
Europe?

Posted by gordito - 2008/04/01 11:14

Is this inside information?

This accounts for three scholarships. With the departure of Sam Burgess, Ben Murdock to graduation and Chris Collinworth to an LDS mission, BYU's staff has one more scholarship to give out for the fall. They haven't targeted the use of this grant-in-aid, but are keeping options open.

There is a very good chance Trent Plaisted will decide to turn professional, likely for play in Europe, and that will make two scholarships open for fall. Nick Martineau, who is also going on a mission, was not on scholarship this past year. Matt Pinegar, who redshirted, is on the roster but did not use a scholarship this past year after returning from a mission.

<http://deseretnews.com/blogs/1,5322,19,00.html>

Re:Europe?

Posted by PP3 - 2008/04/01 12:58

I don't know, I'm still of the opinion that another year of college would be quite helpful for Plaisted. Though maybe that is just wishful thinking, maybe he will always be what he is now, a big man with more potential than accomplishments.

Re:Europe?

Posted by Gunk - 2008/04/01 13:20

Bah...honestly, I think we'll be just fine without him, if not better. Miles is just as good on defense and he'll get better on offense during the off season.

As good as Trent is, he's inconsistent. We'll get more consistent play from Miles, which Rose can game plan around. Part of our problem last season was we planned too much around Trent. One, two or three bad games is understandable, but we rarely got two good games in a row from Trent. When the offense revolves so heavily around one player that may or may not show up for a game that must be nerve racking to a coach.

Sure, we may not get 20+ points and 12+ boards out of Miles, but I'll take a solid 10 points and 6 boards that I know I am going to get every game over "potential" any day because I can plan for it and work with it.

Re:Europe?

Posted by PP3 - 2008/04/01 14:16

Yes, what I meant when I referred to wishful thinking was thinking that perhaps another year in the BYU program would help Plaisted to (finally) realize more of his potential, and become a better pro prospect.

Re:Europe?

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/04/01 18:13

Gunk wrote:

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Sure, we may not get 20+ points and 12+ boards out of Miles, but I'll take a solid 10 points and 6 boards that I know I am going to get every game over "potential" any day because I can plan for it and work with it.

No way. From Plaisted to Miles is a *HUGE* drop off at this point and I think will continue to be so. Trust me, we'll miss him come next year if he heads out.

Re:Europe?

Posted by njcoug - 2008/04/01 18:56

PP3 wrote:

Yes, what I meant when I referred to wishful thinking was thinking that perhaps another year in the BYU program would help Plaisted to (finally) realize more of his potential, and become a better pro prospect.

This is wishful thinking. Three years and a redshirt year haven't helped him. Has he improved at all since he was a freshman? He still has zero post moves. He doesn't have a jump shot. He's not an "inside defensive presence." He's gotten to be a little bit of a better passer and doesn't pick up as many dumb fouls. Other than passing and not picking up stupid fouls Plaisted hasn't improved since his freshman year. I doubt another year would do him any good here with how little improvement he has demonstrated with four years in the program.

Re:Europe?

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/04/01 22:05

njcoug wrote:

PP3 wrote:

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Agree. Plaisted isn't much better now than he was as a freshman.

Re:Europe?

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/04/01 22:07

timmyboy wrote:

Gunk wrote:

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No way. From Plaisted to Miles is a *HUGE* drop off at this point and I think will continue to be so. Trust me, we'll miss him come next year if he heads out.

Sorry, Timmyboy, but I don't know you so I don't trust you. :cheer: Plaisted isn't good enough for me to lose sleep over him leaving, if that is what happens.

Re:Europe?

Posted by detmer4prez - 2008/04/02 00:57

Europe?... Really? Have you ever heard of a player leave early so he could play in Europe? You gotta be kidding me.

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Re:Europe?

Posted by domanater - 2008/04/02 08:00

detmer4prez wrote:

Europe?... Really? Have you ever heard of a player leave early so he could play in Europe? You gotta be kidding me.

