

Benjamin Ledoux

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Chicago Cubs
Chicago, IL

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am excited to be writing to you about the Machine Learning Engineer role. I recently moved to Chicago to pursue my **Master's degree at Northwestern University, focusing my studies on Machine Learning and Deep Learning**. I am originally from the Boston area, so I can appreciate a franchise that has endured long World Series droughts, and I am still new enough to be undecided about which team to support: the Cubs or the White Sox. (Ultimately, my decision *will* depend on the outcome of this application.

At Northwestern my courses have centered on Machine Learning and Deep Learning. Additionally, I have challenged myself with electives in adjacent fields to improve my technical and problem-solving skills in unfamiliar subjects. In November 2024, **I participated in a Hackathon hosted by the Northwestern Men's Soccer team**. The challenge was to create a tool with Machine Learning to help the team in some way. My group focused on **analyzing shots on goal, identifying weaknesses and tendencies among shot takers**. I developed a PDF parser that would extract relevant data from game reports and format it for analysis in the project.

Before beginning my Master's program, I didn't fully understand the wide range of applications for Machine Learning. Even now, I continue to discover new areas to explore within the field. A career in baseball is certainly not what I expected when moving out to Chicago, but I am incredibly lucky to have the opportunity to pursue it. The Cubs are a fantastic team, and I would love to contribute in any way I can to a franchise that entertains tens of thousands of fans at Wrigley Field. I hope you'll forgive me if I happen to tell my family that I work for a different team.

I am excited to discuss the role further. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Ledoux