
Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/03/17 14:19

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6. The coaches wanted it back in Vegas after 3 years in Denver. They must like something about Vegas.

Sure, there are a ton of reasons that the tournament could be held somewhere else, but quite frankly Vegas is the best spot for what the conference needs the tournament for: to increase cash flow.

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Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Hengst - 2008/03/17 14:26

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Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by BYUCougs1 - 2008/03/17 14:28

It does not have to be a campus sight at all. They could play in in cali at the honda center. Take the tourney to Arizona

and play at the Suns arena. People will go to those places i would any place but vegas..

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by harlinesstilopen - 2008/03/17 14:29

Hengst wrote:

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Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/03/17 14:36

BYUCougs1 wrote:

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Why Phoenix? The MWC doesn't have a team in Arizona, therefore it doesn't make sense. It may not have to be played on a campus site, but I'm sure the MWC gets a better deal from the Thomas & Mack than it would from the Honda Center in California. Again, the goal is to make money, nothing else.

The MWC has two teams in Colorado, with another team just over the border in Wyoming. Still couldn't draw fans to the Pepsi Center. The WAC had two teams in Utah, and the Delta Center was not filling up. Every championship game in Vegas has been near capacity, if not at capacity.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Hengst - 2008/03/17 14:36

I don't know about that. Playing on a different rim/floor is a big deal. Just ask BYU. If Mich State would have come to the marriott center, I guarantee BYU would have won that game.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/17 14:42

BYUCougs1 wrote:

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How about in the San Francisco area. Plenty of arenas to choose from. There is the Oracle center where the Warriors play, Cal's stadium, Stanford's stadium, the HP Pavillion in San Jose, etc.

It's an 8 hour drive from San Diego. It's a 12 hour drive from SLC. It's not much further than having to go to Las Vegas from Colorado or Wyoming. TCU has to travel far anyways.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/17 14:45

harlinestillopen wrote:

Hengst wrote:

stuckinbig10country wrote:

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Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by lawman - 2008/03/17 14:52

Two words:

Orleans Arena

If it was good enough for the UNC game, it ought to be good enough for the MWC tourney.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/03/17 14:53

I like the rotation idea. I say rotate between San Diego (San Diego Arena is off-campus and seats 14,500), Las Vegas, Salt Lake City, Denver, Albuquerque, and Dallas. Those are all decent destination cities with plenty of attractions and profitability. Make the cities bid to get the tournament - if one won't bid high enough (e.g. incentives, profit-sharing, etc.), simply exclude that city. This will give the home team a huge incentive to get their city to support the idea.

Granted, some years will have less attendance (Albuquerque, Dallas, and Denver) but others will be much higher. Plus, by pitting the cities against each other in terms of incentives, you yield increased profitability.

Neutral sights in each city are preferred - San Diego Arena, Pepsi Center, Delta Center, American Airlines Arena, etc.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by UliUli79 - 2008/03/17 14:55

I can understand the business end of it and I agree with Imua 100% on the neutral court idea. My problem is with the fans. I'm sorry, but my wife should not feel threatened by opposing team's fans. If it was a regular away game you expect to walk into hostile territory. This is a tournament though. It shouldn't be that way.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by bennyhaha - 2008/03/17 14:57

Thank you, That's what I have been screaming. If you have to have it in vegas, why in the hell cant we play it at orleans so at least it is not in their home building where they are playing all year long.

lawman wrote:

Two words:

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=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/03/17 15:07

I don't think the Orleans arena holds enough. Dallas is out because they are in the rotation for the Big XII tournament. Albuquerque is out, because they don't have a neutral arena. San Diego has the Sports Arena, but that is an arcaaic piece of junk. So now we're down to Denver and SLC, places that failed to draw fans before.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/03/17 15:20

Anyone know how many the Orleans seats? I was there for that tournament and am guessing it seats 4,000 or so, although I wasn't really trying to estimate at the time so I could be way off.

