

MAY 12, 1992

TO: SENATOR DOLE
FROM: DAVID WILSON
SUBJECT: BLUE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE (MAY 16, 1:45)
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT BLUE VALLEY, PULL-UP ALONG SIDE THE FIRST DOOR ON THE SCHOOL'S CIRCLE DRIVE (WEST SIDE). YOU WILL BE GREETED BY JODIE HAGERMAN (CLASS PRESIDENT), AND DR. SUSAN BLOOM (PRINCIPAL).

VISIT AND MEET THE GRADUATES PRIOR TO THE EVENT (15 MINUTES).

PROGRAM IS SOLEMN, BUT NOT TRADITIONAL. THERE ARE NO MINISTERS.

EIGHT PEOPLE WILL BE ON STAGE WITH YOU DURING THE PROGRAM

JODIE HAGERMAN, SCHOOL PRESIDENT

FIVE SENIORS (NAMES UNKNOWN)

LES PAGE, CLASS SPONSOR

KATY KORONA, CLASS SPONSOR

FACTS ABOUT BLUE VALLEY TIGERS'S CLASS OF 1992

- O 500+ PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED. 220 ARE GRADUATES.
- O BV IS A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND WAS ESTABLISHED 22 YEARS AGO. THE STUDENT POPULATION IS ABOUT 1000, AND MOSTLY ARE THE CHILDREN OF SUBURBAN MIDDLE TO UPPER-MIDDLE CLASS PROFESSIONALS.
- O 85% OF GRADUATING CLASS WILL GO ONTO SOME FORM OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION; FEWER THAN 1% OF BV STUDENTS DROP OUT.
- O BV WAS THIS YEAR'S 5A STATE CHAMPIONS IN BOTH FOOTBALL, AND FORENSICS AND DEBATE. THEY CAME IN 3RD IN BOTH BASKETBALL AND VOLLEY BALL.
- O THIS GRADUATING CLASS HAS AN OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC RECORD; 3 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS AND 11 SEMI-FINALISTS.
- O TWO STUDENTS WILL GO ONTO THE ACADEMIES. BRAD JOHNSON, WHO YOU NOMINATED, WILL ATTEND WEST POINT, AND AMBER MASON WILL GO TO THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY.

BVHS



Baccalaureate 1992

May 17, 1992

2:00 p.m.

To Believe is to Achieve.

We have all been given a set of tools,
a formless rock, and a book of rules
And each must make, e're life has flown,
a stumbling block or a stepping stone

-anonymous-

This ceremony is dedicated to Jackie Denslow by the class of 1992.

Processional

Blue Valley High School Orchestra
Mrs. Kathleen McCullough, Director

Welcome and Invocation

Jennifer Tipple

Introduction

Jody Hagerman
1992 Class President

Keynote Address

Robert Dole
U.S. Senator

Senior Entertainment

Jack Dickerson & Amy Buzzard

Dedication

Jennifer Sherwood
and Mary Creamer

Closing remarks

Jennifer Johnson

Recessional

Blue Valley
High School Orchestra



■ Class officers ■

Jody Hagerman
Brian Vierthaler
Nicole Stallbaumer
Lisa Clements

■ Baccalaureate Committee ■

Dama Upchurch - Chairman
Brooke Rick
Brad Johnson
Amy Shapley
Leslie Noble
Jennifer Johnson

Program Design by
Kristin Butler

202 324 8952

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SENATOR BOB DOLE

BLUE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

BACCALAUREATE CEREMONY

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1992

**THANK YOU. IT'S A PRIVILEGE
TO HAVE BEEN ASKED TO
SHARE THIS AFTERNOON WITH
THE CLASS OF 1992 AND THEIR
FAMILIES.**

**IT MAY SURPRISE YOU TO
LEARN THAT BLUE VALLEY HIGH**

SCHOOL REMINDS ME OF
WASHINGTON, D.C. AFTER ALL,
WASHINGTON IS HOME TO THE
SUPER BOWL CHAMPION
"REDSKINS." AND BLUE VALLEY IS
HOME TO THE KANSAS STATE
CHAMPION TIGERS.
WASHINGTON IS ALSO FULL OF
PEOPLE WHO ARE LIKE TO
DEBATE. AND BLUE VALLEY IS

**ALSO THE HOME OF THE STATE
CHAMPION DEBATE TEAM.**

**ONE THING I'VE LEARNED
FROM MY YEARS OF DEBATING
AND SPEAKING IS TO FOLLOW
WHAT I CALL THE "3 B'S"--BE
BRIEF, BE SINCERE, AND BE
SEATED.**

**ONE OF THE BRIEFEST
SPEECHES ON RECORD WAS**

**GIVEN BY NEWSPAPER
COLUMNIST ART BUCHWALD,
WHO ONCE TOLD AN AUDIENCE
OF COLLEGE SENIORS: "WE ARE
NOW TURNING OVER TO YOU AN
ABSOLUTELY PERFECT WORLD
WITH ALL PROBLEMS SOLVED,
AND NO DANGERS
REMAINING...SO, FOR
GOODNESS SAKE, DON'T YOU**

LOUSE IT UP!"

