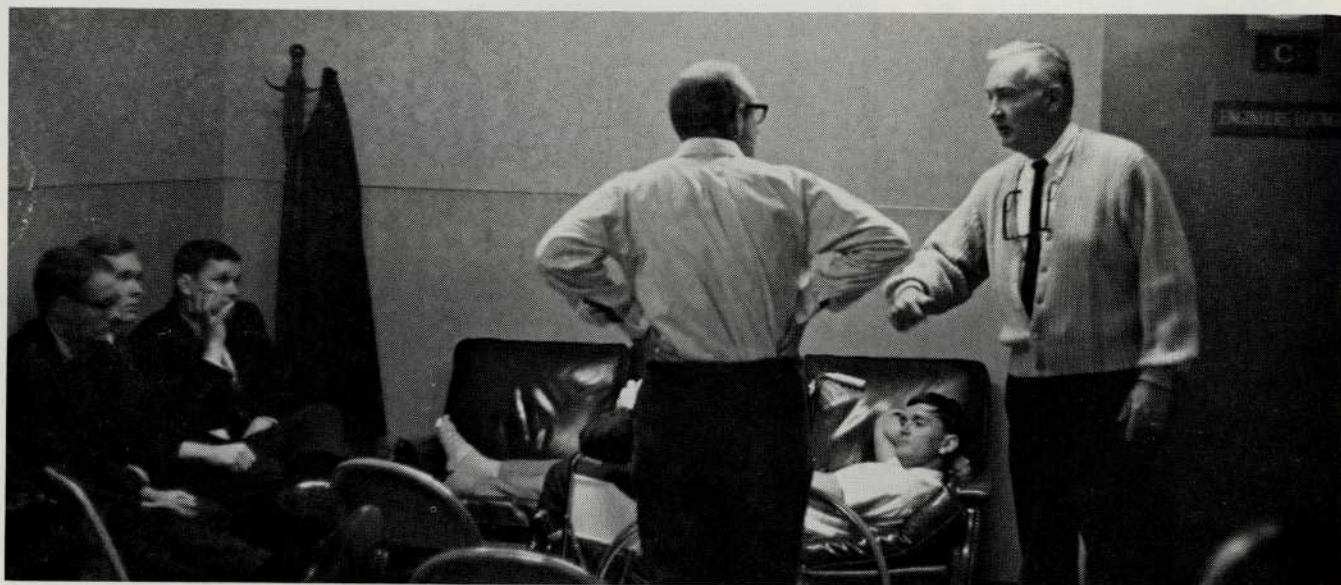


*Orientation: In the morning's first meeting, Mr. Earle talks about the game with both teams.*

