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FOIA Number:

2011-2184-F

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.**

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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13483  
**Folder ID Number:** 13483-007

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**Folder Title:**  
University of Tennessee Women's Basketball Team, 4/20/89

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>

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FINAL  
TO POTPUS

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 18, 1989, 11:50 a.m.  
Draft four  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

Sorry we're a little late getting started. I heard there was a back-up getting Bridgette Gordon's jewelry through the metal detectors. (("GLITTERING" GORDON, AMERICA'S BEST WOMAN PLAYER, DRESSES COVERED WITH GOLD LIKE "MR. T".))

President Alexander, Coach Summitt -- the families and friends and fans -- Members of Congress and our own local teams -- the White House is proud to host Tennessee's Lady Volunteers: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) The 1989 NCAA Champions.

After you won in Tacoma -- after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's quite a family, these Lady Volunteers.

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Now, I admit, the Bush family's generally pretty happy when Texas wins. But your

mid-season loss to Texas is also when this team proved it had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 MVP who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship -- got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon.

All American. MVP. The papers call her the best woman in college basketball. When Auburn closed to within three in that final game, Bridgette stepped in and sank three straight jumpers. Maybe you heard what the losing coach said about Bridgette: "God bless her, graduate her -- and get her out of Tennessee!"

And there's Coach Summitt. A silver medalist as a player in 1976, she coached America's Olympic team to a gold in 1984. In 13 years she's brought Tennessee to the Final Four ten times, winning it twice. Later on we're going down to that fountain to see if it's true she can walk on water.

And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

Every sport has legendary teams from its early days. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. Football, some would say Vince Lombardi's Packers. ((PAUSE))

((TO TEAM)) I see you like this talk of dynasties.

((PAUSE)) That's the first time a group of attractive women has been flattered by being compared to the 1967 Green Bay Packers.

But seriously, as the years unfold you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when these champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

Thanks for coming here today. Hold fast your dreams yet to come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

*CW's  
revisions*

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 14, 1989  
2:00 p.m.  
Draft one  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
(1989 NCAA CHAMPIONS)  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

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After you won in Tacoma -- after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's good to have the Tennessee family here. But it's your own families that I will congratulate first. In a very private way, the years of hard work, sacrifice, and yes, love for your daughters <sup>have</sup> brought this moment to pass. You deserve the first round of applause.

I was going to call them, "your little girls." Then I saw Sheila Frost ((6'4")), Carla McGhee ((6'3")) and Daedra Charles ((6'3")). I may be President but I'm only six foot two.

1

Like the Lady Volunteers, the Bush team went into the 1988 season -- the primaries -- ranked Number One. So we know what you mean when the Coach said of your victory: "It's harder to do something you're supposed to do."

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

2

But, as another college coach once observed: "I don't mind starting the season with unknowns. I just don't like finishing with a bunch of them."

Well, your unknown days are over. Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again. And the ball-control specialists who led Tennessee's hard-nosed defense, Melissa McCray and Sheila Frost.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Generally, the Bush family's pretty happy when Texas wins. But your cliff-hanger loss to Texas turned especially sour when Tonya -- who led the Vols to Tennessee's 1987 championship -- got hurt. Freshman pre-med Dena -- the classic "player to be named later" -- came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon.

All American, MVP, the papers call her the best woman in college basketball. When Auburn closed to within three in that

3

final game, Bridgette stepped in and sank three straight jumpers. Later, she told Sports Illustrated: "When I saw that score, I told myself I had to do something."

That struck a chord. I told myself the same thing when I came in third in the Iowa caucuses.

And there's Coach Summitt.

A silver medalist as a player in 1976, she coached America's Olympic team to a gold in 1984. In 13 years she's brought Tennessee to the Final Four ten times, winning it twice. Later on we're going down to that fountain to see if it's true she can walk on water.

And the most important statistic of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

Pat Summitt's proud of that record. But the other coaches are even happier. Maybe you heard what Auburn's coach said about Bridgette: "God bless her, graduate her -- and get her out of Tennessee."

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

Men's basketball should be so lucky. One college athlete admitted he'd never graduated. He said he was only in school for two terms -- Carter's and Reagan's.

And you know what the Texas A & M basketball coach told a player who got four F's and a D: "Son, it looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."

move

4

5

You know, many of my own heroes are pioneering players from the early days of baseball. In women's basketball, Tennessee is creating its own legends. These three seniors have attended the Final Four every year that they played -- an unprecedented feat that may never again be equaled.

