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September 15, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride,  
Sports Editor,  
The Kansas City Star,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

It was very gracious of you indeed to send Jim St. Clair's letter to me. Jim has expressed this opinion to me at times, and of course this is very gratifying to me. I did it to boost basketball, the N.C.A.A. and naturally to boost Kansas City as the top city in the United States when it comes to appreciative basketball patrons.

Personally, I do believe that bringing this outfit of money-grabbers out of the red at that time was a very opportune thing for the N.C.A.A. I believe had it been attempted in other cities it would not have much more than paid expenses, and the fact that they were facing a five thousand dollar deficit would have meant the end of basketball tournament competition for them.

The only place they have made money outside of Kansas City has been at Madison when Wisconsin was a contender and played in Wisconsin's own field house. To me this action stinks to high heaven. When any management would play on a contender's home floor, then it shows to me that the management lacks balance and certainly a sense of sporting decency to ask other teams to play on the home team's floor, and still call it a championship game.

I would not expect Jim St. Clair or anyone else to agree with everything that I do. I don't agree with everything anyone else does. Jim is a fine fellow. He belongs to the line of athletic politicians. He served as the chairman of the nominating committee for years for the N.C.A.A. basketball committee. In other words, he was L. W. St. John's handy-man to nominate the slate that Saint puts up and like all good lieutenants he succeeded to the chairmanship in due time. Personally, I am not the type of fellow that would want to be a lieutenant to St. John for any long era.

Anyhow, I don't agree with what Jim did and Jim doesn't agree with what I do, so that is even.

I do appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending Jim's letter to me because Jim knows that you and I are good friends. And to say that you are my good friend means that you have taken a lot of beatings in my behalf. But I appreciate a fellow like you who can do that.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education.

FCA:AH