



Ladell's Views

1. BYU lost eight lettermen, including its top four scorers. How will the loss of these players change your strategy this year?

"It automatically changes the personality and look of this year's team. Our general philosophy will not change as far as defense is concerned, and we'll have to figure out an efficient way of scoring."

2. What is your evaluation of the talent on this year's team?

"Our guard situation is very solid, with seniors Scott Sinek and Marty Perry and juniors Chris Nikchevich and Richie Webb—all have considerable playing experience. We have one front line player back from last year's 20-game winning team, and that is Carl Pollard, who played a great deal of junior varsity ball and some varsity ball. We red-shirted Timo Saarelainen; he'll be a senior and is an excellent player. Alan Pollard is returning from a mission; he is a freshman and hasn't had any playing experience as yet. We recruited two junior college players and five freshmen and have one transfer returning from a mission. We hope the mixture is good for a competitive team."

3. Your guard situation looks healthy. But what about the inside game?

"The inside game will have to be developed. I've always believed in getting the best close shots to the basket as we can possibly get. You'll see the offense flow in that direction."

4. You signed a couple of junior college players. How will they fit into the picture this year?

"With the loss of our front line, we are counting heavily on Eric Kellogg of Imperial Valley Junior College and Brian Fink out of Ricks College, both 6-8 players, and hopefully they will contribute heavily this year."

5. How would you evaluate the crop of incoming freshmen?

"They look like a fine bunch of prospects with average size. Each of them has special talents which we hope to develop to the fullest."

6. Redshirt Timo Saarelainen will be back for his senior year. How do you see him contributing?

"Timo is a talent that we've really not seen very much of; he's been talked about but really hasn't played a lot. I'm looking forward to having him have his best year since he started playing basketball."

7. What will be the strengths and weaknesses of this year's club?

"Our strength is an experienced back court. The weaknesses are the inexperience of our front line."

8. How would you rate this year's schedule?

"BYU always has a very competitive schedule and I rate this year's schedule as being very difficult."

9. How do you view the WAC race this year?

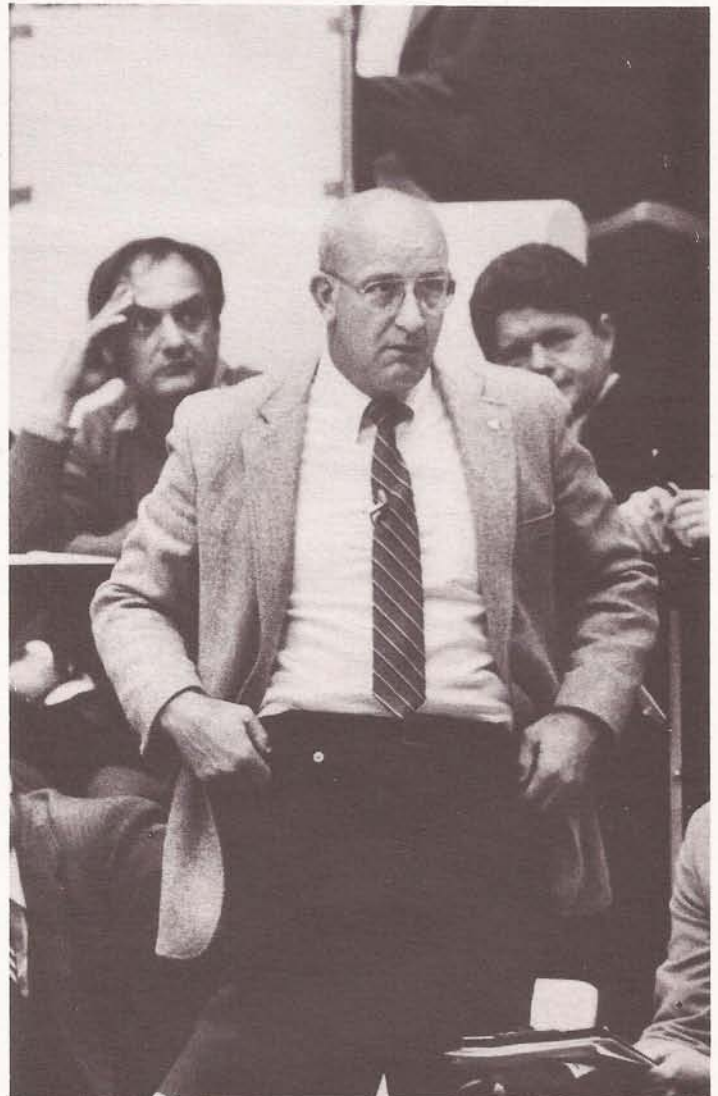
"There is no apparent Big Three, Big Two or Big One this year, at least going into the year."

