

HB Arnett's



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Tyler Haws and 42 Points...This is why they invented Virginia Tech

Tyler Haws, the nine-month removed missionary from the Philippines, went Manila in mauling Virginia Tech single handedly with 42 points last Saturday afternoon in Energy Solutions Arena in Salt Lake City. The final: BYU 97 VT 71 TH 42.

Okay, to be accurate in matching missions with maulings, Haws went Quezon City Crazy in crushing the Hokies who looked about as hokey as the come defensively.

At the intermission, Haws had just two points less than the entire VaTech team. That would be 29 for Haws and 31 for the Hokies. Throw in another 27 points from the rest of the roster for the Cougars and at 56-31, this game was an official rout after the first 20 minutes of play.

Granted, it may have been just a one-game anomaly for Virginia Tech but in that one game matinee appearance in Salt Lake, they looked more like a third world entry in a FIBA tournament than what they actually are: A legitimate third tier ACC basketball entity.

For Haws, he went first-tier in BYU basketball's single-game scoring hierarchy.

Who's Your Daddy?

It's a list that before Saturday included only 8 former BYU players. They were Dave Eastis, Bob Skousen, John Fairchild, Dick Nemelka, Danny Ainge, Timo Saarelainen and of course Jimmer Fredette multiple times.

Oh yeah, Marty Haws, Tyler's dad, was also on that list, but no nepotism was needed for Tyler to join the list along with his dad. They both earn the accolade the old fashion way. Just keep shooting and making baskets.

With both of the Haws, the father and son, now on that list, It's the first time I can remember when street talk smack of "Who's your daddy?" could actually legitimately be uttered in BYU basketball banter.

Along with the banter of Haws' 40-plus points, there was also some legitimate battering taking place in the low post against the Hokies. Virginia Tech had no answer for Brandon Davies. He scored 17 points despite being double-teamed most of the night and kicking the ball out to Haws.

How good were Haws and Davies in this game? Here are a few things Virginia Tech first-year coach James Johnson had to say in his post game comments.

On Tyler Haws' performance:

"He was special, he was special. He's a really good player, I mean, he's a really good player. He can score in a lot of different ways. He's savvy, he's crafty, he's smart; he's probably one of the best guards we'll play against all year long. He had a really good day and he came out right from the start."

On trying to slow Haws in the second half:

"Well we tried to go no look, no touch on him and try to get away from our help principles a little bit and try and not let him touch the ball as much. That's kind of uncharacteristic of what we do but we tried to slow him down a little bit. It kept him from getting 60 tonight."

On playing in Salt Lake City:

"It was good, we've played in hostile environments before. They had a great crowd and they were ready to play. You've got to give them credit. They played really well, all their guys, they've got a really good team. They have good guards, an NBA guard, an NBA post player and then they've got good depth coming off the bench. Coach Rose does a great job with them and they were prepared and ready to go."

With the win, the Cougars now move to 10-4 on the year while Tech falls to 9-4. The Cougars now get ready for the start of WCC play beginning this Thursday in Provo with a matchup against Loyola Marymount.

Lions Blowing into Town

The Lions are coming in with a 7-6 record, including their latest win, a 73-66 win over CSU Bakersfield. Anthony Ireland, the junior guard, had 27 points in that game.

You might remember Ireland, he was the guy that ate BYU up in Provo last season when the Lions handed the Cougars a loss in the Marriott Center. Ireland also had 27 points in that game.

They key will be the same as it was last season. Dave Rose will need to find someone on his guard line that can stay in front of Ireland and keep him from getting to the basket at will.

BYU on the other hand will need to take advantage of their inside game with Brandon Davies.

Fluff and Stuff...

Bronson Kaufusi, the football defensive lineman, is practicing with the team but didn't dress in any of the two games last week against Northern Arizona and Virginia Tech. We don't know if he will play this week against LMU and San Francisco, but he should at least dress. If he does play, it will be very limited minutes.

It appears to me that Dave Rose is going to do all he can do to get Raul Delgado to be a productive player. The transfer from Western Nebraska is starting to show signs that he might be a contributor. And just in time with conference play beginning this week and BYU in need of added production for the guard line both offensively and defensively.

One other bright spot for BYU in the win over Va Tech, was the improved play of Josh Sharp. [Click here](#) to see his highlight slam dunk. You can also [click here](#) to see and hear post game remarks from Tyler Haws and Dave Rose.

Another 20-plus win season is a slam dunk for Dave Rose...This is why they invented Eastern New Mexico and Northern Arizona

With a current record of 10-4 and 17 regular season games remaining, plus games in the WCC tournament in Las Vegas in March and games in the NCAA, NIT, CBI and CIT post season tournaments, 20 wins is a slam dunk for this season.

