

### SALES TAX PROPOSAL

We, as the commissioners for the Parks and Recreation Department for the City of Jonesboro, voice our total support in favor of the proposed \$.01 sales tax to be voted on August 5. The Parks and Recreation Department's budget for 1986 is \$136M of which \$103M is obtained through revenue sharing funds. Since these funds will not be available after September of this year, the Parks and Recreation Department will have to close its doors unless additional revenues are received from some other source. The proposed \$.01 sales tax we feel is the most equitable way of obtaining these needed funds.

**What will be the impact on the citizens of Jonesboro and Craighead County if the Parks and Recreation Department should close?** These are just a few conservative estimates of the utilization of a few of the facilities.

- Bell Center - 3600 people/month
- Watson Center - 1900 people/month
- Craighead Forrest - 260 cars/day
- Craighead Forrest Swimming Area - 65 swimmers/day
- Bell Center Pool - 100 swimmers/day

These utilization figures do not take into consideration support for such activities as softball, soccer, baseball, volleyball, etc.; nor does this include maintenance of the various parks throughout the area.

Therefore, we as commissioners for the Parks and Recreation Department feel strongly that if the \$.01 sales tax is not passed by vote, the citizens of Craighead County will be denying themselves the opportunities that the Parks and Recreation Department offers.