

March 6, 1963

Editor
The Jackson Daily News
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Sir:

With every letter favoring the Mississippi State Bulldog's participation in the NCAA basketball tournament and with every sports columnist who voices his opinion in favor of Mississippi State Bulldog's participation in the NCAA tournament, it becomes increasingly evident that there remains within the State some who are willing to undermine, sellout, and compromise our unwritten State policy, our heritage, for a few moments of so-called glory and materialistic gain.

Who stands to gain from such participation and who stands to lose? Coach Babe McCarthy stands to gain, if he could make a good showing. How would he gain? Once again, more praise would be heaped upon him. He would like this. Maybe a better offer to go somewhere else. He would like this, too. He would probably leave for more materialistic gain, whether Mississippi State was allowed to participate in the tournament or not. Selfishness, not principle has become rampant. Athletics rather than education has become the primary objective.

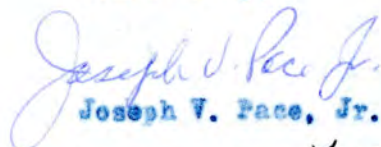
Who stands to lose? The whole State because we have compromised our principle and the firm stand that we once proclaimed to the Whole United States. As it was, we could hold our heads high because we had stuck to that principle in which we believed. Now that we have compromised means ridicule, loss of respect, and even self-respect.

These few moments of glory experienced by a few athletes and their die-hard followers may plunge this State into a situation that will take generations to recover from.

I congratulate the coach and the boys for a job well done within the conference, but my admiration stops there.

We have many fine professors at Mississippi State who deserve recognition for their accomplishments with their students, yet, they never make the headlines nor receive any praise. As for me, my hat goes off to them. Suggest buying one of these men a cadillac and see how far that suggestion gets.

Yours truly,


Joseph V. Pace, Jr.

CC: Dr. D. W. Colvard, President Mississippi State University
Senator Billy Mitts

Forest, Miss.

Mr. J. N. Lipscomb, Member of the Board of Trustees of Higher Learning