

VDK 12/1/54
Street Named For Naismith

"Naismith road" was recently approved by the City Commission as the name for the first street west of West Campus road.

The street is named in honor of Dr. James A. Naismith, a former member of the KU faculty and inventor of basketball. The commission took action in order to pass a resolution to pave the street between Crescent road and University drive. The name will also apply to that part of the road which runs south from Crescent road at the west edge of the campus and now is known as "West Sunnyside."

The street is the north approach to KU's new fieldhouse.

LDJW 9-25-56
 A portrait of Dr. James Naismith, inventor of basketball and a professor of physical education for 39 years at Kansas University, will be presented to the University Friday night. The ceremony will be between halves of the K.U.-Colorado basketball game in Allen Fieldhouse.

The portrait will be a gift of Sigma Phi Epsilon social fraternity of which Dr. Naismith was a member. An alumnus of the fraternity will make the presentation and it will be accepted by Chancellor Franklin D. Murphy. Mrs. Naismith will unveil the portrait, which will hang in the main hall at the fieldhouse. Dr. Forrest C. (Phog) Allen also will make a speech.

Dr. Naismith was on the K.U. faculty from 1898 until 1937. He died in 1939.

Y.O.K. 3/1/55
KU Basketball Has Grown Up With the School

Basketball and basketball playing facilities at the University have come a long way since Dr. James Naismith, the inventor of basketball, was made an associate professor of physical training here in 1898. Soon after Dr. Naismith's arrival on Mt. Oread basketball became one of the more popular indoor sports on the campus.

Basketball has been played in Robinson gymnasium, in Hoch auditorium, and tonight will be played in the new 17,000-seat Allen fieldhouse, but few persons know where the game was played before these structures existed.

When Dr. Naismith took over his job 57 years ago the basement of Fraser hall housed the physical education department and was the scene of all the basketball games played on the campus.

As basketball became more and more popular and the rules were improved, the playing facilities at Fraser became inadequate and the department moved to a rather crude gymnasium in the basement of Old Snow hall.

Even Snow was not adequate for games so a skating rink near the Baptist church was often pressed into service for games.

Robinson, completed in 1907, was the first real basketball court on the campus. It soon became evident that even Robinson was not big enough for the huge basketball crowds which were thronging to the campus, so in 1927, the year Dr. Forrest C. "Phog" Allen became basketball coach, Hoch auditorium was opened. Hoch's 4,000 seats were thought to be more than enough to handle any crowd which should want to attend an indoor event at the University.

After 38 years of playing basketball in what opponents called the "old opera house" KU now has a \$2 1/2 million ultra modern fieldhouse.

Basketball has developed from a simple game in which a ball was thrown into a peach basket to the major American sport played and watched by millions, and KU's facilities have kept pace.

Dr. Naismith Portrait Will Be Gift to K. U.



K.C. Star 2/27/56
A THREE by 5-foot portrait of Dr. James A. Naismith, inventor of the game of basketball, will be presented to the University of Kansas at the half-time of the Kansas-Colorado basketball game at Lawrence Friday night by the K. U. alumni of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

The painting in oils was made from several photographs of Dr. Naismith by J. Richard Callahan, a Kansas City artist. Dr. Naismith died in 1939.

Douglas H. Paddock, 6709 Hadley street, Overland Park, vice-president of the fraternity's K. U. alumni board, said the picture would hang in the main foyer of the Allen fieldhouse on the wall opposite a

painting of Dr. Forrest C. Allen, head basketball coach of the university.

Before the likeness of Dr. Naismith is presented to Dr. Franklin Murphy, chancellor of the university, it will be unveiled by the widow of Dr. Naismith, Mrs. Florence Kincaid Naismith of Topeka.

Dr. Naismith was professor emeritus of physical education at the time of his death. He had been connected with the university since 1898. He was chapter adviser when Sigma Phi Epsilon was founded at K. U. in 1923. He invented the game of basketball while at the Springfield, Mass., Y. M. C. A., in 1891.

Callahan is shown with the portrait.

