Basketball 'bible' auction sets sports memorabilia record

The first 13 rules of basketball sold Friday for more than $4 million setting a record for the highest sales price for sports memorabilia according to Sotheby's which conducted the auction. The auction house had estimated that Dr. James Naismith's two-page "Founding Rules of Basketball" would bring less than half the $4 338 500 that David and Suzanne Booth bid for the 119-year-old document. "This is the birth certificate. It started here said Selby Kiffer, Sotheby's vice president for manuscripts and books department. Naismith, a Canadian physical education instructor working at a New England YMCA, created the game of Basket Ball" so students could play a sport indoors in winter. Naismith had no idea his invention would catch on so rapidly after the YMCA movement introduced it on an international level.