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“KU Jayhawk Great Wayne Simien to Join Author Chris Meggs at December 7 Game at AFH”

Kansas City, December 6, 2019 – On Saturday December 7, 2019 KU Jayhawk great Wayne Simien will join author Chris Meggs to sign copies of the new book *‘Twas the Night Before Tipoff – The University of Kansas Jayhawks*. The signing will be before the game, at halftime, and immediately following the game versus The University of Colorado.

Details on the book: The spirits of legendary coaches and players at The University of Kansas take the court at famed Allen Fieldhouse and come alive one night in *“Twas the Night Before Tipoff”* by alumnus Chris Meggs. This timeless children's book will have young readers sitting on the edge of their seats as they learn about the decorated Kansas basketball tradition. *‘Twas the Night Before Tipoff—The University of Kansas Jayhawks* introduces them to coaches and players and the teams’ successes which makes Allen Fieldhouse a revered place to play basketball and a must-see destination on any basketball fan's bucket list.

The book begins with the Fieldhouse growing restless in anticipation of the next day's big game. The KU Jayhawks' home court tosses and turns before the past glories of KU victories and the heroics of its famous players burst upon the court one more time. Coaches throughout Jayhawk history shout out the plays to players who once thrilled crowds with their talents and determination. This instant classic will be a valued treasure for every Jayhawk family. *“Twas the Night Before Tipoff* provides the perfect bonding experience over Kansas basketball,” Meggs said. “As parents read to their children, it’s the perfect opportunity to tell stories about the games they saw and share their experiences in celebrating Jayhawk victories.”

It will not only have young KU fans dreaming of future glory, the names and games will bring back memories for parents and grandparents of the teams of their youth by reliving past victories and championships. “I've always viewed the love and devotion of the KU basketball tradition as a living, breathing entity,” Meggs said. “It forms a strong bond between fans and players. The enthusiasm for the Jayhawks is easy to catch and it reaches its peak within the walls of Allen Fieldhouse on game day.”

“Twas the Night Before Tipoff has been officially licensed by the University of Kansas. “We are never surprised at the talents of a KU alum like Chris Meggs,” Paul Vander Tuig, Assistant Athletic Director – Trademark Licensing, said. “Chris has been able to convey the magic of

Allen Fieldhouse in a children's book that all our fans can easily relate to. "*Twas the Night Before Tipoff* will become a household favorite!"

Rob Peters' illustrations bring magical Jayhawk moments to life and capture the Rock Chalk tradition in a way that will bring a smile to generations of Kansas basketball fans. He helps the action jump off the page and into the imagination of young Jayhawk fans.

Author Bio:

Chris Meggs was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Science in journalism. Chris has worked as a television news reporter and an Emmy-winning news producer. He loves traveling across Kansas to photograph and learn more about the state he calls home. Chris lives in Gardner, Kansas with this wife, Julie.

Title: *'Twas the Night Before Tipoff – The University of Kansas Jayhawks*

ISBN: 978-0-9966742-5-6 / **Price:** US \$17.99 **Trim Size:** 8" x 10 ½", 32 pages /

Genre: Children's **Publication date:** November 18, 2019

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For more information, or to request an author interview or media copy, please contact Bob Snodgrass at bsnodgrass@ascendbooks.com or call 913-948-5522.

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