

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1986

THANK YOU, VERY MUCH KRISTEN, FOR THAT WARM WELCOME. AND MAY
I SAY HOW HONORED I FEEL TO JOIN WITH ALL OF YOU THIS EVENING, IN
COMMEMORATING ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN
RUSSELL. AS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, I'VE PROBABLY
ENDURED MORE FILIBUSTERING THAN ANY MAN ALIVE, AND I WANT TO
ASSURE YOU THAT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF STAGING ONE OF MY OWN THIS
EVENING. ON THE CONTRARY, I'VE TAKEN HEED FROM A MYTHICAL
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS I CAME ACROSS NOT LONG AGO. IT GOES LIKE
THIS:

- 2 -

"THE MONTH OF MAY APPROACHES

AND SOON ACROSS THE LAND

THE GRADUATION SPEAKERS

WILL TELL US WHERE WE STAND.

WE STAND UPON THE THRESHOLD

OF CAREERS ALL BRIGHTLY LIT

IN THE MIDST OF ALL THIS STANDING

WE SIT AND SIT AND SIT."

OF COURSE, THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL OCCASION FOR ME. WHOEVER
SAID YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN DIDN'T KNOW RUSSELL, OR THE HOUSE ON
MAPLE STREET WHERE A VOLUNTEER FIREMAN TAUGHT HIS SONS TO PLAY
BALL, AND HIS WIFE CONDUCTED SEWING CLASSES TO EASE THE HARDSHIP
THAT FOLKS EVEN BEFORE 1929 CALLED THE GREAT DEPRESSION. WHOEVER
SAID YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN OLD FRIENDS LIKE

BUD SMITH AND PHIL RUPENTHAL, COMPANIONS ON THE SANDLOT AND THE RUNNING TRACK, OR THE AUNT WHO GAVE YOU A QUARTER FOR A PERFECTLY SPELLED PAPER, OR THE SPANISH INSTRUCTOR WHO MADE A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AN EXCITING THING. AND THEN THERE WAS DAWSON'S DRUGSTORE, RUSSELL'S OWN VERSION OF GRAND CENTRAL STATION AND A PLACE WHERE ONE COULD OBTAIN ANOTHER KIND OF EDUCATION.

FOR NOW, AS THEN, THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF EDUCATION IN THIS WORLD. THERE'S ONE YOU GIVE YOURSELF, AND ANOTHER YOU GET FROM OTHERS. YOU CAN GET AN EDUCATION ON THE FARM OR IN A FACTORY, IN A SCIENCE LAB OR IN A CHURCH PEW. MOST OF ALL, IF YOU'RE FROM RUSSELL, YOU CAN GET AN EDUCATION JUST BY LOOKING AT LIFE AROUND YOU. WHEN I WAS A BOY, I DOUBT WE KNEW THE NAMES OF OUR CONGRESSMEN OR SENATORS. BUT WE WERE BLESSED TO HAVE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO KNEW AND CARED FOR ONE ANOTHER. WHEN TIMES WERE

TOUGH, PEOPLE WERE TOUGHER. WHEN THE WINDS HOWLED AND PART OF THE PRAIRIE ITSELF WAS BLOWN AWAY, I COULD BARELY SEE TO DELIVER THE NEWSPAPERS ON MY PAPER ROUTE. BUT BECAUSE I CAME FROM RUSSELL, BECAUSE I CAME FROM KANSAS, I WAS GRANTED A SPECIAL VISION -- ONE WHICH HAS SEEN ME THROUGH ALL THE YEARS SINCE -- ONE WHICH YOU CAN RELY ON JUST THE SAME.

"WHEN ANYTHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN IN THIS COUNTRY," WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE TOLD US EARLIER THIS CENTURY, "IT HAPPENS FIRST IN KANSAS." EDITOR WHITE WAS RIGHT. FOR IT WAS HERE, IN THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA, THAT MEN AND WOMEN FIRST ROSE UP TO CHALLENGE THE EVIL OF SLAVERY. HERE, THE BLACK MAN WAS WELCOMED, NOT MERELY AS A REFUGEE FROM OPPRESSION, BUT AS AN ACTIVE AND EQUAL PARTNER IN BUILDING A BETTER SOCIETY. HERE, WOMEN FIRST TOOK AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ESTABLISHING A TRUE DEMOCRACY.

IN 1887 ARGONIA, KANSAS ELECTED THE FIRST FEMALE MAYOR IN AMERICA. NEARLY A CENTURY LATER, THE REST OF OUR STATE SENT TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE THE FIRST WOMAN EVER ELECTED IN HER OWN RIGHT, MY GOOD FRIEND NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM. HERE, THE ODDS HAVE BEEN CHALLENGED AND THE UNLIKELY ACHIEVED: FROM CARRY NATION TO GLENN CUNNINGHAM, AMELIA EARHART TO JOE ENGLE, KANSANS HAVE PUSHED OUT THE BOUNDARIES OF CREATIVITY AND EXCELLENCE.

