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## Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/16 18:14

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When BYU gets bounced by A&M on Thursday, I expect to hear the following excuses/complaints coming from Cougar faithful:

1. The refs screwed us. This excuse is not untypical of fans from the losing side. But it has been an especially prevalent comment since the SDSU loss. Everytime BYU loses, its been the refs fault. Never mind that SDSU outplayed BYU or that the Cougs lost their composure against the Running Rebels. I expect to see this on Thursday night when I log onto Cougarblue.

2. The committee screwed us with a bad seed. This has been another excuse thrown out by folks in the past. And while I think there is some merit to it, I'd like to point out two facts that should be considered before making this claim -- (1) BYU had three straight #12 seeds (2001, 2002, 2004). This is the second #8 seed BYU has had (2007 & 2008). (2) BYU hasn't won a tournament game since 1993.

So BYU is actually improving with its seeding, even though BYU has been 0-4 (since 2001) and hasn't won a tournament game in 15 years.

3. The committee is out to screw non-BCS conferences. Granted, the number of at-large bids to non-BCS conferences was half of what it was 5 or 6 years ago. But the fact is that 6 of the 10 selectors were either from schools in small conferences or were presidents of small conferences. That means any "extra" big school team that slide into a spot (a la Baylor or Kentucky) did so with the consent of small school reps.

4. CBS owns the mtn., CBS telecasts the tournament, and CBS conspired to get all MWC teams out of the tournament as retribution for fans complaining about the mtn. Okay, this one actually has merit. So I guess I'm a tin-hat wearing conspiracy theorist.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by hypercoug - 2008/03/16 18:49

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LOL!

I agree with you. Although i pull for the cougs wholeheartedly, if they disappoint on Thursday, I hope to not see all the whiny excuses on this board! Especially the one about the refs. Please everyone stop complaining about refs. Makes you look and sound like yewt fans.

All in all I can't wait for football. There's just so much less whining involved, across the board from the coaches to the fans. Basketball is just a whiny sport.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by decloucog - 2008/03/16 19:02

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hypercoug wrote:  
LOL!

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All in all I can't wait for football. There's just so much less whining involved, across the board from the coaches to the fans. Basketball is just a whiny sport.

And a lot more acting if you ask me. I hate acting. Just play tough. And refs, don't give in to acting. Let the kids play tough, contact isn't always a bad thing. I'm one of the smallest guys on the court when I'm playing and I love contact. Giving and taking. I'd much rather play bball with someone that is physical, than the guy who wants a foul every time you get a steal from him or is bumped when going to the paint. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT!!!!!! (this message is especially intended for all NBA officials)

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/03/16 19:12

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OLB wrote:

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4. CBS owns the mtn., CBS telecasts the tournament, and CBS conspired to get all MWC teams out of the tournament as retribution for fans complaining about the mtn. Okay, this one actually has merit. So I guess I'm a tin-hat wearing conspiracy theorist.

I expect to hear excuses like this from the other side...

1. BYU really played a tough inside defense and we couldn't get anything going all night.
2. As a #8 seed BYU played us much tougher than we expected and their three point shooting was incredible.
3. We played BYU tough for a half but then their big guys Plaisted and Cummard just wore us down.
4. Once our two big men got into foul trouble trying to stop Plaisted and Cummard, it was only a matter of time before they started to pull away.

What can I say? I'm an optimist!!!! :cheer:

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by TwiceCoug - 2008/03/16 19:22

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Excuses OLB will have when BYU routs the Aggies:

1. I am just a bitter person. I want you all to feel the pain of being me.
2. I need attention. Even though I live in my mom's basement she never comes down to see me....she just throws Twinkie boxes down the stairs occasionally.
3. I am a Yewt fan in a horrible disguise

Hey OLB the only thing worse than complainers is hearing someone complain about complaining that is 4 days away!?? dry your eyes and be expecting a bill from me. You owe for the time I spent reading your sob story.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/03/16 19:28

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Conosticator wrote:

OLB wrote:

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2. The committee screwed us with a bad seed. This has been another excuse thrown out by folks in the past. And while I think there is some merit to it, I'd like to point out two facts that should be considered before making this claim -- (1) BYU had three straight #12 seeds (2001, 2002, 2004). This is the second #8 seed BYU has had (2007 & 2008). (2) BYU hasn't won a tournament game since 1993.