Even for the game between UNLV and BYU the stands were probably only 60% full as there was a lot of space left up top and there are always open space throughout. It seems like you could make it work somehow. I agree even though it is only 15 minutes from the Thomas & Mack Center that it would make a difference. It wouldn't take the advantage away but at least its a start.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Illinois1Cougar - 2008/03/17 15:22

PHX is the best place to play the tourny. It makes sense because it kinda sits in the center of the conference. Im sure plenty of fans would go there. Denver didnt work, because its not an inviting city. There are way more things to do in PHX, plus its easy to get there, from anywhere!

Plus.....the Big 12 plays thier conference tourny in St. Louis, and they dont have any teams from there.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/17 15:24

UliUli79 wrote:

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I am with you on this one, UliUli.

I was at the regular season UNLV/BYU game at UNLV and it wasn't bad at all. Quite nice actually. To hear how bad it was Saturday night is shocking.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by cougarfan144 - 2008/03/17 15:24

If the Vegas Arena only seats 4,000 and it is all about the money, they could have it at the ESA, with the Y and U fans, they could fill it enough to make money.

The reason it is in Vegas, is to make money and bring people to the games. Vegas Arena wouldn't seat enough people who come, so no one would come.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/03/17 15:26

Okay change my 4,000 estimate to 9,000 based on the link below. I can't guarantee the accuracy of it but if that is the case 9,000 seats is plenty for the tournament. I am guessing UNLV seats about 15,000 which at 60% occupancy is still 9,000 people. No reason it shouldn't work unless my numbers are off which is always possible.

http://www.cheapovegas.com/vegas_casino_full.php?hotel_id=1069

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by vancouvercougar - 2008/03/17 15:31

lovelldog wrote:

Anyone know how many the Orleans seats? I was there for that tournament and am guessing it seats 4,000 or so, although I wasn't really trying to estimate at the time so I could be way off.

Even for the game between UNLV and BYU the stands were probably only 60% full as there was a lot of space left up top and there are always open space throughout. It seems like you could make it work somehow. I agree even though it is only 15 minutes from the Thomas & Mack Center that it would make a difference. It wouldn't take the advantage away but at least its a start.

The Orleans seats 9500. link http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orleans_Arena

What is the capacity of the Thomas & Mack?

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by harlinesillopen - 2008/03/17 15:36

I have to disagree, if we play at the Orleans Arena, it will still be filled with all UNLV fans. Now I'm not sayin that playing in the same court as their home court isn't an advantage, cuz it is, but honestly, I think its more the 20,000 fans screaming and yelling. just my thought

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/03/17 15:38

Illinois1Cougar wrote:

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Plus.....the Big 12 plays thier conference tourny in St. Louis, and they dont have any teams from there.

The Big 12 plays their tourney in Kansas City/Dallas and now Oklahoma City - all with neutral arenas. I don't think they've played in St. Louis in quite some time and never wanted to but Kemper arena in KC was a pile of crap and they didnt' want to come back here until we had a new arena(which we do now)

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/03/17 15:44

Honestly, while it gives UNLV a bit of an advantage;

If we ever want to be considered a preeminant hoops power, we have to win in spite of that. It's not like the conference tourney is played in the Pit or at the MC (the deck isn't as stacked in Vegas for conference teams), winning in Vegas is more than possible. Yeah it sucks that we couldn't play defense in the 2nd half or handle their perimeter defense, but we still should have won that game, regardless of where it's played.

Again, I think we should concentrate on what the team can control: coaching and production on the court. We didn't deliver that vs UNLV:

I dont' care if we were playing the "university of frozen alaskan eskimos" at the north pole; we still can't win if we don't execute and play our game. We had a 12 point lead when we played our game and then we forgot how for the 2nd half.

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Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stjohnsmythe - 2008/03/17 15:51

stuckinbig10country wrote:

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It's sad that BYU is in an amateur sports league that is more concerned about alcohol sales and making money than the sports themselves. Might as well just watch the NBA.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/03/17 15:52

Thomas & Mack seats 19,500. BYU-UNLV had 16,000. Second round averages about 12,000. First round averages about 7,000.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Hengst - 2008/03/17 16:08

timmyboy wrote:

Thomas & Mack seats 19,500. BYU-UNLV had 16,000. Second round averages about 12,000. First round averages about 7,000.

