

"James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy". I called your attention to the fact that these were printed in October long before Dr. Naismith's death, and no authority was given by Dr. Naismith or by his family for a memorial trophy. The trophy that Dr. Naismith gave previously was the "Maude Naismith Trophy". I am sending you this announcement to show the rather irregular and unethical manner of printing such a thing.

According to our conversation last evening, I am of the very definite opinion that the National Association of Basketball Coaches, as an organization, would be very happy to present a James Naismith Memorial Trophy to be played for by the National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball championship. I am very sure that the Coaches Association would be happy to pay for this trophy and they would consider it an honor to have the originator's name on this honor trophy. If it meets with the Naismith family's wishes, I would be very happy to present this to the National Association of Basketball Coaches, asking them if they would be willing to do the thing that I have just mentioned. Since Dr. Naismith has been long associated as an officer and honorary president of these organizations, and since he has given this "Maude Naismith Trophy" to the National Intercollegiate basketball group who apparently have no organization other than the directors of athletics in small colleges, I am setting forth the difference between the two organizations and asking you if you care to have me do this particular thing.

I think it would be necessary for the Naismith family to write to Mr. Liston as acting executive secretary of the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball, at Baldwin, Kansas, and state to him that your family deploras the action of his group by announcing the James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy without the consent of the family. Further that you wish emphatically that the National Intercollegiate Basketball Championship Tournament Committee, and Mr. Liston as acting executive secretary, do not offer any trophy which is represented as the James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy, or any basketballs or emblems with the Naismith name connected with it or them. Further, I would ask for a reply to my letter, and say in addition that your family would want to have an explanation of why this thing of announcing the James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy without permission having been granted had been done.

If I have not explained this fully to you I will be glad to have you write me at length, but I trust I have made the differences between these two organizations plain enough to you so that you may see Mrs. Naismith and you two in turn may write the necessary letter that you desire.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.