 players over the 10 FBS conferences for the league's database.

He was born September 17, 1998 in Stamford, Conn., and graduated from Briarcliff High School (Briarcliff Manor, N.Y.).



CONNOR GORNY,

Assistant Sports Performance Coach/ Sports Science Coordinator

Connor Gorny is in his first year as an assistant sports performance coach and the sport science coordinator for CU's football program, as he joined the department on February 14, 2022.

Gorny, 28, came to Colorado from Major League Soccer's (MLS) Real Salt Lake Claret and Cobalt, where he worked in the development academy and first team as a performance coach and sport scientist.

Prior to RSL, Gorny was the assistant director of strength and conditioning for the football team at Utah State University, a position he held from January 2019 through December 2020. One of the positions he worked closely with was quarterback, which included Jordan Love, a first round pick (26th overall) by the Green Bay Packers in the 2020 NFL Draft. He had previously been a sport science/strength and conditioning intern at the University of Utah in the summer of 2018.

Gorny graduated in 2016 from Ball State University with a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science; he was an undergraduate exercise science lab technician the final semester of his senior year. He earned his Master's degree in Applied Exercise Physiology from Columbia University in 2019. While earning his advanced degree, he was a graduate assistant in applied physiology, a strength and conditioning intern at the University, and a strength and conditioning volunteer at St. Francis College (Brooklyn, N.Y.).

He was born January 26, 1994 in Schererville, Ind., and graduated from Andean High School (Merrillville, Ind.) where he lettered in football and soccer. His hobbies include playing golf and spending time in the mountains. After graduating from Ball State in May 2016, he was a sports performance intern at the Parisi Speed School in Schererville, Ind.



DARIUS REESE

Assistant Sports Performance Coach

Darius Reese is in his second year as an assistant sports performance coach for football, joining the department on February 10, 2021. He works primarily with Colorado's football program. He has been reunited with CU's director of football sports performance, Shannon Turley, as he worked under him for four years at Stanford.

Reese, 32, came to CU from Stanford University, where he spent six seasons in the football sports performance area with the Cardinal, the last two years (2019, 2020) as the assistant director. He ascended through the ranks, beginning as an intern in 2015, then working as a graduate assistant and then as a full-time assistant coach.

As a full-time coach, he was an associate football sports performance coach for football, in addition to designing and implementing training programs for wrestling and men's gymnastics. As a graduate assistant, Reese oversaw the annual program for men's gymnastics and the women's lightweight rowing team, the latter of whom were national champions in 2015-16. As an intern, he worked with several sports, assisting the training programs for baseball, softball, men's and women's water polo, women's rowing and women's gymnastics.

At Stanford, he coached several top players, including two runner-ups for the Heisman Trophy, Christian McCaffrey and Bryce Love, John Mackey Award finalist, Kaden Smith, and two other first round NFL draft picks in addition to McCaffrey, Joshua Garnett and Solomon Thomas. The Cardinal went to four bowl games during his time on their staff, the 2016 Rose, 2016 Sun, 2017 Alamo and 2018 Sun.

Reese was also an intern for strength and conditioning at Portland State University, where he assisted with all aspects of the strength, speed, and agility for football and women's tennis programs. He also served as a volunteer strength and conditioning intern at Bellarmine Preparatory (Calif.).

He graduated from San Jose State with a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology, with an emphasis in Exercise and Fitness in 2014, and was an honor roll member for five semesters. He joined the Spartans as a walk-on cornerback under the late head coach Dick Tomey. In 2017, he earned his master's degree in Kinesiology with an emphasis in Exercise Physiology, also from SJSU.

He was born June 22, 1990 in Duarte, Calif., and graduated from Duarte High School, where he lettered in football, basketball and track and field (sprints and relays). His hobbies include exercising, hiking, gaming and being outdoors. He is engaged to Ruth Lorimer, and the couple is expecting their first child this July. A high school teammate of his was Michael Harris, an offensive lineman at UCLA who went on to play with the San Diego Chargers and Minnesota Vikings. He is C.S.C.S., RSCC, USAW Level 1, FMS, MobilityWOD Specialist, CPR, AED and First Aid certified.



JACOB RICKETTS

Assistant Sports Performance Coach

Jacob Ricketts is in his first year as an assistant sports performance coach for football at Colorado, as he joined the program on February 14, 2022. He is certified through the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (CSCCA) and is a member of the organization.

Ricketts, 28, came to CU from Temple University, where he served as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for three years (2019-21) and was promoted by the Owls as the associate director of football sports performance and applied science his last year there.

He had joined the Temple staff after spending three years at Northern Illinois University. At NIU Ricketts began as an intern and progressed into an assistant director of sports performance. He spent two years in that position working directly with the NIU student-athletes, and while at NIU, he earned his master's degree in Sports Management in 2017.

Before NIU, Ricketts spent the summer 2015 working at Stanford as a sports performance intern, where he worked under Shannon Turley, CU's current director of strength and conditioning and football performance. He also interned on the strength and conditioning staff at Montana State University in 2014.

He graduated from University of Dubuque in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in Health, Wellness and Exercise Science. He lettered playing linebacker on the Spartans' football team and was an active member in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. An Academic All-Conference team member as a sophomore, he was also active in several programs in the community.

A native of Rochelle, Ill., he graduated from Rochelle Township High School, where he lettered in football, basketball and track. He is married to the former Mackenzie Vivian, and they have a son, Cullen (2).



SCOTT SACUSKIE

Assistant Sports Performance Coach

Scott Sacuskie is in his second year as an assistant sports performance coach for football at Colorado, as he joined the program on July 27, 2021.

Sacuskie, 42, came to CU from Johansen High School in his native Modesto, Calif., where for nearly 10 years (2012-21) he was the school's athletic director, overseeing some 22 varsity sports, as well as the head football coach and weight lifting instructor.

He was a sports performance coach at Stanford University for almost four years (2009-12), where he first worked with CU's current strength, conditioning and performance head coach, Shannon Turley. He started as a volunteer and was eventually hired full-time; he assisted with the football program and oversaw wrestling. He previously was a teacher (primary health and physical education) and assistant varsity football coach at East Union High School in Manteca, Calif., from 2005-11.

Sacuskie graduated from Portland State University with a bachelor's degree in School Health Education in 2003. At PSU, he lettered as a tight end for head coach Tim Walsh. He earned his master's in Kinesiology from Fresno Pacific University in 2010.

He was born Dec. 7, 1979 in Modesto, Calif., where graduated from Thomas Downey High School and was a letterman in football and baseball. He is married to the former Becky Mayer, and the couple has three boys, Noah (14), Owen (12) and Jonah (10).



EMILY FUNKE

Asst. Director of Football Operations

Emily Funke is in her third year as the assistant to head coach Karl Dorrell, assuming the role on March 2, 2020. She was also named the assistant director of football operations on August 16, 2022; she will handle both roles forward.

Funke, 25, transferred over to the football department from CU's athletic events and facilities department, where she was working for assistant athletic director Orville Jennings since August 26, 2019.

She graduated from Texas A&M University (College Station) in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in Business (Marketing), with an emphasis in Professional Sales, along with earning a minor in Sports Management. As a student, she worked in the athletic department in facilities and operations for a year with Kyle Field/Football as her main area of focus; she also helped manage the daily upkeep and operations of each athletic venue.

She also served on two organization committees at A&M, President of the 12th Man Student Foundation and Vice President of External Operations for Sport Management Society. She also was an intern for the Texas Bowl for its 2017 and 2018 games.

Funke was born December 18, 1996 in Corpus Christi, Texas, and graduated from Sinton (Texas) High School, where was a three-sport athlete in volleyball, basketball and tennis. She is bi-lingual, as she is well-versed in American Sign Language. Her hobbies include watching college sports and the NFL, taking long runs throughout the Colorado mountain sides, going to the beach and traveling around the United States. She also studies famous quotations, her favorite being the anonymously penned, "Don't count the minutes, just the laughs. Enjoy the little things and make them last."



JEAN ONAGA

Administrative Assistant

Jean Onaga is in her 38th year with the Colorado football program as the administrative assistant to the assistant coaches, handling all secretarial duties for both the offensive and defensive coordinators and each staff, while also assisting the director of football operations. Now the sixth-longest tenured employee in CU athletic department history, she has previously also assisted the director of recruiting in administrative duties.

Onaga, who is currently the second-longest tenured employee in all of the athletic department, also coordinates all football office volunteers regarding security for spring and fall practices. She facilitates program activities and events including all pro scout visits year-round and the school's annual pro timing day every March. She also assists with the coaches' clinic as well as registration for various football camps.

She joined the football staff in January 1986 and is the longest continuous employee in the football department; only three current employees have been associated with the entire athletic department longer than her. She has worked under eight CU head coaches: Bill McCartney, Rick Neuheisel, Gary Barnett, Dan Hawkins, Jon Embree, Mike MacIntyre, Mel Tucker and now Karl Dorrell.

For her years of service, Jean was recognized with an "Honorary C" award by the Alumni C Club by the Board of Directors during CU-Missouri game on November 3, 2007.

Originally from Honolulu, Hawaii, Jean and her husband Loren moved to Boulder in 1985. She graduated from McKinley High School and graduated from Kapiolani Community College with a degree in business. Her hobbies include collecting college and NFL sports collectibles, visiting airplane, car and railroad museums, watching college and NFL football games and major league baseball games. She also enjoys traveling; she has traveled to 24 U.S. states and Canada (Vancouver, Victoria and British Columbia), Mexico and Japan.



SUPPORT PROGRAM STAFF



(Biographies for those who have considerable daily interaction with the program.)



LAURA ANDERSON
Associate AD/Performance Nutrition
Sports Dietitian

Laura Anderson is in her ninth year as a member of the University of Colorado athletic staff, having first joined the program in August 2014 as the department's first-ever dietitian. She was promoted to the associate athletic director for performance nutrition on August 1, 2018.

In her role, she oversees all of the nutritional needs for all of Colorado's 360-plus student-athletes, in addition to coordinating the kitchen staff in CU's Champion Center.

Anderson, 43, came to CU from the 10th Group Special Forces in Colorado Springs, where she was the performance dietitian for the Tactical Human Optimization, Rapid Rehabilitation & Recovery Program for just under four years (November 2010-August 2014). Among her many responsibilities was to provide individual and group performance nutrition counseling to enhance the health and performance of the Active Duty Special Forces tactical athlete, assisting with menu development, and education material for both food service staff and customers and directing nutritional care activities for active duty soldiers, including those with complex medical and nutritional needs. In 2012, she received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service 10th Special Forces.

She previously has spent nearly three years (January 2008-November 2010) as a sport dietitian with the United States Olympic Committee, working with a wide diversity of male and female athletes for both winter and summer sports. Her duties ranged from performing assorted tests on the athletes to conducting educational seminars to even include the coaching staffs. She was also the official "team baker" for the men's and women's alpine ski teams at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

Anderson also has worked in various other positions along the Colorado Front Range as a program dietitian, a nutrition services dietitian and as a dietitian/strength and conditioning specialist.

She earned her bachelor's degree in Health and Exercise Science from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse in 2001, and received her master's degree in Interdisciplinary Health and Exercise Science and Nutrition from Colorado State University in 2004. She also performed two internships (Exercise Physiology at St. Andrews War Memorial Hospital in Brisbane, Australia, in 2001; Dietetic at James A. Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa, Fla., in 2005).

A registered dietitian with the American Dietetic Association, she is also board certified as a specialist in sports nutrition, by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) as a health and fitness instructor and by ISAK (International Society for Advancement in Kinanthropometry); she is also certified in CPR and first aid.

She is a member of the American Dietetic Association and the Colorado Dietetic Association, and an affiliate with SCAN (Sports, Cardiovascular and Wellness Nutrition), Weight Management and CPSDA (College, Professional, Sports Dietitian Association).

A native of Richland Center, Wis., and graduated from Richland Center High School, where she lettered four years each in softball and volleyball. Her hobbies include biking (mountain and road), rock climbing, trail running and cooking. She is married to Chris Alstrin, and as she says, the couple has one "crazy" dog (Lexi, a pointer lab).



DaWON BAKER
Associate AD/Diversity,
Equity & Inclusion

DaWon Baker is in his second year on the CU athletic staff, as he began his role as the department's first-ever Associate Athletic Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) on May 1, 2021.

Baker joined the Colorado staff from the University of Nebraska, where he had served in a similar role as the Huskers' Diversity & Inclusion Director in Life Skills and Enrichment since September 2018.

At Nebraska, he was responsible for diversity and inclusion initiatives for all staff, coaches and student-athletes. He provided oversight and direction on the annual Diversity and Inclusion Summit, Next Steps outreach, N-Vest Mentoring Program, direction of the campus-wide Husker Athletics Diversity & Inclusion Committee (HADIC) and Husker Inclusion Council (HIC). He also served as a Life Skills coach for three varsity programs (football, rifle and men's

Though only at Nebraska for two-and-a-half years, he was heavily involved from practically the start in representing the athletic department in numerous campus partnerships, including the Diversity Engagement Team, comprised of a group of administrative professionals whose primary responsibilities are keenly focused on promoting diversity, equity, and/or inclusion across the UNL campus.

In August 2019, Baker co-founded the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Council of Excellence (DIECE), a membership organization that provides support and resources for diversity officers who work in athletics. He is also an advisory board member for Return On Inclusion (ROI) and an advisory committee member for the Winning Edge Leadership Academy.

Baker is a 2015 graduate of the University of Missouri, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Parks, Recreation and Tourism and also participated in track and field (long jump). It is also where he received his first experience working in intercollegiate athletics as a marketing intern for the volleyball team and as a student customer service representative for the ticket office. His passion for DEI started while he was attending Missouri; born and raised in St. Louis, the tragic death of Michael Brown nearby his hometown of St. Louis, an event that drew national attention, prompted his initial interest.

Baker earned his Master's degree in Business Administration and a Master's in Sport Business Management from the University of Central Florida in 2016. While attending UCF, he served as an academic mentor and game day intern in the athletic department, as well as a student assistant in the Office of Student-Athlete Welfare and Development. In addition, he was also a graduate research assistant for The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES), where he was under the tutelage of Dr. Richard Lapchick, the well-respected national expert in diversity management, race relations, academics, sports and social issues.

