

Coloradan



Bufs Who Build the Future

Transforming lives since 1876.

1967



WE

Now



November 2026

After upsetting the No. 3-ranked University of Northern Iowa in the National Collegiate Rugby semifinals in November (pictured), the CU women's rugby team took runner-up to Northeastern University in the Division 1AA final in Houston in December. It was the farthest the team has advanced in its history.

Women's rugby is one of 45 CU Boulder sport club teams. Over 2,000 students compete in club sports. These teams are among nearly 500 recognized student organizations on campus, which include interests ranging from hiking and skiing to leadership and religion. The groups serve as an avenue for students' well-being as they foster community on campus.

Photo by Griff Hastings



Editor's Note

In 1882, CU Boulder graduated its first six alumni in a small ceremony at Old Main. Today, you are among the 320,000 “cherished sons and daughters,” as President George Norlin would call the 1935 graduates, along with all future generations of Buffs.

Norlin also said: “Wherever you go, the university goes with you. Wherever you are at work, there is the university at work.”

Forever Buffs, you are the university. Your accomplishments, your deeds, your community impact — that’s you and the university at work in the world.

To celebrate CU Boulder’s 150th anniversary, each *Coloradan* this year is designed to be a collector’s edition, highlighting a handful of spectacular Buffs who’ve impacted the university and the world.

While we can’t include everyone here, we encourage you to send us the names of outstanding Buffs we can feature online, in Class Notes or at events this year.

And don’t miss stories about cyborg jellyfish, Olympians, free speech and state-wide economic impact. Enjoy reading about the limitless reach of Forever Buffs like you.

Happy 150th anniversary, CU Boulder!



Maria Kuntz
Editor

Contact me at
editor@colorado.edu

Contents

On the Cover

2026 marks CU Boulder’s sesquicentennial celebration. Illustration by Mike McQuade.

➤ A fall production of *Cabaret* by CU Boulder’s musical theater program.

24 **People Pushing Progress**
A spotlight on several Buffs who have spurred change and left an imprint on the legacy that propels it forward.

32 **Running at Life**
Kara Goucher (Psych’01) overcame many hurdles to have a career as an Olympian, *New York Times* bestselling author and podcaster.

38 **Hearing Losses**
A CU Boulder lab is exploring how age-related hearing loss rewires the brain — and whether hearing aids can undo the damage.

CU Presents

6 **Herd**
Jolly Rancher Vaccine

8 **Fieldwork**
Funny Business

10 **Point of View**
Does Free Speech Have Limits?

12 **Boulder Beat**
City Shapers

16 **Elevated**
Cyborg Jellies

18 **Rundown**

44 **Buff Built**

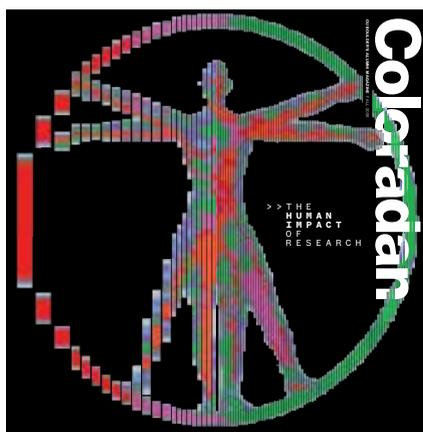
48 **Origins**
Takács Quartet

52 **Beyond Boulder**

55 **Waypoint**
Rural Colorado Workshop Series

57 **Alumni Updates**

58 **Class Notes**



America's First Tour de France Winner

What an uplifting and well-written article! It epitomizes **Marianne Martin's** (Rec'80) spirit. I was a best friend of Marianne growing up in Fenton, Michigan.

Diane Callahan
Germantown,
Tennessee

She is amazingly inspirational and a Buff! Who knew?!

Tracy Heiman
Via Facebook

What an awesome story! Marianne — Do you want to go for a ride sometime?

Dr. Gina LaFrazza
Via Instagram

Hardcore History

Congratulations on the **Dan Carlin** (Hist'89) article in the Fall edition. He is amazing. I had no idea he was an alumnus. It got me back into his *Hardcore History* podcast.

Eric Maikranz
(Russ'91)
Stuart, Florida

I have shared Dan Carlin's podcast with several folks already — including a friend in the Philippines.

Bill Kieffer (PolSci'63)
Coral Springs, Florida

Wow, I had no idea Dan Carlin was a Buff. That is awesome.

Tom Winkle
(Mktg, RealEst'19)
Via Instagram

New Font Legibility

I tried reading the most recent *Coloradan*.

However, the type was so small, I really couldn't read it. I hope you will consider improving the type size.

Sally Schneider
(MEdu'75)
Boulder

Congratulations on your new design. Nice job all around. One suggestion — increase the type font by two sizes.

Albert Bates
Simpsonville, South
Carolina

I am so pleased with the new look of the *Coloradan*.

We want to hear from you!

Send photos, feedback and recommendations to editor@colorado.edu or University of Colorado Boulder, 552 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309

Letters edited for length and clarity.

Follow @CUBoulderAlumni on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn

➤ Read more at colorado.edu/coloradan

It is such a pleasure to be able to read the new edition. As an elderly grad, I still have decent eyesight, but having a clean print of black on white is so much easier to read.

John Panepinto
(Pharm'65)
Pueblo, Colorado

[Editor's Note: We sincerely appreciate all of you who wrote in to us about the font size and spacing in the fall issue. We have increased the type size and changed the fonts in a few text-heavy sections. We also adjusted the spacing throughout the magazine to help with legibility. Please let us know what you think!]

Brushstrokes of Becoming

As an exchange student from Germany, I came to CU Boulder in 1980, and a whole new world opened to me. What began as one year abroad became a lifetime. From sketching the view out of Norlin Stacks to drawing

portraits on Pearl Street Mall, those moments sparked both my life as an artist and my path as a counselor.

The pen-and-ink drawings I share from 1983 are traces of that beginning, reminders of how CU and Boulder welcomed me so wholeheartedly.

I remain deeply grateful. One year abroad became a lifetime of becoming.

Karin Herold Leonard (EPOBio'84)
Santa Cruz, California

Fourth-Generation Buff

My grandson proved to be a good-luck charm

for CU football at this season's Iowa State game. His great-grandparents, grandparents and mom (and her brother, his uncle) graduated from CU, along with more distant relatives. Hoping he'll be a fourth-generation Buff!

Deb Dieter (Chem'83)
Eagle, Colorado

[Correction: In "The Reaches of Research" cover story for the fall issue, we did not list Kristi Anseth's CU Boulder doctorate degree. She graduated in 1994 with a PhD in chemical engineering.

Feedback Loop



"I came to CU Boulder in 1980 ... What began as one year abroad became a lifetime ... Those moments sparked both my life as an artist and my path as a counselor."

Pen-and-ink drawing of campus from former German exchange student **Karin Herold Leonard** (EPOBio'84) in 1983.

Coloradan aims to inform, inspire and foster community among alumni, friends and admirers of the University of Colorado Boulder, and to engage them in the life of the university. We strive to practice inclusive storytelling in every aspect of the publication. Our goal is to uplift and share stories that represent a wide range of CU Boulder experiences while working to develop a deeper sense of belonging for all involved with the university.

How to Reach Us

editor@colorado.edu;
303-492-8484 Koenig Alumni Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0459

Update Your Address

advancement.
datamanagement@cu.edu

Chancellor

Justin Schwartz

Vice Chancellor for Advancement

Katy Herbert Kotlarczyk

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Engagement and Executive Director, Advancement Marketing and Communications

Taylor Jarvis

Interim Executive Director, Alumni Association

Julann Andresen (Mktg'85)

Editor

Maria Kuntz

Managing Editor

Christie Sounart (Jour'12)

Assistant Editor

Kelsey Yandura

Editorial Assistant

Julia MacLean (Jour'26)

Copy Editors

Michelle Starika (Jour, Mktg'87), Kelsey Tanner

Contributors

Glenn Asakawa (Jour'86), Patrick Campbell (EnvDes'11), Amber Carlson, Casey A. Cass, April Driver, Mona Lambrecht, Lisa Marshall (Jour, PolSci'94), Tom Needy, Julie Poppen (Eng'88), Hannah Savic, Anna Tolette, Yvaine Ye

Design and Art Direction

Pentagram Austin



Jolly Rancher Vaccine

New single-dose, temperature-stable rabies vaccines could expand global access.

By **Amber Carlson**

Rabies remains a major public health threat — 60,000 people die annually — especially in developing countries where vaccines are in short supply and challenging to store. Current vaccines need to be kept refrigerated or frozen because the proteins in them start to degrade at warmer temperatures. When the proteins go bad, the shots become ineffective. For this reason, it's been challenging to administer traditional rabies vaccines in regions that lack electricity or specialized cold storage equipment.

But CU Boulder researchers are looking to change that, thanks to recent innovations from the university's chemical and biological engineering department, where scientists have discovered a new way to keep these shots viable at warmer temperatures and combine multiple timed-release doses into a single injection.

These new, temperature-stable shots don't degrade in warmer environments and can be stored in bulk powder form until they're ready to be used.

To make the vaccines, the research team sprays the vaccine proteins with a sugar solution that hardens to a candy-like texture. The candied particles then get a nanoscopic coating of aluminum oxide (the same chemical

that makes up sapphire jewels) that protects the sugar-coated vaccine particles for days to weeks before dissolving in the patient's body.

"We're basically making sapphire-coated Jolly Ranchers that deliver vaccines," said **Ted Randolph** (ChemEngr'83), CU Boulder professor and lead study author.

Rabies shots typically require three to five doses to be effective, so combining the doses into one shot is more efficient and cuts down on unnecessary health care visits.

Randolph believes the same process could also be used to create vaccines for other viruses, such as human papillomavirus (HPV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

To bring this technology to market, Randolph and Robert Garcea, professor emeritus in CU Boulder's molecular, cellular and developmental biology department, formed the startup VitriVax. In October, the company announced it had raised \$17.25 million in series B funding.

"It's been 25 years of lots of talented grad students adding little bits and pieces to the puzzle," Randolph said. 🗨️

Reisher Scholars Program

This fall, CU Boulder will begin offering Reisher Scholarships, thanks to a new \$4.2 million partnership with The Denver Foundation and the Reisher Family Foundation to launch the program over the next three years. With this milestone, the university joins one of the largest scholarship programs in Colorado.

The Reisher Scholars Program supports Colorado students after their first year by helping them fund the remainder of their undergraduate degrees. Each selected student may qualify for up to \$22,000 per year to cover their cost of attendance, as well as access to free mental health support.

"This investment directly addresses students' real challenges to help them stay on track, graduate and thrive," said Chancellor Justin Schwartz. "The Reisher Scholars Program strengthens CU Boulder's commitment to student success and ensures that more Buffs can finish college ready to achieve their next steps."

Margaret and **Roger Reisher** (Acct'50) started the Reisher Scholars Program at The Denver Foundation in 2001 because, as first-generation college students, they wanted other students to have the opportunity to earn a college degree.

➤ Read more stories or give at colorado.edu/advancement

Funny Business

Interview by **Katy Hill**

Humor has long been seen as a “soft skill,” useful for easing awkward Zoom moments or sharing a laugh with colleagues. But CU Boulder researchers Tony Kong and Peter McGraw argue it’s far more than that. Kong, a professor of organizational leadership and information analytics at the Leeds School of Business, views humor as a strategic leadership tool that can build trust, strengthen teams and elevate status — if used wisely. McGraw, a marketing and psychology professor and director of the Humor Research Lab, warns that most people overestimate their comedic skills, causing their jokes to backfire.

Can you each explain your views on workplace humor? **Kong:**

Humor has a lot of relational benefits. People bond easily when they laugh together, and it builds trust. Research shows it boosts creativity, helps people think more divergently and strengthens commitment. But a bad joke can hurt your credibility or status. It’s a double-edged sword, but the benefits outweigh the risks when used wisely.

McGraw: I agree, and I’d add that humor helps people cope with challenges and unpleasant situations at work. Where we differ is in advocacy: I’m more cautious. Most people aren’t naturally skilled at humor. In our research, we developed the benign violation theory: People laugh at things that are ‘wrong, yet OK’ — they’re threatening, but safe. Remove either element, and humor fails — it’s boring if the ‘wrong’ is missing and upsetting if the ‘OK’ is missing. Workplaces can be sensitive, so humor requires skill.

K: Context matters. To use humor effectively, you need to know your audience — what’s ‘wrong, yet OK’ varies across groups.

M: Motivation matters, too. Benign violation theory says the ‘benign’ part is your intention, and the ‘violation’ is context-specific. Minor violations are toler-

ated if the motivation is understood; serious violations risk offense.

K: My favorite humor points out experiences we all notice but rarely articulate — like [comedian] Ali Wong does. Ali is fearless, brilliant and incisive in talking about relatable and important topics such as careers, motherhood, cultures and relationships. Insightful humor resonates more than just showing off intellect. And humor is culturally specific — the ‘violation’ differs across groups. That’s part of why I became fascinated with it.

How did you each get into studying humor? **M:**

I came from behavioral economics, studying emotions like regret and embarrassment. Humor wasn’t on my radar until I gave a talk and my audience laughed unexpectedly. Curious, I started

↑ **Tony Kong, left, and Peter McGraw, right, study humor in the workplace.**

researching what makes things funny, and that led to benign violation theory.

K: I focus on humor as a resource — how it builds relationships, improves leadership and enhances performance. So our research is complementary: Peter studies the nature of humor; I study humor consequences.

Can you give examples of humor that works at work — and when it’s best avoided? **M:**

Humor works in close relationships, when joking about a common challenge or competitor, and when punching up instead of down — rather than the boss making the joke down to an employee, it’s nicer if the employee can make the joke up to the boss. And avoid joking about absent people; it becomes gossip.

K: Humor is also useful to relieve stress. Joking about tasks, deadlines or shared experiences works; joking about individ-

uals without rapport may not.

M: Emotional intelligence matters. Skilled people can leverage humor; less skilled people might focus on enjoying humor rather than performing it.

What should people know about humor in general? **K:**

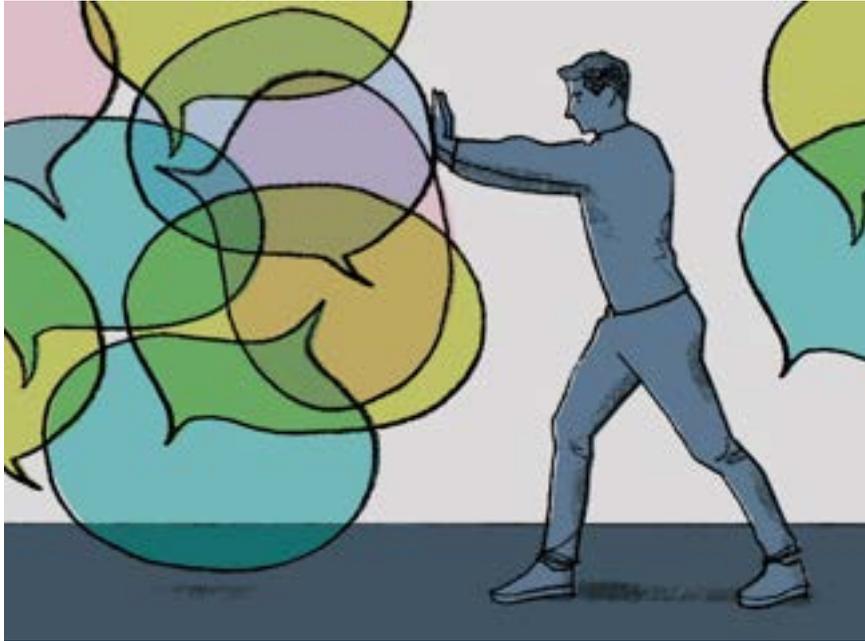
Humor is social information — it signals something to others. How it lands depends on the context, the audience and who’s delivering it. That’s why perspective-taking is key: Put yourself in their shoes. Humor is risky, but when done for others’ benefit, it can be really powerful. And when a joke fails, the only recovery may be sincere apology.

M: Or better yet, avoid telling bad jokes. Stop being unfunny, don’t stop being funny. 🗨️

➤ Learn more about CU Boulder-related humor research at humorresearchlab.com or cubuffs.org/tony_kong



Does Free Speech Have Limits?