10. How do you feel about the WAC's post-season tournament, now that you've had a chance to participate in it?

"It is a valuable tool for the league as a whole, and I think it will grow in popularity and be something that the fans will look forward to. The structure may have to change, depending on our experience with different phases of the tournament. But, all in all, I think it'll work out to be an outstanding event."

11. You got 20 victories in your first season as BYU's head coach. Is that a realistic goal again this year?

"I don't know if it is realistic, but at this point that is not our top priority. We could win 20 games if our team can become a good defensive club."



Ladell Andersen will be overseeing his second BYU team.



Personnel Picture

LETTERMEN LOST (8)	Ht.	Scoring Average	Rebounding Average	Class	Scoring Position
Devin Durrant****	6-7	27.9	5.2	Gr.	1st
Brett Applegate**	6-7	14.5	11.4	Gr.	2nd
Mike Smith*	6-9	8.0	5.3	So. +	3rd
Jim Usevitch*	6-9	7.8	5.0	Jr. +	4th
Brian Taylor*	6-4	2.7	0.5	Jr. +	8th
Paul Drecksel*	6-3	2.3	0.3	Jr.	9th
Kevin Nielsen****	6-7	1.7	0.7	Gr.	10th
Alan Astle*	6-6	1.3	1.0	So. +	11th

LETTERMEN RETURNING (6)

Scott Sinek***	6-2	7.5	1.7	Sr.	5th
Chris Nikchevich**	6-2	6.8	1.4	Jr.	6th
Timo Saarelainen***	6-6	4.3 #	1.6 #	Sr.	# 6th
Marty Perry**	6-1	2.8	1.3	Sr.	7th
Richie Webb**	6-5	0.8	—	Jr.	13th
Carl Pollard*	7-2	0.4	1.1	So.	14th

JUNIOR COLLEGE TRANSFERS (3)

	Ht.	Scoring Average	Rebounding Average	Class	JC
Eric Kellog	6-7	15.8	9.4	Jr.	Dickinson St.
Bryan Fink	6-8	15.1	8.8	Jr.	Ricks
Tom Gneiting	6-10	8.4	8.4	So.	Ricks

MISSION RETURNEES (1)

Alan Pollard	6-9	—	—	Fr.	
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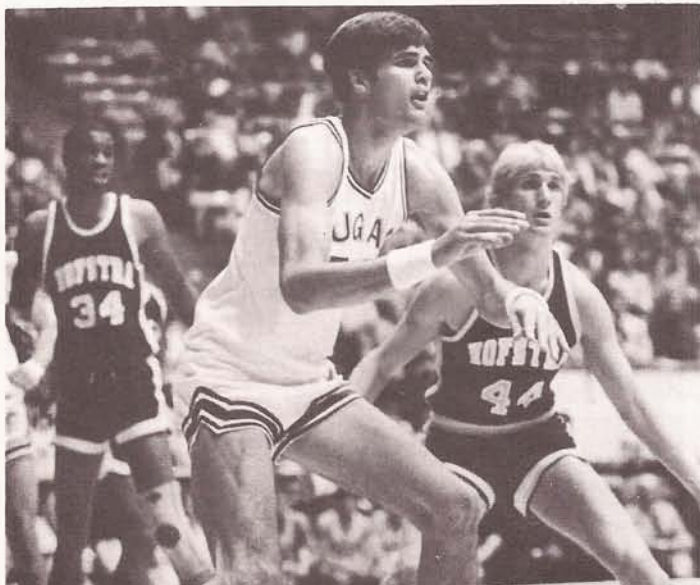
FRESHMEN (4)