HERE, PEOPLE LIVE CLOSE TO THE SOIL IN AN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY. WHERE CHANCE AND CLIMATE EXERT A FEARFUL TOLL, BUT NO MAN IS DENIED THE DIGNITY OF HIS LABOR.

HERE THE ROOTS OF POPULAR RULE ARE SET JUST AS DEEP -- IN THE FIRST DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTIONS THAT PAVED THE WAY FOR THE REST OF THE NATION TO FOLLOW.

AMONG OUR OTHER SUPERLATIVES, THE STATISTICIANS TELL US THAT WE KANSANS CAN EVEN LAY CLAIM TO THE WINDIEST CITY IN AMERICA. THE BREEZE BLOWS AT A CONSTANT 14 MILES-PER-HOUR IN DODGE CITY, THEY ASSERT. THAT'S PRETTY MILD COMPARED TO AN AVERAGE DAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AS USUAL, HOWEVER, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE. IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL THE AIR IS HOT, WHEREAS HERE, ON THE GREAT PLAINS, THE BREEZE IS OFTEN HOT, BUT GENERALLY REFRESHING TO THE SPIRIT.

SUCH A KANSAS BREEZE HAS REFRESHED THE NATIONAL LIFE IN THE PAST. IT GAVE US ALFRED M. LANDON, WHO BROUGHT GALLANTRY AND PERSPECTIVE TO A CAMPAIGN AND AN ERA OFTEN LACKING IN EITHER. AND IT SENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER FROM AN ABILENE CREAMERY TO EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELDS, TO PROTECT A WAY OF LIFE THAT PERMITS ANY BOY OR GIRL TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS AS FAR AS THEY CAN TAKE THEM.

THE WORLD HAS TURNED OVER MANY TIMES SINCE I RECEIVED MY
DIPLOMA IN THE OLD RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL. AND, ON THE SURFACE, A
LOT HAS CHANGED SINCE THE SPRING OF 1941. BUT THINK OF WHAT
HASN'T CHANGED:

NOW, AS THEN, THE TRUE STRENGTH OF RUSSELL LIES IN HER
PEOPLE. NOW, AS THEN, YOUNG PEOPLE LOOK AT THE LOCAL ECONOMY --
SO WRAPPED UP IN AGRICULTURE AND ENERGY -- AND ASK THEMSELVES IF
IT HAS ROOM TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR DREAMS AND ASPIRATIONS. NOW, AS
THEN, EVEN TEMPORARY JOBS ARE HARD TO FIND. AND NOW, AS THEN,
RUSSELL IS STILL READY TO COME TO THE AID OF THOSE IN NEED. I
KNOW, BECAUSE WHEN I NEEDED HELP, THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN WERE
THERE. BELIEVERS IN SELF-RELIANCE, THEY WERE NO LESS COMMITTED
TO THE NOTION OF RUSSELL AS A FAMILY, A PLACE WHERE YOU KNOW YOUR

NEIGHBORS AS FLESH AND BLOOD CREATIONS, AND NOT AS SOME STATISTIC
ON A GOVERNMENT PRINT-OUT. BUT HERE, IN THE HEARTLAND OF
AMERICA, WE NEVER NEGLECT THINGS OF THE HEART.

MANY OF YOU, NO DOUBT, HAVE READ CHARLES DICKENS' FAMOUS
NOVEL, "A TALE OF TWO CITIES." IF SO, YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH ITS
FAMOUS OPENING LINES, ABOUT "THE BEST OF TIMES AND THE WORST OF
TIMES". THEY MAY SEEM APPLICABLE TO YOUR OWN CURRENT SITUATION.
FOR TONIGHT IS A BEGINNING MORE THAN AN ENDING, A STEP UP AS MUCH
AS A STEP OUT. IF YOU CONFINE YOUR VISION TO THE IMMEDIATE
SCENE, YOUR DOUBTS AND CONCERNS -- AS OLD AS YOUTH ITSELF -- ARE
EASILY UNDERSTOOD. BUT STEP BACK A BIT, THINK ON RUSSELL AND
WHAT IT REPRESENTS, AND PERHAPS YOU'LL DRAW STRENGTH AND
ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE YEARS AHEAD.

