

**RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS COMPARABLE STORE SALES INCREASE OF 5.6% ON
JANUARY RETAIL SALES OF \$153.1 MILLION**

Columbus, Ohio --/ February 2/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the four weeks ended January 28, 2006 increased 10.5% to \$153.1 million from \$138.6 million for the four weeks ended January 29, 2005. The company's same store sales increased 5.6% for the four week period.

Total sales for the fifty-two weeks ended January 28, 2006 increased 6.3% to \$2.91 billion from \$2.74 billion for the fifty-two weeks ended January 29, 2005. The company's same store sales increased 0.5% for the fifty-two week period.

Previously, the Company had provided monthly comparable store sales results. Beginning in fiscal 2006, the Company will only announce comparable store sales results on a quarterly basis.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	Four weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	January 28, 2006		January 29, 2005*	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$62,754	41.0	\$64,115	46.2
DSW	71,576	46.7	58,174	42.0
Filene's Basement	18,817	12.3	16,344	11.8
	\$153,147	100.0	\$138,633	100.0
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(0.4)%		(1.5)%
DSW		11.6 %		13.0 %
Filene's Basement		12.0 %		(3.9)%
		5.6 %		2.9%

	Fifty-two weeks ended (\$ in thousands)			
	January 28, 2006		January 29, 2005*	
	\$	%	\$	%
Total Sales				
Value City Department Stores	\$1,379,975	47.4	\$1,434,612	52.4
DSW	1,144,061	39.3	961,095	35.1
Filene's Basement	389,335	13.3	343,924	12.5
	\$2,913,371	100.0	\$2,739,631	100.0
Comparable Sales Percentage				
Value City Department Stores		(3.2)%		(4.9)%
DSW		5.4 %		5.0 %
Filene's Basement		3.5 %		4.7 %
		0.5%		(1.0)%

*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 113 Value City Department Stores in the Midwest, mid-Atlantic and southeastern U.S., 27 Filene's Basement Stores in the Northeast and 199 better-branded DSW stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. DSW also supplies, under supply arrangements, to 213 locations for other non-related retailers in the United States.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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