The orleans seats 9,500 not quite enough for the finals . . but plenty big enough for the other rounds (they could definitely have the women's tournament there, at least they could be on a neutral floor)

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Gunk - 2008/03/17 16:13

craigoscarson wrote:

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Agree, we didn't perform. Maybe we should concentrate on humiliating UNLV everytime we play them on their court. That way they will beg the MWC to move it elsewhere because of embarrassment and lack of UNLV fans showing up.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stjohnsmythe - 2008/03/17 16:22

craigoscarson wrote:

Honestly, while it gives UNLV a bit of an advantage;

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This is the whole point!!!! We shouldn't have to win "in spite" of some advantage that the conference has granted to

UNLV in the name of selling a few more beers. This is the conference tournament, not some meaningless pre-season invitational. The results of this tournament have a major impact on seeding in the NCAA tournament (even though the selection committee denies it). Sure, it's not impossible to beat UNLV on their home court, but why should it have to be an uphill battle for everyone that they play? What has UNLV done to earn home court throughout the tournament...every year.

For those, like UNLV's A.D., who don't believe there is a home court advantage, lets look at how things played out in conference this year.

BYU----- Home: 8-0 Road: 6-2
UNLV----- Home: 8-0 Road: 4-4
UNM----- Home: 6-2 Road: 5-3
SDSU----- Home: 6-2 Road: 5-3
AFA----- Home: 5-3 Road: 3-5
uu----- Home: 5-3 Road: 2-6
TCU----- Home: 5-3 Road: 1-7
UW----- Home: 3-5 Road: 2-6
CSU----- Home: 0-8 Road: 0-8

Conf. Winning Percentage--- Home: .639 Road: .389

Only two teams in conference have losing records at home in conference. CSU lost all of their games, home and away, and Wyoming although bad, was slightly better at home. The numbers don't lie, and it's embarrassing that the MWC chooses to ignore them so they can make a little more money.

BTW...I've been complaining about this for as long as they have been having the tourney down there, not just since UNLV has been winning it.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by Raul - 2008/03/17 17:11

imuakahuku wrote:

harlinestillopen wrote:

Hengst wrote:

stuckinbig10country wrote:

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I agree with the fact that home court makes a difference. I don't remember which year, but not to long ago (2002 maybe?) BYU went 7-7 in Conference play. They were 7-0 at home, and 0-7 on the road. How does the same team beat every team in the conference on their home court, and lose to every team in the conference on the other team's court if there is not a huge advantage to the home court.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/03/17 19:12

Why would the MWC care where the tournament is if they can sell out an arena? In years where Air Force, CSU, and Wyoming don't completely suck, I think SLC should be an excellent venue. UNM's fans travel well, UNLV fans travel okay, and so does SDSU's fan. I can't imagine that the tournament in Vegas leads to much more \$ for the conference than a SLC tournament would. Unless, of course, the conference has other financial incentives from the LV visitor's and convention bureau or elsewhere.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/03/17 20:56

BYUtx wrote:

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Actually it turns out that Governor Spitzer is a big MWC conference fan and Las Vegas is very convenient for him.....

http://images.businessweek.com/story/08/600/0312_spitzer.jpg

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stgeorgefan - 2008/03/17 21:15

Anybody that is saying Byu should just suck it up and win regardless of the location is DUMB/uneducated.

CT WANTS Byu and UNLV in the FINAL. It's all about money, NOT the student athletes.

I'm sure the conference wants as many teams in the tourny as possible. Byu as of late is an auto at large bid. UNLV would have been on the fence. Put the MWC tourny in NM and NM would be going to the big dance.

If the game was in Provo, BYU wins BIG!!!! If its in the Pit, NM wins. Why is it any different for Unlv? IT ISN't. There is Beer and hotels in every city... That shouldn't be the point anyways. It's about the student athletes.. PERIOD.

