
Never Mind

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/12/01 20:59

Well, good effort. At least we had a hope for a bit. What's obvious is our defensive problems - we let them shoot inside the paint too easily and we paid a high price for it. Also, with tall guys like we have the amount of offensive rebounds we give up is a shame.

But there is some light in this darkness. Hall played well and Ainge really surprised me at times. He can see the field better, he dribbles well and he can even shoot 3s. I hope Cleves will start him against USC. Both times USU started to get ahead was when Terry was on the field. He needs to take a break and focus on a family life.

Atmosphere there was crazy and if we create one like that in Marriott Center no way they will pressure us as bad. They didn't play well under pressure either, so maybe that's what we'll do against them.

Ahhh.. Who was the one to agree with a starting schedule like that? ... :?: :?:

Re: Never Mind

Posted by ryburr11 - 2004/12/01 21:11

PhasiBone

Ahhh.. Who was the one to agree with a starting schedule like that? ... :?: :?:

I agree, now we have to go to USC. We had a hard time rebounding tonight. I thought that is what kept USU in the game in the first half. Our guys were hitting shots in that first half, but USU got every loose ball and almost every rebound. We need to get better or guys like Bogut and Granger will kill us in conference.

Never Mind

Posted by Scubbed03 - 2004/12/01 21:23

Hello everyone, I've decided to join in after viewing posts here all football season. Since Bball is my sport, I figured I should come and let my voice be heard.

Tonight's game was very exciting to watch until we just gave up late in the second half. I mean, what were the players thinking. It looked like they didn't care what happened. I think Cleveland needs to play our bigs more. We were not very good on the rebounds tonight and that killed us late. I am excited for the rest of the year though, I think we will get out of this slump and start playing like we know BYU basketball to play.

GO GET 'EM COUGS!

Never Mind

Posted by ElGuapo - 2004/12/01 21:28

First time post-er but I've been reading you guys for a few weeks. It's therapeutic to know I don't suffer alone.

This is the first time I got to watch our team. It is about time someone stepped up so Terry could step down. Is Keena Young more than a good rebounder? Our team surprised me by actually competing in a first half--but so far it seems that's all we've got in the tank each night. Balderson should help if the cougs will stop running into each other and pass the ball with some solid execution.

I'm looking forward to going to the Marriott Center the 18th when the Ag's come to town.

Never Mind

Posted by Nor_Cal_Coug - 2004/12/01 21:33

Being a bigger hoops fan than football fan it pains me to have our guys lose games that are winnable. The thing I always love about college basketball though is that if you're playing well in March you get a chance to make some noise. There is nothing quite like college hoops....The team is showing promise but just seem to come up with a way each of the last 3

games to lose. Stanford, Cal and this game were winnable but we just didn't get it done. Very frustrating for someone who loves BYU basketball as much as I do. I have to say that Meads had been very disappointing thus far in his BYU career. The guy is a McDonalds All-American and he just doesn't seem to be getting it done.

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Never Mind

Posted by ryburr11 - 2004/12/01 21:42

I thought that Meads benefited from Araujo more than anyone on the team last year. Hafa got double teamed and found Meads all alone under the basket. No one is going to double Jared Jensen this year, so Meads is going to have to create on his own. I don't know if he can do it. I was surprised that Rose didn't play much. Anyone hear anything about him? I know that he hasn't be shooting well, but the whole team hasn't been shooting well. BYU need to get better quickly or this season will slip away from them

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Never Mind

Posted by ElGuapo - 2004/12/01 21:48

Nor_Cal_CougBeing a bigger hoops fan than football fan it pains me to have our guys lose games that are winnable. The thing I always love about college basketball though is that if your playing well in March you get a chance to make some noise. There is nothing quite like college hoops....The team is showing promise but just seem to come up with a way each of the last 3 games to lose. Stanford, Cal and this game were winnable but we just didn't get it done. Very frustrating for someone who loves BYU basketball as much as I do. I have to say that Meads had been very disappointing thus far in his BYU career. The guy is a McDonalds All-American and he just doesn't seem to be getting it done.

I'm with you, Nor_Cal. There is always hope wBB if we can learn quickly and find our rhythm come mid-January. This is a new team but if we can find 2 more reliable offensive weapons besides Jared and Mike we should hit the dance or at least the NIT. I do think we will generally struggle on the road this year but Mike Hall is going to put it all on the court this year--unfortunately so far he isn't enough if he's alone. I don't know where Mead's head is--he got totally outplayed tonight by guys that weren't as highly touted out of High School as he was. Hopefully we'll settle down soon and our talent will emerge.

