

Rose Bowl

Official Remarks

Express on behalf of University

Delight, Excitement, enthusiasm, PRIDE

72nd Rose Bowl and 98th Tournament of Roses

Offer our congratulations to the two teams

that are the centerpiece of this event

Michigan Wolverines and Arizona State Wildcats

to the players, the coaches, managers, and trainers...

to the bands, cheerleaders, students, and others

who have worked so hard to make this event possible

Express our appreciation and congratulations as well to

the members of the Tournament of Roses Committee and

the thousands of individuals who work so hard throughout

the year to make this event what it has become...

the most spectacular annual event in this nation!

Importance of event:

Difficult to express the pride our University feels in

the achievements that led to our presence in this,

the 72nd Rose Bowl...

Difficult as well to realize how much this event means...

To the young men who have sacrificed so much...

and achieved so much through their play on the field

To the men and women who dedicated themselves to the
long hours of practice and perseverance necessary to
achieve the perfection of the Michigan Marching Band,
the Cheerleaders,

To all of the students and staff, to the coaches, trainers,
and coaches...

And, of course, perhaps as much as to anyone else, to the families
that stood behind the players, the coaches, and the Band...

In a very real sense, this is their event.

We congratulate them...and we take great pride in their
accomplishments.

And we look forward with great anticipation to New Year's Day...

The Rose Bowl Tradition

I suppose it is something in the very nature of a university
that causes us to continually ask the questions about
our values, our goals, our priorities...

What are we?...what do we strive to become?...

Interestingly enough, I suspect that if one were to go through
one of Bo's talks to his team with a highlighter, you would
get some pretty good ideas...

Words...

Pride...in institutions and in one's self

Sacrifice for others...for the team

Dedication to the achievement of excellence

A disdain for mediocrity

Courage, confidence,...

Leadership...

Integrity, honesty,

Quality, Class....

It is certainly true that intercollegiate athletics can provide students with a marvelous opportunity to develop those qualities so important in later life...particularly when led by inspiring and enlightened coaches such as Bo Schlembecher

But it can do more, for these programs also serve as models not simply for the university community, but for many others throughout their society...

How many youngsters dream of the day they could play in the Rose Bowl...and learn from others the qualities necessary to get there?

And how many of us as adults tend to identify with these teams ...sharing their thrill in victory...and suffering with them through defeat.

Football...indeed, all intercollegiate athletics...is a game, to be sure... but it is also a remarkable model of life...and those factors which lead to a program's long term success are also the factors which prepare young men and women for life itself!

While it is important that we always keep it in perspective...that we always place primary emphasis on the first word in "student-athlete"...

it is also important that we acknowledge that the lessons that Coach Schembechler and his colleagues teach to the young men who don't wear the red and blue of Michigan are some of the most important lessons of life...lessons every bit as important as those we teach in the classroom or laboratory...

The Michigan Tradition

Tradition

Michigan has a long tradition of leadership...

...of achievement...of excellence...

Events such as this remind us of this tradition...

Alumni:

If you think about it for a moment, you realize that one out

of every thousand Americans is a Michigan graduate...

There are a lot of good old boys...and good old gals out there

who care deeply about this University...

Humor...

Caltech Prank...

Each year, Caltech tries to outdo itself...

Rearranging the UCLA card section

Planting a receiver and microprocessor in the scoreboard

This year, they have really done it...the ultimate prank...

Those Caltech students have actually managed to replace the

President of the University of Michigan with one of their own

plants....a Caltecher!!!...a "mole" planted almost two decades

ago in a leading Big Ten university, designed to surface on

New Year's Day, 1987.

For it was almost 20 years ago that my family and I moved to

Ann Arbor from Pasadena...

Indeed, both of my daughters are native Californians...

born in Huntington Memorial Hospital...

I remember the warm, sunny day in late December when we

left Pasadena...and the bitter cold and snow that greeted

us upon our arrival in Ann Arbor...we had no warm clothing...

our children had never even seen snow!

But we grew to love Michigan...a sentiment shared by many across

this nation....

Return to Pasadena...

May amuse you to know that Bo and I came to Michigan the same

year...in 1969...

Bo came from Ohio...

I came from Pasadena...

Actually, I thought at first there must have been some confusion...

and our roles were accidently switched...

I was supposed to be football coach...and Bo was supposed

to be a professor of nuclear engineering!

After all, what school has played more games in the Rose Bowl

than any other? Not Michigan or Ohio State or USC or UCLA

...but the Caltech Beavers!!!

(They used to play their home games there...against teams

such as the LaVerne Junior College Junior Varsity...women's)

But Michigan must have known what they were doing...

For it took Bo only one year to get to Pasadena for the 1970 Rose Bowl...

And he has returned often...

It has taken me 17 years to get back for the first time

at least in an official capacity!

Midwest presence...

Michillinda Avenue...a charming Indian name???

No, a contraction of Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana...

Alumni:

If you think about it for a moment, you realize that one out

of every thousand Americans is a Michigan graduate...

Over 300,000 degrees!!!

There are a lot of good old boys...and good old gals out there

who care deeply about this University...

Concluding remarks...

Just two final words: "Go Blue!!!"