



# BYU MEN'S BASKETBALL

NOTES AND QUOTES | NO. 20 BYU VS. NO. 25 TEXAS TECH | MARCH 14, 2024

The following notes and quotes are from No. 20 BYU's 66-81 loss against Texas Tech on Thursday morning in the quarterfinals of the Phillips 66 Big 12 Men's Basketball Championship at the T-Mobile Center in Kansas City, Mo.

**Series Results:** Tied 3-3

## TEAM NOTES

### *Down Early*

In Thursday's loss to Texas Tech, BYU trailed by 20 at any point in a game for just the second time this season as the Red Raiders led by a game-high 23 points at the 2:10 mark in the first half.

### *Bench Bringing It*

The second unit finished with 43 points marking the 12th time this season the bench has scored 40 or more points in a game.

### *No Quit*

BYU went on a 15-0 run late in the second half which is tied for the Cougars largest run against a Big 12 opponent this season.

### *Another Top 25 Matchup*

BYU saw its two-game win streak against ranked opponents come to an end on Thursday as they fell to 4-4 against Top 25 teams this season.

## PLAYERS NOTES

### *Make It 20 Straight*

Jaxson Robinson extended his 3-point streak to 20 games as the senior went 4-of-12 from 3-point range. It also marked the 13th time this season and 22nd time in his BYU career that he has hit three or more 3-pointers in a game.

His 76 3-pointers this season are tied for the 12th most in a single season with TJ Haws (2016-17). He has also attempted the seventh most triples in a single season (216).

### *Moving Up The Ranks*

With his seven assists on Thursday, Dallin Hall brought his season total to 166 which is the seventh-most in a single season in program history.

### *Steady As He Goes*

Fousseyni Traore scored in double figures for a third straight game as the junior finished with 13 points going 6-of-8 from the floor. His 1,015 career points are tied for the 52nd most in program history with Dave Eastis.

## SEASON HIGHS

**Steals:** Dallin Hall (2)



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BYU Head Coach Mark Pope

## *Opening Statement*

"Ton of credit to Texas Tech. They played great tonight. I thought they were really focused. I thought they were completely dialed in. I thought that they -- it's been incredible to watch them make an adjustment with the way they play and how they play, losing such a dominant force inside like they have. They have reinvented themselves in a really spectacular way and I thought they were terrific tonight."

"We were disappointed with how things went. Certainly disappointed with the outcome. Sometimes you're out on the court and it feels like it's so hard to make progress and there were a number of statistical reasons for that, but it was a really frustrating night for us -- morning."

***When this team doesn't make shots, is there a tendency to kind of let other parts of the game lose focus, like defense or rebounding? If that's the case, how did you manage to get them to try to get away from that?***

"Yeah, you know, sometimes you're climbing uphill a little bit. And like I said, I credit Texas Tech a lot. Their speed and the explosiveness that they cut with over and over and over again, and their ability to get downhill and finish, or they hit us from the three point line early, so a ton of credit goes to them, but for sure sometimes in the game you're fighting an uphill battle and things start to disintegrate a little bit. And our team has been really resilient. That's the standard we have. It's what we expect and it's how we perform most often. It was a struggle all night long for us. It was a struggle all night long. The guys hung in there. There were a few moments where it felt like we barely got over the edge and we were the aggressor, but for the vast majority of the night we were on our heels offensively and defensively tonight."

***Your first Big 12 Tournament experience, just the overall experience of Kansas City for you?***

"It's an incredible venue. We're so grateful to be here. We're so grateful to be a part of this league. Even on nights like this, right? We're still just full of gratitude for the opportunity to be here and excited to learn and be pushed and challenged and grow and this league certainly does that and it certainly gave us the opportunity today. So we're -- we're really excited to be a part of this in the coming years."

Jaxson Robinson

***You guys got off to such a great start yesterday and today just the opposite. What contributed to the slower start today?***

"That's just how the game works. We don't get to choose when we make shots and when we don't, but what matters is if we're going to come out there and fight. I felt like by the time we decided to put up that fight it was too late."

***This team has put itself in a position to play in the NCAA Tournament. You've got a couple of days before Selection Sunday and Coach said this is a player-led team. What are you guys going to be focusing on over the next couple days to get ready for the tournament?***

"This loss, it obviously hurts but, like you said, we have the tournament coming up so we have to move on. We will digest the film, stuff like that, look over it. But essentially we've gotta move on to the next game and focus on what's ahead. We got bigger goals, so that's what matters."

Spencer Johnson

***What did you think of your energy from the tip? It seemed like Texas Tech just had a little bit more "want to" or energy I guess you could call it.***

"That's something we talked about just barely as a team. They came out really aggressive, we came out a little bit flat. That was maybe the frustrating part, was we just didn't set the tone early in the game like we should have and, like Coach said, just trying to playing catch-up the whole time."

***You led the team in rebounding tonight. You've done that a couple times this year, but what made rebounding against this Texas Tech team so difficult? What can you learn from that because this is probably not going to be your last game this season?***

"Their guards did a really good job of coming down and rebounding down and one thing we can learn from that is we actually have to get a hit, right? I think a lot of us got caught ball watching. We would watch the shot go up and we wouldn't hit our guy and they would come in and hit us first and that really burned us, man. That's something we can learn. We got to set the tone by hitting our guy and keepin' them off the glass."