

*Remarks for
New Albany American Legion Tournament and
Dizzy Dean World Series*

Good evening and thanks for the invitation to be here with you tonight. I am excited to be back on a baseball field; it's where I spent a great deal of time growing up, and it feels good to be back.

I first want to welcome all the teams and players gathered here tonight. I know each of you will play your best, play with honor, and play for the love of the game.

I once heard it said that every boy, in his heart, would rather steal second base than an automobile. I believe – I know – that's true.

The games you'll play over the next couple of days will always be carried with you in your memory. Don't ever forget them; they are a part of your youth, and will be a great reminder of the fun of days gone by.

I know you're ready to get down to playing some baseball, so I'll just leave you with a piece of advice from the great Pete Rose:

“It's a round ball and a round bat, and you got to hit it square.”

Congratulations to you all, and have fun!