

---

## Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 13:32

---

Now, before I say anything, let me preface my remarks by saying I'm the biggest Bronco fan there is. He could openly recruit every missionary in the field if he wanted, and I wouldn't care. Having said that, I need to ask the question, did Bronco screw up with the whole Riley Nelson thing? Let me explain why I am asking the question.

Last night on the drive home from work, as well as this morning on the way to work, I was listening to 1280 and 1320 (whichever one wasn't playing commercials). Usually, their programs will have one guy take one side of an argument and the other guy play the other side. However, regarding the Riley Nelson issue, everyone was absolutely tearing Bronco to shreds. David Locke (1320) was particularly vitriolic, calling Bronco "dirty" and continually discussing how BYU portrays itself as better than everyone else, but really they play in the mud or "gutter" (as he put it) just like the other programs.

The main topic that the radio personalities were taking issue with was the fact that Bronco has said that BYU will not initiate the recruiting of missionaries in the field. According to every newspaper story and every radio interview of Nelson's father, that is what happened. Coaches Doman and Tidwell were talking to Nelson' high school coach and they told the coach that they were interested in Nelson. The coach talked with Nelson's family, the family talked to BYU, etc. However you want to spin it, the fact that BYU coaches told Nelson's high school coach that they were still interested in the kid equates to recruiting the player. That would be the one and only reason to say that.

Thus we have Bronco Mendenhall seeming to be two faced. Now, don't get me wrong. I love that Bronco did this. I think he should openly (and slyly) recruit every quality player who is on a mission. It's legal and it's smart. The problem I am having is that I have no counter-argument to David Locke, Kevin Graham, etc., etc., who say that Bronco is disingenuous. Also, I haven't heard a single caller call into either radio program that didn't sound ignorant. Everyone tries to spout off about how everyone recruits missionaries (which isn't being debated and which isn't the issue), or how BYU didn't start this recruiting process (which by all accounts is factually incorrect). So, did BYU simply screw up and do something that Bronco said they wouldn't do? I'm asking for ammunition. I'm asking for some kind of explanation that I can use in my discussions with the yewtards in my office and that maybe someone can bring up on talk radio that won't get shot down because it isn't related to the argument at hand, or that isn't backed up by a legitimate source. Is there anyone out there on Cougarblue that can help?

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by cougarfan87 - 2008/05/28 13:39

---

I posted this on another thread, but I believe it is on topic

Hengst wrote:

Now if BYU was sending Nelson letter on his mission, or calling him, that would be different, but I haven't read anything that would lead me to believe that.

I don't have any outside sources on this or anything, this is just the scenario that makes sense based on the conglomeration of news articles that I read.

My reading of the articles confirms your timeline.

You bring up an interesting point about whether BYU directly contacted Riley Nelson or his family made the pitch. Is there really a significant difference between the parents contacting a missionary or BYU directly contacting a missionary? In my mind there is a difference between a family member letting a recruit know that they can transfer to another school and have a scholarship if they want it, and the school actively writing the student athlete directly. The family acts as a buffer and thus, filters the communication in such a way that a person may not feel as much pressure as they might if in direct communication with the school.

What does the timeline say about the events?

First, I would add that after Riley's parents learned of BYU's interest, they (not BYU) contacted the mission president to see if they could pass the information on to Riley.

Then, the articles contradict each other.

In one, Rileys father says he passed on the info that Riley needed to make the decision. "We gave Riley what information he felt like he needed and he contacted us a week or two afterward..." .

---

The other article paraphrases the father and says as follows:

However, Keith Nelson said that "casual conversations" between BYU receivers coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High coach Mike Favero eventually led to a discussions via e-mail between Riley Nelson and BYU coaches, "and the rest is history."

Keith Nelson said when news reached him that BYU had some interest, he requested permission from his son's mission president to address the issue.

The second article seems to blur the events and mentions getting the mission president's permission as an after thought. My guess is that the writer wasn't really sure who made the contact with Riley, and "filled in the blanks." The direct quote, where Riley's father said he provided the information, seems more credible as it is a direct quote, and consistent with other stories, such as Brandon Bradley's, where the family lets the athlete know they can go to BYU if they want.

In sum, Bronco is correct in saying BYU doesn't recruit missionaries. But he is not against allowing family members to do the recruiting for him a la Bradley.;

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by McGregor - 2008/05/28 13:44

I wouldn't put too much stock into what they say. First of all, they are paid by riling people up, not by being intelligent.

Second, I don't think Bronco & Co. did anything against their stated principles. Keep in mind that Coach Higgins recruits the Cache Valley. Specifically, there is a QB at Logan High (Nelson's HS) that the Cougars are interested in. Accordingly, Coach Higgins keeps in regular contact with him.

I'm just throwing this out there, but it's entirely possible that Logan's Coach knew that Riley did not want to return to USU, understood through conversations regarding Logan's current QB recruit that BYU was interested in shoring up that area, and simply asked Higgins if BYU was interested in Nelson. Then Higgins asked Mendenhall and Doman, who of course, answered that they were indeed interested.

The radio personalities are painting this to have played out by BYU convening a committee where Riley Nelson was selected as Max's heir, and then put into motion a plan to steal him from USU. I don't think it happened that way.

Take it for what it's worth.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 13:46

cougarfan87 wrote:

I posted this on another thread, but I believe it is on topic

Hengst wrote:

Now if BYU was sending Nelson letter on his mission, or calling him, that would be different, but I haven't read anything that would lead me to believe that.

I don't have any outside sources on this or anything, this is just the scenario that makes sense based on the conglomeration of news articles that I read.

My reading of the articles confirms your timeline.

You bring up an interesting point about whether BYU directly contacted Riley Nelson or his family made the pitch. Is there really a significant difference between the parents contacting a missionary or BYU directly contacting a missionary?

In my mind there is a difference between a family member letting a recruit know that they can transfer to another school and have a scholarship if they want it, and the school actively writing the student athlete directly. The family acts as a buffer and thus, filters the communication in such a way that a person may not feel as much pressure as they might if in direct communication with the school.

What does the timeline say about the events?

---

First, I would add that after Riley's parents learned of BYU's interest, they (not BYU) contacted the mission president to see if they could pass the information on to Riley.

Then, the articles contradict each other.

In one, Rileys father says he passed on the info that Riley needed to make the decision. "We gave Riley what information he felt like he needed and he contacted us a week or two afterward..." .

The other article paraphrases the father and says as follows:

However, Keith Nelson said that "casual conversations" between BYU receivers coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High coach Mike Favero eventually led to a discussions via e-mail between Riley Nelson and BYU coaches, "and the rest is history."

Keith Nelson said when news reached him that BYU had some interest, he requested permission from his son's mission president to address the issue.

The second article seems to blur the events and mentions getting the mission president's permission as an after thought. My guess is that the writer wasn't really sure who made the contact with Riley, and "filled in the blanks." The direct quote, where Riley's father said he provided the information, seems more credible as it is a direct quote, and consistent with other stories, such as Brandon Bradley's, where the family lets the athlete know they can go to BYU if they want.

In sum, Bronco is correct in saying BYU doesn't recruit missionaries. But he is not against allowing family members to do the recruiting for him a la Bradley.;

First, I have found multiple sources siting email communications between Riley and BYU. I can provide them if you'd like. However, I don't think that is the issue. Is your argument that if BYU doesn't contact the missionary personally that that isn't recruiting the player? Are you saying that if BYU went to every high school coach of every quality football player currently serving a mission, and told them they wanted to offer the kid a scholarship, and then went to the kid's parents and told them the same thing, you wouldn't consider that recruiting? Don't take this the wrong way, but that just sounds like a fan trying to justify what their team is doing. Maybe I am misunderstanding you?

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/05/28 13:51

---

No.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 13:57

---

McGregor wrote:

I wouldn't put too much stock into what they say. First of all, they are paid by riling people up, not by being intelligent.

Second, I don't think Bronco & Co. did anything against their stated principles. Keep in mind that Coach Higgins recruits the Cache Valley. Specifically, there is a QB at Logan High (Nelson's HS) that the Cougars are interested in. Accordingly, Coach Higgins keeps in regular contact with him.

I'm just throwing this out there, but it's entirely possible that Logan's Coach knew that Riley did not want to return to USU, understood through conversations regarding Logan's current QB recruit that BYU was interested in shoring up that area, and simply asked Higgins if BYU was interested in Nelson. Then Higgins asked Mendenhall and Doman, who of course, answered that they were indeed interested.

The radio personalities are painting this to have played out by BYU convening a committee where Riley Nelson was selected as Max's heir, and then put into motion a plan to steal him from USU. I don't think it happened that way.

Take it for what it's worth.

Thanks, I think it's worth a lot. It would explain a lot. I'm just bothered by the fact that there isn't anything to back it up with when speaking to the bozo radio guys. They would simply say, "Yeah, but that's all conjecture. What we are saying

---

can be backed up by the facts." They drive me nuts.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 13:58

---

BYUtx wrote:  
No.

Hmmm . . . I'm usually a fan of your posts BYUtx, and I usually find them quite insightful. But I'm stumped on this one. "No" to what?

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/05/28 14:02

---

mraven wrote:  
BYUtx wrote:  
No.

Hmmm . . . I'm usually a fan of your posts BYUtx, and I usually find them quite insightful. But I'm stumped on this one. "No" to what?

"No" is the answer to the question posed in the thread title, not to your post. Sorry for the confusion.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 14:06

---

BYUtx wrote:  
mraven wrote:  
BYUtx wrote:  
No.

Hmmm . . . I'm usually a fan of your posts BYUtx, and I usually find them quite insightful. But I'm stumped on this one. "No" to what?

"No" is the answer to the question posed in the thread title, not to your post. Sorry for the confusion.

OK. Fair enough. Let me rephrase the question then. Did Bronco act against his stated principles? If not, please justify. ;)

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by McGregor - 2008/05/28 14:19

---

mraven wrote:

Thanks, I think it's worth a lot. It would explain a lot. I'm just bothered by the fact that there isn't anything to back it up with when speaking to the bozo radio guys. They would simply say, "Yeah, but that's all conjecture. What we are saying can be backed up by the facts." They drive me nuts.

Well, if it helps, take comfort knowing that in a short time, you will look informed with your belief, and they will look like idiots.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mormonrasta - 2008/05/28 14:21

---

It has been a couple of years and I may have the details screwed up, but when I heard Bronco speak about the subject it was my understanding:

1. BYU does not aggressively recruit missionaries.
2. However, BYU does send letters to all LDS missionary football players at their 18 month mark. The nature of these letters are spiritual and have nothing to do with football. The purpose of these letters is to let the missionary know that BYU knows that they are a missionary and a football player.
3. BYU will happily respond to inquiries about football from missionaries regardless of the source, but will not initiate anything football related to missionaries.

Again, I could be wrong about the details, but that's what I understood from Bronco's talk about the subject following the 2005 season.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by cougarfan87 - 2008/05/28 14:24

---

mraven wrote:

First, I have found multiple sources citing email communications between Riley and BYU. I can provide them if you'd like. However, I don't think that is the issue. Is your argument that if BYU doesn't contact the missionary personally that that isn't recruiting the player? Are you saying that if BYU went to every high school coach of every quality football player currently serving a mission, and told them they wanted to offer the kid a scholarship, and then went to the kid's parents and told them the same thing, you wouldn't consider that recruiting? Don't take this the wrong way, but that just sounds like a fan trying to justify what their team is doing. Maybe I am misunderstanding you?

