



BYU MEN'S BASKETBALL

NOTES AND QUOTES | NO. 18 BYU AT NO. 14 BAYLOR | TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024

The following notes and quotes are from No. 18 BYU's 81-72 loss against No. 14 Baylor Tuesday night at Foster Pavilion in Waco.

Series Results: Baylor leads 6-5

Attendance: 7,500

TEAM NOTES

A Triple Short

For just the second time this season BYU didn't connect on 10 or more 3-pointers as the Cougars went 9-of-24 from beyond the arc. Both games have been on the road.

Second Half Struggles

BYU was outscored in the second half for a second consecutive game after entering the game having outscored opponents by 177 points in the second half entering the game.

Back and Forth

The game saw 17 lead changes and eight ties.

Bench Back at It

The Cougars bench returned to its scoring ways, outscoring the Bears 26-19.

Record as No. 18

The Cougars fell to 24-4 overall and 6-4 on the road when ranked 18th in the AP Poll.

PLAYERS NOTES

Hall-way

For the first time this season, Dallin Hall scored the first points of the game for the Cougar with his layup at 18:01. The sophomore also extended his 3-point streak to 10 games with a triple under four minutes left in the second half.

Fast Start for Mr. Robinson

Jaxson Robinson scored all of 10 points in the first half marking the seventh time this season the senior has scored in double figures in the opening 20 minutes.

Johnson & Johnson

With a season-high three 3-pointers on Tuesday, Spencer Johnson now has 115 3-pointers during his time at BYU which are the 19th most in program history.

Knell'd It

Trevin Knell scored in double figures in a season-best five straight games after going 5-of-8 from the floor and 3-of-5 from 3-point range. The redshirt junior now has hit three or more 3-pointers in a game 21 times during his BYU career, tied for the 11th most in program history with Andy Toolson.

SEASON HIGHS

3-Pointers: Spencer Johnson (3)

Steals: Noah Waterman (1)

Blocks: Richie Saunders (1)

Minutes: Trevin Knell (31), Jaxson Robinson (32)

CAREER HIGHS

Minutes: Trevin Knell (31)



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Opening Statement

"Congratulations to Baylor, they were great tonight but I am proud of my guys as they fought hard. It didn't go the way we wanted it to but I'm really proud of them. They put a ton of fight into it. We could have executed a little bit better on the offensive and defensive end down the stretch but that's a space we're going have to keep growing."

Play of Jaxson Robinson as a point guard

"We are just trying to get Jaxson on the floor more. I thought he was really good we were kind of threw him into the fire off one day of practice. He got some reps at the one earlier in the season but I thought he responded well in a great environment on the road. He's got the capability of really making a huge impact a the point as well as the two and three."

Sending Baylor to the free throw line

"Our job right now is to really break into that and see how we could have done this better and kept them off the free throw line. There's a ton of effort and a ton of energy on the floor. Our guys are playing really tough and really hard and we just have to know what we're going to do. We are going to dig into the film and find the avenue of how we can pacify the whistle a little bit."

Baylor's late 3-point field goals

"Baylor did a tremendous job of spreading us out and attacking us off the bounce. We lost the integrity of our shell defensive principles a little bit and the gaps became a little bit bigger. There was some moments where we lost our particular game plan of guarding them, kind of giving them stuff we didn't want them to have. They are a terrific team. They play well and that is why because they're really good at that."

Turnovers numbers going up in Big 12 play

"There is going to be a little bit of aggression when the next 18 games we are playing Top 25 teams. It's more of an even playing field. It's only our second game on the road so there's space in there. That is something that we are going to grow into, that we are excited to grow into. It's one of the beautiful things about being in this league as we get to figure this out and grow into this. We will because I have guys that are really devoted and dedicated so we'll keep going into it."

Guarding Baylor's pick-and-roll

"A little bit of a mixed bag. They are really good at it. I thought our guys did a really good job. We were a best route for most of the night. We got to switching one to five later in the game and one of the things when you do that is guys chase away instead of keeping the gap integrity. We did that a little bit but there were some effective defensive possessions switching one through five. We attacked in several different ways."

Fousseyni Traore's performance

"He was out for so long, conditioning and mobility wise. Being thrust into this league, there is going to be a little bit of a growth curve for him but I felt he had a bigger impact on the game tonight than he did against Cincinnati, which is really important. He's barely scratching the surface of himself as we know. He had some terrific defensive plays late in the game where he was switching on to some of their more explosive guards and he held his ground. I was proud of him for that."