

Introduction of
CLAUDE A. S. HORNSBY III
At Christopher Newport University's
Commencement on December 17, 2005

First allow me to introduce Chip Hornsby's family. Chip is accompanied today by his wife Lynn, daughters Megan, Caitlin and Laura and his parents Swanson and Mary Hornsby. We warmly welcome all of you to our campus on this festive occasion.

Chip Hornsby's life reflects the qualities that we endeavor to impart to our students each day—a commitment to excellence in all things, a willingness to engage and lead and a passion for making the world a better place.

Before his 51st birthday, this Peninsula native will rise to the top of a worldwide company that employs over 60,000 people in 14 countries.

He has achieved this success by getting up earlier in the morning and working harder than most of us but also because of his vision and decency.

Here is what Chip says about vision, "Having a vision for what needs to be accomplished is critical to success. Envision what success looks like. If you can't figure that out, don't go any further. Find time to think."

Here is what his colleagues said about Chip Hornsby when the announcement was made recently that he would lead Wolseley.

"He took the time to learn our names, to respond to our voice mails, to mingle with us at company functions. He made us feel valued and appreciated. And that is the essence of Chip Hornsby. He is a man of greatness, a man of vision and a man of decency."

Hard work, vision, decency and add to that a love of family and community. Chip has ordered his life to honor his commitments as a husband and father and no one loves his family more. And he remains committed to his community and Commonwealth, carrying on Ferguson's rich tradition of community service and generosity. CNU has benefited immensely from Chip Hornsby's leadership on our Board of Visitors and the Ferguson Center has transformed this campus and community and enriched all of our lives.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am honored to present to you our distinguished speaker, Claude A.S. Hornsby III.

Paul S. Tribble, Jr.
President of the University