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# HONOR TO NAISMITH AT NOON LUNCHEON

## Guidance of Youth the Career of Inventor of Basketball

### HIS SERVICES PRAISED

One hundred men of Lawrence met today at the Chamber of Commerce noon luncheon to honor Dr. James Naismith who 43 years ago invented the game of basketball.



DR. JAS. NAISMITH

They came to honor and remained to praise this distinguished citizen and member of the University of Kansas faculty, for in the brief remarks Dr. Naismith made following the speakers who told of the love and respect held for him by this community, he revealed the earnestness and deep conception of some of the fundamental facts which have brought him to the position he now occupies in the hearts of the sports world.

Revealing, too, was this talk by Dr. Naismith, for it disclosed to many of his listeners the fact that an inner force within this man is great beyond the mere fact that he invented a game that became international. His listeners learned that the game of basketball was merely the result of doing well an assigned task, and that the doing well of a thing put before him is the impulse that has ruled his life.

Dr. Naismith explained that he felt humble in the presence of so many men who have been able to contribute far more than he to the material welfare and progress of Lawrence since he came here in 1898. His whole aim in life, he said, has been to build character into the heart of youth. This problem has been far from solved, he believes, for present regulations under which our society operates make no provision for the guidance and instruction of the great group of youth between the ages of 16 and 21, except thru public or private schooling. Youth that does not attend school at those ages is on its own so far as any public program goes.

#### Studied Indoor Game

Dr. Naismith told of his inventing the game of basketball as the result of an assignment in a physical education class at the Springfield, Mass., Y. M. C. A. training school back in 1891, which required that he produce some indoor game to bridge the gap for gym students between football and baseball seasons.

The many sides of this distinguished and modest citizen of Lawrence were brought out by the various speakers. The honor meeting was held as a special part for Lawrence in the nationally observed Naismith Week of February 8-15, during which basketball teams throught the nation are contributing part of their game receipts to create a fund to send Dr. and Mrs. Naismith to the Olympic games in Berlin this summer, where basketball is to be included as a sport for the first time.

#### Former Student's Tribute

President C. B. Russell first introduced A. E. Woestemeyer, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce sports and recreation committee who then took charge of the program. Chairman Woestemeyer, who once was a student under Dr. Naismith on the Hill, paid tribute to him in the brief and all inclusive statement that he revered Dr. Naismith as a "Christian gentleman".

Dr. John Outland, Kansas City surgeon and famous former athlete of K. U. and Pennsylvania, was introduced as the first speaker.

Dr. Outland dwelt upon the permanent place Dr. Naismith has won in the hearts of sport loving mankind thru the ages to come for

giving them the game of basketball. This game is yet young, he said, but already is being played in 56 countries and annually engages some 18 millions of persons in its playing, and countless millions of others in its watching and in the business of producing the necessary equipment with which it is played.

"All who know Dr. Naismith honor and love him," Dr. Outland said. "We are privileged to have known and associated with this man who has contributed so much to the happiness and good of mankind. I know him to be an unselfish and patriotic citizen and a loyal and staunch friend."

#### Into Problems of Youth

Dr. H. L. Chambers, an early associate of Dr. Naismith in pioneering a student health program at K. U., spoke briefly of him from a viewpoint entirely outside the realm of sports. He gave a new slant on Dr. Naismith to many of his listeners when he disclosed the deep thoughtfulness with which he and the young physical education teachers on Mount Oread talked of the philosophy of life and of problems relating to the regulation of children and athletes.

He spoke of the deep religious side of Dr. Naismith and paid high tribute to him for his work in the army, where as a chaplain on the Mexican border and later in Y. M. C. A. work in France, he organized programs of physical drill and amusement to counteract the devastating influences of war upon character.

"I know something of the deep convictions of this man," said Dr. Chambers, "something of his courage, something of his kindness. He has lived always upon a high plane."

Seated at the speakers table also was Dolph Simons, chairman of the Naismith fund committee for Lawrence.

### Local Naismith Fund Receipts Reach \$51.40

Contributions to the "Naismith Olympic Fund" have reached \$51.40 in the local fund. Of this amount \$16.80 has come thru attendance at basketball games and from game officials, while \$34.60 has been received as voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations who wish to have a part in honoring the distinguished resident of Lawrence.

Thousands of basketball teams and individuals will contribute to local funds this week. In turn the sums will be forwarded to the national headquarters in Milwaukee where the "Naismith Fund" will be used to send Dr. and Mrs. James Naismith to the Olympics in Germany and to provide a lasting memorial to the originator of the game.

