

Religious Bulletin  
October 8, 1926

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The Test.

The football team is put to the test tomorrow. The morning after the election of the captains last winter, one of the players came in and said: "Our responsibility for the next season begins now. We can't afford to do anything that would jeopardize our chances. We have the coach, we have the schedule, we have the material for a championship team; if we do what we should we will have a good year."

These men have worked hard along the lines laid down by this player. They have performed the works of self-sacrifice described by St. Paul when he speaks of the boxers, runners and wrestlers as "abstaining from all things;" they have done so not only "for a corruptible crown," but with St. Paul "for an incorruptible one". It is customary for them to offer their sacrifices, the hardships, physical and mental, the glory of victory or the sting of defeat, for the conversion of sinners and for the poor souls. They have done their part, and now they stand the test.

They appreciate your cheering from the stands, and it helps them. Much more than that, they appreciate your prayers. Remember them in the Rosary Devotions today and tomorrow; remember them in Holy Communion Saturday and Sunday. Be not ungracious.

What Hurts the Team.

Gambling never helped a team; and it is ancient history that whenever betting got too heavy at Notre Dame, the team suffered a reversal of form.

Drunk hurts a team -- drinking among the followers of the team. When God is not served in victory, when the glory of victory is used as an excuse for offending God, you need not expect victory to last.

Nathan.

Before yesterday's mention of Mencken appeared on the Bulletin, the following letter was received:

"Dear Father: I have always been under the impression that George Jean Nathan was a good Catholic. The other day an upperclassman informed me that Nathan was not a Catholic and that anyone caught reading anything that he had written would be expelled.

"Now, Father, I have always enjoyed Nathan, but I would be willing to forego any pleasure that I might derive from his writings rather than disobey a rule of the school.

"Anxious Day-dog."

When Nathan lived in Fort Wayne he was a Jew. When he left Cornell he was an agnostic. He has always hated Christ with an undying hate. Why, under these circumstances, the Knights of Columbus magazine should publish anything he writes is one of those mysteries. It is something to be able to recognize an insult to your religion. -- It is true that the school has such a rule; the school recognized insults, even when they come from the Atlantic Monthly or the American Mercury. If you cannot recognize them they will be pointed out to you.

Twelve-Thirty Tomorrow.

The Rosary Devotions will be held as usual today at five o'clock, but tomorrow they will be moved up to twelve-thirty. Some of the boys want to offer them for the team before the game. --- and in your prayers remember John Doran's grandfather, who died a few days ago.