



NEWS RELEASE

NAIA NATIONAL OFFICE
1200 Grand Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64106
P 816-595-8000
F 816-595-8200
www.naia.org

For Immediate Release:

Date: Friday, January 29, 2010

Contact: Staci Schottman, NAIA Director of Public Relations and Communications, 816-595-8116

BUFFALO FUNDS-NAIA DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY

College Basketball's Toughest Tournament Returns to Municipal Auditorium March 17-23

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Tickets to the 73rd Annual Buffalo Funds-NAIA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship go on sale Monday, February 1, 2010, at 10 a.m. (CT). Single session tickets may be purchased at the Municipal Auditorium Box Office located in downtown Kansas City, at any Ticketmaster outlet, on-line at Ticketmaster.com, or by calling 1-800-745-3000. Coined *College Basketball's Toughest Tournament*, the historic event gets underway at Municipal Auditorium on Wednesday, March 17, with the first of 31 games tipping off at 9 AM (CT).

General admission tickets are \$5 for students and \$12 for adults (add \$3 per ticket for reserved seats). Tickets are good for four games each during the first four days of the tournament. Fans interested in purchasing the family pack, all-tournament tickets or group tickets may do so at the Municipal Auditorium Box Office. The family four-pack includes four general admission tickets, four soft drinks and four snacks for only \$45. For a list of complete ticket packages and tournament information visit www.naiahoops.com.

The 32-team single elimination tournament is the longest continuous national collegiate tournament in any sport and draws approximately 40,000 fans each year.

The NAIA, title sponsor Buffalo Funds and conference host Heart of America Athletic Conference offer an affordable and fun experience for the entire family. In six days fans will experience wall-to-wall basketball, DST Systems Youth Day, U.S. Bank Championship Night, *Champions of Character* events and much more. For additional information on the 2010 Buffalo Funds-NAIA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship visit www.naiahoops.com. All games are played at Municipal Auditorium located at 301 W. 13th Street in the heart of downtown Kansas City, Mo.

2010 Buffalo Funds-NAIA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship - game dates and times (CT):

Wednesday, March 17 – First Round (Parade of Champions, between the 6:15 PM and 8:45 PM games)

Session 1: 9 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:30 PM, 2:15 PM

Session 2: 4:30 PM, 6:15 PM, 8:45 PM, 10:30 PM

Thursday, March 18 – First Round

Session 3: 9 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:30 PM, 2:15 PM

Session 4: 4:30 PM, 6:15 PM, 8:00 PM, 9:45 PM

Friday, March 19 – Second Round (Faith and Family Night, Brown Bag Friday, NAIA High School Leadership Day)

Session 5: 9 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:30 PM, 2:15 PM

Session 6: 4:30 PM, 6:15 PM, 8:00 PM, 9:45 PM

Saturday, March 20 – Quarterfinals (DST Systems Youth Day, kids wearing a youth sport jersey get in FREE)

Session 7: 1 PM, 3 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM

Sunday, March 21 (final four teams host clinic for special needs athletes at Municipal Auditorium)

NO GAMES PLAYED

Monday, March 22 – Semifinals (High School *Champions of Character* Awards Reception)

Session 8: 6:00 PM, 8:00 PM

Tuesday, March 23 – Championship Game – LIVE on CBS College Sports Network (U.S. Bank Championship Night, Corporate Shootout, Salute to Service Men and Women, Scout Night)

Session 9: 7:00 PM

*Please note: Tickets are good for one full session.

-NAIA-

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) is the governing body for athletics programs at its nearly 300 colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. The long-held mission of the NAIA is to promote the education and development of well-rounded students and productive citizens through intercollegiate athletics. The association offers equitable access and opportunities for participation in its 23 national championship events held annually throughout the country.

Today, the NAIA strengthens its commitment to student-athletes and strives to enrich their college experience by supporting academic achievement and character development. NAIA *Champions of Character* is the association's innovative flagship program designed to instill character values in student-athletes, coaches and youth in the communities it serves.