

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mark Wilson, 334/844-4948 (mwilson@auburn.edu)

Mike Clardy, 334/844-9999 (clardch@auburn.edu)

COACH TO DISCUSS NEW BOOK ON COLLEGE BASKETBALL DESEGREGATION

Auburn, Ala.—Award-winning basketball coach and Alabama native Bill Elder will discuss his new book “All Guts and No Glory: An Alabama Coach’s Memoir of Desegregating College Athletics” on Thursday, June 28 at 4:00 p.m. at the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art at Auburn University.

Elder, who served as men’s basketball head coach for twenty-eight years at Northeast State Junior College, University of Montevallo, and the University of Mobile, as well as athletic director at five colleges including Auburn University Montgomery, recalls in his memoir the dangerous process of integrating Northeast State’s basketball team in the early 1970s.

Alabama historian Wayne Flynt notes, “Bill Elder’s memoir combines the three most powerful and sacred elements of Alabama folk culture: sports, religion, and race. Memoirs like Elder’s . . . open entirely new vistas into the civil rights struggles after laws were changes but hearts stayed pretty much the same.”

The program is free, open to the public, and a reception will follow. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. This program is sponsored by the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts, the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, and the Auburn University Bookstore. For more information, call 334-844-4946.