



# BYU COUGAR BASKETBALL



NOTES AND QUOTES | BYU VS. IOWA STATE | SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

The following notes and quotes are from BYU women's basketball's 80-75 loss against the Iowa State Cyclones at the Marriott Center Saturday afternoon.

Series Results: BYU leads all-time series 2-1

Attendance: 1,911

## TEAM NOTES

### BEATEN OFF THE BLOCK

BYU trailed at the end the first quarter (16-20) for the fourth consecutive game. The Cougars are 2-5 when trailing after the opening ten minutes.

### MMMM... I'LL TAKE THAT PLEASE

BYU recorded six steals in the loss to the Cyclones, four coming in the first half. The Cougars capitalized on 14 Iowa State turnovers by scoring 17 points.

### SECOND HALF WOES

The Cougars are now 8-1 this season when leading at the half, today's game being the first loss when holding the lead after the first two quarters.

### BACK TO OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED SHOOTING

After shooting sub 40 percent in its last two games, BYU returned to its season-long trend, going 49.2% from the field and 45 percent from behind the loop.

### YOU WANT DOUBLE FIGURES? BECAUSE I WANT DOUBLE FIGURES

BYU had four players, (Bubakar, Gustin, Whiting and Woolston) finish in double-figures. The Cougars are now 3-2 this season when four or more players exceed the 10-point threshold.

### SECOND-CHANCE POINTS

The Cyclones grabbed 13 offensive boards and turned them into 21 second-chance points. In contrast, the Cougars only scored 13 second-chance points off of seven offensive rebounds.

## PLAYER NOTES

### I'LL DOUBLE THAT

Lauren Gustin recorded her 70th career double-double and 14th of the season, accruing 14 points with 14 rebounds. Gustin shot was 7-of-17 from the field and contributed four assists.

### WILL YOU ACCEPT THIS ROSE...

Coming off the bench, Rose Bubakar contributed a season-high 11 points in 17 minutes. Entering the game in the second quarter, Bubakar went 3-4 on field goals, scoring six points in those 10 minutes alone. She also made a three pointer in the third to best her previous season high of eight.

### YOU CAUGHT ME SMILING

Kaylee Smiler made a season-high three 3-pointers, finishing with nine points on the afternoon. Smiler contributed three assists and one steal for the Cougars.

### FLOOR GENERAL WHITING

Amari Whiting notched a career high in assists (9). Whiting also grabbed four steals in the contest for the second time in her career while scoring 12 points with five made field goals.



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## **BYU CAREER HIGHS**

Assists: Amari Whiting (9)

Steals: Amari Whiting (4, tie)

Field Goals: Kailey Woolston (7, tie)

## **BYU SEASON HIGHS**

Points: Rose Bubakar (11)

Assists: Amari Whiting (9)

Steals: Amari Whiting (4); Rose Bubakar (2, tie)

Field Goals: Kailey Woolston (7, tie); Rose Bubakar (5)

## **Amber Whiting - BYU Head Coach**

### **Opening Statement...**

"I'm really really proud of my women tonight. I know it's a loss, but to have that kind of fight... I'll take that any night of the week. If we had felt like that last game, we probably would've won. They're going to win a lot of games if they bring that every night, and I'm super proud of them."

### **On the key to "bringing it" every night...**

"Got to show up. Focus. It starts in shoot-around. We had a pretty good and intense film session after our last game, and I got into a couple players really hard. I felt like that woke them up. We got to play together. We got to play connected. I had four players in double figures again and that's good. We are sharing the ball with 22 assists. We got to stay there and I know that's going to start the momentum. They'll get a win and it'll catch fire for them."

### **Lauren Gustin on the defensive strategy...**

"They are a great team. Well balanced. They got shooters, they got drivers and obviously a great post as well. I think our coaches did a good job at really breaking down Iowa State's film and having this focus on just playing really aggressively. To have a lot of toughness and grit right from the start, and following our principles like we always work on. I think that for this game we came in right from the start defensively and let that fuel our offense. We try to take pride in our defense and we just wanted to fight right at tip-off. "

### **Rose Bubakar on her overall performance...**

"I felt more confident and focused going into this game than other games. I say before every game, 'Play on. Attack.' Sometimes it comes through and sometimes it doesn't, but today Amber told all of us to take a deep breath and take a second to really focus on what we said we were going to do for this team and for this game. I took it personally, and I went out and started off the bat and do what I do best, and that codified on me."