

CU FOOTBALL HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT

Colorado is in its second century of intercollegiate football, as the Buffaloes continue their 135th season of intercollegiate football in 2024. Through week 12 of the 2024 season, CU has played in 1,315 games with an all-time record of 732-547-36.

In FBS, only 23 programs began earlier than the Buffs did in 1890 and only 13 programs have played more seasons than the Buffs (134) with the only Big 12 program ahead being Cincinnati starting its 137th season. Colorado ranks tied for second in the Big 12 with Kansas.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Starting from the top a family environment has been set for the Buffs have the most sets of brothers in the country with six in FBS Football. The brothers include Brandon and Colton Hood who are also joined by their cousin Trenton Hood, Kaleb and Cole Mathis whose dad Kevin Mathis is the cornerback coach, Chidozie and Chijoke Nwankwo, Shedeur and Shilo Sanders with their dad Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders, Destin and Keaton Wade, and Jaylen and LaJohntay Wester.

FATHER AND SON DUO

Not only are there multiple pairs of brothers on the team, Colorado is one of nine FBS teams with a father son pair as the head coach and player, Kennesaw State is the only other team with two sons playing with their dad. Shedeur Sanders is one of only two quarterbacks in the country with his dad as the head coach with Kennesaw State's Braden Bohannon.

NEW TOP DAWG

LaJohntay Wester transferred in from Florida Atlantic (FAU) where he consistently gave defenses problems on offense as well as a returner specifically a punt returner. Offensively he is 2nd in career receptions with 322 as well as the highest returning from last season where he caught 108 passes. Once he got the ball he made things happen currently sitting at fifth with 3,583 receiving yards, fifth for yards after catch with 1,825, and tied for sixth in touchdowns with 31. His newest teammate from Vanderbilt Will Sheppard is also tied for 15th among active players with 27 career receiving touchdowns. Among all the stats that Wester finds himself at the top of to start the 2024 season, he is currently first with 49 straight games with a reception dating back to his freshman season.

BACK TO THE PORTAL

Once again Colorado attacked the portal with the second most scholarship newcomers with 50 behind only North Texas who had 54. The Buffs will also see the second fewest overall returning players as well as scholarship players with 51 and 31 respectively behind North Texas in both regards. This season there will be zero players in their final year of eligibility who started their college career as a Buff.

2024 Colorado Football Anniversaries

1904	(Oct. 8) Considered one of the biggest wins in the 15-year history of the program, Colorado beats Nebraska in Boulder, 6-0. The game ball remains on display at CU's Heritage Center on campus (third floor of Old Main).
1909	Colorado finished 6-0 the first of three in a row to do so while establishing the school's all-time winning streak of 21 games between 1908 and 1912.
1924	(Oct. 11) The 100th anniversary of the first game at Colorado Stadium (now Folsom Field), a 39-0 win over Regis. Colorado says goodbye to Gamble Field the previous Saturday with a 21-0 romp over Western State on its way to an 8-1-1 record, which included its first overseas games—two in Hawai'i.
1939	The Buffaloes open 0-3, but would go on and post their best finish after such a start, rallying to win five in a row to finish 5-3 and win their first Mountain States Conference title.
1949	(Oct. 29) The 75th anniversary of perhaps the wackiest game in CU history when it comes to the weather. In a 14-7 homecoming win over Utah, the temperature was 61 degrees at its 2 p.m. kickoff with clear skies. It was overcast by halftime, and by the end of the game, the field was covered in six inches of snow.
1969	The Buffs cap an 8-3 season with an emotional 47-33 win over Alabama in the Liberty Bowl, where CU had to put up with racial slurs from some Alabama fans because Colorado had African-American players, including tri-captain Bill Collins, while the Crimson Tide were not integrated at the time.
1974	(Oct. 5) The last meeting for 45 years between Front Range rivals Colorado and Air Force, won by the Buffs, 28-27 at the USAFA. CU leads the all-time series 12-6.
1979	(Sept. 8) The 45th anniversary of the Colorado-Oregon game being the first college football game televised on ESPN (tape delay). It was also the first game of the short tenure as Colorado head coach by Chuck Fairbanks.
1984	(Sept. 15) The 40th anniversary marking the severe brain injury to CU tight end Ed Reinhardt, who was in a coma for a month after being hurt in the final two minutes of CU's 27-20 loss at Oregon. Reinhardt had caught 10 passes in the season opener the previous week against Michigan State and was the nation's leading receiver.
1989	Following Colorado's first 11-0 regular season in school history and No. 1 national ranking, the Buffaloes play for the national championship in the Orange Bowl against No. 4 Notre Dame, but come up short, 21-6. The Buffs dedicated the season to fallen quarterback Sal Aunese, who died on Sept. 23 after a six month battle with stomach cancer.
1994	The 30th anniversary of "The Catch," (CU's 27-26 win at Michigan); of Rashaan Salaam winning the first Heisman Trophy by a Buff (Dec. 10); of Chris Hudson winning the Thorpe Award (Dec. 8); of Salaam going over 2,000 yards for the season against Iowa State (Nov. 19); of Kordell Stewart becoming the Big 8's all-time total offense leader (also Nov. 19); of Bill McCartney retiring as CU's head coach (also Nov. 19); and of CU's 11-1 season which saw the Buffs finish as the No. 3 team in the country.
2004	(Oct. 16) Mason Crosby kicked CU's school record 60-yard field goal in a 19-14 win over Iowa State.