After he earned his graduate degrees, he worked at the NCAA as a postgraduate intern in the Leadership Development department from June 2017 through June 2018. In that role, he worked on career, professional and personal development programs, which was designed to help student-athletes, coaches and administrators enhance their skills. He also worked closely with administrators to coordinate programs for minority administrators throughout the NCAA membership, and served as a member of the project team for the NCAA Inclusion Forum.

He is also an accomplished writer, as he spent three years as a contributor to FrontOfficeSports.com, writing features and contributing content about professional development opportunities and specific business professions in the world of sports.

A native of St. Louis, he graduated from Hazelwood East High School, where he lettered in football and track and field. His hobbies include podcasts, playing pickup basketball and flag football, and is passionate about advocating for social change. He is married to the former Brandy Leggins, and the couple has one daughter, Nori (I).



MICHELE BRANNIGAN
Director of Academic Learning,
Resources & Support

Michele Brannigan is in her 16th year as a member of the CU athletic department, her second as the director of academic learning, resources and support, having been promoted to the position on July 1, 2021.

She originally joined CU's Herbst Academic Center staff on Sept. 3, 2008 as a senior learning specialist, and was promoted to an associate director of academics in 2017. Her qualifications now include over 20 years of teaching experience and in-depth academic administrative knowledge, and extensive work with CU's football student-athletes in her time in Boulder.

Brannigan's daily responsibilities consist of providing academic services to high risk/high need student-athletes who are diagnosed with learning disabilities (e.g., dyslexia), ADHD or require additional support services for their academic endeavors. She works with and meets one-on-one with student-athletes across all of CU's 17 intercollegiate sports to develop strategic plans for improving academic performances. This is done in a focused learning



environment in which the athletes gain awareness of their individual learning styles and strengths, organization and time management strategies, test taking and various other critical thinking skills.

Brannigan also identifies potential educational, emotional, focus and attention concerns and works closely with university resources and makes any necessary referrals.

Brannigan earned obtained her bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education from Boston College, where she graduated cum laude in 1986, also earning a minor in English. At BC, she played on the school's club rugby team for three years. She earned her master's degree in Educational Administration, Supervision and Curriculum Development from the University of Colorado at Denver in 1990.

She was a special education teacher/coordinator in public school systems for six years (1999-2005) at the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School in Orleans, Mass., as well as after she then relocated to Colorado at the Jefferson Academy in Broomfield.

Born the former Michele Rogers in Camillus, N.Y., where she graduated from West Genesee High School; her hobbies include Cooking and traveling. Her and husband Mark have two grown sons, Dylan and Keaton.

facility uses on an annual basis. The entire expansion project is the largest capital project in CU Boulder history and is a LEED Platinum facility.

DePaepe had worked as the athletic turf manager for 12 years prior to his first promotion, responsible for all maintenance, renovation, upkeep and painting and design of Folsom Field's natural grass surface as well as the athletic practice fields located just north of Boulder Creek and Prentup Field, home to CU's women's soccer team. He originally joined CU in June 2000 as an assistant turf manager and was promoted to the head position in February 2001. He was considered by many to be one of the best in his field, and he still oversees all of CU's field operations.

He came to CU from the Baltimore Ravens and prior to that, he was employed by the Iowa State Athletic Department as a student and graduated from there in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science.

He was born May 4, 1974 in Minot, N.D., and graduated from Waterloo (Iowa) West, where he lettered in baseball and basketball. His hobbies include golf and camping. He is married to the former Kristen Sorensen, one-time CU's director of special events, and the couple has two daughters, Brielle (9) and Evelyn (7).



NICK CROMIDAS
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Nick Cromidas is in his second year as an assistant athletic trainer at Colorado, as he was hired on April 1, 2021. He works primarily with CU's football team and the Ralphie Handlers.

Cromidas, 26, joined the CU staff from the National Football League's New England Patriots, where he was a seasonal athletic trainer for the 2021 season. Previously, he spent two years (2018-20) as a graduate assistant athletic trainer at the University of Minnesota. While with the Gophers, he worked two bowl games, the 2018 Quick Lane Bowl against Georgia Tech and the 2020 Outback Bowl versus Auburn (both won by Minnesota).

He is a 2018 graduate of Washington State University, earning his bachelor's degree in Athletic Training; he was a student trainer in the athletic department for three years. He received his Masters of Education in Sports and Exercise Science from Minnesota in 2020.

He was born January 16, 1996 in Rogers, Ark., and graduated from Valencia (Calif.) High School, where he lettered in basketball. His hobbies include hiking, playing ultimate Frisbee, attending sporting events and being a craft beer aficionado, he enjoys exploring new breweries and beers.



AMBER EDWARDS
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Amber Edwards is in her second year as an assistant athletic trainer at Colorado, as she was hired on July 19, 2021. She works exclusively with CU's football team.

Edwards, 30, joined the CU sports medicine team from the University of Louisiana at Monroe, where she was an assistant athletic trainer for the football team for the 2019 and 2020 seasons. She had previously served as an assistant trainer for the football and men's and women's golf teams from 2017-19 at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., and was on the Thundering Herd's staff for two bowl victories (against Colorado State in the 2017 New Mexico Bowl and versus South Florida in the 2018 Gasparilla Bowl).

She graduated from Troy University in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in Athletic Training, where she was a student athletic trainer, and earned her masters of science in Exercise Science from Louisiana-Monroe in 2016 and was a graduate assistant trainer for the Warhawks. She began her professional career as an intern for the football program at the University of Texas at Austin from 2016-17.

She was born November 29, 1991 in Tuscaloosa, Ala., and graduated from Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa where she lettered in soccer. Her hobbies include watching sports and spending time with her dog Wyatt, a miniature dachshund.



JASON DePAEPE
Deputy AD/Internal Operations

Jason DePaepe is in his third year as CU's deputy athletic director, and is now in his fourth year overseeing the department's internal operations, having been promoted to a senior associate AD for that position on August 1, 2018. He is in his 22nd year overall at the University of Colorado.

DePaepe, 48, who is also a member of athletic director Rick George's executive team and the sports administrator for the men's basketball program, had served over four years (2013-18) as the associate athletic director for facilities and game day operations (promoted to that post in February 2013). He coordinated game day management and operations, specifically for football and CU's other outside sport programs. He was the recipient of the Alumni C Club's "Honorary C" award in 2017 for his dedication to the department.

In addition to overseeing all staff members who coordinate the facility and maintenance needs for Folsom Field, the Dal Ward Athletic Center, the Champions Center, Balch Fieldhouse, Prentup Field, Potts Field, the Indoor Practice Facility (IPF), Kittredge Lacrosse Field, and the South Campus Tennis Facility, he now oversees human resources and the stadium's concessionaire, Levy.

DePaepe's responsibilities also include managing capital projects and he oversaw the recent Champions Center Complex facility expansion project from 2014-16 – working as the Athletic Department liaison with Mortenson Construction and the Populous design firm on the \$166 million project that added over 326,000 new square feet to the athletic department and renovated another 38,000 sq. ft. The six-story Champions Center and the Dal Ward renovations were completed in late 2015. The indoor practice facility (IPF) was completed in early 2016 and includes an artificial turf football field as well as a 300-meter, 8-lane track. The IPF is the only net-zero energy facility of its kind and boasts 850kW of solar panels that create more electricity than the



CECIL HAIRSTON II
Associate AD/Ticket Operations

Cecil Hairston II is in his fourth year as the associate athletic director for ticket operations, sales and services, joining the department on May 1, 2019.

Hairston, 43, is a veteran in the ticketing profession, as he brings 15 years of on-campus experience with previous stops at Bowling Green State University, Oregon State, Cincinnati and most recently Boise State. He has focused on revenue generation while fostering customer service driven cultures, having led ticketing teams that achieved the highest attended home football and men's basketball games in Cincinnati history as well as the top 10 attended football games in Oregon State history, where he also led the unit that was responsible for the highest number of season ticket sales in school annals.

At his previous schools, he has coordinated ticket sales for eight football bowl games: Hawai'i (two), Sun (two), GMAC, Emerald, Las Vegas and Alamo, and while at Oregon State, handled the College World Series ticket distribution for the Beavers' back-to-back national champion baseball teams in 2006 and 2007.

Hairston began his professional career at his alma mater, serving as the assistant director of ticket operations at BGSU in 2004-05; he then moved on in a similar capacity at Oregon State (2005-08), before being named director of ticket ops from 2008-10. He was promoted to assistant AD at OSU in 2010, where he oversaw ticket operations, concessions and merchandising. He returned to his home state (Ohio) in 2015, where he would serve three years as the assistant athletic director for ticket operations at the University of Cincinnati.

He moved back to the Pacific Northwest for a year (2018), working as the general manager for IMG College/Learfield and Boise State University.



Hairston graduated from Bowling Green State University in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in the school's Sport Management program. At BGSU, he made the Dean's List on several occasions.

He was born November 7, 1978 in Columbus, Ohio (he has four sisters), and graduated from Columbus' Beechcroft High School, where he lettered in football. His hobbies include travel and cooking; he also takes pride in being a "third-generation left-hander," following his dad and grandfather as southpaws. He is married to the former LaTisha "Tish" Swann, and the couple has three children, Jordyn (23), Rashawn (20), and Rahman (15).



ANDREW HAMSTRA

Associate Athletic Trainer/Football

Andrew Hamstra is in his fourth year as the associate athletic trainer overseeing the football program, as he was hired on August 6, 2019, one week into CU's fall training camp.

Hamstra, 33, joined the Colorado staff from Washington State University, where he had served as the school's head football athletic trainer from June 2018 through July 2019; before he was named WSU's full-time athletic trainer, he was first the interim head athletic trainer for the 2018 spring practices and the initial summer workouts, a position he was promoted into from his assistant athletic trainer role in which he had performed dating back to 2014.

He has played a vital role in the department in his second year, working with CU's sports medicine team in developing an extremely organized procedure for the testing of over 120 players and staff daily during the coronavirus pandemic that hit the nation in the spring of 2020.

He is certified by the National Athletic Trainers Association Board of Certification (NATABOC), the National Academy of Sports Medicine (corrective exercise specialist) and is also certified in CPR and First Aid.

He was selected as the 2019 Northwest Athletic Trainers Association (NWATA) New Horizons Award recipient, which is awarded to a young professional who has made a unique or immediate impact within the NWATA and athletic training profession.

Hamstra earned bachelor degrees in Athletic Training and Kinesiology in 2011 from Whitworth University (Spokane, Wash.), and earned his master's degree in Exercise & Sports Studies from Boise State University in 2013. While at Boise State, he was a graduate assistant athletic trainer working primarily with the football and track and field programs (he was designated as the "leader graduate assistant" his second year there, the 2012-13 athletic season).

As an undergrad at Whitworth, he played football and was also a student athletic trainer; in 2010, he had an athletic training internship with the Spokane Chiefs on the Western Hockey League.

Following his graduation from Boise State, he was a seasonal athletic trainer for the National Football League's Atlanta Falcons for the 2013 season. He assisted the athletic performance and sports medicine staff with the daily care of the professional athletes. While in Atlanta, he also worked as an athletic trainer for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

He was born in Denver and graduated from Denver Christian High School, where he lettered in football, basketball and baseball. A huge Colorado Avalanche fan, his hobbies include fishing, movies and playing with his two sons. He is married to the former Danielle Van Eps, and the couple has two sons, Holden (7) and Brock (3).



ARIKO ISO

Associate Athletic Trainer

Ariko Iso is in her second year as the associate athletic trainer for football at Colorado, as she joined the CU sports medicine staff on August 16, 2021. She brought a vast amount of experience with her to the position, including time spent in the National Football League and at two FBS college programs.

Iso, 51, came to Colorado from Loyola University in Baltimore, Md., where she was an assistant athletic trainer from 2020-21 after working briefly with the Los Angeles Wildcats of the XFL which had followed two years (2018-19) as the head football athletic trainer at Towson University.

That followed two years as the associate athletic trainer at San Jose State University (2017-18), where she earned her advanced degree. Iso had returned to her undergraduate alma mater, Oregon State University, where she was the head football athletic trainer from 2011-17. The Beavers played in the 2012 Valero Alamo Bowl, where Texas scored two late touchdowns to rally for the win.

Prior to returning to OSU, she was the only female athletic trainer in the NFL, spending nine seasons on the staff of the Pittsburgh Steelers. With the Steelers, she was a part of two Super Bowl champion teams, XL in 2005 (defeating Seattle) and XLIII in 2008 (defeating Arizona in the last minute). Pittsburgh also won the 2010 AFC title but lost to Green Bay in Super Bowl XLV. Three former Buffaloes were under her watchful eye during her time with the Steelers, Kordell Stewart, Jeremy Bloom and Mitch Berger.

Prior to accepting the position with the Steelers, Iso spent five years as the associate athletic trainer for Portland State University, where she served as the head football trainer. Her collegiate career also includes serving as the assistant athletic trainer at Foothill College in California for nearly three years.

She is a member of the National Athletic Trainers Association, the Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society and is certified by the National Athletic Trainers Association.

In addition to her collegiate experience, Iso has served as the head trainer at the 2006 World 21 and Under Track Championships, the 2001 World Cross Country Championships, the 1998 Yokohama International Ekiden and the 1996 East-West Shrine Football Game. She has also worked at the Nike World Master Games, U.S. Mobil Outdoor Track and Field Championships and at the 1994 World Cup Soccer tournament.

The Tokyo native came to the United States to attend college and graduated from Oregon State with a bachelor's of science degree in Health and Human Performance in 1993. She earned a master's of art in physical education and athletic training from San Jose State in 1995.

She was born in Tokyo, Japan, on December 7, 1970 and graduated from its Futaba High School where she was on the basketball team. Her hobbies include international traveling, eating and cooking. Most of her relatives still live in Japan; a nephew is a collegiate tennis player (at Tokyo's Sophia University) and another nephew is a high school competitive downhill skier and tennis player (Toride High School in the Ibaragi prefecture).



