July 11, 2001

John R. Heard 526 Oak Street Starkville, Mississippi 39759

Dear John,

Please accept my personal congratulations for receiving the Best Overall Design Award in the 2001 National Timber Bridge Design Competition. Your dedication and commitment to excellence in the field of civil engineering has paid off and now you hold this prestigious award.

By receiving this award, your team of young, freshminded civil engineers has been chosen as one of the nation's best and brightest. With the hard work and commitment of leaders like you, we will continue making great strides toward making Mississippi America's State of Promise.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to continue to strive towards excellence and prepare yourself for the future through knowledge, in order to become the leaders of tomorrow. Allow me to join my fellow Mississippians in recognizing your accomplishment. Again, congratulations to you and best wishes for continuing success.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/kfg