

---

## I hate \"The Deseret Duel\", but go softball!

Posted by MountainMD - 2008/05/03 07:04

---

My real post disappeared so I have had to re-enter a shortened version....

Yesterday, BYU softball put the good guys up 31-27 (32.5 points needed to clinch the Deseret Duel.)

I have hated the Duel since its inception, but I always feel a need for BYU to beat Utah in any competition, so I have followed the scores...

1.5 more points are available in SLC today for the softball team. A win, and BYU wins the duel. However, a loss would mean depending on our disappointing baseball team to beat Utah. Without another Cougar softball or baseball win, the Utes would claim athletic dominance with a duel victory! :blink:

How they could claim an athletically superior year when the most important factors showed such Cougar dominance is a marketing masterpiece and travesty at the same time. You have to give credit to Deseret Duel's brain trust. They must have given just enough points to games like hopscotch for us to have a "could go either way race" at the end.

Go softball (and baseball)! I love beating Utah and don't want to lose...even this stupid mythical race...  
:ohmy:

---

## I like \"The Deseret Duel\"

Posted by Mars - 2008/05/04 02:03

---

I actually like the Deseret Duel. I don't agree with some things about it, like women's basketball counting equal to men's, but anything that brings anything to the rivalry is a good thing. It's kind of like the Directors Cup but only for the two of us.

We lost though, in overtime.

---

---

## Re:I dislike the Deseret First Duel!

Posted by MountainMD - 2008/05/04 08:59

---

Mars wrote:

I actually like the Deseret Duel. I don't agree with some things about it, like women's basketball counting equal to men's, but anything that brings anything to the rivalry is a good thing. It's kind of like the Directors Cup but only for the two of us.

We lost though, in overtime.

I agree that spotlighting a good rivalry is nice. I suspect that is the reason why I have ended up following the scores and for the first time ever, I am feeling some of the "bad BYU weekend" gloom over a women's softball loss to the University of Utah.

I don't suspect that it is just me who struggles all week after the football team falls short, is it? Have other Cougar fans always taken tumbling and softball losses so hardly while I lived in ignorant bliss? I can survive the pressure of possible letdown for a few weeks in the fall, and I survive the days after a basketball loss, but having to feel pain over a softball loss or gymnastics spanking is going to start adding up!

Part of me would say that as long as BYU beats the Utes in football and basketball, I can live with the rest. However, this "duel" seems to call for an even higher realm of superiority, so I can't blindly ignore it or the "other sports" losses as I had been able to do before.

I want to know why spanking the Utes in rugby can't count; do they play lacrosse? - another sport BYU players seem to do well with. Aren't the ice cats and men's soccer teams able to pound u of u representatives regularly? Why don't they count? Sure, these aren't sanctioned as NCAA sports at BYU, but they are Cougar athletes. I want to support these less known athletic teams, just like I think women's tennis/ soccer/ gymnastics/ volleyball/ etc. deserve support - (I also

enjoy any chance to see the good guys pummel the Utes.)

If you really want to stick with NCAA sports, then where are the points for golf? Even more significantly, where are all the cross country and track teams in the equation? With all of the men's and women's running teams, BYU maintains a chokehold on the Utes much stronger than their admittedly impressive tumbling team does against ours.

Who here hasn't felt like this has been a great year of dominance over the utes? They lost in football; got swept in basketball; were pummeled in rugby; don't belong on the same track or cross country course with our All Americans. Overall, this has been a great, BYU dominant year! However, the Deseret First Duel is too close to call? Agggghh!!! :S

If a "Deseret First Duel" loss will push Homloe to upgrade our "olympic sports" teams to pummel the Utes in everything, I guess that I won't really complain - I do like beating rivals. However, I'd probably rather see resources poured into efforts to win a BCS championship, or a Final 4 run in the NCAA's.

