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Michigan Wolverines, 4/12/89

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 12, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO MICHIGAN BASKETBALL TEAM,
1989 NCAA CHAMPIONS

The Rose Garden

11:05 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Where's Bo? Is your Athletic Director here?

COACH FISHER: Bo's not here. We have our Associate Athletic Director.

THE PRESIDENT: All right. Please, be seated. My briefing paper was wrong. (Laughter.) Glad to see you back.

Well, President Duderstadt and Coach Fisher and all you Wolverine players and staff, and members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and players and coaches of the Dunbar, Highpoint, and Archbishop Carroll High School teams; above all, friends, welcome to the White House. Let me recall, first, that this was once the home of a Michigan alumnus -- the home court, you might say. (Laughter.) And I know that this morning, that Gerald Ford would join me in saying that Michigan basketball, like America, is truly number one.

And secondly, let me welcome you here to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. For nearly 200 years, this has been America's house. And in 1989, you have become America's sports heroes.

And, you know, it was another sports hero, Yogi Berra -- I love to quote Yogi -- who once said at a state dinner right here in this building, "How could you get a conversation started in there? Everybody was talking too much." (Laughter.) Well, today America is talking. And they're talking about you all and your incredible championship. And they're calling it Wolverine Wonder. Or the Michigan Miracle. Or basketball's Impossible Dream.

And the 1989 Wolverines indeed had it all -- depth and quickness, shooting and intelligence, and that strength of character which embodies a champion.

For example, there's Terry Mills and Loy Vaught and Mark Hughes, who combined for 27 points in that great semifinal game against Illinois. Or Sean Higgins, who scored the winning basket against the Fighting Illini, and yes, Bo Schembechler, you did get Illinois and I wish you here to join us today. (Laughter.)

And finally, there's Steve Fisher -- new permanent coach at Michigan. (Applause.) Steve, compared with you, Walter Mitty was a hum-drum existence -- (laughter) -- and your success even Ripley would disbelieve. But in three amazing weeks, you became the first rookie coach to win a national basketball championship. And you helped Michigan become the first school to win the Rose Bowl and NCAA basketball title in the same year. And last Monday night, surrounded by your wife and two boys, you showed that nice guys can finish first.

And Thursday night, Steve and his wife were here walking the dog at the White House -- (laughter) -- and he did a good job on that. (Laughter.) So we're glad you're back.

And eight weeks ago, following a last-second loss to Indiana -- forgive me -- Dan Quayle insisted that I bring that one up -- (laughter.)

VICE PRESIDENT QUAYLE: Yes, you guys remember that. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: -- Glen Rice said that every Michigan player was "going on a mission." Well, last week, in Steve Fisher's words, that mission reached basketball's "Promised Land."

And today, schools from Syracuse to North Carolina to UCLA salute your story. And today, "Hail to the Victors" is number one basketball hit parade song. Mission Impossible? Yours has been a Mission Accomplished.

And thanks for coming here. God bless you all and God bless the United States.

And now, Rumeal, I have a prop for you -- a basketball, and where is it? Here. All right. Go for it. Right here, we've got a little demonstration. (Laughter.) You want to fire one off. Oh, wait a minute, hold off. I'm getting something, don't go away. (Laughter.)

That pressure must have been something.

COACH FISHER: Mr. President, it's with great pride that our basketball staff, coaches and administrators present you with a Michigan Number One jersey to join us and these high school athletes to let you know how proud we are to be here. And we are all number one today alongside you. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Steve.

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THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Steve.

END

11:10 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 11, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: CURT SMITH
SPEECHWRITER

SUBJECT: APRIL 12 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WOLVERINES VISIT

I. SUMMARY

Tomorrow, Michigan's basketball team will visit the White House. The enclosed remarks focus on its storybook rise to the NCAA title. In particular, they discuss coach Steve Fisher and his starting five.

II. DISCUSSION

At speech's end, you are scheduled to give a basketball to Michigan's Rumeal Robinson, who will then shoot at a net erected by advance. The remarks reflect that event.

CS

100-110-11-100-0

Players
~~Members~~ and coaches
of the Dunbar,
High Point, and
Archbishop Carroll
High school teams.
Above all,
Friends.

(Smith/Blessey)
April 11, 1989
Draft Three
MICH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MICHIGAN BASKETBALL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
WED., APRIL 12, 1989
11:00 A.M.

