THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BANDS

November 8, 1978

Mr. Gary Straffon
1809 Gillett Street
Port Huron, Michigan 48060

Dear Gary:

I can't thank you enough for the beautiful letter of November 6 which arrived today. You know how much I appreciate your taking the time and effort to write me in this regard.

As we work with young people we always, if we are dedicated, try to do the things that are right for them at that time and in their future careers. Sometimes at the moment, these things rub people the wrong way and are a bit difficult to take, but when it is all over our objectives are then clear. I am only happy that some of the things we worked on together have meant so much to you. Cling to them and observe them the rest of your life. They cannot go wrong. You will see the mediocrity all around you and as I said so many times one of the most difficult problems will be to not sink into this vast morass. To constantly keep challenging ones self, to keep trying to get better at what one is doing and to stick to the highest ideals and standards is a difficult thing to do. Keep challenging yourself, keep remembering what we talked about and you will keep yourself above the average herd.

Thank you again so much, Gary, for taking the time and effort to express your beautiful personal thoughts. Best of luck to you in your future career and you know if there is ever anything I can do you certainly may feel free to call upon me at any time.

Cordially yours,

George Cavender

George Cavender, Conductor
The University of Michigan
Marching Band

GRC/jn

The University of Michigan • School of Music • Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109 • (313) 764-5588
Revelli Hall • 350 East Hoover Street • Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109 • (313) 764-0582