



LEE ENTERPRISES

2001 Annual Report



Lee Enterprises owns 23 daily newspapers and more than 100 weekly, classified, shopper and specialty publications, along with associated Internet services, primarily from the Midwest to the Pacific Northwest. Lee also jointly owns five daily newspapers and more than a dozen other publications operated by Madison Newspapers Inc. in Wisconsin.

In 2001, Lee Enterprises completed the sale of its television stations in order to focus on growing in newspaper publishing and related online services.

Lee has more than 4,800 employees and is based in Davenport, Iowa.

Lee's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LEE.

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Officers and Directors
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Summary Financial Information

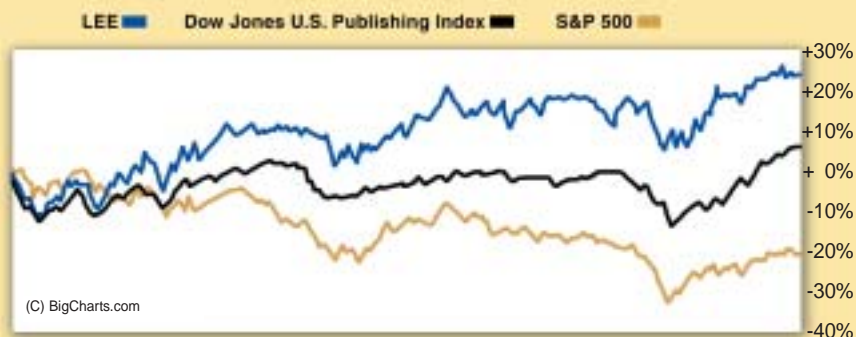
Lee Enterprises, Incorporated and Subsidiaries

(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)

	2001	2000
For The Year		
Operating revenue	\$ 441,153	\$ 431,513
Income before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA)	118,174	131,793
Operating income	86,016	102,467
Income from continuing operations.....	59,457	69,875
Discontinued operations	254,771	13,788
Net income	314,228	83,663
At Year End		
Cash and temporary cash investments	\$ 483,390	\$ 29,427
Total assets	1,000,397	746,233
Debt, including current maturities	173,400	222,932
Stockholders' equity	681,944	395,167
Per Common Share (Diluted)		
Income from continuing operations.....	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.58
Discontinued operations	5.78	0.31
Net income.....	7.13	1.89
Dividends	0.68	0.64
Ratios		
EBITDA as a percent of revenue	26.8%	30.5%
Income from continuing operations as a percent of revenue	13.5%	16.2%
Debt/EBITDA.....	1.47x	1.69x

Stock Performance

Oct. 1, 2000
to Nov. 30, 2001





Mary E. Junck
President and
Chief Executive Officer

To Our Stockholders

The strength of Lee Enterprises, the importance of our top priorities and the vitality of our business became even more apparent in 2001.

Despite a year-long economic slowdown, we delivered strong cash flow, a 27 percent EBITDA margin and record dividends, along with a powerful balance sheet. Our stock performed at the top of our industry and considerably above the market as a whole.

One reason we did so well is that our midsize markets have continued to prove less vulnerable than large metro markets to sharp swings in the national economy. We've earned a strong position in our markets, which has given us an advantage during the slowdown and should position us well for the rebound.

Another reason we did well is that we have remained focused on five top priorities — pushing revenue, improving readership and circulation, emphasizing strong local news, driving our Internet sites, and minding our costs.

Here are a few highlights:

REVENUE

We've increased sales pressure in every Lee market through sales blitzes, intensive training, promotions, innovation and overall aggressiveness.

Last February, for example, we set out to add 12,500 new local accounts by the end of our fiscal year in September. We finished with more than 21,000.

Meanwhile, our blitz teams, consisting of local reps paired with veteran sellers from corporate and other markets in Lee, sold contracts totaling \$6.9 million of new revenue for the year, beating their goal by a million and a half.

In August, we integrated our sales staff in Madison and Central Wisconsin, with outstanding results. Every rep now sells 16 publications rather than only one or two. Our sales people in Madison now also sell the *Baraboo News Republic*, the *Portage Daily Register*, the *Sauk Prairie Eagle*, the *Shopper Stopper* and *Wisconsin Dells Events*, among others. In Baraboo and the others, reps now also represent the *Wisconsin*

People throughout Lee carry a fold-over card showing our five top priorities and key action steps for 2002.



State Journal, The Capital Times, other publications based in Madison, and all the rest in Central Wisconsin. Advertisers love it. We've begun integrating sales in the La Crosse/Winona region, and we plan to expand on this successful model throughout Lee.

Because of all we did and despite the economy, our retail advertising revenue grew 0.7 percent on a same property basis. In classified, we almost held our own, down only 4.5 percent, in the face of a 12.5 percent loss in employment advertising. Total advertising revenue declined only 1.4%, a showing that puts us in the top tier of our industry.

READERSHIP AND CIRCULATION

A year ago, in the Audit Bureau of Circulations report for the six months that ended September 30, our daily circulation declined 2.6%, following the trend of the previous nine years.

This year daily circulation increased 0.7 percent, our best showing in 10 years. On Sunday we finished almost flat, down less than 0.2 percent, for our best performance in six years.

We're pushing hard on sales, promotion, service and retention.

In Helena, Montana, publisher Brad Hurd rallied the whole staff in a sales campaign called "Friends & Family." Editors, reporters, ad reps, press operators and others went door to door selling subscriptions. With that campaign and a lot of hustle in other selling efforts, Helena's circulation climbed nearly 2 percent daily.

In Carbondale, Illinois, circulation manager Rhonda Zuraff was honored by the Newspaper Association of America as one of the nation's best circulation marketers. She has since been promoted to our newspaper in Missoula, Montana. Carbondale's circulation rose 4.4 percent daily and 3.5 percent Sunday.

In Albany and Corvallis, Oregon, circulation jumped 3.4 and 3.7 percent daily, and combined Sunday circulation rose 4.6 percent.