President Duderstadt [DU-der-stat], Coach Fisher, Wolverine
Players and Staff, Friends. Members of Michigan Congressional
Delegation.

Let me recall, first, that this was once the home court of a
Michigan alumnus. Well, this morning, I know that Gerald Ford
would join me in saying that Michigan basketball, like America,
is truly Number One!

Second, let me welcome you to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. For
nearly 200 years, this has been America's House. Well, in 1989,
you have become America's Heroes. ←

You know, it was another sports hero, Yogi Berra, who once
said of a State dinner at the White House: "How could you get a
conversation started in there? Everybody was talking too much."

My friends, today much of America is talking. They are
talking about you, and your incredible championship. They're
calling it Wolverine Wonder. Or the Michigan Miracle. Or
basketball's Impossible Dream.

The 1989 Wolverines indeed had it all -- depth and quickness, shooting and intelligence, and that strength of character which embodies a champion.

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Then, there's Rumeal (Rue-MEAL) Robinson, of whom Sports Illustrated said . . . and Jerry Ford would love this . . . "he looks and plays like a fullback." Against Seton Hall, your two free throws with three seconds left won Michigan's first-ever national basketball championship.

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Glen Rice. This year, he became the Big Ten all-time leading scorer and the NCAA tournament's Most Valuable Player. And, Glen, in the tourney's six games, you scored 184 points to break the old record held by a guy who now works just down the road from here . . . yes, Princeton's Bill Bradley.

Finally, there's Steve Fisher . . . Michigan's new permanent coach. Steve, compared with you, Walter Mitty's was a hum-drum existence. Of your success, even Ripley would disbelieve.

In three amazing weeks, you became the first rookie coach to win a national basketball championship. You helped Michigan become the first school to win the Rose Bowl and NCAA basketball title in the same year. And last Monday night, surrounded by your wife and two boys, you showed that Nice Guys Can Finish First. *And last Thursday night you helped me walk the dog here at the Home ^{Chick Harp.}*

~~8~~ Six weeks ago, following a last-second loss to Indiana . . . forgive me, but Vice-President Quayle insisted I mention that! . . . Glen Rice said that every Michigan player was "going on a mission." Well, last week, in Steve Fisher's words, that mission reached basketball's "Promised Land."

Today, schools from Syracuse to North Carolina to UCLA salute your story. And, today, "Hail to the Victors" is No. 1 on basketball's hit parade. Mission Impossible? My friends, yours has been a Mission Accomplished.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, and God bless America. And now, Rumeal, here's a basketball . . . there's the net . . . and as we used to say at Yale, it's time for that old college try!

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 04/11/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MICHIGAN BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

(04/11 draft 3)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 11, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: CURT SMITH
SPEECHWRITER

SUBJECT: APRIL 12 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WOLVERINES VISIT

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(Smith/Blessey)
April 11, 1989
Draft Three
MICH

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WASHINGTON, D.C.
WED., APRIL 12, 1989
11:00 A.M.

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Players and Staff, Friends.

Let me recall, first, that this was once the home court of a
Michigan alumnus. Well, this morning, I know that Gerald Ford
would join me in saying that Michigan basketball, like America,
is truly Number One!

Second, let me welcome you to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. For
nearly 200 years, this has been America's House. Well, in 1989,
you have become America's Heroes.

You know, it was another sports hero, Yogi Berra, who once
said of a State dinner at the White House: "How could you get a
conversation started in there? Everybody was talking too much."

My friends, today much of America is talking. They are
talking about you, and your incredible championship. They're
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The 1989 Wolverines indeed had it all -- depth and quickness, shooting and intelligence, and that strength of character which embodies a champion.

For example, there's Terry Mills and Loy Vaught and Mark Hughes, who combined for 27 points in that great semifinal game against Illinois. Or Sean (SHAWN) Higgins, who scored the winning basket against the Fighting Illini . . . and, yes, Bo Schembechler, you did get Illinois!

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Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Glen Rice. This year, he became the Big Ten all-time leading scorer and the NCAA tournament's Most Valuable Player. And, Glen, in the tourney's six games, you scored 184 points to break the old record held by a guy who now works just down the road from here . . . yes, Princeton's Bill Bradley.

Finally, there's Steve Fisher . . . Michigan's new permanent coach. Steve, compared with you, Walter Mitty's was a hum-drum existence. Of your success, even Ripley would disbelieve.