Every sport has a legendary team like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. Basketball, probably the Celtics, maybe LA. Looking back, in football it's got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.

((LOOKING AT THE TEAM)) You like this talk of dynasties. It's probably the first time in history a group of attractive women have been flattered by being compared to the Green Bay Packers.

6  
7

Pat, we also hear your husband R.B. is a former bank examiner. If he can do with banks what you can do with basketball, maybe he can stick around and help us sort out the deficit. Someone else suggested we could cut the deficit in half by just having Bridgette sell off some of her jewelry.

8

But seriously, Coach. The press is gathered here. America is watching. And you know the question that's on everyone's lips: How is Bridgette Gordon going to get another NCAA ring onto those fingers?

Before we say goodbye, I have something of a surprise for you. Coach Summitt promised that if you won, she'd do something unreserved. Well, my White House team has been trying to get me to do something unreserved for weeks. Last week I finally did.

I was crazy enough to actually try to shoot a free throw after Michigan's Rumeal Robinson. And it went in. It'll never happen again. And I'm not crazy enough to dare to shoot free throws with the likes of Dena Head.

But it's too nice a day not to throw something. So afterwards, I'd be very honored if the Lady Volunteers would join me for a few tosses down at these new horseshoe pits.

In the years to come you will remember not your April morning in the Rose Garden but that championship season that brought you here. The story began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when today's champions were mostly hard-working country kids -- shooting until twilight in barns and haylofts and driveways across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to each other, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

Thanks for coming here today. Good luck in your dreams yet to come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 c.o.b.  
 PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
 THE ROSE GARDEN  
 SUBJECT: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
 (4/15 - 1:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE <i>N/C</i>	<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 <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES <i>N/U</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<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 <i>N/C</i>	<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 forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than Monday, 4/17/89, c.o.b., with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 15, 1989, 1:30 p.m.  
Draft three  
(B-Ball)

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

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President Alexander, Coach Summitt -- the families and ~~friends and fans~~ *members of Congress and our own local teams* -- the White House is proud to host Tennessee's Lady Volunteers: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) The 1989 NCAA Champions.

After you won in Tacoma -- after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's good to have the ~~Tennessee~~ *to honor the daughters of Tennessee* family here. But it's ~~your own families that I will congratulate first. In a very private way, the years of hard work, sacrifice, and yes, love for your daughters have brought this moment to pass. You deserve the first round of applause.~~ *years the daughters who have brought your victory*

I was going to call ~~them~~ *the team*, "your little girls." Then I saw Sheila Frost ((6'4")), Carla McGhee ((6'3")) and Daedra Charles ((6'3")). I may be President but I'm only six foot two.

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Now, I admit, the Bush family's generally pretty happy when Texas wins. But your mid-season loss to Texas is also when this team proved it had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 MVP who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship -- got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon.

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And there's Coach Summitt.

A silver medalist as a player in 1976, she coached America's Olympic team to a gold in 1984. In 13 years she's brought Tennessee to the Final Four ten times, winning it twice. Later on we're going down to that fountain to see if it's true she can walk on water.

And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

~~You know, many of my own heroes are pioneering players from the early days of baseball. In women's basketball, Tennessee is creating its own legends. These three seniors have attended the Final Four every year that they played -- an unprecedented feat that may never again be equaled.~~

Every sport has • legendary teams <sup>from its early days.</sup> like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. ~~College football it's~~ Rockne's Irish. <sup>some would say</sup> ~~Pro~~ football, it's probably got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. ~~Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.~~

((PAUSE))

((TO TEAM)) You like this talk of dynasties. ~~It's probably~~

<sup>That's</sup> the first time ~~in history that~~ a group of attractive women has been flattered by being compared to the 1967 Green Bay Packers.

<sup>But seriously</sup>

As the years unfold you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when ~~today's~~ <sup>these</sup> champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

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DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 c.o.b.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN

SUBJECT: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
(4/15 - 1:30 p.m. draft)

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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"/>

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RESPONSE: *Emphasize "little" on p. 1; perhaps word "women" rather than "girls" should be used.*

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

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 18, 1989, 11:50 a.m.  
Draft four  
(B-Ball)

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THE ROSE GARDEN  
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*a little long*  
*All comments*

RESPONSE:

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

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 15, 1989, 1:30 p.m.  
Draft three  
(B-Ball)

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1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

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All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

You know, many of my own heroes are pioneering players from the early days of baseball. In women's basketball, Tennessee is creating its own legends. These three seniors have attended the Final Four every year that they played -- an unprecedented feat that may never again be equaled.

