



MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

THREE TIME NATIONAL CHAMPIONS '99, '01, '04

Athletic Communications • 30 Smith Fieldhouse • Provo, Utah • 84602 • 801-422-8948 • fax 801-422-0633

BYU Record

2005: 0-0 overall, 0-0 conference
 (0-0 home, 0-0 away, 0-0 neutral)
 All-time : 257-149 (.633) (since 1990)
 Coach Peterson: 52-11 at BYU (.825)
 304-141 career (.682)

2005 Schedule/Results

Date	Opp/Event	Time/Results
1/5	vs. Lewis @ Outrigger Tournament	4 p.m.
1/6	vs. Penn State @ Outrigger Tournament	4 p.m.
1/7	@ Hawai'i @ Outrigger Tournament	7 p.m.
1/14	CALIFORNIA BAPTIST	7:30 p.m.
1/15	CALIFORNIA BAPTIST	7 p.m.
1/21	@ UC Santa Barbara*	7 p.m.
1/22	@ UC Santa Barbara*	5 p.m.
1/28	UCLA*	7 p.m.
1/29	UCLA*	7 p.m.
2/11	@ Pepperdine*	7 p.m.
2/12	@ Pepperdine*	3 p.m.
2/18	@ Hall of Fame Classic	4 p.m.
2/19	@ Hall of Fame Classic	TBA
2/25	UC IRVINE*	7 p.m.
2/26	UC IRVINE*	7 p.m.
3/4	@ USC*	7 p.m.
3/5	@ USC*	7 p.m.
3/11	@ Pacific*	7 p.m.
3/12	@ Pacific*	7 p.m.
3/18	HAWAII*	7 p.m.
3/19	HAWAII*	7 p.m.
3/25	LONG BEACH STATE*	7 p.m.
3/26	LONG BEACH STATE*	7 p.m.
4/1	@ CS Northridge*	7 p.m.
4/2	@ CS Northridge*	7 p.m.
4/8	UC SAN DIEGO*	7 p.m.
4/9	UC SAN DIEGO*	7 p.m.
4/15	@ Stanford*	7 p.m.
4/16	@ Stanford*	7 p.m.
4/23	MPSF First Round	TBA
4/28	MPSF Semi-finals	TBA
4/30	MPSF Finals	TBA

* MPSF Opponents

*HOME GAMES IN CAPS

Media Relations Information

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BYU COUGARS (0-0, 0-0 MPSF) at Outrigger Tournament, Honolulu, Hawai'i

vs. Lewis
 Jan. 5, 2005



vs. Penn State
 Jan. 6, 2005



vs. Hawai'i
 Jan. 7, 2005



Cougars Open Season in Hawai'i

HONOLULU (Jan. 3, 2005) – The defending NCAA National Champion BYU Cougar men's volleyball team will kick off the 2005 season with three matches at the Outrigger Tournament this week in Honolulu. BYU will square off against east coast and Midwest powers Penn State and Lewis University, and the University of Hawai'i, the tournament host.

"We're very excited to start the season," coach Tom Peterson said. "We've never played in the Outrigger Tournament before. It is a great opportunity to play in such a prestigious tournament."

The Cougars will be introducing a new lineup in Hawai'i after losing five starters from the 2004 National Championship team. Senior middle blocker Michael Burke and junior outside hitter Victor Batista are the two returning starters.

Burke hit for a team high .506 hitting percentage while finishing second in blocks at 1.17 per game. Batista led the team with 1.24 blocks per game and was second on the team with a .458 hitting percentage.

Several players will look to crack the lineup to help BYU maintain its winning tradition. The frontrunners include junior setter Rob Neilson, junior libero Brian Rowley, freshman outside hitter Ivan Perez, freshman middle blocker Russell Holmes, and junior opposite hitter Taylor Evans. Neilson and Evans are the only two with significant playing time.

"It will be interesting to see how they perform," Peterson said. "We are inexperienced but at the same time very talented."