Circulation is also up daily and Sunday in Billings, Montana; Bismarck, North Dakota; Lincoln, Nebraska; and La Crosse and Racine, Wisconsin. It's also up daily in Ashland, Oregon; Davenport, Iowa; and Baraboo, Madison and Portage, Wisconsin.

STRONG LOCAL NEWS

Of course, a good deal of the credit also goes to our newsrooms and to our emphasis on strong local news.

For a glimpse at some of our outstanding news coverage, please turn to Page 8.

People in our communities rely on us for the great expanse and depth of news, information and advertising that they can't get

Newspapers are a wonderful, vibrant business. We believe that with our heads and our hearts, and we think the future is especially bright for daily newspapers in midsize markets like ours.



anywhere else. They also count on us for perspective and leadership, especially in times of crisis.

On September 11, every one of our morning newspapers produced an extra edition that afternoon and began updating its website immediately. We carried not only the horrible news of the attacks, but also the stunning range of local-impact stories.

Readers snapped up the extras, and actually lined up outside our offices and at newsstands. In Missoula and elsewhere, the publisher and all but a few employees took to the streets with the extras. In several markets, we actually had to restart the press to satisfy demand.

Across Lee, our newspapers helped launch relief efforts and rallies, and printed full-page U.S. flags for people to display in their windows. Through the Lee Foundation, we made an initial contribution of \$50,000 to the relief effort and are matching donations by employees.

In order to give our editors more support as they continue raising our standards of excellence, we have added the position of vice president for news. Filling the role is David Stoeffler, formerly our editor in Lincoln and chair of our readership team for the past several years.

ONLINE

Online revenues in 2001 grew 37% on a same property basis, as we've continued to improve content and advertising services.

Our [Flood 2001.com](http://Flood2001.com) site became the national link for information concerning the floods along the Mississippi River last spring. It won the NAA's Digital Edge award for innovation in news coverage.

All our newspapers update their websites throughout the day, and we promote the next day's newspaper.

Meanwhile, our online subsidiary, Townnews.com, has expanded its reach through internal growth and an acquisition. Townnews.com now provides Internet services for more than 550 newspapers in the United States and Canada.

COST CONTROLS

Even though we've always maintained lean operations and high margins, we moved early on expenses, making tough decisions for both the short and long term.

We reduced our workforce, curtailed hiring, froze executive pay, trimmed benefits, chopped into corporate expense and attacked costs in all categories. We should see the results in 2002.

ACQUISITION EFFORTS

Newspapers are a wonderful, vibrant business. We believe that with our heads and our hearts, and we think the future is especially bright for daily newspapers in midsize markets like ours.

That's why we sold our television stations a year ago — to use the proceeds for newspaper acquisitions.

We're actively pursuing newspapers with circulation of 30,000 to 125,000 in growing markets. Based on our strong track record, we believe we can grow such acquisitions at rates that exceed industry averages. We have analyzed hundreds of markets and have identified several dozen that fit our criteria especially well. We are working hard to find the right deals.

Because of our faith in the future of newspapers in midsize markets, as well as in our ability to operate them well, we're willing to pay good prices for good properties. Obviously, we intend to make sure that any deal is in your best interest as a stockholder.



Jeff Cook / Quad-City Times

Dick Gottlieb leaves a lasting legacy of vision and values — as well as many delightful memories.

FOND FAREWELLS

Three members of the Lee Board of Directors are retiring when their terms expire in January — Phyllis Sewell, J.P. “Rick” Guerin and Dick Gottlieb.

Phyllis and Rick have served magnificently for 25 and 17 years, respectively, and we will miss them.

We will especially miss Dick Gottlieb. In his 37 years with Lee, including 16 years at the helm, he has left a lasting legacy of vision and values, as well as a wonderful platform for growth. All of us in Lee will remain grateful for his leadership, fellowship and continuing, warm friendship.

With best wishes for the new year,

Mary E. Junck

President and Chief Executive Officer

December 2001

Gottlieb Years






- 1964** — Joined former *Times-Democrat* advertising department in Davenport, Iowa.
- 1965** — Joined Madison Newspapers Inc. in Madison.
- 1968** — Production Coordinator, MNI.
- 1972** — Treasurer and director, MNI.
- 1973** — General Manager, MNI.
- 1980** — Publisher of *The Journal Times* in Racine, Wisconsin.
- 1985** — Lee Enterprises Vice President, Newspapers.
- 1986** — President and Chief Operating Officer. Elected to the Lee Enterprises Board of Directors.
- 1991** — President and Chief Executive Officer of Lee Enterprises.
- 1998** — Chairman of Newspaper Association of America.
- 2000** — Chairman of the Board of Lee Enterprises.
- 2001** — Retired as Chief Executive Officer in January.
- 2002** — Retiring from the Board of Directors in January.











Operations and Markets

ILLINOIS








-  **Southern Illinoisan**
Carbondale, Marion, Herrin
26,944 daily, 36,361 Sunday
www.southernillinoisan.com
-  **Flipside**, 32,000 Thurs.
www.flipsideonline.com
-  **Southern Business Journal**, 6,000
twice-monthly
www.southernbusinessjournal.com
-  **SI Real Estate**, 10,000 monthly
www.sirealestateonline.com
-  **Star Watch**, 35,100 Tues.
www.southernstarwatch.com
-  **Wheels For You**, 5,000 bi-weekly
www.siwheels4u.com
-  **Herald & Review**
Decatur
33,864 daily, 40,903 Sunday
www.herald-review.com
-  **Business Journal**, 8,300 monthly
-  **Homes**, 18,100 monthly
-  **Prairie Shopper**, 27,300 Tues.
www.theprairieshopper.com

IOWA

-  **Quad-City Times**
Davenport
50,604 daily, 71,030 Sunday
www.qctimes.com
-  **Bettendorf News**, 10,000 Thurs.
-  **Quad-City Advertiser**, 23,000 Wed.
-  **Wheels For You**, 14,000 bi-weekly
www.qcwwheels.com
-  **Work For You**, 3,000 Tues.
-  **The Thrifty Nickel**, 15,200 Thurs.
www.qcthriftnickel.com
-  **Muscatine Journal**
7,978 daily
www.muscatinejournal.com
-  **Classic Images**, 5,700 monthly
www.classicimages.com
-  **Films of the Golden Age**, 6,500 qtrly.
www.filmsofthegoldenage.com
-  **The Post**, 20,500 Tues.
www.muscatinepost.com
-  **Sunday Express**, 4,200 Sun.