**IT WOULD BE NICE OF
COURSE TO SAY THOSE WORDS,
AND TO MEAN THEM. BUT WE
ALL KNOW THAT THE WORLD
THAT AWAITS YOU--WHETHER
YOU'RE GOING ON TO COLLEGE
OR THE WORLD OF WORK--IS A
WORLD THAT HAS SOME
PROBLEMS.**

**THE ECONOMY, WHILE
IMPROVING, STILL ISN'T AS
STRONG AS WE WOULD LIKE.
UNCLE SAM CONTINUES TO
SPEND HIS WAY DEEPER INTO
DEBT. MANY WORRY IF WE'RE
TAKING PROPER CARE OF OUR
ENVIRONMENT. AND AS WE ALL
SAW IN LOS ANGELES, WE STILL
HAVE A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT**

**GETTING ALONG WITH EACH
OTHER.**

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

**AMERICA DOES HAVE HER
PROBLEMS--AS SHE DID WHEN I
GRADUATED FROM RUSSELL
HIGH SCHOOL A FEW YEARS
BACK.**

**THAT YEAR, MY CLASSMATES
AND I WERE GRADUATING INTO**

**A COUNTRY FINALLY MAKING ITS
WAY OUT A DEVASTATING
DEPRESSION WHICH LEFT
MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS
WITHOUT JOBS AND WITHOUT
HOPE. DISEASES SUCH AS
POLIO AND TUBERCULOSIS
RAVAGED THE NATION.**

**IN EUROPE, A BLOODTHIRSTY
DICTATOR NAMED ADOLPH**

**HITLER WAS SWALLOWING
COUNTRIES WHOLE, AND
SEEMED ON THE VERGE OF
SEIZING AN ENTIRE CONTINENT.
WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF MY
GRADUATION, MY FRESHMAN
YEAR AT COLLEGE AND MY
PLANS TO BE A DOCTOR WOULD
CHANGE, WHEN EVENTS AT
PEARL HARBOR BROUGHT**

**AMERICA INTO THE WAR.
AND FOR THE NEXT THREE
YEARS, AMERICANS
GRADUATING FROM HIGH
SCHOOL KNEW THAT THEIR
IMMEDIATE FUTURE MIGHT WELL
INVOLVE A JOURNEY OVERSEAS
ON A TROOP SHIP.**

**AND ONCE WORLD WAR II
WAS OVER, AND THE FORCES OF
FREEDOM HAD PREVAILED, A
NEW WAR--A COLD WAR--WAS
UNDERWAY. IT WAS A WAR
THAT WOULD NOT END UNTIL
LAST FALL.**

**INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON
WHAT'S WRONG WITH AMERICA,
I ASK EVERYONE HERE TO THINK**

**ABOUT WHAT'S RIGHT WITH
AMERICA...TO LOOK AT THE
REMARKABLE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE
PAST DECADES.**

**THE MOST FAR REACHING
ACCOMPLISHMENT IS THE FACT
THAT YOU, THE CLASS OF 1992,
ARE ONE OF THE FIRST
GRADUATING CLASSES WHO**

**ENTER A WORLD NOT DIVIDED
BY AN IRON CURTAIN...A WORLD
WHERE TWO SUPER POWERS
ARE TALKING OF PEACE AND
PARTNERSHIP, RATHER THAN
COUNTING NUCLEAR
WARHEADS.**

**YOU ENTER A WORLD WHERE
FREEDOM IS ON THE MARCH--
WHERE COUNTRY AFTER**

**COUNTRY HAVE THROWN OUT
DICTATORS AND COMMUNISM,
AND REPLACED THEM WITH
DEMOCRACY.**

**AND IT IS THE AMERICAN
DEMOCRACY WHICH SERVED AS
THE ROLE MODEL FOR OTHER
NATIONS, AND WHICH REMAINS
THE ENVY OF THE WORLD.**

**IN ALL MY YEARS IN
CONGRESS, I'VE RECEIVED
HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF
LETTERS FROM PEOPLE WHO
WANT HELP IN TRYING TO BRING
A RELATIVE OR LOVED ONE INTO
AMERICA. BUT I'VE NEVER
RECEIVED ONE LETTER FROM
SOMEONE WHO WANTED HELP
IN LEAVING AMERICA.**

