
Governor's Remarks for
"Setting the Pace" Program
Eau Claire, January 15, 1992

THANK YOU, DICK (duval). IT'S A PLEASURE TO JOIN YOU
HERE AT EAU CLAIRE NORTH FOR OUR EXCITING
PROGRAM CALLED "SETTING THE PACE."

I WANT TO BEGIN WITH A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO
DICK DUVAL, JOHN MENARD, AND PROFESSIONAL RACE
CARE DRIVER GARY BETTENHAUSEN, FOR THEIR
OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN BRINGING THIS PROGRAM TO
YOU TODAY.

EVERY YEAR, WE HEAR ABOUT PEOPLE YOUR AGE WHO
LOSE THEIR LIVES IN HIGH-SPEED CAR CRASHES THAT
SHOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED.

EAU CLAIRE NORTH HAS NOT REMAINED IMMUNE TO
THESE TRAGEDIES. THREE OF YOUR CLASSMATES HAVE
BEEN VICTIMS OF FATAL CAR CRASHES OVER THE PAST
TEN YEARS.

SO TODAY, WE ARE HERE BECAUSE OF OUR
COMMITMENT -- AND YOUR COMMITMENT -- TO MAKING
A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF WISCONSIN'S
YOUNG PEOPLE.

TOGETHER -- AS STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND
FRIENDS -- WE CAN WORK AS PARTNERS TO MAKE SURE
THAT WE WON'T HAVE TO SUFFER THIS KIND OF
SENSELESS LOSS.

I KNOW HOW ABSOLUTELY IMPORTANT DRIVING IS TO
YOU. BECAUSE -- BELIEVE IT OR NOT -- I WAS 16 ONCE
TOO.

FOR MANY OF YOU, GETTING A DRIVER'S LICENSE IS A
CRITICAL PART OF YOUR SOCIAL, SCHOOL, AND EVEN
WORKING LIFE. AND IT'S ONE OF YOUR FIRST GREAT

FREEDOMS AS A YOUNG ADULT.

BUT DRIVING IS ALSO A PRIVILEGE. AND WHILE YOU DON'T ALWAYS THINK ABOUT IT, THERE ARE MANY RISKS AND DANGERS OUT THERE ON THE ROAD.

THAT'S WHY -- AS A PARENT OF THREE CHILDREN WHO DRIVE -- I HAVE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN SAFE DRIVING BY PEOPLE YOUR AGE.

I AM NOT AN EXPERT IN SAFETY. THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE HERE TODAY WHO ARE EXPERTS. THEY MAKE THEIR LIVING BEHIND THE WHEEL, AND THEY REALLY KNOW ALL ABOUT DRIVING AND THE RISKS INVOLVED. YOU WILL BE HEARING FROM THEM LATER.

I AM HERE TO TALK ABOUT WISCONSIN'S "SETTING THE PACE" PROGRAM.

"SETTING THE PACE" BRINGS TOGETHER THE TOP NAMES IN PROFESSIONAL RACING -- DRIVERS WHO APPEAR EVERY YEAR AT THE INDIANAPOLIS 500, AND IN WISCONSIN AT MILWAUKEE AND ELKHART LAKE.

LAST SPRING I TRAVELED TO INDIANAPOLIS, TO TALK WITH THE WORLD'S GREATEST DRIVERS AS PART OF THIS PROGRAM.

TODAY'S PROGRAM IS HOSTED BY ONE OF THOSE DRIVERS -- ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS DRIVERS IN PROFESSIONAL AUTO RACING TODAY, AND A VETERAN OF THE INDY 500 -- GARY BETTENHAUSEN.

GARY AND THE OTHER DRIVERS YOU WILL HEAR FROM IN A VIDEO TODAY ARE NOT HERE TO LECTURE YOU.

THEY ARE HERE TO SHARE SOME OF THEIR DRIVING EXPERIENCES ON THE RACE TRACK AND ON THE ROADS . . . AND TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SAFE, SMART DRIVING.

GARY WILL BE JOINED BY WISCONSIN STATE TROOPER JEFF KETTER, WHO WILL ALSO SAY A FEW WORDS.

I WANT TO EXTEND OUR WARMEST THANKS TO GARY,

THE OTHER DRIVERS, TROOPER KETTER, THE WISCONSIN STATE PATROL, DICK DUVAL, JOHN MENARD . . . AND EVERYONE WORKING TO MAKE THIS PROGRAM A SUCCESS.

I ALSO WANT TO THANK OUR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS.

THIS PROGRAM COULD ONLY HAPPEN BECAUSE OF THE WISCONSIN COMPANIES THAT HAVE GENEROUSLY DONATED THEIR DOLLARS AND SERVICES -- HELPING TO BRING "SETTING THE PACE" INTO SCHOOLS LIKE YOURS ACROSS THE STATE.

OUR MAJOR SPONSORS INCLUDE:

MENARD'S ... M & I BANKS ... THE RURAL INSURANCE COMPANIES ... PEPSI-COLA BOTTLERS OF WISCONSIN ... ROUNDY'S ... AND MIDWEST EXPRESS AIRLINES.

WE ARE ALSO VERY HAPPY THAT MANY OTHER WISCONSIN COMPANIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO MAKING THIS PROGRAM A REALITY.

WITH HELP FROM YOU, WE'RE MAKING OUR ROADWAYS SAFER FOR YOUNG DRIVERS . . . AND FOR EVERYONE IN WISCONSIN. WE ARE MAKING SAFE, SMART DRIVING A RULE FOR THE ROAD.

AND NOW I WILL BEGIN THE PROGRAM BY SHOWING YOU AN EXCITING, FAST-PACED VIDEO -- WITH SCENES FROM THE RACE TRACK, AND A FEW WORDS FROM OUR INDY DRIVERS. LET'S ROLL THE FILM.