Actually I would like to see the sources. I have a direct quote where the father says he (not BYU) provided the information to his son via email and his son made the decision. The other sources either skip who spoke with Riley altogether or paraphrase to say BYU emailed Riley. I'll take a direct quote over paraphrasing any day.

There is a big difference between the family showing interest in a University and being able to decide if they want to let their son know he can play at BYU, and contacting the kid directly. As an analogy, a missionary would much rather get a letter from a girl, then to have his father say "so-and-so says hi."

You can tell that the way BYU worked through the family with Bradley, and I suspect with Nelson, is not recruiting because NO recruiter would leave the communication of an offer entirely up to the family. The way BYU has worked through the family gives the family control over the "interruption" an offer might cause a missionary. You might not think that is significant difference, but I do. The kid has NO pressure to respond to BYU where he might be getting all kinds of letters and pressure from another school.

In sum, if BYU directly contacted this kid, even with the blessing of the family, and the family initiating contact with the coaches, then Bronco IS recruiting when he said he wouldn't do that to missionaries. How would that be any different than a father sending in highlight tapes of his kid and then BYU coaches contacting the kid?

In my mind it is not the same thing where the family does the contacting of the kid since the family has control over the communication. But, reasonable minds can differ.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by WinnemuccaCougar - 2008/05/28 14:29

---

Sorry I'm late in on the conversation, but I just wanted to ask a question. Aren't these the same sports radio commentators that said we would never be anything again (they said this during the last few Croton years) because we

---

have an Honor Code that we ask the players and the school to follow. I remeber on 1280 Un-named sports commentator saying that (paraphrasing) we should only hold the LDS kids to those standards and leave the others alone unless they break the law or we will never be a powerful team again.

I know that sports radio is fun to listen to, and I've missed listening since i moved out of the state, but don't let their stupidity get to you. Bronco is a man of his word and he holds the other coaches to that level also. If we knew the whole story you'd see that not Bronco or BYU initiated the conversations. As far as your yewtards just show them the last two football scores or a picture of Harlene or Unga and tell them to shove it. They have nothing to harrass you about because we're winning so they use this BS. Oh and you might want to point out that another school from Utah was trying to get him and didn't!!!!!!

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/05/28 14:30

Look what McGregor wrote.

Coach Higgins recruits the Cache Valley area and is in contact with the coaches up there all the time (Sky View, Logan, Mountain Crest). The Cougars are recruiting Logan's current QB. It makes sense that Favaro and Higgins are talking.

Not knowing what those conversations were about, we can't make any judgments. It could have easily started over Higgins asking Favaro how Riley was doing on his mission. It could have been Favaro saying that Nelson didn't want to go back to USU. One thing that is telling about how this went down is that as soon as Bronco heard that there might be interest he called Brent Guy and told him what he knew.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/05/28 14:33

If the reports are accurate, and I'm hoping to McGregor they're not, it really is unsettling. I couldn't help but think of this parable from 2 Samuel (Ch 12):

1 And the Lord sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.

2 The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds:

3 But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.

4 And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor mans lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.

5 And David

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/05/28 14:34

...

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/05/28 14:34

Server multiple posted. Sorry.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/28 14:37

---

mraven wrote:

cougarfan87 wrote:

I posted this on another thread, but I believe it is on topic

Hengst wrote:

Now if BYU was sending Nelson letter on his mission, or calling him, that would be different, but I haven't read anything that would lead me to believe that.

I don't have any outside sources on this or anything, this is just the scenario that makes sense based on the conglomeration of news articles that I read.

My reading of the articles confirms your timeline.

You bring up an interesting point about whether BYU directly contacted Riley Nelson or his family made the pitch. Is there really a significant difference between the parents contacting a missionary or BYU directly contacting a missionary?

In my mind there is a difference between a family member letting a recruit know that they can transfer to another school and have a scholarship if they want it, and the school actively writing the student athlete directly. The family acts as a buffer and thus, filters the communication in such a way that a person may not feel as much pressure as they might if in direct communication with the school.

What does the timeline say about the events?

First, I would add that after Riley's parents learned of BYU's interest, they (not BYU) contacted the mission president to see if they could pass the information on to Riley.

Then, the articles contradict each other.

In one, Rileys father says he passed on the info that Riley needed to make the decision. "We gave Riley what information he felt like he needed and he contacted us a week or two afterward..." .

The other article paraphrases the father and says as follows:

However, Keith Nelson said that "casual conversations" between BYU receivers coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High coach Mike Favero eventually led to a discussions via e-mail between Riley Nelson and BYU coaches, "and the rest is history."

Keith Nelson said when news reached him that BYU had some interest, he requested permission from his son's mission president to address the issue.

The second article seems to blur the events and mentions getting the mission president's permission as an after thought. My guess is that the writer wasn't really sure who made the contact with Riley, and "filled in the blanks." The direct quote, where Riley's father said he provided the information, seems more credible as it is a direct quote, and consistent with other stories, such as Brandon Bradley's, where the family lets the athlete know they can go to BYU if they want.

In sum, Bronco is correct in saying BYU doesn't recruit missionaries. But he is not against allowing family members to do the recruiting for him a la Bradley.;

First, I have found multiple sources siting email communications between Riley and BYU. I can provide them if you'd like. However, I don't think that is the issue. Is your argument that if BYU doesn't contact the missionary personally that that isn't recruiting the player? Are you saying that if BYU went to every high school coach of every quality football player currently serving a mission, and told them they wanted to offer the kid a scholarship, and then went to the kid's parents and told them the same thing, you wouldn't consider that recruiting? Don't take this the wrong way, but that just sounds like a fan trying to justify what their team is doing. Maybe I am misunderstanding you?

I think the concesus is that there are two stories going and the one that seems more credible is the one of the dad making the initial contact after finding out that BYU would be interested in his son's services. As for all your other sources, what are their sources? They probably rely on the same source and therefore all come to the same conclusion.

As for the recruiting part, it would be silly to propose that BYU could no longer talk to coaches if they have a non-byu player serving a mission or from discussing any non-byu missionaries with head coaches. If they want to recruit the player when they get off their mission do you propose that they should not ask pertanent questions of the players head coach until the missionary is back from his mission? I think it happened much as McGregor described.

---

I would also add that you have two examples of missionaries to pull from. Bradley and Te'o. In both cases BYU did not make the initial contact with the family. They were given an opportunity to express their interest and both resulted in BYU saying they would offer a scholarship to both players but they did not call or write the players on their missions to recruit them. In both cases they let the families decide how they wanted to handle the offer. In both cases the families decided to let the player know and let them decide at that time instead of waiting to break the news when they got off their missions. Nothing underhanded there that I can see. And what parent wouldn't want to break news like that to their son immediately?

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Cougy\_Monster - 2008/05/28 14:49

---

There are plenty of people who will make up and/or twist facts so they can satisfy their appetite for tearing down BYU.

I feel sorry for these people and I don't trust a word they say, ever.

I do, on the other hand, trust Bronco.

I welcome Riley to the team. The poor guy had to suffer through a season on arguably the worst team in organized sports. Winners hate to play for losers. It was a great move for him.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 15:07

---

cougarfan87 wrote:

mraven wrote:

First, I have found multiple sources citing email communications between Riley and BYU. I can provide them if you'd like. However, I don't think that is the issue. Is your argument that if BYU doesn't contact the missionary personally that that isn't recruiting the player? Are you saying that if BYU went to every high school coach of every quality football player currently serving a mission, and told them they wanted to offer the kid a scholarship, and then went to the kid's parents and told them the same thing, you wouldn't consider that recruiting? Don't take this the wrong way, but that just sounds like a fan trying to justify what their team is doing. Maybe I am misunderstanding you?

Actually I would like to see the sources. I have a direct quote where the father says he (not BYU) provided the information to his son via email and his son made the decision. The other sources either skip who spoke with Riley altogether or paraphrase to say BYU emailed Riley. I'll take a direct quote over paraphrasing any day.

The first source is Jay Drew from the SLTrib: "However, Keith Nelson said that "casual conversations" between BYU receivers coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High coach Mike Favero eventually led to a discussions via e-mail between Riley Nelson and BYU coaches, "and the rest is history.""

The second source is Michael C. Lewis from the SLTrib: "According to the player's father, discussion about transferring began during "casual conversations" between BYU assistant coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High School coach Mike Favero, for whom Nelson played. Favero then mentioned the Cougars' potential interest to the Nelson family, which eventually led to e-mail discussions between Nelson and BYU coaches."

There is a big difference between the family showing interest in a University and being able to decide if they want to let their son know he can play at BYU, and contacting the kid directly. As an analogy, a missionary would much rather get a letter from a girl, then to have his father say "so-and-so says hi."

You can tell that the way BYU worked through the family with Bradley, and I suspect with Nelson, is not recruiting because NO recruiter would leave the communication of an offer entirely up to the family. The way BYU has worked through the family gives the family control over the "interruption" an offer might cause a missionary. You might not think that is significant difference, but I do. The kid has NO pressure to respond to BYU where he might be getting all kinds of letters and pressure from another school.

---

In sum, if BYU directly contacted this kid, even with the blessing of the family, and the family initiating contact with the coaches, then Bronco IS recruiting when he said he wouldn't do that to missionaries. How would that be any different than a father sending in highlight tapes of his kid and then BYU coaches contacting the kid?

Frankly, I don't care if BYU contacts the player directly or not. That is irrelevant to the argument. The argument is, did BYU initiate recruiting to Nelson, whether it was through the coaches, through his family or to the player directly. If the answer is yes, then they went against their stated principles. If the answer is no, then they didn't. I'm looking for support to argue the "no" side of things.

In my mind it is not the same thing where the family does the contacting of the kid since the family has control over the communication. But, reasonable minds can differ.

Yes, reasonable minds can differ, and I hope I don't come across too negatively. I'm not attacking you or your position. I'm just looking for an angle to use in the argument. Peace.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by craigoscarsen - 2008/05/28 15:11

Cougy\_Monster wrote:

There are plenty of people who will make up and/or twist facts so they can satisfy their appetite for tearing down BYU.

I welcome Riley to the team. The poor guy had to suffer through a season on arguably the worst team in organized sports. Winners hate to play for losers. It was a great move for him.

He played for the Clippers? ;)

Honestly, this is much ado about nothing. Regardless of how Riley ended up at BYU it was within the rules of the NCAA.

You don't think Urban Meyer would contact missionaries if he wanted them?

Plus we're not talking about a all world no brainer recruit here. Riley might have a chance to compete for the QB position but he's not the second coming of John Elway either.

Are we actually supposed to feel bad for Utah State here?

I have no problem with cherry picking missionaries if they've had a change of heart while on a mission. Again, there are literally less than a dozen per year that BYU would have any interest in. This is not a big deal.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 15:11

WinnemuccaCougar wrote:

Sorry I'm late in on the conversation, but I just wanted to ask a question. Aren't these the same sports radio commentators that said we would never be anything again (they said this during the last few Croton years) because we have an Honor Code that we ask the players and the school to follow. I remeber on 1280 Un-named sports commentator saying that (paraphrasing) we should only hold the LDS kids to those standards and leave the others alone unless they break the law or we will never be a powerful team again.

