



## Media Release

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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Ken Davis to sign *The University of Kansas Basketball Vault* at the KU Bookstore

January 30, 2009 (LAWRENCE, Kan.) - KU graduate Ken Davis will sign copies of his new book *The University of Kansas Basketball Vault: The History of the Jayhawks* from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the KU Bookstore on level two of the Kansas Union at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. The event, prior to the KU men's basketball home game versus Nebraska, is free and the public is invited.

*The University of Kansas Basketball Vault: The History of the Jayhawks* (Whitman Publishing), released in December, is a unique slipcased hardcover book exploring the 110-year history of KU's storied men's basketball program. The full-color book combines expert narrative by sportswriter Ken Davis with memorabilia replicas such as tickets, photographs, postcards, a poster, a pennant, and much more. Among the replicas included are tickets from the 2008 Final Four, a photograph of basketball's inventor James Naismith, coach and player notes from the 1952 championship season, Dick Enberg's television notes from a regional game played during the 1988 championship season, and a ticket from the 1927 game versus Nebraska played in Robinson Gymnasium. The book includes compelling stories from all eras, among them the great coaching legacies of Phog Allen, Larry Brown, Roy Williams, and Bill Self. Self wrote the foreword to the book, and All-American Clyde Lovellette wrote the afterword.

"This book will give you the feel for the great program Kansas has been for the last century. Someone asked me a few years ago if a certain recruit was going to be the biggest thing that ever happened to Kansas basketball. I laughed and said 'Heck no! Wilt [Chamberlain] played here! There's never going to be anything bigger than that.' When you join this program, you become part of something that is a lot bigger than yourself."

- **Bill Self, from the foreword to *The University of Kansas Basketball Vault***

Ken Davis grew up in Overland Park, Kan., and earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Kansas in 1980. Of his KU years, Davis notes that he remains grateful to legendary Professor John Bremner for instilling a love of English grammar and usage. After three years as KU Sports Correspondent for the *Kansas City Star*, he garnered more than 30 years award-winning experience covering sports for newspapers, Web sites, and other publications across the country. Davis worked for the *Hartford Courant* in Hartford, Conn., from 1985-2005, then became a freelance writer based in Connecticut. Davis is also a columnist for *NBCSports.com*, *Athlon Sports*, and a contributor to many other national sports publications. Davis's wife and older son are KU graduates and his younger son is a junior at KU.

The KU Bookstore is located on level two of the Kansas Union at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. As a nonprofit organization in the division of Student Success, the KU Bookstores gives all proceeds back to KU through student programs, services, and activities.

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