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## Rough beginning

Posted by CougarBlue - 2004/11/22 23:00

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Tar Heels blitz BYU early as Cougars stumble in opener

Jason Franchuk  
DAILY HERALD

LAHAINA, Hawaii

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## Rough beginning

Posted by BARNEY - 2004/11/23 09:18

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BLOW TAPS ON THE BASKETBALL SEASON RIGHT NOW; NOT WORTH WATCHING. ITS OVER BEFORE IT BEGINS. MAYBE SOME DAY BYU CAN GET SOME YOUNG INEXPERIENCED PLAYERS WITH TALENT. ALL WE ARE GOING TO HEAR IS EXCUSE AFTER EXCUSE JUST LIKE IN FOOTBALL. AFTER THAT WE GET ALL THE NONSENSE ABOUT LACK OF LOYALTY ETC. FOR PEOPLE BEING CRITICAL OF THE PROGRAM. BYU IS RUNNING A SECOND RATE PROGRAM IN BOTH BASKETBALL AND FOOTBALL. MAYBE THE TICKET PRICES SHOULD COME DOWN EVERYTHING ELSE HAS. OK, TIME FOR ALL THE FLAG WAVERS IN SUPPORT OF WHATEVER IT IS BYU IS PUTTING ON THE COURT. BOTTOM LINE: POOR RECURITING AND MINIMAL TALENT. I AM SURE A. KING WITH BLAST THIS LITTLE NOTE WITH MORE RAH RAH STUFF AND HOW CRUEL TO MAKE LIGHT OF SUCH A FINE PROGRAM WITH GREAT POTENTIAL.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by lovelldog - 2004/11/23 09:39

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BARNEYBLOW TAPS ON THE BASKETBALL SEASON RIGHT NOW; NOT WORTH WATCHING. ITS OVER BEFORE IT BEGINS. MAYBE SOME DAY BYU CAN GET SOME YOUNG INEXPERIENCED PLAYERS WITH TALENT. ALL WE ARE GOING TO HEAR IS EXCUSE AFTER EXCUSE JUST LIKE IN FOOTBALL. AFTER THAT WE GET ALL THE NONSENSE ABOUT LACK OF LOYALTY ETC. FOR PEOPLE BEING CRITICAL OF THE PROGRAM. BYU IS RUNNING A SECOND RATE PROGRAM IN BOTH BASKETBALL AND FOOTBALL. MAYBE THE TICKET PRICES SHOULD COME DOWN EVERYTHING ELSE HAS. OK, TIME FOR ALL THE FLAG WAVERS IN SUPPORT OF WHATEVER IT IS BYU IS PUTTING ON THE COURT. BOTTOM LINE: POOR RECURITING AND MINIMAL TALENT. I AM SURE A. KING WITH BLAST THIS LITTLE NOTE WITH MORE RAH RAH STUFF AND HOW CRUEL TO MAKE LIGHT OF SUCH A FINE PROGRAM WITH GREAT POTENTIAL.

Please tell me you are not that ignorant. BYU just landed a top 20 recruiting class, does that not count as getting some young inexperienced players with talent. As far as the program goes, no it doesn't compare to UNC but it is a hell of alot better than it was a few years ago.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by BARNEY - 2004/11/23 09:54

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BULL.....WHO SAID TOP 20 THE PR DEPARTMENT. WE KEEP HEARING ABOUT ALL THIS SO CALLED GREAT YOUNG TALENT. FOR BYU ITS ALWAYS THE SAME STORY; WAIT UNTIL OUR YOUNG PLAYERS COME AROUND. THE LAST TIME BYU MADE A NCAA SPLASH WAS WITH DANNY AINGE BACK IN ABOUT 1981. LETS SEE THATS ABOUT 23 YEARS AGO. WHAT HAVE THEY DONE SINCE? NOT MUCH. OH, I KNOW THEY MADE THE NCAA TOURNMENT SEVERAL TIMES IS THE ON GOING STORY.

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I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT BYU BASKETBALL HAS THE GOAL OF REMAINING COMPETITIVE IN THE MWC AND THATS IT, BECAUSE THAT IS IT.