- 9 -

THE LAST TIME I SPOKE TO A RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS, THE YEAR WAS 1968, AND IT SEEMED AS IF AMERICAN SOCIETY WAS COMING APART AT THE SEAMS. THERE WAS BLOODY WAR RAGING IN VIETNAM, AND A VIRTUAL CIVIL WAR IN THE STREETS OF OUR OWN CITIES. THE OLD AND YOUNG STARED AT ONE ANOTHER ACROSS A SEEMINGLY IMPASSABLE GULF. OUR CITIES WERE IN FLAMES. AND EVERYWHERE, PROPHETS OF DOOM PREDICTED AN UNRAVELING OF AMERICA, AND AN END TO HER DAYS OF GREATNESS.

WE CAME THROUGH THOSE TIMES. WE FOUND OUR BETTER NATURES. WE THREW OFF THE PLAGUE OF SELF-DOUBT. WE STOPPED APOLOGIZING FOR, AND STARTED ASSERTING OUR VITAL NATIONAL INTERESTS. AND TODAY, AMERICA IS BACK. WHAT HOLDS TRUE FOR COUNTRIES HOLDS TRUE FOR INDIVIDUALS AS WELL. TIMES OF CHANGE ARE TIMES OF

- 10 -

CHALLENGE. IT IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING TESTED THAT WE DISCOVER
WITHIN OURSELVES THOSE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF PLUCK AND
DETERMINATION, ABILITY AND RESOLVE, THAT WE MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE
REVEAL. WHEN SOME PROPOSED THAT THIS SCHOOL DROP ITS FUTURE
FARMERS OF AMERICA PROGRAM, THE COMMUNITY RALLIED AROUND TO SAVE
IT. YOU KNOW WHY? BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE, AS I BELIEVE, THAT
FARMING IN AMERICA HAS A FUTURE. AND YOU INTEND TO BE PART OF
IT.

IN THE END, THEN, THIS IS A CEREMONY ABOUT FAITH -- FAITH IN
ONESELF, AND FAITH IN ONE'S FUTURE. EARLIER THIS YEAR, I WAS
INVITED TO SPEAK IN ATLANTA, AS PART OF THE FIRST NATIONAL
HOLIDAY COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. AND I
CAME ACROSS SOME WORDS OF DR. KING'S, WORDS NEVER MORE
APPROPRIATE THAN TONIGHT.

- 11 -

"SOMETHING SHOULD REMIND US," SAID DR. KING, "THAT THE GREAT THINGS IN THIS UNIVERSE ARE THINGS THAT WE NEVER SEE. YOU WALK OUT AT NIGHT AND LOOK UP AT BEAUTIFUL STARS AS THEY BEDECK THE HEAVENS LIKE SWINGING LANTERNS OF ETERNITY. AND YOU THINK YOU CAN SEE ALL."

MY FRIENDS, I HOPE THAT YOU WILL NEVER STOP LOOKING UP AT THE STARS. I HOPE YOU NEVER FORGET OUR STATE MOTTO: "TO THE STARS THROUGH DIFFICULTIES". I HOPE THAT YOU WILL NEVER STOP BELIEVING IN THINGS YOU CANNOT SEE. I HOPE THAT YOUR FUTURE IS AS HOSPITABLE AND BECKONING AS MINE WAS, WHEN I STOOD ON A SIMILAR PLATFORM MORE THAN FORTY YEARS AGO. I HOPE THAT IN MAKING A LIFE FOR YOURSELVES, YOU WON'T NEGLECT CONTRIBUTING TO THE LIFE OF YOUR COUNTRY. MOST OF ALL, I HOPE THAT WHEREVER YOU GO AND WHATEVER YOU DO, RUSSELL WILL GO WITH YOU. FOR THEN, I KNOW, THAT YOU WILL BE WELL GUIDED. GOOD LUCK, EVERY STEP OF THE WAY, AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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Russell High School Graduating Class
76 graduates

100th graduating class

Principal - Carl Brooks

Supt. of Unified District #407 - Dr. Lee Tarrant

The last time the Senator spoke at a Russell
High School graduation was 1968 -
the spec most of this year's graduates
were born.

