

**KNIGHT RIDDER
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Knight Ridder Vice President/News Jerry Ceppos Announces Retirement

SAN JOSE, Aug. 22, 2005 – Knight Ridder announced today that Jerry Ceppos, vice president/news, has elected to take early retirement, effective Aug. 31.

Ceppos, 58, has been in his current job since 1999. In it, he has had oversight of the news operations for all of Knight Ridder's daily newspapers, for the company's Washington Bureau and (with Tribune Co.) for the content of Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services. From 1995 until 1999, he was executive editor of the San Jose Mercury News. Prior to that, he had spent 23 years in various news positions at The Miami Herald and the Mercury News.

Ceppos said, "I have been thinking about this move for some time. I have talked it over with my family, and we have decided to take the plunge. I would like to devote more time to aspects of journalism that I care about most – journalistic ethics, education and overall improvement – and I might like to do some of it in academic settings as well as newsrooms. I may also, finally, try to plant the backyard vineyard in Saratoga that I have talked about for 18 years ... but I'm more certain about the journalism than the vineyard!"

Art Brisbane, Knight Ridder senior vice president, said, "Many people are going to miss Jerry a lot. In his corporate role, he has been a wise counselor to any number of Knight Ridder editors on many issues: ethical, community, organizational. He is an expert at helping to identify and place talent, and he has been a strong advocate of getting ever greater commitment from the newsrooms to focus on online content. Jerry has worked hard to make front pages bolder; he has been very creative in getting the company's resources optimally coordinated to cover the big stories, like the tsunami or the explosion of the shuttle. He has also pushed to help our editorial pages find common philosophical ground with the communities they serve."

Knight Ridder CEO Tony Ridder, said, "I have worked with Jerry for the greater part of the past 24 years, and I will always be grateful for his contributions to the better practice of journalism in our company. The concept of the 'master narrative' as a driving theme for local newspapers' coverage in their communities is Jerry's. He was one of the key participants in our development of the 'seven tenets' of good journalism. He has been a tireless advocate for fairness both in our newspapers and in our communities. In 1996 he won the company's James K. Batten Knight Ridder Excellence Award for Diversity. I thank him for his many contributions to the excellence of Knight Ridder's journalism throughout his career and I wish him all the best in his retirement and his future journalistic pursuits."

Ceppos is a past president of the Associated Press Managing Editors, a nationwide editors' group. He also served two terms as president of the California Society of Newspaper Editors. He was a Pulitzer Prize juror in 1996 and 1997. In the community, he is a member of the boards of the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University and the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art.

Long interested in journalism education, he served for six years as president of the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, which sets standards for journalism programs at the university level and accredits them. He now

represents the American Society of Newspaper Editors on the council. In 2002, the national organization of journalism-school administrators awarded Ceppos the Gerald M. Sass Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism and Mass Communications. Ceppos has chaired the journalism-education committees of both national groups of newspaper editors.

In 1997, the Society of Professional Journalists named Ceppos one of three winners of its first national Ethics in Journalism Award. Also in 1997, the Anti-Defamation League honored him with its Torch of Liberty Award for service to journalism and to the community.

Knight Ridder (NYSE: KRI) is the nation's second-largest newspaper publisher, with products in print and online. The company publishes 32 daily newspapers in 29 U.S. markets, with a readership of 8.5 million daily and 11.0 million Sunday. Knight Ridder also has investments in a variety of Internet and technology companies and two newsprint companies. The company's Internet operation, Knight Ridder Digital, develops and manages the company's online properties. It is the founder and operator of Real Cities (www.RealCities.com), the largest national network of city and regional Web sites in more than 110 U.S. markets. Knight Ridder and Knight Ridder Digital are headquartered in San Jose, Calif.

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