This is COLORADO STATE
What do you tell visiting high-school athletes who are thinking about coming to Colorado State?
One thing I try to tell prospective football players is that CSU is a great place, not only to play football in a great conference, but also to get a terrific education. Take my field for example, engineering. Colorado State is the best place to balance the demands of your studies with the time commitment required by football, because CSU offers outstanding support for its student-athletes. Plus, CSU expects them to graduate. CSU’s faculty meshes well with its football staff. Both sides work together to help an individual student-athlete reach the zenith of his potential.

From what you’ve seen so far, how has Steve Fairchild shown his commitment to the CSU student-athlete?
Well, first and foremost, Steve is an outstanding individual. He’s a man of high integrity. He has high expectations of himself. He’s a family man, a real credit to his profession. That translates into the kind of staff he’s put together, and also communicates to his players that he has high expectations of them. Those players have a tremendous opportunity at CSU to learn from a mentor such as him. One of the things a player gets at CSU in addition to a great on-field opportunity – great competition against great opponents – is the chance to learn how to grow as an individual under Steve and his staff. They’ll make sure the player gets an education, but also learns about life and how to be a leader in the community.

Describe the bulk of student-athletes at CSU. What makes them different? What characterizes them academically?
First of all, students in general at CSU have a lot of varying interests, and excel in many different ways. The student-athlete here is no different in that they’re elite athletes and are pursuing their academic interests. CSU gives them an opportunity not only to be the best in their sport, but also a chance to be the best in their chosen careers. In engineering, for example, I had CSU teammates when I was a student-athlete who now are leaders in their chosen profession. They not only were successful here in college, but they went on to be successful after graduation, too.

What kind of relationship does the athletic department have with the faculty?
The faculty and staff have an excellent connection with the athletic department. Both the faculty and staff recognizes that we’re all here to serve as mentors and educate student-athletes, in giving them a high-quality education. The football staff engages faculty so they’re involved in all processes of recruiting and the development of the student-athlete from the time they’re still in high school until they graduate here at Moby Arena.

According to the NFL, the average professional playing career is 3.5 years. Knowing that, what does CSU offer for the long-term future of a prospective football player, beyond the NFL?
There’s always the possibility of injury in this game. Everyone wants to get drafted, and CSU has a great history of players in the NFL, but the stark reality is that your chances to continue your playing career really diminish after college. In that context, CSU wants student-athletes to succeed academically. That’s why they’re not admitted into a particular major unless we believe that they have the aptitude and capacity to complete their degree. And the result of getting that degree at CSU is long-term dividends that pay throughout one’s life, whether he plays in the NFL or not. At CSU, you get an outstanding education in a very personal way, with individual mentoring, coaching and advising. We want you to compete at the highest level of Division I football, but we also want you to become gainfully employed and qualified to launch a successful career in a chosen field. You cannot find a better opportunity to do both than what we offer at Colorado State.

What makes CSU different?
We get feedback from students and student-athletes alike about personal attention they receive from everyone on campus, from staff members, administrators and faculty members. This is something you just don’t seem to find at other places. We offer personalized attention to help a student meet his/her particular needs. It provides a framework for success, a launching pad for a successful future, whatever that future may hold.
"This one's been in planning practically from Day 1 when I got here and presented this information to the President. With the President's reinforcement and reinvestment in athletics, we really want to get this thing moving as fast as we can. It's a statement about our program and it means we care about ourselves and we're going to go out and recruit the best student-athletes we can and put Colorado State back on the map.”

—Director of Athletics Paul Kowalczyk, announcing in April CSU's plans to build $20 million in new athletic facilities by Fall 2009
Colorado State is taking a major step forward, a $20 million leap toward a vivid future.
Every CSU program will benefit from these facilities. The indoor practice facility will be used by all of its sports teams whether they are in season or involved in off-season conditioning.

**Cost:** $13 million  
**Size:** 66,267 square feet, including 48,125 dedicated to the football portion and 8,827 to the basketball/volleyball area  
**Height:** 65 feet at its tallest point  
**Location:** East of the Moby Pool and north of the Student Recreation Center

**Features**
- Contains a 70-yard synthetic-turf football field (including one end zone).
- Features a four-lane, 70-meter track and a unique shoe-changing room adjacent to the football field.
- Gymnasium easily encloses a regulation basketball court and two half courts.
- Volleyball configuration can accommodate two full-length courts.
- Has flexibility to allow the softball team to set up batting cages on the football field.
- Will provide shelter for any student-athlete in each of the Rams’ 16 varsity sports.
- Includes training room, equipment storage, lobby and trophy display case, and restrooms.
- Uses an innovative air circulation system.

