

JUMP BALL JITTERS

A Humorous Duet

by
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Two boys, each on opposing basketball teams, face each other and themselves as they enter into the world of school sports.

BRACH: (Dribbling And shooting an imaginary basketball in warm up.) Oh yea, I am finally a basketball player. I am the Mailman. Special delivery. (Shoots. Turns out to the audience) I wonder if it's too late to tell the coach I have small pox.

BRETT: (Also warming up for game.) It's Air Brett. A school basketball player. The Admiral. (Shoots. Turns out to audience and pinches the bridge of his nose.) I think I'm getting a nose bleed.

BRACH: Jump Ball Jitters.

BRETT: By Peg Ratliff.

The two stand at attention with their hands over their hearts and attempt to sing the National Anthem. Since they are young junior high, they do not know it very well. Their attempt results in a lot of humming, coming in too loudly with the last word of the line, and getting many of the words wrong. At the end, Brach turns out while Brett stays still with his hand on his heart.

BRACH: What am I doing? I can't play basketball. I'm going to get killed! I told my mom I was too short for basketball, but she said (mimicking) "But you look a lot taller than five-two."

Brach turns with hand over heart and Brett turns out.

BRETT: What am I doing here? I can't remember the plays! The coach is always yelling, "Duke!" "Ohio!" "Georgetown!". I feel like I'm playing for a train conductor. (Turns in)

Both boys take their hands off their hearts and face each other for the jump ball.

BRACH: (Out) Did you hear that? I think he snarled at me.

BRETT: (Out) Did you hear that? I think he threatened my dog!

They resume jump-ball stance. They leap and swat at the ball. Both turn out.

--- END OF FREE PREVIEW ---