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What can I say? I'm an optimist!!!! :cheer:

Don't forget the all time classic:

They have those returned missionaries that adds greater maturity ... (forget the fact that 3 of the major players did not serve missions and one that did did not serve more than a year.)

I go with the the glass is 9/17 full and not 8/17 empty!!!

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/16 19:33

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TwiceCoug wrote:

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3. I am a Yewt fan in a horrible disguise

Hey OLB the only thing worst than complainers is hearing someone complain about complaining that is 4 days away!?? dry your eyes and be expecting a bill from me. You owe for the time I spent reading your sob story.

I can't really refute the first two comments, since nobody has an insight into my personal life. But #3 is simply ridiculous, especially from someone with less than a dozen posts. Look at all of my other 1,100 plus posts before making a comment about which team I support.

In fact, it is because I am such a fan of BYU that I want to nip this whining fade in the butt. It is one of the worst character traits of the average BYU fan -- that the refs did us in. In almost every case, it is a dishonest excuse put forward by Cougar fans. It discredits our opponents (who I should point out have been on the losing end of most games against BYU in both football and basketball over the past two years). In turn, when BYU knocks off a powerhouse team (a la Louisville earlier this season), we don't want to hear that the refs stole the game for BYU.

So I want to send out a warning shot to all the whiners (they know who they are) and prep them for a possible lose. When it happens (and it will happen), we ought to go respectfully into the night, and not screaming and nashing of teeth.

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### Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by MizzouCoug - 2008/03/16 20:06

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I'll enjoy the game on thursday, but it'll just be another close one throughout that we lose in the final 5 minutes because of A&M's offensive rebounding dominance. Once I saw the 8 seed on the screen...well what expectation does everyone else have? Looks gloomy to me. Next year will be our best team ever imo; I think they'll be special.

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### Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/03/16 20:23

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TwiceCoug wrote:

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Airwolfe, is that you????

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### Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/16 20:35

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Conosticator wrote:

TwiceCoug wrote:

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As soon as I saw the subject of the post I was sure it was started by wolfie. Shame on you for carrying on as if you were wolfie. Have faith that BYU DOES have a very good team and CAN beat the other team. Posting now that they WILL lose and the cb'ers will come on to complain is something wolfie would do. This thread is akin to starting a post saying that BYU is going to lose to Washington and UCLA next year and you can't wait to see how everyone complains about the Puk-10 refs. Have faith and believe they can because they have the talent to do it.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/16 21:00

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imuakahuku wrote:

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I think you bring up a legit point. But here is the difference (at least in terms of football and basketball) -- the football team can actually beat BCS teams where as the basketball teams folds under pressure (a la the conference tourney).

I'll go ahead and call it right now that the football team goes 12-0 and gets a BCS invite right now. Of that, I have no doubt.

But excuse me if I think the basketball team will have a nice game, lose in the closing minutes, and be back in class on Friday. There is nothing to support the fact that the Cougs are ready to win a first round game.

I also grow increasingly tired of seeing the whining on this site. Refs don't (normally) lose games for teams ... it is the players and coaches that do. BYU lost against UNLV because they lacked composure, not because of some mystical haze that was cast upon the fellows in zebra clothing.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/16 21:03

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Another classic OLB ray of sunshine.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by hypercoug - 2008/03/16 21:06

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OLB wrote:

I think you bring up a legit point. But here is the difference (at least in terms of football and basketball) -- the football team can actually beat BCS teams where as the basketball teams folds under pressure (a la the conference tourney).