Every sport has a legendary team like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. College football it's Rockne's Irish. Pro football, it's probably got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.

((TO TEAM)) You like this talk of dynasties. It's probably the first time in history that a group of attractive women has been flattered by being compared to the 1967 Green Bay Packers.

*But seriously*  
As the years unfold you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when ~~today's~~ *these* champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

Thanks for coming here today. Hold fast your dreams yet to  
come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 16, 1989

Memorandum to Chriss Winston

From: Roger B. Porter *RBP by JP*  
Jim Pinkerton *JP*

Re: Comments on Central America, USDA, and Tennessee  
drafts

=====  
We have no comments on the Central America draft.

Our comments on the USDA draft are as follows:

First, will everyone in the audience know what "GATT" is? There might be some benefit to providing more of a transition from the 2nd and 3rd grafs on the first page.

Second, in the 4th graf on p.1, we suggest replacing "tricks" with "devices. On the first line of the next graf down, we would delete "any." We don't need to gratuitously tie our hands on these sensitive policy questions.

Third, we would delete the graf that starts on the bottom of p. 2 on the budget. The fact is that agriculture programs will get less as a result of the budget agreement. Most farmers will know this, and therefore our point about "three to four times higher" is nothing to brag about. The budget will probably come up in the Q and A session. That's the right time to use these statistics. As a substitute for this graf, we would restate the good news that we have to announce: the opening up of foreign markets, the new rural task force, and the advance deficiency payments.

We are very impressed with the Tennessee draft. The richness of detail will impress the audience, not to mention the team. The penultimate graf generates real emotion. Our only comment: the President may need help on the pronunciation of the surname "Hawhee" at the top of pg. 3.

#

cc: Bill Roper  
John Gardner

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 c.o.b.  
 PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
 THE ROSE GARDEN  
 SUBJECT: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
 (4/15 - 1:30 p.m. draft)

	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 checked="" 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"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<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 forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than Monday, 4/17/89, c.o.b., with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

## RESPONSE:

No Comment  
4/17/89.

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

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 15, 1989, 1:30 p.m.  
Draft three  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

Sorry we're a little late getting started. I heard there was a back-up getting Bridgette Gordon's jewelry through the metal detectors. (("GLITTERING" GORDON, AMERICA'S BEST WOMAN PLAYER, DRESSES COVERED WITH GOLD LIKE "MR. T".))

President Alexander, Coach Summitt -- the families and friends and fans -- the White House is proud to host Tennessee's Lady Volunteers: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) The 1989 NCAA Champions.

After you won in Tacoma -- after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's good to have the Tennessee family here. But it's your own families that I will congratulate first. In a very private way, the years of hard work, sacrifice, and yes, love for your daughters have brought this moment to pass. You deserve the first round of applause.

I was going to call them, "your little girls." Then I saw Sheila Frost ((6'4")), Carla McGhee ((6'3")) and Daedra Charles ((6'3")). I may be President but I'm only six foot two.

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Now, I admit, the Bush family's generally pretty happy when Texas wins. But your mid-season loss to Texas is also when this team proved it had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 MVP who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship -- got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon.

All American. MVP. The papers call her the best woman in college basketball. When Auburn closed to within three in that final game, Bridgette stepped in and sank three straight jumpers. Maybe you heard what the losing coach said about Bridgette: "God bless her, graduate her -- and get her out of Tennessee!"

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And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

You know, many of my own heroes are pioneering players from the early days of baseball. In women's basketball, Tennessee is creating its own legends. These three seniors have attended the Final Four every year that they played -- an unprecedented feat that may never again be equaled.

Every sport has a legendary team like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. College football it's Rockne's Irish. Pro football, it's probably got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.

((TO TEAM)) You like this talk of dynasties. It's probably the first time in history that a group of attractive women has been flattered by being compared to the 1967 Green Bay Packers.

As the years unfold you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when today's champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

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# # #

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 THE ROSE GARDEN  
 SUBJECT: THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
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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"/>
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BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST <i>All comments</i>	<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 forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than Monday, 4/17/89, c.o.b., with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *SMS 4/17*

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

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 15, 1989, 1:30 p.m.  
Draft three  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

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And it's good to have the Tennessee family here. But it's your own families that I will congratulate first. In a very private way, the years of hard work, sacrifice, and yes, love for your daughters have brought this moment to pass. You deserve the first round of applause.

