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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE BOYS' CLUB "BOY OF THE YEAR" AWARD WINNERS

THE ROSE GARDEN

12:15 P.M. EST

I might say, John, and reiterate what I said to these boys, that we are proud of them and I think they should be proud of what they have done. I think all of us recognize the tremendous job that the Boys' Clubs have done throughout the country, not only this year but over a long period of time, some 20 years or more, since the Boy of the Year program has been initiated.

The added thing is, I am proud to be Honorary Chairman of the Boy's Club. It is a recognition of my interest in the organization and my full support for it. To see these fine young men here coming in and having the opportunity of getting their awards in the Rose Garden is a way I think we can build up and expand and further increase the influence of Boys' Clubs.

I do want to thank also the Reader's Digest Foundation, which I understand sponsors or supports the Boy of the Year program. Without it, we couldn't have these fine young men down here getting these awards today.

We thank them, we thank all of you who handle the programming, and more particularly we congratulate Robert and the other nine regional participants.

Thank you very much.

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END (AT 12:17 P.M. EST)