My vote is PHX. Lots of Hotels, Beer, good weather, activity's etc.

Give me a neutral court or give me death!!!! -stgeorgefan

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by agzx - 2008/03/17 21:57

Having the conference tournament in Las Vegas is a good thing for
BYU Basketball because it forces BYU to play better basketball, and gets them ready for March Madness.
BYU just needs to get better.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by bluebrotha - 2008/03/17 22:21

If BYU won or if the UNLV fans were not so rude no one would be having this conversation.

Vegas is the perfect venue for the tourney. The MWC is lucky to have Vegas as a conference destination. The city gives the MWC great exposure.

BYU fans just need to get accustomed to drunk rude fans. The intensity in the MWC is small (compared to other conferences). BYU is just not use to such fans. I transfered to UCLA from BYU. When UCLA plays other pac-10 teams the fans on both sides are drunk and rude. If BYU ever wanted to upgrade to a BCS conference then they need to learn to expect such behavior and deal with it.

If BYU was in the pac-10 tourney, (Anaheim, Ca.), USC, UCLA, Stanford, CAL, Arizona, and ASU fans would be just as rude to BYU if not more so. Would BYU complain about moving the tourney to Idaho so it would be a neutral venue ?? If that is BYU's response then BYU should move to the Sunbelt conference.

There are fights all the time at other games (Michigan/Ohio State etc). Yeah I know they're rivals but UNLV has a sorry football team so all of UNLV's passion is funneled into their basketball games.

The whole mormon targeting thing - it's too bad. But, get use to that too, we're mormons,,its always been that way and always will be like that,,, actually I heard it will get even worse. :)

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Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/17 22:59

bluebrotha wrote:

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Rude does not draw blood. And feel free to "turn the other cheek", but I will defend my family and friends from people that think they can take advantage of a situation and attack others. I subscribe to the Porter Rockwell attitude.

=====

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

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There are fights all the time at other games (Michigan/Ohio State etc). Yeah I know they're rivals but UNLV has a sorry football team so all of UNLV's passion is funneled into their basketball games.

The whole mormon targeting thing - it's too bad. But, get use to that too, we're mormons,,its always been that way and always will be like that,, actually I heard it will get even worse. :)

I don't think the majority of people are mad that the tourney is in Vegas. They are mad because it is on their home court which makes a huge difference. If it were in a different venue at Vegas people would be more happy.

It would also be nice if there were a number of allotted tickets for each team or something. I don't know how other conferences do it but I saw that many of them had sections that were all wearing school colors. You could tell they were each well represented. I doubt anyone could find a conference tourney that had 90% of the fans from one school because it was on their home court.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/03/18 07:37

BYUtx wrote:

Why would the MWC care where the tournament is if they can sell out an arena? In years where Air Force, CSU, and Wyoming don't completely suck, I think SLC should be an excellent venue. UNM's fans travel well, UNLV fans travel okay, and so does SDSU's fan. I can't imagine that the tournament in Vegas leads to much more \$ for the conference than a SLC tournament would. Unless, of course, the conference has other financial incentives from the LV visitor's and convention bureau or elsewhere.

Yeah, except when the WAC tried it NOBODY CAME!!!!!!!!!!!!

The conference tournament is all about the money. They have tried it other places. The freaking coaches wanted it back in Vegas. It must be significantly better, or they wouldn't keep putting it back in Vegas.

The fact is they have tried it at different places. Las Vegas must make the most money and the schools must get more fans there (that is the only reason the coaches would go for it).

Phoenix makes absolutely zero sense. None. At all.

Re:Why it has to stay in Vegas

Posted by OLB - 2008/03/21 23:45

It seems that some within the MWC are thinking about moving the MWC tourny elsewhere.

In the Denver Post today Craig Thompson said the MWC would consider Denver as a possible site for the MWC Tourny after the current contract expires after the 2010 tourny.

http://www.denverpost.com/colleges/ci_8644779

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