Gerald R. Ford Foundation *Newsletter*

Fall 1994

Football Jersey #48 Retired

On October 8, the University of Michigan retired the number **Gerald R. Ford** wore during his football-playing days. As a Wolverine, #48 lettered three years (1932-1934), played on two national championship teams (1932 and 1933), and received the team's Most Valuable Player Award in 1934.

"#48...received the team's Most Valuable Player Award in 1934."

The former President accepted the honor before more than 102,000 fans at half-time during the nationally-televised game with Michigan State University. In remarks before the event, **President Ford** said: "Other honors that have been bestowed on me were because of my work or my efforts. But in this case, I am being honored [by the] school where I learned skills and discipline that I used for the rest of my life."

"The former President accepted the honor before more than 102,000 fans at half-time..."

The Ford Library was the site of a brunch welcoming the Ford family, former teammates, University of

"...where I learned skills and discipline that I used for the rest of my life."

Courtesy Per Kjeldsen

The Ford family gathered at the Michigan-Michigan State game for the jersey retirement ceremony. [l-r: Steve Ford, Susan Ford Bales, Mike Ford, Jack Ford, Mrs. Ford, President Ford]

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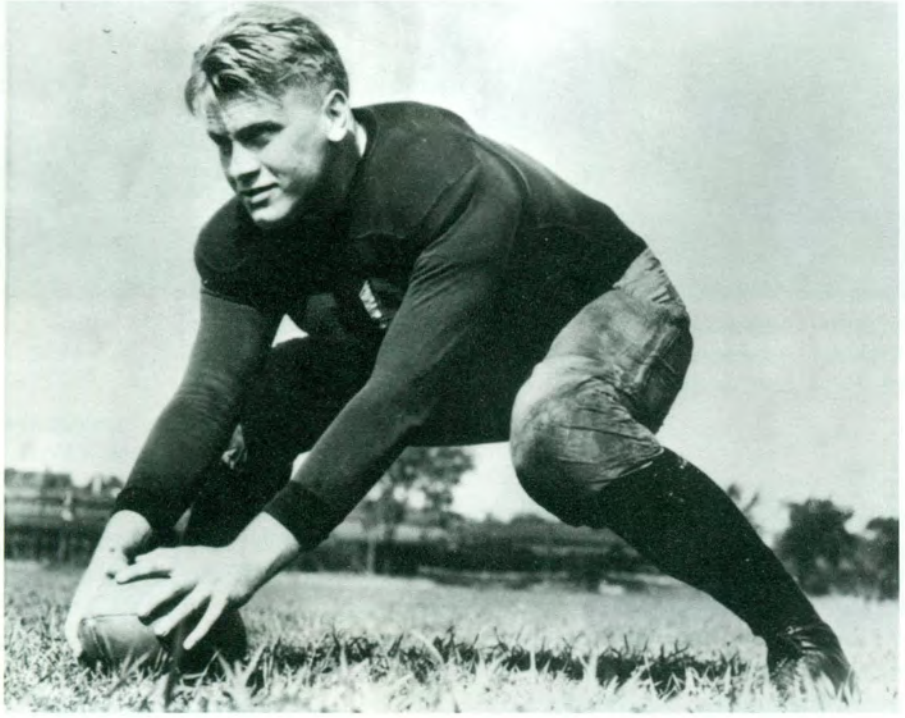
Photo Session

Gerald R. Ford, #48, center, University of Michigan, 1934

Courtesy Bob Kalmbach

President Ford greets Walter Smith, injured captain of this year's team.



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Michigan Regents, and friends. University President **James J. Duderstadt** and Athletic Director **Joe Roberson** joined with **President and Mrs. Ford** to make remarks.

Library staff prepared a special exhibit commemorating the former President's football career. It included photographs from the 1934 Michigan vs. Michigan State game, recruiting letters, and footballs, programs, and trophies.

Not incidentally, Michigan defeated Michigan State 40 to 20 on October 8.

