



BASKETBALL GOLDEN JUBILEE

NAISMITH MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
Springfield, Mass.

MAYOR ROGER L. PUTNAM
Chairman

September 27, 1941

This year, as you doubtless know, marks the fiftieth anniversary of basketball, and beginning in November the Naismith Memorial Executive Committee, of which I am chairman, will inaugurate a year of nationwide celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Basketball.

It is the plan of the executive committee to include every basketball player, coach and fan in the Golden Jubilee undertakings, the purpose of which is to erect here at Springfield, the birthplace of the game, a permanent monument to Dr. James Naismith, who invented the game when he was a young instructor at Springfield back in December, 1891. This Temple of Basketball will combine a model court, Hall of Fame, and historical museum, and in its archives will be preserved the records and data of the sport.

You will be interested to know that the Naismith Memorial will be erected on a site overlooking beautiful Lake Massasoit which site has already been given to the Naismith Executive Committee. The Hall of Fame will be maintained in perpetuity.

In order to help raise sufficient funds for this Memorial, the Naismith Executive Committee plans to have a network of Golden Ball games throughout the country. Already we have been assured of the help and cooperation of many of the most important men in the sports world, the academic sphere and public life.

In order to make the Golden Ball games a success, we need your cooperation and would appreciate a letter from you assuring us of your helpfulness in this worthwhile undertaking. It seems fitting and right that the entire country, which is so devoted to the great game of basketball, and the institutions and teams that have profited so materially from the game should honor the memory of the man who founded the pastime and brought so much joy to millions.