

## CU Exercises Option

Contributed by David Plati  
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BOULDER — University of Colorado Athletic Director Mike Bohn announced Friday that CU would exercise the option, specified in the contract signed by the University of Colorado and Colorado State University in 2006, of hosting the 2009 CU-CSU football game at Folsom Field in Boulder.

“Today I notified CSU Athletic Director Paul Kowalczyk that we would exercise this option,” said Bohn. “We will continue a dialogue with our colleagues at CSU on the future of this great series beyond 2010, but it is very important that we host a sixth home game next year to live up to our commitment to our fans, and to remain consistent with the standards of our Big 12 Conference.”

Were CU to play in Denver next year, it would mean the program would have only five home games in Folsom Field, plus the game versus CSU. The national standard for Bowl Championship Series (BCS) programs is becoming seven home games, Bohn said.

“Forty-four of the 66 BCS schools are playing at least a seven-game home schedule this season,” Bohn said. “And four of those teams are playing eight home games, including Nebraska from our own conference.”

Every team in the Big 12 Conference will play a minimum of six home games in 2008. Seven conference schools — Baylor, Kansas, Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Texas, Texas A&M and Texas Tech — will play seven home games; while CU, Iowa State, Missouri and Oklahoma all have six.

Missouri also has two neutral site games, while Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas have one apiece.

CU has been in negotiations with CSU over the past several weeks to extend the CU-CSU series in a way that would meet CU's minimum home game commitment while continuing a strong presence for the game in Denver beyond 2010. He said his intention is to complete that process by Oct. 1.

Colorado State has the option to host the game in either Denver or Fort Collins in 2010. The contract stipulated that CU notify CSU of its desired location for the 2009 game prior to the playing of this year's contest at Invesco Field.

With the Colorado State game now set for Boulder as the 2009 opener on Sept. 5, CU's home schedule is complete with Wyoming (Sept. 19), Kansas (Oct. 17), Missouri (Oct. 31), Texas A & M (Nov. 7) and Nebraska (Nov. 27) also visiting Folsom Field. If the CSU game remained in Denver, the Buffaloes would have had just the one true home contest -- against Wyoming -- the first six weeks of the season. Stapleton's Tower Ledger