The Lewis University Flyers will be the first opponent for the Cougars as the teams play Wednesday Jan. 5 at 4 p.m. HST. The Flyers are coming off their second consecutive trip to the NCAA Final Four, which they won in 2003. After winning the MIVA postseason tournament to earn a birth in 2004, Lewis lost to BYU in the NCAA Semifinals.

Senior outside hitter Jeff Soler and junior middle blocker Enrique Escalante return to lead the Flyers. Soler averaged 3.58 kills per game and 1.37 digs in 2004 while Escalante was second the team with a .406 hitting percentage. Escalante also contributed 1.14 kills per game.

The second match for the Cougars will be against Penn State on Friday at 4 p.m., the

BYU Quick Facts

Location: Provo, Utah 84602
 Enrollment: 32,122 (Daytime)
 Founded: Oct. 15, 1875, by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 Colors: Blue and White
 Nickname: Cougars
 Mascot: Cosmo (the Cougar)
 Affiliation: NCAA Division I
 Conference: Mountain Pacific Sports Federation
 Arena: Smith Fieldhouse (5,000)
 President: Cecil O. Samuelson
 Ticket Office Phone: (801) 422-BYU1 or 1-800-322-BYU1

Volleyball Staff:

Head Coach: Tom Peterson (BYU, 1978)
 BYU Record / Years: 52-11 / 3rd season
 Office Phone: (801) 422-8291
 Career Record / Years: 304-141/13
 Assistant Coaches:
 Grayson DuBose (BYU, 1993)
 Shawn Patchell (BYU, 1993)
 Volunteer Coach:
 Greg Jorgensen (Utah State, 2002)
 Trainer: Blain Empey

Volleyball Facts:

2004 Overall Record: 29-4
 Conference Record/Finish: 20-2 / 1st in MPSF
 Final National Ranking: 1st
 Record vs Top-10 teams: 16-2
 All-Time Record in NCAA Tournament Play: 7-1
 All-Time Record in MPSF Tournament Play: 15-8

2004 All-MPSF Performers:

Carlos Moreno (First Team, Player of the Year)
 Fernando Pessoa (Second Team)
 Michael Burke (Third Team)
 Victor Batista (Honorable Mention)
 Joe Hillman (Honorable Mention)
 Jon Alleman (Honorable Mention)

2004 All-America Performers:

Carlos Moreno (First Team, AVCA National Player of the Year)
 Fernando Pessoa (First Team)
 Victor Batista (Second Team)
 Joe Hillman (Second Team)

school where Peterson won his first national championship in 1994. Penn State also earned a birth to the 2004 NCAA Final Four by winning the EIVA postseason tournament. The Nittany Lions lost to Long Beach State in the semifinals.

The top-returning player for the Nittany Lions is senior middle blocker Keith Kowal. A First Team All-American, Kowal led the team with 3.83 kills per game while hitting a blistering .574. He also led the team with 1.39 per game.

BYU will conclude the Outrigger Tournament with a match against Hawai'i. The Warriors had a solid 2004 season, finishing 17-12 overall and 13-9 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation. The Warriors' season ended with a loss to UCLA in the MPSF Tournament quarterfinals.

Senior outside hitter Delano Thomas, a 2004 Third Team All-MPSF honoree selection, will lead the Warriors. Thomas led the team with 4.00 kills per game while hitting .298. He led the MPSF with .690 aces per game in conference play.

The Cougars will be back in action Jan. 14 and 15 in Provo against the Cal Baptist Lancers, the 2004 NAIA Champions.

Defending National Champions

The 2004 BYU men's volleyball team finished 29-4 overall and 20-2 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, and most importantly, won the team's third National Championship in six years. It was coach Tom Peterson's first championship with BYU and second of his career, winning in 1994 while at Penn State. He is the only coach in NCAA history to win titles at two different schools.

