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# BYU's St. Mary's Model, Matrix or Mode Not Working

By March of this year, BYU will have played St. Mary's either 5 or 6 (depending on whether the two teams face each other in the WCC tournament in Las Vegas) times in the last three seasons.

To date, BYU's Dave Rose and St. Mary's Randy Bennett have faced off four times in the last three years. The Gaels hold a current 3-1 record between the two schools. You can make that 4-1 after the two teams meet again in late February in Moraga.

NCAA basketball teams can't make trades for tougher inside players and higher basketball IQ's on the guard line, so don't dream of BYU suddenly matching up better with SMU the next time they meet.

The dominance of BYU by St. Mary's could very easily be 4-0 if not for Jimmer Fredette hitting a 30 foot jumper with time running out in 2010.

In case you forgot, BYU was trailing by one with 11 seconds remaining when Fredette hit his only 3-pointer of the game for BYU's only St .Mary's win, a 74-73 victory in the South Padre Island Tournament in Texas.

Both teams have good coaches. We can debate the call by Rose at the end of last week's game not to call a timeout and set up a defense to keep the ball out of the hands of Matthew Dellavedova, but Rose is a good coach.

#### Gaels' Guard

In case you forgot, the Aussie point guard for the Gaels fired up his own version of a Fredette long ball for the 70-69 win over the Cougars. That negated the clutch play of Tyler Haws on BYU's last two possession of the game when the sophomore star hit two shots that should have sealed the deal for BYU.

Here's the deal from my perspective. BYU isn't currently built to handle St. Mary's. The Cougars are way too soft inside and they are way too inconsistent at the guard line.

St. Mary's mauls BYU inside and on the glass and Dellavedova has dominated BYU on the guard line. That will happen one or two more times this season before BYU can do anything about beginning next year.

Last week we mentioned that Brandon Davies had gone on sabbatical offensively. We were wrong. He has gone AWOL and underground. That is the only way to rationalize the fact that he had zero rebounds against the Gaels last week.

Matt Carlino had his moments against St. Mary's, but none of those moments mattered when the game was on the line.

That's the bad news for the past three years and the next one or two games against the Gaels this season.

#### **Good News**

Here's the good news.

Graduation will solve most of these issues for Dave Rose and his staff.

The biggest graduation will be that of Dellavedova. He is gone to the NBA after this season.

Don't know if Brandon Davies will find similar work next season in that league, but he will be gone from BYU.

His front court counterparts for the Cougars do return in Nate Austin and Ian Harward, but you don't think of post presence or inside toughness with those two guys.

Rose will be adding inside toughness with two incoming freshman next season. Both Eric Mika and Luke Worthington can dish it out from the post.

I am not talking about dishing out assists, but some muscle, toughness and rebounding for next year to match up more favorably with teams like St. Mary's.

The rest of the good news is that the guard line will be augmented with the addition of BYU's own poor man's version of Matthew Dellavedova.

#### **Back From Mission**

Kyle Collinsworth will be back from his LDS mission in Russian in time for next season. Rose is on record already that Collinsworth will see plenty of time at point guard for his team.

That means that if Carlino is going to put up long distance three pointers, he will be doing it from the two guard spot.

Collinsworth is not overly athletic. Neither is Dellavedova, but both have a knack for butting their way up the court regardless of pressure and both can slash and slice to the rim and either score or dish the ball off for easy layups.

Dellavedova is a much better outside and free throw shooter than Collinsworth is at present, but both are big time rebounders from the guard position. Collinsworth has a knack for the ball off the boards and he should at 6-6. He will be a guard match up nightmare for opposing teams.

Collinsworth will give Dave Rose an upper hand with mixing and matching his guard line to face different teams and styles.

Tyler Haws will do nothing but get better and with a bigger, stronger and deeper inside presence, it will accelerate and accentuate his game.

BYU fans will only have to deal with Dellavedova for one or two more games, but St. Mary's will have to deal with a bigger, tougher, and more diverse Cougar guard line beginning next season.

To get a glimpse of the increased toughness, size and depth coming to BYU's front court next season watch these two videos.

# **Eric Mika** Luke Worthington

### FROM LP TO CD TO MP3's...FUTURE IS ALMOST HERE

When it comes to music, I am old enough to remember when **LP** stood for Long Playing albums. I made the transition to **CD's** which are compact discs. Now we have progressed to **MP3's**.

All three acronyms apply to the future of BYU basketball.

Only this time **LP** stands for **L**one **P**eak, the high school that is loaded with future BYU signees and commits.

Those commits and signees will insure a bright horizon and Cougar **D**estiny in BYU's basketball future.

**MP3** is for MPEG and audio layer 3. When it comes to BYU basketball, **MP3** is for 3 Major Players from Lone Peak that will infuse some serious talent into the Cougar program.

Those 3 players and the rest of the Lone Peak team can be seen live on ESPNU this Monday morning. Tipoff is set for 10:00 a.m. Mountain Time.

Meanwhile, here is a nice recent synopsis of the Lone Peak team and program by stack.com. You can view it by **Clicking Here**.