Individuals who have made voluntary contributions to the fund include: T. J. Sweeney, I. J. Meade, George Docking, Les Edmonds of Wichita, W. A. Chain of Abilene, and Harry Huston of Blackwell, Oklahoma.

A check for \$10 has been received from the Safeway independent team of Denver and a \$4 contribution was made by Kansas Wesleyan of Salina.

Along with a \$5 check, Les Edmonds wrote, "I appreciate what basketball has done for athletes. No other man has made the trip from a peach basket in Springfield to a box at the Olympic games in Berlin."

Persons wishing to make individual contributions may leave them at Lawrence banks or at the Journal-World.

### Dr. James Naismith Is Honored at Springfield

Dr. James Naismith, professor of physical education at the University of Kansas, has just returned from Springfield, Mass., where he was honored at commencement by presentation of the "Tarbell Medal" for his "distinguished services to his alma mater" by the invention of the game of basketball.

Dr. Naismith is among the first to be honored with this medallion, which is to be presented to others in coming years. The design illustrates "The Joy of Effort," and was made by the sculptor, R. Tait McKenzie, who was a classmate and roommate of Dr. Naismith, and an associate in gymnasium work at the Y.M.C.A. college.

# For SPORTS

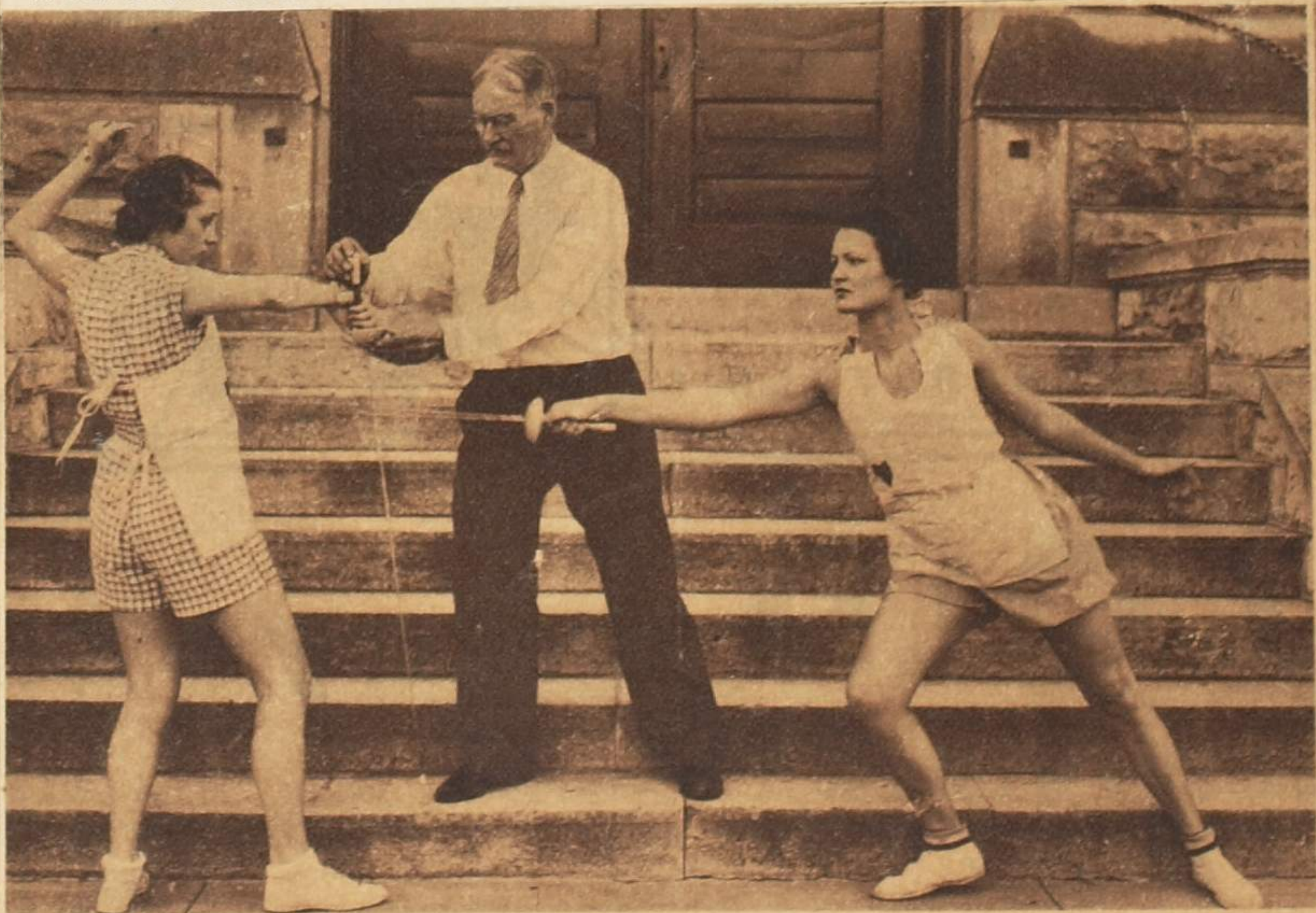


ED. ELBEL

#### National Recognition to Naismith

With the inclusion of basketball in the coming Olympic games at Berlin a movement sponsored by the National Association of Basketball Coaches has been organized to honor Dr. Jas. A. Naismith, originator of the game. Basketball teams all over the land will set aside one game each during the week of Feb. 9 to 15 as "Naismith Night" at which money will be collected, a penny from each customer, to carry out the plans. Dr. and Mrs. Naismith will be sent to the Olympics as honorary guests of this fund and it is hoped also that enough will be raised to erect some kind of a memorial to Dr. Naismith, either at Lawrence or Springfield, Mass., where he invented the game. A suggested memorial is a home where the Naismiths may spend their later years and where afterward outstanding coaches may be housed.

President of the National Coaches Association this year is Arthur C. "Dutch" Lonborg, P21, now basketball coach at Northwestern University. Actually in charge of the campaign is W. S. Chandler, secretary-treasurer of the coaches' association. He is assisted by a committee of outstanding basketball coaches in various parts of the country. In Kansas E. A. Thomas, secretary of the Kansas High School Athletic Association, is writing 670 high schools throughout the state urging them to join in the project. Similar work is being done in Oklahoma. All Kansas College conferences as well as such unattached teams as St. Benedicts are joining the movement.



