

NEWS RELEASE  
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 17, 1964

SNCC ASKS STAN MUSIAL  
TO CANCEL MISS. DATE

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - The Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) has asked baseball star Stan Musial to cancel a February 24 appearance in Jackson, Mississippi.

Musial was named February 14 head of the President's Committee on Physical Fitness by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

"Your participation in this gathering which excludes Negro citizens of the State of Mississippi would be an affront to them," SNCC Chairman John Lewis told Musial in a letter.

Lewis said the February 24 engagement, sponsored by the Touchdown Club, an all-white group, would not be open to Negroes.

Musial, of St. Louis, Missouri, is scheduled to speak at the group's Hall of Fame Banquet at which Mississippi sports stars - all whites - will be honored.

Lewis informed the St. Louis Cardinals vice-president "several public figures - including Al Hirt, the stars of television's 'Bonanza' and 'Beverly Hillbillies', James R. Webb, Chief Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and members of the 'Hootenanny' show have canceled Jackson appearances because of the city's segregation policies."

Lewis told Musial "you have an obligation to refuse to appear at a meeting which does dishonor to the ideals of sportsmanship and fair play."

The SNCC Chairman said he had asked members of St. Louis NAACP and CORE groups to join SNCC in persuading the baseball star not to appear in Jackson.