I know that sports radio is fun to listen to, and I've missed listening since i moved out of the state, but don't let their stupidity get to you. Bronco is a man of his word and he holds the other coaches to that level also. If we knew the whole story you'd see that not Bronco or BYU initiated the conversations. As far as your yewtards just show them the last two football scores or a picture of Harlene or Unga and tell them to shove it. They have nothing to harrass you about because we're winning so they use this BS. Oh and you might want to point out that another school from Utah was trying to get him and didn't!!!!!!

I'm not arguing that the sports radio guys aren't idiots. I think they will do anything they can, including distorting or

---

misinterpreting the facts, to get under the skin of BYU fans because it increases listenership (if that's a word). I'm just disappointed that there isn't a current argument that can be used, and backed up, that refutes their garbage.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 15:13

---

stuckinbig10country wrote:  
Look what McGregor wrote.

Coach Higgins recruits the Cache Valley area and is in contact with the coaches up there all the time (Sky View, Logan, Mountain Crest). The Cougars are recruiting Logan's current QB. It makes sense that Favaro and Higgins are talking.

Not knowing what those conversations were about, we can't make any judgments. It could have easily started over Higgins asking Favaro how Riley was doing on his mission. It could have been Favaro saying that Nelson didn't want to go back to USU. One thing that is telling about how this went down is that as soon as Bronco heard that there might be interest he called Brent Guy and told him what he knew.

I don't doubt McGregor for a minute and I think the way he explains it is probably the way it went down. Unfortunately, there isn't anything to back it up with. I can't exactly call in to 1320 and say, "Hey Locke, McGregor says this is what happened, so there." Even though McGregor is probably right.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/05/28 15:14

---

It's not against the rules of the NCAA, how can there be a better argument?

Paint it in whatever light you want, missionaries are fair game after a year away from scholarship. Bronco knows that there's a balancing act to do there, but his job is to look out for BYU football.

Tell Locke that he should spend more time squawking about teams that do break the rules like USC and Kansas.

I think the perception is that BYU says that they never instigate contact with missionaries, but there's a lot more gray that exists there than not. Big deal, it happens... and it's not against the rules.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 15:19

---

imuakahuku wrote:

I think the concesus is that there are two stories going and the one that seems more credible is the one of the dad making the initial contact after finding out that BYU would be interested in his son's services.

I agree. The question is, how did the dad find out. He found out from the high school coach, who found out from BYU. Hence, the accusation that BYU is initiating recruiting to a serving missionary. How do you argue against that?

As for the recruiting part, it would be silly to propose that BYU could no longer talk to coaches if they have a non-byu player serving a mission or from discussing any non-byu missionaries with head coaches. If they want to recruit the player when they get off their mission do you propose that they should not ask pertanent questions of the players head coach until the missionary is back from his mission? I think it happened much as McGregor described.

I would also add that you have two examples of missionaries to pull from. Bradley and Te'o. In both cases BYU did not make the initial contact with the family. They were given an opportunity to express their interest and both resulted in BYU saying they would offer a scholarship to both players but they did not call or write the players on their missions to

---

recruit them. In both cases they let the families decide how they wanted to handle the offer. In both cases the families decided to let the player know and let them decide at that time instead of waiting to break the news when they got off their missions. Nothing underhanded there that I can see. And what parent wouldn't want to break news like that to their son immediately?

I agree with everything you said. In fact, I think that is a good argument, as long as BYU was really there to discuss other recruits and not Riley.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 15:24

craigoscarson wrote:

It's not against the rules of the NCAA, how can there be a better argument?

That's a great argument. It's just completely unrelated to the current topic. The issue is, did Bronco initiate recruiting to a serving missionary, which would go against his stated recruiting principles. If so, the talk radio jerks have a point. Currently, they are the only ones that can actually back up their arguments with quotes or some solid evidence. That's all I'm saying.

Having said that, I trust Bronco. But "I trust Bronco" won't go over well on the radio.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/05/28 15:27

Even if they went to Logan just to discuss Riley, it's not against the rules. Who are we, that we have the right to tell Bronco and his staff what and how to recruit as long as they're staying within NCAA rules?

Am I the only one that could care less how BYU and Riley Nielson got hooked up? No rules were broken.....

You don't seem to get the point, the talk radio guys are flipping this issue on it's side and pointing at an issue that has little or no bearing. Yes, we hold Bronco and his staff (BYU in general) to a higher standard, but your response should be "I don't care, it isn't against the rules. If you want to call Bronco a hypocrite then feel free, but I'm bucking with a guy that has led teams to consecutive 11-2 top 15 seasons and is on the verge of something bigger. If Riley Nielson wanted to return to Utah State, he could have just said no to BYU. If he wanted to go to Notre Dame, all he had to do was write a letter and hope they'd respond. Bottom line is this isn't against mission rules to ensure your future educational plans when you return and it's not against NCAA rules for schools to contact missionaries, military brats, younameit, after they've been off scholarship for a year."

Don't let the exacerbators make you think that this is complicated, it's not. It's well within the rules to contact potential student athletes on missions. Anything else is just noise. They're acting like someone threatened the kid at gunpoint. (I was in fact threatened at gunpoint on my mission, but I laughed when the guy said he was an "Eastern Orthodox Atheist" )

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by WACoug - 2008/05/28 15:35

mraven wrote:

craigoscarson wrote:

It's not against the rules of the NCAA, how can there be a better argument?

That's a great argument. It's just completely unrelated to the current topic. The issue is, did Bronco initiate recruiting to a serving missionary, which would go against his stated recruiting principles. If so, the talk radio jerks have a point. Currently, they are the only ones that can actually back up their arguments with quotes or some solid evidence. That's all I'm saying.

---

Having said that, I trust Bronco. But "I trust Bronco" won't go over well on the radio.

I am 100% confident that Bronco did not go against his stated principles. I think Bronco would leave the job before he would do that. So what this leads me to believe is that there is some misunderstanding in what Bronco's stated principles are and what others took from Bronco's stated principles. If what Bronco meant by "BYU will not recruit serving missionaries" is that BYU would not initiate recruiting conversations with serving missionaries then it sounds like there is no problem. If people understood that Bronco would absolutely not discuss football with a serving missionary, then they probably misunderstood. To me, casually commenting to Nelson's HS coach while recruiting another player that BYU would be interested in having Nelson transfer after his mission is not initiating a recruiting conversation with a serving missionary, not if word somehow gets back to his family, and from there to Nelson who requests further dialog. Again, I trust Bronco 100% and if there are perceived improprieties, it is because there is misunderstanding about Bronco's policies.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by BYZoo - 2008/05/28 15:46

---

I thought Bronco's policy was that he wouldn't directly contact a missionary to recruit him to BYU. However, he would contact the missionary's family if he learned that the missionary might be interested in BYU. Isn't that what happened here? What's the big deal? I don't see any violation of Bronco's policy or any other rule. Big fat hairy deal. The kid wanted to go to BYU and BYU wanted to have him. It was going to happen one way or another, so who gives a rat's behind how.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by ammoncougar1 - 2008/05/28 15:51

---

Just for fun...does anyone have a link of Bronco's purported statement regarding the recruiting of missionaries? I seem to recall the general statement but I've yet to see any documentation to an actual statement and the context under which it was given.

Go Cougs!!!  
J. Child  
Ammon, ID

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mountaincougar - 2008/05/28 15:54

---

My two cents...and I have absolutely no documentation of anything...other than what I think/feel.

I think the dad went trolling. Everything seems to be based on what he says. I don't believe for a second a mission president approved the contact. When you can only talk to FAMILY two times a year, I don't think "talkin sports" would keep their minds focused on why they are out there. For that reason, I think the mission would say no. So I don't think permission was ever asked..they just did. We don't quite have a Max Hall leaving early for an opening, but it certainly doesn't set well with me as far as the point of serving a mission and what we were all supposed to forego.

Again no basis here...just what I think. And someopne earlier said about Nelson not being the next John Elway...I agree. While I think he may be an improvement over Steven Covey, it really wouldn't take all that much to improve that one.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by GolfDiveNCougs - 2008/05/28 15:57

---

As long as we're on the topic of missionaries, Craig, to answer your question, I'm reminded of a Truman J. Madsen-ism (any ex-missionary will likely get the joke:)). In speaking of Joseph Smith detractors, Madsen said, "They cannot deny

---

his doctrine, therefore they must attack his character."

They're not attempting to prove that Bronco or any of the BYU coaches acted in any way against NCAA rules, they're attacking the character of Bronco by asserting that he said he'd never actively recruit missionaries who'd played for other schools.

Firstly, he never said that. This is a quotation from an article in today's Trib by Lewis:

In fact, when BYU's Austin Collie was supposedly being recruited by other schools while still serving his mission nearly two years ago, Mendenhall acknowledged that the Cougars do sometimes contact recruitable players from other Division I-A programs who are serving missions - but only rarely, and only after "strong recommendations from their parents that they have an interest" in BYU. "We don't go looking for them," he said at the time. That seems to have been the case with Nelson.

Further:

In years past, coaches such as Utah's Ron McBride and BYU's LaVell Edwards abided an "unwritten rule" not to recruit one another's mission-serving players, but that guideline has eroded somewhat recently, other coaches have said, particularly as coaches outside Utah have sought to lure highly regarded Mormon players. When that apparently happened with Collie in 2006, Mendenhall expressed disappointment, saying that "it is a shame" that rival schools "don't see the big picture."

It seems to me that the radio idiots (and all of the USU Sour-grapers and Ute trolls) are taking Bronco's disappointment in other schools' lack of big picture insight as his divine proclamation that in BYU's mind it is unholy and immoral to recruit other schools' missionaries. He never said ANY SUCH THING! In fact, if they were to read the paragraph directly above, he says the exact opposite. He states clearly that if there is a lot of interest on the part of the missionary, which it's obvious in this case there was, of course BYU will make themselves available for a transfer.

This is a CLASSIC "Straw-Man" argument made so popular in political mudslinging sessions. In an election, you don't actually have to show that your opponent's real points are incorrect, you just have to tell the public what his points are (even though they rarely are), then bash THOSE points.

All you gotta do is TELL Bronco what his position is in order to bash it. Too bad for them, it's not his position!

Secondly, Bronco's "...don't see the big picture" comment makes PERFECT sense in context. As I understand it, Collie was getting interest from many schools, who, it was clear from their correspondence, had no idea what a mission was all about. They didn't understand the time commitment, mindset, or goals of a mission. That is actually understandable, considering how many people I met on my mission who assumed that what we did was a 9-5 thing, and every night we'd be frequenting the disco-teks. Why would coaches of other programs, not familiar with LDS missions, assume anything different?! In that light, I'd say that BYU would be in a PRETTY GOOD POSITION, compared to any other Football Program, to comply with the spirit of a mission and still welcome potential transfers. BYU's the only school who puts a young man's mission service ahead of thier gridiron numbers!