I was going to call them, "your little girls." Then I saw Sheila Frost ((6'4")), Carla McGhee ((6'3")) and Daedra Charles ((6'3")). I may be President but I'm only six foot two.

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Now, I admit, the Bush family's generally pretty happy when Texas wins. But your mid-season loss to Texas is also when this team proved it had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 MVP who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship -- got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

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And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

↓ "Most Valuable Player"

say out

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Every sport has a legendary team like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. College football it's Rockne's Irish. Pro football, it's probably got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.

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As the years unfold you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when today's champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

Why alienate the Tennessee basketball and football teams which Tennessee is equally proud of.

Thanks for coming here today. Hold fast your dreams yet to  
come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 15, 1989, 11:00 a.m.  
Draft two  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

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And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology.

Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

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Every sport has a legendary team like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. Basketball, probably the Celtics, maybe L.A. Looking back, in football it's got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. College football it's Rockne's Irish. Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.

((LOOKING AT TEAM)) You like this talk of dynasties. It's probably the first time in history that a group of attractive women has been flattered by being compared to the 1967 Green Bay Packers.

In the years to come you will remember not your April morning in the Rose Garden but that championship season that brought you here. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when today's champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown

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Thanks for coming here today. Hold fast to your dreams yet to come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 14, 1989  
2:00 p.m.  
Draft one  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
(1989 NCAA CHAMPIONS)  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

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After you won in Tacoma -- after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's good to have the Tennessee family here. But it's your own families that I will congratulate first. In a very private way, the years of hard work, sacrifice, and yes, love for your daughters has brought this moment to pass. You deserve the first round of applause.

I was going to call them, "your little girls." Then I saw Sheila Frost ((6'4")), Carla McGhee ((6'3")) and Daedra Charles ((6'3")). I may be President but I'm only six foot two.

Like the Lady Volunteers, the Bush team went into the 1988 season -- the primaries -- ranked Number One. So we know what you mean when the Coach said of your victory: "It's harder to do something you're supposed to do."

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

But, as another college coach once observed: "I don't mind starting the season with unknowns. I just don't like finishing with a bunch of them."

Well, your unknown days are over. Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again. And the ball-control specialists who led Tennessee's hard-nosed defense, Melissa McCray and Sheila Frost.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Generally, the Bush family's pretty happy when Texas wins. But your cliff-hanger loss to Texas turned especially sour when Tonya -- who led the Vols to Tennessee's 1987 championship -- got hurt. Freshman pre-med Dena -- the classic "player to be named later" -- came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon.

All American, MVP, the papers call her the best woman in college basketball. When Auburn closed to within three in that

final game, Bridgette stepped in and sank three straight jumpers. Later, she told Sports Illustrated: "When I saw that score, I told myself I had to do something."

That struck a chord. I told myself the same thing when I came in third in the Iowa caucuses.

And there's Coach Summitt.

A silver medalist as a player in 1976, she coached America's Olympic team to a gold in 1984. In 13 years she's brought Tennessee to the Final Four ten times, winning it twice. Later on we're going down to that fountain to see if it's true she can walk on water.

And the most important statistic of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

Pat Summitt's proud of that record. But the other coaches are even happier. Maybe you heard what Auburn's coach said about Bridgette: "God bless her, graduate her -- and get her out of Tennessee."

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

Men's basketball should be so lucky. One college athlete admitted he'd never graduated. He said he was only in school for two terms -- Carter's and Reagan's.

And you know what the Texas A & M basketball coach told a player who got four F's and a D: "Son, it looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."

You know, many of my own heroes are pioneering players from the early days of baseball. In women's basketball, Tennessee is creating its own legends. These three seniors have attended the Final Four every year that they played -- an unprecedented feat that may never again be equaled.

Every sport has a legendary team like this. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. Basketball, probably the Celtics, maybe LA. Looking back, in football it's got to be Vince Lombardi's Packers. Men's college basketball you'd get an argument: John Wooden's UCLA, but some would say Kentucky.

((LOOKING AT THE TEAM)) You like this talk of dynasties. It's probably the first time in history a group of attractive women have been flattered by being compared to the Green Bay Packers.

Pat, we also hear your husband R.B. is a former bank examiner. If he can do with banks what you can do with basketball, maybe he can stick around and help us sort out the deficit. Someone else suggested we could cut the deficit in half by just having Bridgette sell off some of her jewelry.

