

# Daily Corinthian

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# Hailing Haley



## Barbour applauds purchase

By Brant Sappington  
Staff Writer

Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour applauded the efforts of those involved in the recent purchase of Corinth's ACT Electronics plant by Ayrshire Electronics during a Tuesday afternoon visit to the plant.

Ayrshire Chairman Milo Bryant said a phone conversation with the governor played a major role in his decision to acquire the Corinth plant, saving more than 200 jobs that were expected to be lost after ACT announced plans to close the facility later in the year.

"That phone call, governor, was a deciding factor," Bryant told Barbour. "That is why we're here today providing quality jobs."

The company chairman said he's excited about what the future can hold for his company in Corinth.

"It is a new day. It's a new beginning. It's our day," said Bryant.

The governor said he is grateful for Bryant's willingness to invest in the area.

"I am grateful for your faith in Mississippi," said Barbour.

The governor said the speed with which the acquisition deal

Staff Photo by Brant Sappington

Governor Haley Barbour shares a laugh with an employee of Ayrshire Electronics during his visit to the former ACT Electronics plant Tuesday.

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# Haley...

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was put together is an example of what can happen when local government and economic development officials are truly committed to a project.

Barbour said he believes Bryant chose to purchase the plant because of the history of productivity by its workers.

"One of the central things about this is, this facility already made money and Milo knows a good deal when he sees one," he said.

Speaking to more than 200 employees of Ayrshire who waited after their shifts ended Tuesday to hear the governor's remarks, Barbour focused on the value of Mississippi's workforce. He said when companies decide to invest in a community, they are showing their faith in its people.

"When all is said and done, these people decided to make a very, very big investment in you, the people who work here," said Barbour.