If he doesn't see the value of staying another year and taking this team deep in the NCAAs, then he's an idiot.

Unless you're an 18-19 yr old phenom, very few things increase your value like winning.

Look at guys like JJ Redick, Adam Morrison, even Haffa etc. that stayed and made a lot of money because of their great performances in their last few games in college. Trent's stock is low right now, it's a terrible time to cash it in.

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Re:Europe?

Posted by gordito - 2008/04/02 08:26

To potentially leave early to possibly go to Europe to play ball has to say a lot about how much you value your current situation. Specifically, it seems like he is giving up hope that the BYU coaching staff can help him improve and possibly make it in the NBA. Given his lack of progress, that might be accurate.

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Re:Europe?

Posted by njcoug - 2008/04/02 09:10

from DH's blog There is a very good chance Trent Plaisted will decide to turn professional, likely for play in Europe, and that will make two scholarships open for fall.

<http://deseretnews.com/blogs/1,5322,19,00.html>

As has been noted he graduates this April. So unless he wants to go through the rigors of a graduate degree, he would not be eligible next year. No doubt you can make some money over in Europe playing b-ball (especially with the situation of the dollar) but once over in Europe he will be branded a European player and won't ever come to the NBA.

IMO his stumbling blocks to becoming a better player are mental. At the beginning of the year he was hustling and using his right hand to finish. By mid season it seemed like he had lost confidence and was hustling less. At the end of the season he had stopped all together using his right hand and every time went to that ugly "hook shot."

Well if he does go best of luck.

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Re:Europe?

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/04/02 09:18

njcoug wrote:

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As has been noted he graduates this April. So unless he wants to go through the rigors of a graduate degree, he would not be eligible next year.

Not necessarily. Fulfilling the requirements to graduate in your major does not mean you are forced to graduate. Trent has the legitimate option of adding a minor or a second major, and he could even just take more classes. While most people want to get out as soon as possible, staying around a year to polish your education is not out of the ordinary.

And, FWIW, take note that this tidbit about Europe is coming from DH's blog, so there is a very real chance that the comment about leaving for Europe was more an editorializing comment on Trent's prospect than it was a revelation of Trent's plan for the future.

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Re:Europe?

Posted by Hawkeye-Coug - 2008/04/02 11:46

Plaisted reminds of Russ Larsen - he did not significantly improve after his freshman year. It seems to be the curse of many BYU basketball players, such as Bigelow, Jared Jensen, and Matt Montague.

However, having said that, anyone who suggests Miles is a decent replacement for Plaisted is delusional or a Timpview homer (providing there is a difference). Miles is perhaps the only other person on campus who shoots worse than Plaisted. Furthermore, he doesn't have the athletic ability of Trent. I highly doubt that Miles will ever average over 6 points/game. Those are just the facts. Trent is a really good college player. However, he doesn't seem to be blessed in the touch department. If he had Raffa's shooting ability he would be an NBA player. I hope he develops it for his sake.

If Trent can find a good situation in Europe, he would be wise to take it as athleticism is usually the first thing to go, and that is his natural advantage. However, I think the best deal he may find next year is free tuition, with a chance to make a little more.

Go Cougs!!!!!!

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Re:Europe?

Posted by Gunk - 2008/04/02 15:27

Hawkeye-Coug wrote:

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When you say shooting...are you saying free throws? Yes, Miles numbers this year aren't that great in comparison to Trent's, but let's take a closer look at Mile's numbers and while we do keep in mind he actually served and completed a two year mission.

Coming off a two year break from basketball Miles averaged 2.5 points/game this year. Pathetic, I know, but he only averaged 8.6 minutes a game. During Miles freshman year when he was in "better" shape he averaged 2.7 points/game and played over 13 minutes a game. So, he's averaging nearly the same points as his freshman year but playing 5 min less. I would say even with the two year break he's more productive.