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Never Mind

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/12/01 22:00

The problem with Meads, IMHO, is that he's too slow. And he seems to get tired fairly quickly, as if he got off the mission last Friday. Second half we simply got outran by the Aggs and hence is the score. Teams like them, Air Force and whoever else can run could present a serious problem to us this season.

Dawes is another dissapointment so far -- his style of play is the same as Meads': try to jump and maybe get lucky. They are both two tall slow guys.

But fortunately they are not the only two players on the team, so I have a hope.

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Never Mind

Posted by SpiffCoug - 2004/12/01 22:38

Meads does have conditioning issues. Remember that he hurt his groin in the summer and didn't start practicing until the middle of October.

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Never Mind

Posted by qman - 2004/12/02 17:25

Meads hasn't been good but Jensen's defense and rebounding is terrible. I think that we need to play the two 6'11" freshmen. Miles and Plastied.

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Never Mind

Posted by Nor_Cal_Coug - 2004/12/02 17:36

Thanks qman for reviving a thread that talks about something other than Crowton!!!! The thing that probably bothered me the most about the game is that Jensen, Meads and Dawes got schooled by a couple of 6'7" white guys THAT WANTED TO COME TO BYU BUT CLEVELAND DIDN'T OFFER. Those guys absolutely ate their lunch. How does that happen? When you see how terrible our rebounding is this year you can't help but realize how much of the dirty work in the paint Hafa did. This team has a lot of problems and I am beginning to wonder what will fix it, if anything.

I have always believed basketball is 80% about the players and 20% coaching. We certainly don't have the talent we did last year but the problem is when you slip in talent then any inadequacies in coaching come glaring through. I have never been a fan of Cleveland's offense. I love his defense but I have watched most all of his games since he started and I don't know what it is but his teams don't fast break and they spend 85% of the time with the ball around the 3 point line. I don't get why Roger's teams could always feed the post (no I am not a Roger Reid fan, just pointing out the difference) and Cleveland's teams seem to always struggle getting it down low with any consistency.

Things that keep you up at night.....

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Never Mind

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/12/02 17:57

Too many times in the second-half, our guys had no offensive movement. Remember when Meads and Hall collided at the top of the key. That was awful. Worse than church-ball. Often, the result was an Ainge dribble drive ending with 15 foot jumpers (which actually was pretty good) or a Hall desperation 3-point jumper (which did not end so well). Movement, or the lack thereof is a major problem. Ball movement. Movement without the ball. All of our guys just stand around.

Meads is a disappointment. He will be lousy until he learns to knock down a 15 foot jumper. He isn't slow as some have said. He's actually explosive. But nobody needs to body up to him because he can't shoot beyond 8 feet. That's just too easy for someone to defend. That's the word on guarding Meads. Just back off a few feet so he can't drive past you. Just back off. Utah State did it all night.

Jensen has never been able to shoot a 15 footer. He can't, he won't. Dawes admits he can't shoot a 15 footer. Miles, the freshman hustle man, can't shoot either. It is just pitiful to see how poorly our big guys shoot. But of all the group, Meads is most disappointing. At the end of last year, he acknowledged that he needed to learn to shoot a 15 footer. He has the athletic talent. Perhaps it has been the injuries. I don't know.

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Never Mind

Posted by Nor_Cal_Coug - 2004/12/02 18:04

I agree that Meads is the #1 disappointment by far. Not just this year but pretty much for the last 6 or 7 years. The game came in with all the hype and all the press clippings but really has done nothing to help this team win. I gave him slack last year because he was fresh off his mission. I really thought this would be a break out year for him but so far....well not so good. The season is young and he could still turn it around. I agree though that if you're a power forward and can't hit the 15 footer you're in BIG trouble.

Ainge was a pleasant surprise last night. I didn't think he had it in him but he played well. I seriously think Cleveland should scrap the Nashif starting thing and see what Ainge can do. I also think he needs to make a decision to start using Plaisted and Burgess more. I think those guys could really contribute but they are not even seeing court time.

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Never Mind

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/12/02 18:16

I agree that Ainge should start. Some times he gets out of control which leads to a turnover. That drives Cleveland crazy. He hates turnovers. But Ainge showed something. He has fight in him (just like his daddy). The Utah State fans really got on him and he seemed to play his best under the pressure.

Utah State was not over-powering at the guard line. Heck, they played a freshman most the night (Jaycee Carroll). We were doing OK given it was at the Spectrum. But the entire game changed when Nashif subbed in during the second half. Ainge needed a blow. By the time he came back, Utah State was on their way to a blow out. Has Nashif shown he can run an offensive and create opportunities? No. Will any team respect him as an offensive threat? No. Is he a defensive liability? Yes. I'll give Nashif this much, he's good at lifting weights.