**Quality Construction Partners**
Designed by Aller-Lingle Architects P.C., and RATIO Architects, Inc., the facilities will be built by Saunders Construction, Inc.

Aller-Lingle, a local firm instrumental in several campus projects, including recent Hughes Stadium renovations, served as the lead architect on both new buildings. The firm sought the assistance of Indianapolis-based RATIO because of its recent experience in the design of similar venues at BCS universities such as Illinois, Oregon, West Virginia and Indiana.

Saunders has played a significant role in the construction of several prominent Colorado projects, including the Paul D. Bowlen Memorial Broncos Centre in Dove Valley and the Broomfield Events Center.

"I researched athletics facilities in the Mountain West Conference during an internship with the President’s office. CSU’s new facility will place us at the top of indoor facilities in the MWC. The impact on our entire program will be tremendous."

— 1,000-yard rusher Kyle Bell, senior
"I am excited to be able to provide this gift to Colorado State football. My time at CSU was very special as a football player and a student-athlete. Coach Lubick provided me with an opportunity to pursue my dream of playing in college and the NFL. I am grateful for having had that opportunity, and this was a way for me and my family to invest in the future of the Rams."

—All-Pro linebacker Joey Porter, the spring prior to leading the Pittsburgh Steelers to a Super Bowl XL championship
CAM the Ram

The official mascot of Colorado State is CAM the Ram, whose name symbolizes CSU history — an acronym for Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College, the institution’s former name.

All told, 17 live rams have served proudly on the Hughes Stadium sidelines. The mascot has its own corps of student ‘Ram Handlers,’ as well as a traveling trailer.

In 2003, the Bohemian Foundation contributed $15.2 million to the Colorado State athletic department.

The majority of that gift was focused on improving the Rams’ home, Hughes Stadium.

Over a three-year period, the facility received a spectacular new west tower, containing a club seating area, luxury suites and press box. CSU also enclosed the north end zone, increasing stadium capacity to 34,400.

The foundation insisted that the venue’s playing surface receive a new name — Sonny Lubick Field, after the legendary head coach that spurred the most successful run of bowl games and conference championships in program history.

The final phase of renovation focused on that surface itself. The field underwent a $1.33 million makeover prior to the 2006 season, when Colorado State installed Field-Turf, the revolutionary, rubberized surface used by several NFL and major-college venues across the country.
The prominent white "A" displayed on the foothills overlooking Sonny Lubick Field at Hughes Stadium turned 84 years old in 2007, making it the oldest ongoing tradition associated with Colorado State University.

The "A" evolved after World War I when a trend began among colleges to display the school insignia on a hill near campus. At a special assembly on Dec. 4, 1923, the students of State Agricultural College agreed it was time to erect such an emblem. A group of military volunteers formed the "A" Club and donated vehicles for transporting supplies, and female students provided food for the workers.

The college declared Dec. 12 a special holiday, and students worked from that morning until mid-afternoon to form the "A". One small detail was missing: the school didn't own the land on which the insignia sat. The College and Ag Board members met with landowner R.G. Maxwell and negotiated a long-term lease for the sum of $1.

The following September, students lengthened and widened the "A" to its present size of 450' from top to bottom, and 210' across at the bottom. For many years the freshman class carried out the annual tradition of whitewashing the "A". Today, the "A" is an official landmark. Each fall, members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and new freshmen football players join forces to give the "A" a fresh coat of white paint as part of Homecoming week activities.

The Aggie 'A'

The prominent white "A" displayed on the foothills overlooking Sonny Lubick Field at Hughes Stadium turned 84 years old in 2007, making it the oldest ongoing tradition associated with Colorado State University.

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The cannon

Since 1954, the CSU Army ROTC has fired its deafening cannon — an intimidating exclamation point to opponents that just allowed a Rams touchdown, field goal or PAT.
“Track record, No. 1. I was here when we did it before. There’s a stretch of seven years there that we won or tied for the conference five times and played in bowl games. That’s a pretty good run. It can be better than that, yeah, and we’re going to try and do it, but it’s not like we’re trying to go down some uncharted course here.”

—Head Coach Steve Fairchild, at his 2008 introductory press conference, on why he believes the Rams can return to dominance

Fum McGraw

The most recognized name in CSU annals is Thurman “Fum” McGraw. The university’s first consensus All-American (1948-49), he went on to an illustrious career in the NFL, where he helped the Detroit Lions to two world championships. McGraw devoted more than 40 years to the university he loved, including director of athletics (1976-86).