RECEIVING POINTERS ON POINT AVOIDANCE—Two coeds at the University of Kansas receive their fundamentals in the art of fencing from James Naismith, professor of physical education. The students are Marie Olga Forbes, Eureka, Kas. (left), and Betty Winne, Lawrence, Kas.

## 'Naismith Week' Will Be Observed Beginning Friday

### Kansas To Honor Founder Of Basketball at Game Between Jayhawks and K-State

Hundreds of high schools and colleges throughout the nation are expected to observe "Naismith Week" beginning tomorrow night, but only Kansas University will have the privilege of personally honoring Dr. James Naismith, the inventor of the game of basketball.

"Naismith night" here has been reserved for Saturday night, February 15, when the Kansas Jayhawks meet Kansas State. Between halves, a special broadcast will be made from the University auditorium over WREN in honor of Dr. Naismith who has been a member of the K. U. faculty for years.

Since its crude beginning with a couple of peach baskets and a soccer ball in 1891, Dr. Naismith's game has become known the world over and is now one of the major sports. It will become a part of the Olympic games for the first time in Berlin, Germany, next summer.

It is to send Dr. and Mrs. Naismith to these Olympic games and to erect a memorial to him, that the national "Naismith Week" has been sponsored by the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

During the week of Feb. 7 to 15, high schools and colleges having basketball games have been asked to contribute one cent of each paid admission to the Naismith fund.

In Kansas alone, 670 high schools have been invited to participate. In Oklahoma, 700 invitations have been sent to schools and officials of both states report a favorable response. Many schools in other states in the nation are expected to contribute to the fund.

Haskell and Lawrence high school have already had their Naismith nights, the high school turning in over \$19 from one game's receipts.

Funds exceeding those used to send the Naismiths to Europe will be used for a memorial to the founder of basketball to be erected here, his present home, or in Springfield, Mass., where he was working as an instructor in physical education at the time he originated the game.

Dr. Naismith was guest of honor Tuesday noon at the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce luncheon. A "Naismith Week" committee of Lawrence men, of which Dolph Simons and A. E. Woestemeyer, former Jayhawk basketball star, are chairmen, is in charge of the observance here. Dr. F. C. "Phog" Allen and Ed Elbel, director of intramural athletics, are the University's representatives on the committee.

### GOES TO NAISMITH FUND

#### Part of Haskell Receipts Saturday Will Be Turned Over

Last Saturday night was "Naismith Night" at the Haskell-Kirksville Osteopath basketball game which was played in the Haskell gym, but as yet no figures are available as to the amount of money taken up for the fund, John Levi, Haskell coach, announced today.

The money will be added to the fund which will be used to send Dr. and Mrs. James Naismith to the Olympic games.