

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Notre Dame, Ind.

NICK & ANGIE

"With less than a minute to go in the game, Nick Buonicanti clasps his hands in prayer." That's the caption the press put on this picture. We'll leave it to Nick and Angie to say what their thoughts were at that moment. But speaking for the rest of us, it's a safe bet that many here in the fieldhouse and in the stands at East Lansing were reminded of what someone wrote a long time ago. Most of you have seen it before, but the occasion warrants reprinting it.



[UPI Telephoto]

DEAR GOD: HELP ME TO BE A SPORT IN THIS GAME OF LIFE. I DON'T ASK FOR A PLACE IN THE STARTING LINE-UP; JUST USE ME WHERE YOU NEED ME. I ONLY ASK FOR THE STUFF TO GIVE YOU A HUNDRED PER CENT OF WHAT I'VE GOT. IF THE HARD DRIVES ALL COME MY WAY, THANKS FOR THE COMPLIMENT! HELP ME TO REMEMBER THAT YOU WON'T LET ANYTHING COME ALONG THAT YOU AND I CAN'T HANDLE TOGETHER. AND HELP ME TO TAKE THE BAD BREAKS AS PART OF THE GAME. AND, GOD, HELP ME TO ALWAYS PLAY THE GAME ON THE SQUARE, ACCORDING TO THE RULES, NO MATTER WHAT THE OTHERS DO. FINALLY, GOD, IF FATE SEEMS TO UPPER-CUT ME WITH BOTH HANDS, AND I'M "ON THE SHELF", HELP ME TO TAKE THAT AS PART OF THE GAME ALSO. HELP ME NOT TO COMPLAIN THAT WE GOT A RAW DEAL. AND, WHEN IN THE DUSK, COMES THE FINAL WHISTLE, I'D ONLY LIKE TO KNOW THAT YOU FEEL THAT I'VE BEEN A GOOD SPORT AND PLAYED A GOOD GAME.

STUDENT TRIP

Pittsburgh is a city that has a lot to offer. There are some beautiful churches. And it's a fact that some students have met the girl they married in Pittsburgh! So, it's hard to understand why there isn't more interest in the Student Trip. Another thing that's hard to understand--all the used car sales being made in town these days. Sure hope this doesn't lead to a bumper crop of breakdowns on the Pa. Turnpike. If it does, don't call us.

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Mother of Prof. Frank Moran of the English Dept.; grandfather of Dan and Jack Werner, Off-Campus. Ill: Mother of Charles Cayce, Off-Campus; mother of Ray Richelsen of Dillon; friend of Jim Higney of Walsh; Kathy Nowak



THE PERFECT LEADER (Concl.)

Everyone must realize that it is impossible not to influence others. Whether we like it or not, whether we want to or not, whether we realize it or not, every one of our actions affects others. We live so close to each other that just about all our external actions influence others and the organizations of which we're a part. And those who have the greatest natural aptitudes for influencing others have the chance to take the lead in the greatest campaign of all time. All such a one needs is the desire to work for the common good, coupled with a willingness to use every legitimate means to attain this good.

The leader, of course, must realize his own inability to attain this good single-handed. He must see the necessity of organization, and he must abhor disorder and lack of unity. Zeal and good intentions aren't enough. He must become an organizer in the sense that he cooperates to establish and maintain every organization which works toward the common good. These organizations are classified under four major headings: Education, Communications, Personal Influence in the Community, and finally Labor and Government. In short, the leader in a university should work through those organizations in the university that purpose to attain the common good. He should be giving of his best talents to the campus periodicals and radio programs. He should be interested in making conditions in his hall as conducive to study and wholesome living as possible. And, finally, he should take an active interest and part in student government, both on the hall level and the senate level.

In preparing for leadership, the individual must take care to see that he is well-formed spiritually, intellectually, and socially. This is a matter of personal responsibility. He must appreciate the fact that just as there are certain "social exigencies" binding upon every student, so too there are certain "social exigencies" binding upon every leader. He must realize that if he jumps into the lead and is poorly prepared from an intellectual standpoint, it's just another instance of "the blind leading the blind". Then, too, he must understand that without a solid foundation of grace, without habits of prayer, without the Sacraments and daily Mass and Communion, the would-be leader risks becoming just a hollow shell that is sure to crack under stress and strain. It is, indeed, something to be a leader--something not to be taken lightly.

Gene Bourman, S.J.
University Chaplain