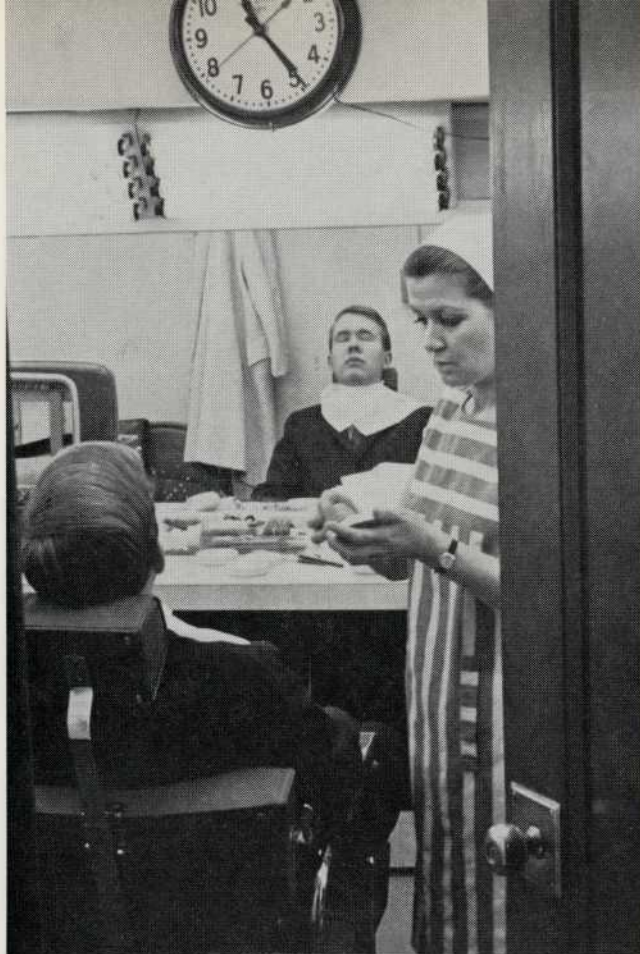


*Consultation: Mr. Earle and the producer (right) discuss the halftime interviews with the OU team.*

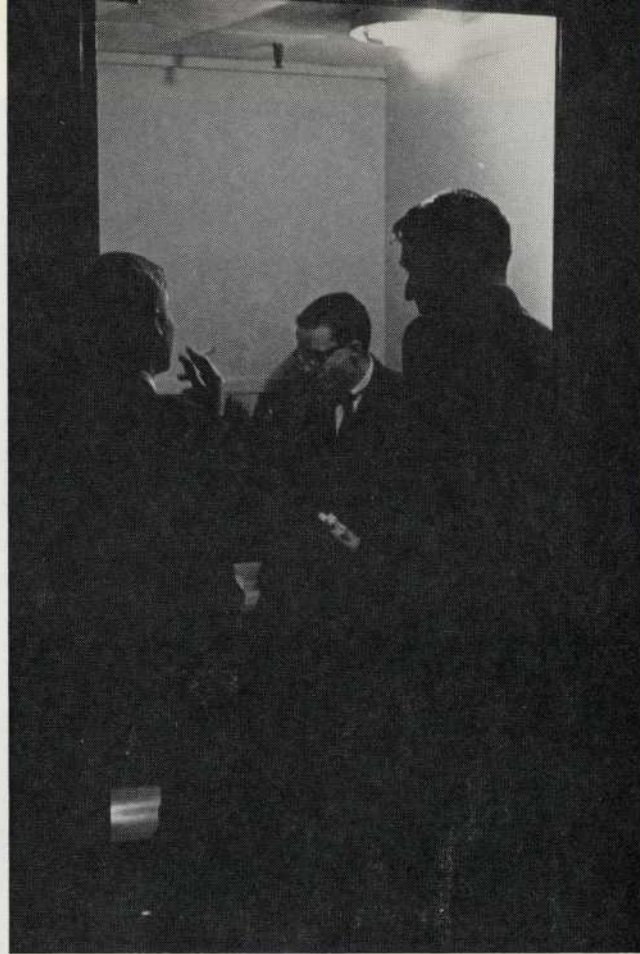
## *Before the show is taped: Five hours of preparation as tension mounts*

**T**he strain begins to build at breakfast Sunday. By the time the team arrives at NBC, the tension is almost palpable. The orientation conducted by the personable Mr. Earle relaxes the atmosphere somewhat by causing the players to concentrate on the game. Later, during the make-up period and what seems like an interminable wait before the practice games in the studio prior to the taping of the show, players can try to take their minds off the show and work off nervous energy by wandering through the halls of the building, or engaging their opponents in brief, forced conversations. (Look, there's Pauline Fred-

erick.) And, too, it's fascinating to watch the activity of the legion of people associated with the show—the cameramen, grips, sound men, electricians, the make-up people, the color experts, the announcer, the scoreboard operator, the answer-checker, the producer, the director, the host. At last the players of both teams enter the studio for the practice rounds and the dress rehearsal. The brilliant, powerful lights required for color television beat down. Fifteen minutes before show time, the studio doors are opened to allow the audience to file in and be seated. The applause sign is tested. The audience dutifully responds. It's time.



*Preparation: Each player must be made up for the color cameras.*



*Anticipation: In tension-packed waiting room, minutes pass slowly.*

*Confrontation: The adrenalin is pumping; the countdown has at last begun.*

*END*

