

Coming: First Friday.
Get to confession
tonight

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 3, 1943

3rd Day of Novena:
For students sick at
home.

The Notre Dame Men Won't Let You Down During This Novena, Tom.

"I can now write you that long past due letter that I have been wanting to send you for a very long time. I have been through so much that I had to postpone my correspondence for a while. You see, events of the past autumn have brought home more clearly than ever the true value of the real fire and fighting enthusiasm that has made Notre Dame famous and which you have helped me develop out here by your letters and the sports material you've sent me.

"The breaks have been hitting me pretty hard, but you can just wager that I'm sticking in here and trying with all I've got because I want to win badly.

"One thing I have plenty of is my enthusiasm for Notre Dame and the wonderful spirit developed up there. You know, as long as I can remember, the Golden Dome has been in my dreams and in my life, I have tried to conduct myself as one of you - clean, hard to beat and a fighter. I hope in my fight against this tuberculosis germ, I can show the same will to win that everyone naturally associates with Notre Dame, both in the classroom and on the field. You just can't beat that spirit.

"During October, sensing that something had gone wrong inside, I asked my doctor for a complete check-up, just to be on the safe side. A new flare-up, and if it doesn't show signs of definitely being healed on the x-ray which will be due soon, it will be necessary to receive further treatment, other than the simple bed cures, which have been the order to date.

"That is the situation at present, and look - I want to ask you to do this for me: I realize you know very little about me, except that I worship Notre Dame and the memory of Our Lady of the Lakes. However, sometimes please say just a tiny prayer for a friend, that he may take what's ahead with a grin - the way he has taken everything else. I have youth and enthusiasm and think that is in my favor. As I mentioned, I have wanted to write you before this, but I have been kept pretty quiet since my fumble - and to crown the whole darn thing, I messed the play up on the goal line for I was ready for a discharge as cured when I broke down. My having to start from scratch plus the new danger is what they call life, I guess.

"Time drags on pretty slow when you are confined completely to bed and reading helps pass the time as enjoyably as possible.

"Well, I suppose I had better close, but I want to impress upon you how urgently I need your help and just a short prayer sometime. When it is convenient, please drop me another letter and let me know that you are standing by in this rough weather. I am trying to beat this germ with the fighting enthusiasm that won the Ohio game of '35 and the Sea Hawk game of '42."

Your friend,

Tom Abell, Jr.
Waverly Hills Sanatorium
Waverly Hills, Kentucky

Prayers: (deceased) sister of J. Richard Yock (Dil); friend of Francis Tenezor; aunt of Francis (Sor) and Ted (Z) Tenezor. (Ill) Mrs. Ernst Schwark. Five Special Intentions. One Thanksgiving.