Courtesy Bob Kalmbach

Mrs. Ford welcomes guests to a pre-game brunch at the Library.

Courtesy Per Kjeldsen

President Ford makes remarks to a packed stadium at half-time. University of Michigan President James J. Duderstadt and Athletic Director Joe Roberson stand by.

Courtesy Per Kjeldsen

President Ford revisits the playing field. October 8, 1994.

Health Policy Reform at Issue

Courtesy Dr. Navin Varma

Health Policy Forum participants [l-r: Max Heinrich, Richard Kronick, Len Nichols, William Niskanen, Sallyanne Payton, Gail Wilensky, an eager guest, and Forum coordinator, Marilyn Rosenthal]

The Library provided the site for two additional conferences of The University of Michigan Forum on Health Policy Reform, following sessions last spring. The two-year educational, non-partisan project, under the auspices of the UM Medical Center Program in Society and Medicine, provides faculty, staff, students, and the public, the opportunity to study and help shape the debate on health policy reform. Participants came from diverse sectors of the university, including the Schools of Business, Law, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy. The Gerald R. Ford Foundation provided grant support to the Forum.

The November session, "Health Policy Reform, Maybe...," concerned the costs, economic consequences, and political aspects of legislating reform. The kick-off session of the two-day conference, "Benefits and Financing: The Alternative Positions and Their Critics," featured top policy makers from different administrations. Included were **Len Nichols**, former health policy advisor at the Office of Management and Budget in **Bill Clinton's** administration; **William Niskanen**, former acting chair of **Ronald Reagan's** Council of Economic Advisors; **Gene Sperling**, senior domestic policy advisor in the **Clinton** White House; and, **Gail Wilensky**, former health policy adviser to **George Bush**. **Richard Kronick**, former **Clinton** senior health policy advisor, participated the following day in a session on cost containment.

The Forum wrapped up the season with a December session, "Innovative Ideas for Health System Reform," featuring a panel of graduate student presenters and faculty and legislative respondents.

Courtesy Dr. Navin Varma

Health Policy Forum audience

Library Hosts Michigan Historical Society Meeting

"Biography as History" served as the theme of the Historical Society of Michigan's annual meeting held at the Library on October 21.

The meeting attracted nearly one hundred registrants from throughout the state. **Joan Hoff**, professor of history at Indiana University, opened the conference by analyzing the problems posed by the special legal status of **Richard Nixon's** papers. The second plenary speaker, **Williard C. Klunder** of Wichita State University, spoke about Governor Lewis Cass and the growth of the Michigan Territory. Concurrent sessions featured presentations about other historical biographies.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation provided a grant for the annual meeting.

Courtesy Dr. Navin Varma

Guest reception at Health Policy Forum

Research Grants Awarded

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation awarded seven research grants to the Fall round of applicants, totalling $8,679. The semi-annual awards program grants up to $2,000 to individuals in support of their research in the Ford Library's collections. Application forms and information may be obtained from Bill McNitt, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or call (313) 741-2218. The deadline for the Spring awards is March 15, 1995. The recent recipients and their topics are:

L. Vaughn Blankenship
University of Illinois at Chicago
"Priority Setting and Resource Allocation in U.S. Science Policy: The Case of the National Science Foundation"

Larry Engelmann
San Jose State University
"The Fall of Saigon/Coordination of the Evacuation and Resettlement"

Donald L. Fixico
Western Michigan University
"American Indian Self-Determination and Tribal Sovereignty: 1970 to 1992"

Lucy Komisar
Free-lance journalist and author
"For Reasons of State: U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights"

Stephen Paul Miller
St. John's University
"The Seventies Now"

Ronald W. Schatz
Wesleyan University
"Industrial Relations During the Mid-1970s"

Suzanne O'Dea Schenken
Independent scholar
"Mary Louise Smith: A Life of Discipline"

President Ford with Barton Gellman and family members

Two *Washington*

Since 1988 the Gerald R. Ford Foundation has conducted an annual awards program to recognize and encourage thoughtful, insightful work by journalists covering the presidency or national defense. This year the Foundation awarded two $5,000 prizes to two correspondents from *The Washington Post*. **President Ford** presented the awards at a luncheon in Washington, D.C.