-  **Globe-Gazette**
Mason City
18,962 daily, 23,121 Sunday
www.globegazette.com
-  **Globe Advertiser**, 4,300 Tues.
-  **Mason City Shopper**, 28,200 Tues.
www.masoncityshopper.com
-  **Summit Advertiser**, Forest City, 5,800 Wed.
-  **Britt Tribune News**, 1,400 Wed.
www.northiowanews.com
-  **Town & Country Advertiser**, Britt, 2,800
Tues.
-  **Forest City Summit**, 2,800 Tues.
www.northiowanews.com
-  **Winnebago/Hancock Shopper**, Forest City,
10,000 Mon. www.winnebagoshopper.com
-  **Mitchell County Press**, Osage, 3,200 Tues.
www.mcpres.com
-  **Town & Country Shopper**, Osage, 3,300
Tues.



MINNESOTA

-  **Winona Daily News**
11,546 daily, 12,663 Sunday
www.winonadailynews.com
-  **Neighbors Extra**, 9,500 Sat.
- ## MONTANA
-  **Billings Gazette**
46,802 daily, 53,166 Sunday
www.billingsgazette.com
-  **TV Focus**, 1,400 Sat.
-  **Thrifty Nickel**, 30,000 Thurs.
www.billingsthriftnickel.com
-  **Western Business**, 6,000 monthly
-  **Work For You**, 28,000 Thurs.
-  **Yellowstone Shopper**, 18,000 Thurs.










-  **The Montana Standard**
Butte
14,020 daily, 14,256 Sunday
www.montanastandard.com
-  **Mini Nickel**, Bozeman, 26,000 Thurs.
www.mininickel.com
-  **Celebrity**, 25,400 Thurs.
-  **Work For You**, 12,000 Wed.
-  **In Business**, 8000 quarterly
-  **Western Shopper**, Deer Lodge, 4,000
Thurs.
-  **Three Rivers Edition**, Dillon, 5,750 Thurs.




-  **Independent Record**
Helena
13,479 daily, 14,300 Sunday
www.helenair.com
-  **The Adit**, 25,000 Wed. www.adit.com
-  **Montana Magazine**, 42,000 bi-monthly
www.montanamagazine.com

-  **Missoulian**
Missoula
29,787 daily, 36,728 Sunday
www.missoulian.com
-  **Entertainer**, 35,000 Thurs.
-  **The Autofinder**, 17,000 bi-weekly
-  **The Messenger**, 33,000 Wed.

-  **Ravalli Republic**
Hamilton
5,814 daily
www.ravallineews.com
-  **Ravalli Wrapper**, 8,800 Wed.
-  **Bigfork Eagle**, 1,600 Wed.
www.bigforkeagle.com
-  **Hungry Horse News**, Columbia Falls,
6,500 Thurs. www.hungryhorsenews.com
-  **Clark Fork Valley Press**, Plains, 1,500
Thurs.
-  **Lake County Leader**, Polson, 5,800 Thurs.
-  **The Advertiser**, Polson, 29,500 Wed.
-  **Westshore News**, Polson, 3,700 Wed.
-  **Mineral County Independent**, St. Regis,
1,100 Thurs.
-  **Whitefish Pilot**, 4000 Thurs.
www.whitefishpilot.com
-  **Consumers Press**, Great Falls, 32,750
Thurs. www.consumerspress.com
-  **Prairie Star**, Great Falls, 18,000 bi-weekly
www.theprairiestar.com



NEBRASKA

-  **Beatrice Daily Sun**
7,893 daily
www.beatricedailysun.com
-  **Penny Press**, 20,500 Wed.
-  **Sunland Home Showcase**, 2,000 monthly
-  **Sunland Mid-Week**, 5,400 Wed.
-  **Weekender**, 13,150 Sat.
-  **Columbus Telegram**
9,481 daily, 10,300 Sunday
www.columbustelegram.com
-  **Columbus Choice**, 25,000 Tues.
-  **Scout Shopper**, 13,500 Tues.
-  **David City Banner Press**, 3,800 Thurs.






-  **Fremont Tribune**
9,213 daily
www.fremontneb.com
-  **Homefront Buyers Guide**, 19,500 Thurs.
-  **Tribune Marketplace**, 21,000 Tues.

-  **Lincoln Journal Star**
75,292 daily, 82,957 Sunday
www.journalstar.com
-  **Rentals For You**, 7,500 weekly
www.discoverlincoln.com
-  **Husker Football**, 3,800 Thurs.
www.huskerfootball.com
-  **Home Showcase**, 63,500 monthly
-  **Neighborhood Extra**, 62,000 Sat.
-  **Lincoln Real Estate**, 7,500 monthly
-  **Rentals For You**, 7,500 weekly
-  **Star Express**, 30,000 weekly
-  **Wheels For You**, East, 25,000 bi-weekly
West, 25,000 bi-weekly
North Kansas, 25,000 bi-weekly
South Kansas, 25,000 bi-weekly
-  **Work For You**, 4,000 bi-weekly
-  **Plattsmouth Journal**, 5,300 Thurs.
-  **Consumer Connection**, Plattsmouth,
16,000 Tues.
-  **Schuyler Sun**, 2,950 Wed.
-  **Burt County Plaindealer**, Tekamah, 2000
Thurs.
-  **Midwest Messenger**, Tekamah, 157,600
bi-weekly www.midwestmessenger.com

NEVADA/UTAH

-  **Nifty Nickel**, Las Vegas, NV, 49,500 Fri.
www.niftynickel.com
-  **Pioneer Shopper**, St. George, UT, 28,500
Thurs. www.pioneershopper.com







NORTH DAKOTA

-  **The Bismarck Tribune**
26,865 daily, 30,153 Sunday
www.ndonline.com
-  **Farm & Ranch Guide**, 36,000 bi-weekly
-  **The Finder**, 39,000 Wed.
www.finderads.com
-  **Minot Finder**, 25,000 Thurs.
-  **Dickinson Finder**, 6,700 Thurs.
-  **Mandan News**, 1,700 Thurs.