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Wow OLB... thanks for saving me the typing, as you said EXACTLY what I think as well.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/16 21:07

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BTW, our excuses started today, not Thursday. Just like they started Thursday night when UNLV was handed a win by the MWC refs-they just came to a head last night. I'm sure that's what will happen this week, unless we win, of course. OLB, you used to be somewhat nice, what happened?

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/16 21:11

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BYUtx wrote:  
Another classic OLB ray of sunshine.

Another classic response by BYUtx. A nice chippy one liner, but no substantive response or counter-argument.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/16 21:16

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I guess I could've simply asked why you're so negative, but I thought that was implicit in my statement. I really am curious.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/16 21:16

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BYUtx wrote:  
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I saw the game. I thought the game was called rather fairly. Outside of this board, I haven't encountered any BYU fans (who actually watched the game) that felt like the refs were unfair. Granted, I live in Colorado so I've only been able to talk to about a dozen people, but it leads me to think that folks on this board are hyper sensitive about refs' calls.

It leads me to think that BYU doesn't know how to play a physical game. This will be a serious problem for them in this tournament, as the refs are more likely to let the players "play", meaning a timid Cougar team will just get run over -- and it will leave people like you screaming at the TV about fouls that aren't called.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/16 21:16

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No question there seems to be a tendency from fans to blame the refs or the MWC when we lose. As I mentioned on another thread, it's easier to blame refs or officials because then the fan doesn't have to be disappointed in his team. The fan can just walk away and say it was someone else's fault.

Me, I am all about owning up to things. We got beat by UNLV because we didn't play well. Key players didn't show up and we left UNLV's leading scorer wide open and basically let him rack up 14 points against us in the final 5 min. The refs had NOTHING to do with that.

I know beating A&M on Thursday will be tough, but there's a good chance we'll pull it off so need for the doom and gloom.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/16 21:20

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Gunk wrote:

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I know beating A&M on Thursday will be tough, but there's a good chance we'll pull it off so need for the doom and gloom. The problem wasn't that we had key players that didn't show up-the problem was the 8 or so key players that showed up-the Rebels. Instead of playing and beating the team we should have (either TCU, but more likely Utah-they probably would've beaten the frogs), we played UNLV-a team who was given a win.

Last night's game wasn't poorly officiated. UNLV outplayed us and that's why we lost the game to UNLV-but that's not why we lost the MWC tournament.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/16 21:21

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BYUtx wrote:

I guess I could've simply asked why you're so negative, but I thought that was implicit in my statement. I really am curious.

I don't think I'm negative -- just more of a fan that has been down this road alot since 2001. The Cougs are 0-4 since 2001. They have only "brought" it once (that was in 2004) and they still lost. BYU doesn't play well outside of Provo (evidenced by the SDSU and the Tourny Championship loses) and I don't expect that Anaheim will be much different. Plaistead plays poorly against good competition.

Why are you so optimistic? The best team BYU beat was a Louisville team without their star player. I thought it was a wonderful win (and still do), but I know that BYU didn't get the Cardinal's best team. What makes you think BYU has a shot?

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/16 21:24

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I actually was referring to your posts in general, not just in BB.

I think there's a huge difference between saying "it'll be tough for us to win" and "all you cougar fans are going to be making excuses after BYU loses." You can keep your gloom and doom and I'll stick with Ammoncoug's example of being optimistic.

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If we were playing A&M in Texas I'd be less optimistic. I think we can get a bunch of fans there. If we play to our max potential, we'll beat A&M handily and will compete with UCLA.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Delta534 - 2008/03/16 21:25

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BYUtx wrote:

BTW, our excuses started today, not Thursday. Just like they started Thursday night when UNLV was handed a win by the MWC refs-they just came to a head last night. I'm sure that's what will happen this week, unless we win, of course. OLB, you used to be somewhat nice, what happened?

Here's the apparent schedule for all interested.... looks as if we'll be able to see it after work for MOST of us. Good stuff.

