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## My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by frdbtr - 2008/03/20 19:57

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First of all, did anyone besides me (when I heard that carter led the nation in 3 point percentage last year) think he was going to be the nail in BYU's coffin? 26 points in a 67 point game :blink: hold him to half that and BYU wins.

Second, BYU will never get out of the first round of the NCAA playoffs until they get someone that can carry them when times get tough. As a freshman, I thought that Plaisted was going to grow into that guy. Unfortunately, he has not improved since a freshman and isn't that guy. Cummard isn't that guy. BYU is loaded with a bunch of good players and no great ones. I don't know the bottom of the roster well enough to project whether any of the up and commers is going to grow into that guy that can carry us. Maybe Plaisted will get a clue and learn how to hit an 18 foot jump shot and a free throw, I guess I can always hope. :angry:

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by WACoug - 2008/03/20 20:01

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This team needs to get picked up by a tornado, fly to Oz, see the wizard and ask him for a heart, a brain (Tavernari), and some courage.

PS And maybe the ability to hit a free throw.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by cszjr - 2008/03/20 20:02

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I don't think anyone could have predicted the number of 3's Carter made. He was playing out of his mind.

And I agree completely on your second point. All year long as I watched the team, they just never seemed to have the leader step forward when the going got tough. Plaisted has not developed into that player and about the only one that even looks like he is trying is Jimmer. In the UNLV, SDSU games, when they needed a tough leader to set the tone, nobody stepped forward. There is no way this team, or any BYU team, will ever get very far until we find that guy.

Danny Ainge, where are you???

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Detmer - 2008/03/20 20:09

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cszjr wrote:

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Danny Ainge, where are you???

Fredette and Collisworth are the only reason we were in the game. I am so sick of waiting for "next year" at the end of every stinking year!

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by NikeFootball - 2008/03/20 20:12

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Why does it seem that there is always an all star against us, every year in the tournament - ala Macnamara from Syracuse.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by hamrdown - 2008/03/20 20:17

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WACoug wrote:

This team needs to get picked up by a tornado, fly to Oz, see the wizard and ask him for a heart, a brain (Tavernari), and some courage.

PS And maybe the ability to hit a free throw.

I couldn't agree more. When Tavernari launched his 40 foot 3-pointer with a ton of time left, I knew the team was dead. He has done this over and over this year. He needs to be a smarter player.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by nuk13 - 2008/03/20 20:39

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I was thinking this afternoon, the BB recruiters should look at scoring, rebounding, passing, height, weight etc. That is all well and good, but the thing they need to look for above everything else is how the kid(s) perform when the chips are down and when the game is on the line.

Cszjr, I have the same thought. He was about the only guy that wanted the ball when it was on the line. It didn't matter what his height or position was, he took the ball and scored when a score was needed.

Aim for this game or that game but for me I want them to WIN ONE IN THE TOURNAMNET!

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by hypercoug - 2008/03/20 20:42

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cszjr wrote:

Danny Ainge, where are you???

I agree, we need a fighter, like Ainge or Travis Hansen, to step up as a team leader and show some emotion.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/03/20 20:44

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We would have won this game with Keena at the 4

I think all of us made the same assumption that the team made; that A+M would struggle from outside. Bottom line if they have any shooting troubles, we win even as poorly as we played.

If the rumor is true and Collinsworth is coming back for next year, I honestly think that JT should end up at the 3 or come off the bench. Collinsworth is a great defender and rebounder and given a year to hit the weight room will be a very difficult matchup in our conference.

Fredette has shown that he can definately play the point when Lee is the 2 and JT is the 3.

Everyone on the team needs to spend some time shooting free throws this summer.

Jimmer needs some help on his defensive footwork but what freshman doesn't?

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by cougarfan144 - 2008/03/20 21:08

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nuk13 wrote:

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Aim for this game or that game but for me I want them to WIN ONE IN THE TOURNAMNET!  
We need a player that has IT?

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Yndian - 2008/03/21 06:32

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craigoscarson wrote:

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Collinsworth already has his mission call to Australia. I think he leaves next month.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by PP3 - 2008/03/21 06:50

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I agree BYU needs a player that has "IT," I am not ready yet to say that Lee Cumard won't get "IT." He did come up big during some games this season. Next year he and Plaisted will be Seniors, that may make the difference. I don't think too many people thought that John Beck had "IT" until his senior year, sure he was good, but it wasn't certain that he had it until 2006. I still hold out hope that Lee Cumard will come up big next year when it counts.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by KYCoug - 2008/03/21 06:55

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Bottom line is we got beat by the 6th best team of the 3rd or 4th best conference. We are basically running with 4 guards on the floor. Trent is a solid college level center but will never be the go to guy and has no support underneath and I hope there isn't anymore talk of him in the draft this year. Jimmer and Lee should be big time in the future. We just need to get several bigs that can compete consistantly with quality minutes at the college level and bang the boards. We've got a team that can do well in the Mountain West but when it comes tournament time there are just lots of teams out there that have the big dogs that we don't.