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by oompabluepaw05 - 2008/05/28 16:01

This is all just a move by the local media to get you to listen to their crappy sports radio shows and read their second rate newspapers. The opportunity to take a cheap shot at BYU and the LDS church is just the cream on top! Even with all the stated sources the truth probably lies right down the middle of what everybody says happened. I would imagine McGregor is pretty darn close to the actual truth. If the Logan HS coach was to have said to any BYU coach, "Hey Riley isnt really excited to come back to a team that hasnt won a game since he left and whose coaching staff will probably be gone by next year." What at this point should the BYU coach say? "Oh, well thats nice, but, since he is on a mission and because Bronco supposedly said something to some joke of a sports talk show host 2 years ago, lets stop talking about him even though he would fit perfect in our system. So why dont you go down and talk to the U of U about him." What tool in their right mind would say that? If his IQ is anything above 7 and he is trying to abide by BYU policies he would say; "Well, if he is really serious about moving on lets talk to Riley's parents." At that point the HS coach or the BYU coaches make contact with the parents and confirm what they have heard. From there the ball is rolling. The opportunity presented itself and Riley was probably set on leaving regardless of what BYU did. I would be a lot more upset if BYU coaches just walked away from it. The difference and the dirty way to do it is if they emailed and started contacting Riley directly or if he never had intentions of leaving USU and BYU started convincing him otherwise. So basicly the only thing BYU coaches have proven is that they are not idiots. No wonder this has been so hard for the media and opposing teams' fans to grasp because they are indeed idiots. Dont worry about it anymore because that is exactly what they want

---

you to do. This time next week it will have played itself out and the only thing they will have to talk about is how Vai Sihakima is a dirty terrible Mormon because he is fighting Canseco. After all what Mormon would ever hit another person? If he was living by his precepts he would turn the other cheek and let Canseco kill him! :dry:

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mjo - 2008/05/28 16:05

---

mraven wrote:

The first source is Jay Drew from the SLTrib: "However, Keith Nelson said that "casual conversations" between BYU receivers coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High coach Mike Favero eventually led to a discussions via e-mail between Riley Nelson and BYU coaches, "and the rest is history.""

The second source is Michael C. Lewis from the SLTrib: "According to the player's father, discussion about transferring began during "casual conversations" between BYU assistant coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High School coach Mike Favero, for whom Nelson played. Favero then mentioned the Cougars' potential interest to the Nelson family, which eventually led to e-mail discussions between Nelson and BYU coaches."

I think those two sources are actually the same: Jay Drew talked to Riley's dad, and wrote the info on his blog. Then Mr. Lewis did an article on the info quoting Drew.

I don't think there's enough info around to judge Bronco one way of the other. I assume Nelson's dad wasn't there during the 'casual conversations' between Higgins and Favero so his info on that should not be considered factual. Then, as has been pointed before, Jay Drew paraphrases him about the whole e-mail thing. Since BYU coaches can't give their side of the story yet, we're stuck with a partial account of the situation. My guess is that, just as with Collie's magic comments, this is being blown out of proportion and will fade into oblivion as soon as more newsworthy stories come along.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by McGregor - 2008/05/28 16:12

---

I've read the comments in this thread. Let me reiterate by stating that I highly favor my loose theory about how things went down.

And that's all I have to say about this subject.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mraven - 2008/05/28 16:16

---

ammoncougar1 wrote:

Just for fun...does anyone have a link of Bronco's purported statment regarding the recruiting of missionaries? I seem to recall the general statement but I've yet to see any documentation to an actual statement and the context under which it was given.

Go Cougs!!!  
J. Child  
Ammon, ID

I think if anyone did have this information, it might just clear this all up.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by WinnemuccaCougar - 2008/05/28 16:48

---

---

GolfDiveNCougar that was one of the best posts I've seen in a while Karma to you.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by jaga97 - 2008/05/28 17:23

---

I tell my kids that there is no food in the living room. On occasion, I let them eat popcorn in the living room.

Bronco has a guideline of not actively recruiting missionaries that are in the field. The purpose of the rule is his to decide and the letter of the rule is his to decide. He did not violate a rule made by someone else for him to follow. It is not the radio guys job to inform Bronco of how his rule works. If I make a rule for my house it is my prerogative to change the rule, interpret the rule, and throw the rule out the window if I so choose.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by TimO - 2008/05/28 17:46

---

i'll be honest, as being from salt lake i think i have enough right to say this: As soon as you mentioned 1320 i completely disregarded any points. It's been embarrassing how poorly both 1320 and 1280 have responded. I would have guessed they were a bunch of yewt/aggie fans...even though they are supposed to be somewhat impartial...here's a real valid point...bronco wants to bring in the best, certainly in terms of being a missionary he wants them to work-but when he WANTED to come to BYU BEFORE he even went to ut st. should say a few things, Bronco didn't go after a missionary, he didn't break his word, If anything wrong happened it was between Riley and the aggies...certainly this happens to all schools including byu at times. If BYU had been any other school, it would have been mentioned once, and passed along and forgotten. Earlier on the radio they mentioned that BYU ONLY recruits local players...what? "BYU should look at the U for a good example of how they should be recruiting" -What the hell? Where were these radio guys when BYU landed the top 5 local players and I suppose our cali, ariz, florida kids (both members and Not) count as local, and my final point against the radio shows:earlier when BYU got the best local players, Kwhit said:"It doesn't matter, cause we weren't going after those players anyway." So Kwhit didn't want the best Local players? Of course the radio progs. didn't want to make him look stupid because it's the U, better show lots of respect...i guess my rant is against the radio progs. but also to prove Bronco made no mistake, I won't be one of those crowton fans, yewt fans, radio fans, just a true blue cougar- and back him up for HIS program that works!

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by TimO - 2008/05/28 17:55

---

here's what press that are more impartial should sound like:

### Questions, But Few Answers

The Riley Nelson transfer comes during a void in the sports news cycle in Utah, and is spreading like wildfire. Everyone is speculating about BYU's recruiting tactics and asking if the Cougars are being "hypocritical" by pursuing players serving missions when they have been burned in the past.

But the truth is, nobody knows the full details because nobody aside from Nelson's father is speaking. Utah State coach Brent Guy issued a release - which are never the coach's own words because who really talks like that if you read the quotes. BYU is not commenting about the situation and Nelson can't give interviews while serving in Barcelona.

So it's hard to tell what really happened and who sought out whom. Transfers happen all the time all around the country. This season alone a boatload of QBs switched schools. Obviously, Nelson's issue wasn't playing time. But it could have been the chance to play for a winning program. BYU was in need of a QB for when Max Hall departs, but not at the point of pure desperation quite yet.

The issue will soon slow down for a few weeks before fall camp begins and the coaches can't run and hide from the questions.

---

For one man's great opinion on the move, check out Kurt Kragthorpe's column this morning -  
[http://www.sltrib.com/sports/ci\\_9400372](http://www.sltrib.com/sports/ci_9400372)

[blogs.sltrib.com/byu](http://blogs.sltrib.com/byu)

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by GolfDiveNCougs - 2008/05/28 17:55

mraven wrote:

ammoncougar1 wrote:

Just for fun...does anyone have a link of Bronco's purported statment regarding the recruiting of missionaries? I seem to recall the general statement but I've yet to see any documentation to an actual statement and the context under which it was given.

Go Cougs!!!

J. Child

Ammon, ID

I think if anyone did have this information, it might just clear this all up.I've been looking for the same thing for a good chunk of the afternoon. Most I've found is referenced in my previous post, an article by Lewis in the SLTrib today, citing some of Bronco's comments 2 years ago regarding Austin Collie being contacted by other schools for recruiting purposes. I concede that the quotes cited probably aren't the extent of his position, but at least they are direct quotes by Bronco that indicate the radio idiots are way off base.

I agree with OompaBluePaw that the assistant coaches in charge of recruiting in Cache Valley would be the idiots if they didn't report to Bronco that the Logan High Coach mentioned Nelson and his parents were interested in transferring him to BYU. If anybody actually thinks Bronco or any of his assistants were up there specifically to poach one missionary player, they're REALLY stretching to accuse (unless they actually think the High Schools up there really produce that few quality recruits.:laugh: Either way, the thought process really isn't flattering to the Logan area...)

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by vancouvercougar - 2008/05/28 18:08

(TIC) I guess the only honorable thing for Bronco to do now would be to encourage Riley Nelson to sign with the Utes.  
:laugh: However it appears that Riley would rather play for a school with class.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by DSmith1212 - 2008/05/28 18:21

As an attorney I find it laughable that everyone is willing to put their faith in quotations, articles and suppositions. The point is that the facts are the facts and no one knows all of them. If we did, I assume that Bronco and BYU would not only be vindicated but would have to be held in high esteem. Why do I say that, because one fact we do know is that Bronco called the USU coach to tell him what was going on. To me that is not only a sign of class and respect and honor, but it also gives us a sign on how the process really worked and how it was handled.

The issue really is a straw man agrument as previously mentioned.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by GolfDiveNCougs - 2008/05/28 18:35

DSmith1212 wrote:

As an attorney I find it laughable that everyone is willing to put their faith in quotations, articles and suppositions. The

---

point is that the facts are the facts and no one knows all of them. If we did, I assume that Bronco and BYU would not only be vindicated but would have to be held in high esteem. Why do I say that, because one fact we do know is that Bronco called the USU coach to tell him what was going on. To me that is not only a sign of class and respect and honor, but it also gives us a sign on how the process really worked and how it was handled.

The issue really is a straw man argument as previously mentioned.  
I'm really not fishing for a compliment here. I just wanted to say how proud I am that a geek engineer such as myself is getting props from a real lawyer about knowledge of poli-sci terminology! :laugh: I'm all warm and fuzzy inside!

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/28 18:53

GolfDiveNCougs wrote:

DSmith1212 wrote:

As an attorney I find it laughable that everyone is willing to put their faith in quotations, articles and suppositions. The point is that the facts are the facts and no one knows all of them. If we did, I assume that Bronco and BYU would not only be vindicated but would have to be held in high esteem. Why do I say that, because one fact we do know is that Bronco called the USU coach to tell him what was going on. To me that is not only a sign of class and respect and honor, but it also gives us a sign on how the process really worked and how it was handled.

The issue really is a straw man argument as previously mentioned.  
I'm really not fishing for a compliment here. I just wanted to say how proud I am that a geek engineer such as myself is getting props from a real lawyer about knowledge of poli-sci terminology! :laugh: I'm all warm and fuzzy inside!

Since you're a "geek engineer" I'm assuming that's a virtual warm and fuzzy.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/28 19:02

I was talking last month to my cousin's uncle's next door neighbor's best friend that became a travel agent after she graduated from BYU. I mentioned how someday my wife and I hope to go back east and visit some of the early Church historical sites.

Last week I received an email about a BYU sponsored church history tour.

Is BYU recruiting me?

Is it right for my cousin's uncle's next door neighbor's best friend that became a travel agent to be upset that BYU is not holding itself to a higher standard?

Woe is me... for I am undone...

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/05/28 19:10

mjo wrote:

mraven wrote:

The first source is Jay Drew from the SLTrib: "However, Keith Nelson said that "casual conversations" between BYU receivers coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High coach Mike Favero eventually led to a discussions via e-mail between Riley Nelson and BYU coaches, "and the rest is history.""

The second source is Michael C. Lewis from the SLTrib: "According to the player's father, discussion about transferring began during "casual conversations" between BYU assistant coach Patrick Higgins and Logan High School coach Mike Favero, for whom Nelson played. Favero then mentioned the Cougars' potential interest to the Nelson family, which

eventually led to e-mail discussions between Nelson and BYU coaches."

I think those two sources are actually the same: Jay Drew talked to Riley's dad, and wrote the info on his blog. Then Mr. Lewis did an article on the info quoting Drew.

