

1965 REVIEW



First Row, L-R: Assistant Coach Mike Gardner, team manager Clay Hickman, head freshman coach Gary Earnest. Second Row, L-R: Lyn Parsons, Tom Parry, Doug Schaeffer, John Gabbal, Vestell Wright, Jon Dresser. Third Row, L-R: Jack Smith, Phil Low, Marty Lythgoe, John Hatch, Scott Gilmore. Fourth Row, L-R: Kari Liimo, Scott Warner.

No. 44—KARI LIIMO, 6-7, 208, forward-center, comes from Helsinki, Finland . . . played on the Finnish Olympic team . . . could be a great one . . . averaged 29 points a game against touring American AAU teams in his country.

No. 55—SCOTT WARNER, 6-6½, center, from East High School in Salt Lake City . . . played for Dick Milne . . . averaged 22 points a game his senior year, including a 40-point binge against Viewmont . . . all-region, all state, and all-American . . . could be a great one . . . strong rebounder, and aggressive player . . . business major.

Labels are often misleading, but it seems safe to tag last year's basketball season at BYU as the best the Cougars have ever had.

Despite the anti-climactic finish in the NCAA regionals at the tail end of the season, the Cougars accomplished the following:

- won undisputed claim to the WAC championship, the first conference crown for the Cougars since 1957.
- finished the season with a 21-7 mark, percentage-wise the best at BYU in many, many years.
- ranked sixth nationally in the final wire service poll of the season.
- finished second only to Miami (Fla.) as the team with the most prolific scoring offense in college basketball.
- won 17 straight home games before bowing to UCLA in the regional playoffs.

Even though the Cougars fell flat in their effort to "put the cherry on top" in the regionals, it's an established fact that they scored points like few other teams in the country. In 11 of the 28 games played, they scored 100 or more points.

Prior to the regionals, the Cougars had lost ball games to only four teams: Wichita, DePaul, Arizona and New Mexico. Three of these teams earned spots in post-season tournaments.

Individually, four players shot 50% or better from the field, and all of the school's offensive records were re-written.

If any one player deserves to be singled out as the key performer, it would have to be John Fairchild. The quiet, 6-8 center from Encinitas, Calif., finished a two-year career at BYU by eclipsing half a dozen records.

Fairchild, who was named "player of the year" in the WAC, led the team in scoring and rebounding for the second straight year. He worked in 602 points, was credited with 348 rebounds, and 49 per cent effective from the floor. In a two-season span he scored 1,109 points, had 678 rebounds, both school records.

Four other Cougars came up with new school marks last year: Steve Kramer, junior forward, set a school record with a .533 shooting average; senior Bob Quinney set a new free throw standard with 90 per cent accuracy; and Mike Gardner set a career mark at BYU with a steady 45 per cent shooting percentage for three varsity seasons.

As a whole, the team shot 48 per cent from the field and 74 per cent from the free throw line. They averaged 52 rebounds per game, two more than their opponents.

Dick Nemelka, who finished behind Fairchild in scoring, averaged 15.4 points per game in his junior year. Steve Kramer, who led the team in shooting

accuracy, was second behind Fairchild in the rebounding department with 195 for the season.

From time to time last year injuries and illness dulled the Cougars' attack, but in most cases the club didn't break stride.

Marquette, a club that played some of the better teams in the nation last year, including **UCLA**, **St. Johns**, and **Minnesota**, selected **BYU** as the best team the Warriors faced this season.

Counting the two games played in the NCAA regional finals at Provo, the Cougars played before more than 150,000 fans at home in 1964-65 season. The exact figure is 153,689 for 15 home games.

SUMMER TOUR

Post-season barnstorming tours are a favorite activity of many collegiate athletic teams. At **BYU** it is almost a part of the curriculum.

Last summer five of the teams at **BYU** traveled to Mexico, Europe, and South America. By far the most successful of the trips was the basketball trip to Latin America. The cagers traveled over 20,000 miles, won 19 of 22 games, and averaged over 85 points a game doing it.

Twelve players, Coach Stan Watts, Assistant Coach Pete Witbeck, Trainer Rod Kimball, and Dr. Wendell Vance made the junket. **BYU** won its first two games before falling to Chile's Catholic University 82-72. From there they reeled off 14 straight wins before getting stopped by Corinthians of Brazil.

The tour had several goals. First, there was a great opportunity to build international relations through athletic competition. Secondly, the trip greatly aided the missionary efforts of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Naturally, the trip helped Watts evaluate his material for the coming year, since he took two freshmen and two red-shirts with him. Lastly, the tour offered many of the boys a once-in-a-lifetime chance to travel all over two continents.

Watts' starting lineup for much of the trip consisted of Jeff Congdon and Dick Nemelka at the guards, Neil Roberts and Steve Kramer at the forwards, and either Craig Raymond or Jim Eakins at the center spot.

Nemelka was the leading scorer for the trip with 422 points, a 20.0 average. He broke the 30 point mark on five occasions and was **BYU**'s leading scorer in 14 of the 22 games. Kramer also scored well, averaging 17.8 per game, followed by Roberts and Congdon at 11.6.

In Brazil, basketball fans called Watts the "Father of the One-Handed Jump Shot," a technique his players exhibited during a similar trip to South America in 1950. Wherever the Cougars went, the reception was the same—very enthusiastic. The fans were rabid sports enthusiasts and supported their local teams very well. In Montevideo, Uruguay, **BYU** and the Mantevideo All-Stars played before a crowd which Coach Witbeck estimated at 10,000.

BYU	Opponent	(Site)	Opp.
64	Sports League	(Ecuador)	61
96	Athletic Club	(Ecuador)	86
72	Catholic University	(Chile)	82
90	Union Espanola	(Chile)	52
72	Union Espanola	(Chile)	67
104	Cordoba All-Stars	(Argentina)	79
104	Cordoba All-Stars	(Argentina)	68
72	Santa Fe Provincia	(Argentina)	65
79	San Lorenzo	(Argentina)	68
88	Boca Juniors	(Argentina)	77
92	Penarol	(Uruguay)	77
77	Sporting Club	(Uruguay)	71
71	Montevideo All-Stars	(Uruguay)	70
94	Olympia Club	(Uruguay)	66
39	Cerro Porteno	(Paraguay)	28
89	Olympia	(Paraguay)	64
101	S. E. Palmeiras	(Brazil)	73
96	Corinthians	(Brazil)	111
90	S. E. Palmeiras	(Brazil)	93
99	Tisuca	(Brazil)	44
104	LaSalle University	(Mexico)	89
96	All-Stars	(Mexico)	53

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QUAKER CITY TOURNEY

The Cougars will invade the East over the Christmas holidays, as they compete in the highly-rated Quaker City Basketball Tournament, Dec 27-30.

La Salle University will provide the first round competition for **BYU**.

At least two of the top teams in the nation are entered in this tourney, and it promises to be a real test for the Cougars. Minnesota is rated the top team in the Big Ten this year, and is expected to be co-favorite in the tournament. The other favorite is St. Joseph's, the team picked by many magazines to be the top team in the nation.

St. Joseph's is led by Cliff Anderson and Matt Guokas, a pair of junior sharpshooters. Minnesota's leading player will be senior Lou Hudson, who averaged over 23 points a game last year.

This will be **BYU**'s second appearance at the Quaker City Tournament. In 1962, the Cougars came in second to St. Joseph's.