	Ht.	Scoring Average	Rebounding Average	Home Town
Jeff Chatman	6-6	26.4	11.2	Munford, Alabama
Marty Haws	6-2	18.0	—	Midvale, Utah
Anthony Matthews	6-5	21.0	8.0	Modesto, California
Andy Toolson	6-6	21.0	8.0	Twin Falls, Idaho

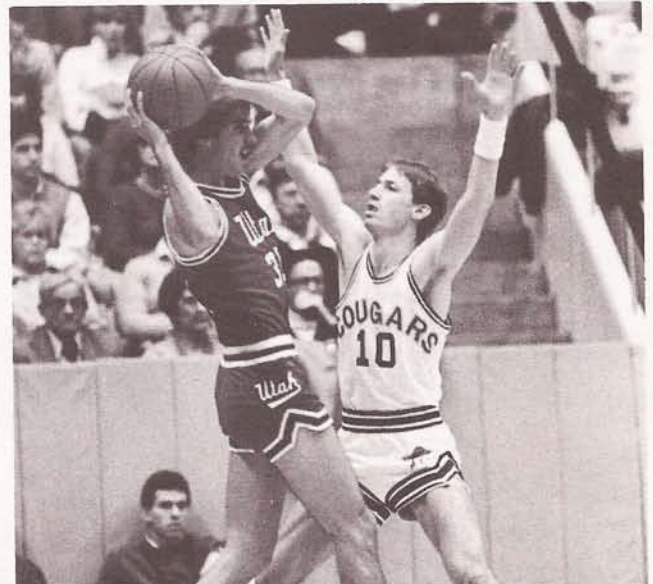
*Letters earned

+ Left on LDS Church mission

1982-83 Statistics



Carl Pollard may see more inside action this year.



Marty Perry is one of three seniors on the team.



1984-85 Outlook

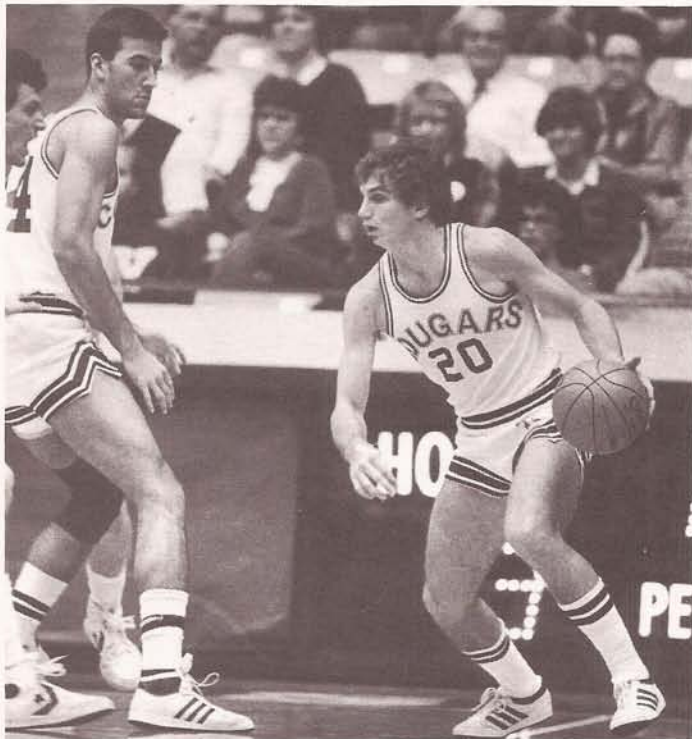
For a coach who doesn't believe in rebuilding years, Ladell Andersen has quite a bit of reconstructing to do after losing his top four scorers from last year to graduation and missions.