CSU still hangs his No. 48 jersey in its locker room during every game, home and road. A passionate competitor, during his days as a Colorado A&M student and fraternity member, he sang a song directed at regional rivals. The ballad later became known as “Fum’s Song.”

I’ll sing you a song of college days, and tell you where to go. Aggies, where your knowledge is, and Boulder to spend your dough. C.U. for your sissy boys, and Utah for your times, D.U. for your ministers, and drunkards School of Mines. Don’t send my boy to Wyoming U. a dying mother said. Don’t send him to old Brigham Young, I’d rather see him dead. But send him to our Aggies, it’s better than Cornell. Before I’d see him in Boulder, I’d see my son in hell!

Fight song

Fight on you stalwart Ram Team. On to the goal! Tear the (Opponent’s) line asunder, As down the field we thunder. Knights of the green and gold, Fight on with all your might! Fight on you stalwart Ram Team, Fight! Fight! Fight!
Colorado State put an exclamation point on a 10-2 season in 2000, Steve Fairchild’s last year with the university, by beating Deion Branch and Louisville in the Liberty Bowl. In three of the Mountain West Conference’s first four seasons, the Rams captured all or part of the conference championship. To date, no other MWC school has been able to match that success over a four-year period.

The 2001 Rams made school history, becoming the first team to earn a third consecutive Bowl berth. CSU that year won five of its last six games, including the New Orleans Bowl.

Under Sonny Lubick from 1993-2007, the Rams enjoyed the most successful era in their 115-year-old history. Included in that stretch was the 1997 season (above), when the Rams knocked off Missouri in the Holiday Bowl. CSU went to nine bowl games in Lubick’s 15 seasons at the helm.

**Colorado State’s 11 bowl games**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bowl</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1949 Raisin Bowl</td>
<td>Jan. 1, 1949</td>
<td>Ratcliffe Stadium; Fresno, Calif.</td>
<td>Occidental College</td>
<td>L, 21-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 Holiday Bowl</td>
<td>Dec. 29, 1995</td>
<td>Jack Murphy Stadium; San Diego, Calif.</td>
<td>Kansas State</td>
<td>L, 54-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 Liberty Bowl</td>
<td>Dec. 31, 1999</td>
<td>Liberty Bowl; Memphis, Tenn.</td>
<td>Southern Miss</td>
<td>L, 23-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Liberty Bowl</td>
<td>Dec. 29, 2000</td>
<td>Liberty Bowl; Memphis, Tenn.</td>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>W, 22-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002 Liberty Bowl</td>
<td>Dec. 31, 2002</td>
<td>Liberty Bowl; Memphis, Tenn.</td>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>L, 17-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Colorado State's Aug. 31 opener — against Colorado in the annual Rocky Mountain Showdown at Denver's INVESCO Field — will air on Fox Sports Net. A prime-time contest, it will be the only game in the nation (college or NFL) being played at the time. For the second straight season, 10 of the Rams' 12 scheduled games are expected to air on regional or national television. Since the beginning of the 2000 season, when CSU finished No. 14 in the final polls, networks have aired the Rams in 81 percent of their games, making Colorado State one of the nation's most televised teams this decade.

New press box
Hughes Stadium's 3-year-old press box, replaced with a portion of the athletic department's $15.2 million gift in 2003, now can comfortably fit more than 200 members of the electronic and print media for big games. CSU's athletic department in a given season issues nearly 1,000 credentials.

Daily coverage
Colorado State is a nationally prominent brand, due in large part to the success of its athletic teams and the media coverage they receive.

The Rams are covered by six newspapers in addition to the Associated Press. What's more, eight area television stations, mostly from Denver (the nation's No. 18 television market), and several radio outlets along the front range come to campus to interview and feature CSU's student-athletes and coaches.

And in 2006, with the launch of the Mtn., the first television network dedicated to one conference, CSU and the rest of its MWC peers receive 24/7 coverage. This August, the Mtn. joins the DIRECTV lineup.
COLORADO STATE IN THE NFL

Playing on Sundays

Broncos fullback Cecil Sapp enters his sixth NFL season. He started nine games for the team in 2007.

Nice low to the ground, Sapp has been a valuable cog in Denver’s run game.

Active roster

Miami Dolphins
55 Joey Porter, LB

New York Jets
78 Clint Oldenburg, OL

Houston Texans
89 David Anderson, WR
65 Mike Brisiel, G
85 Joel Dreessen, TE
72 Jesse Nading, DE

Denver Broncos
64 Erik Pears, T
37 Cecil Sapp, RB

Chicago Bears
12 Caleb Hanie, QB

Carolina Panthers
2 Damon Morton, WR

Arizona Cardinals
53 Clark Haggans, LB

New Orleans Saints
21 Jason Craft, CB

NOTE — OL Blaine Saipaia, DB Dexter Wynn and P Jimmie Kaylor were free agents at press time

Did you know?

