

The original documents are located in Box D19, folder “Starr Commonwealth, Albion, MI, October 3, 1965” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The Council donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

READING TEXT

Starr Commonwealth
October 3, 1965
Albion, Michigan

Fifty-two years ago the warmly human and compassionate history
of Starr Commonwealth began. The years have sped by for the gentle
~~men~~ who founded this unique place. Boys have grown to men, going into
the world better equipped to handle the problems of a complex society.

The years have been a mixture of happiness and heartbreak, good days
and bad days, ups and downs, high hopes and some disappointments.

Added together they have been 52 years of achievements in human
relations.

Being here with you today--- especially on this birthday of Starr
Commonwealth--- is a very special experience.

(INTO EXPERI~~ANCE~~ OF MICH- MINN GAME....CARDS)



Minnesota battle cry was "mangle Michigan!"

Gophers..on way to national championship, out to break a 41-year jinx.

* Minnesota failed to defeat a Michigan team at home since 1892

* Not scored on Michigan since 1929

On Friday, day before game, we worked out with enthusiasm after long train ride.

Respected ability of Minn... But not fear the team.

I not sleep too well night before game.

Starr

-2-

Crowd 60,000 in Memorial stadium

Michigan "Fighting 100" varsity band there

First half was surprise for Minn. fans and hopeful for us.

We outplayed Gophers

As a linebacker had tough time meeting crushing offensive runs

At halftime we tired... but spirits high

Second half...Minn. turned on the power

Beat us 34 to 0

We outrushed 314 to 17 yards

Scoreboard not reveal determination of the Mich team

punting out of danger

strong, clean tackling

Learned many lessons playing football..but this game was final exam.

We learned what coaches ~~xxx~~ tried to teach us.... "Never stop trying!"

"Don't be afraid of tackling a job when odds against you."

Head coach Harry Kipke told us: "Give all you have, but give it within the letter--and within the spirit of the rules."

Starr

-4-

Arrive in Ann Arbor Sunday...big parade..people met us.. demonstrated
loyalty despite our loss to Minnesota.

Since graduation...coaching at Yale...finishing law school..Navy service..
16 years in politics...often thought of this game.

Has helped me face tough situations...

Know the value of team play--one of most important ~~lessons~~ lessons
to be learned and practiced in our lives.