Senator Dole

Board of Education

Don Brungardt
Rick Eggert

Vivian Baxter, President
Gary Kilian
Ron Ptacek

Jack Stoller
Peter Williams

Faculty for 1985-86

Lee Tarrant, Jr.	B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Superintendent
Carl S. Brooks	B.A., B.S., M.S., Principal
David Couch	A.B., M.S., Ed. Spec., Assistant Principal
Alice Bair	B.A., English
Keith Balding	B.S., Woodshop, General Shop
Jim Balthazor	B.A., Vocal Music
Cecelia Bennett	B.S., Special Education (P.E.)
Marcia Brock	B.S.E., M.S., English, Gifted Education
Derril Castor	B.S., M.S., Arts and Crafts
Marvel Castor	B.S., M.S., Guidance
Don Chegwiddden	B.S., Science
Nicholas Coady	B.S., Business Education
Jerry Crenshaw	A.B., M.A., Debate, Speech, Forensics, English
Larry Daugherty	B.S., Welding, General Shop, Drafting
Barbara Doze	B.A., M.S., Speech Therapist
Dolores Earnest	A.B., M.S., Reading, English
Gertrude Furney	A.B., M.S., Arts and Crafts
Glenna Hackerott	B.S., Business Education
Tom Hoffman	B.A., M.A., German
Virginia Honomichl	B.S., Physical Education
Steve Kaufman	B.S., Mathematics
Nancy Lane	B.S., Social Science
Steve Lueth	B.A., Instrumental Music
Victor Lyczak	B.A., M.A., Science, Driver Education
Ronald Major	B.S., Auto Mechanics
Kristine Martin	B.S., Special Education
Roy Miller	B.A., M.S., Mathematics
Debora Mock	B.S., Vocational Home Economics
J. D. Most	A.A., B.S., M.S., Social Science
Galen Niedenthal	B.S., M.S., Vocational Agriculture
Diana Owens	B.S., M.S., Science
Joyce Paschal	B.S., M.S., Special Education
Frank Perbeck	B.S., Physical Education
Joe Ross	B.S., M.S., Social Science, Physical Education
Harvey Kay Shank	B.S., M.S., Mathematics
Julie Stahl	B.S., M.S., Business Education
Lowell Underwood	B.A., M.S., English
Margaret Willson	B.M.E., Vocal Music

CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT 1886-1986



RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL

THURSDAY, MAY 22 — 8:00 P.M.

AMOS MORRIS GYMNASIUM

Commencement Program

Processional	Russell High School Band
Invocation	Chuck Sellens Senior Class Vice-President
"That's What Friends Are For"	Carole Bayer Sager and Burt Bacharach Senior Ensemble Arr. John Higgins
Recognition of Top Ten Seniors	Carl S. Brooks, Principal
Introduction of Speaker	Kristen Flegler Senior Class Secretary-Treasurer
Address	Senator Robert J. Dole (A 1941 Graduate of Russell High School)
Presentation of Senior Class	Carl S. Brooks, Principal
Presentation of Diplomas	Board of Education Members
Benediction	Rachelle Wagner Senior Class President
<i>Following Benediction, the Audience Should Be Seated for the Recessional</i>	
Recessional	Russell High School Band

Senior Class 1986

Kimberly Sue Anschutz	Connie Sue Harger	Scott Arnold Reinhardt
Merceda Faye Ares	Christopher Steven Hughes	Dawn A. Roberts
Lorraine Marie Arnhold	Amber A. Hull	Jody Lee Rohleder
Cynthia Ann Bear	Rebecca Ann Hulsey	Deric B. Ross
Wayne F. Becker	Timothy Roy Hutchings	Robert Alexander Russell
Stacy Sue Bennington	Misti LeKaye Keys	David E. Schneider
Paula Gayle Betts	Myra Dawn Loomis	Marcie Deanne Seago
Kimberly Jo Boxberger	Kristina Diane Luding	Lynette Kay Seaman
Michelle Renee' Burger	Gaven Hall Ludlow	John Adam Sechtem
Patricia Cabrera	Victor Henry Lyczak II	Charles Shane Sellens
Collin W. Campbell	Christy Jean Martin	Craig Robert Sellens
Carl D. Cravens	Kimberly Rene' McCrary	Melinda Sue Seyler
Rockford James Dana	Michele Jane McEvoy	Herbert Michael Shumaker
Mark A. Davis	Susan Marie McKenna	Constance Joy Sipusic
Michael S. Davis	Tessa Rae Meis	Bobby Wayne Smith
Michelle Sue Deines	Mary Kaye Mermis	Keith Allen Stoppel
Bryan Keith Dennett	Ryan Scott Miller	Stacy Lynn Stricker
Lana Marie Denning	Catherine Sue Miska	Steven L. Trueblood
Mitch L. Driscoll	Michael Moresco	Rachelle Lynn Wagner
Wade S. Echer	Matthew Elton Nichols	Ronald Andrew Wasinger
Rhonda Lynn Ehrlich	Craig James Norris	Chad J. White
Christina L. Farmer	Todd Kenneth Nuss	Samantha Sue Woods
Kristen Lynn Flegler	Mary Frances Olsen	Stuart Brian Young
Michael D. Foster	Debra Sue Prester	Robert J. Younger
Randall L. Gideon	Laura Ann Proffitt	
Bradley James Hamel	Eric Lynn Reddig	

	LANE	1
	COUCH	2
	BROOKS	3
	DOLE	4
	TARRANT	5
PODIUM		TABLE
	BAXTER	6
	EGGERT	7
	KILLIAN	8
	WILLIAMS	9