

## **Welcome Home**

**Doesn't it have a nice ring to it...**

Michigan and Roses???

**We have gathered here this evening to welcome home**

the Michigan Wolverines...

...Big Ten Champions...

...Rose Bowl Champions...

...Champions of the West...

## **Observations**

Almost exactly 48 hours ago, Michigan wrapped up the Rose Bowl victory with one of the gutsiest calls in its history...

that call on 4th and 1 that led to the score that put the game on ice.

I don't know what you folks were doing...but

I'm afraid I lost my academic composure and was yelling myself hoarse...

as was the Governor beside me...

What an incredible victory...

What an incredible season...

What an incredible effort on the part of

the players, coaches, trainers, managers, and others involved with the team...

and the Michigan Marching Band...the finest in the nation...

and the Michigan cheerleaders...

students, faculty, and staff cheering on the Wolverines...

If ever a team deserved the Rose Bowl victory...

it was Michigan...

And if ever a coach deserved this victory, it was  
Bo Schembechler and his staff...the nation's best!

### **Tradition**

And what could be more appropriate?...  
As you are aware, 75 years ago Michigan played in the  
first Rose Bowl, beating Stanford 49 to 0...  
And now, 75 years later, «! have regained once again  
our heritage as Champions of the West...

### **Importance of Football at Michigan**

.heyd 2 + The Tournament of Roses and the Rose Bowl means a great  
deal to the University of Michigan...

### **As does Michigan football, one of the great traditions**

that make this University the place it is...

### **We are intensely proud of our athletic teams...**

### **Michigan is unique in its combination of**

world-class academic programs...and its  
winning tradition in athletics...

...If you compare the two top ten lists...

the top ten universities in academic quality...

and the top ten athletic programs in football...

You will find only one name on both lists...Michigan.

### **Yet, as important as winning is, we are also**

proud of our programs for their integrity...their class.

### **And of course, we have long taken great pride in**

having the nation's leading football coach...

Bo Schembechler...and the superb coaching staff

he leads...

### **But perhaps of most importance of all is the way**

in which Bo and his coaches dedicate themselves

first and foremost to the education of the student-athletes who don the maize and blue.

### **Congratulations...**

In a very real sense, the Rose Bowl must be viewed as the crowning

symbol of achievement, of excellence, in intercollegiate athletics.

The Rose Bowl is very special to us at the University since it allows us to recognize and take pride in the accomplishments of those who have brought us to Pasadena...

i) The Michigan Football Team, the players themselves who have

met the challenge...both on the field and in the classroom

ii) Eric Becker and the women and men of the Michigan Marching

**Band who have, through long hours of practice and work,** continued the tradition of excellence in what is generally regarded as the nation's leading college band.

**iii) All of the students, who participating as cheerleaders,** managers, or simply as loyal fans, have played important roles in building a winning spirit at Michigan

**iv) The coaches and staff of the Football Team and the** Department of Athletics

**v) And, of course, perhaps, as much as any one else, we must** congratulate the families that stood behind these individuals.

### **Concluding Remarks**

A final word, then to the players, the coaches, the band, the students,

the families...

In a very real sense the Rose Bowl is your event!

The University of Michigan takes great pride in your accomplishments.

Today you are truly the "Champions of the West"

**Oh...just one more(thing...**

Next year's team will have an even greater challenge...

It will have to win two games in the Rose Bowl...

...First next September against UCLA...

...Then next New Year's ...back in Pasadena

for the Rose Bowl./for the national championship!