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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13519
Folder ID Number: 13519-013

Folder Title:
Kay Orr Break fast 2/8/90 [OA 4391][2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	7	4

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 2, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: JIM PINKERTON

SUBJECT: Kay Orr Breakfast

pg. 1, para. 3, line 3 "She's gone from licking envelopes to licking Democrats."

"Licking" in this formulation is unPresidential. Furthermore, we should not go out of our way to use the term "Democrat" as an epithet. Most Republicans have to rely on Democratic votes to provide the margin of victory. Why antagonize them as a group? It's a lot smarter to isolate a smaller subset, e.g., "liberals," or "the opposition" or "those who say...." Finally, George Bush is President of the United States -- if we want to preserve a Presidential image, we have to remember that Democrats are citizens, too.

2,3,3 "...choose policies which blame everyone but the criminal."

This is overstating the case against our opponents a bit too much, especially in Nebraska. We should use more credible criticisms.

3,4,2 "More than 23,000 new jobs..."

These facts about Nebraska's recovery under Gov. Orr ought to come closer to the mention, at 2,5,3, of her formation of a jobs creation council to help small towns recover from the farm recession.

3,4,7 Similarly, in the same graf there is mention of "mandatory sentences for drug dealers" that is separated from the later language on Orr's support of the President's drug policies (at 4,4).

4,4,3 "Phrase II...."

Typo.

5,5,1 "...which can help achieve by the year 2000 the education goals that I announced last Wednesday."

(more)

Mention should be made of the fact that these goals were arrived at after consultation with the Governors (presumably including Gov. Orr) at the Education Summit.

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Blessey's Des

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
TB-1
MAY 8 03

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST
OMAHA, NEBRASKA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1990

Governor Orr, Mayor Morgan, Congressman Bereuter, [bee righer]
Congresswoman Smith, future Senator Hal Daub, Ladies and
gentlemen. Norm Riffel, Dwone Acklie x

I'm delighted to be in Nebraska. And to join you for this
early-morning breakfast. Even though being here at this hour
reminds me of the time I told one of my grandkids that the early
bird gets the worm. He said: "I think I'll sleep in and have
pancakes." //

Well, this morning we're having ^{Special K} ham and eggs. And saluting
a woman who has come a long way since she first worked for the
Republican Party in 1963. // She's gone from licking envelopes
to licking Democrats. // The great Governor of the State of
Nebraska. Kay Orr. //

Bill Lacy
thinks
this is
demeaning

You know, I've been acquainted with Kay since 19⁷⁶. And I
wanted to come here and personally endorse her. I realize you
wanted to hear a few words from a prominent national figure who
can really fire up a crowd. // Unfortunately, Johnny Carson had
to go back to Los Angeles -- so I'm here instead. //

I'm here because Kay has made tough choices and right
decisions -- as Nebraskans are prone to do. And because her
first term has produced results, not empty rhetoric -- exactly

but results

what Nebraskans want in a Governor. // Dwight Eisenhower once said, "Our best protection against bigger government in Washington is better government in the States." // Well, let's help Kay keep making government better. // Let's help her win a second term. //

This election will decide whether Nebraska enjoys continued prosperity. Or whether it abandons the leadership which has cut the jobless rate in half.

This election will decide whether -- on the one hand -- Nebraska has the leadership it takes to win the war on crime and drugs. Or whether -- on the other -- it chooses policies which blame everyone but the criminal.

This election will decide whether Nebraska has farm policies that work. And an education system that makes the grade. Those are the questions. // Well, I have the answer. "Four More For [Governor] Orr." //

You know, Kay's work began the morning after she was elected America's first Republican woman Governor. // Remember what she did? She said she'd ^{just open Nebraska's doors for business,} ~~form a jobs creation council to help small towns recover from the farm recession.~~ // She wasn't bluffing. ^{opened doors} She attacked the problem. She kept her promise. She got results.

But then, that's not surprising -- for results distinguish Kay's career. She's gotten results for the last 25 years as a State Republican leader. And as Nebraska State Treasurer. She got results in 1988 as the first woman Chair of the Republican National Platform Committee. And as Governor of the Cornhusker

State -- well, her scoreboard is even better than last fall's rout of Oklahoma. // They'll never let me back in Norman again.