**IT IS AMERICA WHICH LEADS
THE WORLD IN SCIENTIFIC
ADVANCEMENTS--
ADVANCEMENTS WHICH ARE
MAKING LIFE EASIER, WHICH
ARE CURING DISEASES, AND
WHICH--AS I DISCOVERED LAST
WINTER--ARE DETECTING
CANCER BEFORE IT CAN
BECOME A SERIOUS PROBLEM.**

**FROM HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL GAMES ON FRIDAY
NIGHTS, TO THE FREEDOM TO
CHOOSE WHAT SYNAGOGUE OR
CHURCH WE MAY WANT TO
ATTEND ON SATURDAYS AND
SUNDAYS, THERE IS MUCH THAT
IS RIGHT WITH AMERICA.**

**YES, AMERICA HAS HER
SHARE OF PROBLEMS. BUT THE**

**POINT I AM MAKING IS THAT WE
ARE THE MOST SUCCESSFUL
NATION ON EARTH BECAUSE WE
ARE ALL PART OF THE
SOLUTION. EACH OF US HAS
AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY A
ROLE IN SETTING AMERICA'S
COURSE FOR THE FUTURE.**

**EACH OF YOU HAS THE
POWER TO DECIDE HOW YOU**

**WILL BE PART OF THIS
EQUATION. EACH OF YOU WILL
MAKE THE DECISIONS ABOUT
WHAT ROADS YOU WILL TAKE IN
LIFE. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT
TELL YOU IF YOU CAN OR CAN
NOT GO TO COLLEGE.
GOVERNMENT DOES NOT TELL
YOU WHERE YOU WILL WORK OR
WHAT YOU'LL DO.**

**GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PLACE
ANY LIMITS ON YOUR DREAMS.
THOSE DECISIONS ARE UP TO
YOU.**

**AND SITTING AMONG YOU
TODAY MAY BE THE SCIENTIST
WHO WILL DISCOVER THE CURE
TO AIDS, THE FARMER WHO
WILL HELP FEED THE WORLD,
THE VOLUNTEER WHO WILL GIVE**

**TIME AND ENERGY TO THOSE IN
NEED, THE TEACHER WHO WILL
EDUCATE YOUR CHILDREN, OR
THE HUSBAND OR WIFE WHO
WILL HELP YOU RAISE YOUR
FAMILY; OR PERHAPS, EVEN A
FUTURE SENATOR FOR KANSAS.**

**WHEREVER YOU GO IN LIFE, I
HOPE YOU WILL REMEMBER
THAT THE DIPLOMA YOU GET**

**NEXT WEEK...OR THE ONES YOU
MAY EARN LATER ON FROM
COLLEGE...DOES NOT MEAN
THAT YOUR EDUCATION IS
COMPLETE.**

**THOSE WHO SUCCEED IN LIFE
ARE THOSE WHO NEVER STOP
LEARNING...WHO NEVER STOP
LISTENING, OBSERVING,
READING, TRYING TO BETTER**

**THEMSELVES. LIKEWISE, I HOPE
YOU WILL TAKE A SINCERE
INTEREST IN CURRENT EVENTS,
AND IN THE ISSUES THAT WILL
FACE YOUR COMMUNITY AND
YOUR NATION. I HOPE THAT
SOME OF YOU WILL RUN FOR
OFFICE.**

**AND SPEAKING OF RUNNING,
BACK IN MY DAYS IN HIGH**

**SCHOOL, IT WAS TRACK AND
FIELD AND NOT POLITICS WHICH
WAS MY MAIN INTEREST. SOME
OF THE EVENTS I COMPETED IN
WERE THE 440 AND 880 YARD
RELAYS, WHERE FOUR RUNNERS
COMPETE FOR EACH TEAM,
EACH RUNNING A PORTION OF
THE RACE, EACH HANDING THE
BATON TO A TEAMMATE.**

**THE STORY OF AMERICA IS
THE STORY OF A NEVER ENDING
RELAY RACE. EACH
GENERATION HAS DONE WHAT
THEY COULD TO BUILD A
BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, AND
THEY HAVE HANDED THE BATON
ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION.
AND WHEN THE BATON WAS
DROPPED, SOMEONE WAS**

ALWAYS THERE TO PICK IT UP.

THE BATON IS NOW YOURS;

AND I HOPE THAT EACH OF YOU

WILL RUN YOUR HARDEST TO

HELP ENSURE THAT AMERICA'S

BEST DAYS ARE TRULY YET TO

COME.