By **Steve Vanderheiden**, professor of political science

Should there be limits on speech and expression, and are the limits that we now legally recognize the right ones?

John Stuart Mill's classic defense of free speech in his 1859 essay "On Liberty" endorses strong but not unlimited protections — but for reasons that many have come to question. Any silencing of what we now call political speech would be socially harmful, he wrote, in that it would deprive us of the opportunity to exchange error for truth. Truth, Mill was convinced, is essential for society to progress, and he thought that it emerged "in collision with error."

But some speech can be divisive. "Hate speech" refers to highly offensive forms of expression designed to denigrate, divide or incite. Some now call for stricter limits on such speech. To the extent that speech potentially incites violence, Mill allowed

for restrictions on the time, manner and place of its utterance, but not its content (a distinction now enshrined in First Amendment law). Mill thought people should be allowed to express ideas that others find offensive, including those that denigrate and divide. Silencing speech that is merely offensive would lead to repression of dissent and stifle diversity of thought, especially as those in power often take offense at challenges to the social order.

Few now believe that truth necessarily emerges from unfettered speech, as Mill thought it would. Too much contemporary speech is designed to misinform and mislead, or to foster animus and resentment. We as a society are less informed, and less civil, from having to hear speech of this kind. But, as Mill warned, when we try to silence this kind of speech, we often miss our target, repressing legitimate expression. Improving our ability to recognize and combat misinformation, while resisting and condemning speech laden with animus or resentment, offers a better solution than restricting its content. 🗨️

Illustration by **Kara Fellows**

Rights Under Threat

↓ Deforestation in the Maranhão state of Brazil, July 2016

CU research finds billions live in environments that violate human rights.

By **Yvaine Ye**

More than 99% of the world's 7.7 billion people face at least one threat to their environmental rights, according to a new study.

In 2022, the UN formally recognized that everyone on the planet has the right to a healthy environment. But according to the most comprehensive analysis of environmental inequality to date, CU Boulder researchers found that nearly half of the global population lives in regions facing three or more of the five environmental threats analyzed: polluted air, unsafe water, extreme heat, food insecurity and biodiversity loss.

"Over the years, communities around the world have been fighting for local environmental justice," said first author **Naia Ormaza-Zulueta** (PhDEnv St'25), a researcher in CU Boulder's Better Planet Lab. "We want to stitch their stories into a single, undeniable global tapestry."

For their study, Ormaza-Zulueta and Zia Mehrabi, a data scientist in the Better Planet Lab, calculated whether an individual in a given location around the world is experiencing, or has recently experienced, any of the five environmental threats that violate their rights.

The team found that almost everyone on Earth lives in a place that has recently experienced at least one of these environmental threats. The report indicated that over 45%, or 3.4

billion people, have at least three rights threatened, and 1.25%, or 95 million people, experienced all five environmental threats studied.

Disadvantaged populations, such as those with lower incomes and those living on Indigenous lands, are far more likely to experience poor air quality, excessive heat and limited access to clean water.

Many of the poor environmental conditions around the globe result from the activities of wealthy nations, the study found. For instance, the large demand for products in the United States and Europe has caused biodiversity loss and deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.

"No matter where we live, our rights are inherently connected to those of people in other parts of the world," Ormaza-Zulueta said.

The analysis was published in September 2025 in *Environmental Research Communications*. 🗨️



lbama from Brasil



Boulder Beat

City Shapers

By **Thomas Andrews**, director of CU Boulder's Center of the American West and professor of history

As a Boulder-born Fairview High School graduate and one of just a few second-generation faculty members at CU Boulder, it is nearly impossible for me to imagine either the town or the university in isolation. Looking back at CU's first 50 years as we approach its sesquicentennial anniversary, however, it's clear that nothing was inevitable about this marriage.

As Boulder postmaster and former newspaper owner Amos Bixby put it in 1880, the city's founders understood that making the fledgling town the university's home "would bring here the best class of citizens — the intellectual, the cultured, the moral, coming both for the education of their children and for the sake of the society that clusters about prosperous seats of learning." Realizing this prescient vision, though, took time.

CU remained relatively small, under-

funded and isolated through its early decades, though it did provide Boulder with its first high school, known as the "preparatory department." Together with agriculture, mining and commercial development, CU also helped to fuel Boulder's growth from 3,000 inhabitants in 1880 to more than 6,150 by 1900. By the turn of the century, the university boasted a faculty of 92, a student body of 850, and a full slate of athletic, artistic and social offerings. Perhaps the clearest illustration of CU's significance to Boulderites, though, came in 1899. After a deep economic depression caused property values and tax revenues to nosedive statewide, local citizens raised \$20,000 to keep CU afloat.

CU had already become Boulder's main claim to fame. It also fueled development near its growing campus, particularly after the founding of the Texas-Colorado Chautauqua in 1898. Boulder's first streetcar line connected town and gown. By 1905, enough people had moved to the area west of Broadway to support the construction of University Hill school for 1st through 8th grades; and by the 1920s, The Hill was assuming familiar form as a hub of student-centered businesses. Boulder and the university had grown together to such an extent that 50 years after CU's founding, it was no longer possible to imagine the one without the other — much as it is today.

Courtesy CU Heritage Center

Herd

UV Allergen Busters

CU Boulder researchers have discovered that low-intensity ultraviolet light can disable common airborne allergens such as pet dander, dust mites, mold and pollen. The light alters the structure of the allergen proteins so the immune system no longer recognizes them. Using 222-nanometer-wavelength UV lights in a controlled chamber, the team found that allergen immunorecognition dropped significantly within 30 to 40 minutes. Because allergens persist indoors long after their sources are gone, this approach could offer a simple, fast and portable way to reduce allergy and asthma triggers in indoor environments.

Preserving Language

CU researchers hope that digital tools will protect and revitalize Arapaho, a language native to the Boulder area. Andrew Cowell, CU Boulder linguistics professor and faculty director of the Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies, along with students, community partners and native Arapaho speakers, have created two online

databases (one lexical, the other for in-depth text) to help these efforts. The free lexical database functions like a living dictionary with more than 20,000 entries, according to the *Arts and Sciences* magazine. The text database, not publicly released to avoid online exploitation, contains more than 100,000 sentences of spoken Arapaho, including natural conversations and stories recorded over decades.

Space Policy and Law

As space activity worldwide increases, CU will become a hub for connecting technical expertise with governance, highlighted by the creation of the Hatfield Endowed Professor in Space Policy & Law, which is held by **Marcus Holzinger** (AeroEngr'11). Alongside the launch of the Colorado Space Policy Center, the university is fostering collaboration across academia, industry and government. These efforts aim to prepare students to apply technical knowledge to policy challenges and shape the future legal and regulatory frameworks for space exploration.

■ Campus Talk

"I can't wait to lock arms, get to work, have some fun and build the future of Colorado Athletics."

— **Fernando Lovo**, the new CU Boulder director of athletics, after being introduced Jan. 5, 2026. Lovo comes to CU from the University of New Mexico. His predecessor Rick George will step into an advisory role and serve as director of athletics emeritus on campus in June.

Photo by **Rachel Sauer**

Digits

Dinosaur Tree

CU Boulder is home to one of the oldest and rarest trees in the world.



2025

→

Year **Judy** (PE'76; MEdu'06) and **Rod McKeever** (ChemEngr'76) gifted CU a Wollemi pine

30th

→

Street location of the Boulder greenhouse where the pine, "Wally," lives

1994

→

Year the Wollemi pine was rediscovered in Australia after it was previously thought to be extinct

91M

→

the pine fossil's records date back, in years

200M

→

age of Wally's plant family

Look

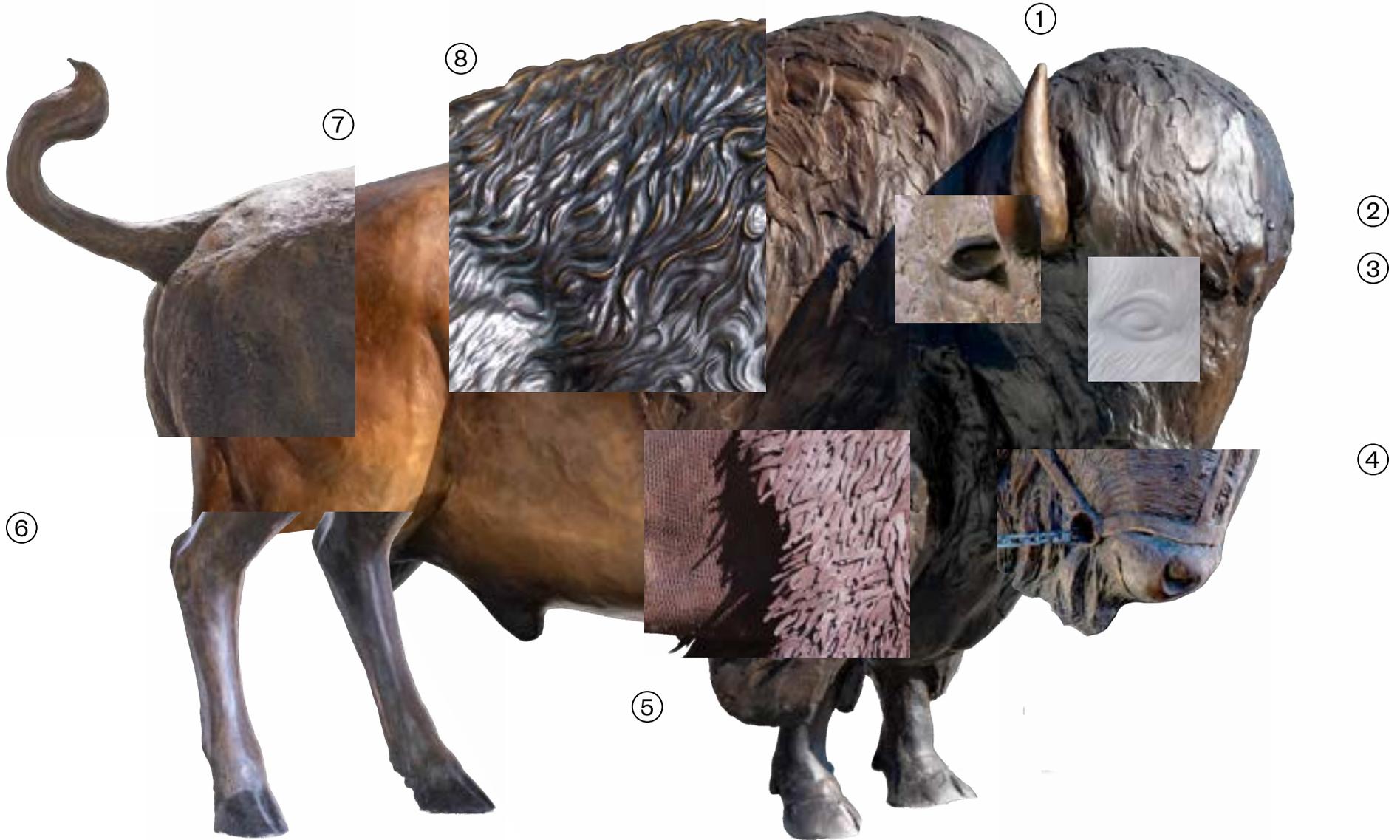
Where the Buffalo Roam

Some stand framed by the Flatirons; others are tucked into campus corners. A few are carved from marble; many are cast in bronze.

Several have horns smoothed by thousands of hopeful hands, rubbed for luck, for courage, for something just ahead. Each one holds a piece of someone's CU Boulder story.

Scattered across the CU Boulder campus, buffalo statues are abundant. They stand as enduring symbols of strength, resilience and a united spirit for all who pass by.

➤ Do you have a favorite? Email your photos to editor@colorado.edu



1 Center for Academic Success and Engagement building



2 West side of the CU Events Center



3 Inside of the Koenig Alumni Center



4 UC Health Champions Center Plaza



5 Corner of 27th Way and Baseline Road



6 Village Center Dining and Community Commons



7 Regent Administrative Center



8 Outside of Folsom Field, northwest end



Elevated

Cyborg Jellies

It's not uncommon for people to frequently stop in front of assistant professor Nicole Xu's mechanical engineering lab, mesmerized by the giant aquarium of drifting moon jellyfish (*Aurelia aurita*). Inside, Xu's team has created "cyborg" jellies, fitting them with tiny micro-electronic devices that steer their movements with pacemaker-like pulses. The technology could transform deep-sea exploration by offering an energy-efficient way to gather climate data in remote waters — and inspire the next generation of ultra-efficient underwater vehicles.

CU Boulder Program

→ Part of a Denver Aquarium partnership, which includes well-being checks on the jellies by aquarists.

→ Goal is affordable, sustainable ocean monitoring.

Aurelia aurita



1 cm

Size

As small as one centimeter (half of a penny) or larger than a dinner plate.

Environments

Found in a wide variety of ocean habitats around the world.

Diet

Zooplankton, crustacean larvae, small fish.

Anatomy

No brain, but sensory nerves for movement.

Biohybrid robots

Moon jellyfish fitted with tiny electronic devices.

500 million+ years
evolutionarily unchanged

20 years
captive lifespan

2 years
wild lifespan

Data divers

Energy-efficient
Most efficient swimmers on Earth.

Control and steering
Devices stimulate swimming muscles like a pacemaker.

Small cameras
enable the study of animals in their natural environments.

Future upgrades
Sensors for temperature, pH, salinity.

Data collection
Information can be collected by swarms of jellyfish at higher spatial and temporal resolutions.

Health and safety
of the jellies are prioritized.

Small sensors
measure changes in the ocean to track climate change.

Safe
Stinging cells can't penetrate human skin.

Rundown



Soccer Reaches Sweet 16

Buff's net the most wins in program history, including two in the NCAA Tournament.

By **Andrew Daigle**

Colorado soccer's (17-4-3) record-breaking 2025 season ended in the third round of NAAs with a 2-1 loss to No. 9 Michigan State on Nov. 23 in East Lansing, Michigan.

The Buffaloes advanced in the tournament with a thrilling double-overtime 2-1 win over Utah Valley and then a decisive 4-1 defeat of No. 22 Xavier. It was Colorado's third Sweet 16 and first since 2013.

The standout season featured an undefeated (11-0-2) home record, three All-Americans, and program bests of 59 goals and 66 assists.

Goalkeeper **Jordan Nytes** (Soc'25, MOrg Lead'26) and forward **Hope Leyba** (Int-

CU Athletics

Phys'27) became the first-ever Buffs to be named first-team All-America. Defender **Faith Leyba** (IntPhys'27) earned third team honors.

Nytes finished her CU career with consecutive All-America honors and 26 shutouts.

"I can't take any of the credit for the saves without the four people in front of me and the rest of the team," said Nytes.

Hope Leyba led the nation in goals with 22, setting another Buffs' record. She was one of five finalists for Top Drawer Soccer's Player of the Year.

Following a sensational 2025, Colorado projects to return 9 of 11 starters in 2026.

"The further you go, the more it hurts. That's okay," said head coach Danny Sanchez after the season. "We're excited for the future of Buffs soccer." 🐾

Buff Bits

Fernando Lovo was named Director of Athletics (AD) on Dec. 29, becoming Colorado's seventh full-time AD in school history. ● Volleyball (23-9, 12-6 Big 12) reached the second round of the 2025 NCAA Tournament. The Buffs defeated American University on Dec. 4 before falling to Indiana University the next day. ● Track and field's **Isaiah Givens** (EnvSt'26) ran the mile in 3:57.52 on Jan. 17 at the Potts Invitational in Boul-

der, recording the fastest mile on Colorado soil. ● All-American defensive back **Chris Hudson** (Mktg'94) was selected for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame. Hudson is the 12th Buffalo to join the Hall. ● All-American goalkeeper **Jordan Nytes** (Soc'25; MOrgLead'26) signed a professional contract with Denver Summit FC, joining the team for its inaugural season in the National Women's Soccer League.

Coach Talk

"Our athletes showed real growth this season, and we are only scratching the surface of what this group can become."

— **Sean Carlson**, CU men's and women's cross-country and track and field director, after the 2025 Cross Country National Championships in November.

Scores

1st

→

Honoree for women's basketball Wall of Honor, **Jaylyn Sherrod** (Soc'22; MSOL'23; MCJ'24), was recognized in November.

