IMMEDIATE

Judy Marie Merrill
Ashton-Tate
(213) 538-7321

Stephen Cooper
Miller Communications
(213) 822-4669

ASHTON-TATE, SKISOFT AGREE TO DEVELOP
DESKTOP PUBLISHING PRODUCT

TORRANCE, Calif., September 16, 1986 -- Ashton-Tate's
Publishing Group today announced it has reached an agreement with
Skisoft, Inc. of Lexington, Mass., to co-develop a desktop
publishing software product based on Skisoft technology for the
IBM PC and compatibles.

Skisoft is a privately-owned software development company
headed by founder Ken Skier. Details of the product and release
date were not announced.

Ashton-Tate is the second largest developer and marketer of
microcomputer applications software. Its Publishing Group
develops and markets books, book/disk packages and software
add-on products that support Ashton-Tate software products such
as dBASE III Plus and Framework II.

(more)

The company reported revenues of $49 million and net income
of $6.47 million for the second quarter of fiscal 1987, ended
July 31, 1986, increases of 78 percent and 87.5 percent,
respectively, from the same period of the previous year.

                        #   #   #   #

R
 Ashton-Tate, dBASE II, dBASE III and Framework are registered
 trademarks of Ashton-Tate. MultiMate is a registered trademark
 of MultiMate International Corp., an Ashton-Tate company.

tm
 Framework II and dBASE III PLUS are trademarks of Ashton-Tate.