BYU MEN'S BASKETBALL NOTES & QUOTES

November 6, 2026
No. 25 BYU 108, Omaha 67
Provo, Utah (Marriott Center)

TEAM NOTES

THREE IS OUR FAVORITE NUMBER

Highlighted by Tyler Betsey's six 3-pointers, the Cougars made 16 shots from beyond the arc, which is the most since 16 against Eastern Washington on Dec. 22, 2025.

STARTERS FOR A REASON

All five of BYU's starters each posted a 3-pointer in the first half, led by Tyler Betsey's four. Collin Chandler, Robert Wright III, Jaxon Kohler and Bruce Branch III each knocked down one, respectively.

I GOTCHU

Led by Collin Chandler and Brooks Bahr's five apiece, the Cougars totaled 22 assists in tonight's game, which is the most since 23 against Eastern Washington on Dec. 22, 2025. Additionally, eleven of the twelve players that entered the game added at least one assist.

SEEING DOUBLE

For the second consecutive game, five or more Cougars scored in double figures. Robert Wright III led the way with 19 points, while Tyler Betsey, Collin Chandler, Bruce Branch III, Jaxon Kohler and Jake Wahlin also reached double digits. The six double-digit scorers mark the first time BYU has had six players score at least 10 points in a game since Dec. 11, 2024, when Trevin Knell, Richie Saunders, Dawson Baker, Dallin Hall, Keba Keita and Kanon Catchings accomplished the feat in a 95-67 win over Fresno State.

NEW SEASON, NEW US

With Monday's 94-83 win over Ohio State, BYU has now scored 90 or more points in consecutive games to open the season for the first time since the 2014-15 season. Additionally, the Cougars have scored 90 or more points 24 times under head coach Kevin Young, the second-most in the Big 12 since 2024.

THE YOUNG WAY

BYU shot 55.7 percent (39-of-70) from the field tonight. This makes the Cougars 31-1 under head coach Kevin Young when shooting 50 percent or better.

A GOOD START

Tonight's 108 points are the most BYU has scored since a home opener against Houston Christian on Nov. 6, 2023, where the Cougars defeated the Huskies 110-63.

OUR HOUSE

With tonight's win, BYU has now won 27 straight non-conference games at home, and 21 straight home openers. Additionally, the Cougars hit 16 straight wins over unranked non-conference opponents in the regular season.

PLAYER NOTES

CONSECUTIVELY CONSISTENT

After going an impressive 4-6 from beyond the arc on Monday night against Ohio State, Tyler Betsey continued his hot shooting and notched 3+ 3FG in consecutive games for the third time in his career. Betsey is also off to a blistering start, shooting 71% from three over the first two games of the season.

HE KNOWS HIS WAY AROUND TOWN

Freshman Dean Rueckert, who played his high school ball just up the road in Provo at Timpview High School, logged his first career minutes for the Cougars, recording four rebounds.

TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER

After only leading the Cougars in total points five times through 35 games last season, Robert Wright notched his second consecutive game leading BYU in scoring, dropping 19 points on 72% shooting from the field.

THAT'S A NO FROM ME
Following a season opener that saw no BYU players record any blocks, Jake Wahlin and Bruce Branch each swatted two of their own.

ON HIS NINTH LIFE
Clemson transfer Jake Wahlin reached double digits for the ninth time in his career, scoring 10 points in his second appearance for the Cougars.

QUOTES

Head Coach Kevin Young

On what is going well with the offense this season…
"I was really happy with our ability to score off of our defense. Tonight was a little bit different because we added on 22 assists, whereas the other night I think we only had 12. I was really happy with the way the ball was flying around, and to go 16-of-35 from three. We have a lot of guys who can make threes on this team. I think one of the coaches told me nine different guys made a three. On one hand, I feel bad that I didn't play Tyler more. I felt like he could have made 10 or 12 threes in that game, but I wanted to give Brody and Dean some extended minutes. So, sorry, Tyler."