2

→

Louison Accambray's (PoSci'26) consecutive giant slalom wins at the Colorado Spencer James Nelson Memorial Invitational in Aspen.

10-1

→

Men's basketball's record through the first 11 games of the 2025-26 season, the Buffs' best start since 2015-16.

13th

→

Women's cross-country final 2025 NCAA ranking.

8

→

Former and current Buffs competed in the 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Milano Cortina.

A Winning Culture

After transferring from Toledo University, **Dominic Serem** (Anth'28) of Kapsabet, Kenya, quickly established himself as the CU men's cross-country's top runner of 2025, posting two top-5 finishes and leading the resurgent Buffs to 10th place at November's NCAAs.

Interview by **Andrew Daigle**

What made you start running seriously? I started running in fifth grade. Kenya is a country of athletes. I grew up seeing people running at altitude. It's serious work that leads to other successes. I wanted to join a school in America because of everything happening in the NCAA. College athletes are treated like professionals.

What about CU Boulder made you want to come here after previously running for Oklahoma and Toledo? Colorado lets me train at altitude like I did in Kenya. CU has the indoor track facility, great support from staff and coaches and competitive teammates.

Which teammates have helped push you to succeed? Everyone on the team is so strong. **Isaiah Givens** (EnvSt'26), **James Overberg** (MechEng'25) and me — we run the same paces, stay in the same shape. They're pushing me throughout training. And it's more than the three of us. We need that whole team effort, everyone being competitive, especially when we make it to Nationals.

What's a typical week of training like for you? My mileage has gone up since I joined CU. I usually run 90 to 100 miles each week. It's working really well. It's part of the spirit of the team, and it's not a crazy workload — it's a training plan we can handle. Even the week before races, we're still doing at least 80 miles. We go down a little in mileage before the race and then treat the race as a workout.

→ **Dominic Serem was CU's best men's cross-country runner in 2025.**

Is there a race from this year that stands out? Two races went really well. I ran the courses like I had planned with Coach. The first was Gans Creek at Columbia, Missouri. I got fifth. I was hoping for top 10. The other was the Nuttycombe Invitational at Madison, Wisconsin, where I got fourth. We were racing against New Mexico, one of the top teams. Our plan was to go out and compete, and we met that challenge. Madison was the Nationals course in 2024, and I didn't run that well there, so getting fourth place there this year meant a lot.

What have you learned from second-year head coach Sean Carlson? I see Coach Carlson as a father, brother and a leader to each of us. He's there for everyone on the team, everyone on staff. I like that he means what he says. It's not just talk. I've seen a lot of improvement in one season under him. I still have a long way to go.

What does it mean to be part of a historic program that is ascendant again? Coach Carlson has had a hugely positive impact on the team. It's a winning culture. I'm able to contribute something positive to the program. It's an incredible feeling to be part of a young team that is improving.

How do you mentally prepare for big races? Every race is a workout. I focus on improvement, on reaching my goals. Coach prepares us to think of each new

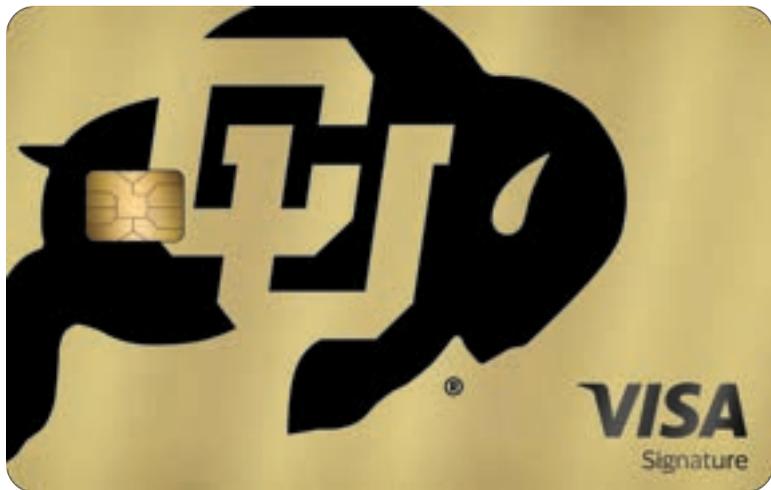


race as another step in our training — a part of what we're already doing. It keeps it simple.

How does pacing yourself work? Going into a race, we know who we're trying to keep pace with. I like to start fast to be in a very good position, making sure I'm staying there and no one is going to push away. They push it, I'm still there. And the last kick is doing what it takes to hit my goals and support the team.

Do you have a favorite distance between cross-country and indoor and outdoor track? The 3K in indoor and 5K in outdoor.

If you have time away from running, what are you doing? I like watching movies and making sure I get all my assignments done before Friday, so I can focus on racing and my long runs. By Sunday afternoon, I'm getting all my stuff ready for the next week of school and running. 🐾



Earn 15,000 Points

with the Go Buffs® Visa®
Signature Credit Card



Learn more and apply.
[BuffCreditCard.com](https://buffscreditcard.com)

The official credit card of CU Athletics
Terms and conditions apply. Scan QR code for full details.



RALLY HOUSE COLORADO

SHOP ONLINE AT RALLYHOUSE.COM
OR IN STORE AT ONE OF OUR BOULDER OR DENVER LOCATIONS



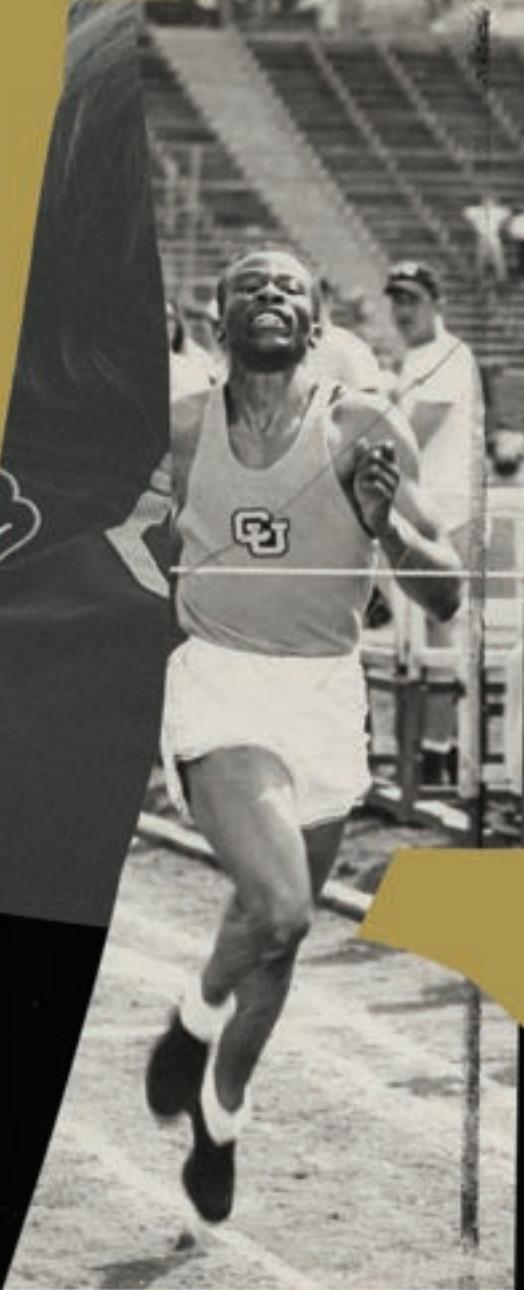
RALLY HOUSE
PEARL STREET
14TH & PEARL
ACROSS FROM OAK

RALLY HOUSE
ALCOVE ON ARAPAHOE
2450 ARAPAHOE AVE.
NEXT TO PETCO



SCAN TO
SHOP NOW

People Pushing Progress



Over 150 years, CU Boulder has been shaped by the vision, courage and tenacity of many students, faculty, staff and alumni. These Buffs have spurred change for the university and left an imprint on the legacy that propels it forward.

Written by
Julia MacLean

Illustration by
Mike McQuade

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	



1878

Mary Rippon

Mary Rippon's distinguished career at CU Boulder spanned over 30 years. Besides making history as CU's first female professor, she is also believed to be one of the first women in the United States to teach at a state university. Rippon taught language and literature, eventually earning a position as head of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literature. She is honored today by the Mary Rippon Outdoor Theatre on CU's campus.



1877

Joseph Sewall

An American physician, scientist and educator, Joseph Sewall served as CU Boulder's first president. In 1935, the university built Sewall Hall in his honor.



1940

Peggy Coppom (A&S ex'46)

Betty Hoover (A&S ex'46)

The CU Twins earned legendary status on campus through decades of unwavering devotion to CU athletics. The sisters first began cheering for the Buffs as Boulder High School students in 1940 and quickly became a fixture in the stands. Peggy still attends every home football game.

1919

George Norlin

When George Norlin became permanent president of CU, he oversaw a period of expansion. Despite the Great Depression, the student body more than tripled, several buildings were constructed and architect Charles Klauder redesigned the campus in its now-iconic Tuscan vernacular style.



“Wherever you go, the university goes with you.”

— George Norlin, “Norlin Charge,” 1935

1918

Lucile Berkeley Buchanan Jones (Ger'1918)

Lucile Berkeley Buchanan Jones was an educator and the first known Black woman to graduate from CU Boulder. Born to parents who had been enslaved, she grew up in the Barnum subdivision of Denver, where her family became the area's first Black property owners. Before attending CU, she broke barriers by becoming the first Black graduate to earn a two-year teaching degree from what is now the University of Northern Colorado. In 1918, she earned a bachelor's degree in German from CU — however, due to racial prejudice, she was not allowed to walk across the stage

at commencement or appear in the yearbook. Her diploma was handed to her off-stage, an act that led her to vow that she would never return to campus.

After graduation, Buchanan began a career in education. She taught in Black schools in Arkansas, Kansas City and in the Chicago public school system. Nearly 100 years after her graduation, CU formally recognized Buchanan's achievement, and during the 2018 commencement ceremony, a diploma was symbolically accepted on her behalf by CMDI associate professor Polly McLean.





1989

Tom Cech

Chemist Tom Cech brought CU its first Nobel Prize through his groundbreaking RNA research.



2024

Sarah Gillis (AeroEngr'17)

In September 2024, Sarah Gillis became the first person to play the violin in space, aboard a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft. Her crewmates captured her performance, which took place in zero-gravity conditions during the Polaris Dawn mission, and sent it to Earth via Starlink.



2019

Wei Wu (MMus'13)

Bass singer Wei Wu has built an internationally acclaimed opera career. Wu performed the role of Kôbun Chino Otagawa in the world premiere of "The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs" at Santa Fe Opera. The recording won a 2019 Grammy Award.



1948

David Bolen (Mktg; MBA'50)

After David Bolen served in the Army Air Force for two years during World War II, CU Boulder track and field coach Frank Potts recruited him to the university. He then earned All-America honors. At 25, Bolen became the first CU student to qualify for the 1948 U.S. Olympic Team, where he placed fourth in the 400m race at the London games. After graduating, Bolen began a distinguished diplomatic career, serving as U.S. Ambassador to Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland beginning in 1974, and to East Germany beginning in 1977.



1935

Byron "Whizzer" White (Econ'38)

Byron White's success on the football field during his first season in 1935 earned national attention for the whole team. After graduating, White distinguished himself in public service, eventually serving as a justice of the United States Supreme Court. His accomplishments earned him an induction into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.



1972

Juan Espinosa (Jour'74)

As a CU Boulder student, Espinosa launched the bilingual newspaper *El Diario de la Gente* in 1972 as a member of the United Mexican American Students, a campus group aimed at bringing cultural awareness to Boulder's Chicano community. The Vietnam War veteran later moved to Pueblo, Colorado, where he co-founded the alternative community newspaper *La Cucaracha* and worked for 22 years at *The Pueblo Chieftain*.

“Every story is important.”

— Juan Espinosa, *CMDI Now*, 2022

“We’d come together, huddle up and say, ‘Buff’s are one.’ ... And what that meant was, we’re a unit. We’re a team.”

— Ceal Barry in January 2026 after the university dedicated Ceal Barry Plaza in her honor outside of the CU Events Center

2018

Ceal Barry



As head coach for over 22 seasons, Ceal Barry left an undeniable mark on CU Boulder’s women’s basketball. In her time as coach, she accumulated a record of 427-242, the most wins by any head coach in CU sports history. Under her leadership, the program flourished. She had 13 seasons with 20 or more wins, 12 NCAA Tournament appearances and three trips to the Elite Eight. She was inducted into the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame in

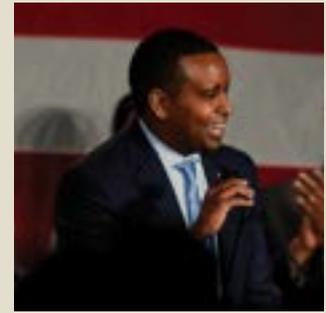
2018 in recognition of her impact and achievements.

After stepping down as coach, Barry served for 15 years in CU Athletics administration, including a year as interim athletic director in 2013. Her decades-long commitment to CU, her role in women’s athletics and the respect she commands from players, colleagues and the basketball community secured her enduring legacy in Colorado sports.

2018

Joe Neguse (Econ, PolSci’05; Law’09)

At CU, Joe Neguse was involved in student government, working on issues like diversity and affordability. In 2018, Neguse was elected to represent Colorado’s 2nd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he still serves.



2021

David Ellsworth (Art’71; MFA’73)

Woodturner David Ellsworth’s transformative art was honored with the Smithsonian Visionary Award in 2021. A craft artist, innovator, teacher and community builder, he helped elevate wood turning from a utilitarian craft to fine art.



1964

Billy Kidd (Econ’69)

In February 1964, at the Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, Billy Kidd became the first U.S. man to win an Olympic alpine skiing medal, a silver in the slalom. In 1970, he became the first American man to win a World Championship event in the Alpine combined.



1966



“Ralph”

The first official Ralphie mascot, “Ralph” was the live buffalo that launched one of the most beloved traditions at CU Boulder. In 1965, CU freshman **Bill Lowery** (Bus ex’69) was determined to bring a live buffalo to Buffs football games instead of a costumed mascot. With the help of his rancher father, he successfully brought a buffalo calf from northeastern Colorado to Boulder. Ralph made her debut at Folsom Field on Oct. 1, 1966, charging onto the field with Lowery and a few of his fellow students flailing alongside her in cowboy boots.

“I think the buffalo is here to stay.”

— Bill Lowery, *Coloradan*, 2017

Who would you like to see on our list of notable CU people? Email us at editor@colorado.edu.



RUNNING AT LIFE

With tenacity and integrity as guidance, Kara Goucher overcame numerous hurdles to become a two-time Olympian, NBC Sports broadcaster and *New York Times* bestselling author.

WRITTEN BY

▶ **TORI PEGLAR**

PHOTOS BY

▶ **GLENN ASAKAWA**

DURING THE MOST thrilling three minutes of the 2024 Paris Olympics, NBC Sports broadcaster **Kara Goucher** (Psych'01) called the race.

It was the much-hyped men's 1500-meter event, and reigning Olympic gold medalist Jakob Ingebrigsten of Norway seized the lead, followed closely by Kenya's Timothy Cheriot and Great Britain's John Kerr. For the first three laps, all eyes followed these three men, each of whom medaled in the event at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics.

But earlier in the race, Goucher speculated that if American Cole Hocker jockeyed into a better position, he could upend the outcome. It seemed unlikely. Yet during the fourth and final lap, Hocker's legs flew into overdrive, his orange shoes a blur as he overtook the leaders, clinching gold. American Yared Nuguse finished close behind for bronze.

This moment marked the first time in 112 years that two Americans shared the Olympic podium for the 1500. Goucher drew on her experience as a two-time Olympian and world-class marathoner to make the history-defying call.

"I really understand runners' strengths and weaknesses, like who needs the race to go out quickly from the gun and who can wait and have an incredible sprint finish," she said. "I can see things that other people can't see."

Since 2021, Goucher has used this superpower as an NBC Sports distance running commentator. She also co-hosts the wildly popular running podcast *Nobody Asked Us* with former Olympian Des Linden. She began running at an early age, developing a passion for the sport that led to an incredibly successful career both on and off the track. Along the way, she's learned invaluable lessons about the power of tenacity and integrity to overcome the hurdles she's faced.

