

GOOD AFTERNOON.

ON BEHALF OF ALL THE STATE AGENCY HEADS AND DEPARTMENT SECRETARIES HERE TODAY, I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO THIS CABINET MEETING WHICH SIGNALS THE FINALE OF RIVER DAYS.

BEFORE WE MOVE ON TO DISCUSS WHAT WE HAVE ALL LEARNED AND ACCOMPLISHED OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY FAREWELL TO A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE, UW SYSTEM PRESIDENT BUZZ SHAW.

I'VE BEEN TOLD THERE'S ALMOST AS MUCH INTEREST IN MY COMMENTS REGARDING BUZZ'S DEPARTURE AS THERE IS FOR THE VETO ANNOUNCEMENTS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW.

NOT THAT THERE'S ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN VETOES AND THE UW SYSTEM!

AS YOU ALL KNOW, ON AUGUST 14TH BUZZ WILL STEP DOWN AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM -- TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY IN NEW YORK.

DURING HIS FIVE-YEAR TENURE HERE IN WISCONSIN, PRESIDENT SHAW HAS COMPILED AN ENVIABLE RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS -- A FEW OF

WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT TODAY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT WAS BUZZ SHAW WHO SINGLE-HANDEDLY
REDEFINED CATCH-UP -- FROM A PERFECTLY GOOD WORD FOR SOMETHING
YOU PUT ON A HAMBURGER -- TO A BUREAUCRATIC BUZZWORD THAT EVEN
JIM KLAUSER HAS A DIFFICULT TIME SWALLOWING!

ALL JOKING ASIDE, BUZZ'S ENTHUSIASM FOR SEEKING INCREASED FUNDS
TO HIRE AND RETAIN HIGH QUALITY -- AND MUCH MORE DIVERSE --
FACULTY AND STAFF HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED.

IN FACT, BESIDES JERRY WHITBURN, NO OTHER AGENCY HEAD IN THIS
ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN MORE SUCCESSFUL IN APPOINTING
DEMOCRATS TO HIGH-LEVEL POSITIONS THAN BUZZ SHAW.

AND THAT INCLUDES BILL FLYNN -- WHO INSISTS THAT DEMOCRATS HAVE A
BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF LOTTERY ISSUES BECAUSE THEY LIKE TO
SPEND MONEY ON FRIVOLUS THINGS.

EARLY ON, THERE WERE SOME WHO WEREN'T TOO SURE ABOUT THE
QUALIFICATIONS AND ABILITIES OF THIS FELLOW NAMED BUZZ.

IN FACT, EVEN BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL ON THE SCENE, MY GOOD FRIEND,
REPRESENTATIVE MARLIN SCHNEIDER, WENT TO FAR AS TO LABEL BUZZ A
WIMP. "IN LIKE A WIMP" IS HOW ONE NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST WELCOMED

OUR NEW UW PRESIDENT BACK IN 1986.

THEY WERE WRONG.

IN FACT, BUZZ HAS BEEN A REAL SUPERMAN FOR THE UW SYSTEM -- FASTER THAN A SPEEDING VETO PEN, MORE POWERFUL THAN THE OPEN RECORDS LAW, ABLE TO LEAP LEGISLATIVE AUDITS IN A SINGLE BOUND.

SERIOUSLY, IN ALL OF MY YEARS IN THE LEGISLATURE, AND NOW AS GOVERNOR, I HAVE NEVER MET A MORE TENACIOUS, INSIGHTFUL AND FORCEFUL ADVOCATE FOR THE UW SYSTEM.

BUZZ, YOU ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR YOUR TIRELESS COMMITMENT TO THE STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF -- AND I APPLAUD YOUR DETERMINATION TO PRESERVE THE HIGHEST QUALITY IN EVERY ASPECT OF THE UNVIERSTY'S THREE-FOLD MISSION OF INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE.

IT WAS BUZZ SHAW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WHO SAW THE NEED TO EXPAND THE CHERISED MOTTO OF THE UW SYSTEM TO INCLUDE A BROADER VISION FOR THE IMPORTANT ROLE OUR CAMPUSES WOULD PLAY IN THE DECADE OF THE NINETIES AND BEYOND.

FOR MANY YEARS THAT MOTTO -- THE WISCONSIN IDEA -- SAID THAT THE

BOUNDARIES OF THE CAMPUS ARE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE STATE, AND
THAT KNOWLEDGE SHOULD BE PUT TO WORK, IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY,
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SOCIETY.

IT WAS BUZZ SHAW -- DETERMINED TO BROADEN THE UW'S CONTRIBUTION
IN THE WORLD -- WHO SAID THAT THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CAMPUS ARE
THE BOUNDARIES OF THE NATION, AND YES, OF THE WORLD.

TODAY, OUR UW SYSTEM IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE BEST
SYSTEMS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE WORLD. AND THE WORK BEING
CONDUCTED ON OUR CAMPUSES -- LARGE AND SMALL -- IS MAKING A
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SOCIETY THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD.

1991 MARKS THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MERGER OF THE WISCONSIN
STATE UNIVERSITIES AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, TO FORM A
SINGLE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM.

THE MERGER DIDN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT. IN SOME WAYS, THE GOALS AND
OBJECTIVES OF 20 YEARS AGO ARE STILL BEING MET.

BUT SINCE THEN, WE HAVE SEEN THE EVOLUTION OF A UNIFIED SYSTEM
FOSTERING GREATER DIVERSITY IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

OUR CAMPUSES HAVE DEVELOPED UNIQUE STRENGTHS AND TEACHING

METHODS WHICH PROMOTE INDIVIDUAL CAMPUS CHARACTER AND
IDENTITY. AND, WE HAVE ADDED TO THE STRENGTH OF THE STATE'S
GRADUATE TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTERS.

BUZZ SHAW HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT FORCE IN HELPING THE UW SYSTEM
MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF MERGER -- IN THE CONTEXT OF ITS
IMPORTANCE IN MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY, AND OF WHAT LIES
IN THE FUTURE.

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY, BUZZ'S LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED
PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY IN THE COMPLETION OF AN HISTORIC
STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

THE PLAN INCLUDES OVER 100 MAJOR POLICY CHANGES, INCLUDING
INITIATIVES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREAS OF ADMISSIONS,
ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT, CREDIT TRANSFER, PROGRAM REVIEW AND
ASSESSMENT AND INTERNAL MANAGEMENT.

IN ADDITION, "DESIGN FOR DIVERSITY" -- HIS SYSTEM-WIDE PLAN TO
INCREASE AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION
OF MINORITY FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS -- HAS RECEIVED NATIONAL
RECOGNITION AND ACCLAIM.

BUZZ, ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE HERE TODAY WHO HAS HAD THE
PLEASURE OF KNOWING YOU, WORKING WITH YOU, OR SIMPLY MAKING

Source: Marquette University Libraries; Tommy G. Thompson Collection; Series 2:
Gubernatorial Speeches

YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, I WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MUCH HEALTH,
HAPPINESS AND GOOD FORTUNE AT SYRACUSE. (read the proclamation.)