



May 30, 2011

Mr. Gene Smith
Associate Vice President and Director of Athletics
The Ohio State University
Fawcett Center
2400 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Gene:

After meeting with university officials, we agreed that it is in the best interest of Ohio State that I resign as head football coach.

The recent situation has been a distraction for our great university and I make this decision for the greater good of our school.

The appreciation that Ellen and I have for the Buckeye Nation is immeasurable. We have been blessed to work with the finest group of young men in America and we love them dearly. In addition, we cannot thank you enough. . . the high school coaches we have worked with over these many years.

We know that God has a plan for us and we will be fine. We will be Buckeyes forever.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Tressel'.

Jim Tressel