On Brody and Dean …
"They were good. Brody's worked his tail off to get back. He's had a tough go since he's been here, and he's a guy that's really solid. He's not going to make a lot of mistakes. He unfortunately didn't make a three tonight, but he shot it well in practice, so I trust him. And for Dean to come in and have four rebounds was impressive, he's a guy that can really shoot the basketball. He's a young guy with an extremely bright future. I'm just trying to preach patience to him, and he's been phenomenal in terms of learning. He's doing all the things we're asking of him."

On rotating the lineups tonight …
"We had a base of what we wanted to look at coming into the game. It's really hard to play a lot of guys, but there are certain things that we felt like we wanted to see, and I felt like this was a good game to do it."

On Bruce having a complete game …
"The thing he will always do, no matter what is going on on the offensive end, is play defense. He's got defensive player of the year type potential. He's another guy like Dean, who's obviously very young and just kind of learning on the fly. I'm really happy with where he's at right now."

On Rob's efficiency this season …
"It doesn't feel like he's worrying about anything other than just playing basketball. I think part of it is the design of the team. There's a lot of guys that allow Rob to do what he can do. Having this big that can space, there's more gaps and the rim is open more. Like tonight, he only had one assist, but if we're charting hockey assists, he probably had five or six. He's able to get the defense to collapse. He's been a catalyst for us in both games, and he will continue to be all season. He's playing at a high level, and I think what made me proudest tonight was his defensive effort."

On zero points being allowed off of fast breaks …
"I was just telling the guys afterwards that I don't know if I've ever seen a stat in a game where it's 31 to zero on fast break points. That's pretty remarkable. I thought we played too slow against Ohio State, so we worked on that quite a bit leading up to this game. Defensively, we also had 15 offensive rebounds, so it's hard to run when we're getting offensive rebounds and things like that. I thought we did a nice job, and I also thought our full court man pressure wore them down."

On Jaxon's success …
"He's an unselfish player, and that's actually the thing that impressed me the most when we were recruiting him. There's a lot of players in his spot when you're talking about this fifth year that you didn't think you had. When I asked him, 'what are you trying to get out of this fifth year?', he did not say one thing about himself. It was one of the most impressive conversations I've had since I've been recruiting. It wasn't like, 'hey, I want to showcase that I can do this,' or 'I want to play more on the perimeter,' it was 'I just want to win, and I want to be around a group of guys that hold each other accountable and have fun doing it.' We can see that in the way he plays the game, so it's impressive."

Tyler Betsey

On how he has been able to shoot the ball so well to start the year…
"I just put in a lot of work, a lot of reps. We got a manager named Stanley and every time I text him he rebounds for me so I give a lot of credit to him."

Bruce Branch III

Opening statement
"I'm actually really proud of us today with our first game at home in the Marriott Center. Our biggest focus was starting off the first five minutes of the game as hard as we can and we delivered."

On starting slow vs. Ohio State and what changed today as he played a complete game…
"The biggest thing was that I was forcing it a lot and not letting the game just come to me. I was really focused on defense, defending, and rebounding this game and had a better game than the last two so I'm proud of myself."

On how the team carries offensive momentum onto the defensive side of the ball…
"The biggest thing Coach tells us is disposition, just that care factor and just wanting to protect the rim. We're all getting blocks, we're all getting steals and our defense is coming together, and it's going to be a fun year."

Jake Wahlin

On being one of six players in double figures…
"I think we're a super talented group. One of the attractive parts for me was just knowing that different guys are capable of different things, and each night it'll be somebody else's night, and that's a fun way to play."

On what it meant to play in the Marriott Center in a BYU uniform…
"It was fun. It's a place I grew up coming to watch the games and to be on the court is definitely surreal."

On what the team wants to get out of the rest of the non-conference slate…
"I think we just keep focusing on ourselves and improving each day. I think we just take it one game at a time and focus on the preparation and the process of preparing for each game and come Big 12 time we'll be locked and ready to go."