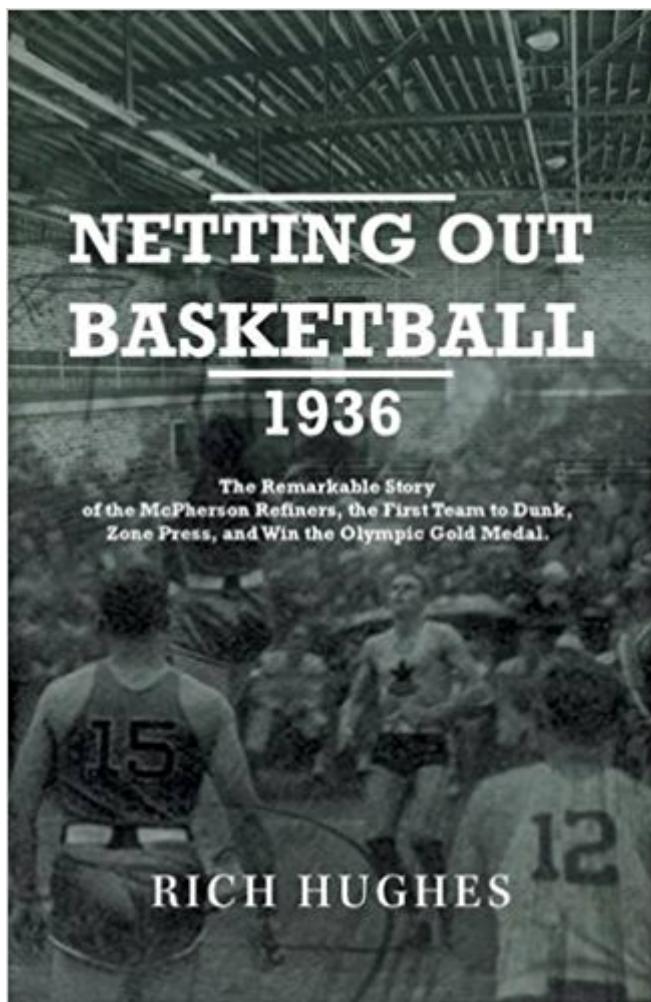


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# Netting Out Basketball 1936: The Remarkable Story Of The McPherson Refiners, The First Team To Dunk, Zone Press, And Win The Olympic Gold Medal.





## **Synopsis**

1936 was the most significant year in basketball's first half century. For the first time, Olympic basketball ended with a gold medal game. Dr. James Naismith was honored at the Berlin Olympics for his wonderful invention, as basketball achieved widespread international acceptance in a short period of time. 45 years after creating an exciting indoor sport for a physical education class, Naismith watched 23 countries vie for the gold. Boycotts protested Hitler's policies within the Olympic host country of Germany, and as a result, politics and sports were forever linked. Other meaningful firsts for the 1935-36 playing season included controversy in the US Olympic Tryout system, a problematic lack of funding for US Olympians, and the actualization of new basketball strategies. Fast breaking offenses, dunking the ball, and full court zone pressure were important new techniques that radically changed the game. This book tells the little known story of the 1936 team which transformed basketball. The book documents the McPherson Refiners significant role in developing basketball's faster, dynamic playing style. The mishaps and fortunes of the Refiners and three other AAU teams who placed men on Berlin's muddy clay court will be the focus of the book.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I was definitely excited when read about this book. I am a college bb "junkie" and also a lifelong Kansas native and know of most connections in the state and the game of basketball. I was/am also aware of the Phillips 66 teams, the Wichita teams and other amateur teams so was raring to go when got the book. I have never been so disappointed!! Not so much for the lack of content and new revelations about the game, but totally blown away by the inconsistent chronology, incomplete

sentences, repeated stories, grammar, etc. It is in my opinion, a pathetic effort and I am most surprised the author was able to find a printer to handle the job. I would have to surmise they did NOT read a manuscript. Apologies to the author but only fair to give my fair opinion to since you requested it.

Enjoying this book!

Rich Hughes has done a wonderful job of writing about James Naismith's creation of the game we know as basketball, and then following him to KU where he served as the first coach of the Jayhawks! He discusses the relationship between Naismith and his prize pupil and player, Phog Allen, who would go on to be one of the most successful college basketball coach's of all time. Hughes description of the early AAU teams of the midwest is very entertaining. He follows a number of the more successful AAU and college teams that eventually wind up playing in the tournament to determine who will represent the United States in the 1936 Olympics! A must read if you are a real basketball fan!

A very well written book with so much history I never knew. This book will make you appreciate basketball so much more after learning its origins and how it has evolved. I just finished reading it in time to watch the final four this weekend. I'll never look at basketball the same again. I would recommend this book to all hoops fans!

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