



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IT'S MORE THAN JUST A MOVE!

**National Association of Basketball Coaches announces exciting plans for
Kansas City and college basketball fans everywhere**

(Kansas City, MO, August 30, 2000) - The Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation officially announced that the National Association of Basketball Coaches lease agreement with the City of Kansas City, Missouri, has been approved unanimously by the NABC Executive Committee and Board. The agreement calls for the NABC to relocate its headquarters to historic Municipal Auditorium. The lease terms include a ten-year agreement, with three five-year options thereafter.

"The NABC is going home. Municipal Auditorium is recognized by our association as one of the birthplaces of the college basketball coaching profession," said Gene Keady, NABC President and Head Men's Basketball Coach at Purdue University.

Kansas City has agreed to provide approximately 60,000 square feet of space that will include the following: the NABC national office headquarters; a national Hall of Honor, featuring a salute to coaches and college basketball; an interactive fan event; an annual induction ceremony and other related special events.

In addition, the NABC Coaches Institute will be established to engage local and national youth, along with high school coaches in Greater Kansas City. The workshops for youth and coaches will focus on self-esteem building, sportsmanship, life skills for student-athletes, ethical choices for student-athletes and the mental aspects of effective coaching. A strong educational component is a goal of both the NABC and the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation.

In 2001, the NABC will launch a marquee national basketball tournament, which will be held annually in Kansas City and promises to become an important element in the overall presence of the NABC in Kansas City.

"The NABC is looking forward to creating an exciting attraction for Kansas City and the nation," said Jim Haney, Executive Director of the NABC. "The interactive fan event, the tournament, the educational initiatives we're planning will be a tremendous asset for Kansas City, the NABC and college basketball fans across the country."

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PROMOTING KANSAS CITY THROUGH SPORTS

In September 1997, representatives from the Sports Commission's Executive Committee met with the NABC Executive Committee and Board to discuss their situation in metropolitan Kansas City.

"We made a conscious decision as an organization to work with sports organizations who want to be in metropolitan Kansas City," said Bill Hall, Chair of the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. "The NABC has never wavered from this commitment, and as a result, we are moving forward immediately with our fundraising efforts."

The Sports Commission approached the City of Kansas City, Missouri, and proposed the initial concept that would lead to a unique public/private partnership in one of the nation's oldest basketball arenas, constructed in 1931. The building has played host to more NCAA Men's Final Fours (nine) and NCAA tournaments than any other building in the United States.

"Today's announcement is the culmination of a tremendous amount of work over the last three years," said Hall. "Historic Municipal Auditorium is an ideal fit for the NABC, and we're excited about developing a presence that parlays the unique history of basketball in the most storied college basketball arena in the country."

"The local sports industry will enter a new millenium with an exciting project for Kansas City and college basketball," said Scott Ward, chair of the NABC Retention Committee and a member of the Sports Commission's Executive Committee. "This project will become a shrine to the coaching profession that has given so much to the game."

The Zimmer Companies, the development project manager, and Wiedeman Architects are the local firms that have been identified to oversee the project. The overall budget is \$20 million, half of which has been committed by the City for shell building improvements and local charitable foundations.

The NABC currently claims nearly 5,000 members consisting primarily of university and college men's basketball coaches. Associate memberships are also afforded to athletic directors, conference commissioners, faculty members, and high school and junior college coaches.

Kansas City will continue to play host to the following major college basketball events at Kemper Arena and Municipal Auditorium: the 2001 and 2002 Big 12 Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments; the 2001 NCAA Men's Basketball Regional (first and second rounds); and the 2003 and 2004 MIAA Men's and Women's Post-season Basketball Tournaments. The Big 12 Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments return in 2005.