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Six weeks ago, following a last-second loss to Indiana . . . forgive me, but Vice-President Quayle insisted I mention that! . . . Glen Rice said that every Michigan player was "going on a mission." Well, last week, in Steve Fisher's words, that mission reached basketball's "Promised Land."

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Thank you for coming here, God bless you, and God bless America. And now, Rumeal, here's a basketball . . . there's the net . . . and as we used to say at Yale, it's time for that old college try!

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 10, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Michigan Basketball

The draft remarks read well and are appropriate for the occasion. The Yogi Berra and Walter Mitty lines are excellent.

We have no recommended suggestions from a policy standpoint.

cc: James W. Cicconi

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/10/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00am 4/11/89

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MICHIGAN BASKETBALL

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston's office with an info copy to my by 10:00am Tuesday, April 11. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

1989 APR 10 PM 3:45

(Smith/Blessey)
April 10, 1989
Draft Two
MICH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MICHIGAN BASKETBALL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
WED., APRIL 12, 1989

Coach Fisher, Bo Schembechler, Wolverine Players and Staff,
Friends.

Let me recall, first, that this was once the home court of a Michigan alumnus. Well, this morning, I received the following telegram: "Michigan basketball, like America, is truly Number One! Sincerely, Gerald R. Ford."

Second, let me welcome you to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. For nearly 200 years, this has been the People's House. Well, in 1989, you have become the People's Choice.

It was Yogi Berra who once said of a State dinner at the White House: "How could you get a conversation started in there? Everybody was talking too much."

My friends, today much of America is talking. They are talking about you, and your incredible championship. They're calling it Wolverine Wonder. Or the Michigan Miracle. Or basketball's Impossible Dream.

The 1989 Wolverines indeed had it all -- depth and quickness, shooting and intelligence, and that strength of character which embodies a champion.

For example, there's Terry Mills and Loy Vaught and Mark Hughes, who combined for 27 points in that great semifinal game against Illinois. Or Sean (SHAWN) Higgins, who scored the winning basket against the Fighting Illini . . . and, yes, Bo, you did get Illinois!

Then, there's Rumeal (Ruh-MEAL) Robinson, of whom Sports Illustrated said . . . and Jerry Ford would love this . . . "he looks and plays like a fullback." Against Seton Hall, your two free throws with three seconds left won Michigan's first-ever national basketball championship.

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Thank you for coming here, God bless you, and God bless America.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.
WED., APRIL 12, 1989
11:00 A.M.

PRESIDENT DUDERSTADT [DU-DER-STAT]. COACH FISHER.
WOLVERINE PLAYERS AND STAFF. MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.

- 2 -

PLAYERS AND COACHES OF THE DUNBAR, HIGH POINT, AND ARCHBISHOP CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS. ABOVE ALL, FRIENDS.

LET ME RECALL, FIRST, THAT THIS WAS ONCE THE HOME COURT OF A MICHIGAN ALUMNUS.

- 3 -

WELL, THIS MORNING, I KNOW THAT GERALD FORD WOULD JOIN ME IN SAYING THAT MICHIGAN BASKETBALL, LIKE AMERICA, IS TRULY NUMBER ONE!

SECOND, LET ME WELCOME YOU TO 1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. FOR NEARLY 200 YEARS, THIS HAS BEEN AMERICA'S HOUSE. WELL, IN 1989, YOU HAVE BECOME AMERICA'S SPORTS HEROES.

- 4 -

YOU KNOW, IT WAS ANOTHER SPORTS HERO, YOGI BERRA, WHO ONCE SAID OF A STATE DINNER AT THE WHITE HOUSE: "HOW COULD YOU GET A CONVERSATION STARTED IN THERE? EVERYBODY WAS TALKING TOO MUCH."

MY FRIENDS, TODAY MUCH OF AMERICA IS TALKING. THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT YOU, AND YOUR INCREDIBLE CHAMPIONSHIP. THEY'RE CALLING IT WOLVERINE WONDER.

- 5 -

OR THE MICHIGAN MIRACLE. OR BASKETBALL'S IMPOSSIBLE DREAM.

THE 1989 WOLVERINES INDEED HAD IT ALL -- DEPTH AND QUICKNESS, SHOOTING AND INTELLIGENCE, AND THAT STRENGTH OF CHARACTER WHICH EMBODIES A CHAMPION.

