REMINISCENT OF BRIGHTER BASKETBALL DAYS is this picture of the 1923 K.U. cage team—the first Missouri Valley conference team ever to have a completely victorious season, a record that has never been equalled. Members of the team are planning a 25th anniversary reunion at Commencement this spring. Paul Endacott, '23, vice president and assistant to the president of Phillips Petroleum Co., Bartlesville, Okla., dug up the picture which shows: left to right, front row, Armin Woestemeyer, fs'23, Waldo Bowman, '23, Paul Endacott, Andy McDonald, '24; middle row, John Wulf, '24, Dr. F. C. "Phog" Allen, Dr. James Naismith, Charles Black, '24, Byron Frederick, '23; back row, Adolph Rupp, '23, Bob Mosby, fs'25, Tusten Ackerman, fs'25, and Verne Wilkins, '25. Paul, an All-Time All-American guard, incidentally, was in on the game when it was being developed by Dr. Naismith. When Paul was 10 years old, he and others, were used as guinea pigs to test Dr. Naismith's new game.
By Ignoring Naismith's Opinion
Phog Is a Coach Second to None

By ELIZABETH WOHLGEMUTH

"You can’t coach basketball—you just play it," Dr. James Naismith, the originator of the game, once told Dr. Forrest C. "Phog" Allen.

The inventor of basketball actually had no idea the game could be coached. But Dr. Allen, coach here for 38 years, has proved it can be coached and in tribute to his coaching ability the board of regents has named the new fieldhouse after him.

Naismith drove, leading into the fieldhouse, has been named after the basketball inventor.

It was in 1891 when Naismith was teaching at Springfield, Mass., to become a physical education director that he first conceived the game of basketball so the physical education classes would have something to do when the weather did not permit outdoor sports.

The popularity of the game was immediate and it soon became a national sport.

Dr. Naismith began his duties at KU in 1891 and resigned from full-time teaching in 1937. Dr. Naismith, who had been educated for the ministry, came to Kansas because the school was in need of a physical education director who could at the same time lead the chapel service.

Dr. Naismith was always emphasizing the cause of a sport, a trait both he and Dr. Allen seem to have in common.

In 1919 he was quoted as saying, "College athletes are not injured by athletic training. It isn’t athletics that kills a man. It is what he does when not under the control of his coach, when he breaks away from the restraint of training."

In 1913, he made a suggestion to the board of regents that it provide better and safer equipment for football.

When the name was accused of being too rough, Dr. Naismith said, "Basketball is a gentlemanly game," the disregard of rules in the East has caused the trouble and the sport should not be abandoned."

When Dr. Naismith saw his career come to an end, he accepted his retirement, "I want to leave the world better than I found it."

He was the possessor of three degrees—A.B. from McGill university in 1896, A.M. in 1897 and a Ph.D. of physical education in 1898 from the Illinois college in Springfield, Ill., and in 1918, he earned a doctor of medicine degree from the University of Colorado.

He was born in Almont, Canada, in 1861. When he was 8 his parents died and his uncle raised him on his farm.

When Dr. Naismith died Nov. 28, 1939, Dr. Allen said, "The youth of the world has lost a great benefactor in Dr. James Naismith."

Both Dr. Allen and Dr. Naismith worked for the admittance of basketball to the Olympic games. But it was due to the single-handed effort of Dr. Allen that the game was adopted at the Berlin Olympic games in 1936. In 1952, the University's NCAA championship team made up half the Olympic team at Helsinki and Dr. Allen was one of the coaches.

During his career at KU he has been known for his "muddling off" on issues he does not like.

The nickname "Phog" came about through a process of evolution. He acquired the name when he was not attending baseball games. It was not long before he was nicknamed "Phog." A Kansas sportswriter described him liked it better spelled "Phog," and so the name has remained.

Dr. Allen has been coaching for 38 years and has never stopped thinking of ways to improve the game. He has been referred to as the "Father of Modern Basketball." He has won numerous championships and has been inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Dr. Allen has been a major contributor to the development of basketball. He has been a mentor to many of the great coaches, including Phog Allen, who is known as the "Father of Modern Basketball." Dr. Allen is a true legend in the world of basketball and his legacy will continue to inspire future generations.