

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 3, 1941

The Spirit of Notre Dame

You've been told often that Our Lady can and does bring good out of defeat if taken properly. Certainly she can bring good out of a tie with a great and gallant Army team.

She has, we think, already brought forth one good thing - a desire on the part of the student-body to show some leadership and some spirit - of sacrifice.

While her students are serious and thoughtful maybe she can make them realize that Notre Dame was founded to honor God and Our Lady and that THE SPIRIT OF NOTRE DAME STARTS IN THE CHAPEL.

When we heard that a group of students was agitating for an exhibition of Notre Dame spirit, possibly by meeting the team, we bet, without enquiring, that they were sophomores - and they were!

How did we know? Well, simply because the sophomores this year have kept alive the underlying flame of the real spirit of Notre Dame - in the chapels. For some reason, they have avoided "sophomoritis" as a whole so far and have kept the Faith. They evidently let the juniors keep "sophomoritis" for them. The seniors started well, but victories and week-ends have thrown many off. The freshmen - well, they're freshmen after all and just floundering, only worse than usual for freshman.

Only the sophomores have stayed comparatively steady, showing also a far greater fidelity to daily Communion than last year's sophomores.

We're wondering whether the spontaneous and effective welcome arranged by the S. A. C. and other students this morning indicated there is blazing up the real spirit of Notre Dame. We're wondering how deep it is, whether it is starting in the right place - if it is to last and effect real things.

Spirit, especially the spirit of Notre Dame, can accomplish a lot against odds and the odds will be against us surely now where Navy and Northwestern are concerned.

Some sport writers wonder whether we have just an ordinary team. A more important, more fundamental question is: "Have we just an ordinary student-body? Has it the real spirit of Notre Dame?" If it has, then bring on the odds. In student and player, the spirit of Notre Dame blazes highest when the going is toughest.

Week-end Notes

- (1) Get names of deceased relatives and friends into boxes for Poor Souls Novena...
- (2) The request for blood donors from Nick Pallela's St. Edward's hall-mates brought a rush and a crush of stalwarts. Youth has an idea that giving one's own blood is the finest exhibition of generosity and loyalty. Quite true - and we mustn't forget that Our Savior gave not a pint, not a quart, but hung pierced and reviled until every single drop had been shed for us. There's loyalty and generosity for us, His friends...
- (3) The Bulletin told you last week: "The Army is tough. Win or lose, the boys will contribute to Our Lady's glory, but any student will ruin and cancel that if he uses the week-end as an opportunity for sin or bad example." "...The team will be asked to offer up bruises in reparation for the sacrilege to the Blessed Sacrament in town."...
- (4) There are injuries. How serious? Also how hard have you prayed against injuries this season?

PRAYERS: (deceased) Charles M. Bryan '97. 6 special intentions.