- 6 -

FOR EXAMPLE, THERE'S TERRY MILLS AND LOY VAUGHT AND MARK HUGHES, WHO COMBINED FOR 27 POINTS IN THAT GREAT SEMIFINAL GAME AGAINST ILLINOIS. OR SEAN (SHAWN) HIGGINS, WHO SCORED THE WINNING BASKET AGAINST THE FIGHTING ILLINI . . . AND, YES, BO SCHEMBECHLER, YOU DID GET ILLINOIS!

- 7 -

THEN, THERE'S RUMEAL (RUE-MEAL) ROBINSON, OF WHOM SPORTS ILLUSTRATED SAID . . . AND JERRY FORD WOULD LOVE THIS . . . "HE LOOKS AND PLAYS LIKE A FULLBACK." AGAINST SETON HALL, YOUR TWO FREE THROWS WITH THREE SECONDS LEFT WON MICHIGAN'S FIRST-EVER NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

- 8 -

DON'T WORRY: I'M NOT FORGETTING GLEN RICE. THIS YEAR, HE BECAME THE BIG TEN ALL-TIME LEADING SCORER AND THE NCAA TOURNAMENT'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER. AND, GLEN, IN THE TOURNEY'S SIX GAMES, YOU SCORED 184 POINTS TO BREAK THE OLD RECORD HELD BY A GUY WHO NOW WORKS JUST DOWN THE ROAD FROM HERE . . . YES, PRINCETON'S BILL BRADLEY.

- 9 -

FINALLY, THERE'S STEVE FISHER . . . MICHIGAN'S NEW PERMANENT COACH. STEVE, COMPARED WITH YOU, WALTER MITTY'S WAS A HUM-DRUM EXISTENCE. OF YOUR SUCCESS, EVEN RIPLEY WOULD DISBELIEVE.

IN THREE AMAZING WEEKS, YOU BECAME THE FIRST ROOKIE COACH TO WIN A NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

- 10 -

YOU HELPED MICHIGAN BECOME THE FIRST SCHOOL TO WIN THE ROSE BOWL AND NCAA BASKETBALL TITLE IN THE SAME YEAR. AND LAST MONDAY NIGHT, SURROUNDED BY YOUR WIFE AND TWO BOYS, YOU SHOWED THAT NICE GUYS CAN FINISH FIRST. AND LAST THURSDAY NIGHT, YOU HELPED ME WALK THE DOG HERE AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

- 11 -

EIGHT WEEKS AGO, FOLLOWING A LAST-SECOND LOSS TO INDIANA . . . FORGIVE ME, BUT VICE-PRESIDENT QUAYLE INSISTED I MENTION THAT! . . . GLEN RICE SAID THAT EVERY MICHIGAN PLAYER WAS "GOING ON A MISSION." WELL, LAST WEEK, IN STEVE FISHER'S WORDS, THAT MISSION REACHED BASKETBALL'S "PROMISED LAND."

- 12 -

TODAY, SCHOOLS FROM SYRACUSE TO NORTH CAROLINA TO
UCLA SALUTE YOUR STORY. AND, TODAY, "HAIL TO THE
VICTORS" IS NO. 1 ON BASKETBALL'S HIT PARADE. MISSION
IMPOSSIBLE? MY FRIENDS, YOURS HAS BEEN A MISSION
ACCOMPLISHED.

THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE, GOD BLESS YOU, AND GOD
BLESS AMERICA.

- 13 -

AND NOW, RUMEAL, HERE'S A BASKETBALL . . . THERE'S THE
NET . . . AND AS WE USED TO SAY AT YALE, IT'S TIME FOR
THAT OLD COLLEGE TRY!

#

REMARKS: MICHIGAN BASKETBALL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WED., APRIL 12, 1989

11:00 A.M.

PRESIDENT DUDERSTADT [DU-DER-STAT]. COACH FISHER.
WOLVERINE PLAYERS AND STAFF. MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN
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- 3 -

WELL, THIS MORNING, I KNOW THAT GERALD FORD WOULD JOIN ME IN SAYING THAT MICHIGAN BASKETBALL, LIKE AMERICA, IS TRULY NUMBER ONE!

SECOND, LET ME WELCOME YOU TO 1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. FOR NEARLY 200 YEARS, THIS HAS BEEN AMERICA'S HOUSE. WELL, IN 1989, YOU HAVE BECOME AMERICA'S SPORTS HEROES.

- 4 -

YOU KNOW, IT WAS ANOTHER SPORTS HERO, YOGI BERRA, WHO ONCE SAID OF A STATE DINNER AT THE WHITE HOUSE: "HOW COULD YOU GET A CONVERSATION STARTED IN THERE? EVERYBODY WAS TALKING TOO MUCH."

