



Jack Trice Stadium Dedication
Saturday, August 30, 1997
4:00 p.m.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Oct. 5, 1923

My thoughts just before the first real college game of my life: The honor of my race, family and self is at stake. Everyone is expecting me to do big things. I will. My whole body and soul are to be thrown recklessly about the field. Every time the ball is snapped, I will be trying to do more than my part. Fight low, with your eyes open and toward the play. Watch out for crossbucks and reverse end runs. Be on your toes every minute if you expect to make good.

Jack

The letter Jack Trice wrote to himself on the eve of the Iowa State/Minnesota game, found in his jacket pocket after his death.



Jack Trice Stadium Dedication

Speakers:

Martin C. Jischke
ISU President

Gene Smith
ISU Athletic Director

Rob Wiese
ISU Government of the Student Body President

Midway through the third quarter of Iowa State's second football game of 1923, Cyclone defensive tackle Jack Trice fought his way into the Minnesota backfield. Facing a surging wall of linemen blocking for a trailing halfback, Trice's only hope of stopping the ball carrier was to take out the interference.

Playing with a broken collar bone, Trice threw himself in front of the blockers, attempting a roll block. Rather than landing face down, he had the misfortune of rolling onto his back. The Minnesota charge ran over Trice's exposed stomach. Less than 48 hours later, the 21-year-old sophomore, Iowa State University's first black student-athlete, died from internal injuries. Trice is the only Cyclone to die from injuries suffered in an intercollegiate athletic event.

Jack Trice set high ideals for himself and did his best to live up to those ideals. He has been and continues to be an inspiration to students, the university community, and to people across Iowa and the country who know his story. Jack Trice Stadium honors a man who gave everything he had for Iowa State University.

“It is clear that Jack Trice, for a large majority of students and others associated with Iowa State University, exemplifies a number of heroic qualities, including determination, courage, enthusiasm, and giving one’s all to an important cause. He has become a hero, not so much for what he accomplished, because his life was cut short, but for what he represented.”

— President Martin C. Jischke

Special thanks to:

Government of the Student Body

Minority Student Affairs