And that's My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Go Cougs!  
L Hatton  
Louisville KY

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by ammoncougar1 - 2008/03/21 07:44

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hamrdown wrote:

WACoug wrote:

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PS And maybe the ability to hit a free throw.

I couldn't agree more. When Tavernari launched his 40 foot 3-pointer with a ton of time left, I knew the team was dead. He has done this over and over this year. He needs to be a smarter player.

When this happened one of my friends watching with me said, "he isn't on an academic scholarship is he?"

Go Cougs!!!

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Real.Men.Wear.Blue - 2008/03/21 07:50

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Give credit to A&M. The only way they were going to win that game was to come shooting lights out. That's what they did. Add that to the Cougar's inability to rebound and shoot free throws (neither of which were totally unexpected, but far worse than hoped), and that is a formula for a solid loss. A&M is a good team, but BYU could have easily won the game if they really wanted to.

By the way, no one can blame the refs. I thought they called a very good game, and that it was fair. I'd be happy to have that crew for MWC play.

As long as BYU keeps drawing an 8 or 9 seed, they are going to struggle to make it past the first round, as would any other team. I think that there is also a psychological factor at play here as well.

Finally, given Trent's play on the national stage, I think he would be foolish to even try to make the jump to the NBA now. While he clearly has some great skills, he is very inconsistent and there are some serious problem areas that would make any NBA team balk at him, not the least of which is his utter inability to shoot free throws. After last night, those limitations should be very obvious to pro scouts. It's better if he waits another year and improves--barring a total meltdown, I can't imagine his stock going down further.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/03/21 08:13

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Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

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Sure, but this happens every year. Shouldn't we have known this could have happened and put a body on him? People are saying the exact same thing as the year we lost to Syracuse. "Wow! Who would have thought that McNamara was going to hit so many three's? Wow! That was very surprising!" I am tired of hearing this. It tells me that Rose is a good coach not a great one.

On the way home last night I told my wife that we would come out scared and fall behind quickly. 11-0 to start. It's time to wake up and realize that we suck at basketball. Our team is never ready for the big game under Rose, and the Louisville game doesn't count. One time this year doesn't change the fact that we lost 4 big games because we were scared, nervous, had the jitters, etc.

I really thought this team was going places when we beat Utah at Utah, until I realized that Utah is a really, really bad team.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by the\_other\_blackguy@byu - 2008/03/21 08:24

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In college it is all about the guard play. Most of our starting guards did nothing. For one, with the system we are playing (finesse) we need a really good point guard who knows how to get the ball inside. It would also help if the big guys would learn to hold their own and not get pushed out 20 feet from the basket. We have an ok team. Until they realize that they can be great, they will not get far in the tournament. If they are scared of the other teams, they just shouldn't be there. Where is that dang chip on the shoulder from losing the MWC tournament? Instead of coming out and proving they belong. They just.....wait! The season is over. I can't change a thing. The coaches don't read this board. The players don't read this board and I am just a "nobody." We all have the special potion for what ails the team. But none of us has the access to provide it. So, enjoy spring ball. Pray that the coaches and team have good "exit interviews" and assessments. And realize that all we can do is be fans, cheer, boo and hope for the best. C'st la vie.

GO Cougs!!!

the\_other\_blackguy@byu

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Yndian - 2008/03/21 09:40

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NorthernCougar wrote:

I really thought this team was going places when we beat Utah at Utah, until I realized that Utah is a really, really bad team.

And yet they're still playing and we're not. :blink:

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/03/21 10:16

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NorthernCougar wrote:

Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

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I think a little more credit is due.

BYU beat UNM at UNM and Utah at Utah, to me those are big games.

Louisville absolutely should count.

We played a great game and lost to the number 1 team in the country (UNC), big deal that is still a great game we had, I wouldn't call that not being prepared or playing scared.

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We lost to Mich St, that is too bad but they are a better team than us.  
We lost to WF on the road which I think is a game we were unprepared for and fits your argument.  
We lost to UNLV, the 2nd best team in the conference on their home court.

