The life principles summarized in the Pyramid of Success had no explicit reference to basketball or athletics. The coach’s diagram was simply a roadmap to being a better person.

**The building blocks of Wooden’s Pyramid of Success**

**Industriousness:** There is no substitute for work. Worthwhile results come from hard work and careful planning.

**Loyalty:** To yourself and to all those depending upon you. Keep your self-respect.

**Alertness:** Be observing constantly. Stay open-minded. Be eager to learn and improve.

**Initiative:** Cultivate the ability to make decisions and think alone. Do not be afraid of failure, but learn from it.

**Enthusiasm:** Brushes off upon those with whom you come in contact. You must truly enjoy what you are doing.

**Self-Control:** Practice self-discipline and keep emotions under control. Good judgment and common sense are essential.
Friendship: Comes from mutual esteem, respect and devotion. Like marriage, it must not be taken for granted but requires joint effort.

Cooperation: With all levels of your co-workers. Listen if you want to be heard. Be interested in finding the best way, not in having your own way.

Intentness: Set a realistic goal. Concentrate on its achievement by resisting all temptations and being determined and persistent.

Confidence: Respect without fear. May come from being prepared and keeping all things in proper perspective.

Skill: A knowledge of and the ability to properly and quickly execute the fundamentals. Be prepared and cover every little detail.

Team-Spirit: A genuine consideration for others. An eagerness to sacrifice personal interests of glory for the welfare of all.


Condition: Mental-Moral-Physical. Rest, exercise and diet must be considered. Moderation must be practiced. Dissipation must be eliminated.

Competitive Greatness: Be at your best when your best is needed. Enjoyment of a difficult challenge.