Ann Devroy received the Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency. Devroy joined the *Post* as a political editor in 1985 and began covering the White House in 1989. The judges commended her analytical ability, humor, sense of perspective, and particularly her ability to characterize **Bill Clinton's** agenda in terms of the **George Bush** legacy. Devroy's winning articles dealt with **Bill Clinton's** foreign policy, his effort to sell his domestic program, **Al Gore's** record, and an evaluation of the **George Bush** presidency.

"The judges commended...particularly her ability to characterize Bill Clinton's agenda in terms of the George Bush legacy."

James M. Cannon, author, journalist, and aide to Nelson Rockefeller, Gerald R. Ford and Howard Baker, chaired the judging panel for the presidency award. The panel included **Jim Pfiffner**, George Mason University professor of public and international affairs; **Roger Davidson**, University of Maryland professor of government and politics; **Elaine Povich**, Capitol Hill correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune*; and, **Kandice Nelson**, professor of government and director of The American University's Campaign Management Institute.

Barton Gellman received the Prize for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense. A Rhodes scholar, Gellman joined *The Washington Post* in 1988, becoming a military correspondent in 1991. He currently serves as the paper's Jerusalem correspondent, covering Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. Gellman's entry included articles on nuclear warships, **Bill Clinton's** mixed reception aboard the USS Roosevelt, **Les Aspin's** management style as defense secretary, and an analysis of the

Ann Devroy

Post Correspondents Win Journalism Prizes

U.S. military setback in Somalia. The judges cited Gellman's work for its versatility, resourcefulness, and industry.

The judging panel for the national defense award consisted of Chair **Ronald O'Rourke**, national defense analyst at the Congressional Research Service; Captain **Edward L. Beach**, USN (Ret.), well-known author on naval subjects, sub-

"The judges cited Gellman's work for its versatility, resourcefulness, and industry."

mariner, and former naval aide to President Eisenhower; **Martin Binkin**, senior fellow in the Foreign Policy Studies program at the Brookings Institution; Colonel **John D. Macartney**, USAF (Ret.), professor in the School of International Service at The American University; and, **L. Edgar Prina**, author, award winning journalist, and columnist for *Sea Power* magazine.

Nominations for the Foundation's print journalism prizes may be made to the attention of Richard L. Holzhausen at the Ford Library. The deadline is March 1, 1995.

Awards luncheon at the Washington Press Club

Larry Berman: A Satisfied Customer

Researchers are often pleased by the quality of materials at the Ford Library, but archivists do not expect to hear the word "ecstatic" used to describe those feelings. But that's just what happened on October 20th when Professor **Larry Berman**, one of the pre-eminent scholars on the Vietnam war, spoke to the staff about his research experiences at the Library that week.

For the last several years, the staff has been inviting grant recipients and other long-term researchers to meet with the staff to discuss their topics, point out the strengths and weaknesses of our collections, offer suggestions, and answer questions. These meetings have proven very beneficial to both parties. Researchers gain insights from archivists other than the one working directly with them. Archivists get information that they can pass along to future researchers.

Berman's session was especially helpful because he went through his notes and cited specific examples of interesting materials and how he planned to use them in his upcoming book on U.S. disengagement from Vietnam or in his teaching.

Vietnam War scholar Larry Berman

"The materials that made him 'ecstatic'..."

The materials that made him "ecstatic" were the files Ambassador **Graham Martin** removed from the U.S. Embassy in Saigon during the evacuation at the end of April 1975.

