

RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS AUGUST SALES

Columbus, Ohio --/ September 1/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the four weeks ended August 27, 2005, increased 3.3% to \$216.4 million from \$209.4 million for the four weeks ended August 28, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 1.7% for the four week period.

Total sales for the thirty weeks ended August 27, 2005, increased 5.1% to \$1.56 billion from \$1.49 billion for the thirty weeks ended August 28, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 1.8% for the thirty week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	<u>Four weeks ended (\$ in thousands)</u>			
	<u>August 27, 2005</u>		<u>August 28, 2004*</u>	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$110,305	51.0	\$114,581	54.7
DSW	77,695	35.9	69,865	33.4
Filene's Basement	28,386	13.1	24,962	11.9
	\$216,386	100.0	\$209,408	100.0
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(3.2)%		(7.6)%
DSW		(0.2)%		2.2 %
Filene's Basement		2.2 %		1.2 %
		(1.7)%		(4.0)%

	<u>Thirty weeks ended (\$ in thousands)</u>			
	<u>August 27, 2005</u>		<u>August 28, 2004*</u>	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$722,930	46.2	\$773,188	52.0
DSW	635,712	40.7	536,829	36.1
Filene's Basement	204,523	13.1	177,345	11.9
	\$1,563,165	100.0	\$1,487,362	100.0
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(5.9)%		(4.0)%
DSW		3.4 %		6.3 %
Filene's Basement		1.9 %		8.4 %
		(1.8)%		0.4 %

*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 186 better-branded DSW stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. DSW also supplies, under supply arrangements, to 209 locations for other non-related retailers in the United States.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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