

RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS MARCH SALES

Columbus, Ohio --/ April 7/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the five weeks ended April 2, 2005, increased 0.8% to \$262.7 million from \$260.5 million for the five weeks ended April 3, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 6.5% for the five week period.

Total sales for the nine weeks ended April 2, 2005, increased 4.4% to \$445.3 million from \$426.7 million for the nine weeks ended April 3, 2004. The company's same store sales decreased 3.4% for the nine week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	Five weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	April 2, 2005		April 3, 2004*	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$120,289	45.8	\$135,182	51.9
DSW Shoe Warehouse	110,931	42.2	96,306	37.0
Filene's Basement	31,515	12.0	29,053	11.1
	<u>\$262,735</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$260,541</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(10.4)%		(2.1)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		(1.6)%		12.6 %
Filene's Basement		(4.2)%		15.2 %
		<u>(6.5)%</u>		<u>4.1 %</u>

	Nine weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	April 2, 2005		April 3, 2004*	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$210,922	47.4	\$229,360	53.8
DSW Shoe Warehouse	178,725	40.1	148,903	34.9
Filene's Basement	55,693	12.5	48,416	11.3
	<u>\$445,340</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$426,679</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(7.7)%		1.0%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		2.7 %		14.1%
Filene's Basement		(0.8)%		17.7%
		<u>(3.4)%</u>		<u>6.5%</u>

*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 175 better-branded DSW Shoe Warehouse Stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. DSW also supplies, under supply arrangements, to 203 locations for other non-related retailers in the United States.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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