

OUTLOOK

For the third straight, frustrating season Stan Watts is confronted with another "building year" . . . and he must fashion this year's squad from relatively green timber.

What happened to the members of last year's fourth place club (15-11 record for the season) and the would-be-members of Watts' '60 unit?

Three of the five starters for '59—Roy Thacker, 6-5 center; John Nicoll, 6-5 all-conference forward; and 6-2 guard Mac Madsen—graduated. The team's most prolific scorer, 6-5 forward Bob Skousen (462 points, 17.7 scoring average) accepted a mission call and is now in Australia. Two reserve guards are also in the mission field, and Timo Lampen, the Finnish frosh star who figured as a starter at forward, remained in his homeland to help his country's Olympic team.

Only two players who can lay claim to regular or semi-regular service last year are back for '60. Guard Gary Earnest, who tallied 360 points as a sophomore last year, and Dave Eastis, hook-shooting pivot man, form the experience backbone of the club. Earnest is one of the smoothest, most versatile players in the league, while Eastis is the workhorse-type center who combines dedication with great ability.

If Earnest and Eastis hold their present positions, and there is every indication they will, the Cougars will have only three positions to fill on the starting five.

There are three other lettermen on the squad—Frank Berrett, Bert Myers and Valoy Eaton, but they didn't log much playing time in '59. The rest of the team is made up of transfers and sophomores.

There are only three seniors listed on Watts' 20-man roster, and there may be fewer than that by the time the season starts. The reserves carried over from last year, however, may blossom forth now that there are some vacancies to fill.

Since the battle for positions is wide open at this writing, we won't bother to list the candidates.

Team speed should be better than last year, but experience could prove to be a major soft spot for the Cougars. Overall height is below average, since all of the taller players are only sophomores. The club's ability to score is still a question, but it's unlikely it will be able to match the 41 per cent field goal shooting of the '59 team.

If BYU can somehow come up with a clicking first unit, plus some dependable reserves, there's a chance Watts & Company may knock over a few teams. But with the schedule they've got this year, they'll do very well to break even in their 26 games.

By way of summary: if the Cougars are to take any prizes this year, they will have to do it the hard way.

AT A GLANCE

RETURNING LETTERMEN (5)

Guard—Gary Earnest, Junior, Regular (360)
 Forward—Valoy Eaton, Senior, Reserve (39)
 Forward—Frank Berrett, Senior, Reserve (33)
 Forward—Bert Myers, Junior, Reserve (61)
 Center—Dave Eastis, Junior, Semi-regular (146)

LETTERMEN NOT RETURNING (6)

Forward—Bob Skousen, Mission, Regular (462)
 Forward—John Nicoll, Graduation, Regular (220)
 Center—Roy Thacker, Graduation, Regular (276)
 Guard—Mac Madsen, Graduation, Regular (271)
 Guard—Russ Peterson, Graduation, Reserve (31)
 Forward—Gary Miles, Graduation, Reserve (24)

JUNIOR COLLEGE TRANSFERS (6)

Guard—Charley Davis (6-2), El Camino (California)
 Guard—Larry Crowley (6-2), Chaffey, (California)
 Guard—Jan Robinson (5-11), Northeastern (Colorado)
 Guard—Roland Bevell (6-0), Northwestern (Miss.)
 Guard—James McIntyre (5-11), Dearborn (Michigan)
 Forward—Ron Bell (6-4), Mesa (Colorado)

FRESHMAN LETTERMEN (5)

Guard—Dave Barber (5-9)
 Forward—Mark Miller (6-3)
 Forward—Brent Peterson (6-6)
 Center—Glenn Stewart (6-8)
 Center—Bob Irtglis (6-11)

BYU VICTORIES IN FIELDHOUSE

Year	Won	Lost
1951-52	8	2
1952-53	12	0
1953-54	12	2
1954-55	9	3
1955-56	12	2
1956-57	11	1
1957-58	8	4
1958-59	11	2
	83	16

Last BYU defeat in fieldhouse, 74-76, Utah, Feb. 26, 1959