A week ago in the Michigan game, the Pro-Irish fans counted faithfully the number of Notre Dame injuries. Last Saturday you did not see three first string men take the field for so much as a minute - too badly crippled. And if you have been around at all, you have observed on the squad a variety of pesky injuries which have been dogging the backs and linemen. These are the facts.

Here is where you come in. You have failed to pray for the team, and the full measure of God's blessing on the squad has been withheld. God does not see fit to change the law He has set down: "Ask and you shall receive". Because you have been lene in prayer, notable inconveniences have overtaken your pals on the team. Here are the facts.

There are five hundred students in Dillon Hall; one hundred and two received Holy Communion last Saturday for the team; fewer attended Mass. There are about three hundred men in Alumni; sixty-seven turned out. Junior Promers in Cavanaugh could not pull out; the hall recorded a twenty-seven. Sorin reached the twenty-five mark. The support given the players last week was equally shocking. The big rally should have ended around the altar. And it didn't.

Prayer for the team on the Saturday before games is traditional at Notre Dame - a tradition of charity. It's charity to pray for members of one's family.

Your love of neighbor is beginning to cool.

When love of neighbor cools, love of God begins to die. The saints never cease telling us that the degree of our love of God is measured by our love of neighbor. Prayer is a very definite expression of this love of neighbor.

Why are you asked to get up for the team? to beg God, through Our Lady, to protect the players from harm. It is not Christian to say: let them pray for themselves. Such a response manifests the fact that you have not learned the real meaning of Christ's words: "What you do to one of these my least brethren, you do unto me".

When we pray for our friends, especially for member of our family, we should give them the best. The mass is the best prayer God has given us. In the Mass Christ prays for us and our intentions. By going to Mass we can offer the prayer of Christ for the protection of the team. For the last two Saturdays most of the students worshipped at the altar of sleep.

Then there is Holy Communion. Each reception of Holy Communion makes the communicant more strong in virtue, more beautiful in the eyes of God. When a communicant prays, his prayer has more influence with God than at other times. How much power do you think there would be in three thousand communicants praying at Mass? That's the way Notre Dame should pray every Saturday: solidly, as a family.

But prayer on the part of a Notre Dame man presupposes that he thinks. For a thinking man is a praying man. To think is to have consideration for others, just another way of looking at charity.

How many confessees: I had many opportunities to perform acts of kindness this week by offering a hand, by giving a little of my time; and I omitted all. One must think of the good he can do the team by his prayer before he will bend his knees and makes the sacrifice of sleep.

Notre Dame men are selfless. May Our Lady inspire and help you return to fervent charity.

ST. ED'S AND BREEN-PHILLIPS REPRESENT STUDENTS OF 100 YEARS AT CENTENARY NOVENA TONIGHT BROWNSON AND CARROLL TOMORROW NIGHT