



# BYU COUGAR BASKETBALL



NOTES AND QUOTES | BYU VS. CINCINNATI | SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024

The following notes and quotes are from BYU women's basketball's 68-58 win over the Cincinnati Bearcats at the Marriott Center on Saturday evening.

Series Results: 2-0 (2-0 at the Marriott Center)

Attendance: 1,876

## TEAM NOTES

### FIRST BIG 12 VICTORY

BYU's 68-58 win over Cincinnati marks the team's first win as a member of the Big 12 Conference. Both the men's and women's teams took home their first Big 12 wins with the men taking down the UCF Knights in Orlando, 63-58.

### LEADING AT THE HALF

BYU scored 38 first-half points, its most points in the first half since scoring 39 points in a win over the Utah State Aggies on December 5th. The Cougars improved to 9-1 when leading at the half this season.

### FIRST HALF FIREPOWER

BYU went 6-13 from the behind the 3-point line and an overall 50 percent from the floor in the first half.

### SUCCESSFUL SHOOTING

BYU shot 48.1 percent from the floor, outshooting the Bearcat's who posted a 33.9 percent from the field. The Cougars are 11-4 when shooting a higher percentage from the field than their opponent.

### POINTS OFF TURNOVERS

BYU capitalized on 12 Bearcat turnovers, turning them into 20 points.

### BLOCK PARTY

The Cougars sent away six Cincinnati shots and were led by Emma Calvert's three blocks. Lauren Davenport finished with two blocks, the fourth time this season in which the junior has finished with two or more blocks. Kailey Woolston recorded the final of six Cougar blocks.

### PLAYING WITH THE LEAD

BYU held a lead for 31:50 throughout the game and coming into the game tonight, the Cougars had led for just 17:02 of game time in conference play.

### BYU CAREER HIGHS

Rebounds: 3 (Ali'a Matavao)

Block: 2 (8x Lauren Davenport), 1 (4x Kailey Woolston)

### BYU SEASON HIGHS

Rebounds: 3 (Ali'a Matavao)

Assists: 7 (Kaylee Smiler)

Block: 2 (4x Lauren Davenport), 1 (4x Kailey Woolston)

Steals: 1 (5x Lauren Davenport)



# BYU COUGAR BASKETBALL



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

## QUOTES

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

#### **Opening Statement**

“First Big 12 win. This is huge. The ladies celebrated hard in the locker room. I could not be more proud of them. I told them it was going to take everyone, and they all came together, and not one person went astray. Everybody just bought in, everybody came together, and they got it done. So I was really proud of them.”

On celebrating the victory

“Some games throughout the preseason, I came into the locker room and it was kind of quiet, and I’m like, no, we have to jump up and down and yell and scream and dance, because winning at the division one level is hard and the Big 12 is even harder. I can’t even express how the margin of error is just so slim. When we get one of these we have to jump around, scream, yell and have fun together because that’s what makes it memorable.”

#### **On Cincinnati’s third-quarter push**

“Just knowing that every single team is going to punch, and it’s like a fight you have to punch back. You can’t take more punches than you land.”

### **LAUREN DAVENPORT - JUNIOR GUARD**

#### **On the crowd energy**

“I’d give a lot of credit to the crowd. When the crowd feeds us, we also feed off of that energy. I thought that was super important for us. We just hit shots tonight and we kept rolling.”

#### **On the importance of starting strong**

“The start of games pertains to everything. We get down a lot and then we’re right there with [teams] the rest of the game. If you look at the point margins, we’re super close, but it’s that same lead [opponents] had at the very start of the quarter. I think we started today off super well with a punch and kept rolling with it, instead of starting slow and gaining that momentum.”

#### **On her solid offensive and defensive performance**

“I told coach on the plane that I felt a lot better with my defense, like staying down and not jumping out at shooters. With blocks, I feel like I anticipate pretty well. Offensively, I’ve been a lot more confident. Kudos to my teammates for giving me wide open shots. Once I sink one, then I feel like momentum starts going. I’ve felt super confident.”

### **KATRINA MERRIWEATHER - CINCINNATI HEAD COACH**

#### **On playing against BYU...**

“BYU just executed better, and that is why they won the game.”

#### **On playing in the Big 12...**

“There is not one night off in the Big 12. There is not one game that you enter and say, ‘This one is going to be okay.’ There is never that feeling. Instead, it is, ‘Here we go again.’ So we watch film, get in the lab, put together a game plan, and try to execute that plan.”