

The Nebraska defense also did a magnificent job in stifling the Peyton Manning-led offense of Tennessee that had been so strong all year.

For Coach Tom Osborne, the Orange Bowl victory marked a spectacular close to a spectacular 25-year career that included three national championships and 255 wins. Tom Osborne is truly one of the great legends of college football. His name now will inevitably be ranked in history along with Knute Rockne, Bear Bryant, and Pop Warner.

Congratulations, Coach, and thank you for not only all the wins but for the way you did it and the example you set.

Coach Osborne.

[At this point University of Nebraska coach, Tom Osborne, thanked the President and made brief remarks. The new Cornhusker coach, Frank

Solege, and team captains Grant Wistrom, Jason Peter, and Aaron Taylor then presented gifts to the President.]

The President. It's beautiful. Thank you.

Now, what are we supposed to do? Usually, I'm supposed to—we're going to go out here and do the receiving line and the pictures, right?

Thanks again for coming. Congratulations to both of you on a magnificent year. And thanks for all the thrills you gave the rest of us who sit in the stands and watch on television. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:37 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Lee C. Bollinger, University of Michigan, and Chancellor James C. Moeser, University of Nebraska.

Statement on the Resignation of John R. Garamendi as Deputy Secretary of the Interior

April 9, 1998

It is with regret that I accept the resignation of John Garamendi as Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

For almost 3 years, John has been a very important member of my administration and has successfully handled some of the toughest and most complicated issues in one of the largest

and most important agencies in the Federal Government. From California water issues to the protection of Headwaters redwoods, John's ability to find common ground and creative solutions has been a great asset.

I wish him the best for the future.

Message on the Observance of Easter, 1998

April 9, 1998

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Easter.

Just as nature renews the earth each spring, so does the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ enliven our spirits. During this holy season, Christians across America and throughout the world rejoice at the good news of salvation and the re-creation of God's perfect world.

On this day of hope and joy, we are also in the midst of one of the most challenging and exciting periods in our nation's history. From the life of Jesus, we can draw strength

for the vital tasks that lie before us: to unite our nation of diverse races, cultures, and backgrounds; to widen the circle of opportunity for all our people; and to build lasting bridges of understanding and respect among the nations of the world.

As Americans gather at sunrise services and in churches across the country, Hillary joins me in extending best wishes for a blessed Easter.

BILL CLINTON