

*Remarks for the
CDBG Award – Jerry J. Fairley, Sr., Recreational Park
May 1, 2002*

Thank you, Duncan. It is great to be here in Wiggins and Stone County. The commitment of this community to the growth and positive development of its land signals a strong commitment to its people as well.

That commitment is evident in this site for the Jerry J. Fairley, Sr., Recreational Park. This will be a gathering place for children and families. They will play soccer, basketball and tennis here. They will pitch horseshoes and serve volleyballs.

I know there are many individuals who have been active in the development of this project. Scott Maddox and Pam Fairley have done much of the work that brings us here today, but so many others have worked hard as well.

Ben von Hermann and the Stone-Wiggins Soccer Club, the Stone County Board of Supervisors, the Economic Development Partnership, the school board and other steering committee members have given generously of their time and energy.

It's also important to note that volunteers are already lined up to bring this project to completion, and we appreciate their willingness to work.

Today, it's my pleasure to help make the work a little easier. I am proud to award a Community Development block Grant for the Jerry J. Fairley, Sr., Recreational Park in the amount of \$275,776.

It's been said that "without a sense of caring, there can't be a sense of community." It's evident by the work that's been done so far, and the work that's going to be done on this part, that this is a strong community.