I don't think there's enough info around to judge Bronco one way of the other. I assume Nelson's dad wasn't there during the 'casual conversations' between Higgins and Favero so his info on that should not be considered factual. Then, as has been pointed before, Jay Drew paraphrases him about the whole e-mail thing. Since BYU coaches can't give their side of the story yet, we're stuck with a partial account of the situation. My guess is that, just as with Collie's magic comments, this is being blown out of proportion and will fade into oblivion as soon as more newsworthy stories come along.

Let's not forget two things here: First of all that Micahel C. Lewis is the tribune beat writer for the freakin' YEWTS! He's just as bad as all their fans. Why the hell should he care about this, it doesn't involve "his" team at all. Second, Jay Drew looks for any and I mean any excuse to give the upper hand to the pukes. If BYU's and yewtah's recruiting classes are even remotely close, he touts the pukes as winning the recruiting battle. He's almost as much of a yewt homer as Lewis.

And they're pretty much the only ones talking about it. Why haven't any of the papers out of Logan been quoted. They're not happy about it by any means (why would they be?) but they at least are pretty much saying it was Riley's decision and don't accuse BYU of doing anything wrong except for "messaging with missionaries". But once again, BYU didn't mess with him, and it has never been reported that they've even communicated with Riley once. They've left it up to the parents as to how they want to handle it. I gaurantee you it played out like McGregor said:

Higgins is up recruiting Manning and expresses to Fevaro the staff's concern over who is going to take over for Hall since all the options will be fresh off missions. Fevaro, who having stayed in close contact with Nelson, knows that Riley wasn't happy at USU (even the Logan papers have reported that and said he's been itching to get out for some time now) tells Higgins that he might have another alternative too for him besides his boy Manning. Higgins says "who?". Fevaro says "Riley Nelson" and tells him he is looking at other options. Higgins takes it back to Bronco and they proceed to contact Keith Nelson and Brent Guy.

I really don't see what all the stink is about. All the negativity is just about as much conjecture as my last paragraph. People are just trying to piece together a story out of the few facts there are. I gaurantee mine (and McGregor's) is just as plausible and more than likely the most accurate. As stated, the local (SLC media) is trying to make a buck out of this and is blowing it way out of proportion. While Logan may be somewhat justified in being miffed, BYU has done nothing against the rules or against Bronco's preaching for that matter.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by TimO - 2008/05/28 19:22

BYUtx wrote:  
No.

i wish i thought more like you. My response was too long

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by yutka - 2008/05/28 19:57

some key talking points I use when discussing this with my USU and Ute co-workers--

1-- Bronco Is a hypocrite, evil, smelly, the devil for actively recruiting a missionary on his mission--

response- BYU only initiated contact after it was made clear by coaches and family that Elder Nelson was actively looking for contact. BYU would never have approached Elder Nelson, or his family if they had not been given the OK. Would it be better to leave this issue up in the air and distracting Elder Nelson, or to quickly get it resolved, so he can stay focused on his mission? Many schools actively recruit Missionaries, and I applaud BYU's conservative stance that

serving is more important than football.

Also MANY LDS Boys find that while on a Mission, their testimony matures and their priorities change. They decide that they want to attend School at a place that will celebrate and encourage their spiritual growth. For Many of them this is BYU-Provo, or one of the other BYU campuses. If Elder Nelson were not a Football player, he would be commended for his spiritual growth and maturity.

2- Bronco said he doesn't want kids who don't stick with their commitments, but he wants Nelson. He is a Hypocrite!

Response-- Reiley Nelson made a commitment to attend USU and play football there. He did both of those things. Bronco's comments were in reference to Student Athletes who commit to multiple school and change their mind before fulfilling any commitment to any school. This situation is fully different as A full year was given to USU. If Elder Nelson were not an athlete, people would applaud him for realizing that his current University would not meet his needs and transferring. Reiley fulfilled his commitment by attending USU, His decision was made based of experience, not waffling and wishy washy commitments.

3-- Elder Nelson should not be bothering with Football while serving the Lord. The mission was created for man, not man for the mission... The Lord has a large, endless view of our lives and humanity. A mission is not a time for Missionaries to forget that they have families, lives and a future. There are many lessons to be learned on a mission and preparing for ones life after the mission does not have to be a distraction. Many missionaries apply to college, register for classes or secure jobs for their return home. Missionaries should be encouraged to do this so that they may more seamlessly reenter normal life. Missionaries withut firm plans after their missions are more likely to waver, struggle with growth and find their way. Elder Nelson was doing no more than other missionaries who need to be prepared not just for the next lesson they teach, but for the lessons they will learn throughout life.

4-BYU Stole our color-

Response-- And we stole all our land from the Native Americans. Didn't we shut you out last time we played?

Those are just some I use... Feel free to add to this set of talking points.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by DSmith1212 - 2008/05/28 22:54

DSmith1212 wrote:

As an attorney I find it laughable that everyone is willing to put their faith in quotations, articles and suppositions. The point is that the facts are the facts and no one knows all of them. If we did, I assume that Bronco and BYU would not only be vindicated but would have to be held in high esteem. Why do I say that, because one fact we do know is that Bronco called the USU coach to tell him what was going on. To me that is not only a sign of class and respect and honor, but it also gives us a sign on how the process really worked and how it was handled.

The issue really is a straw man agrument as previously mentioned.

Now, after getting some more facts from the excellent introductory post on the "Whole Riley Nelson Story (Long)" thread, I have heard enough --- I rest my case.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by detmer4prez - 2008/05/28 23:22

Let me get this straight, all of the articles saying that BYU is who initiated contact come from the SLTrib? I am sooo shocked. :dry:

I think I trust Bronco more than the Trib.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by raidingtombs - 2008/05/29 00:35

---

McGregor wrote:  
mraven wrote:

Thanks, I think it's worth a lot. It would explain a lot. I'm just bothered by the fact that there isn't anything to back it up with when speaking to the bozo radio guys. They would simply say, "Yeah, but that's all conjecture. What we are saying can be backed up by the facts." They drive me nuts.

Well, if it helps, take comfort knowing that in a short time, you will look informed with your belief, and they will look like idiots.

does this mean you know something we don't know about that will soon be revealed?

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Gymcoug318 - 2008/05/29 03:38

---

Stupid pukes! All I have too say too them is. SHUT UP!!! They just wanna find something too whine about! They are mad because they wanted Riley Nelson really bad! And Elder Nelson realizes that Byu has a better program then the pukes! Bronco has way more integrity then Urban and Kyle combined! I do think that Kyle is a decent guy! But he says stupid things all the time. I hope he doesn't hold me accountable for that! :angry: :laugh:

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by McGregor - 2008/05/29 04:00

---

raidingtombs wrote:  
McGregor wrote:  
mraven wrote:

Thanks, I think it's worth a lot. It would explain a lot. I'm just bothered by the fact that there isn't anything to back it up with when speaking to the bozo radio guys. They would simply say, "Yeah, but that's all conjecture. What we are saying can be backed up by the facts." They drive me nuts.

Well, if it helps, take comfort knowing that in a short time, you will look informed with your belief, and they will look like idiots.

does this mean you know something we don't know about that will soon be revealed?

What I am willing to say is that I heard a version of what went down, and I have no reason to doubt my source. I was actually bothered by the story initially because it certainly sounded as if Bronco went back on his word. Now, I'm at total peace, because I think BYU handled this the best way they could.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by whiteshoes - 2008/05/29 06:27

---

There's a new Dick Harmon article out this morning which sheds some new light on the subject.

<http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,700229902,00.html>

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by jhw5 - 2008/05/29 07:06

---

mraven wrote:

I can't exactly call in to 1320 and say, "Hey Locke, McGregor says this is what happened, so there." Even though McGregor is probably right.

I think that's exactly what you should do, and then mention CB while you're at it. We need to spread the word on our street cred!

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by jhw5 - 2008/05/29 07:12

---

yutka wrote:

some 2- Bronco said he doesn't want kids who don't stick with their commitments, but he wants Nelson. He is a Hypocrite!

Response-- Reley Nelson made a commitment to attend USU and play football there. He did both of those things. Bronco's comments were in reference to Student Athletes who commit to multiple school and change their mind before fulfilling any commitment to any school. This situation is fully different as A full year was given to USU. If Elder Nelson were not an athlete, people would applaud him for realizing that his current University would not meet his needs and transferring. Reiley fulfilled his commitment by attending USU, His decision was made based of experience, not waffling and wishy washy commitments.

The bolded text is the most interesting thing I've read on this board in months. This has always been a rumored statement, and never quoted by someone who was actually there. Yutka, can you enlighten me further?

If this is true, then our friend ttexastim would also be interested in reading it. I'm sure his next question, and mine definitely, is this:

How many times counts as multiple? Committing to one school and then changing your mind, or committing to two or more schools and continually changing your mind?

I would like to know exactly the context surrounding this statement Bronco supposedly made.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Real.Men.Wear.Blue - 2008/05/29 08:43

---

Bronco has been quoted in the past as saying that BYU does not "recruit" LDS football players who are serving missions. The question at the heart of this debate, it seems, is what did Bronco mean with the word "recruit?"

It seems apparent that when Bronco said BYU does not "recruit" missionaries, that he was referring to the process of identifying and actively seeking out and persuading young men who are currently serving missions. This would, for example, including getting a scouting report on a missionary and send him a letter, DVD, marketing materials, etc. extolling the benefits of BYU football, and suggesting that BYU would be prepared to offer him a scholarship. Many other schools (including the Utes) do this. Of course, one could read the term "recruit" as broadly as possible, and interpret that to include any contact whatsoever with missionaries, irrespective of who initiated it. But Bronco is not an idiot, and it would require an idiot to make such a statement, particularly given BYU's sustinence on LDS players. It seems fair to assume (particularly if one honestly looks at the context of the "recruit" statements) that Bronco intended the former meaning, not the latter.

Bronco has never said that BYU would, under no circumstances, talk to a player who was serving a mission. The SLTrib, Locke, Ute fans, and others are purposely distorting Bronco's words by assigning them an unfair meaning that is advantageous to their own biased agenda. This is politicking at its finest, and is no different than what Obama, Hillary, and McCain do to one another every day.

Let's have an honest discussion about the facts, and leave hyperbole and conjecture at the door. Bronco's policy is, quite simply, to not actively seek out missionaries as potential recruits, but if a recruit (or his parents or other representatives) reach out to BYU, BYU will respond appropriately (and not just refuse to talk). Seems like a reasonable policy that is not difficult to understand, even for a Ute. Moreover, that is exactly what happend in the Riley case.

---

I'm still struggling to comprehend why the Utes have their panties in a wad over this. In addition to ignoring the most reasonable interpretation of Bronco's words from two years ago, this transfer has nothing to do with them. Resentment from the Aggies I can understand. They have a beef in the fight. But the Utes? There must really be nothing to do up on the Hill.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/29 09:10

---

Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

But the Utes? There must really be nothing to do up on the Hill.

Lament?

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by DSmith1212 - 2008/05/29 09:13

---

DSmith1212 wrote:

DSmith1212 wrote:

As an attorney I find it laughable that everyone is willing to put their faith in quotations, articles and suppositions. The point is that the facts are the facts and no one knows all of them. If we did, I assume that Bronco and BYU would not only be vindicated but would have to be held in high esteem. Why do I say that, because one fact we do know is that Bronco called the USU coach to tell him what was going on. To me that is not only a sign of class and respect and honor, but it also gives us a sign on how the process really worked and how it was handled.