((You know, Kay's husband Bill likes to tell how he went to the bank to cash a check. The teller looked up and said, "Are you the wife of the governor?" // Embarrassed, she tried to make amends. "What I mean," she continued, "are you Mr. Kay Orr?")) //

((Bill, I know how you feel. It's like Kay is always telling me: "It's fine that you're here, Mr. President. But if you really want to wow the crowd, bring Barbara.")) //

It's true: As Governor, Kay has become a household name. Why not with stats rivaling Nebraska's Big Red Machine? More than 23,000 new jobs and \$2.4 billion in new investment since 1987 -- those are Kay Orr victories. So is ^{net} farm income -- nearly tripled -- and the lowest unemployment rate west of the Mississippi. // Nebraska's first-ever child care credit. A crusade to improve secondary and higher learning. And mandatory sentences for drug dealers -- still more victories. And so are a Drug Advisory Council, ^{and} wildlife preservation, ~~and State income~~ taxes down by \$34 million over the past two years. //

These triumphs have aided the family, the taxpayer -- the working people of Nebraska. And Kay needs a second term to finish the job she's so effectively begun. Yet the need is not Nebraska's alone. I need her, too, to support the work of our Administration. For we want to make America a kinder, gentler

place. // And get more results for more Americans than at any time in our history. //

Last Wednesday night, I talked of this in my State of the Union Address. And of the triumphs of 1989. Triumphs like the lowest unemployment rate in ⁶15 years. Inflation at less than 5 per cent. And the ~~low interest rates that remain the farmer's best friend:~~ ^{longest peacetime economic expansion in U.S. history}

Yet like Nebraska, what I called "The Idea ^{called} of America" is something to build upon, not rest upon. So we have sent legislation to the Congress to confront our most crucial issues.

For example, prosperity means little if our kids aren't free from drugs. So last month I announced the 1990 National Drug Control Strategy -- ^{the} ~~Phase~~ II of the comprehensive drug policy we unveiled last year. We've asked Congress for over ten and a half billion dollars in Fiscal Year 1991 -- ^{About} a 70 per cent increase since I took office in 1989. // And I want an expansion of the death penalty for drug-related crimes. // Kay Orr supports these steps. Her initials aren't K.O. for nothing. And that's what she'll help do to crime and drug use. // I need her as Governor to help take back the streets. //

Then, there's another priority of our Administration: The education of our kids. // And in that context, recall how the great Nebraska author, Willa Cather, once said, "The history of every country begins in the heart of a man or a woman." //

Well, Kay Orr knows, as I do, that the future of this country begins with education. So she supports our "Education"

Excellence Act of 1989," which can help achieve by the year 2000 the education goals that I announced last Wednesday.

We must ensure that every student in America starts school ready to learn. And that each school has an environment where kids can learn. Our graduation rate must be no less than 90 per cent. And we must make diplomas mean something. We want U.S. students to be first in the world in math and science achievement. We must guarantee that each American citizen is a skilled, literate worker and citizen. And that every school is drug-free. I need Kay Orr to help make "The Idea ^{called} of America" mean a decent education for all. //

"The Idea ^{called} of America" also means that working parents should have increased child-care options. Our legislation will achieve that goal. // And it means a cleaner America. So we've sent up the first rewrite of the Clean Air Act in over 10 years. // We also want a more abundant Rural America -- where Americans work, invest, and save. In the late 1980s, farm income hit near record levels. Now, let's make good news even better -- and keep Nebraska strong by keeping agriculture thriving in the 1990s. //

First, I want to grant most favored Nation status to the Soviet Union by the 1990 Summit. This will relax trade barriers between East and West -- expanding markets for American exports. Next, we're going to write a new Farm Bill in 1990. It must emphasize market-oriented farm policies giving producers more flexibility to decide what crops to grow. And we need the investment created by passing our capital gains proposal, which

would apply to the sale of farmland. Together, these decisions will show what's good for agriculture is good for America. //

What's good for all of us, naturally, is that I be brief. So let me close with a story about a common love of mine and Rural America: Fishing. It concerns Mark Twain, who -- like all fishermen -- loved to brag about his exploits.