Trent this year averaged 15.6 points/game at 27.4 minutes/game, that's over 3 times as much playing time than Miles. Say Trent leaves, Miles doesn't improve during the off season, Miles continues the same productivity next year and Miles sees roughly the same amount of time Trent saw (24 min/game), Miles would average 7.5 points/game. That's more than your 6 point projection and assumes Miles doesn't improve, which he likely will. In fact, the numbers suggest Miles

improved even after not playing basketball for two years. Maybe Trent should try that.

In regards to free throws, yes Miles is worse than Trent. However, during his freshman year Miles shot 70 percent from the line. A percentage Trent has never even come close to in the last 3 years. Give Miles the off season to practice and work out mechanics and he'll shoot better than Trent from the line.

Sure, Miles shot 43 percent from the line and from the field this year, but that will improve and he's only 10 percentage points below Trent (54 percent from the field and line), meaning Trent only makes a tenth more shots than Miles. Miles shot 36 percent his freshman year, so Miles increased his percentage by nearly 10 percentage points in his first season after his mission. I think you are underestimating Miles as indicated by the numbers. He'll be around 10 points a game next year, especially if Trent leaves.

Re:Europe?

Posted by Gunk - 2008/04/02 15:29

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Re:Europe?

Posted by Hipsdamann - 2008/04/02 20:56

I would much sooner lose Plaisted than lose Lee Cumard. I think Plaisted is a good player, but as said before, if he goes it is basically saying that he doesn't really respect the program at BYU. Whatever, I am looking forward to Football season.

Go Cougs

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Re:Europe?

Posted by splitbamboo - 2008/04/03 16:43

njcoug wrote:

from DH's blog There is a very good chance Trent Plaisted will decide to turn professional, likely for play in Europe, and that will make two scholarships open for fall.

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As has been noted he graduates this April. So unless he wants to go through the rigors of a graduate degree, he would not be eligible next year. No doubt you can make some money over in Europe playing b-ball (especially with the situation of the dollar) but once over in Europe he will be branded a European player and won't ever come to the NBA.

IMO his stumbling blocks to becoming a better player are mental. At the beginning of the year he was hustling and using his right hand to finish. By mid season it seemed like he had lost confidence and was hustling less. At the end of the season he had stopped all together using his right hand and every time went to that ugly "hook shot."

Well if he does go best of luck.

Has he graduated? If not, he does not have the start a graduate degree, does he? Can't he pick up a(nother) minor or take some other undergraduate classes?

=====

Re:Europe?

Posted by Gunk - 2008/04/03 21:38

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He doesn't have to graduate. Just grab another class or two and he's fine. You can pretty much stay in college taking classes all you want. Why do you think there are so many 30 year old graduates at BYU.

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Re:Europe?

Posted by jbar1221 - 2008/04/04 01:45

detmer4prez wrote:

Europe?... Really? Have you ever heard of a player leave early so he could play in Europe? You gotta be kidding me.

Heres a story from 2004 that talks about a few players who left early (some mid season) to play in Europe.

http://sports.espn.go.com/ncb/columns/story?columnist=katz_andy&id=1740139

Re:Europe?

Posted by Yndian - 2008/04/04 07:23

jbar1221 wrote:

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Heres a story from 2004 that talks about a few players who left early (some mid season) to play in Europe.

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Those cases are a bit different, though, because the players involved were native Europeans with offers to return to their home countries.

Re:Europe?

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/04/04 10:06

Trent isn't going to go play in Europe. If he doesn't have some teams tell him they will take him in the first round he will stay another year. If they do tell him they will take him then he will get drafted.

As for any comparison between Trent and Miles that is just stupid. The two players are in completely different classes. Its like saying Burgess would be able to fill in for Cumnard. If Trent is gone next year teams will game plan around Lee and that will reduce his effectiveness. With no other great players (excepte Tavernari from time to time) BYU will be a weaker team next year. I understand why people get frustrated with Trent but don't let that frustration cloud your vision as to how important he is to the team.