The issue really is a straw man agrument as previously mentioned.

Now, after getting some more facts from the excellent introductory post on the "Whole Riley Nelson Story (Long)" thread, I have heard enough --- I rest my case.

After reading the Dick Harmon article this morning, once again...I rest my case.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Sage - 2008/05/29 12:02

---

Real.Men.Wear.Blue wrote:

...The SLTrib, Locke, Ute fans, and others are purposely distorting Bronco's words by assigning them an unfair meaning that is advantageous to their own biased agenda. This is politicking at its finest, and is no different than what Obama, Hillary, and McCain do to one another every day.

So are you saying that David Hillary Locke is off base. Or that the Barack UofU Obama authorities have a skewed perspective? Surely we can all correctly identify them by their proper names.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Slugger - 2008/05/29 12:37

---

I can sum it up in one word: JEALOUSY. For decades BYU dominated their conference and their state in football. Everyone hated them because of their success. Then came the "dark ages" of three consecutive losing seasons and off-field issues. Everyone laughed at the Cougars for their troubles and lack of success. And now, BYU is back to a dominant form and again the jealous people out there are crying foul to every little move made there in Provo. Boo hoo hoo! If Bronco does not believing in actively recruiting a full-time missionary, then great. If Bronco did not break that rule with Nelson, then wonderful. But if the player comes recruiting the school, what is Bronco supposed to do? Tell him no and let someone else get him? NO WAY! I stopped listening to all of the local sports talk radio programs about a year

---

ago because I had enough of their salary-and-fame-motivated arguing and bantering. It is really pointless. I want to watch the game, enjoy the game, then read or hear a recap of the game. There are enough people with opinions, I don't need to listen to theirs. Instead, I prefer to put a little something smooth on the radio, like say, Metallica, and then get all fired up to go play or cheer on my Cougars! These sports "analysts" really do get too much money and attention for what they do. I don't think Bronco crossed any lines. Everyone not on BYU's side of the fence is just jealous.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Illinois1Cougar - 2008/05/29 12:48

---

Personally I say, "SO THE \$&%^ WHAT!!!" No NCAA rules have been broken. It's obvious people in Utah are just bored.

=====

## interesting blog post

Posted by Hengst - 2008/05/29 13:33

---

It's looking more and more like there is no reliable source for Bronco having said that he does not recruit people on missions:

<http://www.thefansports.com/blog/index.cfm>

I'm wondering when and where this quote even came from?

Could this all just be a misquoting problem stemming from bad journalism?

=====

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/29 14:07

---

Hengst wrote:

Could this all just be a misquoting problem stemming from bad journalism?

Bad journalism? Say it ain't so Joe. Say it ain't so Joe. :dry:

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by x\_rugger - 2008/05/29 15:02

---

yutka wrote:

some key talking points I use when discussing this with my USU and Ute co-workers--

4-BYU Stole our color-

Response-- And we stole all our land from the Native Americans. Didn't we shut you out last time we played?

Those are just some I use... Feel free to add to this set of talking points.

response: yes we did, it was such a nice color, we though people deserved a chance to see it.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/05/29 15:14

---

DSmith1212 wrote:

---

DSmith1212 wrote:

DSmith1212 wrote:

As an attorney I find it laughable that everyone is willing to put their faith in quotations, articles and suppositions. The point is that the facts are the facts and no one knows all of them. If we did, I assume that Bronco and BYU would not only be vindicated but would have to be held in high esteem. Why do I say that, because one fact we do know is that Bronco called the USU coach to tell him what was going on. To me that is not only a sign of class and respect and honor, but it also gives us a sign on how the process really worked and how it was handled.

The issue really is a straw man argument as previously mentioned.

Now, after getting some more facts from the excellent introductory post on the "Whole Riley Nelson Story (Long)" thread, I have heard enough --- I rest my case.

After reading the Dick Harmon article this morning, once again...I rest my case.

Agree. As I fond of saying, "Never let logic, reason, and facts get in the way of a good emotional response."

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by ttexastim - 2008/05/29 15:30

Oh no ... here comes this Ute's opinion on this hot topic.

In answer to your question ... what should you say to the Ute fans ... Why do you have to say anything. This whole story is so lame that it doesn't deserve attention.

To my knowledge there is no direct quote from Bronco stating that he will not recruit missionaries. This kid obviously wanted to go there, and the Utes were not recruiting him. I don't see why Ute fans care.

Maybe I've been away from this rivalry for a month or so, but I seriously cannot see why Ute fans are arguing this.

So I have a question for you though ... why do you think you need facts to argue with people on this? I beleive it is up to them to provide the proof to you that Bronco did something wrong. "This one time at bandcamp bronco told someone that he ..... blah blah blah" is not proof.

To sum it up ... Why do you care what a bunch of Utes think?

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by ammoncougar1 - 2008/05/29 15:57

TTex, welcome back. Do you think you could call my ute friend and tell him what you just told all of us? He won't listen to me.

In response to why we care what a bunch of utes think...I really don't. I just hate to think they are misinformed and want to help them see the light. Wouldn't you get a little defensive if BYU fans attributed false quotes to Whit and railed on him for them when you knew for a FACT they were wrong?

Go Cougs!!!

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/29 16:04

Hengst wrote:

It's looking more and more like there is no reliable source for Bronco having said that he does not recruit people on missions:

---

<http://www.thefansports.com/blog/index.cfm>

I'm wondering when and where this quote even came from?

Could this all just be a misquoting problem stemming from bad journalism?

I love how David Locke, who has been in the market all of 10 months or so, puts himself in the position of final arbiter of the quality of local beat writers.

Convenient that his argument both (1) supports the position he has been advocating from day 1, before details even emerged and (2) manages to knock Dick Harmon, who Locke has never liked.

Locke implies that an "untarnished" reporter has never misquoted or misunderstood, but then attacks another for simply stating he never heard it, and would like to know where it comes from.

All Harmon is doing is asking for a direct quote, and if provided, says Bronco should retract. He even admits he hasn't been to every BYU function, but Locke knocks him for claiming "that he has heard everything Bronco has said." I don't read the statement "I've been to nearly every Mendenhall (function)" to mean that in the least--especially with that pesky word of limitation "nearly" in there.

What I did get from Harmon was this: "It has been reported that Bronco said they don't recruit players on missions not in the program, but no one has provided the exact quote--it's all paraphrased. In all my vast experience with BYU, I have never heard anything to that effect, and I do not believe it is BYU policy. If he said it, he should either retract it or be accountable for it."

I don't understand how asking a reporter to provide the entire quote they have paraphrased is too much to ask for, but evidently that has raised the cockles of Locke.

It is interesting that the only exact quote Drew cares to provide is the word "recruit." In something this controversial, do we really want to trust the paraphrasing of one person's uncorroborated take on a conversation? Drew doesn't really offer much in the way of damning evidence. I especially like the second source Drew adds to somehow bolster his story--an unnamed official told him they were not interested in Nelson while rumors were swirling around that he was wavering. Ummm....how does an untarnished reporter not know that a school isn't allowed to discuss recruits until they sign?? What the hell answer did he expect? Here he is using a standard answer to a recruiting question and twisting it out of context in an effort to intimate deceit and cover-up by BYU.

Drew cannot produce the actual quote, much less the date, location or time. He only provides paraphrasals, the word "recruit" and an innocuous statement by an unnamed person in the program for support. You'd think if he really had it, he'd take this opportunity to give it.

Now, I must say here that I do not think Drew made this up. At worst, I think he "misremembers" a conversation that obviously was not important enough to record, and therefore unlikely that he would have worried too much about remembering properly.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/05/29 16:04

ttexastim wrote:

Oh no ... here comes this Ute's opinion on this hot topic.

In answer to your question ... what should you say to the Ute fans ... Why do you have to say anything. This whole story is so lame that it doesn't deserve attention.

To my knowledge there is no direct quote from Bronco stating that he will not recruit missionaries. This kid obviously wanted to go there, and the Utes were not recruiting him. I don't see why Ute fans care.

Maybe I've been away from this rivalry for a month or so, but I seriously cannot see why Ute fans are arguing this.

So I have a question for you though ... why do you think you need facts to argue with people on this? I believe it is up to them to provide the proof to you that Bronco did something wrong. "This one time at bandcamp bronco told someone that he ..... blah blah blah" is not proof.

---

To sum it up ... Why do you care what a bunch of Utes think?

Welcome back. Good to see you around these parts again.

To answer your question, for the most part I don't care unless I am forced to deal with it.

To quote (maybe paraphrase) one of my favorite movies it goes like this: "When a man takes off his clothes and goes outside and howls at the moon, it is one thing, but when he does it in my living room I am forced to deal with it."

For me, if Utes want to keep what they think/feel/believe to themselves, I am a much happier person. When it is forced on I have to deal with it. When a coworker or member of my church gets in my face it gets somewhat annoying. Doesn't happen often but, unfortunately it still does at times.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by ttexastim - 2008/05/29 16:05

I won't talk to your friends Ammon, cuz I heard that you told people you like ham sammiches, but you ate a burger the other day. You are such a hypocrit!

LOL. This whole thing is so lame it's hilarious. I would be laughing harder if it was not my brethren being so ridiculous.

Most of this comes from that one story of a recruit you guys got a while back where he talked alot about how bronco was big on commitments. (I can't remember the name). In his words, he said that Bronco came down really hard on people who break commitments. I haven't seen any such comments from The broncster himself, so I really don't care anymore.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by ttexastim - 2008/05/29 16:10

NorthernCougar wrote:

ttexastim wrote:

Oh no ... here comes this Ute's opinion on this hot topic.

In answer to your question ... what should you say to the Ute fans ... Why do you have to say anything. This whole story is so lame that it doesn't deserve attention.

To my knowledge there is no direct quote from Bronco stating that he will not recruit missionaries. This kid obviously wanted to go there, and the Utes were not recruiting him. I don't see why Ute fans care.

Maybe I've been away from this rivalry for a month or so, but I seriously cannot see why Ute fans are arguing this.

So I have a question for you though ... why do you think you need facts to argue with people on this? I beleive it is up to them to provide the proof to you that Bronco did something wrong. "This one time at bandcamp bronco told someone that he ..... blah blah blah" is not proof.

To sum it up ... Why do you care what a bunch of Utes think?

Welcome back. Good to see you around these parts again.

To answer your question, for the most part I don't care unless I am forced to deal with it.

To quote (maybe paraphrase) one of my favorite movies it goes like this: "When a man takes off his clothes and goes outside and howls at the moon, it is one thing, but when he does it in my living room I am forced to deal with it."

For me, if Utes want to keep what they think/feel/believe to themselves, I am a much happier person. When it is forced on I have to deal with it. When a coworker or member of my church gets in my face it gets somewhat annoying. Doesn't happen often but, unfortunately it still does at times.

Understood. I am the same. At church down here in TX I have to arm myself to deal with all the BYU love that shows up

---

at church (funny how that works). LOL.

It just really shocks me that utenation is choosing this as an arguing point. In most facets of life, you have to choose your battles ... and whoever chose this one should not be allowed to choose battles anymore.

=====

### Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by mountaincougar - 2008/05/29 16:19

---

I had to smile at DD Smith's at "as an attorney". Your point is? :) I didn't know an attorney could recognize the truth if they were hit by a brick. But be that as it may...this is all he said..she said.. they said. I do think Bronco takes the higher road if a decision has to be made. Period.

