

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 15, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Ann Arbor, Michigan)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN FOOTBALL TEAM

THE MICHIGAN UNION

6:23 P.M. EDT

First of all, I thank you very much for permitting me to join all of this great ball team for a meal before I have a little engagement down the road here.

In those stories that I was considered a great all-time center I found this -- the longer you get away from the reality, the bigger those stories get. (Laughter) So, make all your fame now, and I can only say they get better because the longer you are away from school the fewer there are of people to tell the truth about what happened. (Laughter)

I am just honored to come back here, coming to the campus, coming back to great memories. I can recall vividly my freshman year. We couldn't play on the varsity in the freshman year and I ate a few meals in the Union and I really got to love and feel very strongly about this University. I think it has contributed very significantly to whatever success I have had.

The friends I have made and the opportunities educationally and the whole atmosphere here was a great factor in the incentive and the drive to do as well as one could. I know that with the great record that you have -- and I can say as a Monday morning or grandstand quarterback -- I sit up there in the stands and watch on television -- and I am very proud of the great record that you have and the way you play football. You play to win, and that is the only way I know to move ahead, whether you are on the gridiron or whether you are in classrooms or whether you are in politics or anything else.

So, good luck, beat Stanford, and you have nine more ball games before you go to the Rose Bowl

END

(AT 6:25 P.M. EDT)