NOTES AND QUOTES | BYU VS. NO. 17 SAN DIEGO STATE | FIRDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023

The following notes and quotes are from BYU's 74-65 victory over No. 17 San Diego State on Friday evening at the Marriott Center.

Series Results: BYU leads all-time series 58-27

Attendance: 15,689

# **TEAM NOTES**

#### **Marriott Center Moio**

The Cougars improved to 31-4 all-time against the Aztecs at the Marriott Center.

#### **Taking Down the Aztecs**

The Cougars have won three of the last four meetings against the Aztecs. BYU is now 4-3 against San Diego State when the Aztecs are ranked.

BYU outrebounded San Diego State 42-32. Under fifth-year head coach Mark Pope, the Cougars are now 65-17 (79.2) when outrebounding the opposition.

#### **Beating Ranked Opponents**

The win against No. 17 San Diego State marks the highest win against a ranked opponent since the win against Oregon in Portland on Nov. 16, 2021. First home win against ranked opponent since No. 2 Gonzaga 91-78 on 02/22/2020. All time 65-160 vs ranked opponents with a 29% win percentage. After the win, the Cougars 41% win percentage against ranked opponents at home, 33-48.

#### Stopping the Streak

The Cougars were outshot tonight, 44.8-42.6, but with the victory ended a seven-game losing streak when the oppositions shot a better percentage.

#### Lucky No. 17

The Cougars improved to 3-5 against teams ranked 17th in the AP Poll including their first win at home since December 22, 1952.

#### **Coming Off The Bench**

Three of BYU's five players in double figures came off the bench led by the 18 from Dallin Hall. Jaxson Robinson scored all 12 of his points in the first half with Richie Saunders contributing 10 of his 12 in the second.

# **PLAYERS NOTES**

## **Action Jaxson**

Jaxson Robinson led all scorers in the first half with 12 as the senior went 5-of-8 from the floor and 2-of-4 from 3-point range. It also marked the third time in his BYU career that he has reached double figures in the opening 20 minutes.

## Fouss on the Loose

Fousseyni Traore finished with 12 points, marking the 41st time in his career that he has scored in double figures. The Cougars improved to 27-14 when the Mali international scores 10 or more since

Friday's victory also marked the first time that the Cougars picked up a victory when Traore led the team in assist (1-3).

## Give 'Em Hall

Dallin Hall came alive in the second half, scoring 16 of his 18 points including all four of his career-high 3-pointers. The sophomore has now scored in double figures in the second half four times.

#### **CAREER HIGHS**

Free throws: Richie Saunders (6) 3-pointers: Trey Stewart (1), Dallin Hall (4)

Second Half Scoring: Dallin Hall (16), Richie Saunders (10)

NOTES AND QUOTES | BYU VS. HOUSTON CHRISTIAN | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023

# **Head Coach Mark Pope**

# On Dallin Hall's performance coming off injury...

"Dallin is one of the most diligent workers we've had roll through this gym. He's put a ton of work in the bank, and we're supremely confident in him. He's a really special player. He was a special player last year as a freshman, which is really hard to do. He's worked hard to grow and he's going to continue to be a great player here."

## On the series with San Diego State and looking forward to conference play...

"It's always been a special game for us. We had this game the first year I got here, but what we didn't have was a stretch of 18 more of them in a row. That's what we have now in the Big 12 and we have to be able to win this way."

# On working in transition...

"It was really important on both sides of the ball. I thought we were terrific transition events. San Diego State has just elite-level defenders and their gaps are so tough. So when we could get something going in transition, there was just a couple of feet more space. And it was really effective for us."

## **Dallin Hall**

### On the team effort against San Diego State...

"It was a big-time game tonight and a fist fight from the beginning. We knew what it was going to be. San Diego State is a very well-coached team. They play hard, and our coaches prepared us for such a game. My teammates out there were physical. We executed our game plan a couple of guys just really showed up to play. Everyone had a moment where they really stepped up."

# On adjusting to defensive pressure...

"We definitely made some adjustments with our spacing. It was a rusty game, especially for me coming back. We've got some things to look at in the film and to get better at but we kind of knew that is how they played defensively. I thought we executed a little better in the first half getting past that gap defender but it's something we're going to clean up and get better at."

# On celebrating this win...

"Something Dwayne Wade said that I really like is to 'celebrate moments.' We're going to celebrate tonight as a team, but then we're going to come back tomorrow and lock in for the next game. We are going to treat them as an even greater opponent than San Diego State because this is just the beginning of what we want to do."

# On a win this early in the season...

"It gives us an idea of where we are at. I don't think it affects our confidence. A lot of people have been counting us out from the start of the year, and that's never phased us. What is said in our locker room and what the people in there believe is all that we care about. We believed that, at the start of this year, we could accomplish some really great things. "