

What: Reception Honoring Tom Dupree

When: Friday, October 14

Where: Management Building

Time: 5 p.m. -- Louetta Payne will pick you up at 4:45.

Who: School of Management Advisory Board -- some community leaders.

For Georgia Tech this is a day of "Great Expectations." We are here to express our appreciation for a significant gift of great foresight and to celebrate the establishment of a center that will undoubtedly play a major role for the Georgia Tech of the future. The Center is the Dupree Center for Entrepreneurship and New Venture Development to be established in the Ivan Allen College of Georgia Tech. The strengths that the Dupree Center will bring to us are important to us on several counts:

(1) It will serve as a catalyst for innovative thinking in our business education and outreach programs - this is vital in an age when business is rapidly changing and innovation is one of the keys to survival;

(2) The Center will also attract needed national and international attention to our Ivan Allen College and its School of Management at a time when it is emerging on the national scene as a power player.

(3) Finally the Dupree Center will help add to the growing reputation of Georgia Tech as one of the top public institutions in the country, and serve to emphasize that Georgia Tech is attaining excellence and depth in more than "just engineering." For these reasons, the Dupree Center is more it seems, and will be important for many years into the future.

Having said these things, the question arises, "If this is such a good idea why did we not do it before?" As the New Yorker cartoon so aptly described it after

showing people presenting ideas at a board meeting, the president says "That's a good idea, but who is going to come up with the scratch?" Indeed, good intentions come to naught without resources and we are blessed in this case by the generosity and wisdom of one of our own alumni, Tom Dupree. Tom is providing a gift of \$5 M towards the establishment of the Dupree Center, a gift that equals the largest single gift ever made to Georgia Tech.

We appreciate the gift and value the man who is behind it. We are further proud that Georgia Tech had a role in providing the education for Tom that he used to good advantage in a highly successful business career.

Tom Dupree graduated from Georgia Tech with a BS in Industrial Management in 1974. After years of hard work, today he is Chairman and CEO of Apple South, Inc., a company with franchises for 85 Applebees, 10 Hardees and 6 Giannis Little Italy Restaurants (mention Anne and eating at Applebees, Hardees, etc). Tom is married to his Ann who is a successful business woman in her own right through her Equestrian Center. I understand that Ann lets Tom ride her saddlebred horses, although I am told he has from time to time been had to pick himself up after losing a discussion with the horse. In a way this is the story Tom tells of his business career - that although today he is successful, it was not always so. He began his career as an owner of a Burger King and learned the food business from the ground up.

With time, this expanded to five Burger Kings that were consistently rated as leaders in the organization for professional management and automated control systems. From there to his present endeavors, Tom has been known for innovation and excellence in his businesses. In 1992, Business Week selected Apple South as one of the "Hottest Growing Companies in America." Also in 1992, Tom was selected as the Georgia Entrepreneur of the Year in the Retail area. Then in 1993 Apple South was chosen by Forbes Magazine as one of the best small companies in the world.

At Georgia Tech, we are proud of this man of accomplishment. We are grateful to him for the generosity he and Ann show for the community thru the DuPree Foundation that supports public facilities and charitable

organizations. We also thank Tom for his wise and most generous investment in the School of Management, the Ivan Allen College and Georgia Tech in establishing the Dupree Center for Entrepreneurship and New Venture Development.

I. Background: Reception honoring Tom Dupree who recently pledged \$5 million to the Georgia Tech Foundation, Inc. This gift has been assigned for the formation of the DuPree Center for Entrepreneurship and New Venture Development within the Ivan Allen College of Georgia Tech.

This gift equals the largest previous pledge Georgia Tech has ever received.

The DuPree Center will focus on research, education, community service and economic development by gathering faculty with specialties in entrepreneurship.

II. Tom Dupree/Professional Data:

Chairman & CEO

Apple South, Inc.

He holds 15-state franchises for current 85 Applebee's, 10 Hardee's & 6 Giannis Little Italy Restaurants. He owns the leading Applebee's franchise in the U.S., employees 5,250 employees and has sales in excess of \$97.6 million.

He began his career in 1979 when he opened a Burger King restaurant. He subsequently developed five more Burger Kings. All were recognized leaders in the areas of professional management, sophisticated reporting and control systems. All were also highly rated by Burger King Corporation for operational excellence. He sold these restaurants in 1986, at which time he purchased several Hardee's restaurants and signed a franchise agreement with Applebee's.

II. Professional Achievements

Forbes magazine picked Apple South, Inc, in November of 1993 as one of the 7th "Best Small Companies of the World."

In May of 1992, Business Week selected Apple South as one of the 69th "Hottest Growing Companies" in America.

He was selected as the 1992 Georgia Entrepreneur of the Year - Retail

III. Educational Data:

Graduated from Tech with a degree in Industrial Management in 1974 and was a member of SAE fraternity.

Graduated from Georgia State in 1978 with a master's degree in public accounting.

IV. Personal Data:

Lives in Madison, Georgia

Married to Ann DuPree