

Kennedy Day Dinner-Tennessee
July 6, 2000
Shelby County Democratic Party
6:30 p.m. Reception

They have asked for a Democratic pep talk and the reemerging Democratic majority in the South. We agree that this should be rah, rah and upbeat.

Opening

1. Good evening – It is a pleasure for Melanie and I to be here
2. I have a long history with the Memphis area
 - a. Born and raised in Tocowa (close to Batesville & Memphis)
 - b. (Story) Climbed the walls of Graceland

Main Points

Democratic Governors

1. I became the Governor of Mississippi on January 4th, 2000
2. No one really ever believed that a Democrat could win again in Mississippi
3. Democratic Governors winning across the South
 - a. Don Siegelman – Alabama
 - b. Jim Hodges – South Carolina
 - c. Paul Patton – Kentucky
 - d. Roy Barnes – Georgia

Future Opportunities

1. Opportunity to take back the US Senate
2. Stronger opportunity to take back the House
3. We held onto Kentucky, will hopefully hold North Carolina and Missouri – opportunity to with Virginia

Democratic Party in Mississippi

1. Restructuring
2. New leadership
3. Focus
 - a. Paying attention to the concerns of the people
 - i. Education
 - ii. Healthcare
 - iii. Economic Development
 - iv. Safety
 - b. Finding solutions that work
 - c. Accountable

Vice President Gore

1. Publicly endorsed
2. From our neighbor state
3. Best interest of our people
4. Knows the inner-workings of Washington

Closing

1. Keep our vision directed toward the future
2. Actively working
3. We are leading the way
4. Better quality of life for people of Mississippi, Tennessee, Democratic Party and of our nation