A SIGN STILL HAS MEANING.

Spelling at Lawrence, Kas., Indicates Trainer Has Followers.

Lawrence, Kas., Feb. 26. — During the long controversy of what the University of Kansas field house should be named, the late Dr. James Naismith, inventor of the game of basketball who served the university for thirty-nine years, had his followers.

When the sports arena finally was named after Dr. F. C. Allen, university basketball coach for almost forty years, Dr. Nai-



WHO'S BEING HONORED HERE? ... POINTING OUT A SPELLING DISCREPANCY ON THIS SIGN AT CRESCENT AND NAIMSMITH ROAD IN LAWRENCE, KAS., IS MRS. CAROL RAUSCH, A GRADUATE OF KANSAS UNIVERSITY.

K.C.S. 2/27/55

smith's followers were appeased by the fact that the road leading to the field house had been named "Naismith road."

Now that the road sign is up and reads "Nesmith Rd.," most people are having a good natured laugh; others are indignant.

Nesmith happens to be the name of the university sports trainer. And Dean Nesmith is the only one in town so named.

One indignant lady expressed her opinion this way:

"I have often heard and read that the city of Lawrence is trying to get a 'first class' city rating; before they go any further, let's try and do things 'first

class' so we can merit our classification.

"No one begrudges Dean Nesmith, who for years and years has been trainer of all sports at K. U., and is considered one of the best in the nation, a little recognition. But if the road is to be named after him, instead of the 'Father of Basketball,' they should say so."

A GRANDSON OF NAIMSMITH.

New K. U. Student Is Descendant of Basketball Founder.

K.C. Star 3/25/56
 Lawrence, Kas., March 24. — James Dodd, a grandson of Dr. James Naismith, the man who invented the game of basketball, has become a freshman engineer at the University of Kansas here.

Fresh out of the U. S. Marine Corps, Dodd enrolled for the second semester in the school of



GOING TO CLASS IN MARVIN HALL AT K. U. ... JAMES DODD.

engineering and architecture. He is the son of Mrs. Hellen Dodd, the former Hellen Naismith of Fulton, Mo.

His father, Leslie Dodd, who died several years ago, was the construction engineer of Kansas Snow hall here and he was a K. U. graduate.

LDJW 9-5-57

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Naismith and sons, Ian and Jim, of Corpus Christi, Tex., arrived in Lawrence Wednesday. Ian Naismith will enroll for the coming semester at Kansas University. Mr. and Mrs. Naismith and Jim Naismith will leave this weekend for Ithaca, N.Y., where Jim is a student at Cornell University. J.S. Naismith is the younger son of the late Dr. James A. Naismith, inventor of basketball and once professor of physical education at Kansas University.

Sporting Comment

K.C. Star 2/14/56

BY ERNEST MEHL
 (The Star's Sports Editor.)

THE University of Kansas feels that it has an important part to play in the fund raising campaign now under way to build the Dr. James A. Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame at Springfield, Mass.

The first unit is to be erected by 1958. Since the sport originated by the late physical director, who was himself astounded at the hold it obtained on the American public, is so widespread a great many are involved in the campaign—universities, colleges, secondary schools, Y. M. C. A. organizations, the national A. A. U. and basketball followers.

Dr. Naismith came to the University of Kansas from a position as physical director of the Denver Y. M. C. A. in 1898. His first job there was director of the chapel. Later he became professor of physical education. He headed that department until 1925 and retired from active teaching in 1937.



DR. JAMES NAIMSMITH.

Naismith became one of the most beloved and his friends there are rallying around this movement.

The sport which Dr. Naismith invented is uniquely American even though a crude form of it may have been played in Central America hundreds of years ago. Since he started this mania with the peach baskets it has been adopted by a great many countries and in this year's Olympics it will occupy a position of great importance on the agenda.

There are a great many remarkable performers waiting to be admitted to a basketball Hall of Fame and the sooner it is built the better. During his years at Kansas Dr. Naismith became one of the most beloved and his friends there are rallying around this movement.