Hope everyone watches:

### ANAHEIM GAME SCHEDULES

Thursday, March 20

No. 6 Marquette vs. No. 11 Kentucky - 11:30 a.m

No. 3 Stanford vs. No. 14 Cornell - 25 minutes following

No. 8 Brigham Young vs. No. 9 Texas A&M - 4:25 p.m.

No. 1 UCLA vs. No. 16 Mississippi Valley State - 25 minutes following

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/16 21:27

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That's Pacific Time, right?

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/16 21:34

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BYUtx wrote:

Gunk wrote:

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Last night's game wasn't poorly officiated. UNLV outplayed us and that's why we lost the game to UNLV-but that's not why we lost the MWC tournament.

If our team showed up last night with that attitude I now know why we lost.

Again, you are faulting someone else for BYU's loss. You're saying we lost because we should have been playing someone else. What a poor excuse. "We had to play UNLV, that's why we lost the MWC tournament." So, basically you are saying BYU can't beat UNLV and UNLV is a better team. That's fine if you admit that, you're entitled to your own opinion. I for one, believe BYU is actually better than UNLV when our players decide to show up and play.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Delta534 - 2008/03/16 21:52

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BYUtx wrote:

That's Pacific Time, right?

that's correct, my friend. I knew I forgot that part when I copied and pasted it from online, but yeah- 5:25 in utah. I'm SOO glad I don't have to miss it during the first session of games, (even though I'll be watching online @ cbssportsline at work anyway), cuz I'm off @ 5....perfect timing.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/16 21:55

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OLB wrote:

imuakahuku wrote:

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I also grow increasingly tired of seeing the whining on this site. Refs don't (normally) lose games for teams ... it is the players and coaches that do. BYU lost against UNLV because they lacked composure, not because of some mystical haze that was cast upon the fellows in zebra clothing.

There is nothing to suggest that Tex A&M is ready to win either. That's why they got a 9 seed and have to play a higher seed in their first game.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/16 22:06

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OLB wrote:

BYUtx wrote:

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If you want an impartial observation about the refs in that game. My inlaws were here and my father in-law was watching the game with me. He doesn't care a hoot about basketball but he watched anyway. He made more than 10 comments about how the BYU players seemed to be getting mugged. I thought they let UNLV get away with too much contact

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myself but what bothered me was the fact that UNLV got to play the tourney at home. And anyone who says BYU should have just won it, that's what the great teams do, you go play three intense games in three days and see what your energy level is by the second half of the third game against a team that is playing on their home court. The MWC is what has helped put it in the bag for UNLV moreso than the refs. A conf tourney should be played at a nuetral site or on the higher seeds home court. That is the fair thing to do.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/03/16 22:16

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Gunk wrote:

BYUtx wrote:

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About all BYU and UNLV have proven against each other this year is that each team is capable of beating the other when given the home court advantage.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by hypercoug - 2008/03/16 22:27

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imuakahuku wrote:

If you want an impartial observation about the refs in that game. My inlaws were here and my father in-law was watching the game with me. He doesn't care a hoot about basketball but he watched anyway. He made more than 10 comments about how the BYU players seemed to be getting mugged. I thought they let UNLV get away with too much contact myself

You have to learn to play the game. UNLV was more aggressive. Guess what? If the refs are allowing a certain amount of physical contact without calling fouls, then you better play physical against your opponent, or else you are probably gonna LOSE. Period. Stop whining.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/16 22:41

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hypercoug wrote:  
imuakahuku wrote:

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I'm not whining I'm giving two observations. BTW, I think Cumnard, JT, and the others have learned to play the game. After all they did win 27 games so far this year.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/03/16 22:50

Who pissed in OLBs cheerios?

If we lose, it'll be because Trent played soft or we couldn't keep up with them athletically for 40 minutes (ala UNLV)

You'd be surprised how many fans hold the players more accountable than the refs.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Yndian - 2008/03/16 23:09

OLB wrote:

1. The refs screwed us. This excuse is not untypical of fans from the losing side. But it has been an especially prevalent comment since the SDSU loss. Everytime BYU loses, its been the refs fault. Never mind that SDSU outplayed BYU or that the Cougs lost their composure against the Running Rebels. I expect to see this on Thursday night when I log onto Cougarblue.