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## Ignorance

Posted by JaredCowley - 2004/11/23 10:07

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I'm sorry Barney, but your ignorance on this topic is maddening. Both Rivals and Insiders ranked BYU's recruiting class in the Top 20 nationally. David Burgess was one of the top 100 recruits in the country in every single ranking service you can find. Lee Cumard (he'll be playing for BYU next year) was ranked the No. 1 shooting guard recruit on the West Coast. Trent Plaisted was one of the top players from Texas. Chris Miles was ranked as the fourth-best center in the West. Need I go on? BYU has plenty of young talent. But they are all very young. Most of these kids hadn't played any Division I basketball until last night. And sure, BYU could have opened with Stony Brook like Utah and won their first game. But they went to Maui to play one of the top teams in the country in North Carolina to open their season. A lot of good teams are going to lose to North Carolina by a lot of points this year. They have three players in contention for player of the year honors! And if you watched the whole game, you'll see that once BYU's youngsters wiped the stars out of their eyes after the first half, they actually played fairly well in the second half. BYU's not going to be a Top 25 powerhouse this season, but if you're throwing in the towel right now, you have a lot to learn about college basketball and sports in general. Give this very young (and talented) team a chance to get its feet wet. There are going to some growing pains this season, but when it comes down to it, this will be a pretty decent team.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by BYZoo - 2004/11/23 10:09

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I gotta agree with Barney on this one. I was okay with the basketball program until last year. Last season we had the most talent on that team that we've had since the early '80s and easily the best big man we've ever had. And how did we do? Well, we didn't win the conference, we lost 2 out of 3 to the Yoooots, we backed into the tournament as a 12 seed and got bounced out in the first round. Pretty disappointing. I can't help but think that Cleveland is an average head coach, at best, with that kind of talent and those results. Last night was an embarrassment. I didn't expect to beat North Carolina, but I DID expect us to compete at least a LITTLE BIT. We competed against North Carolina about as well as an average ward ball team would--maybe because we have about the same talent level. Hope I see some improvement in both competitiveness and results soon. Otherwise, I'll be asking for another head coach to lose his job.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by BARNEY - 2004/11/23 10:31

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JARED, I TRULY HOPE YOU ARE RIGHT AND I AM WRONG, BUT THE RECORD CONTINUES TO SPEAK FOR ITSELF IN SPITE OF THE SO CALLED GREAT RECRUITING. I SEE OTHER TEAMS WITH YOUNG PLAYERS DOING WELL, BUT NOT BYU. IS IT AGAINST SOME RULE FOR A FRESHMAN TO PLAY WELL? MAYBE, JUST MAYBE THE COACHING ISN'T THAT GREAT. I SAW MARK BIGALOW LOOK SUPER AS A FRESHMAN, SO IT CAN BE DONE BUT ISN'T BEING DONE. I KNOW THEY PLAYED A GOOD TEAM LAST NIGHT, BUT THEY LOOKED AWFUL EVEN FOR A YOUNG TEAM. WITH ALL DUE RESPECT IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE EXCUSES WOULD STOP AND THE CREAM BEGIN TO RISE FOR A CHANGE. IT HAS BEEN EONS SINCE BYU WAS A NATIONAL THREAT. THEY HAVE THE BEST FACILITES AND BEST FANS IN THE COUNTRY AND CONTINUE TO UNDERACHEIVE IN BOTH FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Nor\_Cal\_Coug - 2004/11/23 10:34

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I agree with Jared that the "young talent" is on this team and this is definitely a "rebuilding year." The problem I have though is that this is Cleveland's 8th season and we should be at a point where we don't have any rebuilding years. I was honestly shocked at how poorly the team played. I have followed Y basketball VERY close for 15 years now and that

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performance last night was on par with the 1-25 team. I could see Cleveland's frustrations clearly as he sat there watching his team look terrible.

I also agree that last year's team underachieved and you have to start wondering if Cleveland and his staff really do have what it takes to build a team that can compete at the highest level. This year to me will tell us if Cleveland is worth keeping as a coach. The reason is if he can turn this into a good season, not a great one, then he will have won some respect at least in the fan's eyes.

