FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2003

CONTACT: Brad Lawless, director, Information Technology Research Center,  
Sam M. Walton College of Business, (479) 575-5291,  
blawless@walton.uark.edu  

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

ORACLE CEO LARRY ELLISON TO ANNOUNCE GIFT  
AT UA WALTON COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. - The Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas, will host Lawrence J. Ellison, chairman and CEO of Oracle Corporation, on Nov. 3, 2003. Ellison will be announcing a major gift to the College’s Information Technology Research Center (ITRC).

Ellison’s presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Enterprise Development on the UA campus and is open to students, faculty, staff and the public. A question and answer session will follow his talk. Ellison’s visit to the Walton College is sponsored by the ITRC.

Ellison has been Oracle's CEO since he co-founded the company in June 1977. Sometimes termed larger-than-life by the press, he is known for being ahead of his time in realizing the potential of relational databases, predicting the Internet would ‘change everything,’ and declaring that integrated software suites beat best-of-breed implementations.

“We are very pleased that Mr. Ellison will visit the campus to make this exciting announcement,” said Bill Hardgrave, executive director of the ITRC and Edwin and Karlee Bradberry Chair. “He is one of the top visionaries in the field of information technology. Oracle’s successful development of business-class database and enterprise resource systems has positioned it at a pivotal location in the IT industry.”
“This gift will have a significant impact on the business intelligence and enterprise computing curricula in the Walton College and in the College of Engineering,” added Hardgrave.

Oracle Corporation (NASDAQ: ORCL), with over 40,000 employees worldwide, is the world’s leading provider of enterprise software. Oracle technology can be found in nearly every industry around the world and in the offices of 98 of the Fortune 100 companies. The company's revenue for fiscal 2003 totaled $9.475 billion.

Oracle, represented by Bill Weils, senior director for the Global IT - Program Office, joined the ITRC in the fall of 2003. The ITRC was established in the Walton College in 1999 with a portion of the endowment created by the Walton Family Charitable Support Foundation gift of $50 million in 1998. The ITRC provides a forum for multi-disciplinary work on issues related to information technology, facilitates the exchange of information between the academic and business communities, and promotes student interest in the study of information technology.

XXX