But seriously, Coach. The press is gathered here. America is watching. And you know the question that's on everyone's lips: How is Bridgette Gordon going to get another NCAA ring onto those fingers?

Before we say goodbye, I have something of a surprise for you. Coach Summitt promised that if you won, she'd do something unreserved. Well, my White House team has been trying to get me to do something unreserved for weeks. Last week I finally did.

I was crazy enough to actually try to shoot a free throw after Michigan's Rumeal Robinson. And it went in. It'll never happen again. And I'm not crazy enough to dare to shoot free throws with the likes of Dena Head.

But it's too nice a day not to throw something. So afterwards, I'd be very honored if the Lady Volunteers would join me for a few tosses down at these new horseshoe pits.

In the years to come you will remember not your April morning in the Rose Garden but that championship season that brought you here. The story began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when today's champions were mostly hard-working country kids -- shooting until twilight in barns and haylofts and driveways across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to each other, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

Thanks for coming here today. Good luck in your dreams yet to come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1989



MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: PATRICIA MACK BRYAN *PMB*  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: University of Tennessee  
Women's Basketball Team, The Rose Garden  
Thursday, April 20, 1989

Pursuant to your request Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced matter. We have no legal objection to the contents of the Presidential remarks.

cc: James W. Cicconi

REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

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- 2 -

PRESIDENT ALEXANDER, COACH SUMMITT -- THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AND FANS -- MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND OUR OWN LOCAL TEAMS -- THE WHITE HOUSE IS PROUD TO HOST TENNESSEE'S LADY VOLUNTEERS: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) THE 1989 NCAA CHAMPIONS.

AFTER YOU WON IN TACOMA -- AFTER THE TEARS OF JOY AND VICTORY AND REMEMBRANCE -- PAT SUMMITT TOLD A CHEERING NATION THAT, "THIS ONE BELONGS TO THE FAMILY."

AND IT'S QUITE A FAMILY, THESE LADY VOLUNTEERS.

- 3 -

FIVE FRESHMEN. TWO SOPHOMORES. THREE SENIORS. BEFORE THIS SEASON, ONLY THE SENIORS HAD EVER PLAYED COLLEGE BALL. THE LA TIMES CALLED YOUR VICTORY, "BEYOND THE IMAGINATION OF MOST."

ARCH-RIVAL AUBURN'S COACH DUBBED THE LADY VOLS A "WHO'S WHO ROSTER" OF EXCELLENCE. MELISSA McCRAY. SHEILA FROST. DEADRA ((DAY-DRAH)) CHARLES.

- 4 -

PLAYERS LIKE CARLA MCGHEE, WHO CAME BACK FROM A 1987 CAR ACCIDENT AFTER THEY SAID SHE'D BE LUCKY TO EVER RUN AGAIN.

AND THERE'S TONYA EDWARDS AND DENA HEAD. NOW, I ADMIT, THE BUSH FAMILY'S GENERALLY PRETTY HAPPY WHEN TEXAS WINS. BUT YOUR MID-SEASON LOSS TO TEXAS IS ALSO WHEN THIS TEAM PROVED IT HAD CHARACTER, AS WELL AS TALENT. TONYA -- THE 1987 MVP WHO LED THE VOLS TO TENNESSEE'S FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP -- GOT HURT.

- 5 -

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- 6 -

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- 7 -

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EVERY SPORT HAS LEGENDARY TEAMS FROM ITS EARLY DAYS.

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- 9 -

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THE MIDDLE WEST -- YOUNG GIRLS UNKNOWN TO ONE ANOTHER,  
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- 10 -

THANKS FOR COMING HERE TODAY. HOLD FAST YOUR  
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AMERICA.

# # #

- 2 -

PRESIDENT ALEXANDER, COACH SUMMITT, ATHLETIC  
DIRECTOR CRONAN -- THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AND FANS --  
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND OUR OWN LOCAL TEAMS -- THE  
WHITE HOUSE IS PROUD TO HOST TENNESSEE'S LADY  
VOLUNTEERS: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) THE 1989 NCAA  
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- 3 -

AFTER YOU WON IN TACOMA -- AFTER THE TEARS OF JOY  
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BEFORE THIS SEASON, ONLY THE SENIORS HAD EVER PLAYED  
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Ret

REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

SORRY WE'RE A LITTLE LATE GETTING STARTED. I HEARD THERE WAS A BACK-UP GETTING BRIDGETTE GORDON'S JEWELRY THROUGH THE METAL DETECTORS. (("GLITTERING" GORDON, AMERICA'S BEST WOMAN PLAYER, DRESSES COVERED WITH GOLD LIKE "MR. T".))