I agree. Don't start the guy. I go further. Don't play the guy unless we're playing at team like Calgary College.

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Never Mind

Posted by paleblue - 2004/12/02 18:20

I too was impressed with Ainge's play last night, but it seemed like he froze after the air ball. From then on, (and I couldn't watch the whole game), it seemed like he didn't hit much else. He's new, so he'll have to learn to play despite the heckling and "air ball" chants from the crowd.

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Never Mind

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/12/02 18:23

At first he froze. Later in the game he returned to form. That showed me something. Our problems began when he left the game in the second-half.

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Never Mind

Posted by Nor_Cal_Coug - 2004/12/02 19:51

Ainge has turnover problems because this is his first game experience. He needs court time. Since we stink anyway way not play him.

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Never Mind

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/12/02 21:03

Good posts everybody. We need to relax and not worry about football for a bit and enjoy the hoops.

I agree with what was said about Meads. Maybe he is just a slow tall guy. Or maybe next year he'll get better. Haffa was almost as bad his first year in Provo. Boy I hated him...

Ainge is good. I like what someone pointed about how well he actually did well under pressure. I hope we'll see him start. If he keeps putting 15 points a game and passes a bit better, he can go far since he is only a sophmore.

We should do well against USC on Saturday. They are ranked as worse team in Pac-10 and their attendance at the games this season has been as good as our women's basketball attendance. I don't blame them -- if our football team was no. 1 and hoops the worst team, nobody would care either. If we don't beat them, we have a serious problem.

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Never Mind

Posted by Nor_Cal_Coug - 2004/12/02 22:37

PhasiBoneWe should do well against USC on Saturday. They are ranked as worse team in Pac-10 and their attendance at the games this season has been as good as our women's basketball attendance. I don't blame them -- if our football team was no. 1 and hoops the worst team, nobody would care either. If we don't beat them, we have a serious problem.

You basically just described 1996 and BYU. The football team was VERY good that year, top 5, and the basketball team was in the toilet. Hence we lost nearly all the fan base and all of the good recruits for a 3 or 4 year span there.

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Never Mind

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/12/02 22:54

Nor_Cal_Coug

You basically just described 1996 and BYU. The football team was VERY good that year, top 5, and the basketball team was in the toilet. Hence we lost nearly all the fan base and all of the good recruits for a 3 or 4 year span there.

Maybe this explains why we had good attendance at our home games over the last few years -- football is a joke then maybe we have a chance in the hoops? At least we're winning at home, some think.

What I hope is that our record will not scare away some of the "fans" who only go if we win. Though we probably don't need them anyway, it helps to have more presense and noice in the MC.

This is why we need that win against USC so badly. This will give us a ray of hope and will bring more fans to our next home game against BSU. That one should be an easy one too since they got smoked by UVSC not too long ago.

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Never Mind

Posted by Ywisealbert - 2004/12/02 23:09

OK, I'm trying to be positive here. But Cal was supposed to be one of the bottom teams in the Pac10. They came up here and pounded our guys with a 6'10" freshman (I don't know the guys name but his number was 35). Yes, we have a good excuse. Cleveland said the team was tired and for good reason. The Wednesday night after the Maui classic their flight home was canceled. Most the team spent over 24 hours in the airport trying to get home for Thanksgiving, not arriving home until late Thursday. That will drain anyone and drain them for days. I travel very often for work and know this is very true. Getting stuck in the airport is incredibly hard physically and mentally. It takes days to recover. So, that might explain the home loss to Cal. I'm trying to be positive! Maybe it also explains the Utah State loss. To me, the team looked tired down the stretch, again. Once they got down (after Ainge was taken out), they just seemed to quit moving on both ends of the court. It is really a shame that they have another road game this weekend.

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USC GAME

Posted by Scal11 - 2004/12/03 00:54

cougs need a win in the worst way. NCARolina waxed USC by 30 or so, it seems the cougs have a shot. The offense hasnt scored more than 50 points in the last 6 years, Cleveland needs to push the ball more. 1-4 and a loss to USC will be 1-5, rebuilding? Ive watched our JUCO players, they look like tough guys and they can shoot. Terry is the leader of this team, hes just not playing well, that happens. Hell get out of it. Cougs 53-USC 52
Thats the problem cougs need to score more than 50 points a game. My boys junior jazz team scores more. Come on cougs

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Re: USC GAME

Scal11Hell get out of it. Cougs 53-USC 52

Thats the problem cougs need to score more than 50 points a game. My boys junior jazz team scores more. Come on cougs

Hmmm....I could read that first sentence to mean many things but I assume you meant He'll not Hell. Both seem to work though. Your junior jazz team is also not playing against Division 1 talent. Bottom line is this team has no fire right now and no identity. They aren't know as the "pound it down low" or "always hit the 3's" or the "grind it out tough" team. They have no idenity. I don't even think they know what they are. Somehow we absolutely have to get better post play. Jensens is good on offense but terrible on defense and rebounding. Just my opinion.

