

was too rough for indoor play. Hence, one of the first rules Naismith formulated was that the ball must be passed, not carried.

First he thought of putting boxes at each end of the floor for goals but decided they would be too easily defended. Then he placed the goals above the players' heads. The problem of what to use for goals was solved when someone suggested peach baskets. Since there were 18 players in the class, the first games were played with teams of nine. This was cut to seven and then to five.

Dr. Naismith opposed most of the rules changes since 1925 but always was friendly with his progressive colleague, Dr. Allen.

Naismith left Springfield in 1895 and went to Denver to become physical director of the Denver YMCA. He studied medicine at Gross Medical College in Denver and was graduated in 1898. That year he went to Kansas where he first was director of chapel, a position long since abolished.

Later he became a professor of physical education. He headed the department until 1925, retiring from active teaching in 1937.

As chaplain of the First Kansas Infantry, Dr. Naismith spent four months on the Mexican border in 1916. He engaged in YMCA work in France after the United States entered World War I.

Dr. Naismith was a rugged, sturdy man, and if the matter had been left to him, he might not have taken all of Rugby's roughness out of basketball as he liked rough and tumble physical contests. In his youth he played lacrosse and until the late years of his teaching fenced regularly with his physical education students.

While at Springfield, Naismith played on the same football team with Amos Alonzo Stagg, still the dean of American grid coaches. Dr. Naismith originated the forerunner of the headgear while playing at Springfield, but the first "helmet" didn't protect the head, merely the ears.

Dr. Naismith almost always went to Kansas City on the opening night of the Naismith league, an industrial wheel named in his honor. As long as he was