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2015 Board Members

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| Doug Reynolds | 267-2429 |
| Larry Tenopir | 233-9467 |
| Jack Shutt | 272-7884 |
| Dusty Wagoner | 271-9156 |



We really need your help! We are looking for a location, in or near downtown, where we could store our "new" band wagon. It needs to be a place allowing space for it to be worked on and eventually painted. Should you be able to help us out, please contact Larry Tenopir @ 233-9467.



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If you own a business and would like to be a part of this program, please contact any board member listed above

Teppeka Jayhawk Club

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www.topekajayhawkclub.com

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

This year's St Patrick's Day Parade is going to be on Saturday March 14th. Once again, the Topeka Jayhawk Club will participate and we would very much like any of you to come and join us. We always have a need for walkers to walk along the parade route along side our decorated vehicles and the Alumni and Friends Band trailer and help pass out 10,000 beads and Jayhawk stickers to all the Jayhawk fans! If you would like to help out and join us in the parade this year, please call Larry Tenopir @ 233-9467.

TJC TO AWARD UP TO 3 \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS.

The application deadline is MARCH 31! Don't miss it! In order to apply, you must live in northeast Kansas and either be a current KU student or a high school student entering KU for the 2015 fall semester. ALSO, the student or a parent or a grandparent of the student must be a current TJC member and have been a member for at least 3 years. The board hopes that this will become a very important benefit to TJC members in the years to come and significantly help our local students attend the university we all love. Check out the application and rules on our website, www.topekajayhawkclub.com.

KANSAS FOOTBALL IN FEBRUARY

On Tuesday, February 17th, Kansas football head coach David Beaty and all nine members of his coaching staff and other athletic department officials attended a Happy Hour event at the Topeka Ramada Inn downtown. It was a well attended event of approximately 230 enthusiastic football fans. The Coaches all introduced themselves, where they came from and areas they were going to be recruiting. Coach Bowen received a standing ovation from the crowd. Pictures from the event can be viewed on our website at <u>www.topekajayhawkclub.com</u>.

TOURNAMENT WATCH PARTIES

Keep your eye on your email for upcoming watch parties. We'll be sending notices out as soon as we get things squared away. If you are currently not receiving email notices, and would like to, send an email to pat@topekajayhawkclub.com to get set up.

SPOILED ROTTEN.

By Jim Williamson

Two things occurred to me this morning as I dragged my tired carcass out of bed. I'd stayed up the night before to watch Kansas' highly improbably comeback against West Virginia.

The first was, "Remember when you could go to the game, scream your brains out, stick around to watch the nets come down and go out for a beer or two or 12 with your buddies? And still make an 8:30 class?"

The second was, "I can't believe how spoiled we – Kansas Basketball fans – are." And I've got numbers to back it up.

- Allen Field House's 227th consecutive sell-out crowd got to see Kansas claim outright their 11th straight conference title. Only UCLA under the legendary John Wooden has won more conference titles in a row.
- KU has won 24 games this season, 13 in the Big 12. It's the 10th straight season they're reached those victory thresholds.
- Kansas is 15-0 in the friendly confines this season and the only Big 12 team not to lose a conference home game.

• KU has not been beaten twice by a league opponent in regular season play since Self came to Kansas.

Now, consider that all this wonderfulness continued under less-than-ideal circumstances.

The Jayhawks were without the services of Big 12 Player of the Year candidate Perry Ellis. A sprained knee kept him on the bench in the second half. Wayne Selden came down on someone's foot midway through the second half and was hobbled the rest of the evening. Cliff Alexander sat on the bench in street clothes, all lawyered up.

They played lackadaisical defense the first half on the way to giving up 40 points. Of course, defense – something Bill Self (and Eddie Sutton and Mr. Iba) hangs his hat on – has been sporadic all season.

And now, apparently, the country's best three-point shooting team can't hit water if they fall out of a boat. Kansas was 0-for-15 from behind the arc against the Mountaineers. KU is shooting 15 percent going back to the TCU game.

Of course, good teams find a way to get it done. KU couldn't buy a basket but they got to the rim and the free throw line. And their second half defense was absolutely stifling, giving up just 19 points.

What do all this weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth mean? It means that we've had it awfully good for a very long time.

Even in a rebuilding year, the Kansas Jayhawks are having the kind of season that most other schools – including the one down I-70 from Lawrence -- dream of: 27, 28 wins... a conference title...a two- or three-seed in what seems like their 517th consecutive NCAA Tournament.

I wouldn't bet the farm on this team to make a deep tournament run. They've got too many deficiencies that can be easily exploited by a good team in the tournament setting.

Don't forget, though, that this has been one of the most athletic, entertaining Kansas Basketball teams we've ever seen. And if a few guys stick around one more year, the Kansas Jayhawks will be loaded for bear (and wildcat and mountaineer and sooner) next season.

This team and this season may not be perfect, but it's still really, really, really good.

Rock Chalk.

Jim Williamson is a lifelong Topekan and Jayhawk. He has written articles and columns for several websites and publications, including Phog.net and Jayhawk Illustrated. He was able to touch the rim in high school.

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| Topeka Jayhawk Club P.O. Box 67694 | |
| Topeka, KS 66667 | Membership Year is from January 1st through December 31st. |
| \$15 Single Membership/year or | \$45 Single Membership/3 years 1st Time Member |
| \$20 Family Membership/year or | \$60 Family Membership/3 years Renewal |
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