Re: USC GAME

Posted by PhasiBone - 2004/12/03 12:30

Scall11 -- I probably agree with all of what you said, but one thing irritated me ..
Scal11 The offense hasnt scored more than 50 points in the last 6 years

I hate when people say silly things without any desire to look at facts. Here are the games we scored 50 points or more from last season only...

NOV 6	THU	EA Sports All-Stars	PROVO, UT	W	75 - 72
NOV 11	TUE	Northwest Sports	PROVO, UT	W	104 - 58
NOV 21	FRI	Southern Utah	PROVO, UT	W	88 - 54
NOV 29	SAT	Utah Valley State College	PROVO, UT	W	84 - 65
DEC 2	TUE	Boise State	Boise, ID	SWP-KSL	W 75 - 69
DEC 6	SAT	vs. Oklahoma State (Delta Center)	SLC, UT	W	76 - 71
DEC 10	WED	Western Oregon	PROVO, UT	W	92 - 56
DEC 13	SAT	Southern California	PROVO, UT	W	85 - 61
DEC 20	SAT	Weber State	PROVO, UT	SWP-KSL	W 86 - 65
DEC 23	TUE	Utah State	Logan, UT	KJZZ	L 74 - 76
Release 8:00 PM Live Audio Recap / Box					
DEC 29	MON	vs. Idaho State	Santa Clara, CA	W	90 - 66
DEC 30	TUE	Santa Clara	Santa Clara, CA	W	68 - 66
JAN 2	FRI	St. Mary's (Calif.)	PROVO, UT	SWP-KSL	W 70 - 55
JAN 7	WED	North Carolina State	Raleigh, NC	ESPN2	L 89 - 62
JAN 12	MON	San Diego State	San Diego, CA	SWP-KSL	L 61 - 64
JAN 17	SAT	Colorado State	PROVO, UT	SWP-KSL	W 82 - 53
JAN 19	MON	Wyoming	PROVO, UT	SWP-KSL	W 78 - 64
JAN 26	MON	New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM	ESPN	L 63 - 65
JAN 31	SAT	Utah	Salt Lake City, UT	ESPN+	L 56 - 64
FEB 7	SAT	UNLV	PROVO, UT	ESPN+	W 64 - 61
FEB 9	MON	San Diego State	PROVO, UT	ESPN	W 83 - 69 OT
FEB 14	SAT	Wyoming	Laramie, WY	ESPN+	W 67 - 53
FEB 16	MON	Colorado State	Fort Collins, CO	ESPN	W 79 - 73
FEB 21	SAT	New Mexico	PROVO, UT	SWP-KSL	W 88 - 71
FEB 23	MON	Air Force	PROVO, UT	SWP	W 67 - 61
MAR 1	MON	Utah	PROVO, UT	ESPN	W 70 - 57
MAR 6	SAT	UNLV	Las Vegas, NV	ABC	W 89 - 88
MAR 11	THU	vs. Wyoming	Denver, CO	ESPN+	W 79 - 74
MAR 12	FRI	vs. Utah	Denver, CO	ESPN+	L 51 - 54
MAR 18	THU	vs. Syracuse	Denver, CO	CBS	L 75 - 80

Please notice that last season we scored well against such teams as NCS, Utah, UNLV, OSU and even Syracuse. There was only one game, against Cal, when we scored less. So check your facts before pushing the buttons, because saying stupid things only make you look stupid. Scoring last season was not a problem. It's scoring more than opponent that was often our struggle.

This year we scored 50 or more in every game we played so far, including NC. But obviosly it wasn't enough to have a good record, so it doesn't matter. We could've won probably most of these games if we scored about .50 of these shots instead of .30 or less like we were doing.

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Never Mind

Posted by Nor_Cal_Coug - 2004/12/03 18:43

Phasi....PULLIN' OUT THE BIG WHOOPIN' STICK! Takin' it to the rack and jammin' it home! Good post. Although following the guys logic, we certainly have had scoring problems this year but his post was absurd.

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