Twain once spent three weeks fishing in the Maine woods, ignoring the fact that the state's fishing season had closed. And on the way home, aboard the train, he came upon a stranger. And immediately started telling him about all the fish he'd caught.

Finally, Mark Twain asked, "By the way, who are you, sir?" The stranger replied, "I'm the state game warden. And who are you?" // With that, America's greatest writer nearly swallowed his cigar. And after a long pause he answered, "Well, to be perfectly truthful, ^{warden} I'm the biggest damn liar in the whole United States." //

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Kay Orr has made tough decisions -- right decisions. And their results have enriched Nebraskans from the banks of the Missouri to the Wyoming line.

So let's ensure "Four More For [Governor] Orr." And pledge to support one of America's truly great Governors. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. God bless America. And let's keep Kay Orr the Governor of this great State of Nebraska.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM 0851

DATE: 02/01/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6:00 p.m. 02/02/90

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST-OMAHA, NEBRASKA
(02/01 7:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 02/02, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

TO: CHRISS WINSTON

NSC concurs with the Presidential remarks for the Kay Orr breakfast in Omaha with the change as marked on page 5.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

cc: James W. Cicconi

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702



RECEIVED
56:29
90 FEB 2 17:48

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
FEB -1 MAY 8:03

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Republican Party in 1963. // She's gone from licking envelopes
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RESPONSE:

*minor
out check on MFN for JSSR*

12:34 2 FEB 02

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
FEB -1
MAY 8: 03

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→ Chriss - how about instead "She's gone from
ringing door bells to making history."

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This is major news did NSC give us this?

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/01/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6:00 p.m. 02/02/90

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST-OMAHA, NEBRASKA
(02/01 7:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 02/02, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

See comments -

90 FEB 2 16:31

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
LB -1
MAY 8 03

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST
OMAHA, NEBRASKA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1990

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Well, this morning we're having ham and eggs. And saluting
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But then, that's not surprising -- for results distinguish Kay's career. She's gotten results for the last 25 years as a State Republican leader. And as Nebraska State Treasurer. She got results in 1988 as the first woman Chair of the Republican National Platform Committee. And as Governor of the Cornhusker

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For example, prosperity means little if our kids aren't free from drugs. So last month I announced the 1990 National Drug Control Strategy -- Phrase II of the comprehensive drug policy we unveiled last year. We've asked Congress for over ten and a half billion dollars in Fiscal Year 1991 -- a 70 per cent increase since I took office in 1989. // And I want an expansion of the death penalty for drug-related crimes. // Kay Orr supports these steps. Her initials aren't K.O. for nothing. And that's what she'll help do to crime and drug use. // I need her as Governor to help take back the streets. // ✓

Then, there's another priority of our Administration: The education of our kids. // And in that context, recall how the great Nebraska author, Willa Cather, once said, "The history of every country begins in the heart of a man or a woman." //

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2/2 Please see p4 for 2 markings.
 OK Ohio CP
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 ML 2992

Document No. 109926

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DATE: 02/01/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6:00 p.m. 02/02/90

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST-OMAHA, NEBRASKA
(02/01 7:30 p.m. draft)

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RESPONSE:

90 FEB 2 4:33

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
LB-1
MAY 8 03

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RESPONSE:

*2/2 1150a OK w/ deletion of tax wording on page 3.
 ORR*

90 FEB 2 38
James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
100-10-1
MAY 8 03

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"The Idea of America" also means that working parents should have increased child-care options. Our legislation will achieve that goal. // And it means a cleaner America. So we've sent up the first rewrite of the Clean Air Act in over 10 years. // We also want a more abundant Rural America -- where Americans work, invest, and save. In the late 1980s, farm income hit near record levels. Now, let's make good news even better -- and keep Nebraska strong by keeping agriculture thriving in the 1990s. //

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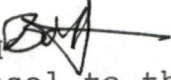
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 2, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
Deputy Assistant to the President for
Communications

