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**ASHTON-TATE NAMES JAMES FURNEAUX
TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

TORRANCE, Calif., April 30, 1986 -- Ashton-Tate, one of the three largest independent publishers of microcomputer software products, today announced the appointment of James H. Furneaux to its board of directors.

Furneaux, 42, is a general partner at Bessemer Venture Partners, a venture capital limited partnership based in Wellesley Hills, Mass. Ashton-Tate's selection of Furneaux, with his background in investment banking, reflects the company's desire to expand the expertise of the members of its board.

Furneaux also is an advisory director and formerly was a managing director in corporate finance and venture capital at L.F. Rothschild Unterberg Towbin, an underwriter of Ashton-Tate which co-managed Ashton-Tate's initial public offering in 1983.

"Furneaux has a history of association with a number of successful high technology companies, both in and out of the personal computer industry," said Edward M. Esber, Jr., president and chief executive officer of Ashton-Tate. "His long-standing

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Ashton-Tate Appoints Furneaux

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relationship with Ashton-Tate and his varied background in high technology bring invaluable expertise to our board."

Prior to joining L.F. Rothschild in 1976, Furneaux was technology group leader at Keystone Custodian Funds of Boston. Currently, he serves on the board of directors of Epsco Inc. and Intermetrics Inc.

Furneaux earned his Bachelor of Arts at Northeastern University and his Master of Business Administration at the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration, Dartmouth College.

Ashton-Tate reported record revenues of \$121.6 million and record net income of \$16.6 million for fiscal 1986, ended January 31, 1986, an increase of 47.7 percent and 122 percent, respectively, from the previous year.

The company's products include dBASE III PLUS, dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack, Framework II and the MultiMate Professional Word Processor products.

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