

*Remarks for the
Opening of the Scottish Highland Games
March 23, 2002*

Thank you, Don. It's a beautiful day to celebrate the culture, the arts, the food and the sport of Scotland! I'm glad to be here to help kick off the 13th Annual Scottish Highland Games.

From the bagpipes to the dancers to the hammer throw, there's no lack of activity here this weekend.

I am always amazed by the sporting activities that take place here – the caber toss, the stone throw. There's nothing like it – and it's fun to have it in Mississippi.

This event draws people from around the country – and we're excited to be playing host to you.

I want to welcome the pipers here from around the country. I know you will enjoy your time in our state and I wish you the best of luck as you play for Piper of the Day.

I'm sorry I won't be able to stay to sample some of the haggis. There's a saying in my line of work that there are two things you don't want to see made – laws and sausage. From what I understand, haggis could make the list as well.

Mississippi is proud to host this wonderful event, I'm proud to be here with you, and it is my pleasure to proclaim the 13th Annual Highland Games of Mississippi now open!