DE'RON JASPER

Assistant AD/Academic Services & Operations

De'Ron Jasper is in his fourth year as a member of the CU athletic department, his second as the assistant athletic director for academic services and operations, having been promoted to the position on July 1, 2021.

He had previously been promoted to an associate director of academics in the Herbst Academic Center on July 1, 2020. He had joined the Colorado staff as an assistant director on July 16, 2019.

Prior to his arriving at CU, Jasper served as Academic Coordinator of Student-Athletes at Mercer University (Macon, Ga.). His responsibilities at Mercer included academic oversight of football, women's basketball, women's golf, women's lacrosse, men's golf, men's lacrosse and men's soccer. Also, he assisted in the study hall and tutoring programs and was the textbook coordinator. While at Mercer, he helped the school win three consecutive Barrett-Bonner awards (given to the Southern Conference University with the highest percentage of student-athletes over a 3.0 GPA).

Jasper previously served as an adjunct instructor at Old Dominion University in the Darden College of Education. He simultaneously served as the director of Project Launch through the Virginia Modeling Analysis Simulation Center. Project Launch is a program designed to assist at-risk students in their pursuit of post-secondary education enrollment and job acquisition while enrolled as a junior or senior in high school.

Jasper graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) with a bachelor's degree in management and a minor in psychology. While pursuing his bachelor's degree, he was a scholarship student-athlete (football) and three-time letterman. He then attended Old Dominion as a graduate student-athlete and lettered an additional year in football. Jasper graduated from there with a master's in Science in Education.

He is an active member in the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics (N4A), National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS), National Academic Advising Association (NACADA), and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Education from Old Dominion.

He was born in Richmond, Va., and graduated from Dunwoody High School in Atlanta, Ga., where he lettered in football, basketball, track and field and in band (saxophone). (*first name is pronounced day-ron*)



MARK JOHNSON

Director of Audio Broadcasting

Mark Johnson is in his sixth year as CU's first-ever director of audio broadcasting for the athletic department, as he was named to the position on July 1, 2017. He is also in his 19th season as the play-by-play announcer for CU's football and men's basketball teams, as he assumed the role of "Voice of the Buffaloes" ahead

of the 2004-05 athletic year.

In his role and in addition to his announcing duties, he hosts various television and radio shows, podcasts, makes personal appearances and does voiceover work for the university. He also does television and radio work for various national and regional networks in the Rocky Mountain Region and across the country and has become known for his distinctive, booming tenor voice.

Johnson, 55, was named sports director at KOA-Radio in Denver in the spring of 2004, replacing the retiring Larry Zimmer, who had held the position for over two decades. Zimmer, the long-time "Voice of the Buffaloes, had handled the play-by-play chores for CU dating back to 1971, but shifted over to the analyst position when Johnson was hired. When Zimmer retired from announcing after the 2015 season, the mantra of "Voice of the Buffs" fully shifted to "M.J."

Prior to coming to Colorado, Johnson spent three years as the "Voice of the Orange" for Syracuse University football and men's basketball. He was at the microphone when former Denver Nugget, Carmelo Anthony, led the Orange to the 2003 NCAA championship. He also hosted weekly call-in shows for basketball coach Jim Boeheim and football coach Paul Pasqualoni, the Syracuse Sidelines television show and served as the ISP-SU Radio Network affiliate liaison. He also was a frequent speaker and emcee for numerous local charitable, civic group and Rotary Club functions.

His entire professional career has been spent in broadcasting. Before his time in Syracuse, he was the sports director for WJBC-Radio in Bloomington, Ill., and was the play-by-play announcer for four years at Illinois State University, where he earned three Silver Dome Awards for best play-by-play broadcast in the state of Illinois. Johnson also worked two years announcing football and basketball games his alma mater, the University of North Dakota, and was a talk show host and play-by-play announcer for three years at WASK-AM and WKOA-FM in Lafayette, Ind.

Although his vocation as sportscaster reflects a life-long love of sports, for the past 20 years, Johnson has been called to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ to various churches, men's groups and conferences throughout the region. His message has been to encourage men to live lives of integrity, commitment, and responsibility. He is heavily involved in numerous charity and community organizations serving as an emcee and guest speaker. In recent years he has been a guest-host on numerous Christian television shows on the Daystar and Trinity Broadcasting networks and frequently serves as guest speaker at various men's groups and churches.

In 2015 Johnson became the President of the Evergreen Rodeo Association in Evergreen (Colo.), serving a one-year term. His involvement in rodeo continues a life-long love of horses and the Western way-of-life. In the summer of 2019, Johnson added benefit and charity auctioneering to his resume, as he graduated from the World Wide College of Auctioneering.

He earned a bachelor's degree in communications from North Dakota in 1992.

A native of Hillsboro, N.D., he graduated from Grand Forks (N.D.) Central High School, where he was an All-State basketball player. His hobbies include spending time with his family, riding his horses, playing with his two dogs, hunting and fly-fishing. He is married to the former Susan Jacobson, who was Miss North Dakota for 1989 and competed in the Miss America pageant. The couple has three grown children, sons Nicolas and Jake, and daughter Halle (who is married to a former Navy Corpsman, John Mathues); they are the grandfather of one (Yuley, born this past August). In 2016, he was the recipient of the Alumni C Club's "Honorary C" award for his dedication to the department.



KRIS LIVINGSTON

Executive Senior Associate AD/Academics

Kris Livingston is in her 26th year at the University of Colorado, her second as the executive senior associate athletic director. A member of athletic director Rick George's executive team, she also manages CU's nine sports supervisors. She was promoted to senior associate AD status on August 1,

2018 and had held the similar position as an associate AD since 2014 after being promoted to an assistant athletic director in 2010.

Her main priority is overseeing all of CU's academic support services for her 16th year, as well as CU's leadership and career development program. Located in the Herbst Academic Center, her area provides year-round academic support to all of CU's approximately 380 student-athletes; she was an assistant director for the unit until being named its director on May 24, 2007. She also serves as the sport supervisor for women's basketball and in the past performed similar supervisory duties for CU's lacrosse, soccer and skiing programs, and previously supervised the department's diversity and inclusion programs.

Former football coach Dan Hawkins credited her organization and philosophy about academics as one of the strongest factors for the football team's back-to-back record years for grade point average for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years. And under the three head coaches that followed Hawkins, football has continued to set record GPA figures and graduation rates, as have several others among CU's 17 intercollegiate programs and the entire athletic program overall.

She joined the CU staff in May 1997, hired by then-women's basketball head coach Ceal Barry to be the program's first-ever Director of Basketball Operations. She spent eight seasons in that position until Barry's retirement from coaching in March of 2005.

Livingston came to Boulder from Littleton, Colo., where she was a senior consultant at USA Group Noel-Levitz, an educational consulting firm that is hired by colleges to help recruit and retain students. Prior to that, Livingston spent eight years at Iowa State University as an assistant women's basketball coach (1984-89), admissions counselor (1989-91) and telecounseling coordinator (1991-92).

She earned her bachelor's degree in Sociology from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) in May 1983, where she was a four-year letterwinner on Miami's women's basketball team and earned first-team All-Mid-American Conference and first-team Academic All-MAC honors. In August 1997, she was inducted into Miami's Hall of Fame, only the second women's basketball player to be so honored.

Livingston earned her master's degree in Sport and Exercise Science with an emphasis in Sport Administration from the University of Northern Colorado in August 2009.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, she graduated from Lake High School in Millbury, Ohio, in 1979. A three-sport athlete, she was an inaugural member of her high school Hall of Fame in 1983. She is married to Dr. Kelly Causey. In 2013, she was awarded the "Honorary C" for her longtime dedication to the department, and in particular, the student-athlete.



RYAN NEWMAN

Director of Athletic Grounds

Ryan Newman is in his 21th year as a member of the University of Colorado athletic staff, as he joined the department on May 22, 2002. He is in ninth year as the director of athletic grounds after working as an assistant for the facility and grounds staff for 11 years.

Under his direction, CU has some of the finest athletic fields in the nation, no small task considering the challenges that Colorado's wacky weather can provide. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he led a staff that was often faced with managing facilities on days where CU was hosting as many as six home events.

Newman, 43, came to the Buffaloes from Iowa State, where he had worked as a student assistant for the Cyclones' facilities department. In his first year on the CU staff, Folsom Field was recognized by the Sports Turf Managers Association as the college football field of the year. Prior to enrolling at Iowa State, he was the heads groundskeeper for the Sioux City Explorers, an independent member of baseball's Northern League, in 2000 after serving as an assistant in 1999.

He graduated from Iowa State with a bachelor's degree in Horticulture with an emphasis in turf management. He first attended Morningside (Iowa) College for three years (1997-99).

He was born March 11, 1979 in Sioux City, Iowa, and graduated from Sioux City East High School, where he lettered in football and baseball. His hobbies playing golf and spending time with family. He is married to the former Kate Morris, and the couple has one son, Grayson (5) and daughter Ryleigh (1). He was the recipient of the Alumni C Club's "Honorary C" award in 2019 for his dedication to the department.



KIMBIRLY ORR

Executive Director/Alumni C Club

Kimbirly Orr is in her fourth year as the executive director of the Alumni C Club, the University of Colorado's organization for past letterwinners. She was named to the position on July 10, 2019.

Orr is also heavily involved with Buffs4Life, an alumni group that coordinates events and raises money for Buffs in need. She joined the Colorado staff from Knock Out Performance, a marketing communications agency she personally formed in 2012.

Much of her career has been predicated on the relationship business, as she had two Fortune 500 award-winning positions with Colgate Palmolive and A.C. Nielsen. She spent 17 years in the entertainment industry working in event production and public relations to two entrepreneurial jaunts, including serving as the first female sport agent for the Women's Professional Volleyball Association (WPVA) on the team which brought beach volleyball to the Olympics.

Orr graduated from the CU Leeds School of Business in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in Marketing. She has served the University of Colorado for over 35 years, working predominantly in alumni relations and engagement. Most recently, she served as the vice chair of the CU Boulder Alumni Association in 2019 and currently sits on the CU Foundation Trustee Board. She is also the board chair for the CU Advocates in the Office of the President, and vice chair of the CU Boulder Alumni Association. She was named the CU Advocate of the Year in 2016.

She was born in Warren, Ohio, and graduated from Pomona High School (Arvada, Colo.) where she participated in volleyball and track and field; she was also captain of the pom pom team her senior year. Her hobbies include attending and watching sporting events, hiking, dancing, reading, spending time with family and friends in addition to attending live concerts, in particular those performed by U2 (she's been to over 50 all over the world, including Dublin, and attended their first-ever show in Colorado at Red Rocks and the next night at the CU Events Center). She is also very active in non-profit and fundraising work



DAVID PLATI

Associate AD/Sports Information

David Plati is in his 39th year as the athletic department's director of sports information, and his 45th year overall in CU's Sports Information Office. He was promoted to assistant athletic director for media relations on July 1, 1988, and attained associate athletic director status in August 2005. He also serves

as the department's historian.

Plati, 62, was named the 13th full-time sports information director in CU history on July 24, 1984, after serving for three years as the assistant SID. The youngest SID in the nation at the time of his hiring, he previously worked as a student assistant and statistician after coming to CU as a freshman in 1978. Only six people have served in the role since 1952, with Plati's tenure in the position the longest in school annals; he was recognized in 2009 with the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Quarter Century of Service award.

In June 2019, he was inducted into the CoSIDA Hall of Fame, the fourth Buffalo SID to be honored as he joined Fred Casotti (inducted in 1996), Mike Moran (2002) and Steve Hatchell (2018).

Overall, only longtime cross country and track coach Frank Potts (41 years, 1927-68) has been employed full-time by CU athletics longer than Plati, who was hired full-time on Jan. 9, 1983; counting his time as the volunteer historian, Casotti spent 49 years devoted to the school (1952 until his death in 2001). Plati is the second-longest active SID in the country behind Claude Felton (Georgia).

His primary responsibilities are with the football and men's golf programs, though he oversees the sports information efforts for all sports, and at one time or another has personally handled nine sports during his CU career. He has easily worked or covered over 2,200 CU events; of those, 483 football games have been in-person (499 overall), including a string of 410 in a row that ended in 2017 due to an injured leg (at the time the second-longest active streak in the nation).

He has coordinated numerous successful promotional campaigns and public relations programs for student-athletes and coaches. Plati has written two books on CU football, the first about the school's 1990 national championship, and the second published in 2008, *Colorado Football Vault*, a coffee table style book with an awesome collection of photographs and reproduced keepsakes.

In addition, over 100 of CU's former student assistants during his tenure have gone on to work full-time in sports information or media relations for a college or professional team (including all "big four" in Denver: Avalanche, Broncos, Nuggets and Rockies).

The Football Writers Association of America has recognized CU's sports information office 10 times during his tenure, three times for an outstanding press box operation (1987, 1992, 1997; schools were eligible only every five years), and now nine times with the FWA's Super 11 award (2010-13-14-16-17-18-19-20-21) for all-encompassing efforts with the nation's football media.

In January 2019, Plati was presented with the FWA's Lifetime Achievement Award, just the sixth person to be honored with the relatively young award. The organization also named him as one of two SID's nationally to its 22-member "Access/Press Relations Committee" to oversee press relations with FBS Conferences ahead of the 2019 season. He chaired a panel of SID's and national sportswriters to discuss how to approach the changing landscape for the media ahead of the 2020 season and implications from the coronavirus.

In the spring of 2001, Plati became an adjunct instructor in CU's College of Media, Communication and Information (CMCI), teaching the sports media relations class 22 times until stepping away in 2022. In April 2001, was named CU's representative on the board of directors of the Colorado Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame, and in 2006, he became a member of the District 7 Screening Committee for the Hall. In 2009, he was appointed to the board of the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame, and in 2010, he was named to the board of the Colorado Rock & Roll Museum and Hall of Fame (and was named the board's secretary in 2020).

In 2015, Plati was a recipient of the Robert L. Stearns Award, presented to current members of the CU-Boulder faculty and staff for extraordinary achievement or service to the university. In 2005, the Denver Buff Club recognized him as its "MVB" choice (Most Valuable Buff). In 2009, celebrating his 30th year covering CU golf, the team instituted a "David Plati Mr. Buffalo Award" honoring the player for his dedication and commitment to the program. The NFF/Colorado chapter presented him with the 2018 Keith Jensen Award for service to the organization.

