

RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS SEPTEMBER SALES

Columbus, Ohio --/ October 6/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the five weeks ended October 1, 2005, increased 4.1% to \$269.1 million from \$258.5 million for the five weeks ended October 2, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 2.0% for the five week period.

Total sales for the thirty-five weeks ended October 1, 2005, increased 4.9% to \$1.83 billion from \$1.75 billion for the thirty-five weeks ended October 2, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 1.8% for the thirty-five week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	<u>Five weeks ended (\$ in thousands)</u>			
	<u>October 1, 2005</u>		<u>October 2, 2004*</u>	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$118,481	44.0	\$125,189	48.4
DSW	111,920	41.6	99,051	38.3
Filene's Basement	38,699	14.4	34,275	13.3
	\$269,100	100.0	\$258,515	100.0
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(4.8)%		(9.7)%
DSW		1.1 %		(4.9)%
Filene's Basement		0.4 %		(2.9)%
		(2.0)%		(7.3)%

	<u>Thirty-five weeks ended (\$ in thousands)</u>			
	<u>October 1, 2005</u>		<u>October 2, 2004*</u>	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$841,411	45.9	\$898,377	51.5
DSW	747,632	40.8	635,880	36.4
Filene's Basement	243,222	13.3	211,620	12.1
	\$1,832,265	100.0	\$1,745,877	100.0
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(5.8)%		(4.8)%
DSW		3.0 %		4.5 %
Filene's Basement		1.6 %		6.4 %
		(1.8)%		(0.8)%

*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 190 better-branded DSW stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. DSW also supplies, under supply arrangements, to 210 locations for other non-related retailers in the United States.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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