The Martin files contain backchannel communications between the White House and the ambassador in Saigon from the end of 1969 until the fall of Saigon, among other items, although only about 25 per cent of them have been declassified. Included are **Henry Kissinger's** candid reports on his secret talks in Paris with **Le Duc Tho** of North Vietnam, showing what Berman called their "chess game." The files also document the effect domestic politics and Watergate had on Vietnam policy during the second Nixon term. Berman also noted the vividness of both Kissinger's and Martin's expressions of frustration just before the fall of Saigon. To his knowledge, these documents are available for research nowhere else.

"...contain backchannel communications between the White House and the ambassador in Saigon from the end of 1969 until the fall of Saigon..."

"...these documents are available for research nowhere else."

Berman stressed the importance to Vietnam scholars of the opening of the Martin files, through mandatory declassification review requests. He compared it to the opening in 1965 of National Security Council histories, which allowed the first in-depth scholarship on the war. He felt that this collection will fuel a new generation of books and articles because scholars will now be able to document what has before only been speculation.

Several other collections also pleased Berman. While not as concentrated or high-level, they show how the White House handled

Congressional relations, the press, and public relations. He was especially happy to find reports, "with quotation marks," summarizing how members of Congress reacted to White House staff calls alerting them to actions falling under the War Powers Act. Examples included the use of the armed forces for evacuation of Phnom Penh and Saigon and response to the Mayaguez incident. For instance, the records show that when told of the Phnom Penh evacuation, **James Eastland** responded, "Good. Why in hell don't we drop a bomb on them."

"Berman stressed the importance to Vietnam scholars..."

Some of the items Berman found so interesting might not have been located without the PRESNET database searching capability, he said. He cited Cabinet meeting notes for April 16, 1975, which show Secretary of State **Kissinger's** anger and frustration with Congress at that point in our involvement. An excerpt:

"...this collection will fuel a new generation of books and articles because scholars will now be able to document what before only been speculation."

"There has been a terrible violation of the Paris Peace Accords and it is obvious to the world that this has happened. This is the first time that American domestic reactions, principally in the Congress, have impacted seriously on the action of a foreign government....The problem is lacking enough authority to get done what needs to be done in Southeast Asia. It seems that the most vocal critics during this period have been those people who got us into Indochina originally."

In addition to his own research use of Ford Library materials, Berman plans to write an article for a professional journal that will alert other Vietnam war scholars to the richness of the resources available here.

President Ford meets with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger; Army Chief of Staff General Frederick C. Weyand; and, Graham Martin, Ambassador to South Vietnam. March 25, 1975.

"The problem is lacking enough authority to get done what needs to be done in Southeast Asia."

— Henry Kissinger
April 16, 1975
James Connor Files

New Collections

Over the past two years, donors gave historical papers to the Library on nearly 100 occasions. Large new collections include the papers of Civil Aeronautics Board Chairman **John Robson**, Secretary of the Army **Martin Hoffmann**, Department of Transportation Deputy Secretary **John Barnum**, and White House and Defense Department Press Adviser **William Greener**. The families of Food and Drug Administration Commissioner **Alexander Schmidt** and **Mildred Leonard**, longtime personal secretary to Mr. Ford, also donated important historical records.

This year political scientist **Robert Peabody** gave a fascinating set of contemporaneous interview records on the 1965 Republican leadership contests in the House of Representatives. Several other researchers have given copies of their more recent interviews on the Ford presidency.

The Library collects significant papers on Federal policies and politics in the 1970s, plus substantive material directly related to President Ford's life and career. Packing and shipping assistance is available through National Archives branches in over 20 cities. Donation paperwork can be simple, even when a donor has special requirements.

If you have material that may be of interest to us and would like to know about our program, please call Library Director Frank Mackaman at (313) 741-2218.

Temporary Exhibit Gallery

"Gifts from Russia," curated by the Museum's exhibit specialist.