Let's hope things improve today against Stanford. I have a feeling they will. I guess it would be hard to do worse :)

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Hammer - 2004/11/23 11:14

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I agree with most of these posts--we didn't even compete last night. The last time the Y. faced UNC (when they had Rasheed Wallace, Jerry Stackhouse, Eric Montross) we played them straight up, and were actually in the game. And I remember Randy Reid dropped 26 on the Tarheels. Last night we were completely overmatched--at the guardline especially. But sadly, our players were not put in a position to keep the game close. We ran up the floor and jacked up shots without any control--as if we were going to try and match them at their game. Poor coaching.

I also agree that the past two years we have had some of the most talented teams in the past several decades--and last year what did we have to show for it? No league title, tourney title, or Big Dance victory! Certainly that comes down to coaching.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by qman - 2004/11/23 11:20

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In my opinion the team looks alright except for two things....

Our points guards just got blown away. Way too many turnovers and that screwed up our offense.

And we didn't get back on defense. That is just not acceptable. Jensen just doesn't have the size/athletic ability to play at a higher level. Hall looked rusty.

When our young guys came in... you saw their talent. They started several good plays but weren't strong enough to quite finish. With Hall and Young on the floor at the same time our perimeter defense is better than I can ever remember.

And about last season... Araujo wasn't that good. Our bigs now have more talent.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Nor\_Cal\_Coug - 2004/11/23 11:35

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I agree that our backcourt is a MAJOR concern this year. Nashif is a good back-up but he is not a big-time playmaker. Ainge looked lost last night. Several dumb passes and dumb mistakes. I think Reisman must have gone into Cleveland's dog house or he is just a bust. I can't see how he isn't better than Nashif and Ainge...or at least equally as good. Rose and Burgess at wing looked pretty weak last night. I was disappointed in both.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/11/23 16:13

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Nor\_Cal\_Coug... Ainge looked lost last night. Several dumb passes and dumb mistakes....

Ainge is the future. Give him the time. He'll come around. He just needs playing time.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by tubatrainer - 2004/11/23 16:48

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If this is how the chats are going to be about basketball so early into the season, lets just stop writing new posts and read the ones about football. When you get to Crowtons name, input Cleveland. Sheesh!!

One game against the third ranked team in the nation (with potential to win the big dance) and people are starting to complain. Who cares if the point spread was 6 or 36. It was the first game. They may also lose to Stanford, but that doesn't mean we need a change in coaching. What if they end up winning everything else. How stupid will the criticisms look against Cleveland then?!

It is as if people don't have anything better to do or think. Either that or there are still some frustrations flowing from the footballs season.

Since Barney brought up the Ainge era of the early '80s, let me ask this...When have we had a national powerhouse team? Even the teams during the Ainge era weren't spectacular on a national level. They looked awesome in conference. They looked good in tournaments. But were they a powerhouse team like Georgetown, UNC, Virginia, etc.? No, they were a talented team that learned to play like a team, and they did it with determination and spirit. Yeah some went on to play pro and european ball, but many others since then have also. Ainge is the only one that made a big name for himself since college.

Well, we apparently have the same kinds of talent on this years team plus we have a coach that can do something with them (look how he turned the 1-25 team around with most of the same players). They will develop their talent more, and hopefully they will learn the skill of team play. If they do, who is to say that we won't see a possible sweat sixteen or higher. Anything is possible but it is a lot harder when you don't have the support behind you. Lets stop the early criticizing and try early support for a change.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/11/23 16:48

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Wow. Look at this. The same people that are trashing our football team are now here trashing our basketball team.

I hope you noticed we lost to Stanford by only 9 points. Yes, loss is still a loss, and I don't know what the game was like, but this is a sign that we played better. Don't forget that Stanford was going no. 1 for a long time last season. I'm sure we'll see them ranked again, perhaps even before Christmas.

If you haven't noticed, both yesterday and today Young had impressive numbers. You watch him turn into leader.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/11/23 17:32

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Tongue 'n cheek --- Cleveland says his team has "no fire." He said most his players "lacked composure." I just heard it on the radio. CAN YOU BELIEVE IT! Smuck coach. Shame on him. He blames his players. He should blame himself. He should resign tomorrow. Crap coach. The coach-up-north wouldn't do that. He'd take the blame. Get rid of Cleveland. He has embarrassed our university. BYU should win nearly every game and never have a rebuilding year. The former pizza-loving-coach-up-north did it year-in and year-out. Cleveland has shown that he stinks, or he doesn't eat enough pizza, I don't know which one. Look, I know about coaching --- I know because I coach the teacher's quorum team and last year we won region. Yeah, I taught those young men how to win. If we ever lost, which we never did, it was my fault. That's being a coach.