- 2 -

PRESIDENT ALEXANDER, COACH SUMMITT -- THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AND FANS -- MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND OUR OWN LOCAL TEAMS -- THE WHITE HOUSE IS PROUD TO HOST TENNESSEE'S LADY VOLUNTEERS: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) THE 1989 NCAA CHAMPIONS.

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ARCH-RIVAL AUBURN'S COACH DUBBED THE LADY VOLS A "WHO'S WHO ROSTER" OF EXCELLENCE. MELISSA McCRAY. SHEILA FROST. DEADRA ((DAY-DRAH)) CHARLES.

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AND THERE'S TONYA EDWARDS AND DENA HEAD. NOW, I ADMIT, THE BUSH FAMILY'S GENERALLY PRETTY HAPPY WHEN TEXAS WINS. <sup>((PAUSE))</sup> BUT YOUR MID-SEASON LOSS TO TEXAS IS ALSO WHEN THIS TEAM PROVED IT HAD CHARACTER, AS WELL AS TALENT. TONYA -- THE 1987 MVP WHO LED THE VOLS TO TENNESSEE'S FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP -- GOT HURT.

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# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 18, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: EDWARD E. McNALLY *EMW*  
THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *CW*  
SUBJECT: ROSE GARDEN CEREMONY FOR UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM -- THE 1989 NCAA CHAMPIONS

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your consideration and review are draft remarks for your Rose Garden congratulations on Thursday morning to the University of Tennessee Women's Basketball Team -- the 1989 NCAA champions.

II. DISCUSSION

On at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 20, 1989 you are scheduled to arrive at the Rose Garden to offer brief congratulations to Coach Pat Summitt's championship basketball team -- the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers.

The event was suggested to Ed Rogers by former Governor Lamar Alexander (now president of the University of Tennessee). In addition to President Alexander, the team and others from the university, the ceremony will be attended by Coach Summitt's husband (R.B. Summitt), mother (Mrs. Hazel Head) and the Tennessee congressional delegation.

Following your brief remarks (see attached), the team plans to present you with basketball shoes for both you and Mrs. Bush.

(McNally/Wallace)  
April 18, 1989, 11:50 a.m.  
Draft four  
(B-Ball)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

Sorry we're a little late getting started. I heard there was a back-up getting Bridgette Gordon's jewelry through the metal detectors. (("GLITTERING" GORDON, AMERICA'S BEST WOMAN PLAYER, DRESSES COVERED WITH GOLD LIKE "MR. T".))

President Alexander, Coach Summitt -- the families and friends and fans -- Members of Congress and our own local teams -- the White House is proud to host Tennessee's Lady Volunteers: ((WITH EMPHASIS)) The 1989 NCAA Champions.

After you won in Tacoma -- after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's good to have the family here to honor the daughters of Tennessee. ((PAUSE)) I was going to call the team, "your little girls." Then I saw Sheila Frost ((6'4")), Carla McGhee ((6'3")) and Daedra Charles ((6'3")). I may be President but I'm only six foot two.

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. Before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. The LA Times called your victory, "Beyond the imagination of most."

Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Players

like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Now, I admit, the Bush family's generally pretty happy when Texas wins. But your mid-season loss to Texas is also when this team proved it had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 MVP who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship -- got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

Don't worry: I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon.

All American. MVP. The papers call her the best woman in college basketball. When Auburn closed to within three in that final game, Bridgette stepped in and sank three straight jumpers. Maybe you heard what the losing coach said about Bridgette: "God bless her, graduate her -- and get her out of Tennessee!"

And there's Coach Summitt. A silver medalist as a player in 1976, she coached America's Olympic team to a gold in 1984. In 13 years she's brought Tennessee to the Final Four ten times, winning it twice. Later on we're going down to that fountain to see if it's true she can walk on water.

And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

Every sport has legendary teams from its early days. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. Football, some would say Vince Lombardi's Packers. ((PAUSE))

((TO TEAM)) I see you like this talk of dynasties.

((PAUSE)) That's the first time a group of attractive women has been flattered by being compared to the 1967 Green Bay Packers.