THE ROAD TO RUNNING

When Goucher was 4 years old, a drunk driver killed her father as he headed to work in New York City. Afterward, she and her family moved to Duluth, Minnesota, to live near her grandparents. It was her grandpa, a lifelong runner, who introduced her to the sport. As he used to tell it, Goucher fell near the start of their first race together, but she eagerly stood up, and they finished together.

"Running was so freeing," said Goucher, who is arrestingly humble and kind. "I didn't have to think about what came next."

In high school, she dominated races, and at the 1993 Foot Locker Cross Country Championships in San Diego, she met her future husband, **Adam Goucher** (Comm'98). Coincidentally, they both ran for CU under coach Mark Wetmore, sweeping NCAA titles. In 2001, they married.

Soon after, Nike invited them to join a new team of professional runners — the Oregon Project — coached by famed marathoner Alberto Salazar. They leapt at the opportunity.

What followed was an astonishing streak of victories that transformed Goucher into one of the world's best and most recognizable runners. Nike plastered promotional ads of her everywhere.

"There's a picture of me standing next to a cardboard cutout of Kara when I was a junior or senior at a high school national meet," remembered pro runner and Olympian **Emma Coburn** (Mktg'13). "I was so proud just to stand next to her, because Kara was a Nike athlete."

When Goucher finished third in the 10,000-meter race at the 2007 World Championships in Osaka, Japan, she became the first American woman to medal in an international distance track event in 14 years. A month later, she ran the fastest half marathon by an American woman at the Great North Run in England, beating



Paula Radcliffe, the world's best marathoner at the time.

Afterward, Goucher had a realization. If she could beat Radcliffe at the half marathon, what would happen if she ran a marathon? Five weeks later, she rode on the press truck at the 2007 New York City Marathon as Radcliffe ran the event.

"Watching Paula made me afraid of how much it would hurt, and I wanted to know if I could be that tough," said Goucher.

Radcliffe mentored her for the 2008 New York City Marathon, where Goucher proudly finished third.

"I was a marathoner," she said. "I was stronger than I knew."

But there was something else. The race course winds through all five boroughs of New York, including Queens, where Goucher was born and lived before her dad died.

"In reflection, I felt closer to my dad," she said. "I never really knew him, but to run through the streets where he lived was a very healing experience."

LEAVING THE OREGON PROJECT

As she launched into the world of elite marathoners, there was another item on her bucket list — parenthood. She and Salazar plotted the timing of her pregnancy around races, yet Nike suspended her pay when she was six months pregnant.

"It broke my heart," said Goucher, who ran the 2011 Boston Marathon with a newborn on the sidelines and without Nike pay. "I truly considered Nike a family."

Other things at the Oregon Project didn't feel right, either — syringes in a training condo refrigerator; topical testosterone medicine; Salazar's unwanted sexual advances and comments.

For a long time, she dismissed them as one-offs.

However, a trip to South Korea for the 2011 World Championships marked a final

straw. Goucher said it started with Salazar propositioning her on the plane ride and continued with her throwing out blue pills he dispensed to her and her teammates. Salazar said they were B12 vitamins, but she couldn't be sure. After finishing a disappointing 13th in the 10,000, Goucher and her husband headed to the airport, sharing the same thought.

It was time to leave the Oregon Project.

BACK TO BOULDER

After placing 11th in the marathon during the 2012 London Olympics, Goucher returned to CU Boulder to finish her racing career where it began — with Buffs coaches Wetmore and **Heather Burroughs** (Bio'99).

"It was the happiest time in my career," said Goucher, who trained with **Jenny Simpson** (PolSci'09), **Shalaya Kipp** (IntPhys'14; MS'17) and Coburn. "Everyone wanted me to do well."

Even with the Oregon Project behind them, the Gouchers felt they should share with authorities their suspicion that Salazar was promoting doping.

Goucher was worried about repercussions. But she decided to speak up, especially about Salazar's sexual assaults.

"What I kept thinking about were my nieces who were being raised how I was — to treat people with kindness — and it was the same kind of thing that could happen to them," Goucher said.

The Gouchers joined former athletes and coaches in testifying against Salazar in a trial that resulted in a four-year ban from athletics. Shortly after, he received an effective life ban from coaching after a SafeSport investigation found him guilty of four violations involving emotional and sexual abuse.

"People say I'm brave," Goucher said. "I'm not. I hate fighting. At the end of the day, I'm just telling the truth."

After Salazar's widely publicized sanctions, Goucher wanted to address misinformation about her in the media. She shared her story in the book *The Longest Race: Inside the Secret World of Abuse, Doping and Deception on Nike's Elite Running Team*. Released in 2023 and co-authored by Mary Pilon, it made *The New York Times* Best Seller list.

These days, Goucher runs daily, although it's more arduous since she was diagnosed with focal dystonia. A neurological condition, it causes involuntary muscle contractions, which means her left leg, in particular, doesn't always move as it should.

Her persistence to push through it has inspired her husband, Adam, to slowly get back to running.

"Besides being the most amazing, thoughtful, caring woman, mother and wife, she's a warrior," Adam Goucher said. "It amazes me what she does despite all that ails her. She's like, 'I'm going to do it.'"

Goucher approaches her condition with the same tenacity and grace she has used to overcome all other adversity in her life, and she's modeling that to her son, Colt, already a standout high school runner.

"My grandpa taught me to not be afraid of pain and hard work, but to always have integrity," she said. "Because what's the point of victory if you don't have integrity?"

FOR NBC SPORTS.	WITH RUNNER DES LINDEN.	FOR NBC SPORTS.
TOKYO SUMMER OLYMPICS	PODCAST: <i>NOBODY ASKED US</i>	COMMENTATOR AT THE
AT PARIS SUMMER OLYMPICS	LAUNCHES HER RUNNING	CALLS DISTANCE RACES



HEARING LOSSES

A CU Boulder lab is exploring how age-related hearing loss rewires the brain – and whether hearing aids can undo the damage.

BY LISA MARSHALL

ILLUSTRATION BY
PETRA PÉTERFFY



Can hearing loss cause dementia?

Professor Anu Sharma gets this question a lot.

As an auditory neuroscientist in CU's Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, Sharma has spent much of her career in a soundproof room on the Boulder campus, spying on volunteers' brain activities as headphones pipe sound into their ears. Her small, yet high-tech studies have produced some of the most detailed evidence that hearing loss, even in early, mild stages, reorganizes the way the brain responds to sound and other stimuli.

The findings complement a growing body of large public health studies linking presbycusis, also known as age-related hearing loss, and cognitive decline.

A seminal 2011 study from Johns Hopkins University found that over the course of 12 years, people with mild hearing loss were twice as likely to be diagnosed with dementia, while those with moderate to severe hearing loss were three to five times as likely. In 2017, the Lancet Commission on Dementia Prevention identified hearing loss as the "single largest potentially modifiable risk factor for dementia."

Such studies have sparked worrying headlines, emboldened some hearing aid companies to claim their products can "prevent Alzheimer's disease," and prompted older patients to ask their audiologists about cognitive health.

"Ten years ago, almost nobody would come into the clinic asking about brain health," said Dr. Vinaya Manchaiah, director of audiology at CU Anschutz. Now, it happens all the time.

Sharma and Manchaiah still respond cautiously.

"There's a lot of fear-mongering going on, and that worries me," Sharma said.

While ample evidence shows that hearing loss is associated with cognitive decline, it's still not clear whether the relationship is causal — and if so, how and what can be done.

That's where Sharma's lab comes in.

By studying the brain activity of adults in various stages of hearing loss, she hopes to shed light not only on what precisely presbycusis does to the brain, but also whether hearing aids can undo the damage.

REWIRING THE CIRCUIT

Seated in her office, images of brain scans glowing red and yellow on her computer monitor, Sharma explains the concept

that has inspired much of her 20-year career: cross-modal plasticity.

"One of the most remarkable aspects of our brain is its ability to adapt to change," she said. "A basic tenet of this ability is that the brain will reorganize itself following sensory deprivation."

She first saw this in children born deaf. Sharma found that because their auditory cortex (the brain region earmarked for sound processing) was deprived of sound, their brains repurposed that valuable real estate to assist other senses, like vision and touch, instead.

This elegant rewiring has its upsides.

For instance, studies have shown that with multiple parts of their brains weighing in to process what they see and feel, some deaf individuals are better at recognizing faces and have a heightened sense of touch.

"It is a dynamic and elegant plasticity," said Sharma. "And for a long time we had only seen it in children who were born deaf or adults who were profoundly deaf."

In 2011, after reading the first news stories associating hearing loss with cognitive decline, she wondered: Could such rewiring occur in earlier, milder stages of hearing loss?

She and her students recruited dozens of people with hearing loss, along with age-matched participants with normal hearing. As flashing objects marched across a monitor or vibrations tickled their fingertips, an EEG (electroencephalogram) cap with 128 electrodes measured electrical activity in their brains.

When the first results came in, "I was shocked," recalled Sharma.

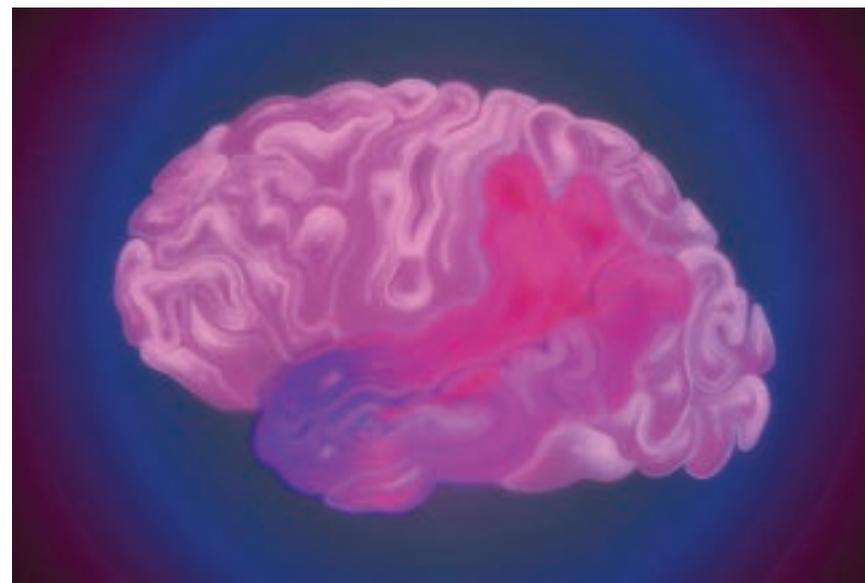
Even among those with mild hearing loss, the brain had already begun to rewire itself, leveraging parts of its sound processing center to help make sense of sights and sensations.

But of greater concern was what happened when they tried to make sense of sound.

When the repeated sound "ba" was played for those with hearing loss, it prompted only limited activation in the auditory cortex. Meanwhile, brain regions responsible for working memory and other cognitive functions crackled with activity.

"Even as early as mild hearing loss, listening becomes effortful," Sharma explained. "As a result, you do two things: You rely more heavily on other modalities, like vision, and you use parts of your brain designed for cognition."

Some have theorized that this extra load on the brain's memory centers eats



up "cognitive reserve," boosting risk of decline later in life.

And Sharma's own studies show that those with untreated age-related hearing loss tend to perform worse on cognitive tasks.

"Anu has done some landmark research showing that, even with mild hearing loss, you can have changes in the brain," said Manchaiah. "The big question now is: Can you do something about it?"

CAN HEARING AIDS PREVENT COGNITIVE DECLINE?

In 2020, Sharma published the results of a small, but groundbreaking study.

Her lab found that when 21 adults with untreated mild to moderate age-related hearing loss wore hearing aids for six months, their brains began to look more like those of people with normal hearing again. In essence, that cross-modal plasticity had reversed.

Most also scored better on cognitive tests than they had prior to getting hearing aids.

The study, while promising, came with caveats and prompted more questions.

For instance, participants were professionally fitted with state-of-the-art hearing aids and wore them for an average of 10 hours a day. Would people experience beneficial brain changes and cognitive improvements with less expensive hearing aids? How much does fit matter? And how long do they need to be worn?

Larger studies elsewhere have yielded mixed results.

One randomized controlled trial, published in 2023, showed that hearing aids did not reduce the risk of cognitive de-

cline on a population-wide level, but they did in specific subgroups, including people with cardiovascular disease.

All this makes it hard for doctors to give patients a straight answer, said Manchaiah.

So, he and Sharma are working to fill the research gap.

In 2025, armed with a \$3.5 million National Institutes of Health grant, they launched an ambitious five-year study.

The randomized controlled trial plans to recruit 280 people with early untreated hearing loss and divide them into four groups: prescription hearing aids with professional fit; over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids with in-person support from an audiologist; OTC hearing aids with online support from an audiologist; and OTC self-fit groups.

All study participants will receive free hearing aids (to keep) and undergo EEG, cognitive and behavioral testing before and after use. They will complete questionnaires and surveys throughout the study.

"This is one of the largest hearing aid studies ever done, in terms of the number of different things we are measuring," said Manchaiah, who is leading the study along with Sharma. "There are many unanswered questions, but in a few years we will have a lot more answers."

In the meantime, Sharma said there are many other reasons to seek treatment for age-related hearing loss, as research has shown it can contribute to social isolation and depression.

"Regardless of the cognitive issues, if you have hearing loss, it's really smart to get hearing aids," said Sharma. "They will enhance your quality of life."

CERVEZA
Modelo

BREWED FOR FULL-TIME
BUFFALOES™ FANS



CU PROUD PARTNER OF THE
COLORADO BUFFALOES®

Drink responsibly. Modelo Especial™ Beer. Imported by Crown Imports, Chicago, IL.

ANYA NELSON
COLORADO TENNIS

MADDIE SHOUP
#2 | COLORADO LACROSSE

ALAINA FANTASKI
COLORADO TRACK & FIELD

ANTONIO VOTOUR
COLORADO TRACK & FIELD

CU **BUFFS**
SPRING INTO ACTION



TENNIS



LACROSSE



TRACK & FIELD



Buff Built

Rooted Robotics

Maximilian Knight's company takes an affordable approach to indoor farming.

By **Marc Zarefsky**

Maximilian Knight (EnvEngr'17) was in sixth grade when he saw a documentary that changed his outlook on the world around him.

The Cove, which won the Academy Award for best documentary feature in 2010, featured an in-depth look at a small town in Japan known for capturing and selling dolphins to aquariums around the world. The film featured graphic footage and raised critical questions about dolphin hunting practices.

Knight was transfixed.

"It was a pretty tough subject, but through that film, I became more aware of things going on in the world," Knight said. "The whole community of people trying to do good in the world and trying to make the world a better place — that really inspired me and continues to."

Knight took that inspiration and found his own way to improve the world. As founder and CEO of Boulder-based Rooted Robotics, Knight's mission is to provide affordable automation systems to indoor farms of all sizes.

The company, founded in 2019, offers game-changing technology to small and mid-size controlled-environment growers who can't afford industrial-sized — and industrial-priced — services.

"If we look to 50 or 100 years from now, if climate change does get significantly worse, as is largely expected, we need to be able to feed ourselves," Knight said. "We need to be able to do that at scale without having millions or billions of people starve because we can't grow as much food in the same ways that we used to."

Enter controlled-environment agriculture, a term Knight explained refers to incorporating a more technology-focused approach to farming. In these environments, which often exist as vertical farms or greenhouses, growers can control everything from temperature and sunlight to humidity and nutrients, along with countless factors in between.

This flexibility allows growers to customize what they grow and when they grow it in a way traditional farmers cannot.

Rooted Robotics offers products that help farmers with seeding, harvesting and cleaning. Each system is designed with simplicity, reliability and sustainability in mind. Everything the company sells is also made to be upgradable with customized add-ons, allowing the machines to grow with the farms they support.

Knight's own expertise in the field dates back to his time in CU Boulder's College of Engineering & Applied Science, where he learned many of the technical skills he routinely applies to his work. But perhaps the

↑ Rooted Robotics provides affordable automation systems to indoor farmers.

"I studied environmental engineering, which is not really what I do today," Knight said. "Even though I'm not doing water treatment engineering or sanitation engineering, I learned how to teach myself new skills."