MY FRIENDS, TODAY MUCH OF AMERICA IS TALKING. THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT YOU, AND YOUR INCREDIBLE CHAMPIONSHIP. THEY'RE CALLING IT WOLVERINE WONDER.

- 5 -

OR THE MICHIGAN MIRACLE. OR BASKETBALL'S IMPOSSIBLE DREAM.

THE 1989 WOLVERINES INDEED HAD IT ALL -- DEPTH AND QUICKNESS, SHOOTING AND INTELLIGENCE, AND THAT STRENGTH OF CHARACTER WHICH EMBODIES A CHAMPION.

- 6 -

FOR EXAMPLE, THERE'S TERRY MILLS AND LOY VAUGHT AND MARK HUGHES, WHO COMBINED FOR 27 POINTS IN THAT GREAT SEMIFINAL GAME AGAINST ILLINOIS. OR SEAN (SHAWN) HIGGINS, WHO SCORED THE WINNING BASKET AGAINST THE FIGHTING ILLINI . . . AND, YES, BO SCHEMBECHLER, YOU DID GET ILLINOIS!

- 7 -

THEN, THERE'S RUMEAL (RUE-MEAL) ROBINSON, OF WHOM SPORTS ILLUSTRATED SAID . . . AND JERRY FORD WOULD LOVE THIS . . . "HE LOOKS AND PLAYS LIKE A FULLBACK." AGAINST SETON HALL, YOUR TWO FREE THROWS WITH THREE SECONDS LEFT WON MICHIGAN'S FIRST-EVER NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

- 8 -

DON'T WORRY: I'M NOT FORGETTING GLEN RICE. THIS YEAR, HE BECAME THE BIG TEN ALL-TIME LEADING SCORER AND THE NCAA TOURNAMENT'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER. AND, GLEN, IN THE TOURNEY'S SIX GAMES, YOU SCORED 184 POINTS TO BREAK THE OLD RECORD HELD BY A GUY WHO NOW WORKS JUST DOWN THE ROAD FROM HERE . . . YES, PRINCETON'S BILL BRADLEY.

- 9 -

FINALLY, THERE'S STEVE FISHER . . . MICHIGAN'S NEW PERMANENT COACH. STEVE, COMPARED WITH YOU, WALTER MITTY'S WAS A HUM-DRUM EXISTENCE. OF YOUR SUCCESS, EVEN RIPLEY WOULD DISBELIEVE.

IN THREE AMAZING WEEKS, YOU BECAME THE FIRST ROOKIE COACH TO WIN A NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

- 10 -

YOU HELPED MICHIGAN BECOME THE FIRST SCHOOL TO WIN THE ROSE BOWL AND NCAA BASKETBALL TITLE IN THE SAME YEAR. AND LAST MONDAY NIGHT, SURROUNDED BY YOUR WIFE AND TWO BOYS, YOU SHOWED THAT NICE GUYS CAN FINISH FIRST. AND LAST THURSDAY NIGHT, YOU HELPED ME WALK THE DOG HERE AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

- 11 -

EIGHT WEEKS AGO, FOLLOWING A LAST-SECOND LOSS TO INDIANA . . . FORGIVE ME, BUT VICE-PRESIDENT QUAYLE INSISTED I MENTION THAT! . . . GLEN RICE SAID THAT EVERY MICHIGAN PLAYER WAS "GOING ON A MISSION." WELL, LAST WEEK, IN STEVE FISHER'S WORDS, THAT MISSION REACHED BASKETBALL'S "PROMISED LAND."

- 12 -

TODAY, SCHOOLS FROM SYRACUSE TO NORTH CAROLINA TO
UCLA SALUTE YOUR STORY. AND, TODAY, "HAIL TO THE
VICTORS" IS NO. 1 ON BASKETBALL'S HIT PARADE. MISSION
IMPOSSIBLE? MY FRIENDS, YOURS HAS BEEN A MISSION
ACCOMPLISHED.

THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE, GOD BLESS YOU, AND GOD
BLESS AMERICA.

- 13 -

AND NOW, RUMEAL, HERE'S A BASKETBALL . . . THERE'S THE
NET . . . AND AS WE USED TO SAY AT YALE, IT'S TIME FOR
THAT OLD COLLEGE TRY!

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