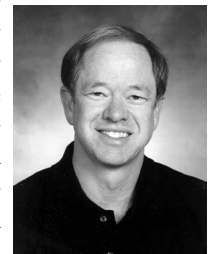
In the NCAA tournament, the Cougars defeated Lewis University, the defending national champions in the semifinals, and Long Beach State in the championship match. Down 10-6 in the fifth game against the Beach, the Cougars fought back and saved two match points to win 19-17. Including the NCAA and MPSF championship matches, BYU beat the 49ers four times in 2004.

The 2004 squad featured two first team All-Americans in Carlos Moreno and Fernando Pessoa and two Second-Team All-Americans in Victor Batista and Joe Hillman. Moreno also earned BYU's first AVCA National Player of the Year award. The MPSF also recognized the Cougars' excellence, naming Moreno, Pessoa, and Michael Burke to All-MPSF teams and Hillman, Batista, and Jon Alleman to the Honorable Mention team.

BYU was dominant throughout the season, winning 29 matches, second best in team history, and a school record 21 matches in a row. At home, the Cougars were nearly perfect, taking 16 of 17. BYU was also ranked No. 1 much of the season, reaching the spot March 9 and staying there the rest of the season.

The Peterson File

Tom Peterson, BYU alum and 1994 NCAA Coach of the Year, enters his third year as the head coach of the Cougar men's volleyball program. Peterson led the Cougars to a 29-4 record last season and the team's third National Championship. Under his guidance, the 2004 team also won the MPSF regular season and post-season tournaments, becoming only the second team in Cougar history to win both titles in the same year. In 2003, he guided BYU to second place finishes at the national championships and the MPSF regular season and a first place finish in the MPSF post-season tournament.



2004 BYU Men's Volleyball Team Stats
Overall record: 29-4
Conf: 20-2 Home: 16-1 Away: 11-3
Neutral: 2-0

TEAM STATISTICS	BYU	OPP				
ATTACK						
Kills	2056	1777				
Errors	662	745				
Total Attacks	3859	3848				
Attack Pct	.361	.268				
Kills/Game	16.45	14.2				
SET						
Assists	1936	1668				
Assists/Game	15.49	13.3				
SERVE						
Aces	104	112				
Errors	577	528				
Aces/Game	0.83	0.9				
SERVE RECEPTIONS						
Errors	113	104				
Errors/Game	0.904	0.832				
DEFENSE						
Digs	1055	880				
Digs/Game	8.44	7.0				
BLOCKING						
Block Solo	78	61				
Block Assist	586	406				
Total Blocks	371	264.0				
Blocks Per Game	2.97	2.1				
Block Errors	120	108				
BALL HANDLING ERRORS						
Total	50	37				
ATTENDANCE						
Total	44622	20306				
Dates/Avg Per Date	17/2625	14/1450				
Current Win Streak	7	-				
Current Home win streak	15	-				
MATCH WINS BY #GAMES						
	3	4	5	Total		
Brigham Young	13	10	6	29		
Opponents	2	0	2	4		
GAMES WON BY GAME						
	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Brigham Young	23	26	22	14	6	91
Opponents	10	7	11	4	2	34

BYU vs. ...

Lewis (Overall 7-1)	3 games	4 games	5 games
In Provo	2-0	2-0	2-0
In Romeoville	0-0	0-0	0-0
Neutral	1-0	0-0	0-1
Penn State (Overall 4-5)	3 games	4 games	5 games
In Provo	0-0	1-1	0-2
At University Park	0-0	0-1	0-0
Neutral	0-0	3-1	0-0
Hawai'i (Overall 18-12)	3 games	4 games	5 games
In Provo	5-0	2-2	3-1
In Honolulu	1-5	2-1	3-2
Neutral	1-1	1-0	0-0