Knight also met Rooted Robotics' chief technology officer at the school. He and **Sebastian Vazquez-Carson** (Phys'17) were friends as undergraduates, and the two reconnected in 2022 when Vazquez joined the company to help with a robotic system.

When Knight considered undergraduate programs, he was drawn to the community he found at CU. Today, with his company still housed in Boulder, he has kept close ties to the school. **Christian Maljian** (Engr'19) is co-founder and head of mechanical engineering. Of Rooted Robotics' seven part-time employees,

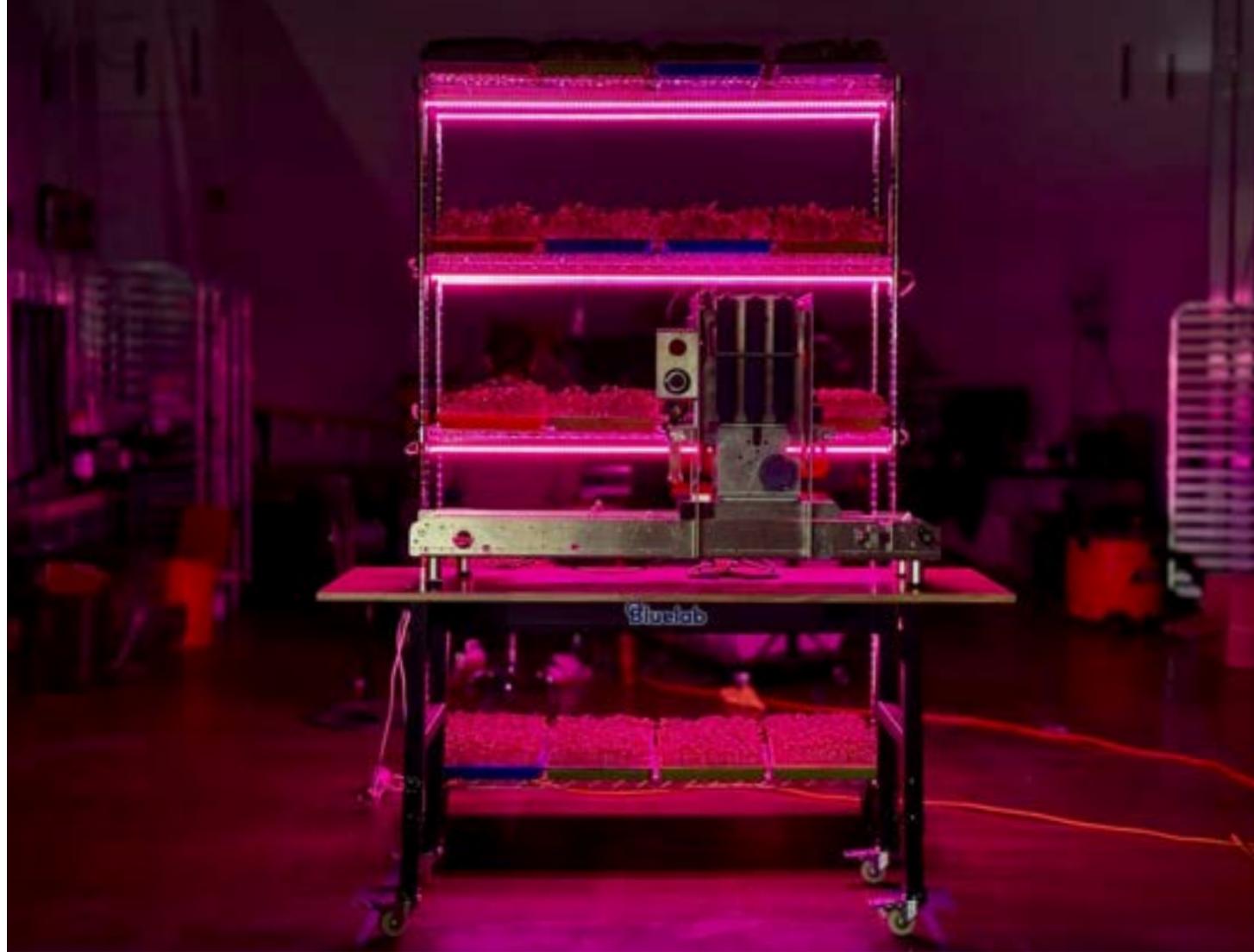
biggest takeaway from his time at CU was, as he describes it, learning how to learn.

six are students from the College of Engineering & Applied Science or the Leeds School of Business.

Rooted Robotics also hosts summer interns from CU Boulder. In addition, the company partnered with the Paul M. Rady Department of Mechanical Engineering this year to sponsor a capstone project. The senior students involved with the project are helping Rooted Robotics develop a variation of the company's seeding machine.

Knight's hope is that through the partnership and the innovation he's brought to the company since its founding, Rooted Robotics can continue to be an inspiration and valuable resource for indoor growers.

"A beautiful vision that could exist in 50 to 100 years would be that we're growing most of our agriculture in these controlled environments," Knight said. "Because of that, nature will be able to reclaim a lot of the farmland that blankets the Earth. That can also help with reversing climate change at scale. That's part of the future that we want to create." 🌱



Maximilian Knight

Movie Magic

Throughout the 1984 film *The Natural* (1984), **Robert Redford's** character, Roy Hobbs, wrestles with the consequences of his past. In a pivotal scene, Glenn Close's character, Iris Gaines, tells him: "I believe we have two lives. The life we learn with and the life we live with after that." It's a line about redemption — and one that echoes Redford's own early life path.

Redford (A&S ex'58, HonDoc Hum'87) attended CU Boulder from fall 1954 to spring 1956, joining Kappa Sigma and working as a janitor at The Sink. He left to study art in Europe before enrolling in the American Academy

of Dramatic Arts in New York City. He then launched a career that spanned nearly 80 film roles, beginning with *War Hunt* in 1962. By the time *The Natural* premiered, he was a household name.

Redford gave the bat, ball and glove from the film to Chancellor James Corbridge, who donated them to the CU Heritage Center in 1992.

Redford died in September 2025 at age 89, but his legacy in Boulder will continue — the Sundance Film Festival, which he founded, moves to the city in January 2027.

↘ All three items were used by Redford in the film.

The Natural was nominated for four Academy Awards.

Film loosely based on a true story about Philadelphia Phillies player Eddie Waitkus.

↖ Glove was custom-made for Redford, who was left-handed.

Robert Redford modeled his character after a player he greatly admired, Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox.

↗ Glove and bat feature 1930s styling.



Origins

Takács Quartet

50 Years and Counting

CU Boulder's internationally renowned Takács Quartet looks forward to its next half-century.

By **Sabine Kortals Stein**

The Takács Quartet, dubbed “the essential quartet of our time” by *The New York Times*, is fresh off its 50th anniversary season of international touring and critical acclaim. In December, the quartet announced the retirement of cellist András Fejér, the last remaining member of the original quartet, which was founded by four students — Gábor Takács-Nagy, Károly Schranz, Gábor Ormai and Fejér — at the Franz Liszt Academy, Budapest, in 1975.

Fejér will step down at the end of the 2025-26 season after a remarkable 51-year tenure. And the quartet's newest member, Romanian-born cellist Mihai Marica, will join the quartet this fall. As part of the ensemble's long-standing residency at CU Boulder (beginning in 1986), Marica also will join the College of Music faculty.

↑ Cellist András Fejér, front left, is retiring at the end of the 2025-26 season.

“We're very grateful to András for the fulfilling and fun quartet work we've shared,” said Edward Dusinberre, first violinist. “We're especially grateful for the sustained integrity of his musicianship, and for his friendship, support and humor. While cherishing András' extraordinary legacy, we're thrilled to welcome Mihai.

“From the very first notes we played together with Mihai, we felt an instant musical connection, and we eagerly look forward to the future.”

Fejér added, “It's the right time — I've had a beautifully rewarding quality of life, working on inspiring music with wonderful colleagues who became great friends and performing all over the world for ap-

Armanda Tipton

preciative audiences. My heartfelt thanks to all our friends and supporters over the years — I'll miss you like mad.”

The news comes among many recent accolades for the quartet, including Chamber Music America's prestigious Richard J. Bogomolny National Service Award in recognition of the Takács Quartet's contributions to the chamber music field.

“The quartet not only elevates the reputation of our college and university as a whole through its world-class artistry, but especially through its members' devoted mentorship of our students and their strong spirit of community engagement,” said John Davis, dean of the College of Music. “The Takács Quartet represents the very best of what we do, and we look forward to its continued impact and influence.” 🐾



Expand your skills as an educator

Complete online career-relevant certificates as standalone credentials or stack three certificates to complete a full master's degree. No matter your goals, the Teacher Leadership program at CU Boulder can support you as an educator.

- Gain professional skills that you can immediately apply in your school
- Fulfill a state requirement
- Increase your earning potential
- Pivot your career or explore a new speciality

online.colorado.edu/matl/learn-more



Become an invaluable and nimble communicator

The fully online Master of Arts in Corporate Communication program at CU Boulder is designed for working professionals in the communication and allied fields to enhance their skills.

- Execute a strategic communication campaign
- Use data to guide your communication efforts
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams and address organizational challenges
- Counsel leaders on how to address major issues and crises in their organizations

online.colorado.edu/macc

Beyond Boulder



From Campus to Community

Public and community-engaged scholarship has been part of the university since its early days.

By **Sarah Kuta**

For years, North Denver residents complained about bad smells wafting through their neighborhoods, but nothing ever seemed to change. Then, they got in touch with Shelly Miller, a CU Boulder professor emerita of mechanical engineering who studies urban air quality.

Miller took their concerns seriously and sprang into action. Working in collaboration with residents and local community organizations, she conducted research to identify the sources of the odors and determine whether and how they might be affecting air quality. As suspected, the pungent aromas were coming from nearby industrial facilities, including a pet food factory, an oil refin-

↑ PACES can involve community members directly in research projects.

Shelly Miller

“Engagement with the community was seen as essential for any public institution to be viable.”

— **David Meens**, executive director of the Office for Public and Community-Engaged Scholarship (PACES)

ery, a roofing plant and an animal rendering plant. Miller’s research also detected higher-than-normal concentrations of air pollutants during stinky periods.

In 2016, as a result of her findings, and with continued lobbying from residents, the City of Denver strengthened its odor ordinance. The new rules didn’t completely solve the problem, but they were a step in the right direction — one that helped make North Denver residents feel seen and heard.

Miller’s efforts are an example of public and community-engaged scholarship, or research that connects with and involves individuals beyond the university and, often, contributes to public conversations and policies.

“A lot of my projects up to that point had been lab-based or more controlled setups,” said Miller. “I started thinking about my contributions to science, and I realized I really wanted to impact people’s lives today.”

For CU Boulder, this kind of research has been crucial to the university’s ethos since its inception 150 years ago. It continues today with innovative scholars like Miller, who are committed to studying and solving real-world problems — everything from reducing wildfire risk to bridging the political divide.

“It’s really essential to our identity as Colorado’s public flagship university,” said David Meens, executive director of the Office for Public and Community-Engaged Scholarship (PACES), which has helped fund Miller’s air quality work. “The spirit of service is so strong, and it really comes from the ground up. People here want the scholarship they’re producing to be of value to people.”

Engagement Origins

In 1861, Colorado’s first territorial legislature passed a bill to establish the university, though the plans took more than a decade to materialize in Boulder. These lawmakers commissioned the university to educate students, but they also had a much broader goal in mind: serving every resident of Colorado. That charge was later stipulated in a federal land grant and enshrined in the state’s constitution.

“Engagement with the community was seen as essential for any public institution to be viable,” said Meens. “It would take an understanding of its value and buy-in from really diverse communities — geographically, demographically — because its authorizing charge was really about supporting public life in Colorado.”

In 1912, the university established a new extension office to help bring that vision to

Beyond Boulder

life. The unit's first director, Loran D. Osborn, felt the university's resources were so valuable they should be made available to "individuals who cannot come within the college walls and communities which are seeking information and guidance in solution of the complex problems of modern life," he wrote in the first University Extension Bulletin in February 1912.

In the ensuing decades, the unit greatly expanded CU Boulder's footprint throughout Colorado, with offerings like correspondence courses, public lectures, citizenship programs, radio broadcasts and clinics throughout the state. By the 1970s, CU Boulder had become a major national research institution, an identity shift that also broadened its community engagement focus. CU Boulder researchers began pursuing national and international projects, in addition to those closer to home.

That same ethos has carried through to the modern era. In 2001, the university created a new hub to support its community engagement activities, both in Colorado and beyond — the Office for University Outreach, which is now PACES.

Over the last 2.5 decades, PACES has awarded more than \$8 million to various projects, from dance programs in rural Colorado communities to clean water initiatives in Africa — a project that ultimately gave rise to Engineers Without Borders USA, now a well-known and longstanding nonprofit.

CU Boulder scholars have also taken a stand against bullying using live theater, worked to make classrooms more inclusive for all students, and helped Rocky Mountain National Park develop new Indigenous history exhibits and programs. They've taught underrepresented youth how to code, helped rural communities maintain their historic water distribution philosophies, and delivered free fossil kits to schools around the state.

"We're really interested in hearing from people directly and listening to the issues they have," said Meens. "We want to know what's going on so we can identify resources and folks on campus who might be able to help. We bridge that gap and put those pieces together."

In addition to addressing the needs of Colorado communities, this type of work benefits CU Boulder students, faculty and staff.

"Engaging in real-world contexts makes research better and more interesting," said Meens. "Students who participate in these types of experiences learn more, and they have a more positive experience overall. Really, community-engaged scholarship is a tremendous value-add across all of the university's core activities."

Force for Good

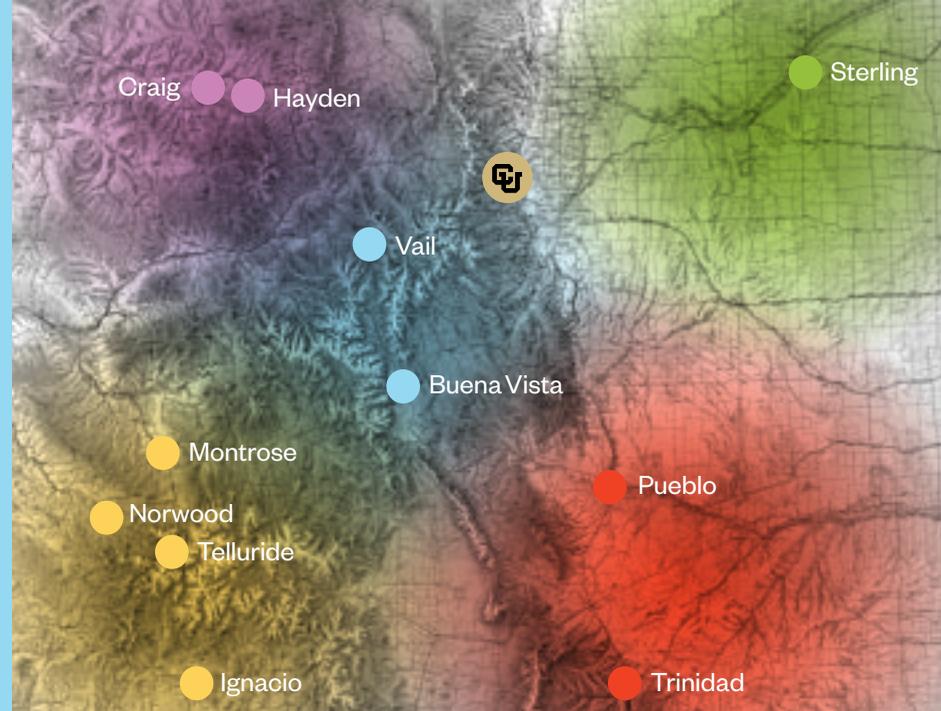
In November 2025, Chancellor Justin Schwartz moved PACES into the newly formed Outreach and Community Engagement unit within his office — a move that elevates and reaffirms the university's commitment to public and community-engaged research, teaching and creative work for the years to come.

Externally, PACES will continue fostering authentic relationships across Colorado and beyond. At a time when public confidence in higher education is waning and communities are facing numerous challenges, Meens believes public and community-engaged research will remain a force for good.

