

*Remarks for the
Two Rivers Gala
April 5, 2003*

- Image of MS in 2003 far different than the image most know
 - Moving faster than anyone else into the 21st century
 - Competing and leading in the global marketplace
 - Setting new standards for education and economic development

- Mississippi is a recognized leader in education
 - Teacher pay / 49th to 19th when fully implemented

- Our children have immediate access to the greatest information resource in the world with an internet-accessible computer in every classroom.
- Making the investment now for dividends tomorrow

- Time to change another image of Mississippi
 - No longer a state that depends on agriculture / low wage jobs
 - We are aggressive about creating quality, high-paying jobs for our people
 - Nissan

- The image of the Mississippi of 2003 is unlike anything anyone could have imagined
 - It's an image of people working in highly-skilled, well-paying jobs
 - It's an image of children in classrooms equipped with the technology to bring the world to their desk
 - It's an image of global companies looking for a place to do business in the state

- Take that image home with you
 - Image of good schools, good jobs, good communities