OREGON

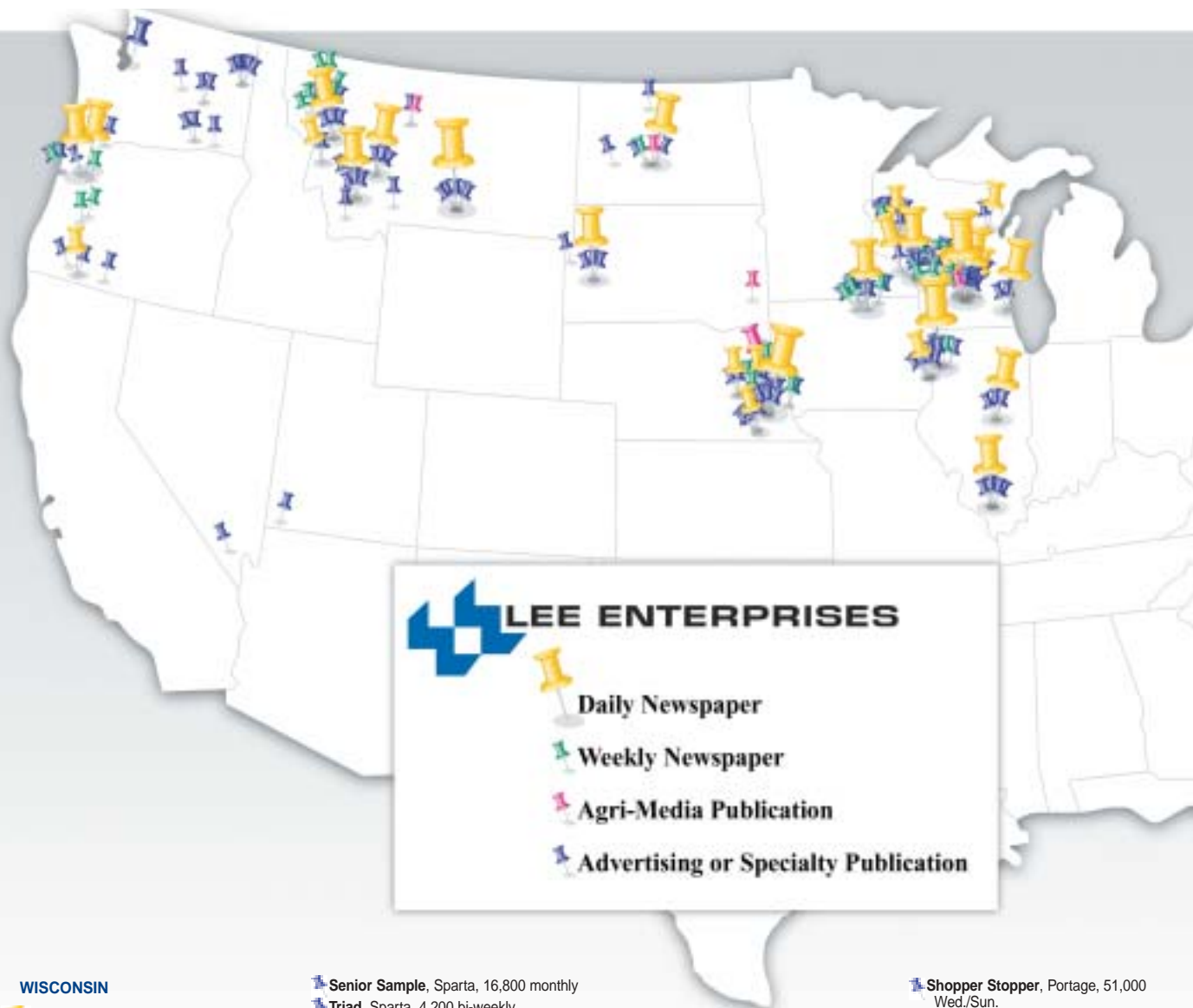
-  **Democrat-Herald**
Albany
18,541 daily, 32,218 Sunday*
www.dhonline.com
www.mvonline.com
-  **Corvallis Gazette-Times**
12,265 daily, 32,218 Sunday*
www.gtconnect.com
**Joint Sunday publication*
-  **This Week**, 19,000 Wed.
-  **Lebanon Express**, 2,800 Wed.
www.lebanon-express.com
-  **Newport News-Times**, 10,000 Wed./Fri.
-  **Coast On Over**, Newport, 40,000 monthly
-  **This Week**, Newport, 10,500 Tues.
-  **Ashland Daily Tidings**
5,133 daily
www.dailytidings.com
-  **The Weekly Advertiser**, 6,000 Tues.
-  **Nickel Want Ad Newspapers**
Klamath Falls, OR, 19,000 Thurs.
www.klamathfallsnickel.com
-  **Medford, OR**, 30,000 Thurs.
www.medfordnickel.com
-  **Redding, CA**, 29,000 Thurs.
www.reddingnickel.com
-  **Nickel Ads**, Portland, 173,000 Wed.
www.nickelads.com
-  **The Springfield News**, 11,000 Wed./Sat.
www.springfieldnews.com
-  **Cottage Grove Sentinel**, 4,500 Wed.