"We have a real opportunity," he said. "We're in a moment where folks understand the value of collaboration and working to achieve bigger things in ways that are beneficial to everyone. There's so much more we can achieve." 🗨️

In January, the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching awarded CU Boulder the 2026 Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement. The classification is United States higher education's leading framework for institutional assessment and recognition of community engagement.

Front Cover Courtesy Sarah Gillis; Duane Howell via Getty Images; Courtesy Joe Neguse; Heritage Center **Back Cover** James Drake via Getty Images; Heritage Center **Interior pages 24-29** (in order of appearance) Courtesy the Buchanan Archives; Courtesy Carnegie Library for Local History/Museum of Boulder Collection (both Mary Rippon images); CU Heritage Center; Helen H. Richardson via Getty Images; CU Heritage Center; Glenn Asakawa; CU Heritage Center; Courtesy the Buchanan Archives; Courtesy Tom Cech; Glenn Asakawa; Polaris Dawn crew; Glenn Asakawa; Courtesy Juan Espinosa; CU Heritage Center; CU Heritage Center; CU Athletics; Courtesy Joe Neguse; Roshni Gorur/Courtesy of Anderson Ranch; Courtesy Billy Kidd; *Coloradan* archives



Waypoint

Keeping Main Streets Alive

Six years ago, southwest Colorado resident Mary Hearing launched Karma Tutors, providing academic support to students both locally in and near Telluride, Colorado, and globally through videoconferences. She also began the Karma Tutors Impact Fund to aid students who don't have the financial means for a tutor.

The program's successful launch was due in part to her involvement with the Rural Colorado Workshop Series (RCWS), a certificate course offered through CU Boulder's Leed's Deming Center for Entrepreneurship for citizens in rural and native Colorado areas.

Led by **Erick Mueller** (MBA'99), executive director of the Deming Center, the volunteer-run program pairs CU business faculty with local organizations throughout Colorado. Each year for five years, community members attend an in-person, day-and-a-half meeting focused on entrepreneurship and business vitality in their region.

"CU Boulder is Colorado's flagship university," said Mueller. "I think it's important we give back to our state." RCWS' first two sessions focus on turning ideas into businesses, the third and fourth focus on scaling existing businesses, and the final session provides tools for enhancing companies through aspects like technology, marketing or performance management.

Mueller has been involved in all 45 of the program's weekend workshops since they began in 2015. He's fu-

The workshop program visits regions, not cities, to help create community and collaboration.

Regions Served

Northwest

Northeast

Central

Southwest

Southeast

eled by job creation and elevated entrepreneurial ecosystems, he said. One report out of Chaffee County, for instance, said 56 jobs were connected with workshop series attendees founding or growing companies.

"It's such a gift to see these amazing community members act on their passions," he said.



A Season of Buffs Giving

Buff's All In unlocks potential at CU Boulder.

By **April Driver**

Darla Thompson (Soc'92) is eager to support her alma mater. As a Forever Buffs Advisory Board member and Homecoming volunteer, she has long enjoyed participating in university happenings. After moving back to Colorado in 2021, she started volunteering to read student scholarship applications and became inspired to contribute even more.

Last March, during CU Boulder's annual giving day, Buffs All In, she donated to the university, citing her belief in the power of collective generosity.

"When so many people come together, even small gifts add up to something meaningful," she said.

Thompson chose to contribute to scholarship funds to help make a CU Boulder education more accessible to students.

The Buffs All In campaign runs throughout the month of March, allowing for the creation of a network of CU donors who can see their collective giving in real time,

further emphasizing the value of their gifts.

In past years, Buffs have chosen to amplify their giving through challenge gifts, which unlock additional funds when the challenge reaches a milestone, such as a donor quota or collective giving threshold.

Linda and **Scott Flanders** (Econ'79) offer a \$25,000 challenge each year for the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Liberal arts schools are often underfunded compared to business and technology degrees," Scott said. "My CU education positioned me for success in business and helped me relate to many different people over a long and varied career."

The Flanders were inspired after attending an event where a donor matched all gifts received during the dinner, prompting them to give unexpectedly. Now, they create their own challenge during Buffs All In to support the college that shaped Scott's future.

His advice to Buffs?

"Give what you can. It'll make you feel good." 🐾

➤ This March, join thousands of Buffs making a difference. Every gift — big or small — supports student success and the programs that can make a real difference. Be all in. Make a gift or learn more at colorado.edu/buffsallin

■ Event Update



96th Annual Alumni Awards is **Saturday, April 11.**

CU Boulder's annual Alumni Awards Ceremony spotlights CU alumni, students, faculty and staff whose achievements, leadership and service have made an impact in their communities — and far beyond. From a former FDA director to a student entrepreneur, this year's distinguished honorees embody the values that define CU Boulder. The ceremony, located at the newly opened Limelight Boulder hotel, is a signature highlight of Alumni Weekend, bringing attendees together for an evening celebrating all that it means to be a Buff.

➤ Learn more and register at cubuffs.org/awards

Volunteer with Forever Buffs

This spring, the Alumni Association will offer meaningful ways for alumni to get involved, beginning with the opportunity to review scholarship applications. Each year, the Alumni Association works with 250 volunteers to award more than \$300,000 in scholarships.

Then, in April, Forever Buffs can come together for Buffs Give Back, a day of service with hands-on projects in Boulder and in communities nationwide. Volunteers can also welcome the next generation of alumni on campus at Grad Bash and Commencement, helping students and families celebrate and build new alumni connections as they step into their next chapter.

➤ Learn more at colorado.edu/alumni/give-back

Career Academy Boulder

CU Boulder is opening Career Academy Boulder to alumni, offering 45 programs in high-demand fields such as data analytics, digital marketing, human resources and software engineering. Featuring free training from companies like Google, Meta and IBM, Career Academy Boulder helps Buffs build in-demand skills that enhance professional experience at every stage.

➤ Learn more at cubuffs.org/career-academy

↑ Impact the life of the university during Buffs All In.

Class Notes



← Olympian Frank Shorter winning the 1981 BOLDERBoulder.

Throwback

Rise of the BOLDER Boulder

By **Julia MacLean**

When the BOLDERBoulder race debuted in May 1979 with 2,200 finishers, it was already one of the largest 10Ks in the Rocky Mountain Region. Within a year, participation more than doubled. Impressed by the race's momentum, then-CU System president Arnold Weber and then-CU Boulder athletic director Eddie Crowder invited race founder **Steve Bosley** (RelEst'68) to bring the finish line to campus.

In 1981, over 8,500 runners charged toward the finish at Folsom Field. In the decades since, over 1.5 million racers have crossed the finish line on Memorial Day at the iconic CU Boulder stadium.

While the race course has changed frequently, with a dozen differing routes since 1979, every version has weaved through Boulder's neighborhoods, business districts and the CU campus.

The BOLDERBoulder stands out not just for its size, but for its lively bystanders. From the race's early years, local residents have lined the streets with sprinklers and speakers, adding encouragement and fun through public Slip 'N Slides, backyard BBQs and costumed characters.

Even with the entertainment, though, the race is a serious competition — at altitude — and its International Team Challenge attracts top athletes from around the world.

"We coined the phrase 'Sea Level is for Slackers,'" said current race director Cliff Bosley.

Over 105 Olympians have competed over the years, including race co-founder Frank Shorter. In 2010, Runner's World named the race "America's All-Time Best 10K."

In 2025, over 46,000 people participated in the race, ranging in age from 5 to 98, making it the fourth-largest road race in the nation. 📍

BOLDERBoulder

'61 For the past 17 years, **Theodor "Tag" Grossman** (A&S'61; Arch'69) has lived in Punta del Este, Uruguay. Tag won many awards during his architectural career. His projects include the preliminary design of Denver's 16th Street Mall and the original Gates Tennis Center.

'67 **Carmen Diana Deere** (Intl Af'67), a retired distinguished professor emerita of Latin American studies and food and resource economics at the University of Florida, released her latest book, *First-Wave Feminism and Women's Civil and Political Rights in South America*. The text examines how women gained stronger property rights and suffrage in seven South American countries during the first half of the twentieth century.

'69 In November 2025, **Dana Berry Frazee** (Edu, Ger, Hist'69) published a biography, *Beyond the Bataan Death March: The Life and Times of K.L. Berry* through Texas A&M University Press. The book chronicles the legacy of K.L. Berry, a distinguished U.S. Army officer and athlete.

'74 **Dave Engels** (CivEngr'74) was named the Wyoming recipient of the 2025 Distinguished Service Award by the Upper Missouri Water Association, which serves the four-state region of Wyoming,

Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota, and encompasses the upper Missouri River watershed.

Jerald Rasmussen (PhDChem'74) received the 2026 Alan S. Michaels Award from the biochemical technology division of the American Chemical Society. The award recognizes the research and contributions toward the advancement of the isolation and purification of biological products such as insulin, vaccines and gene therapy products. A senior scientist at 3M, Solventum and ThermoFisher, Jerald holds over 150 U.S. patents and nearly 80 published papers.

'75 **Robert Fleisher** (Mus'75) had several of his music scores performed in San Francisco, including "Six Little Piano Pieces," five songs from poet Carl Sandburg's "Prairie" and the piano trio "Dumkyana." His composition "Loretto Alfresco" was performed twice at the Queens Tape Music Festival in New York City in October 2025.

'76 After 30 years with the Central Intelligence Agency, **Joe Keogh** (PhD-Chem'76) returned to Boulder County for retirement. He recently co-authored two books: *Creating Mission Impact: Essential Tradecraft for Innovators at CIA and Beyond*, which draws on his CIA experience to guide professionals in high-stakes organizations, and *Innovation for*

→ We want your news!

Write the editors at Koenig Alumni Center, Boulder, CO 80309, or editor@colorado.edu.

Kids, an introduction to innovation concepts for children ages 5-10.

'77 Author **Jamie Lisa Forbes** (Phil'77) published *Sunny Gale*, which explores the role of women at the dawn of Western rodeo. The book follows a fictional rodeo star as she confronts wild horses, entrenched sexism, heartbreak and the unforgiving High Plains. *Sunny Gale* received the Will Rogers Silver Medallion for excellence in November 2025.

'80 CEO and president of Engineering Economics Inc. (EEI) Building Performance, **Jeff Nichols** (ArchEngr'80), has stepped down and assumed the role as the firm's vice president of business development and strategic growth. Based in Seattle, Jeff now focuses on expanding EEI's national footprint, client relationships and strategic initiatives.

Michael Andrew Ranney (MCDBio, Psych'80) returned from a Fulbright Fellowship in Europe, based at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, during which he lectured in 11 countries on topics ranging from environmental curriculum development to people's psychology regarding long-term weather. An expert in the cognitive science and communication of global warming and climate change, Dr. Ranney is a professor of the graduate school

→ Read a more detailed version of this Q&A at colorado.edu/coloradan.

→ Read the other class notes at colorado.edu/coloradan



← Patricia LaMoe turned 100 in January.

to Denver, and their daughter was enrolling at CU. They said I could be her roommate. I sat down at my typewriter and asked for more information about the university and for admission. I was accepted.

Where did you live and eat? I lived for three years in what they called the International House at the corner of 11th and College. I was in a room with four other girls, we had a community bathroom, and we did our own laundry in a basement washtub. I ate on

The Hill most of the time. The Sink was there as the Sunken Gardens in 1945. I also remember my first meal after I was dropped off by my roommate's family when we took the train to Boulder: We went to a drugstore and had Twinkies.

What did you learn as a home economics major? One year, we studied budgets, and we had to make a budget for what would happen after we graduated — how to buy food, pay for utilities and buy clothes. Another requirement in home ec was that you had to study economics. They were talking about the cartels in Germany before the end of the war, even.

In foods classes, we made refreshments for alumni at Homecoming. We served athletes, too. I remember working with so much fresh food. I jokingly say my dad spent \$4,000 to teach me how to fry an egg.

Now that you are 100, what life advice do you offer? Be curious, and stay curious about small things. For younger people, investigate your history of your family. Learn where they came from and what they did. Take advantage of opportunities, even if it's going for a walk in a new area. 🐾

CU Centenarian

Interview by **Christie Sounart**

In January 2026, **Patricia Knudsen LaMoe** (HomeEcon'48) turned 100. After more than a month's worth of birthday celebrations — including a cruise from Nuremberg to Vienna — she sat down with the *Coloradan* to talk about life at CU in the 1940s, which began with a solo train ride to Colorado from her home in Des Moines, Iowa.

How did you decide to attend CU? On my AM radio in my room in Iowa, I used to listen to a late-night radio show that came from Denver, the "Mile High City." But it never occurred to me that I would go to Denver. During the war, you didn't think outside of your house. If the local store wasn't out of bread when you went, you were lucky.

But about a year after I graduated high school, our family friends were moving

at the University of California, Berkeley. His public outreach site is HowGlobalWarming-Works.org.

'81 After a 44-year career in financial services — including 39 years at RBC Wealth Management — **Thomas L. Coxhead** (Fin'81) retired in December, marking the end of three generations of family members serving as financial advisors on Denver's 17th Street, also known as the "Wall Street of the West."

'82 Firyal Alshalabi (MEdu'77; PhD'82) published her first adult novel, *Finding Amal*, which follows a young Kuwaiti woman's journey of self-discovery. The novel is set in Boulder. Originally from Kuwait, Firyal has taught at Kuwait University and authored award-winning children's and young adult books.

'84 After coming to CU Boulder as an exchange student from Regensburg, Germany, **Karin Herold Leonard** (EPOBio'84) became immersed in CU's culture of intellectual and creative freedom. She is now a counselor, life coach and award-winning landscape painter based in California. In September, she visited campus, 45 years after her initial arrival. "So much had changed — new buildings, new rhythms — but the soul of the place still pulsed," she said.

'86 Internationally recognized artist **Mary Ellen Carroll** (Bus'86) will be featured in a survey exhibition at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, opening May 21. Spanning 40 years of work, the exhibition highlights her conceptually driven practice and long-standing engagement with environmental, social and cultural issues.

Author **Ann Pipkins** (Anth'86) published the memoir *Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler — Let the Good Times Roll: Tales from a Rolling Life*, which reflects on over 50 years shared with her late husband, Robert F. McMillan. Ann is now working on a collection of poems and short stories.

Tim Tomasik (Advert'86) is a founding partner of the law firm Tomasik Kotin Kasserman LLC in Chicago. In his 35 years of practice, he has distinguished himself as one of Chicago's elite trial attorneys, representing victims and families in aviation, trucking, medical malpractice and other personal injury matters.

'88 Michelle Jones Kooi (Advert'88) is a freelance OPA and professional coach for women small business owners. Last summer, she published *BURN: From Struggle to Strength — A Woman's Guide to Reclaiming Herself*. She recently moved to Fruita, Colorado, where she enjoys hiking and skiing with her puppy, Summit.

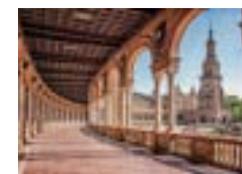
Travel the world with fellow Buffs on once-in-a-lifetime trips.



Treasures of Southeast Asia

→ Oct. 20–Nov. 4, 2026

Discover Bali, Singapore, Thailand and Cambodia's cultures, ancient temples and world-class cuisine.



Spain: Andalucía in a Parador

→ Oct. 29–Nov. 6, 2026

Experience southern Spain with guided tours of Moorish palaces, historic towns and local flavors.



85th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor

→ Nov. 30–Dec. 9, 2026

Travel from New Orleans to Oahu, visiting the WWII Museum and USS Arizona Memorial, and learn about the moments that shaped U.S. history.

→ For more information visit cubuffs.org/travel

CU Boulder Alumni Association
LaMoe Family

Class Notes



← Olympian
Frank Shorter
winning the 1981
BOLDERBoulder.

Throwback

Rise of the BOLDER Boulder

By **Julia MacLean**

When the BOLDERBoulder race debuted in May 1979 with 2,200 finishers, it was already one of the largest 10Ks in the Rocky Mountain Region. Within a year, participation more than doubled. Impressed by the race's momentum, then-CU System president Arnold Weber and then-CU Boulder athletic director Eddie Crowder invited race founder **Steve Bosley** (RelEst'68) to bring the finish line to campus.

In 1981, over 8,500 runners charged toward the finish at Folsom Field. In the decades since, over 1.5 million racers have crossed the finish line on Memorial Day at the iconic CU Boulder stadium.