FROM: BRENT O. HATCH 
Associate Counsel to the President

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks -- Kay Orr Breakfast
Omaha, Nebraska

Counsel's office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks. We have no legal objections.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this matter.

cc: James W. Cicconi

90 FEB 2 4 58 PM '90

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/01/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6:00 p.m. 02/02/90

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST-OMAHA, NEBRASKA
(02/01 7:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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			BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 02/02, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
FEB -1
MAY 8:03

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KAY ORR BREAKFAST
OMAHA, NEBRASKA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1990

Governor Orr, Mayor Morgan, Congressman Bereuter,
Congresswoman Smith, future Senator Hal Daub, Ladies and
gentlemen.

I'm delighted to be in Nebraska. And to join you for this
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reminds me of the time I told one of my grandkids that the early
bird gets the worm. He said: "I think I'll sleep in and have
pancakes." //

Well, this morning we're having ham and eggs. And saluting
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This election will decide whether Nebraska enjoys continued prosperity. Or whether it abandons the leadership which has cut the jobless rate in half.

This election will decide whether -- on the one hand -- Nebraska has the leadership it takes to win the war on crime and drugs. Or whether -- on the other -- it chooses policies which blame everyone but the criminal.

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(02/01 7:30 p.m. draft)

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90 FEB 2 3:05

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 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
February 1, 1990
FEB -1
MAY 8 03

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FEB -1
MAY 8 03

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What's good for all of us, naturally, is that I be brief. So let me close with a story about a common love of mine and Rural America: Fishing. It concerns Mark Twain, who -- like all fishermen -- loved to brag about his exploits.

Twain once spent three weeks fishing in the Maine woods, ignoring the fact that the state's fishing season had closed. And on the way home, aboard the train, he came upon a stranger. And immediately started telling him about all the fish he'd caught.

Finally, Mark Twain asked, "By the way, who are you, sir?" The stranger replied, "I'm the state game warden. And who are you?" // With that, America's greatest writer nearly swallowed his cigar. And after a long pause he answered, "Well, to be perfectly truthful, I'm the biggest damn liar in the whole United States." //

Truly, Mark Twain loved to brag. But, then, he had much to brag about. And so does Nebraska's first elected woman Governor.

Kay Orr has made tough decisions -- right decisions. And their results have enriched Nebraskans from the banks of the Missouri to the Wyoming line.

So let's ensure "Four More For [Governor] Orr." And pledge to support one of America's truly great Governors. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. God bless America. And let's keep Kay Orr the Governor of this great State of Nebraska.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska)

For Immediate Release

February 8, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT BREAKFAST FOR GOVERNOR KAY ORR

Peony Park
Omaha, Nebraska

8:35 A.M. CST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. It's sure nice to be back. Thank you, thank you. Thank you very, very much. Kay, thank you so much. And to P.J., the Mayor, delighted to be with you, sir. I remember sitting in that Oval Office just before you were elected. I liked his confidence. I liked his strength. And he's doing a great job. I want to salute our congressional delegation. I don't think Virginia or Doug are here today, but they're doing a superb job in Washington, steadfast in support of the principles Kay just was enunciating.

I'm delighted to see my friend and, in a sense, mentor, your former Governor, Charlie Thone, way down here; and a good friend he is and great Governor he was for this state. (Applause.) And then I salute Norm Riffle and Duane Acklie, Sallie Folsom. I'm especially pleased to have our National Chairman out here, Lee Atwater, who is doing a superb job for the party all across this country. The National Committee has never been stronger. (Applause.)

And, of course, my friend and the future senator, Hal Daub. I've worked with him, I know him well. His wife was extremely active in supporting me in the early days of the last campaign. And I'm grateful to both of them. And I know he'll make a fine senator. Hal, good luck to you. (Applause.)

I'm delighted to be here at this relatively early-morning breakfast. It reminds me of the time I told our oldest grandkid that the early bird gets the worm. He says, "I think I'll sleep in and have pancakes." (Laughter.) You know how these 12-year-olds are.

