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CONTACT: Jeff Collins, director, Center for Business and Economic Research, Sam M. Walton College of Business, 479-575-4151, jcollins@walton.uark.edu

Dixie Kline, director of communications, Sam M. Walton College of Business
479-575-2539, dkline@walton.uark.edu

RESEARCH CENTER TO HOLD QUARTERLY BUSINESS FORECAST BREAKFAST

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – The Center for Business and Economic Research in the Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas, is partnering with the Northwest Arkansas Regional Chamber of Commerce to host the Quarterly Business Analysis on Thursday, October 23, 2003. The breakfast event, open to the public, will be held from 6:45 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. at the Clarion Inn, 211 Southeast Walton Boulevard, Bentonville.

Jeff Collins, director, Center for Business and Economic Research, will present a 30-minute program that provides statistical highlights for the third quarter of 2003, projects key economic trends, and discusses short- and long-term issues facing the local and state economy. In addition, there will be a discussion of proposed changes to the state sales tax in response to fiscal needs.

“Regardless of the path taken by the legislature to improve K through 12 education in the state, tax policy will be part of the legislative mix,” said Collins. “The tax system which results from efforts to fund education will have significant implications for all Arkansans.”

The primary purpose of the Quarterly Business Analysis program is improving the dialogue between stakeholders in the region. “We want to encourage cooperation and share information that is vital to economic growth,” added Collins. “The goal is solid and sustainable economic development in Northwest Arkansas.”

The cost for the Quarterly Business Analysis program and breakfast is $10.00. Pre-registration by October 20, 2003, is recommended because space is limited. Places can be
reserved by calling 479-575-4151 or by e-mail at cberinfo@cavern.uark.edu. The program will last for approximately 40 minutes including time for questions and answers.

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