While attending CU, Plati served four years as the information director for the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. He also worked for the Colorado Golf Association and for the *Rocky Mountain News*.



ERIC PELLONI

Assistant Director/BufVision

Eric Pelloni is in his 17th year as the assistant director of BufVision, although he has been involved in CU Athletics for the better part of two decades. He was hired full-time on August 1, 2006 after working on a contractual basis since August 2001.

Pelloni, 49, assists with the video packages for CU's video display boards and has been on the BufVision game day crew for 17 seasons. He also helps coordinate streaming and technical issues between CU Athletics and Pac-12 Enterprises.

When CU overhauled its official athletic website, CUBuffs.com, in 2003, Pelloni was hired on a part-time basis to create video content and coordinate streaming live events. He has created the majority of the graphic work and assisted in the designing of the website, and has also designed several media guide covers.

Pelloni was also the associate producer of "The Buffalo Stampede" coaches show which aired weekly on FSN Rocky Mountain until ending with Colorado's transition over to the Pac-12 Networks agreement. In 2016, he won a Telly Award for his production work for the 2015 Pac-12 Conference's women's golf championship that was held at Boulder Country Club.

Prior to his full-time appointment at CU, Pelloni worked as a freelance video editor/graphic artist in the Denver area, creating video content for both broadcast and non-broadcast applications for a number of clients including Qwest Communications, Coors, XCEL Energy and the United Way of New York City.

He graduated from Metropolitan State College of Denver in 1998, majoring in Technical Communication with a minor in Speech Communication. He taught as an adjunct professor in the technical communications department at Metro State for the 2003-04 school year.

He was born November 21, 1972 in Detroit, Mich., and graduated from Broomfield (Colo.) High School, where he lettered in golf, which remains one of his favorite hobbies. He is married to the former Gabbie Perkins, who is CU's assistant athletic director for Olympic sports operations; the couple has a son, E.J. (Edwin James, 8) and a daughter (Sophia, 6).



He spent his senior year in college (1982) as the public relations director with the triple-A Denver Bears Baseball Club of the American Association; that year, the largest crowd in minor league baseball history to this day – 65,666 – attended the Bears' annual Fireworks Night. He was a member of the Denver Broncos statistics crew for 40 seasons (1980-2019), where he created and maintained miscellaneous statistics (he received game balls from the NFL team for their back-to-back Super Bowl wins in the 90s). He worked 408 Bronco games as a member of the crew, and among the many innovative numbers he is credited with first charting was "scoring percentage inside-the-20," which is now commonly known as the Red Zone. In the 1980s, he worked as a statistician for TBS for NBA telecasts, creating a wave of now commonplace statistics, and still occasionally works freelance in a similar capacity, most notably as the talent statistician for home Bronco games on KOA-Radio. In 2004, he was appointed by major league baseball to serve as one of the official scorers for the Colorado Rockies baseball team, and scored 335 games – the second most in the franchise's history – before retiring after the 2020 season.

Plati was the Hula Bowl's director of game week communications for four years (1995-98). He also worked five BCS National Championship games (2002-06-09-10-13 seasons), along with all eight College Football Playoff title games (2014-15-16-17-18-19-20-21 seasons), 11 Rose and two Fiesta bowls for a grand total of 49 postseason bowl games when including CU's 19.

He has worked as the media relations liaison for the Bolder Boulder 10K since 1987, and also served as the media relations assistant for the Colorado Open Golf Tournament for 12 years (1980-91). He was the media coordinator for the 1985, 1989 and 1996 NCAA West Regionals, and was the local media coordinator and NCAA liaison for the 1990 Final Four, all in Denver.

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in public relations, along with a minor in geography, from CU in December 1982. He was a member of the journalism student council and wrote for *The Campus Press*.

Born April 19, 1960 in New Rochelle, N.Y., Plati graduated from Woodlands High School (Hartsdale, N.Y.) in 1978, where he lettered in football and golf (and was also the school's SID his senior year). In 1984, he was awarded an "Honorary C" for his service to Colorado athletics. An avid golfer, he won the 2005 Rocky Mountain Golf Writers Association fourth annual tournament.

One of his proudest moments in his CU career came when late golf coach Mark Simpson asked him to present him for induction at Simpson's Golf Coaches Hall of Fame induction ceremony in January, 2005. He is also an avid concert goer, having attended some 380-plus in his lifetime (led by 39 Jimmy Buffett performances), with memorizing song lyrics as one of his hobbies. His younger brother (Mark, a top music engineer) was nominated for two Grammy Awards with David Bowie in 1998 (he was a guitarist in Bowie's band for five years), and also engineered the Song-of-the-Year for 1997 (Shawn Colvin's "Sunny Came Home").

He was born September 22 in Golden, Colo., but his family moved frequently during his youth and he eventually graduated from Park City (Utah) High School, where he lettered in lacrosse. His hobbies include golfing and spending time with his friends and family.



MIGUEL RUEDA

Senior Associate AD/Health & Performance

Miguel Rueda is in 17th year in the CU athletic department, his fifth as the senior associate athletic director for health and performance; he had been the associate AD over the same area since being promoted to the position in February 2015. He previously had served nine-plus years as the head athletic trainer

for football after he was hired on August 1, 2006, just days ahead of CU's preseason camp.

A member of athletic director Rick George's executive team, he is also the chair of the Pac-12 Student Athlete Health and Well-Being Initiative (SAHWBI), the conference's medical board (he previously served as the vice-chair). In 2020, he was heavily involved in developing the Pac-12's regulations, policies and protocols concerning the coronavirus pandemic. He has been CU's institutional representative for the Pac-12's student health conference since shortly after CU joined the league in 2011, and in that role, he organizes the annual meeting for all sports medicine officials from each league school.

In his role, he oversees the entire training staff as well as serves as the school's liaison with the CU Sports Medicine and Performance Center, housed in the athletic department's Champions Center. He also oversees the strength and conditioning and sports nutrition areas as well as CU's sports psychologist and works closely with campus on research initiatives.

Rueda, 50, was the second-longest tenured trainer in CU's athletic history, serving 13 years in that capacity, behind only a 14-year run by Dave Burton, who held the position from 1985-99; one other had served in the role for eight years, and three others for seven.

He came to CU from Fresno State University, where he has been the Director of Sports Medicine since February 2001. At FSU, his primary responsibilities were the care and prevention of injuries for the football program and overseeing all areas of the Fresno State Sports Medicine Program. He has similar duties at Colorado, as he coordinates the needs and staffing for CU's 16 intercollegiate varsity programs.

With CU's move to the Pac-12 Conference, he was named the Education Director for the Pac-12 annual sports medicine meeting, a role he performed in the 2011-12 academic year and will continue to serve in for at least the 2012-13 year as well.

Ironically, his first football game as Fresno State's head trainer was in Boulder, as the Bulldogs played the Buffaloes in the Jim Thorpe Association Classic on August 26, 2001; FSU won the game, 24-22, and went on to climb into the nation's top 10, until getting knocked off by Boise State, then coached by CU's future coach, Dan Hawkins.

Rueda previously had worked two years (1995-97) as a graduate assistant trainer for the Bulldogs while earning his master's degree in exercise physiology.

He had rejoined the Fresno State staff from Towson University, where he served as an assistant athletic trainer from 1998 to 2001; he was the head trainer for football. Prior to Towson, Rueda spent time with the Miami Dolphins of the National Football League in 1997-98 and with Holy Cross in 1994-95. He also has extensive teaching experience, instructing classes ranging from sports medicine administration to basic athletic training courses over the past 10 years.

He received his undergraduate degree in athletic training from Boston University in 1994, and his master's degree from Fresno State in 1997. Rueda is a member of the National Athletic Trainers Association, the College Athletic Trainers Society and has American Red Cross CPR and First Aid certification.

He was born November 17, 1971 in San Francisco, graduating from the city's J. Eugene McAteer High School where he lettered in cross country and track. He and his wife, Andrea, have two sons, Gabriel (who earned an appointment at West Point, where he is a sophomore) and Christopher, and a daughter, Isabella. In 2021, he was awarded the "Honorary C" for his longtime dedication to the department, and in particular, the student-athlete.



ALEC ROUSSOS

Assistant Athletic Director/ Administration Operations

Alec Roussos is in his second year as the assistant athletic director for administration operations, as he was promoted to the position on July 1, 2021. He is in his third year overall as a full-time staff member, as he previously held the title of the director of

operations for the athletic director's office, as he was named to that position on July 1, 2019.

He is also the sports supervisor for the football program, having assumed that role ahead of the 2022 season.

In his role, he oversees the day to day operations for athletic director Rick George, disseminates pertinent information to CU's athletic staff and serves as the first point of contact in addition to providing oversight of the research team. He also coordinates pulling together most aspects and updating CU's current strategic plan which runs from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. He previously served three years as the graduate assistant for the AD's office, which followed working as a summer intern in 2014 and 2015 before assuming the grad assistant role in the summer of 2016.

Roussos graduated from the University of Colorado's Leeds School of Business in May 2019 with his master's degree in Business Administration. He earned his bachelor's degree in Environmental Biology in 2016 from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, where he was a member of the school's championship lacrosse team. Over his four years on the squad, McGill had a record of 52-4-1 which included two national championships and two national runner-up finishes. Roussos, a two-time team captain, was awarded the Evans Huber Most Dedicated Player during his senior year on the 15-0 national championship team.



CHRIS SCHOEN

Director of Marketing & Fan Experience

Chris Schoen is in his second year as the director of marketing and fan experience, as he joined the University of Colorado staff on July 21, 2021.

Schoen, 28, came to Colorado from the University of Oklahoma, where he was the assistant director of marketing from 2018-21. He was the primary contact for the baseball, volleyball and women's basketball teams as well as the student internship program. At OU, one of his marketing strategies earned a Bronze Award in the 2021 "Best Of" category by the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators (NACMA); it was in the area of a fan giveaway promotion.

He previously was a graduate assistant in athletic marketing at Auburn, where he handled the duties for volleyball, swimming and diving and men's and women's tennis. He was a member of the Tigers' 2018 staff that finished as the runner-up for the National Marketing Team of the Year (given by NACMA, it recognized Auburn as the second best in all of college sports).

Between Oklahoma and Auburn, his sports he was directly responsible for set three single game and five season attendance records.

He earned his bachelor's degree in Communications from Purdue University in 2016, and earned his masters of education in Higher Education Administration (with a concentration in Sports Management) from Auburn University in 2018.

He was born on March 12, 1994 in Oshkosh, Wis., and graduated from Marian Catholic High School in Mishawaka, Ind., where he lettered four years as a varsity swimmer (team captain his junior and senior seasons). His hobbies include reading, cooking, hiking and swimming.



CURTIS SNYDER

Assistant AD/Sports Information

Curtis Snyder is in his 23rd year as a member of the University of Colorado athletic department, his third as an assistant athletic director in the sports information office, his third stint in the SID area; he was promoted to an assistant AD in August 2018.

He had worked the previous three years as CU's director of digital strategy after rejoining the Buffalo staff on December 1, 2008 after a five-and-a-half-year absence. He shares the duties for football with the associate AD and once again heads up the SID responsibilities for CU's ski team.

Snyder, 47, spent the previous seven-plus years (2008-15) as the associate sports information director, in addition to managing special projects and digital media. He was the secondary sports information contact for football for six seasons (2009-14) and was the primary SID for CU's renowned national championship ski program for eight years (2009-16). In August 2012, he was given the additional duties of overseeing overall strategy and execution of CUbuffs.com and social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), and still has some responsibilities in this area.

Snyder was the championship director for the 2016 and 2018 NCAA Skiing Championships that CU hosted in Steamboat Springs, and has served as the webmaster for the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association (RMISA) since 2008. He was awarded an "Honorary C" in 2014 for his dedication to the department.

He returned to CU from Duke University, where he served as the director of Internet operations from 2003-08, managing the day-to-day operations of GoDuke.com and had various SID duties for the football and men's basketball programs. He accompanied the basketball team during the postseason, during which time the Blue Devils captured two ACC Championships and a berth in the 2004 Final Four in San Antonio. He also traveled with the women's basketball team to the 2006 Final Four in Boston.

He previously served four years as a student assistant in CU's athletic media relations office (it's then name) from 1994-98 and then five years as a full-time assistant SID and as well as the Internet managing editor from 1998-2003. As a student, Snyder worked with the volleyball and men's basketball programs and was presented with the Athletic Director's medal for service to the department.

In his first stint at CU, he worked at various times as the primary contact for the men's basketball, volleyball and men's and women's tennis programs while also being named the Internet coordinator and eventually Internet managing editor, overseeing the official website, CUbuffs.com.

He also currently serves as a back-up statistician for the NBA's Denver Nuggets and has worked with the AVP (professional beach volleyball tour). He has been an active member of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) and served on the technology committee for five years (2007-11).

Born Sept. 2, 1975, in Boulder, he graduated from Boulder High School in 1994, where he was a fourth-generation student and lettered three times in basketball. His grandmother graduated from CU in 1929, his grandfather was recruited to CU by Frank Potts to be a decathlete and also to play basketball and football and his father, mother and sister all attended CU. He is married to the former Kami Carmann, a four-time letterwinner and two-time captain of the women's basketball team at CU who was a sports anchor and reporter for Fox 31 (KDVR-TV) in Denver for several years. The couple resides in Erie and has three children, twins Lucy and Sam (12) and Cooper (9).



MIKE SMITH

Assistant AD/Sports Equipment Services

Michael Smith was named CU's assistant athletic director for sports equipment services on July 1, 2022, a few months after he returned for a third stint working in the department.

Smith, 52, had worked for Nike for 16 years before returning to CU as a member of the facilities staff in February 2022. At Nike, he initially worked in the innovation group, furthering some of the product development that had its origins at the University of Colorado, before transitioning to the basketball group, where he managed basketball product creation for all of Nike's global sports marketing assets, including men's and women's college, international federation, grass roots, and the NBA and its affiliates. When the NBA signed with Nike in 2016, Smith led the product creation process for all uniforms in the NBA, G-League, and WNBA including the launch of the successful "City Edition" uniform worn by each of the 30 NBA teams, as well as the "re-launch" of the WNBA uniforms in 2021. He traveled with and supported the USA Basketball National team in their successful Olympic tournament runs in 2008, 2012 and 2016, as well as world championship titles in 2010, and 2014.

