



**RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS COMPARABLE STORE SALES INCREASE OF 0.9%
ON OCTOBER RETAIL SALES OF \$214.2 MILLION**

Columbus, Ohio --/ November 6/Business Wire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the four weeks ended November 1, 2003, increased 5.6% to \$214.2 million from \$202.9 million for the four weeks ended November 2, 2002. The company's same store sales increased 0.9% for the four week period.

Total sales for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 1, 2003, increased 5.7% to \$1.87 billion from \$1.77 billion for the thirty-nine weeks ended November 2, 2002. The company's same store sales increased 0.9% for the thirty-nine week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	Four weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	November 1, 2003		November 2, 2002	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$113,315	52.9	\$117,255	57.8
DSW Shoe Warehouse	72,336	33.8	59,460	29.3
Filene's Basement	28,548	13.3	26,139	12.9
	\$214,199	100.0	\$202,854	100.0

Comparable Sales Percentage			
Value City Department Stores		(3.4)%	(2.2)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		9.1 %	7.5 %
Filene's Basement		4.4 %	2.2 %
		0.9 %	0.5%

	Thirty-nine weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	November 1, 2003		November 2, 2002	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$1,054,809	56.3	\$1,062,691	59.9
DSW Shoe Warehouse	591,146	31.5	485,002	27.4
Filene's Basement	227,810	12.2	224,271	12.7
	\$1,873,765	100.0	\$1,771,964	100.0

Comparable Sales Percentage			
Value City Department Stores		(0.4)%	(4.9)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		4.2 %	0.3 %
Filene's Basement		0.6 %	1.9 %
		0.9 %	(3.0)%

Retail Ventures, Inc. is a leading off-price retailer currently operating 116 Value City Department Stores in the Midwest, mid-Atlantic and southeastern U.S., 21 Filene's Basement Stores in the Northeast and 138 better-branded DSW Shoe Warehouse Stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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