Go Cougs!!!

=====

### Re:IF Bronco Screwed up which I doubt..

Posted by rackem - 2008/05/29 16:54

---

One of the posters of Harmon's most recent article responded,(Paraphrasing), "if Riley's Dad hadn't been hosed by USU, Riley would still be an Aggie." If that's true and Bronco really doesn't have the "don't recruit missionary policy"...what's the problem? Is this another urban legend that get's to be dispelled?

=====

### Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by yutka - 2008/05/29 18:24

---

The statement I heard on the Radio (It was DJ and PK Wednesday Morning if I remember right, as I was on my way home from Working out at Anytime fitness in Lindon) was after The dude chose USC after verbally committing to BYU and UCLA. Fuga? PK was trying to say that it was the same situation as with Nelson.

jhw5 wrote:

yutka wrote:

some 2- Bronco said he doesn't want kids who don't stick with their commitments, but he wants Nelson. He is a Hypocrite!

Response-- Reliey Nelson made a commitment to attend USU and play football there. He did both of those things. Bronco's comments were in reference to Student Athletes who commit to multiple school and change their mind before fulfilling any commitment to any school. This situation is fully different as A full year was given to USU. If Elder Nelson were not an athlete, people would applaud him for realizing that his current University would not meet his needs and transferring. Reiley fulfilled his commitment by attending USU, His decision was made based of experience, not waffling and wishy washy commitments.

The bolded text is the most interesting thing I've read on this board in months. This has always been a rumored statement, and never quoted by someone who was actually there. Yutka, can you enlighten me further?

If this is true, then our friend ttexastim would also be interested in reading it. I'm sure his next question, and mine definitely, is this:

How many times counts as multiple? Committing to one school and then changing your mind, or committing to two or more schools and continually changing your mind?

I would like to know exactly the context surrounding this statement Bronco supposedly made.

=====

### Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by GolfDiveNCougs - 2008/05/29 20:36

---

NorthernCougar! Mad props and Karma for citing the greatest Basketball movie ever!"Look, mister, there's... two kinds of dumb, uh, guy that gets naked and runs out in the snow and barks at the moon, and, uh, guy who does the same thing in my living room. First one don't matter, the second one you're kinda forced to deal with."

Too true, NorCoug, too true!

I'm lucky enough not to have to deal with many of the second, having moved to Virginia after school. Only one hardcore Yewt in my ward, but at risk of waxing oxymoronic, he's actually a rather sensible one, and he took the last two years pretty well, so I didn't have the heart to rub them in that hard.:laugh:

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by yutka - 2008/05/29 21:29

I like that one!

x\_rugger wrote:

yutka wrote:

some key talking points I use when discussing this with my USU and Ute co-workers--

4-BYU Stole our color-

Response-- And we stole all our land from the Native Americans. Didn't we shut you out last time we played?

Those are just some I use... Feel free to add to this set of talking points.

response: yes we did, it was such a nice color, we though people deserved a chance to see it.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Sage - 2008/05/29 22:53

x\_rugger wrote:

yutka wrote:

some key talking points I use when discussing this with my USU and Ute co-workers--

4-BYU Stole our color-

Response-- And we stole all our land from the Native Americans. Didn't we shut you out last time we played?

Those are just some I use... Feel free to add to this set of talking points.

response: yes we did, it was such a nice color, we though people deserved a chance to see it.

This one made me laugh. Excellent.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/05/30 07:20

GolfDiveNCougs wrote:

mraven wrote:

ammoncougar1 wrote:

Just for fun...does anyone have a link of Bronco's purported statment regarding the recruiting of missionaries? I seem to recall the general statement but I've yet to see any documentation to an actual statement and the context under which it was given.

Go Cougs!!!

---

J. Child  
Ammon, ID

I think if anyone did have this information, it might just clear this all up. I've been looking for the same thing for a good chunk of the afternoon. Most I've found is referenced in my previous post, an article by Lewis in the SLTrib today, citing some of Bronco's comments 2 years ago regarding Austin Collie being contacted by other schools for recruiting purposes. I concede that the quotes cited probably aren't the extent of his position, but at least they are direct quotes by Bronco that indicate the radio idiots are way off base.

In the comments on the Dick Harmon article, someone posted the following:  
From the Deseret Morning News, February 2, 2006, by Jeff Call

"Mendenhall stressed that his program is careful in the way it deals with missionaries.

"As they came to us, they came of their own regard," he said. "We will not recruit players while they're on their missions. That's not our policy. But when they do contact us, we'll certainly listen."

I cannot find it online, but I do remember reading it. I remember thinking at the time that it was a very diplomatic way of putting it. Can anyone else verify it?

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/05/30 07:33

GolfDiveNCougs wrote:

NorthernCougar! Mad props and Karma for citing the greatest Basketball movie ever!"Look, mister, there's... two kinds of dumb, uh, guy that gets naked and runs out in the snow and barks at the moon, and, uh, guy who does the same thing in my living room. First one don't matter, the second one you're kinda forced to deal with."

Too true, NorCoug, too true!

I'm lucky enough not to have to deal with many of the second, having moved to Virginia after school. Only one hardcore Yewt in my ward, but at risk of waxing oxymoronic, he's actually a rather sensible one, and he took the last two years pretty well, so I didn't have the heart to rub them in that hard.:laugh:

Thanks. Love that movie. Our Mission President gave us permission to watch it on a holiday and it has been one my favorites ever since. Thanks for putting the correct quote on here. I did my best to paraphrase as I was too lazy to go find the actual.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/05/30 08:15

ttexastim wrote:

NorthernCougar wrote:

ttexastim wrote:

Oh no ... here comes this Ute's opinion on this hot topic.

In answer to your question ... what should you say to the Ute fans ... Why do you have to say anything. This whole story is so lame that it doesn't deserve attention.

To my knowledge there is no direct quote from Bronco stating that he will not recruit missionaries. This kid obviously wanted to go there, and the Utes were not recruiting him. I don't see why Ute fans care.

Maybe I've been away from this rivalry for a month or so, but I seriously cannot see why Ute fans are arguing this.

So I have a question for you though ... why do you think you need facts to argue with people on this? I believe it is up to them to provide the proof to you that Bronco did something wrong. "This one time at bandcamp bronco told someone that he ..... blah blah blah" is not proof.

---

To sum it up ... Why do you care what a bunch of Utes think?

Welcome back. Good to see you around these parts again.

To answer your question, for the most part I don't care unless I am forced to deal with it.

To quote (maybe paraphrase) one of my favorite movies it goes like this: "When a man takes off his clothes and goes outside and howls at the moon, it is one thing, but when he does it in my living room I am forced to deal with it."

For me, if Utes want to keep what they think/feel/believe to themselves, I am a much happier person. When it is forced on I have to deal with it. When a coworker or member of my church gets in my face it gets somewhat annoying. Doesn't happen often but, unfortunately it still does at times.

Understood. I am the same. At church down here in TX I have to arm myself to deal with all the BYU love that shows up at church (funny how that works). LOL.

It just really shocks me that utenation is choosing this as an arguing point. In most facets of life, you have to choose your battles ... and whoever chose this one should not be allowed to choose battles anymore.

Thanks for the laugh. Made me laugh out loud and I needed that this morning.

I have watched in fascination and awe this week at how Ute fans have been up in arms over this. I still have no clue on why they are interested or involved.

=====

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by jhw5 - 2008/05/30 08:32

---

azcavalier wrote:

GolfDiveNCougs wrote:

mraven wrote:

ammoncougar1 wrote:

Just for fun...does anyone have a link of Bronco's purported statement regarding the recruiting of missionaries? I seem to recall the general statement but I've yet to see any documentation to an actual statement and the context under which it was given.

Go Cougs!!!

J. Child

Ammon, ID

I think if anyone did have this information, it might just clear this all up. I've been looking for the same thing for a good chunk of the afternoon. Most I've found is referenced in my previous post, an article by Lewis in the SLTrib today, citing some of Bronco's comments 2 years ago regarding Austin Collie being contacted by other schools for recruiting purposes. I concede that the quotes cited probably aren't the extent of his position, but at least they are direct quotes by Bronco that indicate the radio idiots are way off base.

In the comments on the Dick Harmon article, someone posted the following:  
From the Deseret Morning News, February 2, 2006, by Jeff Call

"Mendenhall stressed that his program is careful in the way it deals with missionaries.

"'As they came to us, they came of their own regard,' he said. 'We will not recruit players while they're on their missions. That's not our policy. But when they do contact us, we'll certainly listen.'

I cannot find it online, but I do remember reading it. I remember thinking at the time that it was a very diplomatic way of putting it. Can anyone else verify it?

You can read it again at the end of this article. This time, it's not a comment; Jeff Call actually found the taped interview where Bronco said it:

<http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,700230281,00.html?pg=2>

---

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by jhw5 - 2008/05/30 08:40

---

yutka wrote:

The statement I heard on the Radio (It was DJ and PK Wednesday Morning if I remember right, as I was on my way home from Working out at Anytime fitness in Lindon) was after The dude chose USC after verbally committing to BYU and UCLA. Fuga? PK was trying to say that it was the same situation as with Nelson.

jhw5 wrote:

yutka wrote:

some 2- Bronco said he doesn't want kids who don't stick with their commitments, but he wants Nelson. He is a Hypocrite!

Response-- Reliey Nelson made a commitment to attend USU and play football there. He did both of those things. Bronco's comments were in reference to Student Athletes who commit to multiple school and change their mind before fulfilling any commitment to any school. This situation is fully different as A full year was given to USU. If Elder Nelson were not an athlete, people would applaud him for realizing that his current University would not meet his needs and transferring. Reiley fulfilled his commitment by attending USU, His decision was made based of experience, not waffling and wishy washy commitments.

The bolded text is the most interesting thing I've read on this board in months. This has always been a rumored statement, and never quoted by someone who was actually there. Yutka, can you enlighten me further?

If this is true, then our friend ttxastim would also be interested in reading it. I'm sure his next question, and mine definitely, is this:

How many times counts as multiple? Committing to one school and then changing your mind, or committing to two or more schools and continually changing your mind?

I would like to know exactly the context surrounding this statement Bronco supposedly made.

Thanks, Yutka. If this PK and DJ stuff holds water (and whoever knows with talking heads), and Bronco was referring the whole time to kids who keep changing their mind, then I feel a little better about the whole "keep your commitment" thing he is preaching.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by CAFB\_04-12 - 2008/05/30 08:43

---

GolfDiveNCougs wrote:

That is actually understandable, considering how many people I met on my mission who assumed that what we did was a 9-5 thing, and every night we'd be frequenting the disco-teks.

It wasn't like that in your mission? Uh, nevermind. :)

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Ygridiron4ever - 2008/05/30 08:50

---

mraven wrote:

.....The question is, how did the dad find out. He found out from the high school coach, who found out from BYU. Hence, the accusation that BYU is initiating recruiting to a serving missionary. How do you argue against that?