The 55-year-old Andersen has four returnees who have seen starting time, but three of them are guards. Gone from the 20-11 team of last year are All-American forward Devin Durrant (27.9 ppg) and All-WAC forward Brett Applegate (14.5 ppg and 11.4 rpg). Also absent this year because of mission calls will be center Jim Usevitch (7.8 ppg), forward Mike Smith (8.0 ppg), guard Brian Taylor (2.7 ppg) and guard Alan Astle (1.3 ppg).

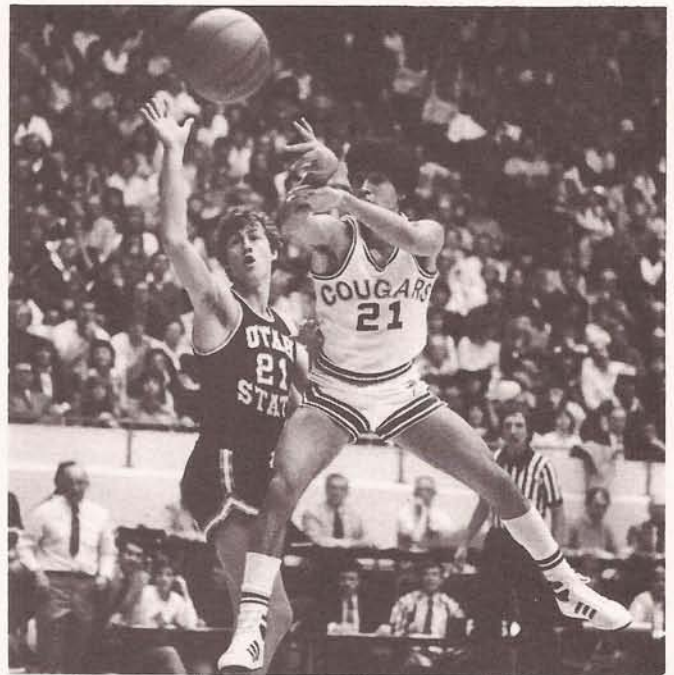
The core of returning players consists of Scott Sinek (7.5 ppg), Chris Nikchevich (6.8 ppg) and Marty Perry (2.8 ppg), all guards. Redshirt Timo Saarelainen saw some starting time at forward two years ago and should pick up some of the offensive scoring burden. He redshirted last year to play with the Finnish Olympic team, where he has been the leading scorer for several years.

Although the guard situation looks healthy, the big void is inside, where 80 percent of BYU's scoring and rebounding was produced last year. To help sure up that area, Andersen will be looking to several transfers and returnees.

"We expect immediate help from frontline transfers Eric Kellogg (Dickinson State, N.D.) and Bryan Fink (Ricks College). A lot will also depend on the development of the Pollard brothers (Alan and Carl)," says Andersen.



Scott Sinek has been a three-year starter for the Cougars.



Chris Nikchevich is an excellent passer and ball handler.

Kellogg is a 6-8 forward, and Fink is a 6-8 center/forward. Alan Pollard, a 6-9 freshman forward who redshirted in 1982 before serving a mission to Sweden, returned in July and is trying to work back into shape. His brother, Carl, saw some action at center toward the latter part of last season.

A late addition to the Cougar roster was 6-10 transfer/returned missionary Tom Gneiting, who played one year at Ricks College before serving an LDS mission.

Incoming freshmen who might be asked to help inside are forwards Jeff Chatman (6-6) and Anthony Matthews (6-5). Incoming guards Marty Haws (6-2) and Andy Toolson (6-6) will add some quickness and height respectively to the Cougar roster. Haws was the Utah State high school 100-yard dash champion last year.

Richie Webb, a 6-5 junior guard, saw some action last year and could help with his fine outside shooting and passing.

Once again, the Cougars will be up against one of the finest schedules in the country. They open the season Nov. 30 at the Stanford Invitational against LaSalle. Then, after battles with in-state rivals Utah State and Weber State, they host the Cougar Classic.

PAC-10 powers UCLA and Washington come to Provo in December. Then the Cougars attend the Cotton States Classic in Atlanta. During the tough WAC slate, the Cougars take time off Feb. 23 to play Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. The WAC's second post-season tournament is scheduled for March 4-9.