



# BYU MEN'S BASKETBALL

NOTES AND QUOTES | NO. 21 BYU VS. DUQUESNE | MARCH 21, 2024

The following notes and quotes are from sixth-seeded BYU's 71-67 loss against 11th-seeded Duquesne on Thursday morning in the Round of 64 of the NCAA Tournament at the CHI Health Center in Omaha, Neb.

**Series Results:** Duquesne leads 3-0

## TEAM NOTES

### *Another State Off The List*

BYU has now played an NCAA Tournament game in 23 different states with today's matchup Duquesne in Omaha, Neb. The Cougars have played in eight states multiple times including four times in Utah.

### *In A League Of Their Own*

BYU has now played an NCAA Tournament game against 16 different conferences as Thursday marked the Cougars' game against a school from the Atlantic 10 in the Big Dance.

### *Bench Success*

BYU entered Thursday's game ranked sixth in the nation in bench points per game and the Cougars showed why as the second unit finished with 40 points. Jaxson Robinson and Fousseyni Traore combined for 36 of those points with Robinson finishing with a game-high 25 points.

### *Get To 70 Points*

BYU finished the season 1-7 when scoring less than 69 points with the lone winning coming against UCF on January 13, 2024 in Orlando, Fla.

### *Coming Off A Loss*

The Cougars' five-game winning streak following a loss was snapped with their defeat to Duquesne.

### *Trailing With 5:00 Minutes Left*

The Cougars dropped to 1-11 on the year when trailing or tied with five minutes left in the game. On the flip side, BYU finished its season 22-0 when leading with five minutes to go.

### *3YU*

BYU finished the season with a program record 378 3-pointers. It's 1,087 attempts are also the most in a single season in program history.

### *23 Victories*

The Cougars' 23 victories this season are tied for the third-most wins in a season for head coach Mark Pope in his career leading a program.

### *Big 12 Success*

In its first year as a member of the Big 12, BYU notched 10 conference victories, the most since the Cougars won 10 WCC games in the 2020-21 season.

## PLAYERS NOTES

### *Leading Scorer Robinson*

Robinson scored a team-high 25 points on 8-for-15 shooting from the floor. Robinson, who went 5-of-11 from 3-point range, scored the most points in an NCAA Tournament game for BYU since Tyler Haws had 33 points against Ole Miss in 2015.

### *Double-Double Johnson*

Spencer Johnson secured his fourth double-double of the season, finishing with 11 points and 16 rebounds which are the third-most in a NCAA Tournament game in program history. He finished the season with a team-high 58 offensive rebounds.

### *Deck the Halls*

Dallin Hall had six assists in the setback giving him 172 on the season which is the sixth-most in a single season in program history. The sophomore also had a career-high four steals.

### *Movin' On Up*

With his 11 points in the loss, Fousseyni Traore moved up to 52nd on the all-time scoring list with 1,026 points.

## SEASON HIGHS

**Assists:** Richie Saunders (4)

**Rebounds:** Spencer Johnson (16)

**Steals:** Dallin Hall (4)

## CAREER HIGHS

**Assists:** Richie Saunders (4)

**Rebounds:** Spencer Johnson (16)

**Steals:** Dallin Hall (4)



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## BYU Head Coach Mark Pope

### *Opening Statement*

"Tons of congratulations to Duquesne. They are on a great run, and they earned the win. Certainly fought like crazy and earned the win. So congratulations to them.

Just a devastating day for us for sure. It's devastating because we lost. It's devastating because we won't move on. And mostly it's devastating because we don't get to get in the gym together again.

So major congratulations to Duquesne. And so proud of my guys. This is incredibly painful. But I know how this goes. It will dissipate to some degree and will be replaced with an insane amount of gratitude for these guys sitting here, what they've dedicated to each other and to BYU, and the things that they were able to accomplish this year.

And that will stay with us forever."

### *On his message to the team following the game*

"It's a terrible time. Just seeing the locker room universally devastated, and there's nothing to do to fix it, and there's not another game to go make it better.

And so just very briefly expressed, you know, how much I love these guys and how grateful I am for them and everything that they've done for each other this year and grateful for the ride that they've taken us all on.

And it's been beyond incredible, and just profoundly sad that it's over."

### *On having a young roster and moving forward*

"We understand what a multi-year process it is. From year one last year to year two was epic growth and progression. I think our program is hungry to continue getting better. We've made massive strides in that area. And at some point, you know, we'll be progressing in this tournament, and Jaxson and Spencer will be a big part of that because they opened the door to this first season in the Big 12."

## Spencer Johnson

### *On things not going right for BYU in the game*

"It's just kind of how the game went. I don't know. I felt like we did a good job of battling back, and we put ourselves in some good situations, and then we hurt ourselves sometimes."

### *Reflecting on his BYU career*

"For me, it's been an absolute dream to be able to play here for four years. To see the growth that we've taken as a program, as individuals. It's been incredible. So grateful to everybody, our administration, our athletic directors, coaches, Coach Pope and his entire staff. So awesome. They have taken all of us kind of from spots in our lives where things weren't going super great, you know, for whatever reason, whether that be in life or in basketball, and they've given us a chance and a new place and an opportunity to go and take a new future. To watch all of us grow through the course of this year and through the course of these four years that I've been here is -- there's no words for it. But it's been incredible. So grateful."

## Jaxson Robinson

### *On moving forward and what this team has meant to him*

"Speaking specifically for this dude right here (Spencer Johnson), I mean, he's my brother. He's the ultimate leader. He's led this team the whole season. And we wouldn't want anybody else to do it. I can speak for everybody in the locker room when I say that. And, I mean, Coach Pope has been a great coach. He's helped me so much, mentored me. I couldn't be here without him. He took a chance on me, and I'm forever in debt for that. This loss sucks. Like Coach Pope said, want to be back here next year. I'm already thinking about it. But."