He had been CU's director equipment for six years (1998-2004) and 10 years as the football equipment manager, as he was hired full-time on August 1, 1995; he was an EMC, or certified equipment manager, a status he has earned for his years of service in the profession. He had worked closely with NIKE, as CU and the sports shoe and apparel giant have been partners since 1996. Together, he worked with NIKE to help create new technologies that the CU football program had been the first to experiment with, and which led to the company hiring him away from the Buffaloes.

Smith had returned at that time in 1995 to his alma mater from Utah State University, where he was head equipment director for one year. Prior to his employment in the Aggies athletic department, he worked for IN2 Sports for two years as a team sales specialist.

He graduated from the University of Colorado in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics. While he was a student at CU, he worked on the grounds crew, served as a Ralphie runner (accompanying the team to the 1989 Orange Bowl), and worked three years as a student equipment manager, and was the team's head manager his senior year.

Smith also worked five Hula bowls (1998-2001, 2004) as its equipment and operations manager, coordinating the many needs of almost 100 of college football's most outstanding players.

He was born May 26, 1970 in Denver and graduated from Broomfield (Colo.) High School in 1988, where he lettered in golf, basketball and baseball. An avid golfer, he plays to a single-digit handicap and has played in several area tournaments. He is married to the former Reese Lovegren and the couple have a grown daughter, Lauren.



TAYLOR STRATTON

Ralphie Program Manager

Taylor Stratton, a former Ralphie Handler, was named the manager of CU's Ralphie Live Mascot Program, assuming the role on April 1, 2020 after serving as the assistant coach for the program for the previous four years (2016-19).

Stratton, 31, replaced John Graves, who had served in the role for five years (2015-19); she becomes the second woman to head the program, joining Gail Pederson in the prestigious role; Pederson coordinated the program from 2006-14.

Stratton joined the athletic department full-time after working on the Boulder campus since January 2014, when she started in the admissions office. She moved over to the Alumni Association as the program manager for Student and Young Alumni Outreach in October 2017. She coordinated all aspects of training for CU's latest live buffalo mascot, Ralphie VI, who made her debut in the 2021 football season.



She graduated from CU in 2013 with a triple major in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Environmental Studies and Geography. As an undergraduate, she lettered three times as a Ralphie Handler her sophomore through senior years under coaches Graves and Ben Frei, and was interviewed by Bryant Gumbel for HBO's Real Sports. She is currently working toward her master's in Business Administration from the University of Illinois, with a target date of spring 2022 to finish the degree.

Though born in Florida, she grew up in Southern Colorado on her family's multi-generational working ranch. There, her family raised Register of Merit AQHA race and performance horses and had a commercial herd of Herefords (beef cows) with bloodlines dating back to her great grandfather's herd.

She was born March 26, 1991 in Orlando, Fla., and graduated from Cheyenne Mountain High School in Colorado Springs, where she had extensive involvement in Ag focused groups, including the Pikes Peak Rangerettes, Interscholastic Equestrian Association, 4-H, and horse shows for both the Palomino Horse Breeders of America and American Quarter Horse Association (she was an officer for both the Rangerettes and 4-H). Her hobbies include playing soccer and golf, watching the Colorado Avalanche, country swing dancing, hiking with her dog and traveling. She has also studied abroad in Tanzania, and her love for travel has some of her favorite destinations including Montana, Wyoming, Morocco, South Africa, Australia, Italy, Austria, Greece, Spain, Costa Rica, Utah, South Carolina, California, Texas, New Orleans. Nicknamed "T-Stratt," she married Mitchell Fenton in August 2022.



LUKE WESTALL

Assistant Equipment Manager

Luke Westall is in his third year as the assistant equipment manager for the football program, having joined the department on July 1, 2020.

Westall, 28, joined CU from the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he was the head equipment manager for the cross country and track teams and the assistant for the football program for a year-and-a-half (2019-20, until being hired by CU). At AFA, he managed the ordering and creation of apparel and competition gear for the 2019 and 2020 seasons, managed and implemented a detailed inventory system to track apparel and planned and implemented a structured weekly routine for athletes concerning equipment with repairs, laundry, and issuing. He also assisted and managed special events, including the NHL Stadium Series game (Avalanche-Kings) and Los Angeles Chargers practices during the 2019 and 2020 season from an equipment standpoint. He assisted with the 2019 Cheese-It Bowl in all day to day tasks along with game day sideline support and worked the 2019 Cheez-It Bowl, where Air Force defeated Washington State, 31-21, to finish 11-2 for the season.

He was an intern for the National Wheelchair Basketball Association for 2017-18, where he assisted and created webpages that managed memberships and global events; planned, setup, and ran an international basketball tournament with foreign countries including USA, Great Britain, Amsterdam, Canada, and Australia; designed and managed apparel for a new online store as well as the Men's and Women's National Teams' and assisted coaches with practices, running shot clocks, managing equipment and setting up facilities. He also planned, set up, and worked on the largest organized Para sport tournament in history.

In the summer of 2017, Westall was an intern with the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb (PPIHC), where among several duties, he assisted with creating and dispersing promotional material throughout Colorado Springs, managed the media room for the event at the summit house of Pikes Peak, planned and fulfilled sponsorship agreements throughout the course and race week and supervised the closings of multiple roads in downtown Colorado Springs. He also was able to assist I helped Hoonigan Media with the filming of Ken Block's Climbkhana. He continues to work as a volunteer race official for the PPIHC, something he began doing back in 2012.

Westall earned his bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Sport Management in 2018 from the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs. He is working toward finishing his Athletic Equipment Managers Association Certification this summer.

He was born March 3, 1994 in Canon City, Colo., and after spending much of his youth in St. Augustine, Fla., he returned to the Centennial State in 2009 and graduated from Woodland Park (Colo.) High School where he lettered in football. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, mountain biking, snowboarding, basketball and auto racing. He also owns an impressive collection of ... sneakers.



DERIC SWANSON

Executive Director of BuffVision

Deric Swanson is in his 24th year as the executive director of BuffVision, coordinating all aspects of production involving the video display boards at Folsom Field and the CU Events Center, both upgraded last decade to a near \$10 million operation for both facilities combined.

The only director the area has ever had since it was created in 1999, which includes hiring game day staff to showcase CU's home events on the BuffVision boards, he also coordinates several video projects for the university in general and works closely with students interested in the profession that are enrolled in CU's CMCI school (College of Media, Communication and Information).

Swanson, 48, is easily considered one of the best in his field and came to CU from the National Hockey League's Colorado Avalanche, where he had worked for a brief time as the manager of game entertainment and video production. He had previously worked three-plus seasons with the Colorado Rockies Baseball Club, first as a stadium camera operator, and then as video production coordinator, including the 1998 Major League Baseball All-Star Game at Coors Field.

In 2003, BuffVision won the Golden Matrix Award for "Best Overall Video Display" in the University Division at the Information Display and Entertainment Association (IDEA) conference in Atlanta.

The following year, BuffVision was awarded two distinctions, one for the 2004 Aurora Awards, a Platinum Best of Show statue for In-Game Entertainment Graphics/Design, and a Telly Award for The Buffalo Stampede, CU's coaches' show. In 2006 and 2007, BuffVision won three more Telly Awards for Swanson's production, including two for the "Ralphie on Campus" institutional spot and another for The Buffalo Stampede. In 2013, BuffVision earned another Telly for a production involving CU's men's basketball team and the Navy Seals and inn all have earned eight bronze Telly Awards. In 2019, it won its first silver Telly, again for the Buffalo Stampede and in particular for its season finale.

He is a 1996 graduate of Colorado State University, earning his bachelor's degree in technical journalism and broadcasting. He graduated Magna Cum Laude and was recognized as CSU's outstanding graduate in journalism.

He was born May 24, 1974 in Oakland, Calif., and attended two high schools. His father was stationed in the Azores, Portugal, and he spent two years at Lajes High School, where he lettered in football, soccer, volleyball and basketball. After moving to Colorado, he graduated from Liberty High School in Colorado Springs, where he lettered in football. He played volleyball on CSU's club team for three years. His hobbies include hiking and biking; he has now competed in 23 Ironman triathlons (through August 2019); his personal best was a time of 11 hours and 29 minutes in Tempe, Ariz., in 2009.

He is the father of two sons, Gavin (15) and Dane (12). He was the recipient of an "Honorary C" award in 2014 for his dedication to the department.



ADMINISTRATION



SERENA ARCHER
Director of Digital Content

Serena Archer is in her second year as the director of digital content for the University of Colorado athletic department, as she joined the staff on August 1, 2021.

Archer, 25, came to Colorado from the University of Kentucky, where she was the Creative Content Editor/Producer and the main point of contact for all

Kentucky football video related content. As the lead creative video producer, she assisted in mentoring and overseeing student staff, developed weekly and year-long video content plans that served the department, team and individual student-athletes.

She was the primary producer on several videos at UK that were finalists for the College Sports Media Awards (CSMA). The videos that were nominated include "Pre-Louisville Promo" (2020 Short Form Fan Engagement), "For the Team" (2021 Program Series) and "Back to Work" (2021 Short Form Fan Engagement). She worked two bowls for the Wildcats, wins over Virginia Tech in the 2019 Belk Bowl and over North Carolina State in the 2020 TaxSlayer Gator Bowl.

Archer earned her bachelor's degree in Sport & Event Management from Elon University in 2019, also earning minors in Communications/Cinema and Business Administration (academically, she was an Elon Honors Fellow). She worked in Elon's athletic department for all four years as an undergraduate, serving as the assistant video coordinator for football. She created a pair of documentary series ("The Spark" and "The Commitment") which followed the football and basketball programs while assisting to lead a student staff that numbered a dozen. She earned two awards as a senior in 2018-19, as the Sport Management "Major of the Year" and for Elon Athletics' MVP Student Service, and was also a finalist for several videos in the CSMA's Collegiate Student category (Short Form Fan Engagement, Program Series, and Special Feature).

At the 2018 World Equestrian Games, she served as an intern in the press relations department and a volunteer coordinator assisting over 200 members of the media covering the event. She also spent a semester in 2018 as the creative content producer for Florentina Basket (a Series B professional Italian men's basketball team), and in the summer of 2017, interned with Duke football's video office and assisted in creative video pursuits.

She was born March 16, 1997 in Minneapolis, Minn., and graduated from the city's Southwest High School, where she lettered in lacrosse and Nordic skiing. Her hobbies include riding horses, cooking, biking, hiking and tending to what she refers to as her "excessively large collection of indoor plants." In her free time, she also trains horses and service dogs and volunteers at therapeutic riding centers. A great uncle, Chris Daniels, is a member of the Colorado Music Hall of Fame and performed with his popular local band, Chris Daniels and the Kings. First name is Martha, but goes by her middle name as she is the sixth "Martha" in her family.

This September, she will have a major research project published in the Journal of Higher Education Athletics and Innovation: "A Qualitative Analysis of the Intersectional Socialization of NCAA Division I Student-Athletes Across Diverse Identities."



CHANDLER BARONE
Director of Special Events

Chandler Barone is finishing her third year as the director of special events and premium venues for the University of Colorado Athletic Department, as she was named to the position on October 28, 2019.

Barone, 29, brought a wealth of experience in event management when she joined CU from the Front Range Catering, where she was the sales and event manager for one of the top catering companies in Boulder. She started there in March 2018 and in 18 months, she managed and catered well over 100 events, which included managing proposals and event contracts in food and beverage sales. She hired and supervised the kitchen, serving and bartender staffs and increased the company's business sales by building strong relationships with its client base.

Prior to joining Front Range Catering, she was a senior event manager for Ansley Event Design in Denver for a year-and-a-half beginning in April 2016.

She coordinated and executed details such as rehearsals, menu planning, floor plan design, logistics and on-site management for over 50 weddings that ranged in size from 25 to 300 attendees.

Barone earned her bachelor's degree from CU's Leeds School of Business with an emphasis in Human Resource Management in 2015. She worked her entire time as an undergraduate for the CU Boulder Student Alumni Association, where she coordinated events, sold memberships and solicited sponsors.

Before she entered the event planning business, her first full-time job after college was as a technical recruiter at Stephen James Associates in Denver.

She was born Chandler Nicolls in San Diego, Calif., and graduated from Corona Del Mar (Calif.) High School where she was a member of the club team for crew (rowing). Her hobbies include hiking, snowboarding, trying new restaurants and walking her dog. In high school, she was president of the Performing Arts & Multimedia Academy, where she first dabbled in event planning; in fact, she planned multiple events for a national competition for the Hurley Clothing Brand and won \$25,000 for her high school's program. She is married to Dawn Barone, CU's associate director of Forever Buffs Outreach for the school's Alumni Association (she is also a CU graduate); the couple has a daughter, Avery (1).



HEATHER CRACRAFT
Executive Assistant to the Athletic Director

Heather Cracraft is in her fifth year as the executive assistant to athletic director Rick George, having returned on Nov. 1, 2018 to where she had previously worked two decades earlier.

She came back to CU from the Superior (Colo.) Chamber of Commerce, where she was the executive director since 2006. Her first stint with athletics came from 1995 through 1997 as the director of special events, one of the first to hold the position in the department.

A 1993 graduate of CU, she earned her bachelor's degree in Business (Marketing). While a student, she was a member of the sports marketing club; she was a volunteer at the opening and ribbon cutting ceremony when the Dal Ward Center opened in August 1991.

Cracraft interned with the Colorado Rockies her senior year, and after graduation, she was hired full-time by the club in their ticket office. She was on the staff when the franchise began play in 1993 at Mile High Stadium, when the team drew what remains a major league record of just under 4.5 million in attendance (only three other teams have ever reached the four million mark). She was also a club staffer when Coors Field opened in 1995 before returning to her alma mater.