Whine, whine, whine. :o

I am excited about these guys. I can see potential and see that they'll be good. Some of you will say, "I'm sick of potential." I say, give Ainge the ball. He's our future at point. He'll learn. Just play him. Play all those young guys. I'll

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be there Saturday cheering them on. And I'll listen to Coach Cleveland's honest assessment and appreciate that he's telling it how it is. He has nothing to prove to me. I think he is outstanding and represents BYU well.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/11/23 19:12

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I want to tell everybody on this part of the forum -- let's not turn this into what football forum became -- "Fire Coach" tribune. This might not be an easy season for the team since we lost basically our starting line and got freshmen to attempt to replace them.

But let's have a good discussion on basketball. We will not win NCAA any time soon, but I feel we could at least compete for the MWC title. If we take it, I will be happy. If you can't tolerate anything but the national titles every year, you have no reason to be called BYU fan. Go ahead and proclaim yourself a Stanford or UConn or USC fan or whatever.

And don't bash Cleveland. Inability to recruit the likes of Anthony is not his fault.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/11/23 21:32

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As usual, Plasibone is right on the mark --- the very point of my ridiculous "Tongue n' cheek."

We need to get behind this young team and help them grow in confidence. They have talent. If you can make it to the Marriott Center Saturday night, come out to the game and cheer them on.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/11/23 22:57

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Yes. Everybody come if you can, even if our beginning record is 0-3 (are we still playing tomorrow?)

One of the very few nice things the commentators said about us in the most recent broadcast is that everybody is scared to play in Provo since very few teams in this nation can boast 63 out of 64 wins at home. And notice, we played both small and big teams. Our fans are great and I hope to see as good support this season. Cleveland and the boys need it.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by qman - 2004/11/24 09:56

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I think you will see some major improvement tonight. Mostly because we are playing a D2 school. Their defense won't be so impressive.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/11/24 10:06

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BYU plays today (Wednesday) against Chaminade University at 2 p.m. HT (5 p.m. MST) in the loser bracket. Let's hope we win this game. The Friday at the Marriott Center against Cal at 7 p.m.

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## Rough beginning

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Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/11/24 10:11

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Ywisealbert The Friday at the Marriott Center against Cal at 7 p.m.

The game is on Saturday.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/11/24 10:15

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PhasiBoneYwisealbert The Friday at the Marriott Center against Cal at 7 p.m.

The game is on Saturday.

Saturday Nov 27th, thank you for the correction.

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## Rough beginning

Posted by BYUBuckeyes - 2004/11/24 14:29

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I can't help but think that Barney has something against BYU all together. Maybe we should give him the keys to the program and let him have a go at it. Sounds to me like he won't be pleased until both football and basketball win a national championship two years in a row... sheesh, man, BYU played some DANG good teams. No excuses for poor performance, but it's not like they lost both to these shmuck D-II teams... I do agree with what was said about Cleveland bad mouthing his players, but he's frustrated. Don't tell me none of yall have ever slipped something like that when you were frustrated. BYU basketball will be good, VERY good... let's just let it keep improving!

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## Rough beginning

Posted by Nor\_Cal\_Coug - 2004/11/24 14:51

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The one thing about this forum I like is that we seem to have a pretty good balance of people who post. There certainly needs to be "opposition in all things" but the one thing I hope we do is always support the players and cheer for our team.

Phase...I don't think anyone expects us to always content for a national title, but we do expect that we can at least match what is happening at the school up north. There is no reason we can't in my opinion. I grew up in Washington and I have been astounded at what a puny school like Gonzaga has been able to do consistently over the last 7 or 8 years with marginal talent. The talent is there now, but it wasn't the first 3 or 4 years they did it. I enjoy watching the games either way, but it sure is nice to see a winner.

We have some FABULOUS talent for the future, let's just hope we see them mature quickly so that we can start winning some games.

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