

Investiture of President Ronald Mason, Jr.  
Friday, October 20, 2000  
10:00 a.m.  
Lee E. Williams Athletics & Assembly Center

- Good Morning
- What a pleasure it is for me to stand here today on behalf of the State of Mississippi
- What an exciting time for Jackson State University as we welcome a new college president
- I would like to welcome everyone to Jackson – as Mayor Johnson would say, “The Best of the New South,” and welcome to Mississippi, “The South’s Warmest Welcome!”
- Mississippi has come a long way in recent years to improve education, and we have laid the foundation to become a national leader in education (Teacher Pay Raises & Fast Forward Mississippi)
- I am committed to investing in the people of this state to improve the Quality of Life for All Mississippians

- We have seen progress and growth at our Universities
- In Mississippi, we are investing in Education
  - Paying our teachers a professional salary is key to keeping good teachers in our classrooms and recruiting our students to enter the field of teaching
  - Preparing our students to successfully enter the workplace
- Working together with Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr. and the entire staff at JSU will help insure a bright future for all of Mississippi
- I have had the opportunity to meet and work with Dr. Mason. He brings enthusiasm and tenacity with him into this position of President.
- JSU has a long history of success and I look forward to the progress that Dr. Mason will make.
- Thank You. Enjoy your future.