Since its renovation in 1992, the Museum's temporary exhibit space has seen perpetual activity. Staff have quickly accommodated back-to-back travelling exhibits and created new in-house exhibits as well. The constantly changing displays have been made possible by the gallery's new modular walls and exhibit cases. The Gerald R. Ford Foundation provided substantial funding for the exhibit program.

"Breakthrough: The Fight for Freedom at the Berlin Wall," imported from the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, initiated the new exhibit space. Later exhibits have featured workers at the White House, White House architecture, political cartoons, and, Native American art. Recently, visitors viewed hand-crafted gifts from Russian leaders and dignitaries to thirteen presidents, beginning with Theodore Roosevelt. More than 90,000 people have visited the Museum each year since completion of the temporary exhibit gallery.

The exhibits come from private organizations and government institutions, including the Smithsonian and the Library of Congress. By far the most ambitious has been the National Archives's "World War II: Personal Accounts," which boosted attendance by 62%.

20th Anniversary Passes

Over the summer the Library marked the twentieth anniversary of Gerald R. Ford's swearing-in as the 38th President of the United States with temporary exhibits created for the occasion. In addition, the Library received a serendipitous gift from **Robert T. Hartmann**, former Counsellor to the President — the original reading copy of Gerald R. Ford's swearing-in remarks, a document whose location had remained unknown.

"Our Constitution Works..." hung at the Museum from July 25 through September 1, displaying White House and Congressional memos and photographs from the Library's holdings. Visitors also viewed on videotape a twelve-minute overview of a five-day period beginning with Richard Nixon's resignation and culminating with the new President's address to Congress and the nation on August 12.

Concurrently, a lobby exhibit at the Library, "Gerald R. Ford Becomes President," displayed poster-sized photographs and documents including Nixon's letter of resignation, highlights from President Ford's inaugural speech, and a copy of the President's Daily Diary for August 9, 1974.

Ford Foundation Annual Meeting

President Ford meets with trustees.

Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation gathered on June 6 in Washington, D.C. for their annual meeting. They approved a budget which included funding for special projects on leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives and on health policy reform. The trustees continued support for the Ford Library's research grants and the Museum's temporary exhibit series. They also approved funding for preliminary design work on the renovation of the Museum's core exhibits and named Trustee **Joseph Sweeney** to chair the committee overseeing the project.

Committees reported on the current fundraising drive and such Foundation-sponsored programs as the Gerald R. Ford Foundation journalism prizes and the Ford Colloquium. The following trustees were re-elected to serve as officers: **Martin J. Allen**, Chairman; **John G. Ford**, Vice-chairman; **Robert M. Warner**, Secretary; and **John G. Baab**, Treasurer.

Following the meeting, the Foundation hosted a dinner for former Ford administration associates and friends of the President. Art Buchwald gave the after-dinner remarks.

Next Annual Meeting: June 5, 1995.

GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

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and Betty Ford
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Coming Events at the Museum

Mrs. Ford's gown is featured in upcoming exhibit [shown at the 1975 State Dinner for Egyptian President Anwar Sadat].

January 23-April 30, 1995
"First Ladies' Gowns." Exhibit of original gowns worn by Betty Ford, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, and Hillary Clinton, and reproductions supplemented with photographs and accessories.

January 30-March 13, 1995
"Grandeur, Simplicity and Convenience: The United States Capitol, 1793-1993." Exhibit of framed images and text depicting the architectural history of the Capitol building.

May 13, 1995-January 21, 1996
"A Place of Tribute: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial." Exhibit of personal objects left at the Memorial by visitors to express their feelings associated with the 58,183 names engraved on the black granite wall.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation Newsletter
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The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose programs are supported entirely by contributions and bequests in an effort to honor Mr. Ford's lifelong commitment to public service. The focus of the Foundation is on community affairs and educational programs, conferences, symposia, research grants and special projects that improve citizen interest and understanding of the challenges that confront government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Martin J. Allen Jr., Chairman, Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504.

Gerald R. Ford Foundation

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For information about Museum programs:
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