

*Draft Talking points for
CAVS, Canton
December 15, 2003*

- Recognize
 - Rep. Billy McCoy
 - Steve Hale and his MDA Staff
 - Dr. Charles Lee, President, MSU
 - Emil Hassan, Dave Boyer, Galen Medlin and other Nissan officials

- We are here today to celebrate the opening of the CAVS center here in Canton.
- The CAVS center means one thing to the people of Mississippi – JOBS
- We are here today because we made investments in education
- By investing in education, we provided the foundation to bring the number one economic development project in the nation to our state.
- And we did it together.
- Carlos Ghosn and Nissan recognized what we have accomplished and are continuing to accomplish when they selected Mississippi as the site for their newest and most technologically advanced auto plant in the nation
- This \$4 million facility is part of the Nissan package
- Last week, opened the CAVS center in Starkville at MSU
- These two centers impact Mississippi's economy; provide opportunity right here for Mississippians
- All of this, along with the Nissan plant, would have not been possible without the advancements we have made in education
- For the past two weeks, I have been touring schools across Mississippi to congratulate the administration and students on their outstanding successes this year.
- At one stop, went to the technology center and saw where our high school kids were learning to design and build buildings, cars and yes, automobile parts on their computers
- These children are 1/3 of our population, but make up all of our future
- One of those teenagers in that classroom, has a strong chance of ending up here one day, researching and developing some of the best vehicles in the world.
- We must continue to invest in our children which is our future.
- This year, we took the historic action of funding education first
- Teachers are paid like the professionals they are; students have access to the most updated knowledge with computers in every classroom;
- Mississippi's students are proving they can compete with anyone, anytime and anywhere in the nation or the world for that matter, for the best jobs that are offered
- Closing

