Another good sermon at
Benediction, 7 & 7:30.
Confession tonight. Get
University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 24, 1941
set for Ash Wed., 7 A.M.
at Main Church. (Bishop
O'Hara may be here tonight).

Whew.

Did you see the Scholastic's schedule of
training for the Bengal-Butlers? No one
may enter unless he trains and trains hard,
otherwise he'll be a washout and perhaps
got hurt. They train every day for six
long weeks to throw leather for 6 minutes
-- 3 rounds of 2 minutes each -- against
one opponent at a time.

I Hate Lent.

Sure you do. We all do when we just look
at the tough side of it and not at the goal.
That's lazy old human nature kicking. But
the Bengal Butlers willingly train 6 weeks
or more to develop stamina, ability to
"take it", good wind and punch, to coordi­
nate and discipline muscles so they will obey the mind and the will instantly -- for
victory's sake.

Our Mother Church, taking her tip from Christ, trains us for a life-long, everyday
battle against three boys who are in the ring all at the same time against us -- the
world, the flesh and the devil -- and each one is a tough baby. One, the flesh, in­
side our very selves, is taking cracks at us from close up all the time. Now, the
purposes of Lent are much the same as B.B. training; to strengthen and prepare us
for a fight. Usually we come up to Lent out of condition, flabby and over-weight.
Lenten penance puts us back into fighting trim.

First purpose of Penance. You have lodged in your soul a faculty that can counter­
balance all weaknesses, a power which Hell itself cannot break. That is your will.
Despots may shackle and bind and imprison, and torture with flame and sword; but they
cannot change your "No" into "Yes", unless you will it. Your will is weak? It be­
came weak through self-indulgence; it will grow strong through self-denial. The
strengthening of your will is the first purpose of penance.

Second purpose of Penance. God gave men eyes that they may see the beauties in the
heavens and earth, that they may delight in comeliness and in the noble countenance.
He did not want men to gaze with wanton pleasure upon beauty perverted, upon deprav­
ity in picture or in word. Man's tongue can chant the glories of his Maker, can ex­
tol noble character and inculcate truth and purity and justice; it can make companions
merry. But it can also swear and blaspheme; it can desecrate and scald with bit­
terness. The sense of touch, delicately poised in every part of man's body, can be­
tray him into the vilest sins. Memory can take him back swiftly to innocent joys and
loving faces, but it can carry him over sinful scenes of years gone by. His intellect
can draw him close to God's white throne, or plunge him to depths farthest from the
Platy. All human faculties need control and careful regulation. The second purpose
of penance is to discipline the lower faculties and to restore them to the noble use
of man.

Third purpose of Penance. Sin makes each man strike his breast and cry out, "O God,
be merciful to me, a sinner!" All men are by sin self-doomed to atonement. Penance
is the coin of ransom for the soul captive to sin. Atonement is the third (and high­
est) purpose of penance. The Mass is the greatest means of atonement.

FRAYERS. Deceased: Uncle of Doug Macdonald (Dil); Father of Bob Fox (Bro); Grand­
mother of Oscar Knetsch (Al); Mr. & Mrs. Summers; Mother Mary Medulpha Ebner (S.N.D.);