



2024-25 BYU COUGAR BASKETBALL



17 All-Americans || 15 NCAA Tournament Appearances || 13 Conf. Titles || 12 Conf. POY || 6 Conf. DPOY || 5 Conf. Tournament Titles

Game 12 || BYU vs. Arizona || Dec. 12, 2024 || Marriott Center || Provo, UT

The following notes are from BYU women's basketball's 57-53 loss to the Arizona Wildcats on Saturday afternoon at the Marriott Center in Provo.

Series Results: With the win, Arizona knots the series at seven games apiece, but BYU still leads the all-time series in Provo 3-2.

Attendance: 1,158

TEAM NOTES

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ANOTHER BOARD

The Cougars outrebounded the Wildcats 38-36 in the contest. Freshman Delaney Gibb led BYU with eight total rebounds, six on the defensive end and two on the offensive glass.

ROCKIN' AROUND THE THREE-POINT LINE

BYU shot 33.8% from the behind arc making 8-of-24 shots. Gibb dropped five from behind the line to match her career high that she obtained in the Cougars' last game against Washington State on Dec. 13.

I'LL HAVE A (ROYAL) BLUE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT YOU

BYU has gone 6-4 in the last game before Christmas over the past 10 seasons.

THE SECOND QUARTER IS THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

The Cougars came back from a 18-8 deficit at the start of the second quarter to finish with a five point lead (30-25). BYU went on a 14-0 run with Gibb contributing eight points alone in the series and 13 points overall in the quarter. The Cougars defense held the Wildcats to seven points in the quarter.

PLAYERS NOTES

HOW THE GIBB STOLE CHRISTMAS

Gibb led BYU with 23 points while making 5-of-7 offerings from behind the three-point line. The freshman also led the team with eight rebounds and three steals on the night.

EVERY TIME AMARI GETS AN ASSIST, AN ANGEL GETS ITS WINGS

Whiting led the Cougars with five assists. BYU saw 11 assists on the night matching the Wildcats in that category.

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE WASHINGTON STATE

Gibb's 13-point second-quarter performance mirrored her third-quarter outburst at Washington State last weekend where she recorded 14 points coming out of the half. Gibb went 1-1 from behind the arc in the third period against Washington State while going 3-3 in the third period against Arizona.

CAREER HIGHS

Points:

Rebounds: Delaney Gibb || 8

Assists:

Steals:

Blocks: Kambree Barber || 1 (x2)

Field Goals:

3-PT Field Goals: Delaney Gibb || 5

Free Throws:

Minutes Played: Delaney Gibb || 38 (x2)

SEASON HIGHS

Points: Kendra Gillispie || 6

Rebounds: Gillispie || 5

Assists:

Steals:

Blocks: Kambree Barber || 1 (x2), Emma Calvert || 3 (x2)

Field Goals: Kendra Gillispie || 2 (x2)

3-PT Field Goals: Delaney Gibb || 5 (x2)

Free Throws:

Minutes Played: Delaney Gibb || 38 (x2)



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AMBER WHITING - BYU HEAD COACH

OPENING STATEMENT

"This is a learning experience type of game, we can't start soft. I don't think it comes down to those last two plays, it comes down to the whole game, we can't start like that and that's our given."

ON GAME LEVEL

"I think the physicality got to us to start out the game and I think that we weren't getting to our spots quick enough. It made it so we were trying to run our plays in 10, 11, 12 seconds we want to do that to other teams that's not where we want to operate. To let them come in here and do that to us is frustrating but we'll fix it."

ON TURNING THE GAME IN THE SECOND

"We started taking the game into our own hands. We believed in each other, we believed in what we were doing, and started finding shooters and locking down defensively."

ON DEFENSE AGAINST BREYA CUNNINGHAM

"We have to be physical, we let her get so many easy catches up front and I think that reflects on her stats 10-15 from the field. That's not going to be acceptable and not going to let us win if we're going to keep giving that up."

#11 - DELANEY GIBB

ON THE FIRST BIG 12 GAME

"They were physical and they were playing hard. For my first Big 12 game I had to kind of snap out of it. It started out really physical and everyone emphasized that, but I don't think I realized what it was going to be like. Now I know what the Big 12 will be like going forward so I'm excited to have that one under my belt."

On if this is the best game of her career

"No, because ultimately we didn't win and I think that is my number one priority."

#35 - KENDRA GILLISPIE

ON CHANGE BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD QUARTER

"It was just momentum, if it wasn't halftime it might have been different game. We just have to find those spurts and I feel like we did, we were right there we just got push through."

ON ROLE OFF THE BENCH

"My role is just to play hard. Do what I can do for the team, whether that's rebounding, scoring or whatever the case may be, I just want to win."

ADIA BARNES - ARIZONA HEAD COACH

OPENING STATEMENT

"This was a really important game for a lot of reasons for us, because for a coach ... the way you start right before Christmas, right after finals, it's always a really hard game. As a coach when you're scheduling, when it's not conference, you always want to play a game that you're really confident winning at these times: finals, Christmas; because everybody's focused on going home and not focused... that's for both teams. It was really important for us to get this win, because we have a long break after and just momentum going into conference. Those things are really important. We have a young team, and I'm glad we were able to steal this game on the road."

ON TRYING TO SHUTDOWN DELANEY GIBB

"I think BYU is a really good team. We could not find an answer for Gibb. She was phenomenal today and started in the second quarter just hitting shots. She had almost half of their points ... was really killing us. They're a good team, and they have a lot of weapons."