

MEMORANDUM

October 15, 2001

TO: Governor

FROM: John

RE: Jackson Zoo Capital Campaign press conference

Today's press conference is being held to publicly announce the zoo's capital campaign to raise an additional \$2.5 million to complete an \$8 million renovation project. The state provided \$4 million in 1995 (I believe it was through a bond issue), and the city later gave \$1.5 million.

I spoke with Bill Hunsberger, and he said you will only need to speak for a minute. Amy Tuck and Harvey Johnson will be there. The main speaker for the press conference will be the architect overseeing the renovations. The press conference is expected to last for about 20 minutes.

*Remarks for the
Jackson Zoo Capital Campaign Press Conference
October 15, 2001*

I'm proud to be here today as honorary chairman of the Jackson Zoo's Capital Campaign, "Building a Wild Kingdom."

The zoo offers so much to Jackson and the state. It gives our children a place to learn and enjoy. It is a strong anchor for the communities here along Capitol Street. It is a place that takes us, as adults, back to memories of childhood.

With the completion of this new project, children and adults alike will enjoy the recreation of wildlife habitats from Mississippi, educational opportunities for teachers and students, and the beautiful African savannah teeming with wildlife.

George Eliot once wrote that “animals are such agreeable friends; they ask no questions, and they pass no criticisms.”

We owe much about our quality of life to the projects we support in our communities, and the Jackson Zoo is setting a new standard. I am proud of the support the state and city have been able to provide to this worthy project, and I look forward to its completion.

Thank you.