Dear Father: As regards Badin Hall being bogged I agree that conditions could be better, but I don’t think it was a fair blast you directed our way. Many of us receive the Sacraments daily in this hall, serve Masses in Corby and Basement Chapel. I don’t think you took a fair percentage of communicants before you read us the riot act. You’ll find too that Badin has a good percentage attending Wednesday and Sunday night services. How about crediting us for something.” (Signed)________________________

Respondeo.

One thing about your communique, which is characteristic of a true Badinite, and which we liked, was your signature. We receive other press releases which are anonymous and whose authors waive all rights to either personal or public reply.

Traditionally Badin Hall has been the home of many of our finest. As a general rule you pack within your creaking walls a lesser percentage of sophisticates and Notre Dame phonies and a much larger percentage of down-to-earth Notre Dame men than any other hall on the campus.

Badinites down through the years have been noted for their exemplary hall spirit and closely-knit community life. This has shown itself not only in personal loyalty toward one another but especially in personal devotion for Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the distinctive trait of a real Notre Dame man. Man for man Badin has few peers. Knowing their healthy tradition so well it was difficult for us to focus your show-up for Easter Duty fulfilment to the light of this long-standing tradition.

If your hall has an ungodly number of anchor men holding you down, rouse them out of their spiritual lethargy. But if many are getting up early to serve six o’clock Masses in the Basement Chapel, if more are responding so generously for Wednesday night Lenten services (there weren’t more than 500 at both last Wednesday) than are responding from other halls—then perhaps your quality offsets your defective quantity. But this Bellhop for the Lord is for quantity plus quality.

Aftermath And Musinga.

God teaches us an important lesson when He takes from our midst such men as Ray Espanan and Jack Donahoe. Assisting at the bedside of a dying Notre Dame man is heart-rendering enough. It’s impossible to get used to it. The impending sadness of farewell separation swells the huge lump in the throat. Even when one is certain, morally certain, that this dying man will soon see God and thereby crown the very purpose of his creation....to watch him go....to see life’s breath slowing down like the pendulum of a clock whose main spring has broken— is rugged, no matter who you are.

The Particular Judgment takes place at the instant the soul leaves the body and probably in the very room. The journey is quite brief. It takes but a second to stand breathless before the Judge. Dizzy with excitement, overwhelmed with the strangeness of what is happening, unable to realize immediately where he is, the just man (Ray and Jack were just men if ever just men walked this campus) hears the voice of Christ calling....What does it mean "To see God!" The beatific vision is a full and clear knowledge of God, which causes the greatest possible degree of ecstatic happiness in the soul. If Ray and Jack have by-passed Purgatory, they now see in God all the mysteries of faith, all the wonders of creation, all the events of the human race from its origin to the day of the Last Judgment. In seeing God they see all at once God’s infinite perfections—His wisdom, goodness, truth, beauty, power and love. May God rest their souls in eternal peace. Pray daily for a happy death.