BYU Numerical Roster

Num.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Pos.	Class	Hometown
2	Bryan Stewart	6-4	190	OPP/MB	So.	Sandy, Utah
3	Michael Burke	6-8	230	MB	Sr.	Salt Lake City, Utah
4	Rob Congelliere	6-5	215	OH/LIB	Sr.	Newbury Park, Calif.
5	Brian Congelliere	6-2	190	S	Fr.	Newbury Park, Calif.
6	Matt Heyes	6-5	195	OH	So.	Salt Lake City, Utah
7	Brian Rowley	6-0	170	LIB	Jr.	San Diego, Calif.
8	Ivan Perez	6-4	190	OH	Fr.	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
9	Casey Patterson	6-6	195	OPP/S	Sr.	Newbury Park, Calif.
10	Josh Edlinger	6-5	200	OPP/MB	Fr.	Lafayette, Calif.
12	Russell Holmes	6-8	185	MB	Fr.	Fountain Valley, Calif.
13	Danillo Lampariello	6-7	175	MB	Jr.	Sao Paulo, Brazil
14	Rob Neilson	6-3	180	S	Jr.	Pacific Palisades, Calif.
15	Victor Batista	6-5	165	OH	Jr.	Tamayo, Dominican Rep.
17	Taylor Evans	6-2	175	OH/OPP	Jr.	Alamo, Calif.

Peterson's career record currently stands at 304-141 with stints coaching the Penn State men's team and the women's teams at Salt Lake Community College, Utah State, and New Mexico. Before his NCAA coaching career, Peterson also coached the BYU men's club team from 1984-88.

Peterson came to BYU in 2002 with over 20 years of volleyball coaching experience, including 17 years of collegiate head-coaching experience. He is the only coach to win a National Championship at two different schools (Penn State, 1994).

2005 Season Outlook

The BYU men's volleyball team enters its third season under Tom Peterson on top of the collegiate volleyball world. The Cougars claimed the 2004 National Championship, BYU's third in six years, by defeating Long Beach State in five games. The team showed great composure in the championship match, coming back from a 10-6 deficit and two Long Beach match points in the final game to claim the match.

Even with the loss of three All-Americans in setter Carlos Moreno, outside hitter Fernando Pessoa, and opposite-side hitter Joe Hillman, and two other starters in Jon Alleman and Shawn Olmstead, the Cougars have reloaded and are ready to make their third straight trip to the NCAA Final Four. In 2003, the Cougars finished second in the nation after losing to Lewis in the championship match. The Cougars return second team All-American Victor Batista and highly regarded middle blocker Michael Burke. Burke and Batista had the highest hitting percentages and posted the highest blocking averages on the team in 2004. With the return of two stars and a great group of young talent to replace the departed seniors, the Cougars should be able to continue their championship tradition in 2005.

The following is a position-by-position breakdown of the 2005 BYU Cougars:

OUTSIDE HITTER

Despite the loss of two starters, BYU will be strong at the outside hitter position. Victor Batista, who earned All-America honors at the middle blocker position in 2004, will be joined by a large group of players that are brimming with potential, including redshirt freshman Ivan Perez, junior Taylor Evans, senior Casey Patterson, and junior Matt Heyes. Batista led the team in blocks per game at 1.24 and total blocks with 129. He hit a career-high 18 kills on three different occasions and recorded a career high of nine total blocks twice. He was also one of the Cougars' top service threats, finishing second on the team with 19 aces.



Senior middle blocker Mike Burke

Evans and Patterson are the only others besides Batista who have any game experience. Patterson mostly saw action at setter in 2002 and 2003 and Evans saw limited playing time on the outside in 2004. Perez, who practiced with the team everyday last season, brings athleticism and power to the outside. While his game experience is limited, he will be expected to contribute throughout the season.

OPPOSITE

The opposite-side hitter position will be very deep for the Cougars and one of their strengths. Peterson attributes the depth to the fact that many of the players are very versatile and can play more than one position. Evans is one of many players competing for the starting position at opposite-side hitter. He hit for a career high 15 kills last season against George Mason. Patterson returns to BYU after sitting out the 2004 season. He can also play setter and provide power on the outside. While a good setter, Peterson feels Patterson can be a bigger contributor as a hitter. Junior Danillo Lampariello from Sao Paulo, Brazil, may also see time on the opposite-side. Though he did not see action in 2004, he has been impressive in practice. Batista, a 2004 Second-team All-American, can also hit opposite.