While the race course has changed frequently, with a dozen differing routes since 1979, every version has weaved through Boulder's neighborhoods, business districts and the CU campus.

The BOLDERBoulder stands out not just for its size, but for its lively bystanders. From the race's early years, local residents have lined the streets with sprinklers and speakers, adding encouragement and fun through public Slip 'N Slides, backyard BBQs and costumed characters.

Even with the entertainment, though, the race is a serious competition — at altitude — and its International Team Challenge attracts top athletes from around the world.

"We coined the phrase 'Sea Level is for Slackers,'" said current race director Cliff Bosley.

Over 105 Olympians have competed over the years, including race co-founder Frank Shorter. In 2010, Runner's World named the race "America's All-Time Best 10K."

In 2025, over 46,000 people participated in the race, ranging in age from 5 to 98, making it the fourth-largest road race in the nation. 📍

BOLDERBoulder

Callout

Nate Metzler (Mgmt'01) and **Ryan Kerr** (AeroEngr'00) work for JetZero, which is developing a next-generation commercial aircraft that is 50% more fuel-efficient than conventional jets.

'91 **Dayna Bateman** (Engl'91) received a 2026 PEN/Jean Stein Grant for Literary Oral History in support of her memoir, a narrative nonfiction account of growing up on the spinning edge of the vinyl record business. Dayna stepped away from a 30-year career in tech to write about her childhood steeped in the music industry, thanks to her father's work with historic record labels like Elektra, Windham Hill, Shelter and Colorado's own Tumbleweed and Crested Butte Records.

'96 After serving as assistant vice chancellor for alumni and constituent engagement and executive director of the CU Boulder Alumni Association for 12 years, **Ryan Christ** (Kines'96; MPubAd'09) is now associate vice chancellor for strategic initiatives at CU Boulder. Throughout his more than 30 years at CU Boulder,

Ryan has fostered strong community connections and will continue to serve the university in his new role.

'97 **Katie Kramer** (Mgmt'97) is co-author of the Boettcher Foundation's second edition of *All the Wisdom and None of the Junk: Secrets of Applying for College Admission and Scholarships 2.0*. The book features contributions from fellow alums **Curtis Esquibel** (Jour'99; MPubAd'16), **Vanessa Roman** (Psych'07; MEdu'10), **Maria Alsubhi** (EPO-Bio'22; MEdu'23) and **Holly McCollough** (Mktg'24). The book offers ways students can stand out in college and scholarship applications.

'99 In recognition for his leadership and achievements in wealth management and entrepreneurship, **Jorge Flores** (IntlRel ex'99) was named a 2025 Five Star Wealth Manager. He

→ We want your news!
Write the editors at Koenig Alumni Center, Boulder, CO 80309, or editor@colorado.edu.

is managing director and senior wealth advisor for Bartolomeo Capital Group in Boston.

Writer, climber and health care analytics professional **Jason Kozlowski** (PolSci'99) published *Notions of Grace: A Memoir of Climbing, Cancer and Family*, which details how his diagnosis of chronic lymphocytic leukemia reshaped his understanding of risk, love and purpose. A father of twin boys and a lifelong adventurer, Jason recounts lessons learned during his attempt to climb a 7,000-meter Himalayan peak shortly after his diagnosis and during the COVID-19 pandemic afterward. He lives in Longmont with his family.

'01 **Nate Metzler** (Mgmt'01) and **Ryan Kerr** (AeroEngr'00) work for the aerospace startup company JetZero in Long Beach, California. The company formed in 2021 and is developing a next-generation commercial aircraft that is 50% more fuel-efficient than conventional jets. Nate leads strategic programs and partnerships for the company's government affairs team and works with the U.S. Air Force on aircraft use cases. Ryan heads up the electrical and avionics team, leading engineers to design systems that will fly on the demonstrator aircraft when it takes off in 2027. Nate says the company hopes to hire CU Boulder engineering students for its 2026 summer internship program.



Hometown Ramps and Olympic Parks

Interview by **Sara Muderick**

Jaxon Statzell (Arch'09) has designed world-class skateparks across the globe, including for the Paris and Tokyo Olympic Games and the X Games. His work blends architectural training, artistic and sculptural design and his own experience as a skater. Statzell is now bringing this work to his hometown — Evergreen, Colorado.

What was your relationship with skateboarding growing up? Admittedly, I got into skateboarding in middle school for the image and was pretty much a poser in the clothes and shoes, but I quickly became obsessed with learning to skate. In high school, my basketball coach gave me an ultimatum: give up skateboarding or keep playing. I chose skateboarding. After that, I'd shovel and towel-dry the driveway just so I could skate in the

↑ **Jaxon Statzell** made skateboarding his career.

winter. My dad would drive me and my friends all over the state to different skateparks.

What kind of skateboarding community existed at CU when you were a student? There was a great community of skateboarders at CU. Satellite Boardshop in Boulder, which is still there today, was a great hub to meet other skaters. I would skate all around campus, but doing tricks was off-limits.

What does it mean to take things full circle and return to Evergreen? It means so much, and it's honestly so much fun. Earlier in my career, I would've been stressed and insecure about designing for my hometown. Now, I feel prepared and overwhelmed with gratitude. More than anything, I am trying to soak it all in and enjoy the process.

What are some important lessons skateboarding has taught you? Skateboarding requires so much failure before ever learning even the most basic tricks. A kickflip takes hundreds, if not thousands, of attempts before ever landing even one. It taught me a lot of perseverance and grit. I also love that it's simultaneously an individual artistic expression and a social activity — winning doesn't require anyone else to lose. 🐾

Jaxon Statzell

CU Boulder Alumni Association

→ Read the other class notes at colorado.edu/coloradan

David Wolf (Law, MBA'01) is CEO of BSW Wealth Partners, a Colorado-based wealth management and investment advisory firm that manages \$2.5 billion for clients in Denver and Boulder. In late 2024, *Outside* magazine named BSW the best place to work in the United States, and *ColoradoBiz* magazine named it the best place to work in Colorado.

'02 A shareholder in Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck's corporate and business department, **Luke Glisan** (Mgmt'02) was appointed to a two-year term on the board of directors for the Eating Disorder Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to preventing and eliminating eating disorders through education, support and advocacy. Luke's involvement is personal, as the organization was founded by a family member of his who faced a long-term eating disorder.

Deborah Hinck (Ap-Math, ElCompEngr'02) was elected to the partnership at Latham & Watkins LLP. She advises clients on property, privacy and data security matters. Her practice emphasizes technologies, including artificial intelligence and machine learning, robotics, digital health, cloud computing, entertainment, video gaming and sophisticated technology transactions.

'06 Last fall, **Robert J. Durán** (PhDSoc'06) released his co-authored book, *Justice Required: Police Shootings as Legalized Violence*. The book provides a comprehensive data analysis of all police shootings in Denver over nearly 40 years and highlights patterns of racial and ethnic inequality. Robert is an associate professor of sociology at Texas A&M University and a leading voice on inequality, justice and systemic reform.

Kathleen "Kat" Weaver (PhDEPO-Bio'06) began her role as executive vice president and provost of Loyola Marymount University in January. Since joining the university in 2018, she has led significant growth in research funding, faculty support and student success initiatives. She is also widely published in the ecology and evolutionary biology field, including research on land snails and freshwater fish that offers insights into regional biodiversity, environmental change and factors that sustain healthy ecosystems.

'07 In October, **Matthew Videtich** (Mktg'07) and his wife welcomed their first child, Layla Lynn Videtich. Two days later, she watched her first Buffs football game, Matthew wrote, and he hopes Layla will someday become a third-generation Buff.

Roaming Buffs

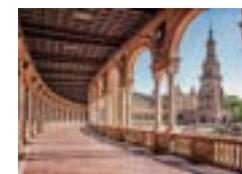
Travel the world with fellow Buffs on once-in-a-lifetime trips.



Treasures of Southeast Asia

→ Oct. 20–Nov. 4, 2026

Discover Bali, Singapore, Thailand and Cambodia's cultures, ancient temples and world-class cuisine.



Spain: Andalucía in a Parador

→ Oct. 29–Nov. 6, 2026

Experience southern Spain with guided tours of Moorish palaces, historic towns and local flavors.



85th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor

→ Nov. 30–Dec. 9, 2026

Travel from New Orleans to Oahu, visiting the WWII Museum and USS Arizona Memorial, and learn about the moments that shaped U.S. history.

→ For more information visit cubuffs.org/travel

Class Notes



← Olympian Frank Shorter winning the 1981 BOLDERBoulder.

Throwback

Rise of the BOLDER Boulder

By **Julia MacLean**

When the BOLDERBoulder race debuted in May 1979 with 2,200 finishers, it was already one of the largest 10Ks in the Rocky Mountain Region. Within a year, participation more than doubled. Impressed by the race's momentum, then-CU System president Arnold Weber and then-CU Boulder athletic director Eddie Crowder invited race founder **Steve Bosley** (RelEst'68) to bring the finish line to campus.

In 1981, over 8,500 runners charged toward the finish at Folsom Field. In the decades since, over 1.5 million racers have crossed the finish line on Memorial Day at the iconic CU Boulder stadium.

While the race course has changed frequently, with a dozen differing routes since 1979, every version has weaved through Boulder's neighborhoods, business districts and the CU campus.

The BOLDERBoulder stands out not just for its size, but for its lively bystanders. From the race's early years, local residents have lined the streets with sprinklers and speakers, adding encouragement and fun through public Slip 'N Slides, backyard BBQs and costumed characters.

Even with the entertainment, though, the race is a serious competition — at altitude — and its International Team Challenge attracts top athletes from around the world.

"We coined the phrase 'Sea Level is for Slackers,'" said current race director Cliff Bosley.

Over 105 Olympians have competed over the years, including race co-founder Frank Shorter. In 2010, Runner's World named the race "America's All-Time Best 10K."

In 2025, over 46,000 people participated in the race, ranging in age from 5 to 98, making it the fourth-largest road race in the nation. 📍

BOLDERBoulder

'10 Andrew Rothberg (Fin'10; Law'13) is a member of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck's real estate department and was named a shareholder of the firm in January. His work includes site acquisition, joint venture structuring, development, financing, leasing and disposition, with a focus on multifamily, senior living and mixed-use development projects.

'13 Seasoned Democratic strategist **Alex Ball** (PolSci'13) was named chief of staff to New Jersey Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill after she managed Sherrill's landslide victory. Alex was Sherrill's chief of staff in the U.S. House of Representatives before leaving to run the governor's election campaign. She also served as chief of staff to Colorado representative Jason Crow and previously held top positions at the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the political action committee EMILYs List.

Callout

Erin Overcash (AeroEngr'14; MS'17) was named to NASA's 2025 Astronaut Class. The U.S. Navy lieutenant commander is one of 10 candidates chosen and will undergo intensive training for two years.

Amanda (IntlAf'13) and **Matt Evett** (Ling'11) welcomed their baby Buff, Arthur Evett, on Nov. 3, 2025.

Jordan Lockner (Arch'13) is a founding partner of Ridge River Whiskey and Larado Whiskey, based in Windsor, Colorado. The whiskeys are featured in nearly 200 restaurants and stores across the state. The black-and-gold colors on Ridge River's award-winning Barrel Proof Bourbon label are a nod to CU.

'14 In January, **Connor Gilbert** (PolSci'14) joined Brooks Law, P.C., in Boston, Massachusetts, as a partner and head of the firm's personal injury department.

Selected from a pool of over 8,000 applicants, **Erin Overcash** (AeroEngr'14; MS'17) was named to NASA's 2025 Astronaut Class. Erin, a United States Navy lieutenant commander, is one of 10 candidates chosen to begin nearly two years of intensive training for mis-

→ We want your news!
Write the editors at Koenig Alumni Center, Boulder, CO 80309, or editor@colorado.edu.

sions to low Earth orbit, the Moon and beyond.

Chase Prieve (Mktg'14) is the co-founder of Hi There Solutions, an award-winning accessibility company focused on making communication a right for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. Founded with his father, John Prieve, the company offers a multilingual mobile app and animated American Sign Language emojis, as well as B2B solutions across multiple industries. Chase remains connected to CU through the professional mentorship program and the Deming Center for Entrepreneurship.

'15 With extensive experience in multimedia journalism, **Bethlehem Feleke** (Intl Af'15) joined a New York-based video team at *The New York Times*, where she is focused on news and enterprise reporting. Previously, she spent five years covering news and feature stories in Africa for CNN. In 2022, she won an Emmy Award for outstanding research on a CNN series investigating crimes against humanity during Ethiopia's conflict in Tigray.

'18 In September, attorney **Jonathan McGehee** (EnvDes'18) joined Marshall, Gerstein & Borun LLP's trademarks and copyright practice as an associate. He counsels clients on trademark registration, copyright matters, advertising law and intellectual property disputes. He received



From CU to the Octagon

Interview by **Julia MacLean**

One of the most powerful strikers in the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), **Cory Sandhagen** (Psych'14), forged his status as a world-class mixed martial arts (MMA) contender through years of discipline and self-discovery. The work has paid off with big recognition — including serving as a guest on *The Joe Rogan Experience*.

At CU Boulder, were you already MMA training? As a student, I wasn't a professional, but I was competing as often as I could. I wasn't doing as much MMA at the time, but a lot of jiu-jitsu tournaments. I was bouncing around all the time; my college experience was just planning classes around when I could train.

When did you know you wanted to do MMA professionally? I was a big sports kid growing up. When I was in high school, I wanted to play basketball in college, but I wasn't big enough or good enough to

play at a school that I wanted to go to. I started doing martial arts because I saw it on TV and thought it was a cool-looking sport. It consumed my life not long after. I poured all of my former basketball energy into fighting.

↑ **Cory Sandhagen, right, in the UFC octagon.**

What does a typical training day look like for you? It's usually two practices a day, or three when we're lifting. So six days a week, I can have a practice at 9 a.m., a practice around noon and then a lift around 4 or 5 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays are a little slower because we don't push as hard toward the end of the week. Our bodies are pretty banged up by then. But it's fun. I wake up, hang out with my friends and train all day.

In October, you fought in UFC 320, one of the biggest events on the circuit. What was that like? It was pretty much as big a fight as it gets for me. I think losing in fighting is a lot more devastating than a lot of other sports, because you don't get to play again the next week. There's a downswing after you lose, especially when it's a big opportunity like that one. But you take some time off, start feeling normal again and then get right back to it. I'm grateful I got the opportunity to challenge myself against the best guy, and I did fairly well. 🐾

Cory Sandhagen

CU Boulder Alumni Association

→ Read the other class notes at colorado.edu/coloradan

his law degree from the Chicago-Kent College of Law at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

'21 Michael Patrick (Fin'21) joined Landye Bennett Blumstein LLP in Anchorage, Alaska, as an associate attorney, where he concentrates his practice on business law, estate planning, real estate, tax and civil litigation. He began the position in September.

'22 Fiona Oliver (A&S ex'22) co-launched Spinoff, a startup focused on creating a socially driven, TV-focused community. Spinoff allows users to see what friends and public figures are watching and discussing, reviving the social experience of television through shared conversations around shows. The company is beginning to hire interns and hopes to include CU Boulder students as part of its growing team.

'24 Aoife Henry (PhDEIEngr'24) founded the energy optimization startup Zentus, which uses machine learning to prevent equipment failures in wind and solar farms.

■ Callout

Aoife Henry (PhDEIEngr'24) founded the energy startup Zentus, using machine learning to prevent equipment failures in wind and solar farms.

The company forecasts when and how defects in wind turbine blades and solar panels will develop and notifies operators, who can plan repairs proactively rather than react to emergencies. To get the startup running, Aoife participated in CU Boulder's Ascent Deep Tech Accelerator, which helps university researchers commercialize their technologies. She then obtained a fellowship with the Stanford Sustainability Accelerator at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability where she built a five-person team.

In December 2025, **Jun Young Na** (DMus'24) was selected as the principal conductor of the Gunpo City Choir, a professional civic chorus, in Seoul, South Korea. He began working with the ensemble in 2026. He also continues to serve as chair of the church music department at Busan Calvin Theological Seminary, where he teaches and mentors students.

'25 Ellis Hamilton DeMars (PolSci'25) accepted a marketing position with the Colorado Rockies in January 2026. He lives in Denver.