# Mendenhall's Maid Service...Cleans House Offensively

BYU's offense was messy and malfunctioning for most of the season last year.

Bronco Mendenhall didn't wait for a good spring cleaning.

He started to clean and clear the entire offensive house immediately after the Poinsettia Bowl in December.

Now the entire offensive coaching staff has been let go and Mendenhall is in the process of replacing all five coaches.

First to go was Lance Reynolds. BYU announced his retirement but we have never heard Reynolds use that word. Always the loyal soldier, Reynolds did what BYU wanted him to do a year ago, but didn't.

Mark Weber, the former offensive line coach, was also canned, but the news release focused on him finding new employment at Utah State.

Robert Anae was brought in to be retried and reconciled as a retread offensive coordinator. His last job was at Arizona.

When Anae left two years ago, it was not a nice parting of the ways. Just listen to Tom Holmoe on the BYUtv show "True Blue" from a week ago. You can see the replay of the program online.

At the 8:15 mark of the program while being interviewed by Dave McCann asking about the rehire of Robert Anae after leaving BYU two years previously. Holmoe said this:

"There was a little bit of turmoil and for whatever reasons that maybe Bronco and Robert can talk about it. There was a breakaway and now they're back together again".

Reconciliation is always nice, but revving up the scoreboard when all is said and done will be nicer.

If you were keeping score, it was adios to Reynolds and Weber and hello to Anae. Everybody knew that Mark Atuaia was a slam dunk to soon be added to the coaching staff.

Before that officially happened, BYU announced that two additional offensive coaches had been let go. That was running back coach Joe DuPaix and wide receiver coach Ben Cahoon.

### Lingering

That meant four of the previous offensive coaches were now officially gone. The lingering question was Brandon Doman. BYU was and is bending over backwards to accommodate the former offensive coordinator to allow him to make a gracious exodus. There is still no official word on Doman leaving, but several sources have said that they saw him cleaning out his office at the football facility and loading his car with the items.

That's not a press release, but enough to say that he too is gone.

Meanwhile, BYU announced the official hiring of three coaches to join Anae on the staff. Atuaia was made official and Garrett Tujague, the head coach at College of the Canyons in Southern California, was also added to the staff.

Tujague is a former Cougar offensive lineman. BYU has not announced where these two coaches will be working, but local reports in California have Tujague pegged as the offensive line coach.

BYU also announced the hiring of Aaron Roderick, the wide receiver coach from Utah, but they quickly had to burp him back to the Utes.

Roderick had second thoughts and likely a significant raise from the Utes to keep him and keep Utah from losing face by losing a coach to their rival.

#### Yo You Ma(n)

Roderick is the Yo Yo Ma(m) without a cello. He repeated what he also did a few years back when he accepted a job with the Washington Huskies only to do an about face after just two weeks on the job.

The bottom line is that BYU is now still looking for two more offensive coaches. Nepotism indicates that they won't stray too far from the family tree for new coaches. Currently all three offensive coaches in place are former BYU players. Of course the former player that all Cougar fans fantasize about being on the staff is Ty Detmer.

Just an opinion, but I don't see Detmer surfacing in Provo. Why hire somebody who may be better equipped to run the BYU offense than the offensive coordinator that hires him?

On the other hand, BYU may be telling Detmer that he could come and coach and be a serious future candidate to replace Bronco Mendenhall when he leaves.

I always thought that Brandon Doman would be a better BYU head coach than an assistant coach. He was personable, articulate, approachable and a great representative of the Church and school.

Now that he is gone, Detmer also would have the same attributes. He too would be perfect in the role that LaVell Edwards so beautifully fulfilled.

Coaching skill and acumen is a bonus.

In the current case, Mendenhall has plenty of coaching acumen as demonstrated by his defensive prowess.

### Leagues Away

He still is leagues away from LaVell in the customer service and public relations departments, however.

Names that keep percolating and popping up as candidates to flesh out the offensive coaching roster are Paul Peterson, the former Boston College quarterback and current offensive coordinator at Sacramento State. He was a former BYU graduate assistant.

So was Steve Clark. After serving as a GA at BYU he is now the offensive coordinator at Southern Utah. Jason Beck is the former BYU backup quarterback to John Beck and he is currently working as the offensive coordinator at Simon Fraser University in Canada.

There are some BYU fans that think BYU would be well served by hiring a coach of color to fill out the staff. That certainly has merit. BYU should also try to appease those LDS feminist women who promote pants as appropriate attire at Church.

That settles it. BYU should follow the lead of the Augusta National Golf Club and hire Condoleezza Rice.

She is black, a woman and has been known to occasionally wear pants. And Cougar coach Condoleezza has a nice alliterative ring to it.

Meanwhile, we think BYU will not make any announcements until Brandon Doman can resolve his future employment status.

Doman deserves some dignity in leaving BYU. It will be good and gracious for both parties to be able to announce in future press releases that he has left BYU for another opportunity.