But seriously, as the years unfold you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House. Tomorrow's news clippings, yellowed with age, will be read by grandchildren born in another century. It is a story that began on summer nights long ago, years before college, when these champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns and haylofts and driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

Thanks for coming here today. Hold fast your dreams yet to come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 04/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIV. OF TENN. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM  
(04/18 11:50 a.m. Draft four)

	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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<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

1989 APR 18 PM 2:00

April 18, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *CW*  
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(McNally/Wallace)  
April 18, 1989, 11:50 a.m.  
Draft four

1989 APR 18 PM 3 (E-Ball)

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THE ROSE GARDEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1989  
11:00 A.M.

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And it's quite a family, these Lady Volunteers.

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Arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Players like Carla, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky to ever run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. Now, I admit, the Bush family's generally pretty happy when Texas wins. But your

mid-season loss to Texas is also when this team proved it had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 MVP who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship -- got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year. Tennessee's rally song is "Rocky Top," but that sounds more like the movie "Rocky."

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And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate.

All five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. Debbie, we gotta ask you: What did you get the A-minus in?

Every sport has legendary teams from its early days. In baseball it's the Yankees. In hockey, Montreal. Football, some would say Vince Lombardi's Packers. ((PAUSE))

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Thanks for coming here today. Hold fast your dreams yet to come. God bless you. And God bless America.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 20, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
~~TO THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP~~  
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

The Rose Garden

11:05 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Well, beautiful Rose Garden day. Sorry we're a little late getting started. I heard that there was a little security problem, a little back-up going through these devices, that -- Bridgette Gordon's jewelry getting through the metal detectors out there. (Laughter.) ("Glittering Gordon, America's best woman player, dresses covered with gold like "Mr. T.") No, we're just delighted you all are here, and I'm particularly pleased to see the President, former Governor, Lamar Alexander, here with us today. I know I speak for Dan Quayle when we give him a warm welcome back to Washington.

Coach Summitt, Athletic Director Cronan, families and friends and fans -- Members of Congress and then our own local teams that are here today -- the White House is proud to host Tennessee's Lady Volunteers: The 1989 NCAA Champions. It's a great pleasure having you here. (Applause.)

After you won in Tacoma -- and after the tears of joy and victory and remembrance -- Pat Summitt told a cheering nation that, "This one belongs to the family."

And it's quite a family, these Lady Volunteers.

Five freshmen. Two sophomores. Three seniors. And before this season, only the seniors had ever played college ball. And the L.A. Times called your victory, "beyond the imagination of most."

And arch-rival Auburn's coach dubbed the Lady Vols a "Who's Who roster" of excellence. Melissa McCray. Sheila Frost. Daedra Charles. Players like Carla McGhee, who came back from a 1987 car accident after they said she'd be lucky ever to run again.

And there's Tonya Edwards and Dena Head. And now, I admit, the Bush family is generally pretty happy when Texas wins something. But your mid-season loss to Texas is also -- when it proved that this team had character, as well as talent. Tonya -- the 1987 Most Valuable Player, who led the Vols to Tennessee's first championship, got hurt. Dena, a little-known freshman, came off the bench and emerged as SEC Rookie of the Year.

And don't worry, I'm not forgetting Bridgette Gordon. All American. Most Valuable Player -- MVP. The papers call her the best woman in college basketball. And when Auburn closed to within three in that final game, she stepped in and sank three straight jumpers. Maybe you heard what the losing coach said about her: "God bless her, graduate her -- and get her out of Tennessee." (Laughter.)

You'll note there is no basket here today in the Rose Garden. That's on purpose. I'll be darned if I want to go head-on-head with her out there on the foul line. (Laughter.)

MORE

And then the Coach. A silver medalist as a player in 1976, Coach Summitt. She coached America's Olympic team to a gold in 1984. And in 13 years she brought Tennessee to the Final Four ten times, winning it twice. Later on we're going down to that fountain over here that you all can see, to see if literally she can walk on water. (Laughter.) There's been some speculation about that.

And the most rare, the most important stat of all: In 14 years as coach, her players have a 100 percent graduation rate. (Applause.)

And all five -- Lamar would kill me if I didn't point this out -- all five of this year's freshmen are on the Dean's List. One, Debbie Hawhee, has a 3.95 GPA in medical technology. What in the world did she get the A-minus in? (Laughter.)

MS. HAWHEE: English.

MR. ALEXANDER: English.

