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Triangle Men's Basketball Tip-Off to Feature Local NCAA D-I Coaches

Cary, NC (August 18, 2017): All four Triangle-area NCAA Division I Men's Basketball programs will be represented in the 2017 Triangle Men's Basketball Tip-Off Luncheon to be held Friday, September 22 at the Embassy Suites Cary. The panel will feature Jeff Capel, Associate Head Coach at Duke University; Kevin Keatts, Head Coach at NC State University; LeVelle Moton, Head Coach at NC Central University; and Roy Williams, Head Coach at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. The panel will be set up in a “living room chat”-style format with WRAL-TV Sports Anchor, Jeff Gravley, serving as moderator.

The luncheon is hosted by the Triangle Sports Commission and is the kick-off event of the 1987 U.S. Olympic Festival 30th Anniversary Celebration activities taking place on September 22-23, 2017. “We are absolutely thrilled that these four storied programs have agreed to come together for this exciting event,” said Hill Carrow, CEO of the Triangle Sports Commission. “The last time we were able to get these men's basketball programs together was over five years ago. Because of the extremely limited opportunities to get these coaches together, and given the quality of these coaches and their teams — with 10 national championships among the schools, we are expecting tickets for the luncheon to go very quickly.”

The Men's Basketball programs at Duke, NC Central, NC State, and UNC are perennially among the top college programs in the country, with three of the four teams having made the 2017 NCAA Tournament, which was won by the North Carolina Tar Heels. Strong recruiting among the schools bodes well for the continuing competitiveness of each of the programs. While the coaches will speak about the upcoming 2017/2018 season, they will also be sharing personal insights about their coaching success, business topics, and even personal interests.

Registration and networking for the luncheon are 11:30am to 12pm. Lunch begins at noon and the program will get underway shortly thereafter. Individual tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by clicking [here](http://www.trianglesportscommission.com/usof30) or visiting <http://www.trianglesportscommission.com/usof30>. Sponsor tables of 10 are also available for \$600 and can be purchased by contacting Tess Heron at the Triangle Sports Commission at 919.678.1652 or theron@trianglesportscommission.com.



Jeff Capel: Jeff Capel is the Associate Head Coach for the Duke Blue Devils. Capel comes from a basketball family. His father was an assistant coach for the Charlotte Bobcats and head coach for Old Dominion University while his brother played for UNC. Capel played for Duke from 1993 through 1997 and spent two years after college playing professionally. His first coaching job was an assistant coach under his father at ODU. After one year, he moved on to an assistant head coach position at Virginia Commonwealth University. One year later, he was promoted to head coach and became the youngest Division 1 head coach at the time. From 2006 to 2011, Capel was the head coach for Oklahoma, leading the team to two appearances in the NCAA tournament. In 2011, he returned to his alma mater as the Associate Head Coach under Coach Krzyzewski.

Kevin Keatts: Kevin Keatts will begin his first season as NC State's Head Coach this fall. After playing in college at Ferrum College, he started his coaching career at Southern Michigan University as an assistant coach. After one year he moved on to Hargrove Military Academy as an assistant coach and was later promoted to head coach. In 2001, Keatts moved to Marshall as an assistant coach, but returned to Hargrove after two years and remained head coach until 2011. From 2011 to 2014, he was an assistant coach at Louisville and won an NCAA championship in 2013. In 2014, he became the head coach for UNC-Wilmington and won the CAA Championship three years in a row and was named CAA Coach of the Year two years in a row. In 2017, he was hired as NC State's head coach.

LeVelle Moton: LeVelle Moton is the head coach of the NC Central Eagles. Moton grew up in Raleigh and was a star player at Enloe High School. Moton is an alumnus of NCCU and was a standout player there from 1992 to 1996. After college he played four years of professional basketball and then began coaching as a head coach at Sanderson High School. He returned to his alma mater as an assistant coach in 2007. After two years, he was promoted to head coach. In his eight years as head coach, Moton has won three MEAC Regular Season Championships and two MEAC Tournament Championships. This year he guided the Eagles to their second NCAA Tournament berth and was named MEAC Coach of the Year. Also in 2017, Moton was inducted into the Wake County Public School System Hall of Fame.

Roy Williams: Roy Williams is the head coach of UNC-Chapel Hill Tar Heels. Williams played one year of J.V. basketball at UNC, and in 1973 began his coaching career at Charles D. Owen High School in Black Mountain, NC. Williams began his college coaching in 1978 as an assistant coach at UNC under Dean Smith. In 1988, Williams became the head coach at Kansas and led his team to fourteen NCAA tournaments. At Kansas, he won the Big Eight Coach of the Year four times, Big Twelve Coach of the Year three times, and the AP Coach of the Year once. In 2003, Williams, a College Basketball Hall of Fame inductee, returned to UNC as the head coach where he has led the Tar Heels to three NCAA Championships, eight ACC titles, and both ACC and National Coach of the Year honors.

About the 1987 U.S. Olympic Festival: The U.S. Olympic Festival, which took place across the Triangle (Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, and Cary) and the Triad (Greensboro) for fourteen days (July 13-26) during the summer of 1987, still holds the record as the largest sports event ever to take place in North Carolina. Over 464,000 spectators cheered on 4,000 athletes, coaches, and administrators in 34 sports at 25 venues stretching from Sir Walter Gun Club east of Raleigh to the Greensboro Coliseum in the west, and from Lake Wheeler south of Raleigh to Kerr Lake north of Durham. The Festival involved all the sports of the Summer Olympic Games, sports of the Pan American Games, and even three Winter Olympic Sports: Figure Skating, Ice Hockey, and Speedskating. North Carolina Amateur Sports, the Local Organizing Committee for the Festival, supported the event with 55 staff members and 10,000 volunteers. The event received a record 123 hours of national broadcast coverage on ESPN and garnered national and international media attention. For more information on the 1987 Olympic Festival, visit www.triangelsportscommission.com/USOF30.

About the U.S. Olympic Festival-'87 30th Anniversary Celebration: There are currently two primary events taking place to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the U.S. Olympic Festival — the **1987 Olympic Festival 30th Anniversary Celebration Reception and Banquet**, and the **Triangle Men's Basketball Tip-Off Luncheon**. The Olympic Festival 30th Anniversary Celebration Reception and Banquet will take place at the Embassy Suites Cary beginning with a cocktail hour at 6 pm followed by dinner and the Official Program at 7 pm. Keynote speaker is Nancy Hogshead-Makar, a Duke graduate, Olympic Gold Medalist, and Women's Sport Champion. The **Triangle Men's Basketball Tip-Off Luncheon** is described above in this release. For more information or to purchase tickets or sponsor tables for these anniversary events, visit www.triangelsportscommission.com/USOF30.

About the Triangle Sports Commission: The Triangle Sports Commission is the sports commission for the Triangle region of North Carolina consisting of Wake, Durham, and Orange Counties. A long-time Community Olympic Partner of the U.S. Olympic Committee, the TSC focuses on the hosting of Olympic and amateur sports events and activities that help develop athletes, promote the region, and foster positive branding and economic impacts for the Raleigh-Durham market. The TSC recruited, and secured over \$13 million in funding commitments for, the relocation of USA Baseball's headquarters and national training complex to the Triangle. TSC leadership secured over \$20 million for expansions of other destination facilities such as WakeMed Soccer

Park and the Cary Tennis Park. The TSC has served as host organization for the U.S. Olympic Trials – Table Tennis, Collegiate Rugby National Championships, ACC Baseball Championships, and the world’s first-ever Rugby 7’s Olympic Qualification Tournament, among others. For more information on the TSC, visit www.trianglesportscommission.com.