A native of Newport Beach, Calif., she graduated from Corona Del Mar High School where she lettered in softball. Her hobbies include gardening, finding fun and creative things to do in her spare time, and spending time with family and friends. She has two grown children, Austin and Abby.



RYAN GOTTLIEB
Senior Associate AD/Revenue
Generating Officer

Ryan Gottlieb, a 12-year veteran in revenue generation, is in his second year as CU's senior associate athletic director and revenue generating officer, joining the department on Jan. 17, 2022.

Gottlieb came to Colorado from Rutgers University, where he was the Scarlet Knights' associate athletic director for sales strategy and business intelligence for nearly four-and-a-half years (September 2017 through January 2022).

In his role at RU, Gottlieb oversaw all ticketing activities, which included the construction of ticket marketing, sales and service plan, development of revenue/attendance driving initiatives and building a robust business intelligence plan. He also served as the primary managerial contact for Rutgers' ticketing operations and athletic department's ticket-related partnerships with Paciolan and the Aspire Group. Under Gottlieb's leadership, Rutgers experienced a handful of successes including four consecutive years



of season ticket growth in men's basketball, 23 sold out men's basketball games, consistently ranked in the top four nationally in wrestling attendance and Rutgers led the country in football average attendance growth in 2021.

During his time in Piscataway, Gottlieb was tasked with managing additional revenue streams for the Scarlet Knights. Those responsibilities included serving as the administrative point of contact for Rutgers Sports Properties, managing the departments relationship with SHI International (naming rights partner on Rutgers Stadium), helped procure Jersey Mike's as the naming rights partner for the Rutgers Athletics Center, assisted in managing relationship with concessionaire Gourmet dining, and assisted in managing the relationship with official merchandise provider Dyehard Fan Supply.

He had joined the Rutgers program from Georgia Tech, returning to where he first started in the collegiate sports industry. In his second stint with the school he was the director of sales and service for almost three-and-a-half years (March 2014 to August 2017). In this role, he was responsible for the Aspire Group's partnership with the Georgia Tech Athletics Association and managed three ticketing teams: season ticket service and retention, new business development and group sales department.

With the help of Gottlieb, the Yellow Jackets set an all-time school record for total ticket revenue in school history in 2015, as the football program averaged 50,706 fans per game that year, capitalizing on the team's 11-3 record and No. 8 final ranking the year before and despite the Jackets following that season with a 3-9 record. In 2014, Gottlieb was a member of the Georgia Tech ticketing department that won the prestigious Paciolan "Star of the Year Award" for embracing technology and strategic innovation.

Prior to his return to Georgia Tech, Gottlieb managed the Aspire Group's partnership with the University of Alabama-Birmingham for 13 months and the Aspire Group's partnership with Louisiana Tech University for two-plus years.

Gottlieb graduated from the University of South Carolina in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Hotel Restaurant and Tourism Management. He immediately started his career in the sports sales industry, selling football and basketball season tickets at Georgia Tech from 2009-11. Starting out as a sales consultant, he was promoted to a senior position just eight months into his time on the Yellow Jackets staff.

He was born in Atlanta, Ga., and graduated from Holy Innocent's, where he lettered in baseball (first basemen, catcher, designated hitter). His hobbies include playing golf and spending time with family and friends. He is married to the former Kathryn Owens and the couple has one son, Stewart.

since 2016. Prior to that she served as Chair of the Psychology and Neuroscience Department, a Department she joined as a new Assistant Professor in 1990. A career researcher in the field of traumatic brain injury (TBI), Hernández has implemented basic and clinical neuroscience methods aimed at optimizing recovery from TBI in veterans, civilians and athletes, by reducing the negative effects of stress and promoting psychological health. She has collaborated with the WHOLE Student-Athlete Program since its inception and recently completed research for the Pac-12 Conference that assesses student-athlete health and well-being from recruitment through graduation and beyond.

Hernández will maintain an appointment in the college to oversee the Southern Colorado Partnerships to promote their sustainability and enhance their reach. These partnerships include the Southern Ute Tribe Department of Education and the CU@Fort Lewis College postdoctoral teaching fellowship program, which she co-created with former Dean James W.C. White.

A native of El Paso, Texas, Hernández received her Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin in 1988. Her hobbies include reading about, watching and learning from animal behavior.



CORY HILLIARD

Senior Associate AD/ Business Operations & CFO

Cory Hilliard is in his 15th year with athletic department at the University of Colorado, his fifth as a senior associate athletic director, promoted to that position on August 1, 2018. That came after serving eight years as the associate athletic director for business operations after he originally joined the department in March 2008 as assistant business manager.

On July 1, 2016, the chief athletic financial officer (CAFO) responsibilities were added to his title and duties. He is on athletic director Rick George's executive team and also serves as the sports administrator for CU's cross country and track programs.

In his position, Hilliard is responsible for the management of the administrative, financial, budget, human resources, and payroll functions for the athletic department and its 17 sport programs. In addition to his business operations duties, Hilliard oversees the information technology support services for the Buffaloes.

Hilliard, 48, came to CU from the University of North Dakota where he was the assistant athletic director for business operations for three years (2006-08). He earned the promotion at UND after serving five years as the assistant director for business services (2001-06).

Hilliard graduated from Minnesota State University-Moorhead in 1995 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Health Education, and in 2006 earned his master's degree in Business Administration from the University of North Dakota. Hilliard also attended the University of Wyoming from 1990-92 where he was a member of the track team, participating in the hurdles and relay events. While at MSU-Moorhead from 1993-95, he also lettered in the sport.

He was born August 2, 1972 in Rochester, Minn., he graduated from Manitou Springs High School (Colo.) in 1990, where he lettered in football and was an outstanding track and field athlete. He ran the 110- and 300-meter hurdles and was a member of the 4x200 and 4x400-meter relay teams that won multiple state titles in addition to the boys team championship in 1990. At one time (during the 1989 season), he held the Colorado state high school record in the 300-meter hurdle and is a former high school national champion in the 60-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles.

Hilliard is married to the former Abby Barendt, and the couple has two grown sons, Zach, who played tight end on the Missouri Baptist football team, and Jacob. He is actively involved in the College Athletic Business Management Association (CABMA) as well as a member of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA).



LEON JACKSON III

Sr. Assoc. AD/Advancement

Leon Jackson III was named senior associate athletic director and assistant vice chancellor for advancement at the University of Colorado on December 13, 2021; he joined the department soon thereafter on January 1, 2022.

Jackson, 38, oversees all areas of CU Boulder's athletic advancement efforts, including fundraising and engagement efforts through the Buff Club. In his two years at Pitt, he created several innovative



LEXI HARTMANN

Digital Content Manager

Lexi Hartmann is in her second year as the digital content manager for the athletic department, as she was promoted into the full-time position on March 15, 2021.

Hartman, 24, joined the Colorado staff from Fresno State University, where she was a graphic designer in 2020.

She graduated in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in Strategic Communication from the University of Colorado. While a CU student, she played on the women's club ice hockey team all four years as an undergraduate.

She was born February 18, 1998 in Waconia, Minn., and graduated from Waconia High School where she lettered in hockey. Her hobbies include both playing and coaching hockey.



THERESA HERNANDEZ

Director WHOLE Student-Athlete Program

Theresa Hernández is the first director of the University of Colorado Boulder Athletics' Crawford Family WHOLE Student-Athlete Program, beginning her position on Aug. 1, 2022.

The WHOLE program, an acronym for Wellness Health Optimal Life Experience, has quickly become a nationally recognized initiative that prepares student-athletes for life success by comprehensively focusing on their physical, psychological, academic and career health. The program focuses on a person's overall wellness amidst the pressures of the college athletics experience by incorporating their physical, psychological, academic and career goals, giving them the tools to succeed both while they are at CU Boulder and well after they leave. The landmark program is a cornerstone for CU Boulder, which continues to be a leader in mental as well as physical resources for student-athletes.

Hernández comes to the athletic department from just across campus, as she has served as the associate dean for research for the College of Arts and Sciences



strategies and tactics at Pitt, helping bring the Panthers' fundraising to record levels.

He returned to some previous and extensive Rocky Mountain regional roots; he lettered four years as a quarterback and punter (2004-07) at Utah State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science in 2007. After two years of playing professionally in Europe, he returned to his alma mater where he joined the football staff in 2010, earned his Master of Education in 2012 and then held several different positions in the Aggies' athletic department before moving on to Kansas State in 2015.

Jackson joined the Pittsburgh staff in November of 2019 as the Panthers' associate athletics director for major gifts. He was charged with identifying, cultivating and securing major gift commitments for Pitt Athletics' \$300 million Victory Heights Capital Campaign and its 750 student-athletes, spirit squads, and marching band. In addition, he was the development liaison for the women's gymnastics, women's basketball, and women's lacrosse programs.

Prior to his time at Pitt, Jackson spent the previous four years (2015-19) at Kansas State University. As a member of the Wildcat staff, he was the director of annual giving for K-State's Ahearn Fund, overseeing the department's \$18.3 million annual giving unit. He directed all premium seat sale efforts (to 97 percent capacity), and managed a major gift portfolio of 90 donors in support of a near record-setting \$44.4 million in giving toward KSU athletics and in support of its 450 student-athletes. For his first three years in Manhattan, he was a member on K-State's expanded senior athletic staff as the director of ticket services. In that role, Jackson led a record-setting ticketing unit and was the direct contact for football and men's basketball.

Jackson enjoyed a solid playing career at Utah State. As a senior in 2007, he completed 65.4 percent of his passes (151-of-231) which set a school single-season record; he threw for 1,576 yards and nine touchdowns with only four interceptions. He earned second-team All-Western Athletic Conference honors as a punter, averaging 41.3 yards per punt with 16 inside-the-20.

Following his collegiate career, Jackson completed a five-month internship as a legislative intern on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. He then spent two seasons playing professional football overseas in France and Austria in the European Football League.

After he retired from football, he returned to the United States and Logan, Utah at his alma mater, where he first served as an offensive administrative assistant for Utah State's football team in 2010, and then as an external operations graduate assistant for the 2011-12 academic and athletic year. His first full time job came the next year, when he was promoted to director of events/internal operations for the athletic department in July 2012. The following June, he transitioned into ticketing as the assistant director of ticketing and customer service, and after one year in that role, he was quickly elevated to the department's senior staff as the director in that same area, overseeing the entire ticket office staff of 17 when the Aggies set a then-record of 10,700 season tickets.

A native of Los Angeles, he was an all-CIF performer at Long Beach Poly High School, which was ranked second in the nation his senior year when he was his league's Most Valuable Player. He is married to the former Nicki Felley, a four-year letterwinner on Utah State's gymnastics team and the couple has three children, Josiah, Kyndal, and Isaac.

Jennings earned his bachelor's degree in business administration, sports management from Tiffin (Ohio) University in 2008, where he lettered four times (2005 through 2008) as an offensive lineman for the Dragons. A member of Tiffin's 2007 Great Lakes Conference championship team, he was a semifinalist for the university's Student-Athlete of the Year Award. He earned Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) All-Academic honors as a senior in 2008 and earned academic all-conference honors when Tiffin was a member of the Great Lakes Football Conference in both 2006 and 2007.

He was born in Lima, Ohio, and graduated from Lima Senior High School where he lettered in football and track and field. He is married to the former Laura Hosler, and the couple has a daughter, Josi.



JILL KEEGAN
Senior Associate AD/Compliance & SWA

Jill Keegan is in her 13th year as a member of the University of Colorado athletic department, her third as the senior associate athletic director for compliance as she was promoted on July 1, 2020. On the same date, she assumed the role of CU's senior woman's administrator, and is also on athletic director

Rich George's executive team and has sports administrator duties for CU's volleyball program.

She replaced the retiring Ceal Barry as the school's SWA, becoming just the fourth to hold the position at Colorado since it was created in 1992.

Keegan previously had served two years as the associate athletic director for compliance, which had followed three years as an assistant A.D. in the same area, as she was promoted to that role on June 1, 2015. She was the associate compliance director for four years, hired on Oct. 1, 2010, initially serving as the rules education coordinator, as her role gradually expanded through the years.

She came to Colorado in October 2010 from Michigan State University where she served as the assistant compliance coordinator for four years. Prior to Michigan State, she was the assistant director of compliance at Marshall University where she also completed her master's degree in Sport Administration in 2006. Keegan received her bachelor's degree in Sports Marketing and management from Indiana University in 2005 where she also served as an intern in the Hoosiers' compliance office.

A native of Owatonna, Minn., the former Jill Gainey graduated from Angola High School in Angola, Ind., in 2001, lettering in volleyball, basketball and track and field. Her hobbies include attending sporting events, traveling, outdoor activities and gardening. She and her husband Brian are the parents of a 4-year old son, Nolan.



LINDSAY LEW
Assistant AD/Digital Marketing

Lindsay Lew is in her seventh year as the assistant athletic director for digital and database marketing, as she was promoted to the position on July 1, 2016, after serving since 2007 (nine years) as the director of strategic sales and communication. She is in her 25th year overall at Colorado, in the second of two stints

working for the school.

Lew is responsible for oversight of ecommerce operations and revenue management for the CU athletic department, as well as digital strategy and content, email marketing and the business analytics team. She is also the sport supervisor for the women's soccer program, a role she assumed in 2019.

She was an assistant sports information director for at CU for five years (1999-2004), before leaving in August 2004 for a marketing position with Webroot Software. She was promoted from graduate assistant SID on August 6, 1999 to an assistant's position after working the previous year as the GA in the media relations office and one year as a student assistant; she was the first woman at CU to hold the grad assistant role in the SID office, and is the first female student worker in sports information to become an assistant athletic director at the school.

Lew was the women's soccer SID her first three years as an assistant SID, before switching to women's basketball and men's and women's indoor and outdoor track for the final four years in her first CU tour of duty. She also served as media coordinator for two women's NCAA basketball sub-regionals and was the official statistician for the 1999 NCAA Women's Soccer College Cup in Palo Alto, Calif. In 2015 she served as the Tournament Director for the Pac-12 Women's Golf Championship in Boulder at Boulder Country Club.