THE PRESIDENT: English. Well, she speaks Tennessean, and so we're going to get her a -- every sport has legendary teams from its early days. And I have a feeling that, years from now, when they go back, as sports fans do and historians do, and talk about the legends of women's basketball, it'll be this team -- your team -- the 1989 NCAA champions from Tennessee, that sets the highest standard. As the years unfold, you will always remember that championship season that brought you to the White House.

Tomorrow's news clippings that'll be yellowed with age, are going to be read by grandchildren born in a different century. And it's a story that began on summer nights, not so long ago, years before college, though, when these champions were themselves kids -- shooting until twilight in obscure barns or out in driveways scattered across the deep South and the Middle West -- young girls unknown to one another, but dreaming the same dream that this month became real.

So this is a great opportunity to say thank you all for coming here. Hold fast to your dreams yet to come. Congratulations to all of you, and God bless you. And God bless the USA. Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

COACH SUMMITT: This is a great honor for us, and I think throughout this year, this has been a real special team because we have been family. And we talked about all the highlights that we experienced as a team and as a staff and as a family. And certainly, winning a national championship was a great highlight. I know Debbie Scott, one of our freshmen, said her highlight this year was getting lost in New York City -- (laughter) -- until she found out we got to come here and she said, "It would be to see the puppies." (Laughter.)

So, we are delighted and honored to be here. I am extremely proud of our academic success. We have won two national championships in the last three years. But the most important statistic for our team and our program is 100 percent graduation rate, of which we will hold our heads very proudly. And I know Lamar's excited about that too, but we all are.

We have had great leadership, and I don't think you win without leadership. And you don't win without great people. And we've had both. And today, we'd like for our three seniors, who have been very instrumental in leading the University of Tennessee to four consecutive NCAA appearances, to come forth and present you with a little gift. And that's Bridgette Gordon -- she wants to deposit her gold, I think, today -- (laughter) -- Sheila Frost and Melissa McCray.

THE PRESIDENT: Come on -- here we go. Who is which, now?

MS. McCRAY: I'm Melissa McCray. Nice to meet you.

THE PRESIDENT: That's Bridgette -- good to see you all. Who's going to give the speech?

MS. McCRAY: Okay, I will. (Laughter.) I certainly want to echo what our coach has said. I think it's indeed an honor and a privilege to be here. It's nice to see Mrs. Bush out and certainly nice to see Dan Quayle, the Vice President.

We have a jacket here for you. Now, I realize you're not going to playing any basketball. But maybe once when you're out walking through the garden and playing with your puppies, you might think about the Lady Vols from Tennessee, all right? I hope you enjoy it.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, yes. That's beautiful. Thank you so much. She'll come. Come on, Bar.

MS. FROST: Mrs. Bush, we have something for you also. I'd like to echo just about the same thing that Melissa said. Thank you for inviting us out. And this is a little something when you go out to see the puppies, you'll be matching. (Laughter.)

MRS. BUSH: That's so sweet. Thank you.

MS. FROST: Thank you.

COACH SUMMITT: Yes, oh, they want to see the puppies.

THE PRESIDENT: They really do want to see them?

MRS. BUSH: You're all invited to see the puppies, but they're not. (Laughter.)

COACH SUMMITT: Okay, we got that. It's our secret.

MS. GORDON: I have "The Summitt Season" here. It's a book written about Pat and our team.

THE PRESIDENT: Great.

MS. GORDON: The year that we lost to Louisiana Tech, but -- (laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: There she is.

MS. GORDON: And this is for Mr. Quayle -- a T-shirt.

THE PRESIDENT: Great.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

MS. GORDON: And I have an autographed poster of myself. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: Let's see that -- hey! Oh, this is neat. Thank you.

MS. GORDON: You're welcome.

THE PRESIDENT: Here -- we've got to get this all set for our -- here, I'll hold it so it doesn't get bent.

MS. GORDON: Okay.

THE PRESIDENT: Loaded up with -- well, I think that -- I want to ask the Members of Congress that are here to come up and congratulate you all. We've got some good Tennesseans out there. And congratulations to all of you. And Barbara means it. She'll arrange to take you over to see the -- if you're really interested. You don't have to be interested, but you --

THE TEAM: Oh, yes, we are, we are.

THE PRESIDENT: They are so cute.

COACH SUMMITT: There's one thing. I want you to meet my  
mom.

~~THE PRESIDENT: Oh, we want to see her. Now, you guys~~  
come say hello.

END

11:19 A.M. EDT