SOUTH DAKOTA













-  **Rapid City Journal**
29,726 daily, 33,730 Sunday
www.rapidcityjournal.com
-  **Black Hills Bandit**, 7,000 Fri.
www.blackhillsbandit.com
-  **Rapid City Advertiser**, 14,660 Wed.
-  **Northern Hills Journal**, 6,600 Wed.
-  **Northern Hills Advertiser**, Spearfish,
19,900 Wed.
-  **Tri-State Neighbor**, Sioux Falls, 29,000
bi-weekly www.tristateneighbor.com








WASHINGTON

-  **Little Nickel**, Lynnwood
320,000 Wed.-Thurs.
www.littlenickel.com
-  **Wheel Deals**, Kennewick, 22,000 Fri.
-  **Homes**, Moses Lake, 22,000 monthly
-  **Driveline**, Spokane, 23,000 Fri.
-  **Home Buyers**, Spokane, 17,500 monthly
-  **Nickel Nik**, Spokane, 28,000 Fri.
www.nickelnik.com
-  **Nickel Nik Wheel Deals**, Spokane, 44,000
Fri.
-  **Nickel Nik RV Wheel Deals**, Spokane,
33,000 Fri. www.wheeldeals.com
-  **Nickel Nik Classifieds**, Kennewick,
30,000 Thurs.
-  **Nickel Saver**, Moses Lake, 20,000 Thurs.
-  **NCW Nickel Ads**, Wenatchee, 25,000
Thurs. www.nickelads.com
-  **NCW Real Estate Guide**, Wenatchee,
22,000 monthly
-  **Buyline**, Walla Walla, 20,000 Thurs.





WISCONSIN

-  **Chippewa Herald**
Chippewa Falls
7,100 Mon.-Thurs. & Sat./Sun.
www.chippewa.com
-  **Chippewa Advertiser**, 12,500 Sun.
-  **Your Family Shopper**, 31,800 Sat.
-  **Tradin' Post Buyer's Guide**, Eau Claire,
28,000 Tues.
-  **Dunn County Homes**, Menomonie,
22,500 monthly.
-  **Dunn County News**, Menomonie, 4,400
Wed./Sun. www.dunnconnect.com
-  **Dunn County Reminder**, Menomonie,
22,000 Wed.
-  **Dunn County Shopper**, Menomonie,
17,000 Sun.
-  **La Crosse Tribune**
31,009 daily, 40,531 Sunday
www.lacrossetribune.com
-  **Home Buyers Guide**, 10,500 monthly
-  **Enterpriser**, 5,400 quarterly
-  **Foxy Shopper**, 35,100 Mon.
www.lacrossefoxy.com
-  **Wheels for You**, 21,000 bi-weekly
-  **Work For You**, 15,000 Tues.
-  **Home Buyers Guide**, Sparta, 10,500
monthly

-  **Senior Sample**, Sparta, 16,800 monthly
-  **Triad**, Sparta, 4,200 bi-weekly
-  **Sparta Foxy Shopper**, 15,950 Mon.
www.spartafoxyshopper.com
-  **Tomah Journal/Monitor Herald**, 4,850
Thurs.
-  **Tomah Foxy Shopper**, 13,250 Mon.
-  **Viroqua Foxy Shopper**, 15,600, Mon.
-  **Vernon County Broadcaster**, Viroqua,
5,400 Thurs.
-  **Westby Times**, 1,600 Thurs.
-  **Coulee News**, West Salem, 2,100 Thurs.

-  **The Journal Times**
Racine
29,136 daily, 30,039 Sunday
www.journaltimes.com

-  **Pennysaver**, 55,000 Tues.
www.racinepennysaver.com
-  **Work For You**, 4,000 Tues.

WISCONSIN, MNI

Madison Newspapers Inc., publishes the *Wisconsin State Journal*, *The Capital Times*, *Baraboo News Republic*, *Portage Daily Register*, *Shawano Leader* and other publications in central Wisconsin. Lee Enterprises owns 50% of Madison

Newspapers Inc. and supplies news and editorial content for the *Wisconsin State Journal*.



-  **Wisconsin State Journal and The Capital Times**
Madison
107,742 daily, 155,562 Sun.
www.madison.com

-  **Ad World**, 27,000 Mon.
-  **AgriView**, 46,000 Thurs. www.agriview.com
-  **Apartment Showcase**, 15,000 Fri.
www.apartmentshowcase.com
-  **Nursing Matters**, 60,000 monthly
www.nursingmattersonline.com
-  **Shopper Stopper Extra South**, 40,000
Sat.
-  **Work For You**, 12,500 Tues.

-  **Baraboo News Republic**
4,021 daily
www.baraboo.scwn.com

-  **Portage Daily Register**
4,801 daily
www.scwn.com

-  **Shopper Stopper**, Portage, 51,000
Wed./Sun.
-  **Juneau County Star-Times**, Mauston,
2,850 Wed./Sat. www.baraboo.scwn.com
-  **Wisconsin Reminder**, Mauston, 15,300
Wed./Sun.
-  **Reedsburg Times-Press**, 1,500 Wed./Sat.
-  **Sauk Prairie Eagle**, Sauk City, 2,200
Wed./Sat.
-  **Wisconsin Dells Events**, 2,000 Wed./Sat.

-  **Shawano Leader**
5,735 daily, 6,095 Sunday
www.shawanoleader.com
-  **Penny Saver**, 12,600 Wed./Sun

OTHER LEE OPERATIONS

Broadwater Printing, Townsend, MT
Hawkeye Printing, Davenport, IA
Little Nickel Quik Print, Lynnwood, WA
Oak Creek Printing, Lincoln, NE
Platen Press, Deer Lodge, MT
William Street Press, Decatur, IL
Townnews.com (International Newspaper Network), Moline, IL. (Lee owns 81%)
www.townnews.com
Farcountry Press, Helena, MT

The Best in Lee

Winners of the 2001 President's Awards for Excellence in News



George Lane / Independent Record

INDEPENDENT RECORD, Helena, Montana — For sensitive and thorough coverage of the loss of a major employer, an ore processing plant. "The staff did an amazing amount of reporting over many months," the judges said. "This was truly excellence in journalism." From left: Laura Tode, Martin Kidston, Leah Gillman, Carolyn McCluskey, Eve Byron, Rich Myers, Darci Goodrich, Joe Menden, Christina Quinn, Dave Shors, Shelia Habeck, Bil Skidmore, Wayne Klinkle, Jon Ebel.



