

Chief Justice Lured to Michigan with Football Tix

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Michigan Law School marked its 150th anniversary over the weekend, and a very special guest came in for the festivities: Chief Justice John Roberts.

Sure, it's a big event and a prestigious law school, but what made the Michigan invite stand out among the flood of others coming into the Justice's chambers? [The Michigan Daily](#) got its hands on law school Dean Evan Caminker's letter of invitation to Roberts, which reveals the secret weapon used to woo the nation's highest jurist. Dean Caminker entices:

"... I daresay that Michigan Law can offer you something no other law school can: a seat at midfield in the Big House! Only at this great law school can you take a Saturday afternoon off, walk down the street, and sing Hail to the Victors with 110,000 of your new best friends as you (I hope?) cheer on one of the best college football teams in the nation."

You have to love Dean Caminker's unabashed enthusiasm for Michigan's football tradition. And whether it was the lure of Michigan's winged helmets or not, Justice Roberts bit on the invite -- and, as the WSJ Law Blog [confirms](#), planned to attend the game.

For those interested in how far a Justice plans his calendar in advance, the invite was sent almost two years ago, in October of 2007. Importantly, this means the letter was sent before U of M's disastrous 3-9 season in 2008, which would have rightly dissuaded even a die-hard fan, let alone a Federal judge, from wanting to spend a Saturday in the Big House.

As it turns out, Justice Roberts's arrival in Ann Arbor was timed perfectly with Michigan's resurgence, as they won a thriller against #18-ranked Notre Dame in an instant classic of a game.