# **Football Fluff and Stuff**

In case you missed it last week, Chip Kelly, the now former head coach at Oregon, was hired to be the head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles.

That may not mean much to you and me, but it may mean very much to former BYU head coach Gary Crowton. Kelly and Crowton go way back with their connections at the University of New Hampshire.

It was Crowton who was a key cog in getting Kelly hired from the obscurity of UNH to Oregon where the rest is history.

It would not be a surprise to me if Crowton doesn't resurface in the NFL on Kelly's staff with the Eagles. Crowton is currently employed by the Winnipeg of the CFL as the offensive coordinator of the Blue Bombers.

This past Saturday, the NCAA voted to approve several new rules relating to recruiting that will change the way it is done in hopes of alleviating the convoluted and contentious recruiting rules already in place.

Among the rule changes that will go into effect Aug. 1 are four specifically relatied to recruiting:

Proposal 13-3, allowing coaches to send unlimited texts and social media messages to recruits, as well as make unlimited phone calls.

Proposal 13-5-A, which eliminates restrictions on printed recruiting materials sent to recruits.

Proposal 11-2, allowing for a recruiting coordinator or the support staff at a university to send texts and make calls, as opposed to the current system, which permit only coaches to do so.

And Proposal 11-4, allowing all assistants to be on the road recruiting at the same time, as opposed to the current rules that require coaches' trips to be staggered.

There are pros and cons to these new recruiting rules. It will make recruiting basketball players much easier on coaching staffs. They, at the most, have 1-5 players they are recruiting each season.

For football coaches, their lives just got more difficult. To be competitive and make sure they are doing what the competition is doing, they will no longer have a home or family life.

The difference is that while unlimited calls and texts to just a handful of recruits can be manageable, having to call and text and tweet to 25-30 football recruits will be a cumbersome task.

Granted, some of the contact can now be done by support staff and an official recruiting coordinator who is not actually a football coach, but like anything else, the recruits and customers always want to talk to the guys in charge.

It should be interesting. The new rules for recruiting go into effect on August 1 of this year.

On the subject of recruiting, BYU picked up a couple of more commitments over this past weekend.

Chasen Anderson is a 6-0, 215 pound linebacker from Logan High School and the son of new Wisconsin coach Gary Anderson. He had originally said he would play for his dad at Utah State but now will be playing for Bronco Mendenhall in Provo.

Also committing was Josh Carter, a 6-5, 280 pound offensive lineman from Eastern Arizona. He prepped at Mountain View HS in Marana, AZ and then served an LDS mission.

### **Basketball Briefs**

With a 74-57 win over San Diego last Saturday night, BYU almost matched the temperature of the San Diego area while bouncing back from the heartbreaking 70-69 loss to St. Mary's two days before.

The win moves BYU to 15-5 on the year and 5-1 in WCC play.

Speaking of temperature, hell will have to freeze over for BYU to win its next game this Thursday against Gonzaga in Spokane.

Not only are the Zags extremely talented, they have added motivation to bounce back from their own version of getting St. Married late Saturday night against Butler at Indianapolis.

BYU is motivation enough for Gonzaga to play the Cougars, but now that motivation is piled higher and deeper with the last second giveaway to Butler.

The problem BYU will have with the Bulldogs is their size. They have lots of it.

Brandon Davies has had his moments this season, but we don't look for him to have many this Thursday. He has a penchant for foul problems and you can rest assured that the Gonzaga front line will exacerbate those problems.

Tyler Haws will be his usual self in producing points and playing hard, but we don't expect much from Davies, based on his most recent outings.

For BYU to have any chance of hell freezing over and the Cougars coming away with a major upset, they will have to get great play from Matt Carlino.

We don't see any of this happening. This is one of those times when you know a whipping is coming and you just have to prepare to endure it.

BYU will get a chance to bounce back from this sure fire loss on Saturday when they continue on the road at Portland.

The Pilots were drubbed by St. Mary's last Saturday night in Portland 60-38. Before hosting the Cougars Portland will face San Francisco.

Both the Gonzaga and Portland games will be televised nationally. The Gonzaga contest will broadcast on ESPN2 and tips at 9:00 pm Mountain Time. The Portland game will be shown on ESPNU and begins at 8:30 pm Mountain Time.

# **Television Timetable**

### BYU vs. Gonzaga

Thursday, Jan 24 at Spokane Tipoff: 9:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: ESPN2

#### **BYU vs. Portland**

Saturday, Jan 26 at Portland Tipoff: 8:30 pm Mountain Time

TV: ESPNU

### **BYU vs. Pepperdine**

Thursday, January 26 at Malibu Tipoff: 8:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: Time Warner Cable and Root Sports in Utah

### BYU vs. Santa Clara

Saturday, Feb 2 at Provo

Tipoff: 7:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

### BYU vs. San Diego

Thursday, Feb 7 at San Diego Tipoff: 8:00 pm Mountain Time

TV: BYUtv

# BYU vs. San Francisco

Saturday, Feb 9 at Provo Tipoff: 7:00 pm Mountain Time TV: BYUtv