David Grubbs / Billings Gazette

BILLINGS GAZETTE, Billings, Montana — For "sophisticated reporting, brilliant writing, compelling illustrations and, overall, a sensitive and precise retelling of a 'ascinating and important event in American history' marking the 125th anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn. From left: Mary Pickett, Larry Mayer, Tom Tollefson, James Hagengruber, Lorna Thackeray, Jim Gransberry, Dan Carter, editor Steve Prosinski, Bob Zellar, Ed Kemmick. Not pictured: John Warner and James Woodcock.



John Maniaci / Wisconsin State Journal

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison — For investigative reporting that uncovered the widespread use of state employees and resources for partisan political campaigning. Front row, from left: Phil Glende, Pat Reardon, Teryl Franklin, Phil Brinkman, Dee Hall, Joyce Dehli, Laura Sparks. Back row: John Pluym, Tom Still, Mike Rott, Meg Theno, Steve Apps, Joe Jackson. Not pictured: editor Frank Denton.

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

☒ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2001

OR

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission File Number 1-6227

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of Incorporation)

42-0823980
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

215 N. Main Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(563) 383-2100
Registrant's telephone number, including area code

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange On Which Registered
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:	
Common Stock - \$2.00 par value	New York Stock Exchange
Preferred Share Purchase Rights	New York Stock Exchange
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:	
Class B Common Stock - \$2.00 par value	

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. ☐

State the aggregate market value of voting stock held by nonaffiliates of the Registrant as of November 30, 2001. Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, \$2.00 par value, \$1,515,200,000.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of November 30, 2001. Common Stock, \$2.00 par value, 33,920,305 shares and Class B Common Stock, \$2.00 par value, 10,210,918 shares.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Lee Enterprises, Incorporated Definitive Proxy Statement dated December 27, 2001 are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "Safe Harbor" for forward-looking statements. This report contains certain information which may be deemed forward-looking 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 uncertainties are changes in advertising demand, newsprint prices, interest rates, regulatory rulings, other economic conditions, and the effect of acquisitions, investments, and dispositions on the Company's results of operations or financial condition. The words "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 report. The Company does not undertake to publicly update or revise its forward-looking statements.

PART I

Item 1. Business

The Company directly, and through its ownership of associated companies, publishes 28 daily newspapers and more than 100 other weekly, classified and specialty publications, along with associated online services. Many of the Company's businesses operate in geographic "clusters," which provide operational efficiencies and extend sales penetration. The Company was founded in 1890, incorporated in 1950, and listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 1978. Before 2001, the Company also operated a number of network-affiliated and satellite television stations.

Advertising

More than one-half of the Company's revenue is derived from advertising. The Company's strategies are to increase its share of local advertising through increased sales pressure in its existing markets and, over time, to increase circulation through internal expansion into contiguous markets, as well as make selective acquisitions. Acquisition efforts are focused on newspapers with circulation from 30,000 to 125,000 and other publications that expand the Company's operating clusters.

The Company's newspapers, and classified and specialty publications compete with newspapers having national or regional circulation, magazines, radio, television, other advertising media such as billboards, classified and specialty publications and direct mail, as well as other information content providers such as online services. In addition, several of the Company's daily and Sunday newspapers compete with other local newspapers in nearby cities and towns. The Company estimates that it captures more than one-half of advertising dollars spent in its markets on print, broadcast and online.

Classified publications are weekly advertising publications available in racks or delivered free by carriers or third-class mail to all households in a particular geographic area. Classified publications offer advertisers a cost-effective local advertising system and are particularly effective in larger markets with high media fragmentation in which metropolitan newspapers generally have low penetration.

In late 2000, the newspaper industry began to experience declining advertising revenue demand for the first time in several years. The Company's enterprises are located in mid-size and smaller markets from the Midwest to the Pacific Northwest. These markets have been more stable than major metropolitan markets during the current downturn in advertising spending.

Circulation

After advertising, circulation is the Company's largest source of revenue. The Company estimates that its products are sold to approximately one-half, and read by approximately three-fourths, of adults in its markets. For the six months ended September 30, 2001, daily circulation improved over the prior year comparative amount, the Company's best performance in the last 10 years. Growth in circulation can, over time, also positively impact advertising revenue. The Company's strategies to improve readership and circulation include continuous improvement of content, including local news, and promotional efforts.

The Company and its affiliates publish the following daily newspapers:

Newspaper	City	State	Circulation	
			Daily (M-F)	Sunday
Southern Illinoisan	Carbondale	Illinois	26,944 (1)	36,361
Herald & Review	Decatur	Illinois	33,864 (1)	40,903
Quad City Times	Davenport	Iowa	50,604 (1)	71,030
Globe Gazette	Mason City	Iowa	18,962 (1)	23,121
Muscatine Journal	Muscatine	Iowa	7,978 (1)	-
Winona Daily News	Winona	Minnesota	11,546 (1)	12,663
Billings Gazette	Billings	Montana	46,802 (1)	53,166
The Montana Standard	Butte	Montana	14,020 (1)	14,256
Ravalli Republic	Hamilton	Montana	5,814 (2)	-
Independent Record	Helena	Montana	13,479 (1)	14,300
Missoulian	Missoula	Montana	29,787 (1)	36,728
Beatrice Daily Sun	Beatrice	Nebraska	7,893 (1)	-
Columbus Telegram	Columbus	Nebraska	9,481 (1)	10,300
Fremont Tribune	Fremont	Nebraska	9,213 (2)	-
Lincoln Journal Star	Lincoln	Nebraska	75,292 (1)	82,957
The Bismarck Tribune	Bismarck	North Dakota	26,865 (1)	30,153
Democrat-Herald	Albany	Oregon	18,541 (1)	32,218 (3)
Ashland Daily Tidings	Ashland	Oregon	5,133 (1)	-
Corvallis Gazette-Times	Corvallis	Oregon	12,265 (1)	(3)
Rapid City Journal	Rapid City	South Dakota	29,726 (1)	33,730
Baraboo News Republic (4)	Baraboo	Wisconsin	4,021 (2)	-
Chippewa Herald	Chippewa Falls	Wisconsin	7,100 (2)	-
LaCrosse Tribune	LaCrosse	Wisconsin	31,009 (1)	40,531
The Capital Times (4)	Madison	Wisconsin	19,871 (1)	-
Wisconsin State Journal (4)	Madison	Wisconsin	87,871 (1)	155,562
Portage Daily Register (4)	Portage	Wisconsin	4,801 (2)	-
The Journal Times	Racine	Wisconsin	29,136 (1)	30,039
Shawano Leader (4)	Shawano	Wisconsin	5,735 (1)	6,095
Total paid daily and Sunday circulation			643,753	724,113

(1) Source: Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC): Six months ended September 2001.