ORVILLE JENNINGS
Associate AD/Facilities & Game Day Ops

Orville Jennings is in his second year as the associate athletic director for facilities and game day operations, as he was promoted to the position on July 1, 2021. He previously was in the role of assistant athletic director for the CU Events Center (and its game day ops), joining the department on July 11, 2018. He also is in his second

year as the sports supervisor for the men's and women's golf teams.

He came to Colorado from Central Michigan University, where he was the associate athletic director for facilities and event operations. He was promoted to that position on January 1, 2017, after serving as the assistant AD with the same responsibilities for the previous 16 months. After his promotion, his role was expanded to include working on capital projects undertaken by the Chippewas, which included a baseball performance development center, Kelly/Shorts Stadium and field hockey turf replacements and Title IX locker room and office renovations.

He had returned to CMU in September 2015, where he had earned his master's degree in sport administration in 2010. While in graduate school, he served as an intern in facilities, events and game management and was a sport camp assistant for the 2009-10 academic year.

After earning his master's, he moved on to Wake Forest University from 2011-15, where he started as the assistant director of event management and facilities before being promoted to the director in 2013.



Lew is a 1997 graduate of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, where she received her bachelor's degree in Communication. She returned to her native state in the fall of 1997 to begin graduate studies in the CU journalism school's Integrated Marketing Communication program. She received her master's degree in December 1998.

She was a soccer standout at Trinity, a nationally-ranked Division III program, earning all-conference honors all four years, as well as NSCAA All-Region honors as a sophomore. Lew also played collegiate golf for two years, helping Trinity to the 1995 conference championship. She also worked in the school's SID office her senior year.

Born July 23 in Denver, the former Lindsay Anhold graduated from Green Mountain High School in 1993, where she lettered in soccer, basketball and softball. She has remained active in soccer through the years, coaching youth recreational teams, and is an avid golfer and runner. Her younger brother Eric is a Colorado grad, and her father Monty is a graduate of UC-Denver. She is married to Jason Lew and they have two sons, Jackson and Dylan. In her free time, she serves as president of her sorority alumni association foundation at Trinity University. She was the recipient of an "Honorary C" award in 2016 for her dedication to the department.



JO MARCHI **Director of Camps & Special Projects**

Jo Marchi is in her second "tour of duty" with the CU athletic department, as she returned to the school in 2019 as the director of camps and special projects. She is in her 16th year overall working for the Buffaloes.

Marchi, 40, left the university in 2017 to teach yoga full-time, which still does in her spare time. In her position, she coordinates many aspects of the sports camps that most of CU's 17 intercollegiate sports conduct in the summer. She had previously served as the associate director of compliance/monitoring for athletics for 12 years; she was named to that position full-time in October 2005 after working as an intern in CU's compliance office for seven months.

In her previous role, she performed multiple duties on behalf of the student-athletes, including serving as the staff liaison with CU's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) for 10 years (2007-16), as well as the sport camp coordinator, also assuming the latter role in 2007. She coordinates the annual CUSPY (CU Sports Performers of the Year) banquet, also serving on the selection committee with the sports information staff and has been a regular member of search committees for department openings.

Marchi came to Colorado from Indiana University, where she worked as a compliance intern her senior year in college. She graduated from Indiana with Bachelor's degree in Sport Marketing and Management in 2004. She then moved west to Colorado and accepted an intern position with CU in February 2005.

She was born January 29, 1982 in Bloomington, Ill., and graduated Glenbard (Ill.) East High School, where she lettered in basketball and track and field. Her hobbies include traveling and baking.



DR. ERIC MCCARTY **Head Team Physician**

Dr. Eric McCarty is in his 20th year working with the CU athletic program, joining the sports medicine team in July 2003. But he's certainly no stranger to the University or to Boulder.

In 2022, he was selected for induction into CU's Athletic Hall of Fame, as the program is now a wing

of the school's Athletic Hall of Fame and has been resurrected to honor those former athletes are recognized for distinguished achievement in their chosen field.

McCarty, 57, is the Chief of Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery position in the Department of Orthopedics at CU's Health Sciences Center in Denver, where he also is an associate professor, enabling him to return to his home state where he starred as both a prep and collegian.

He returned to CU from Vanderbilt University, where he was an orthopedic surgeon, assistant professor and team physician for the Commodores' athletic teams for four years.

McCarty is the head team physician for the University of Colorado, the head orthopedic team physician for the University of Denver, and the medical director and head team physician for the National Hockey League's Colorado Avalanche. As a board-certified orthopedic surgeon his specialized practice involves the care of collegiate athletes as well as recreational and

highly competitive athletes from the community. A large part of his practice is the sports medicine care of high school athletes in the state of Colorado.

He graduated in 1988 from CU with a degree in kinesiology and a 3.75 grade point average. A four-time Academic All-Big Eight team member, the first in school history to be honored four times, he was an Academic All-American his senior year, when he reached the finalist stage for the Rhodes Scholarship. On the field, he earned first-team All-Big Eight honors as a senior, when he led the Buffaloes with 148 tackles, the fourth highest total at the time in team history. He had 237 career tackles in two years on defense, after moving over from offense where he played fullback (503 career rushing yards), and earned four letters.

He earned his M.D., with honors, in 1993 from the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, and did his internship residency at Vanderbilt in orthopedic surgery between 1993 and 1998. Shortly thereafter, he spent a year at the internationally renowned Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City, where he received a fellowship in sports medicine and shoulder surgery. While residing in New York, he worked with the NFL's New York Giants. During this time is when he obtained his expertise in the arthroscopic and open surgical management of sports injuries to the knees and shoulders as well as a special emphasis in the management of complex shoulder problems including shoulder instability, rotator cuff tears and shoulder replacement surgery for arthritis.

In addition to his busy clinical practice, Dr. McCarty is very active in research, teaching, and writing articles in the field of sports medicine and knee and shoulder surgery. He has received grants for his research and has given numerous talks at both the national and international level. One of his many interests is the care of the high school athlete, and his background allows him the ability to understand the issues surrounding the prep athlete.

McCarty has been the recipient of over four dozen awards in his professional career, and has had papers published on 15 occasions while contributing to several others.

He was born November 16, 1964 in Lundstuhl, West Germany. He graduated from Boulder High School in 1983, where he was the state's player of the year as a senior and considered one of the nation's top recruits after rushing for 1,301 and 13 touchdowns; he won the prestigious Denver Post Gold Helmet Award that same year. He is married to the former Miriam Liddell, and they have four grown children, Madeleine, Eric Cleveland, Jr., Shannon and Torrance.



SCOTT McMICHAEL **Assistant AD/Development**

Scott McMichael is in his 16th year as an assistant athletic director and the senior director of development at the University of Colorado. He works to support endowments, annual gifts, and capital projects by generating major gift revenue and also has worked with the school's Alumni C Club, supporting

alumni relations.

Prior to joining Colorado in 2007, McMichael spent 10 years working for the University of Kansas as the Assistant Athletic Director/Director of the Williams Educational Fund & K-Club. As Director of the Williams Fund he cultivated new contributors and stewardship of existing donors generating over \$5 million annually. He also developed a Career Placement Program for student-athletes.

McMichael spent six years at Wilson Sporting Goods as a sales representative where he was responsible for new account openings, analyzing growth potential of established accounts and promotional calls on collegiate and professional teams.

McMichael graduated from Kansas with a bachelor's of science degree in education and also studied business and education in graduate school. He was a four-year letterwinner for the Jayhawks' football team where he set a school passing record as a sophomore and earned honorable mention to the All-Big 8 conference team. McMichael was a free agent signee of the Atlanta Falcons after his playing days at KU.

Born and raised in Kansas City, McMichael graduated from Shawnee Mission West High School in Overland Park, Kan. He enjoys spending time with his wife Marcia, his son Bryce, and his daughter Morgan. His hobbies include hiking, water skiing, golf and travel. He was the recipient of the Alumni C Club's "Honorary C" award in 2016 for his dedication to the department.



DR. SOURAV PODDAR

Medical Director/Team Physician

Dr. Sourav Poddar is his 23rd year working with the CU athletic program, his 20th with the football program as a team physician and his sixth as the athletic department's medical director, for which he was named on July 1, 2016; the Pac-12 Conference required someone from each member school to hold

the designation.

Poddar, 50, is an associate professor in the departments of Family Medicine and Orthopedics at the CU School of Medicine, and sees patients at the CU Sports Medicine Center. He also serves as the Director of the Primary Care Sports Medicine (PCSM) Program. He has served in leadership roles for the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the AMSSM Foundation. He has also served on the NCAA's Competitive Safeguards Committee and currently sits on the Pac-12's Brain Trauma Task Force, serving as the chair for the latter.

He is board certified in family practice, with a CAQ certificate in sports medicine. His specific areas of medical interest within the realm of sports medicine include heat illnesses, sports-related concussion and special expertise in the management of acute and chronic joint and soft tissue injury, including novel approaches using biologic therapies. In addition to primary care, he specializes in the non-operative management of sports medicine injuries, as well as injury prevention, and novel approaches to treat overuse injuries.

He graduated from Rice University in 1993 with a degree in biochemistry, and then completed medical school at the University of Texas-Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas in 1997. At Rice, he was a member of the soccer team.

Poddar completed his residency in family practice at the UCHSC-Rose in Denver (he was chief resident during his third year in residency), and subsequently completed a fellowship in sports medicine at the University of Colorado, working with former CU team physician Rob Loeffler.

Born April 15, 1972 in Bombay, India, his family moved to the United States when he was a two-year old; he graduated from Clear Lake High School in Houston, where he lettered in soccer. He is married to the former Emily Aldeen, and in 2018, he was the recipient of the Alumni C Club's "Honorary C" award for his long-time dedication to the department. *(His name is pronounced shuh-rav poe-dar.)*



ANDREW POPCHUCK

BSP General Manager

Andrew Popchuck is entering his second year as the general manager of Buffalo Sports Properties (BSP), as Learfield, the multimedia rightsholder for University of Colorado Athletics, appointed him to the position on November 29, 2021.

For BSP, he serves as the primary Learfield liaison with athletic department. The team works in complete collaboration with the athletics administration and oversees CU Athletics' corporate partner platform. CU and Learfield have been partners for a quarter century; the Buffaloes are one of 50 Power 5 programs that the company represents in the multimedia rights arena.

Popchuck, 37, has been with Learfield since 2010, having joined the CU staff from Washington State University, where he had been the general manager for Washington State Sports Properties which represented the Cougars from August 2018 until coming to CU. Prior to WSU, he was the former associate general manager for Learfield's Michigan Sports Properties team in Ann Arbor for three years (August 2015-18). He had been promoted to that position from a senior account executive position for MSP that he held for nearly two-and-a-half years. He had started as an MSP account executive in June 2011 and worked in that position for just under two years until his first promotion.

Popchuck is a 2007 graduate of Hope College (Holland, Mich.), where he earned his bachelor's degree in Business Management and Communications and was also a defensive back for the Flying Dutchmen. After working as an event resources executive in the Detroit area for two-and-a-half years, he relocated to Colorado Springs where he spent the better part of two years (November 2009 through June 2011) working for CBS Collegiate Sports Properties as an account executive for the Air Force Academy Falcons. He then moved back to his native Michigan for the next seven-plus years of his professional career.

He was born February 13, 1985 in Detroit, Mich., and graduated from Rochester Adams (Mich.) High School, where he lettered in football and track. His hobbies include golf, hiking, camping and traveling. He is married to the

former Emily Hunter, and they have two children, son Luke (8) and daughter Anna (7). In college, he was a premium services intern with the Philadelphia Eagles his junior year.



ADAM RINGLER

Assistant Athletic Trainer & Head of Research

Adam Ringler is in his sixth year as a member of CU's athletic department, his second as an assistant athletic trainer after four years as an assistant director of strength and conditioning for volleyball and women's basketball. He also has attained the title of

head of research, as his major responsibilities have included the integration of sport-science for all sports, which involves the coordination and utilization of cutting-edge technologies and high-performance management principles within an innovative strength and conditioning program.

He joined the staff in the summer of 2017 after spending the better part of eight years (2010-17) at Wichita State University as an assistant strength and conditioning coach, where he worked directly with the women's basketball, volleyball, softball, women's tennis and women's golf teams.

Ringler earned his bachelor's ('08) and master's degrees ('10) in Kinesiology from Michigan State where he also served time as a volunteer and graduate assistant coach from 2006-10. He worked closely with the volleyball team and directly oversaw the strength and conditioning program for wrestling, helping the squad place six NCAA qualifiers and awarding one All-American. Ringler also assisted with the strength and conditioning programs for 17 Michigan State Olympic sports and assisted with the men's and women's basketball teams.

In high school Ringler earned all-state recognition in wrestling. His hobbies include hiking, sport science research, computer programming, and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. A native of Niles, Mich., Ringler and his wife, Brittney, have a daughter, Breslin, and a son, Bear.



RACHEL RIPKEN

Director of Community Outreach

Rachel Ripken is in her 15th year as a member of CU athletic department, dating back to when she was a freshman in school in 2008 and earning her way into several promotions since. Most recently, on July 1, 2021 she was promoted to the assistant athletic director for community outreach. She had been

named director of community outreach on August 1, 2018, which entails most of her duties as Community Outreach Manager, which she has done since being promoted on July 1, 2016.

In her current role, she manages all of the athletic department's community outreach initiatives and popular programming such as Read with the Buffs, Chip's Kids Club and Ralphie's Kids Roundup. She manages the Ralphie live mascot program and oversees CU's spirit groups, which include cheer, dance and the costumed mascot, Chip. She also coordinates coach and student-athlete appearances and Leadership Through Service opportunities in the community and is the staff advisor to CU's Student-Athlete Advisory Board (SAAC), and has an active role with the group in coordinating the annual CUSPY's (CU Sports Performers of the Year).

Ripken, 32, has spent her entire professional career with the Buffaloes, as she was appointed as a marketing and promotions associate following her graduation from CU in 2012. Shortly thereafter, she was hired full-time as a community outreach coordinator.

She graduated from the University of Colorado in 2012, with a double major in History and Communication while earning a minor in Dance. She worked as a student assistant for four years in the men's basketball office under head coaches Jeff Bzdelik and Tad Boyle while earning her degree.

