Governor Tommy Thompson's State of the State Speech

January 25, 2000

When I look in to the eyes of my dear little granddaughter, Sophie, I see the eyes of the future of Wisconsin.

A new generation with endless potential, as we begin a new journey with eager anticipation---confident that new achievements lie ahead.

For this century offers deeper valleys to explore, wider rivers to swim, taller mountains to climb.

Wisconsin is prepared to conquer them all. Ladies and Gentlemen, I say to you tonight at the dawn of a glorious new century that the state of the state is revolutionary.

Wisconsin is where the future begins. The next fifty years will look different.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison research will be able to decode the human genome and allow for your personal genetic profile to be traced encoded on a chip so that it can be downloaded by a doctor so your illness can be diagnosed and treated.

This research is going to help us solve the mysteries of cystic fibrosis, cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the face of the future economy lies in this little tube and many others like it in laboratories all across Wisconsin.

Unlocking the mysteries of this small strand of DNA is just one way we're going to ignite a new industrial revolution through the unlimited potential the bioscience and high technology industries.
New discoveries in science and technology will create high skilled, high paying jobs in Wisconsin. Those jobs will provide a higher quality of life for our families and brain gains for our state.

A driving force behind this new economy will be the new Wisconsin Idea, a partnership between the University of Wisconsin and the private sector.

In the early 1900s, the scientific pioneers at the University of Wisconsin revolutionized the state's agriculture industry with new ways to measure milk quality, reduce food spoilage and eliminate disease in dairy herds.

Today, the science being done our university laboratories is literally spawning new companies that make the technology and products to bring to the marketplace.