Maybe this is a BYU sacrifice to get the utes to look beyond the mark and devote their resources to these "other" sports as we create a super power with the sports that most are going to see. An awesome plan indeed, but wouldn't real utes be foolish enough to convince themselves that they could be equal with "other sport" dominance anyway?

Do we have to take the chance that their delusions could be supported by a marketing stunt? I'd be happier if the Duel included everything (non-NCAA sports)/ expanded competition teams where there may not be head to head matches (ie. who places higher in CC & track or at least make the utes show up for a dual/duel meet in those sports) so we can pick up the free points we deserve.

Meanwhile, if the baseball team can't come through, I'm going to be pretty mad at the thought of having lost an "overriding" annual contest to the reds. It is already closer than the year really was. It has already proven to be a shaky personal investment for me... I'll sign off, but I sure think that I hate the Duel (at least in its current form!)

---

## I like the Deseret First Duel!

Posted by Mars - 2008/05/04 18:59

MountainMD wrote:

I want to know why spanking the Utes in rugby can't count; do they play lacrosse? - another sport BYU players seem to do well with. Aren't the ice cats and men's soccer teams able to pound u of u representatives regularly? Why don't they count? Sure, these aren't sanctioned as NCAA sports at BYU, but they are Cougar athletes... If you really want to stick with NCAA sports, then where are the points for golf? Even more significantly, where are all the cross country and track teams in the equation? With all of the men's and women's running teams, BYU maintains a chokehold on the Utes much stronger than their admittedly impressive tumbling team does against ours.

<http://www.dfcu.com/duel/images/schedule.gif>

<http://www.dfcu.com/duel/schedule.asp>

It all comes down to the last 3 baseball games (uhh!)

Rugby, Lacrosse, Men's Soccer, Hockey, and Racquetball are our club sports, like Utah has Skiing; That's why they don't count.

I would guess that Golf, Cross Country, and Track & Field don't count because they don't have head-to-head matches, just tournaments.

---

## Re:I like the Deseret First Duel!

Posted by ammoncougar1 - 2008/05/04 21:42

Did I read correctly that the softball teams split this weekend so the standings are 31 for BYU and 28.5 for Utah? That being said, is the baseball team that bad that they can't win on of three from them?

Go Cougs!!!

---

## Re:I like the Deseret First Duel!

---

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/04 23:55

---

The "duel" should include all "club" sports where both schools field a team in the same league such as rugby. Sure rugby is not an NCAA managed sport, but BYU and yewtah both field competitive teams and it has a true national championship tournament.

Even though there are about 400 teams in three divisions of collegiate rugby it is managed by USA Rugby, not the NCAA. There are considerably fewer NCAA mens volleyball teams, yet that sport is counted in the "duel".

Whoever set up the "duel" should have done their homework.

---

## Re:I like the Deseret First Duel!

Posted by detmer4prez - 2008/05/05 01:22

---

Conosticator wrote:

Even though there are about 400 teams in three divisions of collegiate rugby it is managed by USA Rugby, not the NCAA. There are considerably fewer NCAA mens volleyball teams, yet that sport is counted in the "duel".

Whoever set up the "duel" should have done their homework.

I don't think they count mens volleyball in the duel. Utah doesn't even have a team.

---

## Re:I like the Deseret First Duel!

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/05 09:52

---

detmer4prez wrote:

Conosticator wrote:

Even though there are about 400 teams in three divisions of collegiate rugby it is managed by USA Rugby, not the NCAA. There are considerably fewer NCAA mens volleyball teams, yet that sport is counted in the "duel".

Whoever set up the "duel" should have done their homework.

I don't think they count mens volleyball in the duel. Utah doesn't even have a team.

Sorry, as Hillary Clinton might say, I must have mis-remembered. That happens when one is ducking virtual sniper fire. ;)

---

## Re:I like the Deseret First Duel!

Posted by MountainMD - 2008/05/15 21:24

---

Looks like the baseball team lost 5-3 to Utah today. 2 more chances to pick up 1 win... I dislike the Deseret duel a little more....

---