She was born November 22, 1989 in Baltimore, Md., and graduated from St. Paul's High School in Brooklandville, Md., where she was a member of the school's dance company. Her hobbies include skiing, hiking, traveling and going to sporting events. Her family has famous baseball lineage, most notably her father, Cal Ripken Jr., the Baseball Hall of Fame infielder who played 21 seasons in the majors, all with the Baltimore Orioles (and set the record for most consecutive games played with 2,632). An uncle, Billy Ripken, also played in the majors for 12 seasons, and a grandfather, the late Cal Ripken Sr., was a player, coach and manager in the Orioles organization for 36 years. Her younger brother, Ryan, retired from professional baseball in 2022 but did rise in the Orioles' minor league farm system to the AAA level with the Norfolk Tides of the International League.



TRACY TRIPP

Senior Associate AD/Human Resources

Tracy Tripp is in her 15th year as a member of CU athletic department, most recently promoted to senior associate athletic director for human resources on July 1, 2021; she was named associate AD over the same area on August 1, 2018. She is a member of athletic director Rick George's executive

team and is entering her sixth season as the sport supervisor for the women's lacrosse program.

Tripp returned to her alma mater where starred on the women's basketball two decades earlier on August 1, 2008 as the director of operations for the program she helped lead to its first Big Eight title in 1989. After four years in that position, she transitioned out of coaching into a new role as Sustainability Manager and Athletic Facilities Assistant. On October 8, 2013, Tripp moved into the role as Coordinator of Human Resources & Payroll for Athletics.

Tripp spent 13 seasons (1995-08) as an assistant women's basketball coach at the University of Denver, and was promoted to associate head coach for her final season there. She assisted the Pioneer's transition from NCAA Division II to Division I in 1998, and just four seasons later (2001), helped guide DU into its first NCAA Tournament. Considered an excellent teacher of the game, Tripp was responsible for the development of both guard and post play, scouting of opponents, in-game strategy, and served as the camp director for all summer camps. Tripp's other duties included recruiting, alumni relations and academic support. She was responsible for the development of DU's most notable center, Misa Pavlickova, the 2001 Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year, the 24th overall pick of the 2001 WNBA Draft and a member of the 2004 Czech Republic Olympic team, as well as other numerous all-conference players.

Prior to joining the staff at DU, Tripp spent one season as an assistant coach at San Diego State (1994-95), helping the Aztecs to the Western Athletic Conference title and earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament in working under head coach Beth Burns, who was a CU assistant while she was a player. She also spent one season (1993-94) as an assistant basketball and volleyball coach at Western State College in Gunnison. Before embarking on her collegiate coaching career, Tripp served as head girls basketball coach at Boulder's Fairview High from 1990-93, leading Knights to three-straight Class 5A state tournaments and an overall record of 54-18. Tripp also taught physical education, health and science during her tenure.

As a standout performer on Ceal Barry's early Colorado teams, she was a third-team Freshman All-American for the 1985-86 season, second-team All-Big Eight as a sophomore and honorable mention All-Conference as a junior. She also garnered second-team All-Big Eight Tournament honors as a senior in 1989, when the then-Lady Buffs defeated Oklahoma State in the title game, 98-92, in double overtime to complete the first undefeated run by any team in conference history, as CU was 14-0 in the regular season. She started 117 of 121 games in her career, averaging 13.0 points per game in not missing a single game in earning four letters; her 1,574 points were the fourth-most in program history at the time of her graduation, and still rank 11th on the list. To this day, she still co-holds the record for the most points scored in a game when she tallied 38 at Oklahoma State her sophomore season.

Tripp graduated from CU in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology, and earned her teaching certificate from CU the following year. She was a three-time Academic All-Big Eight team member.

A native of Fort Collins, Colo., she graduated from Fort Collins High School where she lettered in basketball and volleyball. Her hobbies include cycling, mountain biking, hiking, skiing, golf, snowshoeing and watching sports. She was twice recognized as a Colorado Sportswoman of the Year, first for her senior year at Fort Collins in 1985, and the second following her senior season at CU in 1989.



LAUREN UNREIN

Associate AD/Leadership & Career Development

Lauren Unrein is in her second year as the associate athletic director for CU's Scripps Leadership and Career Development program, promoted to the position on July 1, 2021. She previously had served as the assistant director in the area since March 2018.

Unrein, 32, has been the leader in the developing the "Buff's with a Brand" program, instituted in the summer of 2020 ahead of the long-awaited NCAA allowing student-athletes to benefit from their name, image and likeness (NIL).

She originally joined the athletic department staff as a development assistant in the Buff Club in 2013. She eventually was promoted to an associate director of development and then the annual fund director for the Buff Club which included being responsible for the National Buff Club Cabinet Program. She then transitioned into working exclusively in leadership and career development, which in her roles with the Buff Club she had been supporting and focusing on student-athlete career readiness.

Unrein graduated from CU in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in English and Political Science. She was a member of CU's club swimming team (backstroke and individual medley), helping the team win three collegiate club championships and at one time set the individual record in the 200-meter backstroke. Also a member of the 200-meter free relay team that still holds the school record, she was selected as CU's Club Sports Athlete of the Year as a senior in 2011.

After CU, Unrein went on to earn her masters in Sport Administration from the University of Northern Colorado in 2012. While in graduate school, she worked as an Academic and Life Skills Coordinator for the UNC Athletic Department. She worked as an associate for Greenhouse Scholars in Boulder after graduating.

Born Lauren Fowler on November 20, 1989 in Colorado Springs, she graduated from the city's Wasson High School where she lettered in swimming (she often swam at the U.S. Olympic Training Center). Her hobbies include all things outdoors, including hiking, swimming, and fly-fishing. She is married to Scott Unrein, CU's former assistant of football operations. Several family members have graduated from CU (she is a fourth generation Buff), including her very well-known second cousin to CU fans, ESPN's Chris Fowler.



ALEXIS WILLIAMS

Senior Associate AD/External Operations

Alexis Williams returned to CU as the senior associate athletic director for external operations, assuming the role on August 1, 2020. In her position, she oversees marketing, promotions, ticket operations and BuffVision. She is also a member of athletic director Rick George's executive team and is the sport

supervisor for the women's tennis program.

Williams is in her second stint at CU, returning from her native city and the University of Houston, where she had served as the Cougars' associate athletics director for ticket sales and operations for the previous year-and-a-half after her first time with the Buffaloes. She also started the Houston's diversity and inclusion council.

She had first joined the Colorado staff as the associate AD for ticket operations, sales and services in March 2015, and was promoted to associate athletic director over the same areas on August 1, 2018. She was also an active member on the department's Diversity & Inclusion Excellence Council.

She originally came to Colorado from Theatre Under The Stars in Houston, Texas, where she was the manager of ticketing and customer service for seven-and-a-half years (November 2007-March 2015). She previously was the assistant athletic director for ticket operations at Rice University for just over four years (September 2003-November 2007). She was promoted into that position after serving three years as the Owls' assistant ticket manager. Her first position in the business came as the assistant ticket manager at SMU in 1999.

Williams earned two degrees from Louisiana State University. She received her bachelor's in Mathematics in 1996 and her master's in Sports Management in 1998. At LSU, she was active in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and a manager for the women's basketball team.

A native of Houston, Texas, she graduated from Houston's Bellaire High School, where she lettered in basketball (point guard). Her hobbies include playing golf, reading, travel and attending concerts and sporting events.



RICKY ZUM MALLEN

Associate AD/Marketing & Promotions

Ricky Zum Mallen is in his first year as the associate athletic director for marketing and promotions, as he joined the Colorado staff on August 24, 2022.

Zum Mallen, 32, came to Colorado from Eastern Michigan University, where he spent four years (2018-22) as the assistant athletic director for marketing for the Eagles. He directly handled the marketing responsibilities for EMU football, including those for three bowl games it participated in (Camellia, Quick Lane and LendingTree) and oversaw the efforts of the department as a whole. He led the marketing efforts that achieved three record-setting seasons in men's basketball season ticket sales as well as increasing single game revenue in both football and basketball.

At EMU, his efforts were pivotal in the school being a two-time NACMA (National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators) "Best Of" Awards winner, both for the 2021-22 academic year. EMU earned the Gold Award in the fan giveaway category (tying in HEATH candy bars to new head coach Stan Heath's first home game) and the Bronze Award for a season ticket campaign for men's and women's basketball season tickets.

Prior to his time at EMU, he spent a little over three years (April 2015-July 2018) at Temple University in a number of roles. In his final position there, he was the associate director of marketing where he oversaw the game presentation for all home men's and women's basketball games. The Owls noticed an increase of nine percent in average attendance for men's games, while revenue grew 58 percent for women's basketball in 2017-18 over the previous season.

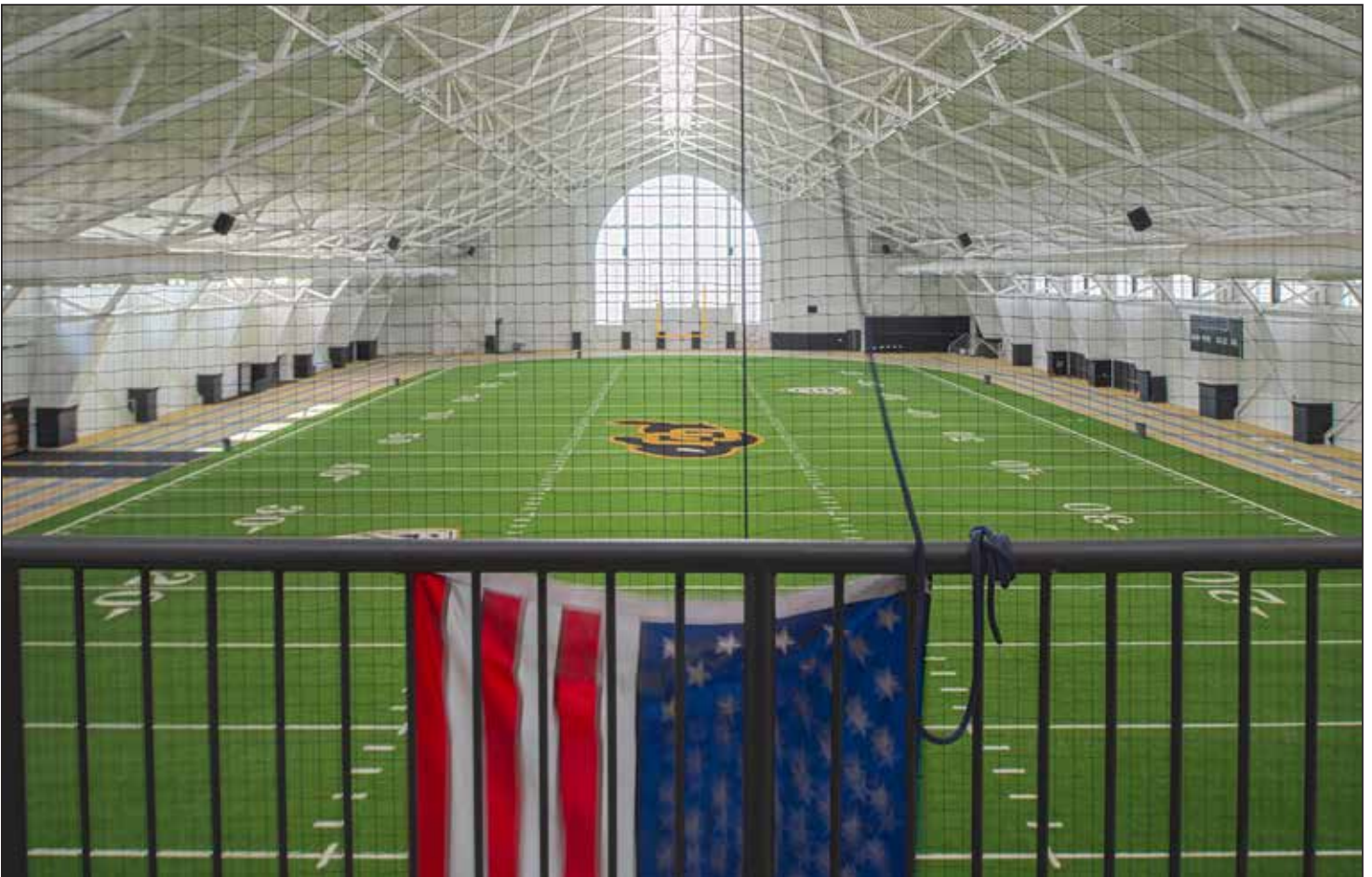
Zum Mallen briefly assumed the title of interim assistant athletic director for four months (Nov. 2017-Feb. 2018) where he managed the day-to-day operations of the department and coordinated the gameday efforts. He had arrived at Temple in the spring of 2015 as the marketing coordinator working with volleyball and women's basketball.

Before Temple, he spent a year at the University of Tulsa as a marketing assistant. At Tulsa, Zum Mallen was responsible for all marketing efforts for both the women's basketball and the men's soccer teams, including developing marketing plans. He also coordinated marketing efforts from field level during Golden Hurricane football games.

Zum Mallen was a graduate assistant for marketing and promotions for Southeast Missouri State University from July 2012 to May 2014. His responsibilities included leading the marketing and promotional efforts for the volleyball, soccer, baseball and women's basketball teams. He also assisted with all social media efforts to promote Redhawk athletic events, coordinated and supervised student workers and oversaw writing and editing of public address game scripts for all Southeast Missouri sports.

While at SEMO, he earned his masters of Business Administration in May 2014, with an emphasis on Sport Management. He earned his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Loyola University (Chicago) in May 2012; at Loyola, he had a double major in Marketing and Sport Management. He was a marketing intern his senior year, coordinating marketing and promotional projects for all men's and women's soccer games. He also filmed and edited marketing videos to enhance the Ramblers' brand.

He was born March 29, 1990 in Geneseo, Ill., and graduated from Geneseo High School where he lettered in golf. His hobbies include playing golf and traveling. He taught an undergraduate Sport Management class (titled Fan Engagement and Revenue Generation in College Athletics) at Eastern Michigan University in the spring 2022. He is married to the former Kaja Rasmussen, who is also in the marketing profession (higher education admissions).



CU's Indoor Practice Facility (IPF), one of the best in all of college football.