Yeah, people have complained about this after every loss since SDSU! Wait, you say there's only been one loss since the SDSU game? I guess "especially prevalent" might not be the best phrase to use...

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by MizzouCoug - 2008/03/16 23:10

If we lose it'll be because we keep posting up JT instead of Cumnard. LC is money in the post, and JT has never not shot his fadeaway short. Plz post up those who can actually score. Since we all know the team refused to drive on anyone (even though everytime we did, we either scored or got fouled) the inside game has to be dominant.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/03/16 23:12

hypercoug wrote:  
imuakahuku wrote:

If you want an impartial observation about the refs in that game. My inlaws were here and my father in-law was watching the game with me. He doesn't care a hoot about basketball but he watched anyway. He made more than 10 comments

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about how the BYU players seemed to be getting mugged. I thought they let UNLV get away with too much contact myself

You have to learn to play the game. UNLV was more aggressive. Guess what? If the refs are allowing a certain amount of physical contact without calling fouls, then you better play physical against your opponent, or else you are probably gonna LOSE. Period. Stop whining.

One major problem with this theory - when the refs allow one team to play physical but the other gets called for the ticky-tack calls, what do you do then?

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Yndian - 2008/03/17 06:10

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timmyboy wrote:  
hypercoug wrote:  
imuakahuku wrote:

If you want an impartial observation about the refs in that game. My inlaws were here and my father in-law was watching the game with me. He doesn't care a hoot about basketball but he watched anyway. He made more than 10 comments about how the BYU players seemed to be getting mugged. I thought they let UNLV get away with too much contact myself

You have to learn to play the game. UNLV was more aggressive. Guess what? If the refs are allowing a certain amount of physical contact without calling fouls, then you better play physical against your opponent, or else you are probably gonna LOSE. Period. Stop whining.

One major problem with this theory - when the refs allow one team to play physical but the other gets called for the ticky-tack calls, what do you do then?

Exactly. This is what happens every time we play at UNLV. We get criticized for not being aggressive even when Trent gets called for a foul just for showing on a guard at the perimeter or posting up.

Note: Before the "Stop whining" whiners start whining about me whining, the refs didn't cost us the game, we didn't show up in the second half, etc. etc.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/17 06:29

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Yndian wrote:

Note: Before the "Stop whining" whiners start whining about me whining, the refs didn't cost us the game, we didn't show up in the second half, etc. etc.

:laugh: :laugh: :laugh: My sentiments exactly!!! :laugh: :laugh:

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by domanater - 2008/03/17 08:21

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OLB always has a way of laying a big fat turdburger.

[http://www.laughforfree.net/images/Debbie\\_Downer.jpg](http://www.laughforfree.net/images/Debbie_Downer.jpg)

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

OLB wrote:

When BYU gets bounced by A&M on Thursday, I expect to hear the following excuses/complaints coming from Cougar faithful:

1. The refs screwed us. This excuse is not untypical of fans from the losing side. But it has been an especially prevalent comment since the SDSU loss. Everytime BYU loses, its been the refs fault. Never mind that SDSU outplayed BYU or that the Cougs lost their composure against the Running Rebels. I expect to see this on Thursday night when I log onto Cougarblue.

2. The committee screwed us with a bad seed. This has been another excuse thrown out by folks in the past. And while I think there is some merit to it, I'd like to point out two facts that should be considered before making this claim -- (1) BYU had three straight #12 seeds (2001, 2002, 2004). This is the second #8 seed BYU has had (2007 & 2008). (2) BYU hasn't won a tournament game since 1993.

So BYU is actually improving with its seeding, even though BYU has been 0-4 (since 2001) and hasn't won a tournament game in 15 years.

3. The committee is out to screw non-BCS conferences. Granted, the number of at-large bids to non-BCS conferences was half of what it was 5 or 6 years ago. But the fact is that 6 of the 10 selectors were either from schools in small conferences or were presidents of small conferences. That means any "extra" big school team that slide into a spot (a la Baylor or Kentucky) did so with the consent of small school reps.

