



Lee Enterprises Advertising Revenue Increases 2.9% in January

February 16, 2006

DAVENPORT, Iowa--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 16, 2006--Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (NYSE:LEE), reported today that same property advertising revenue in January increased 2.9 percent over a year ago. The former Pulitzer Inc. newspapers, including the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, reported advertising revenue growth totaling 2.2 percent.

On a same property(1) basis, which excludes the impact of acquisitions and divestitures made in the current or prior year, retail advertising revenue increased 2.3 percent. Classified advertising revenue increased 1.3 percent, with employment up 13.6 percent, automotive down 17.2 percent, real estate up 3.9 percent, other newspaper classified categories up 3.5 percent, and classified in non-daily publications down 1.3 percent. National advertising revenue decreased 4.9 percent. Online advertising revenue increased 35.5 percent. Niche publication advertising revenue increased 15.3 percent. Circulation revenue decreased 2.6 percent.

Total same property operating revenue increased 1.5 percent. Including the effect of acquisitions and divestitures, total advertising revenue increased 79.1 percent, and total operating revenue increased 71.9 percent, due primarily to the acquisition of Pulitzer in June 2005.

PULITZER RESULTS

Pulitzer revenue is reported in statistical periods. For the statistical reporting period ended Jan. 29, 2006, comparing the current year period to last year, which is before Lee's ownership, Pulitzer advertising revenue increased 2.2 percent, with total revenue up 1.7 percent. In St. Louis, advertising revenue increased 1.2 percent, with strong national sales, and total revenue increased 1.3 percent. In the other former Pulitzer newspapers, advertising revenue increased 4.3 percent, and total revenue increased 2.6 percent.

In the 50 percent partnership in Tucson, which is accounted for using the equity method and is not included in the Pulitzer revenue described above, advertising revenue for the January statistical reporting period rose 6.8 percent, and total revenue increased 5.0 percent.

Tables follow.

Lee Enterprises is a premier publisher of newspapers in midsize markets, with 52 dailies and a joint interest in six others, a rapidly growing online business and more than 300 weekly newspapers and specialty publications in 23 states. Lee's newspapers have circulation of 1.7 million daily and 1.9 million Sunday, reaching more than four million readers daily, and its weekly publications have distribution of more than 4.5 million households. Lee's newspapers include such diverse markets as Napa, Calif.; Bloomington, Ill.; Billings, Mont.; Escondido, Calif.; Madison, Wis.; and St. Louis, Mo. Lee is based in Davenport, Iowa, and its stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LEE. For more information about Lee Enterprises, please visit www.lee.net.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED Revenue and Statistical Summary (Unaudited)

OPERATING REVENUE

	January			Fiscal Year to Date		
(Thousands)	2006	2005	%	2006	2005	%
Advertising revenue:						
Retail.....	\$21,610	\$21,120	2.3 %	\$105,478	\$104,400	1.0 %
National.....	1,815	1,908	(4.9)	8,500	8,457	0.5
Classified:						
Daily newspapers:						
Employment...	4,720	4,154	13.6	17,041	14,936	14.1
Automotive...	2,530	3,055	(17.2)	10,893	12,918	(15.7)
Real estate..	3,098	2,982	3.9	12,624	12,203	3.4
All other....	1,721	1,662	3.5	7,531	7,365	2.3
Other publications..						
	2,286	2,316	(1.3)	10,391	10,703	(2.9)
Total classified revenue.....						
	14,355	14,169	1.3	58,480	58,125	0.6

Online.....	1,444	1,066	35.5	5,606	4,190	33.8
Niche publications...	1,554	1,348	15.3	4,132	4,011	3.0

Total advertising revenue.....	40,778	39,611	2.9	182,196	179,183	1.7
Circulation.....	10,867	11,159	(2.6)	42,411	43,589	(2.7)
Commercial printing.....	1,501	1,535	(2.2)	6,527	6,914	(5.6)
Online services and other.....	2,035	2,061	(1.3)	8,349	8,298	0.6

Total same property operating revenue.....	55,181	54,366	1.5	239,483	237,984	0.6
Acquisitions & divestitures....	38,586	176	NM	156,923	642	NM

Total operating revenue.....	\$93,767	\$54,542	71.9 %	\$396,406	\$238,626	66.1 %
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DAILY NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING VOLUME

	January			Fiscal Year to Date		
(Thousands of Inches)	2006	2005	%	2006	2005	%

Retail.....	736	780	(5.6)%	3,627	3,757	(3.5)%
National.....	43	45	(4.4)	184	203	(9.4)
Classified.....	900	908	(0.9)	3,710	3,802	(2.4)

Total, same property.....	1,679	1,733	(3.1)%	7,521	7,762	(3.1)%
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NOTES:

- (1) Same property comparisons exclude acquisitions and divestitures made in the current and prior year. Same property revenue also excludes revenue of Madison Newspapers, Inc. (MNI), in which Lee owns a 50% share. It is reported using the equity method of accounting.
- (2) January had one more Tuesday and one fewer Saturday than the prior period. The year to date had one more Tuesday and one fewer Friday than the prior period.
- (3) Certain amounts as previously reported have been reclassified to conform with the current period presentation. The prior period has been restated for comparative purposes, and the reclassifications have no impact on earnings.
- (4) The Company's fiscal year ends on September 30.
- (5) The Company disclaims responsibility for updating information beyond the release date.

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "Safe Harbor" for forward-looking statements. This release contains information that may be deemed forward-looking and that is based largely on the Company's current expectations and is subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. Among such risks, trends and other uncertainties are changes in advertising demand, newsprint prices, energy costs, interest rates, labor costs, legislative and regulatory rulings and other results of operations or financial conditions, difficulties in integration of acquired businesses or maintaining employee and customer relationships and increased capital and other costs. The words "may," "will," "would," "could," "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "projects," "considers" and similar expressions generally identify forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which are made as of the date of this release. The Company does not publicly undertake to update or revise its forward-looking statements.

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