(2) Source: Company statistics.

(3) Combined edition.

(4) Published by Madison Newspapers, Inc. (MNI). The Company owns 50% of the capital stock of MNI and 17% of the nonvoting common stock of The Capital Times Company. The Capital Times Company owns the remaining 50% of the capital stock of MNI. The Company has a contract to furnish the editorial and news content for the Wisconsin State Journal. The Wisconsin State Journal is classified as one of the Lee group of newspapers in the newspaper field and in the rating services.

Commercial Printing

The Company offers commercial printing services through the following entities:

	City	State
William Street Press	Decatur	Illinois
Hawkeye Printing	Davenport	Iowa
Platen Press	Deer Lodge	Montana
Farcountry Press	Helena	Montana
Broadwater Printing	Townsend	Montana
Oak Creek Printing	Lincoln	Nebraska
Little Nickel Quik Print	Lynnwood	Washington
Spokane Print and Mail	Spokane	Washington

Online Services

The Company's Internet activities are comprised of websites supporting each of its daily newspapers and investments in, or loans to, three Internet service companies, which provide web solutions for small daily and weekly newspapers and shoppers, provide integrated online classified solutions for the newspaper industry, or integrate online editorial content with transactional and promotional opportunities. The Internet activities of the newspapers are reported and managed as a part of the Company's publishing operations.

Newsprint

The basic raw material of newspapers, and classified and specialty publications, is newsprint. The Company and its subsidiaries purchase newsprint from U.S. and Canadian producers. The Company believes it will continue to receive a supply of newsprint adequate to its needs. Newsprint prices are volatile and fluctuate based upon factors that include both the foreign and domestic production capacity and consumption. The price fluctuations can have a significant effect on the results of operations. For the quantitative impacts of these fluctuations, see "Management Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" under Item 7, included herein.

Officers

The following table lists officers of the Company as of December 1, 2001:

Name	Age	Service With The Company	Named To Present Office	Present Office
Mary E. Junck	54	June 1999	January 2001	President and Chief Executive Officer
James W. Hopson	55	August 2000	August 2000	Vice President - Publishing
Brian E. Kardell	38	January 1991	January 2001	Vice President - Information Systems/Chief Information Officer
Vytenis P. Kuraitis	53	August 1994	January 1997	Vice President - Human Resources
Michael E. Phelps	55	February 2000	February 2000	Vice President - Sales & Marketing
Gregory P. Schermer	47	February 1989	November 1997	Vice President - Interactive Media and Corporate Counsel
Carl G. Schmidt	45	May 2001	May 2001	Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
David B. Stoeffler	42	June 1981	December 2001	Vice President for News
John VanStrydonck	48	March 1981	June 2000	Vice President - Publishing
Greg R. Veon	49	April 1976	November 1999	Vice President - Publishing

Mary E. Junck was elected President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company in January 2001. Ms. Junck was elected Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer in May 1999 and President in January 2000. From May 1996 to April 1999 she was Executive Vice President of The Times Mirror Company and President of Eastern Newspapers. She was named Publisher and Chief Executive Officer of The Baltimore Sun in 1993.

James W. Hopson was elected Vice President – Publishing and publisher of the Wisconsin State Journal in July 2000. For more than the past five years prior to July 2000, he was Chief Executive Officer of Thomson Newspapers Central Ohio Strategic Marketing Group.

Brian E. Kardell was appointed Vice President – Information Systems/Chief Information Officer in January 2001. From 1997 to 2001, Mr. Kardell was Chief Information Officer. Prior to 2001, he was Director of Information Services.

Vytenis P. Kuraitis was elected Vice President – Human Resources in January 1997. From August 1994 through January 1997 he was Director of Human Resources.

Michael E. Phelps was elected Vice President – Sales and Marketing in February 2000. For more than the past five years prior to February 2000, he was managing principal of Phelps, Cutler & Associates, newspaper management consultants.

Gregory P. Schermer was elected Vice President – Interactive Media in November 1997. From 1989 through November 1997 he was, and continues to serve as, Corporate Counsel for the Company.

Carl G. Schmidt was elected Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer in May 2001. From July 1994 until September 2000, Mr. Schmidt was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Johnson Outdoors Inc. From 1988 to 1994 he was a partner of KPMG, LLP.

David B. Stoeffler was appointed Vice President for News in December 2001. From 1997 to December 2001, Mr. Stoeffler was Editor of the Lincoln Journal Star. From 1995 to 1997, he was Editor of the La Crosse Tribune.

John VanStrydonck was elected Vice President – Publishing in June 2000. From September 1994 to June 2000 he was Publisher of the Rapid City Journal and was Chairman and Chief Operating Officer of NAPP Systems from September 1994 until its sale by Lee in January 1997.

Greg R. Veon was elected Vice President – Publishing in November 1999; from November 1995 through November 1999 he was Vice President – Marketing.

Other Matters

In the opinion of management, compliance with present statutory and regulatory requirements respecting environmental quality will not necessitate significant capital outlays, or materially affect the earning power of the business of the Company, or cause material changes in the Company's business, whether present or intended.

At September 30, 2001, the Company had approximately 4,900 employees, including approximately 1,300 part-time employees, exclusive of MNI. The Company considers its relationship with employees to be good.

Item 2. Properties

The Company's executive offices are located in leased facilities at 215 North Main Street, Davenport, Iowa.

