

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE GREAT STATE OF WISCONSIN, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE PEOPLE OF OHIO FOR THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT DURING OUR FIRST 150 YEARS.

AS WE CELEBRATE OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL THIS YEAR, WE WANT TO REACH OUT TO OUR FRIENDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

EVERY YEAR, I LEAD A HARLEY RIDE ACROSS WISCONSIN TO PROMOTE OUR STATE AND HONOR THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE WORLD'S GREATEST MOTORCYCLE. WE'RE PROUD TO BE HOME TO THE HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE COMPANY.

THIS YEAR, I DECIDED TO TAKE THE HARLEY RIDE TO WASHINGTON, D.C., AS A WAY TO ENCOURAGE THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO JOIN WISCONSIN IN CELEBRATING OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL.

THE HARLEY RIDE WILL CULMINATE ON JUNE 24 WHEN WE ROAR DOWN PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE TO THE NATIONAL MALL, WHERE WE WILL KICK OFF THE SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL, WHICH IS FEATURING WISCONSIN IN HONOR OF OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL.

ALONG THE WAY, WE ARE STOPPING IN AS MANY STATE CAPITOLS AS POSSIBLE TO THANK THE GOOD PEOPLE WHO HAVE STOOD ALONGSIDE WISCONSIN AND SHARED WITH US THEIR FRIENDSHIP.

AND OUR TWO STATES HAVE A FEW THINGS IN COMMON.

- **WE HAVE A CITY IN OUR STATE NAMED AFTER ONE OF OHIO'S NATIVE SONS. IN THE LATE 1700S, FREDERICK PRENTICE AND HIS FAMILY LEFT TOLEDO AND MOVED TO LA POINTE, WISCONSIN, WHICH IS ON MADELINE ISLAND ON LAKE SUPERIOR. HE WORKED THERE WITH THE AMERICAN FUR COMPANY AND STARTED HIS OWN QUARRY. HE LATER BECAME A SUCCESSFUL SHIPPING AND MINING ENTREPRENEUR AND THE CITY OF PRENTICE, WISCONSIN, IS NAMED AFTER HIM.**

THERE IS ALSO A PRENTICE PARK IN ASHLAND, WISCONSIN, NAMED AFTER HIM.

- **THE CITIES OF MILWAUKEE AND CINCINNATI ALSO SHARE A GREAT DEAL IN COMMON AND ARE KNOWN TO BE VERY SIMILAR CITIES. BOTH CITIES HAVE STRONG GERMAN AND CATHOLIC INFLUENCES.**

IN FACT, THERE IS A TRADITION OF MILWAUKEE'S BISHOPS COMING FROM CINCINNATI.

THAT TRADITION BEGAN IN 1843, WHEN BISHOP JOHN MARTIN HENNI BECAME THE FIRST BISHOP IN WISCONSIN, SETTLING IN MILWAUKEE. BISHOP HENNI WAS A GREAT INFLUENCE ON OUR LARGEST CITY, DRAWING GERMAN-SPEAKING PEOPLE FROM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO MILWAUKEE.

- **AND, OF COURSE, WE SHARE OUR LOVE FOR COLLEGE FOOTBALL. MANY A GREAT GAME BETWEEN THE BADGERS AND BUCKEYES HAVE BEEN PLAYED IN THIS COMMUNITY AND IN MADISON.**

AND WHILE THE BADGERS HAVEN'T ALWAYS BEEN AS TALENTED AS THE BUCKEYES, WE'VE RUINED MANY A ROSE BOWL BID WITH A STARTLING UPSET.

BUT PERHAPS GREATER THAN THE RIVALRY DURING THE GAME IS THE RIVALRY AFTER THE GAME, AS WISCONSIN AND OHIO STATE SPORT TWO OF THE GREATEST COLLEGE BANDS IN ALL OF AMERICA.

THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN AND OHIO HAVE BUILT TWO GREAT STATES. WE ARE SHINING STARS IN AMERICA, FULL OF HARD-WORKING, FUN-LOVING PEOPLE WHO TREASURE THEIR FAMILIES AND VALUE A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE.

AND WE WANT TO SAY A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS TO THE PEOPLE OF OHIO, GOVERNOR VOINOVICH AND THE OHIO BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION FOR THE WONDERFUL – AND GIGANTIC – BIRTHDAY CARD YOU SENT THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN. WE DISPLAYED IT PROUDLY DURING OUR STATEHOOD DAY CELEBRATION.

OHIO IS THE ONLY STATE THAT WENT TO SUCH LENGTHS TO CONGRATULATE US ON OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL.

IT SPEAKS HIGHLY OF THE QUALITY OF PEOPLE IN OHIO AND THE STRONG FRIENDSHIP OUR TWO STATES SHARE.

**THANK YOU, OHIO, FOR BEING OUR FRIENDS AND
WE LOOK FORWARD TO MAKING THAT FRIENDSHIP
EVEN STRONGER IN THE NEXT 150 YEARS.**

**(PRESENT SECRETARY OF STATE BOB TAFT WITH
HARLEY JACKET, FAVRE FOOTBALL,
SESQUICENTENNIAL BASKET)**