

RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS JULY SALES

Columbus, Ohio --/ August 4/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the four weeks ended July 30, 2005, increased 2.2% to \$174.3 million from \$170.6 million for the four weeks ended July 31, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 4.0% for the four week period.

Total sales for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2005, increased 5.4% to \$1.35 billion from \$1.28 billion for the twenty-six weeks ended July 31, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 1.8% for the twenty-six week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

| | Four weeks ended (\$ in thousands) | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| | July 30, 2005 | | July 31, 2004* | |
| | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Total Sales | | | | |
| Value City Department Stores | \$81,887 | 47.0 | \$ 89,593 | 52.5 |
| DSW | 69,357 | 39.8 | 60,157 | 35.3 |
| Filene's Basement | 23,068 | 13.2 | 20,879 | 12.2 |
| | \$174,312 | 100.0 | \$170,629 | 100.0 |
| Comparable Sales Percentage | | | | |
| Value City Department Stores | | (8.0)% | | (4.8) % |
| DSW | | 1.5 % | | 1.4 % |
| Filene's Basement | | (1.1) % | | 0.6 % |
| | | (4.0) % | | (2.3) % |

| | Twenty-six weeks ended (\$ in thousands) | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | July 30, 2005 | | July 31, 2004* | |
| | \$ | % | \$ | % |
| Total Sales | | | | |
| Value City Department Stores | \$612,625 | 45.5 | \$658,607 | 51.5 |
| DSW | 558,017 | 41.4 | 466,964 | 36.6 |
| Filene's Basement | 176,137 | 13.1 | 152,383 | 11.9 |
| | \$1,346,779 | 100.0 | \$1,277,954 | 100.0 |
| Comparable Sales Percentage | | | | |
| Value City Department Stores | | (6.4)% | | (3.3)% |
| DSW | | 3.9 % | | 6.9 % |
| Filene's Basement | | 1.8 % | | 9.7 % |
| | | (1.8)% | | 1.2 % |

*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 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 185 better-branded DSW stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. DSW also supplies, under supply arrangements, to 207 locations for other non-related retailers in the United States.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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