



**For Immediate Release**

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***10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.***

**Rupp Arena Blood Drive today!**

LEXINGTON, KY – KBC is hosting the fifth annual Rupp Arena Blood Drive today from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Donors can shoot around on the court, take some pictures and then donate blood.

No appointments are necessary, and parking is free in the Manchester Street lot behind the arena. Donors should enter the arena from the Manchester parking lot.

Everyone who registers to donate today will receive a long-sleeve black T-shirt and a chance to win a pair of tickets to the 2017 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship First/Second Rounds in Indianapolis on March 17 and 19.

Texas Roadhouse will provide barbecue for donors, and Matt Jones and his KSR show will be live at the arena from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Rupp Arena Blood Drive is part of Big Blue Slam, the annual blood battle between Kentucky and Florida fans. Kentucky and Florida are tied, each winning 4 times since their competition began in 2009. **SCORE!!!!**

Blood donors must be 17-years-old (16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds, be in general good health, show a photo I.D. and meet additional requirements. Sixteen-year-old donors must have a signed parental permission slip, which can be found at [kybloodcenter.org](http://kybloodcenter.org).

**About Kentucky Blood Center (KBC)**

KBC, founded in 1968, is the largest independent, full-service, non-profit blood center in Kentucky. Licensed by the FDA, KBC's sole purpose is to collect, process and distribute blood for patients in Kentucky hospitals.