Well, this morning, appropriately, we're going with Special K. And, yes, in honor of a very special woman who has come a long way since she first worked for the Republican Party in -- I don't want to date you, Kay -- but I'm told it was 1963. And she's gone from ringing doorbells to making history. The great Governor of the State of Nebraska, Kay Orr. And I am so proud to be with her today. (Applause.)

And a confession, we've known each other since 1976. I wanted to come here, and so did Barbara, to personally and enthusiastically endorse her. I'm here because she's made the tough choices and, in my view, the right decisions. And because her first term has produced not rhetoric, not empty rhetoric, but solid results for Nebraska. Dwight Eisenhower once said, "Our best protection against bigger government in Washington is better government in the states." So let's guarantee that that keeps going. Let's help Kay keep making government better. And let's be sure that she wins a second term. (Applause.)

I was going over some of the economic statistics and I believe that this election will decide whether Nebraska enjoys continued prosperity, and whether you continue to have the leadership

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it takes to win in the battles we're in: the war on crime and drugs. It will decide whether Nebraska has farm policies that work. We want a governor we can work with and listen to as we try to adapt our farm policies to the needs of these states. An education system that makes the grade. Those are the questions. And I am absolutely convinced that the answer lies in: "Four More For Orr." So, you know -- (applause.)

Barbara and I love Bill, Kay's husband. And I'm told that he likes to tell -- he went to the bank to cash a check and the teller looked up and said, "Are you the wife of the Governor?" (Laughter.) Then she got a little flustered and tried to make amends, what I mean she said, "Are you Mr. Kay Orr?" (Laughter.) Look, Bill, I know what you mean here. Kay said, "It's fine you're here, Mr. President, but if you really want to get this crowd fired up bring Barbara. So here she is. (Laughter and applause.) We've got a lot in common. My man. Not too much. Look, I've got to live with her, please.

No, but as America's first Republican woman governor, Kay has become a household name. And why not? With stats that rival the Big Red. Let me tell you, more than 23,000 new jobs and \$2.4 billion in new investment since 1987; those are Kay Orr victories. And so is net farm income -- nearly tripled -- and an unemployment rate -- what's the rate you told me?

GOVERNOR ORR: At 2.7.

THE PRESIDENT: -- 2.7. If there ever is full employment in the United States, it has to be an unemployment rate of 2.7 percent. (Applause.) And that's cut in half from what it was. Nebraska's first-ever child care credit, crusade to improve secondary and higher learning -- still further victories. And so are our Drug Advisory Council and then, we all know of her commitment to wetlands and to wildlife preservation.

These triumphs have helped the working people of Nebraska. And Kay needs a second term to finish the job that she's so effectively begun. And yet the need, as Ike said, is not a state's alone -- in this instance, not Nebraska's alone. I need her, too, to support the work of our administration. And I mean it, we do want to make America a kinder and gentler place. And get more results for more Americans that at any other time in our history.

Last Wednesday night, I talked of this in my State of the Union address and of the triumphs of 1989: like the lowest unemployment rate nationally in 16 years; inflation at less than five percent; the longest peacetime economic growth in the history of the United States. And yet what I call the "Idea called America" is like Nebraska: It's something to build upon, not to rest upon. I feel that our administration is really just beginning. And I think Kay would concede that although she's been Governor four years, she's got a feeling of commencement as well.

And so we have sent legislation to the Congress now to confront at the national level, our most crucial issues. For example, prosperity does mean little if our kids aren't free from drugs. So last month I announced a 1990 National Drug Control Strategy -- Phase II of the comprehensive drug policy we unveiled last year. And I'm pleased with the support it is getting all across the country. We're asking Congress to spend over \$10.5 billion in Fiscal Year 1991 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement -- about a 70-percent increase since I took office in 1989.

We also want mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And as Phase II proposes, an expansion of the death penalty for these drug kingpins. I believe it's long overdue. (Applause.) And then we have requested significant increases in federal assistance to states and localities in drug use, prevention, treatment, and law enforcement. And we've already made considerable progress in adding more police, more

prosecutors, more prisons. Kay Orr supports these steps. Her initials aren't K.O. for nothing. (Laughter.) And that's what she intends to do for -- help to do to crime and drug use. I need her. I need her as governor to work with the local police and the mayors in this great state to take back the streets.