Roaming Buffs

Travel the world with fellow Buffs on once-in-a-lifetime trips.



Treasures of Southeast Asia

→ Oct. 20–Nov. 4, 2026

Discover Bali, Singapore, Thailand and Cambodia's cultures, ancient temples and world-class cuisine.



Spain: Andalucía in a Parador

→ Oct. 29–Nov. 6, 2026

Experience southern Spain with guided tours of Moorish palaces, historic towns and local flavors.



85th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor

→ Nov. 30–Dec. 9, 2026

Travel from New Orleans to Oahu, visiting the WWII Museum and USS Arizona Memorial, and learn about the moments that shaped U.S. history.

→ For more information visit cubuffs.org/travel

In Memoriam

1940s

Charles E. McLaughlin
(CivEngr'46)

Irene Carswell Peden
(EIEngr'47)

Eugene H. Schaefer (EIEngr'47)

Clyde W. Foster (A&S'48)

Theodore G. Schmidt Jr. (Bus'48)

Sheila Dryden Bateman
(HomeEcon'49)

Douglass O. Nicholson (Mgmt'49)

1950s

Libby Leonard Ericson
(Geol'50)

Mary Lou Mellecker Horkulic
(CompSciAp'50)

Richard S. Johnston (Jour'50)

Shirley Wood Scott (PE'50)

Joye Inglis Brown (Edu'51)

Lewis B. Edwards (Edu'51)

Roger K. Gould (MechEngr'51)

Barbara Blanchard Kowalski
(Art'51)

Richard P. Porter (Econ'51)

Grace Yasumura Aoki (A&S'52)

Raymond O. Crowder (Mktg'52)

Walter L. Spicer (Bus'52)

Arthur A. Wimmell (Bus'52)

Henry G. Hohorst
(MChemEngr'53)

Joan Dorau Hohorst (Zool'53)

Ronald A. Labrecque (Geol'53)

Richard J. Low (AeroEngr'53)

Evelyn Packard McLagan
(Mgmt'53)

Margaret Haefner Palo (Edu'53)

June Hawbold Robinson
(Edu'53)

Stanley B. Schwartz (Acct'53)

Verne F. Busse (Acct'54)

Ronald J. Grenda
(MechEngr'54)

Beth Young Itnyre (Bus'54)

Ronald R. Bowman
(EngrPhys'55)

David T. Brown (Law'55)

Connie Noffsinger Cowley
(Engl'55)

Virgil D. Kraft (EIEngr'55)

Claudia Boettcher Merthan
(A&Sex'55; Mus'91)

Wirt V. Squires Jr. (Acct'55)

Robert D. Elder (A&S'56;
MPsych'59)

Fordyce G. McCabe (A&S'56)

Lynn Osborn Simons (Engl'56)

Robert H. Werner (EIEngr'56)

Albert L. Zeman (EIEngr, Mgmt'56)

John C. Bixel (ChemEngr'57)

Robert E. Don (Fin'57)

Charles R. Kelly (Geog'57;
MA'63)

Robert A. Schmidt (Acct'57)

Stanley H. Silver (Mktg'57)

Jared S. Sproul (ChemEngr'57)

Marian Bradshaw Wood
(BusEdu'57)

Eugene D. Wurdinger
(EIEngr'57)

James A. Wyatt (Acct'57)

Anne N. Breckenridge (A&S'58)

Wayne C. Foster (EIEngr'58)

Sandra Siebert Kruse (Edu'58)

Eugene W. Madison (ChemEngr,
Mgmt'58)

Bill Mooney (A&Sex'58)

Norman L. Nesbit
(MechEngr'58)

Helen Perich Alvarez (Btny'59)

Barbara Cenkovich Burcar
(MA&S'59)

George Demello (MSpan'59;
PhDSpanPort'68)

Charles W. Herzog
(ChemEngr'59; Law'63)

Jeanette Pilcher Praetorius
(MZool'59)

Robert L. Stamp (Acct'59;
MS'60)

1960s

Sharlene Robertson Beckmann (Edu'60)

Tanya Richard Cleaver (Soc'60)

Nancy Jensen Cox (Spch'60)

Ronald G. Daniels (Bus'60)

Ronald E. Gillett (Mktg'60)

Barbara Kedro Heidbreder
(Advert'60)

Earl W. Lamp (ArchEngr'60)

Hugh "Leslie" Moore (Engl'60)

David L. Wood (Engl'60; Law'62)

Robert J. Burick (CivEngr'61)

Raymond A. Serway (MPhys'61)

Stephen L. Wenner (Acct'61)

Rosemary Russell Bischoff
(A&S'62)

Roger A. Fuehrer (A&S'62)

Lewis L. House
(PhDAstroPhys'62)

Henry Lenz (MA'62)

Stephen L. Mahannah (Bus'62)

Alan J. Olson (Fin'62)

William B. Rogers (Fin'62)

Nancy Voltz Sorensen (A&S'62)

James R. Zuber (IntDes'62)

John C. Bedford (EngrPhys'63;

MBA'65)

Gordon L. Carpenter
(MEIEngr'63)

Sarah O'Neill Howell (Engl'63)

Max Jacobson (ChemEngr'63)

Kenneth O. Johnson (Fin'63)

Diane L. Kopan (Engl'63)

Kathleen Shaw Miller (A&S'63)

Richard C. Smith (MA&S'63)

Virginia Culver Snyder
(Jour'63)

Ralph E. Blodgett (Hist'64;
MA'69; PhD'71)

Margaret Walter Eyres
(A&S'64)

Jon C. Heaton (Acct'64)

Judith Herschberger Johnson
(A&S'64)

Kenneth S. Kawakami
(MechEngr'64)

Wyoming Virginia Hodges McKenzie (A&S'64)

Karen Jacobsen Mora (A&S'64)

Joseph V. Pace (Acct'64)

Carlton R. Stoiber (Phil'64;
Law'69)

Frederick P. Wessel (A&S'64)

Duane C. Anderson (A&S'65;
MA'67; PhDAnth'72)

Michael R. Bradley
(EngrPhys'65; MEIEngr'68)

John P. Campbell (ArchEngr'65)

Alex E. Kostiuk (Mgmt'65)

William K. Matthews (Acct'65)

Paul R. Petrafeso (A&S'65)

Karen B. Robb (MEdu'65)

Howard A. Eige (Art'66; MFA'69)

Cheryl Takamine Grossman
(Edu'66)

Peter Hernon (A&S'66;
MHist'69)

George L. Kiteley (MusEdu'66;
MA'68)

Nancy Joffee Levin (A&S'66)

Lewis H. Moore (Art'66)

Barbara J. Vamossy (A&S'66)

Ann Marlow Wright (Edu'66)

Nelson J. Kick Jr. (EIEngr'67)

Jane Shull Riger (Soc'67)

John J. Schaps (PolSci'67)

Bonnie Shore-Cohen
(SpchComm'67)

Ralph B. Fuller (Mktg'67)

Henry F. Matthew (A&S'67)

Neil J. Sliski (MAeroEngr'67)

Vicki Keranen Ball (Art'68)

Albert W. Bevan (PhDPhys'68)

Donald S. Buck Jr. (Mktg'68)

Michael M. Mitchell (Zool'68)

Marka Evans Moser (Edu'68)

Ann B. Parks (Hist'68)

→ To report a death

Email advancement.datamanagement@cu.edu

or write Data Management, 1800 Grant St., Suite 215, Denver, CO 80203.

Please include date of death and other relevant information.

John M. Ritchie (Law'68)

Jack F. Rotole (PolSci'68)

Kenneth T. Sullivan (Law'68)

Alan P. Bartlett (Anth'69)

Kendra Tuttle Erickson (Anth'69)

Robert I. Gomez (MechEngr'69)

Constance Corcoran Miller
(Art'69)

Sheryl M. Mueller
(MMusEdu'69; PhD'95)

Gilbert D. Padilla (Mktg'69)

Marilyn B. Price (MEngl'69)

David C. Ravanelli (A&S'69)

John T. Sharrah (Advert'69)

Lois Kaltenbach Salo Ulvila

(Soc'69)

1970s

William E. Collins Sr. (Mktg'70)

Diana Grobel Kastelic (Soc'70)

Marsha J. Perlman (MHist'70;
MEdu'85)

William E. Quirk III (A&S'70)

Clyde L. Renfrow Jr. (Acct'70)

Jose G. Sanchez (PhDEngl'70)

David G. Smith (MANth'70;
PhD'73)

John P. Cowan (EIEngr'71)

John D. Ellsworth (Art'71;
MFA'73)

Victor V. O. Fitzpatrick (Hist'71)

Ray L. Jukkola (EIEngr, Mgmt'71)

Daniel J. Mancini

(CommThtr'71)

Julianne Aronsen West (Edu'71)

Marilyn D. Cheney (PolSci'72)

John M. Grace (Fin'72)

Floyd A. Hughes Jr.
(MusEdu'72)

Jeffrey R. Madson

(MAeroEngr'72)

Nancy C. Millett (EdD'72)

John R. Portman (Econ'72)

Braxton H. Tabb III

(MCompSci'72)

Harry J. Clark II (Jour'73)

James D. DePriest (DistSt'73)

Christopher R. Jones
(EPOBio'73)

Curtis W. Goode (MechEngr'74)

Timothy W. Karstrom (Phil'74)

Bruce Bohannon (Geog'75)

Sandra Starr Friedley

(EPOBio'75)

Richard P. Maguire
(MCompSci'75)

Sybill Reese Navas (Econ'75)

Paula J. Thompson (MArch'75)

Richard J. Dolph (EnvCon'76)

Mary Dalton Berzinis

(CommDisor'77)

Mark B. Busby (PhDEngl'77)

David H. Bruning

(MAstroPhys'77)

Charles L. R. Mattson Jr.

(Jour'77)

William J. Nagle (EnvCon'77)

William E. Rosenbach (DBA'77)

Colleen Stoker-Harvey (Anth,
French'77)

Carol Amesse Toensing

(MMus'77)

James C. Tomlin

(MTeleComm'77)

Brandon D. White (Econ'77)

Wayne L. Dicksteen (Advert'79)

Michael A. Lynam (Geog'79)

1980s

Gordon E. Hering (MOCDBio'80)

Mossayeb Jamshid

(PhDPhys'80)

Phyllis Penaluna Perry

(EdD'80)

Terry F. Satterwhite (Law'80)

Daniel C. Hugos (Comm'81;

MTeleComm'86)

Stephen K. Ingebretsen

(Law'81)

Chris A. Marcum (Chem'81)

David H. Stevens (PolSci'81)

Paula K. M. Kurashige

(MEdu'82)

Kevin L. McDowell (Law'82)

Douglas A. Cosper (MJour'83)

Susan Kraslow Dandes

(Psych'83)

Vicki Leuschner Evert

(Psych'83)

John T. O'Laughlin (Jour'83)

Katherine Dunn Parkhill

(Comm'83)

Glenn W. Ball (PolSci'84)

Steven K. Bohlender (Acct'84)

David R. Zimbelman (MGeol'84;
PhD'96)

Pamela A. Drew (Math'85;

MCompSci'87; PhD'91)

Rachel Darnell Miller (Psych'85)

Jacob T. Shaeffer (Acct'85)

Scott E. Eckas (Phil'86)

Paula Brown Chapman

(Jour'87)

Christine M. Cooper (Acct'87)

Kenneth A. Eiken (EIEngr'88)

R. Lowell Fey (PhDGeog'88)

James B. Marceau (Advert'88)

Stephen A. Angel

(PhDChem'89)

Ron E. Romano (PolSci'89)

1990s

Allyn Buchanan Risen

(Span'90)

Robert E. Schneider

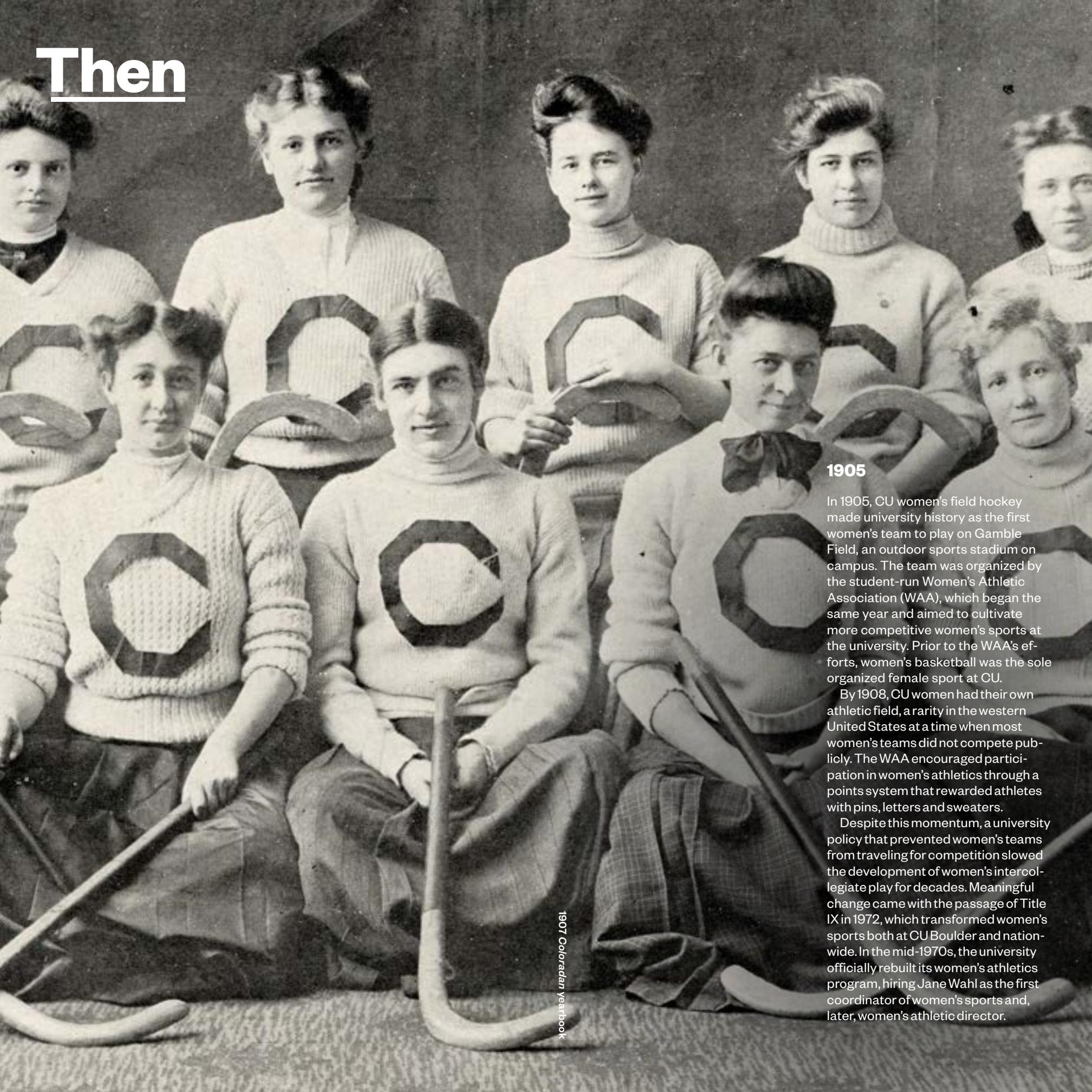
(MechEngr'90)

Helena Stevens Thompson

(MMus'77)

Donna L. Casey (MEdu'91)

Then



1905

In 1905, CU women's field hockey made university history as the first women's team to play on Gamble Field, an outdoor sports stadium on campus. The team was organized by the student-run Women's Athletic Association (WAA), which began the same year and aimed to cultivate more competitive women's sports at the university. Prior to the WAA's efforts, women's basketball was the sole organized female sport at CU.

By 1908, CU women had their own athletic field, a rarity in the western United States at a time when most women's teams did not compete publicly. The WAA encouraged participation in women's athletics through a points system that rewarded athletes with pins, letters and sweaters.

Despite this momentum, a university policy that prevented women's teams from traveling for competition slowed the development of women's intercollegiate play for decades. Meaningful change came with the passage of Title IX in 1972, which transformed women's sports both at CU Boulder and nationwide. In the mid-1970s, the university officially rebuilt its women's athletics program, hiring Jane Wahl as the first coordinator of women's sports and, later, women's athletic director.