

Varsity Night

The Halftime Talk

Doesn't this remind you of one of those marvelous pep rallies
at the Century Plaza in Los Angeles before a Rose Bowl...
Except that this pep rally is firing us up
for an even more important event.
No...not just for the Colorado game...
...although that will occupy many of us tomorrow afternoon.
This pep rally is, in reality,
a half-time pep talk from the coach
to get us ready to go out there in that
second half and finish off this billion dollar
Campaign for Michigan.
Because every good Michigan fan knows that
even when you're ahead at half-time,
the most critical part of the game lies ahead.
This weekend we are building the momentum\
to take this Campaign over the top...
This is the Rose Bowl,
the Final Four
the NCAA Championship
all rolled into one.

During this weekend we are saying "thank you:

to the hundreds of volunteers
who have contributed their talent, time, energy, emotion
and dollars
to the Campaign for Michigan,
the largest fundraising campaign ever undertaken
by a public university

Tonight we are joined by students

who will realized the benefits of this campaign
in hundreds of ways
...in additional scholarships
...in additional faculty
...in state-of-the-art facilities
all resulting from the hard work and generosity
of our alumni and friends.

These students will be followed by generation

after generation of Michigan students who will
come to understand that generosity.

At Michigan we have an old saying

"you can't give back...
you can only give forward..."

And that is what the Campaign for Michigan

is really all about...
...each of us giving to the University of Michigan
so that future generations can enjoy the
same opportunity the University provided us.

What a winning team we have here tonight!

The people who have loved Michigan
Working with and for the students and faculty at Michigan.

After all, winning is a tradition at Michigan.

The last 53 seconds down at South Bend

two weeks ago said it all.

Well, let's not wait until the last 53 seconds

of this Campaign to go over the top.

Let's go out in the second half and

put the game away...

let's go over the top

Let's make the Campaign for Michigan

the success so important to the future of your University.

Hail to the Victors!

And Go Blue!