NEWS RELEASE



Tuesday, January 10, 2000 Kansas City, Missouri SUPPLEMENT NO. 1

Contact: Kevin Gray, President

816/474-4652, ext. 223

SPORTS COMMISSION EXPANDS STAFF

The Greater Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation has announced the hiring of two new associates. Debbie Collins is the new Office Manager, while Cindy Smith assumes the responsibility of Director of National Events. Both Collins and Smith were formerly employed with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

Smith spent nine years with the NCAA as an Assistant Director of Championships. Collins most recently served as the Senior Administrative Assistant for Championships and spent fourteen years with the NCAA.

"Both Cindy and Debbie were key players on the NCAA championship staff and have extensive backgrounds in event planning and management," said Kevin M. Gray, president of the Greater Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation.

Smith's responsibilities will include helping to implement the following events in Kansas City: 2001 NCAA Men's Basketball Regional Championship (first and second rounds); 2001 United States Olympic Congress; 2002 USA Track and Field Annual Convention; 2003 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships; 2003 National Soccer Coaches Association of America Annual Convention. In addition, she will become much more involved with other national event opportunities including the various Big 12 Championships that have been awarded to Kansas City.

"We feel strongly that their diverse backgrounds and experiences will bring an added dimension to our staff and will enhance the growth and success of our organization," said Gray.

Since 1991, the Sports Commission has helped to generate in excess of \$150 million to the Kansas City metropolitan area. Highlights have included: USVBA Open National Volleyball Championships; National Invitational Volleyball Championships; USVBA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship; NCAA Women's Final Four and the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Midwest Regional.

PROMOTING KANSAS CITY THROUGH SPORTS

News Release January 10, 2000 Page No. 2

"We are growing in an era with enormous possibilities for our community," Gray said. "The staff we've assembled, coupled with the impressive leadership of our board of directors bodes well for the future of our organization."

"An important board responsibility will include the Truman Sports Complex master plan issues and our arena situation moving forward," said William A. Hall, chairman of the Greater Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. "These two important facility issues go hand-in hand with our organization's strategic plan."

#