Re:Europe?

Posted by LaytonCougar - 2008/04/04 11:36

lovelldog wrote:

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How important was he in the big games when we really needed him to step up???

Re:Europe?

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/04/04 18:01

LaytonCougar wrote:

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How important was he in the big games when we really needed him to step up???

Like UNM at UNM, or Louisville, or Mich St, or UNC? Can you pick some games that he didn't play well in? Sure so can I but he is still either the best or second best player on the team and he is certainly the most game planned around player on the team. Just because you get frustrated with a couple of games where he didn't play well doesn't mean he isn't important to the team. Every player on BYU's team has not showed up for a couple of important games this last year. Same with every other player in the nation no matter how good they are. If you are looking for consistency Trent and Cummard have been compared twice in previous posts comparing their standard deviation on scoring and it is almost identical. The only difference is that their are people on this board who get all emotional about it and just fail to see the facts.

Re:Europe?

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/04/06 15:41

Playing well in college doesn't necessarily equal being capable of NBA play. That's the real disconnect here.

Trent is soft and offensively limited but athletic enough to make up for it. That's not good enough in the NBA. He needs to either find a place to play and get paid (NBDL or Europe) or bust his tail this summer and work on his glasswork and offensive repertoire, and hope that a sweet sixteen run next season with the most loaded BYU hoops team since 87-88 improves his resume' and makes him a lottery pick (it's conceivable).

The issue there is that many of us aren't holding our collective breath- - - what makes us think that he'll improve after three seasons of borderline-moderate improvement?

If he can make serious improvement on the basketball side (seriously how often would he get his shot blocked if he had a 10 foot jumper off the glass?) he's bound to cash in next season.

Keep in mind the media and scouts aren't stupid. There's a reason that Lee Cummard and JR Giddens got all the accolades. Until teams like UNLV, Boise State, and SDSU are deathly afraid to guard him with 6'7" white guys, Trent is not going to improve his stock.

I don't know Trent but I wish I was close enough to him to simply ask, "Do you like basketball? Do you love basketball?" I'm not sure the answer would be yes. I know what Lee and JT would say. Just as I know what Danny Ainge, Michael Smith, Travis Hansen, and even Haffa would say.

Re:Europe?

Posted by scott715 - 2008/04/06 16:00

I saw a couple of mock drafts 2009 and had him going late first round and early in the 2nd round. Here is one link <http://www.draftexpress.com/nba-mock-draft/2009>

Re:Europe?

Posted by CougarPeasant - 2008/04/06 22:02

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Good points. He's a native son so we all want to see him succeed.

Re:Europe?

Posted by Gunk - 2008/04/08 11:53

craigoscarson wrote:

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You forgot to mention not only were they not afraid to guard Trent with 6'7" and 6'8" guys, but they successfully guarded Trent. UNLV successfully shut down Trent in 2 out 3 games. Boise's 6'8" center out rebounded Trent and I think even out scored him. SDSU's White owned Trent, intimidated Trent and swatted his shots.

Trent wouldn't last in the DLNBA, where he's headed if actually gets drafted this year. Not a chance. He might make it on some scrubby Euro team.

If Hansbrough, the NCAA POY, is projected to be a solid NBA bench player, what's Trent projected to be. Trent didn't even get Honorable Mention by the AP, Lee did.

Re:Europe?

Posted by WACoug - 2008/04/08 22:17

ESPN has Trent on the "one foot in the door" list of players who are leaning toward declaring but haven't officially yet. I think it a mistake if he goes, but with today's ridiculous, inflated, guaranteed NBA contracts you can make pretty dang good money without having to do a whole heck of a lot. I agree with Oscarson in that I don't think he is a true baller and therefore won't improve all that much. His stock may never be higher because right now his athleticism and supposed "up side" might overshadow his skill set as a player with little media exposure.

http://sports.espn.go.com/nba/draft2008/columns/story?columnist=ford_chad&page=InOut