MIDDLE BLOCKER

The middle blocker position will be thin in numbers but having a healthy Michael Burke will make the middle strong for BYU. Burke, who missed the first 12 matches of 2004 due to injury, starts the 2005 season as one of the best middle blockers in the nation. Despite joining the team in midseason, Burke was a major contributor for BYU, leading the Cougars with a .506 hitting percentage and finishing second on the team in blocks per game at 1.17. He also earned Third-team All-MPSF honors. On April 15 against USC, Burke hit for a career high .923 hitting percentage, finishing with 12 kills on 13 attempts. Redshirt freshman Russell Holmes and sophomore Bryan Stewart, a transfer student from Utah Valley State College, will join Burke in the middle. Both players have plenty of potential but are limited as far as experience is concerned.

SETTER

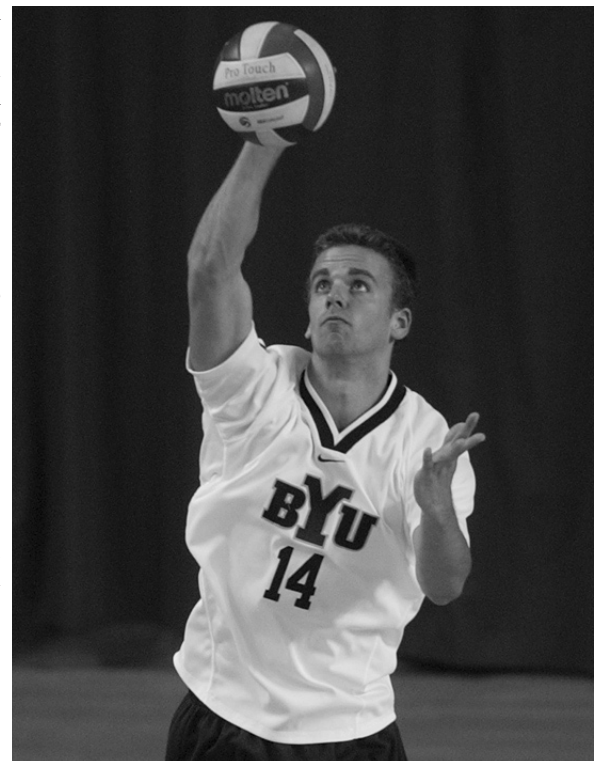
Junior Rob Neilson will step into the starting role vacated by All-American Carlos Moreno, who completed his athletic eligibility in 2004. Despite the big shoes to fill left by the AVCA National Player of the year, Peterson is more than confident that Neilson is capable of directing the team. Neilson was the backup in 2004. In preseason action during the fall of 2004, Neilson looked confident and capable of helping preserve BYU's tradition of excellence. Peterson will also rely on freshman Brian Congelliere, Patterson and sophomore-transfer Allan Mount from UCLA.

LIBERO

Junior Brian Rowley, who saw limited playing time last season, will step in as the new libero. Despite limited playing time, he practiced everyday against the National Champions and performed very well. Joining Rowley will be senior Rob Congelliere.

Despite the loss of several key contributors, the Cougars will again be a very deep squad. The coaching staff will have the option of choosing from several athletes who can play more than one position to field a competitive team every match. The team has worked with several lineups during the preseason and the coaches are still deciding what will work best. The experience and leadership of Batista, Burke, and Neilson will prove very beneficial as many young players are expected to be a big part of the rotation. With Burke and Batista having started in 2004 and all three being key contributors in the National Championship run, they will be a steadying influence for Cougars.

"This team has a lot of potential," Peterson said. "It will depend a lot on ball control, especially passing. If we can get some of the same magic, the same concept of team, and work hard as a team, not just as individuals, we could go a long way."



Junior setter Rob Neilson