

FEN: Come on - here's the door.

(SOUND: DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE.
VOICE UP AD LIB ON DOOR OPEN.)

NELSON: There's sure a lot of 'em here.

FEN: Yeah . . say, look over there - by that post - isn't that ---

NELSON: Gee . . that's . . . that's Fred Pralle.

FEN: Yeah.

NELSON: Hey, he's walking out into the middle of the room - listen . . .

PRALLE: O.K. fellows, come on in here closer, I want to talk to you. . . that's better. Now, most of you fellows have played basketball in your high schools . . . and what I'm going to say'll be old stuff to you . . but it won't do any harm to repeat it. In the first place, you've got to train, and train hard. We don't say very much about that, because we believe that if you check out a uniform you let us know that you're willing to train. You've got to cut out nicotine and alcohol. Why? Because the human machine that's under good control can win over the one that isn't. We know, and so do you, that you've got to train to win. Only when your body's in good condition can you drive your opponents so hard and so relentlessly that you wear 'em down. . . and when you do wear 'em down . . . you can lick 'em. In this school there are three extra-curricular activities: there's athletics, or social or politics. You can take your choice, but if you go in for basketball you have certain obligations to carry through - this isn't an athletic club and it isn't a Y.M.C.A. . . . we've all got to work and train and have a lot of enthusiasm for the thing we're doing. And now, I want you fellows to meet Sylvester Schmidt. . . Smitty's not only a star player on the floor, but he's a straight A student on the campus, and if you don't think that's something, you try it. O.K. Smitty

SCHMIDT: Thanks, Fred. . . One thing we're proud of on this team is our scholastic standing. A lot of people have the idea that athletes don't make good grades, and that the profs let 'em through just because they're on the team. That's a lot of foolishness. We don't try to get by because we're on the team - we try to make better grades. Pralle here's been all Big Six guard for two years.. and he's made a good grade average.. and so have Ebling and Harp and Kappelman... Johnson, Florell, Corlis, and all the rest... You've got to make the grades to play on the team. Isn't that right, Golay?

Golay: Sure. Doc Allen tells us the first thing to keep our grades up.

Schmidt: I' like to show you what the record of the team was for last year. You see this chart here on the black board...it's the total number of hours and the grades made...108 hours of A-242 hours of B-463 hours of C-and 89 hours of D- and if you'll look where it says failure-you'll see a great big goose egg there. Not an hour of failure on the entire team. All you new fellows have to remember is that as far as grades are concerned, you have to maintain a certain average to play - and it doesn't make any difference how good you are if we can't use you. And now - I'd like to have you meet Lester Kappelman.