Then there's another priority, and one in which Barbara's been standing for for a long, long time -- I'm talking about the education of our kids. Kay Orr knows, as I do, that the future of the country really fundamentally begins with education. So she supports our Educational Excellence Act of 1989, which can help achieve, by the year 2000, the education goals that I announced in that State of the Union speech last Wednesday -- goals, incidentally, that were developed with almost the unanimous support of the governors. Certainly, Kay, in the forefront of helping us develop these national goals.

And let me be clear, they're not trying to dictate to the local school systems or get into the curriculum, or to the pay level for teachers; we're talking about broad national goals that respect the concept of federalism that properly has guided our education system for a long time.

We must ensure that every student in America starts ready to learn -- starts school ready to learn. There is a federal role here. And that's why I've proposed a record increase in funds -- an extra half a billion dollars -- for a program which has and continues to work: Head Start. And we must see that each school has an environment where kids can learn. That means making every school drug-free. Our graduation rate must be no -- these are goals by 2000 -- no less than 90 percent, and we've got to make these diplomas mean something. So we want U.S. students to be first in the world in math and science achievement. And we've got to guarantee that each American is a skilled, literate worker and citizen. Together, I believe that we can make this "Idea called America" mean a decent education for all.

"The Idea called America" also means that working parents should have increased child care options. Our legislation will achieve that goal. I don't want to see the federal government dictate where a kid has to be looked after in a child care program. I want to give the parents the choice to be able to take care of those kids as best they can. Give them the ability to provide the day care, and that's what our approach is all about.

It also means a cleaner America. Kay touched on this. And we have sent up the first rewrite of the Clean Air Act in over 10 years. We also want to make a more abundant rural America -- where Americans work, invest, and save. In the late 1980's, farm income hit near record levels. Now we want to build on that good news -- make it even better -- and keep Nebraska strong by keeping agriculture thriving in the 1990's. And Kay was in there now discussing with me some new ideas she has on crop insurance; expressing, incidentally, her -- hope this won't betray the confidence of our talk -- her confidence in our great Nebraskan, who is the Secretary of Agriculture, Clayton Yeutter. I depend on him. He's good. He knows agriculture, and I'm proud he's at my side. (Applause.)

But speaking of agriculture -- first, I hope to negotiate a new trade agreement with the Soviet Union by the time of our 1990 summit, not too many months away. This will relax trade barriers between East and West, expanding markets for American exports. I feel strongly that selling our grain to the Soviet Union is in America's interest as well as in the interest of the Soviet Union. (Applause.)

And next, we are going to write a new farm bill this year. It must emphasize market-oriented farm policies giving producers more flexibility to decide what crops to grow. And we need the investment created by passing our capital gains tax cut proposal, which would apply to the sale of farmland -- (applause) -- and in my view, will

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create jobs all across the economic spectrum in this country. Together, these decisions will show what's good for agr. culture is good for America.

What's good for all of us, naturally, is that I not talk too long here with you all having to get to work. (Laughter.) So let me tell you one of my favorite fishing stories. It concerns Mark Twain, who, like all fishermen, loved to brag about his exploits.

Twain once spent three weeks fishing in the Maine woods, ignoring the fact that the state's fishing season had closed. On the way home, aboard the train, he sat next to a stranger. And immediately started telling about all the fish he'd caught.

Finally, Mark Twain asked, "By the way, who are you, sir?" The stranger said, "Well, I'm the state game warden. Who are you?" With that, America's greatest writer nearly swallowed his cigar. And after a long pause he answered, "Well, to be perfectly truthful, warden, I'm the biggest damn liar in the whole United States of America." (Laughter.)

Twain loved to brag. But then, he had much to brag about. And so does Nebraska when it comes to your first elected woman governor. And let me conclude simply by saying, she has my full confidence. She's made tough decisions -- right decisions. And their results have enriched Nebraskans from the banks of the Missouri to the Wyoming line.

So let's ensure "Four More For Governor Orr." And pledge to support one of our truly great governors. Thank you very much for this occasion. Thanks for you support for Kay. And God bless you all. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

8:51 A.M. CST