I don't know mraven, and I don't want to offend. But... this has to be one of the silliest questions on this thread. Being a father myself, and a rabid fan of college football, I can say that if I had an "all-everything" son who: 1- signed with the school where I played ball and where my father helped develop the entire athletic department; 2- chose to dedicate two years of his prime to serving the Lord; 3- was faced with returning to a program that could have negative ramifications for the rest of his professional life (recognizing he could still be successful in his personal and spiritual life regardless of where he plays college ball), and; 4- had a green light from the NCAA to make a change; I would keep myself apprised of all opportunities, believing that if I do that he can stay focused on his mission.

---

No one who knows anything about college football can deny that BYU is on a tremendous upswing - like the cougs or not! Do you really think that someone had to spell any of this out to the dad?

The ethically questionable thing (the thing that anybody who comes to this forum knows, but noone in this thread has said) would be if anybody from BYU or from the Mormon Church reached out to any missionary and said: "You know that really wonderful thing you feel inside every day when you wake up and do the Lord's work? That burning in your heart that says nothing in the world is more important than returning to your Heavenly Father and helping others do the same? Well you can keep that feeling after your mission if you come play football for us after your mission is complete! "Come play for us and we will help you find an Eternal Mate and achieve positions of leadership in the Priesthood and in the Kingdom of God!"

Clearly, that did not happen here. I hope it never happens.

By the way, isn't it wonderful to be winning, and to have a coach who gets lots of positive national attention, and to have to deal with the crap that others tried to dig up to discredit the success? Remember the losing and the negative press because negative things were happening? I'll take this any day!

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by Ygridiron4ever - 2008/05/30 09:12

snoscythe wrote:

I love how David Locke, who has been in the market all of 10 months or so, puts himself in the position of final arbiter of the quality of local beat writers.

Off topic, sorry. I left Utah in 1989 to go to Long Beach State (easier to get into grad school at the Y with a degree from a different school). Came to to BYU in 1992 for a Ph.D. and found a new radio station that did only sports. A first for Utah, I think. It had some main anchor who was a crotchty old guy from Chicago who pretty much ripped on all things BYU and Jazz - even though he lived in Utah. And I am pretty sure his side-kick was a nerd named David Locke. So hasn't Locke been around for 15 years, or so?

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by Florwood - 2008/05/30 09:53

Ygridiron4ever wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

I love how David Locke, who has been in the market all of 10 months or so, puts himself in the position of final arbiter of the quality of local beat writers.

Off topic, sorry. I left Utah in 1989 to go to Long Beach State (easier to get into grad school at the Y with a degree from a different school). Came to to BYU in 1992 for a Ph.D. and found a new radio station that did only sports. A first for Utah, I think. It had some main anchor who was a crotchty old guy from Chicago who pretty much ripped on all things BYU and Jazz - even though he lived in Utah. And I am pretty sure his side-kick was a nerd named David Locke. So hasn't Locke been around for 15 years, or so?

He left about 10 years ago for Portland/Seattle area, just came back here several months ago. Generally I've like him, but this particular issue has flipped him out, in my opinion.

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/30 09:56

Ygridiron4ever wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

---

I love how David Locke, who has been in the market all of 10 months or so, puts himself in the position of final arbiter of the quality of local beat writers.

Off topic, sorry. I left Utah in 1989 to go to Long Beach State (easier to get into grad school at the Y with a degree from a different school). Came to to BYU in 1992 for a Ph.D. and found a new radio station that did only sports. A first for Utah, I think. It had some main anchor who was a crotchty old guy from Chicago who pretty much ripped on all things BYU and Jazz - even though he lived in Utah. And I am pretty sure his side-kick was a nerd named David Locke. So hasn't Locke been around for 15 years, or so?

Locke was here in the past--you remember correctly. He was on the radio here in various capacities from 1993-1998. From 1998 to last year he was in Seattle doing radio stuff and play-by-play for the Storm. He also did a season of Sonics play-by-play and Husky stuff here and there.

What it vital to his dissing of Harmon is this little caveat--when he was in Utah in the 90's, Locke wrote for the DNews for about a year writing weekly columns, and he and Dick Harmon weren't exactly pen pals. Locke has a lot of ego, and Harmon put him in his place a time or two when they were co-workers. There is a history there, and a lot of animosity on Locke's part.

=====

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by cougarfan87 - 2008/05/30 10:12

azcavalier wrote:

GolfDiveNCougs wrote:

mraven wrote:

ammoncougar1 wrote:

Just for fun...does anyone have a link of Bronco's purported statment regarding the recruiting of missionaries? I seem to recall the general statement but I've yet to see any documentation to an actual statement and the context under which it was given.

Go Cougs!!!

J. Child

Ammon, ID

I think if anyone did have this information, it might just clear this all up.I've been looking for the same thing for a good chunk of the afternoon. Most I've found is referenced in my previous post, an article by Lewis in the SLTrib today, citing some of Bronco's comments 2 years ago regarding Austin Collie being contacted by other schools for recruiting purposes. I concede that the quotes cited probably aren't the extent of his position, but at least they are direct quotes by Bronco that indicate the radio idiots are way off base.

In the comments on the Dick Harmon article, someone posted the following:

From the Deseret Morning News, February 2, 2006, by Jeff Call

"Mendenhall stressed that his program is careful in the way it deals with missionaries.

"As they came to us, they came of their own regard," he said. "We will not recruit players while they're on their missions. That's not our policy. But when they do contact us, we'll certainly listen."

I cannot find it online, but I do remember reading it. I remember thinking at the time that it was a very diplomatic way of putting it. Can anyone else verify it?

Can't verify it, but it certainly rings true. As an attorney, I've learned that when you match up quotes with actions you get a better picture of the truth. ;) :laugh:

=====

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by Ygridiron4ever - 2008/05/30 10:34

snoscythe wrote:

---

Locke was here in the past--you remember correctly. He was on the radio here in various capacities from 1993-1998. From 1998 to last year he was in Seattle doing radio stuff and play-by-play for the Storm. He also did a season of Sonics play-by-play and Husky stuff here and there.

Thanks. I have been gone from Utah for 8 years now.

Staying off-topic (still sorry); Anybody remember the name of that radio station...was it the score? Better yet, how about the name of the guy from Chicago who did his show from some pizza place in South Salt Lake on Fridays...couldn't shut up about his home town.

=====

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by Sage - 2008/05/30 10:52

snoscythe wrote:

Ygridiron4ever wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

I love how David Locke, who has been in the market all of 10 months or so, puts himself in the position of final arbiter of the quality of local beat writers.

... found a new radio station that did only sports. ...It had some main anchor who was a crotchty old guy from Chicago who pretty much ripped on all things BYU and Jazz - even though he lived in Utah. And I am pretty sure his side-kick was a nerd named David Locke. So hasn't Locke been around for 15 years, or so?

Locke was here in the past--you remember correctly. He was on the radio here in various capacities from 1993-1998. From 1998 to last year he was in Seattle doing radio stuff and play-by-play for the Storm. He also did a season of Sonics play-by-play and Husky stuff here and there.

....There is a history there, and a lot of animosity on Locke's part.

Before Locke left, he was obnoxious and crude. As it became a bigger and bigger issue, it got more and more annoying. One day the subject they were discussing on another program on the same station was how obnoxious certain djs are... Rome and Locke were listed. After some time I called in and discussed it with the moderators. They argued for awhile it was just entertainment. But I said it was poor entertainment and with as bad as he was it wasn't entertainment but obnoxious. They continued to try to put forth the entertainment bent. My response was that now when Locke comes on, I just change the station. I wouldn't listen to him. That threw a boatload of ice on the discussion. They backtracked and said oh never do that...Oh man, don't do that. Three weeks later he was gone. I think many people felt like I did. The management probably got the message... I hope...it is not good entertainment. I hope it wasn't just because Seattle was a better gig for him and management would have kept him.

Since he has come back he has seemed quite a bit more favorable towards local teams, but recently he has gone back to his diatribe. Some of his comments show he was obviously an RM. But the way he talks now, he has chosen to go off...Way off. Good entertainment is enjoyable if it is informative. Hopefully the powers that be pull him back in line. Not to say he can't have his own opinions. But I want truth backed up with good info.

=====

---

## Re:interesting blog post

Posted by Hengst - 2008/05/30 11:00

Sage wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

Ygridiron4ever wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

I love how David Locke, who has been in the market all of 10 months or so, puts himself in the position of final arbiter of the quality of local beat writers.

... found a new radio station that did only sports. ...It had some main anchor who was a crotchty old guy from Chicago who pretty much ripped on all things BYU and Jazz - even though he lived in Utah. And I am pretty sure his side-kick was a nerd named David Locke. So hasn't Locke been around for 15 years, or so?

---

Locke was here in the past--you remember correctly. He was on the radio here in various capacities from 1993-1998. From 1998 to last year he was in Seattle doing radio stuff and play-by-play for the Storm. He also did a season of Sonics play-by-play and Husky stuff here and there.  
....There is a history there, and a lot of animosity on Locke's part.

Before Locke left, he was obnoxious and crude. As it became a bigger and bigger issue, it got more and more annoying. One day the subject they were discussing on another program on the same station was how obnoxious certain djs are... Rome and Locke were listed. After some time I called in and discussed it with the moderators. They argued for awhile it was just entertainment. But I said it was poor entertainment and with as bad as he was it wasn't entertainment but obnoxious. They continued to try to put forth the entertainment bent. My response was that now when Locke comes on, I just change the station. I wouldn't listen to him. That threw a boatload of ice on the discussion. They backtracked and said oh never do that...Oh man, don't do that. Three weeks later he was gone. I think many people felt like I did. The management probably got the message... I hope...it is not good entertainment. I hope it wasn't just because Seattle was a better gig for him and management would have kept him.

Since he has come back he has seemed quite a bit more favorable towards local teams, but recently he has gone back to his diatribe. Some of his comments show he was obviously an RM. But the way he talks now, he has chosen to go off...Way off. Good entertainment is enjoyable if it is informative. Hopefully the powers that be pull him back in line. Not to say he can't have his own opinions. But I want truth backed up with good info. I like Locke, he doesn't give anyone a break (well, he sucks up to deron williams, but I'll forgive him that). I think he does a good job for the most part, at least he's honest with his opinions anyway.

Also, he is definitely not Ids or an RM (trust me on this one).

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by kiwibacon - 2008/05/30 11:46

mraven wrote:

craigoscarson wrote:

It's not against the rules of the NCAA, how can there be a better argument?

That's a great argument. It's just completely unrelated to the current topic. The issue is, did Bronco initiate recruiting to a serving missionary, which would go against his stated recruiting principles. If so, the talk radio jerks have a point. Currently, they are the only ones that can actually back up their arguments with quotes or some solid evidence. That's all I'm saying.

Having said that, I trust Bronco. But "I trust Bronco" won't go over well on the radio. I have been gone on vacation for a week and so am getting here really late. I think a lot is being miscommunicated. What Bronoco stated was that he would not recruit missionaries directly...what is heard is he will not recruit missionaries. What he should have said is "This is how I will indirectly recruit missionaries, by contacting their families or old coaches. I will not directly contact the missionary, or send out letters addressed to the recruit in question unless the recruit petition us first."

I don't think it is a question of if he said he will recruit missionaries or not. As I read it, he said he will recruit missionaries. But some people are misconstruing how he said he will recruit with the fact that he will recruit missionaries at all.

---

## Re:Did Bronco Screw up

Posted by Schroeder - 2008/05/30 12:25

Many of the comments from the naysayers make me think of a saying I heard once many years ago (It may have been Stephen Covey).

"We tend to view the world as WE are!"