

September 12, 1940

Mr. E. M. Chestnut, Principal
Beloit High School
Beloit, Kansas

My dear "Early":

I have your favor of August 30 and you can count on my being present the night of September 20 for the Salina-Beloit football game, which will be the first game played in your new stadium. I will be glad to serve as umpire in your game.

As a suggestion for working out the dedication ceremony during the half intermission, would it be possible to have the field lighting arranged so that you could shut off all the lights, save one, and use that as a spotlight to throw on the flag as it is raised on the flagpole? Of course, you would have to set a flagpole out in the football stadium and then at the half the lights would be snapped out and the band would play the Star Spangled Banner as the flag is raised by the American Legion, or your Boy Scout Organization or the R.O.T.C.

It is thinkable that you could have your boys' and girls' physical education classes march on the field and stand at attention while the flag is being raised to the accompaniment of the Star Spangled Banner. Your boys' and girls' glee clubs and the audience could sing God Bless America at some part of the ceremony, and then the short dedication ceremony might follow which could begin with a short invocation followed by whatever celebrities and celebrities you care to use. I will make a short talk over the loud speaker which I will endeavor to make very appropriate for the occasion.

This speech would touch such things as building the boy physically, emotionally and spiritually strong, touching on statements such as "The Battle of Waterloo was Won on the Cricket Fields of Eden", the words which are cut in stone above the gymnasium at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point by Major Koehler, "Upon the Field of Free Strife are Sown the Seeds that on Other Fields in Other Days are Borne the Fruits of Victory." Well, you can get the general idea, and of course, we will congratulate the School Board and the citizens who have been far looking enough to have this type of structure.