

Joseph H. Zerbey, IV
5502 Citation North
Ottawa Hills, Ohio 43615

Monday, May 14, 2018

The Honorable Wade Kapszukiewicz
Mayor, City Of Toledo
One Government Center, 22nd Floor
Toledo, Ohio 43604

Dear Mayor Kapszukiewicz:

This letter was difficult to write. My emotions exude disappointment but at the same time acknowledge the fact that in many ways you are a breath of fresh air on the 22nd floor of Government Center. The issue is your presentation of a key to the city to Michigan head football coach Jim Harbaugh. It was a confusing gesture that embarrassed many people across the community including the thousands of employees, fans and students of The University of Toledo.

UT is a distinguished comprehensive university right here in the Glass City. The sports programs at UT outperform every other MAC school in academics posting an average 3.2 GPA. The football team just won the MAC championship and celebrated the fact that five members are now affiliated with an NFL team. The men and women's basketball programs excel at the top, as do the Olympic sport teams.

It should be of consequence to you that the \$800 million annual budget, 8,500-employee institution is an economic force multiplier in the city and region. But too many times its value and prominence are ignored or glossed over by leaders such as you. The city of Toledo should bleed blue and gold for its university. City leadership should be partnered with every part of the university that could help improve the human condition of the citizens of Toledo.

Instead you put the spotlight on a football coach from a university in another state; a university with all of its prominence does nothing to enhance Toledo. A university that can't hold a candle to UT in terms of community leadership, expertise in most every facet of employment and potential to create a better life for so many right here!

This is no small thing. UT's coaches and staff, board, and administration are upset by the perceived snub to your city's university. You need to be a cheerleader for UT at every instance. You need to think UT first and foremost because as UT goes so goes Toledo. I know you can do better than this. I am convinced you will.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Zerbey, IV

Joseph H. Zerbey, IV
Trustee
The University of Toledo

Cc; Mr. Steve Cavanaugh, Chairman, Board of Trustees
Dr. Sharon Gaber, President University of Toledo
Mr. Michael O'Brien, Athletic Director, University of Toledo
Mr. Jason Candle, Head Football Coach, University of Toledo

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