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## **KANSAS JAYHAWK FOOTBALL: PAST-PRESENT-FUTURE!**

### **PAST:**

The Topeka Jayhawk Club held its annual K.U. Football Kickoff Picnic on July 26<sup>th</sup>. It was an OUTSTANDING success, due in large part to the picnic chairperson: Diane Bean! We want to give special thanks to those individuals who grilled the great eats: Bobby & Helen Steinbock, Bob & Maurine Steinbock and Steve Steinbock.

Also available were our favorite beverages – ice cold: beer, soda pop and water. Chips on the plate along with cookies, all made for one great feast. A big “thank you” to all the sponsor’s who helped make the event extra special.

We loved to see the kids there also. There was face painting along with balloons tied into animal shapes.

Adding to the festive mood was Dr. Herschel Stroud and the TJC band. They played all our great tunes and the spirit squad gave forth with familiar yells and cheers. Walking around the “mall” giving High Five’s was one large Jayhawk Bird.

On display were two trophies for viewing: The beautiful Football Orange Bowl trophy and the 2008 NCAA Basketball Trophy.

Topping off the evening was football Coach Mark Mangino. To quote Coach –“We do have the opportunity to be a pretty good football team this year!” Once again we say “well done” to Diane Bean and to Kansas University for their assistance in making this year’s picnic a really GREAT time.

### **PRESENT:**

Todd Reesing, Jake Sharpe and all of their fellow teammates currently are going through what is known as two-a-day training sessions. This is where the players practice twice a day to get in shape for the up-coming football season. The first practice session is scheduled for 6:00 A.M. In order for the players to be in full pads and on the field by 6:00 they have to be awakened at 5:30 A.M. The job of seeing that the players are awake falls to the student managers. Having been a student manger, for the K.U. football team under Coach Jack Mitchell, I can tell you from first hand experience this is a scary job. After a couple of days the players respond to this early morning wake up call by throwing tennis shoes, shower clogs and socks with bars of soap in them. It is the quick student manager who can open the door, hit the light switch and close the door, all under three seconds, who lives to do again the next day.

### **FUTURE:**

September 5<sup>th</sup>. KICK OFF game with Northern Colorado. Six home games in Lawrence. And THE GAME at Kansas State, Manhattan, on November 7<sup>th</sup>. What a GREAT show of support for the team if we are able to have 500 KU fans at the K-State game. Put the date on your calendar and make plans to be in attendance. There are a number of good K.U. ticket packages for this upcoming season.

The Topeka Jayhawk Club is sponsoring a bus trip to the KU/KSU game on 11/07. Details are: \$115/person, includes \$75 game ticket, \$20 KU Alumni tailgate meal/beverages and \$20 bus. We'll leave 3 1/2 hrs before game time from Fairlawn Plaza parking lot, SW Corner behind Eagle Auto Wash, courtesy of Randy Austin. \$115 per ticket should be made payable to KU Alumni Assoc but mailed to Larry Tenopir, 1610 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, KS 66612.

**PERSONAL NOTE:**

On Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> I attended a memorial service for Coach Jack Mitchell in Wellington, Kansas. It was a nice tribute to not only a former Kansas Football Coach but to a fine gentleman. It is because of Coach Mitchell I was able to attend K.U and receive a quality education.

Also in attendance were: Coach Don Fambrough, Curtis McClinton, John Hadl, Gayle Sayers and many, many more former K.U. standout players. We had another guest in attendance, Coach Barry Switzer. Coach Mitchell was Barry Switzer's coach when Barry Switzer attended the University of Arkansas. Coach Mitchell came to K.U. from Arkansas. Friendships do last lifetimes and small acts of kindness have tremendous results. Rock Chalk!

Visit these TJC Friendly Merchants for discounts.

(Must present current Membership Card) - For more details visit our website [www.topekajayhawkclub.com](http://www.topekajayhawkclub.com)

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