In 2008, one in every four players selected in the NFL Draft — 69 all told — were taken from schools that compete in non-BCS conferences? Five of those players were first-round choices.
Be grateful, be humble and be motivated.
Care about each other and our program.
This is a special place.
Honor our tradition and feel a mandate to succeed doing things the right way.

— Framed plaque in CSU’s staff meeting room
CSU'S SPIRIT SQUADS
Unwavering Support


2008 Golden Poms — First row: Kate Haisten, Patty Reimann, Alison Bray, Kelsey Sterdverant, Caitlin Castel, Elizabeth O'Brien, Jenna Gyre. Back row: Christine Robinson, Cassie Cooper, Molly Wright, Elizabeth Buckley, Michelle Meier, Lauren Klompe, Kathleen Ory.
Former All-American tight end Keli McGregor followed a record-setting collegiate career with the Rams by playing professional football. McGregor was selected by the Denver Broncos in the fourth round of the 1985 NFL Draft and played for the Broncos, Indianapolis Colts and Seattle Seahawks before retiring. McGregor, a 1997 inductee into the CSU Athletic Hall of Fame, has become even more successful in business. He was named the President of Major League Baseball’s Colorado Rockies on Oct. 18, 2001, and is responsible for the overall day-to-day operation of the club, which advanced to the World Series in 2007.

**Business**
Thomas Bradbury, Past director, National Western Stock Show
Jeff Christmann, Operations manager, GE Johnson Construction
Donald DeGryse, Vice President, Lockheed Martin
Lindsay Gill, Product Development Manager, Spyder Active Sports
Edward Henney, Past Senior Vice President, Safeway Stores
Kenneth Monfort, Past Board of Directors member, Con Agra
James Smith, President & CEO, Smith Investments Inc.

**Entertainment/Communications**
John Amos, Actor, The West Wing
Baxter Black, American Cowboy poet & humorist
Yosef Komunyakaa, Pulitzer Prize winner, Neon Vernacular
Gregory Osberg, Executive Vice President, Newsweek Magazine
Vicki Porter, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, community reporting
Hugh Ragin, jazz trumpet player
Jim Sheeler, Pulitzer Prize winner, Rocky Mountain News
Robert A. Taylor, D.V.M., TV Personality, Emergency Vets

**Government/Military**
Wayne Allard, D.V.M., United States Congressman
John Ensign, D.V.M., United States Senator
Peter Lemon, Recipient of Congressional Medal of Honor
Ed Rhoades, Former Commander, U.S.S. Halyburton
Bill Ritter, Current Colorado Governor
Roy Romer, Former Colorado Governor

**Science**
Kent Rominger, Deputy Director, Flight Crew Operations, NASA
James van Hoften, former NASA Astronaut, Lt. Col. USAF

**Sports**
Less Browne, Canadian Football League Hall of Famer
Jack Christiansen, Pro Football Hall of Famer
Clark Haggans, Arizona Cardinals
Becky Hammon, current WNBA basketball player
Greg Jamison, President & CEO, San Jose Sharks
Floyd Kerr, Director of Athletics, Morgan State University
Casey Malone, 2004 Olympian, sixth place in the discus
Felix “Tippy” Martinez, former Kansas City Royals player
Kell McGregor, President, Colorado Rockies
Mike Montgomery, basketball coach
Milt Palacio, NBA player
Jason Smith, NBA player
Erik Phillips, Athletic Trainer, Phoenix Suns
Joey Porter, Miami Dolphins
THE NATION’S BEST SPORTS CITY

The best sports city is Denver, where the sun shines 310 days a year and the sports possibilities are cloudless year-round...Denver comes together as a unique setting for sports of all kinds. In addition to the Broncos, Nuggets, Avalanche and Rockies, and college sorts, there is every kind of participatory opportunity imaginable.

—The Sporting News, dubbing Denver the nation’s best sports city; June 30, 1997

INVESCO FIELD at Mile High (opened in 2001) — Home of the Super Bowl XXXII & XXXIII champion Denver Broncos and the annual Quest Rocky Mountain Showdown, Colorado State vs. Colorado

The Pepsi Center (opened in 1999) — Home of the NBA’s Denver Nuggets, the 1996 and 2001 Stanley Cup champion Colorado Avalanche, and the 2008 NCAA men’s basketball tournament, co-hosted by the MWC and Colorado State

Coors Field (opened in 1995) — Home of the Colorado Rockies and the 2007 World Series

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