

VAN BUREN

(R hand)

THE TEAM HAS BEEN CONSISTENT

ROCKY

YEAH, WE ALWAYS LOSE

(VAN BUREN reacts, AL R hand in protest)

ROCKY, VERNON & SMOKEY

BUT WE'RE LAUGHIN' 'CAUSE—

VAN BUREN, ROCKY, VERNON & SMOKEY

WE'VE GOT HEART

(Stop, hand to heart)

GLORIA

Good morning.

VAN BUREN

Okay boys.

(THEY exit)

GLORIA

Well, I've often wondered what this team did to keep up its morale.

(SMOKEY, ROCKY, MICKEY exit DR)

VAN BUREN

(R C)

We didn't invite the press this morning, Gloria.

GLORIA

(X to LC)

Benny, you're very foolish to have this prejudice against me just because I'm a woman. My paper gives you as much space as the others do.

VAN BUREN

I only wondered why you were here so early.

GLORIA

(XR. B to DR. C.)

I came down to see naked men.

VAN BUREN

Could be.

GLORIA

(Turn)

My boss is very anxious to find out what some of your players think of the Yankees.

VAN BUREN

(X to one step in)

I'll tell you something right now — my players don't play dead for the Yankees or any other club.

(APPLEGATE enters L during the last part of this speech followed by JOE in a new suit carrying his glove and spike shoes)

APPLEGATE

Are you Mr. Van Buren, the Washington manager?

VAN BUREN

(Looks at Applegate, turns to Gloria)

Why make something out of the Yankees? They're a swell bunch of fellas and —

GLORIA

O yes, they're very polite and then they beat your brains out.

VAN BUREN

They're just another team as far as we're concerned.

APPLEGATE

I read somewhere that they're talking about handicapping the Yankees — making them carry extra weight like with horses.

VAN BUREN

(X 1 step in)

Yeah? So what the hell's on your mind, Mac?

APPLEGATE

(X to Van Buren)

Applegate is my name.

(Produces card)

My card, sir.

VAN BUREN

(Turns away)

I'm busy, see my secretary.