Call it what you want but I don't expect BYU to beat the odds in every big game they play. Winning against against the odds isn't the norm for any team.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by cougarfan144 - 2008/03/21 10:32

lovelldog wrote:

NorthernCougar wrote:

Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

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IF BYU had played last night like they did against UNC, they win this game and it isn't even close. There is something to be said about getting up for a game. Last night the body language said "we really don't belong here" and it showed in their play.

Here's to hoping next year that someone takes a leadership role that gets into people and lights them up. Cummard, are you listening?

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/03/21 10:46

cougarfan144 wrote:

lovelldog wrote:

NorthernCougar wrote:

Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

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Agreed, but then we shouldn't be complaining about those types of losses, we should be complaining about this one.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/03/21 11:26

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Yndian wrote:

NorthernCougar wrote:

I really thought this team was going places when we beat Utah at Utah, until I realized that Utah is a really, really bad team.

And yet they're still playing and we're not. :blink:

Now that is really funny!

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/03/21 11:32

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lovelldog wrote:

NorthernCougar wrote:

Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

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You seem to be searching for reasons to feel better about the season. I can't see anything that makes me feel better about the season. If we had lost to UCLA in the LV bowl, none of the other victories would have made that loss more palatable. None of those games matter to me because we blew it when it really matters. We don't win when it really counts and that is the MWC tournament and the NCAA tournament.

My point about the Louisville game not counting is that it didn't help us the rest of year. Who cares how you do in the beginning if you suck at the end. And that is exactly what BYU did. We should have beaten UNLV and A&M. We couldn't do either, and it won't change anytime soon.

I too thought that UNM and Utah were big victories for a while. But neither team is very good. We beat UNM on the road in our 9-21 season. That didn't make us any good that year. Utah and UNM are both average teams at best.

For me it is all about winning when it matters and we proved, again, that we can't.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Hipsdamann - 2008/03/21 12:13

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I don't know if this means anything to the forum but I have to get it out. When Plaisted gets the ball and goes up for the shot he can only go one way. If he has dreams of playing in the NBA he better learn to go both ways for a shot.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/21 12:22

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Call it what you want but I don't expect BYU to beat the odds in every big game they play. Winning against against the odds isn't the norm for any team.

No, winning against the odds is not the norm, but look at those games you listed above. We won 3 out of the 8 "big" games you listed above (one against Utah). Not very stellar. We lost more big games than we won. Don't forget we lost to BSU. We couldn't even beat the WAC's best team.

Only bright side of this season is most our players will be back and the ones we lose didn't do anything anyways, so we're getting rid of some dead wood.

I'd like to think we'll "learn" from this season and come back stronger, but quite frankly that's what we were told and believed at the end of last season and once again we're in the same situation. Until they prove otherwise, I'm not going to buy into it.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/21 12:29

the\_other\_blackguy@byu wrote:

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GO Cougs!!!

the\_other\_blackguy@byu

I am sick of BYU having luckluster PGs (excluding Jimmer). You'd think Rose would realize in order to run his preferred run and gun style you need a PG that run the floor and drive to the hope.

A&M basically didn't have to guard two of our players. They could double Trent and Lee all they wanted knowing our guards (excluding Jimmer) would do nothing critical. One of the reasons I think Jimmer got as many points as he did is because A&M wasn't expecting our guard to take it to the rack.

If Rose finally allows a BYU PG to let loose and take it to the rim, I think we'll do better next season. In college hoops you

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need that sort of penetration to throw defenses off, open up shooters and keep teams on their heels. If we don't fix the PG problem once again we'll be knocked out of the first round, no matter how many 3-point bombers and 7 footers with 40" verticals we have.

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## Re:My thoughts (for what they are worth)

Posted by GolfDiveNCougs - 2008/03/22 10:31

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ammoncougar1 wrote:

hamrdown wrote:

WACoug wrote:

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I couldn't agree more. When Tavernari launched his 40 foot 3-pointer with a ton of time left, I knew the team was dead. He has done this over and over this year. He needs to be a smarter player.

When this happened one of my friends watching with me said, "he isn't on an academic scholarship is he?"

Go Cougs!!!To be fair, I'd MUCH rather see an NBA 3 attempt at the end of a tournament game from Tavernari than the IDIOT 3-point attempt by Araujo at the end of the 'Cuse game (oh, by the way, with Mark Bigelow, the most prolific 3-point shooter in BYU's history, standing wide open 10 feet to his left). Even though neither shot shoulda gone up, I have to say, Hafa's decision making skills made JT's choice look absolutely Einsteinian!