

Topeka Jayhawk Club

January 2017

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<u>Newsletter/Webmaster</u>	
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<u>Photographer</u>	
Dave Heinemann	267-5033

2017 Board Members

Tim Arnold	218-6228
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Mary Norton	232-9066
Doug Reynolds	267-2429
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Larry Tenopir	232-1332
Dave Wenrich	228-9880

Membership Drive/Gift Pickup.

We have a few remaining Membership Drives at Fairlawn Plaza Shopping Center.

Jan 19	Thursday	5pm—7pm
Jan 26	Thursday	5pm—7pm

We are located inside the mall across from the Dance Factory. This year's gift is a koozie, one per single membership and two per family membership. Men's basketball poster/schedules are still available, one per membership.

HawkWatch Dates.

We have several scheduled Hawkwatch parties at the Lazy Toad. The club calendar on our website has them all listed. Email notifications are sent out letting you know of the upcoming Hawkwatches, if you supplied us with an email address. They typically draw a good crowd, so you should arrive early and stay late!

Roundball Luncheon.

A group of about 250 Topeka Jayhawk Fans hungry for information, gathered at the Ramada Inn to listen to Coaches Self and Schneider. Pictures from the event can be viewed on our website.

This one-and-done will get it done.

By Jim Williamson

In case you've been under a rock since October, you know that one of the biggest contributors to KU Basketball's success this season has been freshman Josh Jackson. In other similarly obvious statements, kittens are cute and water is wet.

I'm not a fan of "one-and-done" players. It still seems mercenary to me, somehow (I'm looking at you, John Calipari!). I'd rather have some old codger on the floor who's all of 21 or 22 than a kid who's barely old enough to vote. But all signs point to Jackson bringing his talents to Wescoe Beach for a single season before being an NBA lottery pick – maybe even the number one pick – next summer.

So until the NBA changes its rules about draft eligibility, one-and-dones will be a part of college basketball.

Since basketball fans love to compare players to players of the past, I find myself wondering: Where does Josh Jackson fall in the list of notable one-and-dones in the Bill Self era? There haven't been many, and none of them have made or broken a season for Kansas as they have for other teams (Looking at you, again, Kentucky!). But it's fun to think about.

First, Xavier Henry and Josh Selby don't make the list of notables. They never lived up to the hype, either in Lawrence or at the next level.

That leaves me with two one-and-done Jayhawks: Ben McLemore and Andrew Wiggins.

TJC Friendly Merchants

- Quiznos Sub
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- Numerous Others...

Don't forget to check out the Friendly Merchants page on our website. Receive discounts when you present your Topeka Jayhawk Club membership card.



TopekaJayhawkClub.com

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

McLemore came to KU in 2012 with an NBA-ready body, great athleticism and a terrific outside shot. After that, however, he was done. He was a mediocre defender – something that never sat well with coach Self – and you could count on him to disappear in road games. B-Mac averaged a very solid 15.9 points and 5.2 rebounds per game as a Jayhawk, and in three years with the Sacramento Kings, he's averaged just under 10 points and three rebounds a game. Hardly Hall of Fame numbers, but guys like him seem to spend 15 years in the league and leave with a nice pension and lots of business connections.

The next season, Wiggins joined the Jayhawks. He was lanky but a tremendous athlete, an okay shooter (44.8%) but other-worldly scoring in transition. He was also one of the best rebounding small forwards Self has ever had and a really good defender. Without Wiggins shutting down Jabari Parker in the second half, Kansas doesn't beat Duke in the Champions Classic in Chicago in November. One could easily argue that Wiggins is underrated in the annals of Kansas Basketball because of the expectations he brought. Fans thought he'd average 30 points a game, cure the common cold and marry Marie Osmond. All he did was average 17.1 points and 5.9 rebounds in 32 games at KU. He's gone on to be named 2015 NBA Rookie of the Year average 20.1 points in 81 games last season (2015-16) for the Minnesota Timberwolves and is the only Canadian-born player every to score 40 points in an NBA game. And he's not even 22 yet.

That brings us to Josh Jackson. Barring serious injury, I think Jackson will finish up his career as the best one-and-done Bill Self has had so far. He's averaging 14.7 points and 6.2 rebounds a game (as of January 2). He's a 50 percent shooter from the field, works as hard as anyone on defense and never takes a play off. He has a tremendous motor. Playing with old coots like Frank Mason and Devonte Graham has also meant that he hasn't had to carry the team. Not yet, at least.

What makes Jackson special to me is, three or four times a game, he does something that makes me say, "Wow, that was an NBA move." I've never seen a freshman look so polished. He's not just getting by on sheer athleticism or power or size. He's all those things AND he knows the game. He also seems very humble and eager to please his coach.

Yes, I know it's still early. We may find that he disappears on the road in the Big 12. We may indeed see the long season wear him down. But I'm much more inclined to think he'll continue to grow and get better and assert himself. I also think that when March rolls around, freshman Josh Jackson won't be a freshman anymore, and at some point in the NCAA tournament, he'll shoulder the Jayhawks and carry them to a win exactly when they need him to the most.

Rock Chalk!

Pass this form on to a friend or family member!

Please send this application with your 2016 dues, payable to "Topeka Jayhawk Club" and mail to:

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

Principal Member's Name: _____
Additional Names for Family Membership: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____
Email: _____
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