Let's get real. Despite the early season disappointment of this basketball season because of inconsistent guard play, BYU is now playing better basketball as the WCC regular season gets underway.

Even if the Cougars revert back to their less than spectacular early season play against decent teams, BYU should easily rack up another 6 wins against WCC teams in Provo.

LMU, Pepperdine, Santa Clara, San Francisco, Portland and San Diego should be wins in Provo for BYU. That would put the Cougars at 16 wins. An upset victory at home against either Gonzaga or Saint Mary's and BYU is at 17 wins. BYU hasn't lost to Utah State in Provo since Dave Rose took over the coaching duties for the Cougars. Make it 18 wins.

All BYU has to do is win two of the six games on the road against LMU, Pepperdine, Santa Clara, San Francisco, Portland and San Diego and they have their 20 wins.

The real question is not a 20-plus win season, but can BYU get into the NCAA tournament?

It will take two wins at home against Gonzaga and Saint Mary's to have any chance.

Right now BYU is a bubble team according to ESPN bracketologists. Without home wins against the Bulldogs and Gaels, that bubble will burst.

Hiring, Firing and Reshuffling of Football Coaches...This is why the invented the Christmas Season

In the big boy league of the NFL, a lack of production will get you fired. That is what is happening to former Cougar Andy Reid. He is out at Philadelphia.

At BYU, a lack of production on offense won't get you fired. Instead of pink slips being passed out at Christmas, there are retirements, reshufflings, reassignments and or coaches leaving for personal reasons or coaches seeking other business opportunities.

The lack of offensive production this past season at BYU is documented. One retirement, (Lance Reynolds) is also documented. What isn't documented as yet is the reshuffling and reassignments that inevitably will soon be taking place on the offensive staff of BYU football.

There is so much smoke billowing from BYU now about changes happening with the offensive staff, that you can go to the bank on at least some reshuffling and reassignments, if not outright release from employment happening soon.

Maybe Bronco Mendenhall and the BYU athletic department will wait until national letter of intent signing day on Feb 6, before announcing anything official, but something is coming down which is what happens when offensive production has also comes down.

When it comes to hiring coaches at BYU, the pickings are always slim because of the nature and needs of the institution. If you are looking for a marquee name to be added to the staff, you will be disappointed. Marquee coaches require marquee money. BYU won't pay the going rate.

If you go by Bronco Mendenhall's most recent hires, he likes them raw and ready to mold to fit his model of coaching.

Kelly Poppinga and Nick Howell were selected by Mendenhall to coach on the defensive side of the ball despite only short stints as BYU graduate assistants to recommend them.

So far that has worked out well. On offense, the latest hire was Ben Cahoon. He had a great resume as a college and professional player, but zero coaching experience until hired by BYU.

If and when there are offensive coaching changes made, and we think there will be soon, the new additions to the staff will not be marquee names but they will be coaches that have been around the block a few times and that have multiple stops at many different schools.

There is already plenty of youth and energy on the coaching staff of BYU football, but what is now needed are some seasoned veterans to help blend the offensive staff into being more productive than it has been the last few seasons.

Good News...This is why they invented Kyle Van Noy

There has been no official announcement from the player himself, but there are plenty of recent tweets from teammates and others that are saying that Kyle Van Noy will be back next year for his senior season.

It had been assumed that he would take the money and run directly to the NFL draft this spring instead of returning to play his last year at BYU.

Cody Hoffman, the best wide receiver on the BYU team, has officially said that he is coming back for his last year of eligibility.

With Hoffman and Van Noy reportedly returning for their senior seasons, it would be a bonus upon which BYU can build for a very tough schedule next year.

January for a BYU Fan...This why they invented BYUtv

BYU vs. Loyola Marymount

Thursday, Jan 3 at Provo

Tipoff: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. Hawaii (Men's Volleyball)

Friday, Jan 4 at Provo

Time: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. San Francisco

Saturday, Jan 5 at San Francisco

Tipoff: 8:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. San Francisco (Women's Basketball)

Saturday, Jan 5 at Provo

Tipoff: 2:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. Pepperdine

Thursday, Jan 10 at Provo

Tipoff: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. Lewis (Men's Volleyball)

Friday, Jan 11 at Provo

Start: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. Santa Clara

Saturday, Jan 12 at Santa Clara

Tipoff: 2:30 pm Mountain Time

TV: Time Warner Cable (feed likely picked up by BYUtv)

BYU vs. Lewis (Men's Volleyball)

Saturday, Jan 12 at Provo

Start: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. Saint Mary's

Wednesday, Jan 16 at Provo

Tipoff: 9:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: ESPNU

BYU vs. UC Irvine (Men's Volleyball)

Friday, Jan 18 at Provo

Start: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

BYU vs. San Diego

Saturday, Jan 19 at Provo

Tipoff: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv