

# Alabamans respond to bowl brouhaha

Dear editor,

I am one of the many Alabamans who have long been impressed with Coach Devaney and the fine football program at the University of Nebraska. Last year's Nebraska team earned our grudging respect and admiration for the way they dismantled so effectively our Alabama team in the Orange Bowl.

What a pity, therefore, it is to have this respect for a worthy opponent so tarnished by the recent statements and actions of the Nebraska students and supporters. I must especially protest vigorously the crude and disparaging signs that were displayed on national television by the Nebraska students at the Oklahoma game.

was a new year, and that last year's record and 15 cents would buy a pretty good cup of coffee.

What degree of honor would Alabama gain or how much closer would they come to attaining the national championship by administering a third defeat on a bowl opponent extremely fortunate to escape with only a tie in another game? Is this the team that a certain Midwestern coach with a propensity for running out the clock in a tie ball game would have us play?

Surely, even sophomoric logic would demonstrate the ludicrous nature of such a "contest."

Many people have been damaged by these intemperate remarks and displays. In addition to last year's Cornhuskers, the players and coaches at Alabama who have worked very hard to attain one of the only three unbeaten records in the nation have had these efforts belittled by the petulant complaints of the also-rans.

But more than these, the worst effect has surely been felt by a very fine University of Texas football team. Although conference champions and only once-beaten, they are depicted as a weak sister picked to pad a record. If the advancement of inter-collegiate athletics and the continuance of mutual respect in this endeavor is our goal, it is not well served by such a petty and demeaning episode.

James E. Blackman  
Mobile, Ala.

Dear editor,

You Turkeys play football like old folks fornicate. Cousin Bear would have condescended and played y'all, had your record warranted it. Put together a good record next year and maybe you can once again bask in the



"... Copy Boy ...!"

glory reflected from a bona fide powerhouse. Meanwhile, go commiserate with another has-been, Notre Dame.

Beauregard Bryant  
Virginia Beach, Va.

Dear editor,

I would like to defend the University of Alabama on charges brought by Nebraska Coach Bob Devaney and Notre Dame Coach Ara Parseghian.

Alabama wants to be national champion, as does Nebraska, Notre Dame, Southern Cal., Michigan, and every other university. Nebraska

defensive captain Bill Janssen was quoted as saying that "(Nebraska's) first choice was to play anybody ahead of us in the ratings who could help us." My question is: How could playing Nebraska help Alabama in the ratings? No matter who won Alabama would get nothing out of it. So why not play an easier team and hope Southern Cal and Michigan get beat. That's the smart thing to do isn't it? So why the criticism? You'd do the same thing in our place.

Something else Nebraska must face is that nothing you did or could have done would have won the National Championship. They (AP) won't give it to any team three straight years. A case in point is Alabama in 1966. After being No. 1 and 1964 and 1965 we went 10-0 during the 1966 season and beat Nebraska 34-7 in the Sugar Bowl, yet we were No. 3.

As to Notre Dame's comments, its none of their f\*\*\*\*\* business. It sounds as if Parseghian is scared of playing Nebraska.

Thank you for letting me give our side.

Mac Broughton  
Tuscaloosa, Ala.



Alabama is being accused of avoiding a bowl game with Nebraska by sneaking off to play Texas. Last year's Nebraska team would certainly make a most worthy opponent again, but to equate this year's team with them is pure hallucination and can serve only to diminish the remembrance of the 1971 team. It should have been apparent after the very first game with UCLA that this

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