

Prayers: father of John
Plouff (Wal) seriously in-
jured & Dick Hardy, killed.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
December 11, 1951

Christmas Novena for Parents;
adoration daily: 4:30-5:30.
(Remember Jim Aoki.)

"A Good Name Is Better Than Great Riches." --Prov. 22:1.

For personal reasons we have substituted fictitious names for the four graduates mentioned in this letter recently received from a priest. Such a letter means more to Notre Dame than an undefeated season, much more than a dozen alumni in the U.S. Senate.

"Dear Father: Just a word of congratulations and thanks--congratulations to Notre Dame for having developed solid Christian gentlemen like Tom, Dick, Harry and Joe. Many thanks for having sent Tom to us as our coach. He has made a profound impression and has done tremendous good not only for our school with its ambitions to reclaim our lax Catholics but also for the Church in general in this community. By living up to the Catholic principles engendered at home and fostered at Notre Dame, by being a perfect gentleman and fearless Catholic at all times, besides being a real sport, Tom has created a fine impression and has won many friends.

"Concerning his Catholicity. The boys he coached have attested that he has been far more effective convincing them of the validity of our faith than any priest here. By good example rather than by forceful persuasion he has led many boys to a deeper appreciation of their religion.

"One of his boys, now at the State University, is on the freshman basketball team and is practically a daily communicant. This boy keeps after two of his classmates to attend Mass. Before Tom came here, the boy I refer to was not religiously inclined at all.

"In athletic circles Tom is highly respected for his ability, Christian gentlemanliness and flaming spirit. He has had a most successful first year, bettering the best previous record of our school. In basketball we won the Sectional Tournament, but in the State we lost to the team that won the championship.

". . . No matter what are the results Tom produces in sports, he is just the type of coach we need and want. Already he has passed up several more lucrative offers in order to remain with us this second year. But God will reward his unselfishness because even better offers are coming his way. Because we cannot match them it would be unfair for us to expect him to stay with us a third year.

"Dick has done equally as well in a neighboring town and has the Catholic population in the palm of his hand. Most of all he has impressed everyone by his hard work, sincerity and gentlemanliness. His Pastor and the Curates go overboard in their esteem.

"Last year Tom, Dick and I drove north to visit Harry and Joe, two more of your outstanding graduates. Both are still daily communicants. What men--these Notre Dame grads! Notre Dame should be most proud of them. Now and then you must hear of a phony or two who got through Notre Dame without absorbing the spiritual influence.

"Nevertheless, it is my real pleasure to congratulate your school for the four graduates I know so well, especially Tom who is our coach. . . As I mentioned before, the better financial offers Tom is receiving will leave us in need of another coach next September. We want another graduate like Tom, a young man who is deeply spiritual and with a Phy Ed degree--with the same Notre Dame background and spirit he might do equally well for himself.

"More power to Notre Dame. Keep up the fine work you are doing. . . Congratulations and thanks again. . ." (Signed: The Rev. John P. X X X)

Note: Time is running out on our consignment of St. Andrew's Daily Missals. These missals have been offered to you at an appreciable discount in order to encourage active participation in the Mass. If you have a daily missal, buy one as a gift and encourage your family to pray the Mass.

(Gratefully received \$3 & \$2 for the poor.)