4. CBS owns the mtn., CBS telecasts the tournament, and CBS conspired to get all MWC teams out of the tournament as retribution for fans complaining about the mtn. Okay, this one actually has merit. So I guess I'm a tin-hat wearing conspiracy theorist.

It appears you might be the one making the excuses on Sunday night since you seem to believe them all.

Bottom line is it comes down to coaching and playing now, it's the only thing we can control. We'll leave the excuses to KWhitt and Boylen.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by stjohmsmythe - 2008/03/17 10:39

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OLB wrote:

I don't think I'm negative

Let me guess.....URA Realist

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by mormonrasta - 2008/03/17 12:06

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Refs? Who cares.

The UNLV was one of the few BYU games I actually got to see (MSU, NC, Louisville, and Utah at the MC) were the others. The consistent theme is their terrible ball handling. It looks like BYU practices dribbling the ball of their foot. This is remarkable to me because at times BYU has been a sensational passing team. Usually good passing teams can also dribble on occasion.

So whenever I see one of my beloved Cougars put the ball on the floor, there is no way I can give them the benefit of the doubt when it comes to fouls. Is the stumbling and bumbling caused by contact by the opponent? Or is it just another (Murdock, Fredette, Burgess, Cumnard) uncoordinated drive to the basket?

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by blue42 - 2008/03/17 12:41

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OLB wrote:

BYUtx wrote:

BTW, our excuses started today, not Thursday. Just like they started Thursday night when UNLV was handed a win by the MWC refs-they just came to a head last night. I'm sure that's what will happen this week, unless we win, of course. OLB, you used to be somewhat nice, what happened?

I saw the game. I thought the game was called rather fairly. Outside of this board, I haven't encountered any BYU fans (who actually watched the game) that felt like the refs were unfair. Granted, I live in Colorado so I've only been able to talk to about a dozen people, but it leads me to think that folks on this board are hyper sensitive about refs' calls.

It leads me to think that BYU doesn't know how to play a physical game. This will be a serious problem for them in this tournament, as the refs are more likely to let the players "play", meaning a timid Cougar team will just get run over -- and it will leave people like you screaming at the TV about fouls that aren't called.

I don't agree with this statement. I have been to several games this year and I thought BYU played a very physical game, especially on defense. My thoughts were exactly opposite then yours in where I said if the refs call a ticky tac game and get BYU in foul trouble, that would be one of the biggest reasons for a loss in the tourney.

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## Re:Thursday Night Excuses... a Preview

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/17 13:02

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mormonrasta wrote:

Refs? Who cares.

The UNLV was one of the few BYU games I actually got to see (MSU, NC, Louisville, and Utah at the MC) were the others. The consistent theme is their terrible ball handling. It looks like BYU practices dribbling the ball of their foot. This is remarkable to me because at times BYU has been a sensational passing team. Usually good passing teams can also dribble on occasion.

So whenever I see one of my beloved Cougars put the ball on the floor, there is no way I can give them the benefit of the doubt when it comes to fouls. Is the stumbling and bumbling caused by contact by the opponent? Or is it just another (Murdock, Fredette, Burgess, Cumard) uncoordinated drive to the basket?

Have to agree with this. Our ball handling is horrible. Jimmer got a couple of drives to the lane because he bumbled it and the UNLV player moved in to try and get a potentially loose ball. Jimmer would somehow play it off his foot or something and low and behold there would be an open lane. Wisely he took it, unlike Murdock who would have stared at the open lane like a deer in the headlights not knowing what to do.

In the beginning of the season I thought Murdock did a decent enough job of handling the ball, he made smart passes, got the ball down the court and pushed it well. He's gone down hill the last few games, struggling to get the ball into Trent (Lee is usually the one that gets it into Trent), making bad cross court passes through traffic that get picked off and turning the ball over pushing it up the court.

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