

## RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS APRIL SALES

Columbus, Ohio --/ May 5/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the four weeks ended April 30, 2005, increased 6.9% to \$234.7 million from \$219.6 million for the four weeks ended May 1, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 0.7% for the four week period.

Total sales for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2005, increased 5.2% to \$680.0 million from \$646.3 million for the thirteen weeks ended May 1, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 2.5% for the thirteen week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	Four weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	April 30, 2005		May 1, 2004*	
	\$	%	\$	%
<b>Total Sales</b>				
Value City Department Stores	\$100,533	42.8	\$110,632	50.4
DSW Shoe Warehouse	103,081	43.9	83,719	38.1
Filene's Basement	31,091	13.3	25,270	11.5
	<b>\$234,705</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$219,621</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Comparable Sales Percentage</b>				
Value City Department Stores		(8.4)%		(5.3)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		7.6 %		5.6 %
Filene's Basement		7.6 %		10.4 %
		<b>(0.7)%</b>		<b>(0.2)%</b>

	Thirteen weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	April 30, 2005		May 1, 2004*	
	\$	%	\$	%
<b>Total Sales</b>				
Value City Department Stores	\$311,455	45.8	\$339,992	52.6
DSW Shoe Warehouse	281,806	41.4	232,622	36.0
Filene's Basement	86,784	12.8	73,686	11.4
	<b>\$680,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$646,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Comparable Sales Percentage</b>				
Value City Department Stores		(7.9)%		(1.1)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		4.4 %		11.0 %
Filene's Basement		2.0 %		15.2 %
		<b>(2.5)%</b>		<b>4.2 %</b>

\*Business segments were realigned at the beginning of fiscal 2005 to reflect how the company establishes strategic goals and manages the business. The realignment resulted in the Filene's Basement shoe business being included within the DSW Shoe Warehouse segment. The fiscal 2004 presentation has been restated to conform with this realignment.

Retail Ventures, Inc. is a leading off-price retailer currently operating 114 Value City Department Stores in the Midwest, mid-Atlantic and southeastern U.S., 27 Filene's Basement Stores in the Northeast and 177 better-branded DSW Shoe Warehouse Stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. DSW also supplies, under supply arrangements, to 205 locations for other non-related retailers in the United States.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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