All of the Company's printing facilities (except Madison, Wisconsin, which is owned by MNI, and a leased plant in Spokane, Washington) are owned. All facilities are well maintained, in good condition, suitable for existing office and publishing operations and adequately equipped with typesetting, printing and other required equipment.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Not applicable.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Stock and Related Stockholder Matters

Common Stock of the Company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Class B Common Stock was issued to stockholders of record of the Company in 1986 pursuant to a 100% stock dividend and is converted at sale or the option of the holder into Common Stock. The table below shows the high and low prices of Common Stock for each quarter during the past three years, the closing price at the end of each quarter and the dividends paid per share.

	Quarter			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
STOCK PRICES				
2001				
High	\$ 30.69	\$ 32.55	\$ 34.98	\$ 34.40
Low	24.81	26.94	29.25	29.40
Closing	29.81	30.45	33.00	31.67
2000				
High	\$ 32.25	\$ 31.56	\$ 26.19	\$ 28.94
Low	27.25	19.69	20.50	23.25
Closing	31.94	26.13	23.31	28.88
1999				
High	\$ 31.50	\$ 31.44	\$ 30.50	\$ 31.06
Low	21.81	26.31	27.50	26.13
Closing	31.50	29.00	30.50	27.38
DIVIDENDS				
2001	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.17
2000	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16
1999	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15

For a description of the relative rights of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, see Note 6 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, included herein.

At September 30, 2001, the Company had 2,954 holders of Common Stock and 1,954 holders of Class B Common Stock.

On November 15, 2001, the Board of Directors declared a dividend in the amount of 17¢ per share on the issued and outstanding Common Stock of the Company, and a dividend in the amount of 17¢ per share on the issued and outstanding Class B Common Stock of the Company, to be paid on January 2, 2002, to stockholders of record on December 3, 2001.

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

	Year Ended September 30				
<i>(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)</i>	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
OPERATING RESULTS					
Operating revenue	\$ 441,153	\$ 431,513	\$ 413,846	\$ 391,261	\$ 326,197
Operating income	86,016	102,467	97,369	87,899	81,889
Income from continuing operations	\$ 59,457	\$ 69,875	\$ 56,821	\$ 47,674	\$ 49,879
Discontinued operations	254,771	13,788	11,152	14,559	14,351
Net income	\$ 314,228	\$ 83,663	\$ 67,973	\$ 62,233	\$ 64,230
EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE					
Basic:					
Continuing operations	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.07
Discontinued operations	5.82	0.31	0.25	0.32	0.31
Net income	\$ 7.18	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.54	\$ 1.39	\$ 1.38
Diluted:					
Continuing operations	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.27	\$ 1.05	\$ 1.06
Discontinued operations	5.78	0.31	0.25	0.32	0.30
Net income	\$ 7.13	\$ 1.89	\$ 1.52	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.36
Weighted average common shares outstanding:					
Basic	43,784	44,005	44,273	44,829	46,393
Diluted	44,089	44,360	44,861	45,557	47,243
Dividends	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.52
BALANCE SHEET INFORMATION					
Total assets	\$ 1,000,397	\$ 746,233	\$ 679,513	\$ 660,585	\$ 650,963
Debt, including current maturities	173,400	222,932	204,625	219,481	203,735
Stockholders' equity	681,944	395,167	354,329	319,759	319,390
OTHER INFORMATION					
EBITDA/revenue	26.8%	30.5%	30.2%	29.1%	30.2%
Operating income/revenue	19.5	23.7	23.5	22.5	25.1
Income from continuing operations/ revenue	13.5	16.2	13.7	12.2	15.2
Dividends/income from continuing operations	50.1	40.5	46.9	52.8	48.5

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion includes comments and analysis relating to the Company's results of operations and financial condition as of and for the three years ended September 30, 2001. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and related Notes thereto.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "Safe Harbor" for forward-looking statements. This report contains certain information which may be deemed forward-looking 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 uncertainties are changes in advertising demand, newsprint prices, interest rates, regulatory rulings, other economic conditions, and the effect of acquisitions, investments, and dispositions on the Company's results of operations or financial condition. The words "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 report. The Company does not undertake to publicly update or revise its forward-looking statements.

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

Operating results are summarized below:

	Year Ended September 30			Percent Change	
				2001	2000
				vs	vs
<i>(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)</i>	2001	2000	1999	2000	1999
Operating revenue	\$ 441,153	\$ 431,513	\$ 413,846	2.2%	4.3%
Income before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA)(1)	118,174	131,793	124,955	(10.3)	5.5
Operating income	86,016	102,467	97,369	(16.1)	5.2
Nonoperating (income) expense, net	(6,418)	(7,748)	10,205	(17.2)	NM
Income from continuing operations	59,457	69,875	56,821	(14.9)	23.0
Earnings per common share:					
Basic	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.29	(14.5)	23.3
Diluted	1.35	1.58	1.27	(14.6)	24.4

- (1) EBITDA is not a financial performance measurement under United States generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for GAAP performance measurements. EBITDA is also not reflected in the consolidated statements of cash Flows, but it is a common and meaningful alternative performance measurement for comparison to other companies in the newspaper publishing industry. The computation excludes other nonoperating items, primarily the gains and losses on sales of businesses and losses related to other ventures.

2001 VS 2000

Revenue, as reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements, consists of the following:

	Year Ended September 30		
(Thousands)	2001	2000	Percent Change
Advertising revenue:			
Retail	\$ 169,790	\$ 160,766	5.6%
National	10,345	9,317	11.0
Classified:			
Employment	28,200	31,234	(9.7)
Automotive	20,971	21,990	(4.6)
Real estate	16,091	15,614	3.1
All other	38,727	37,292	3.8
Total classified	103,989	106,130	(2.0)
Total advertising	284,124	276,213	2.9
Circulation	82,128	80,468	2.1
Other:			
Commercial printing	26,767	26,652	0.4
Internet/online	4,380	3,250	34.8
Niche publications and other	25,843	26,609	(2.9)
Editorial service contracts, Internet service fees and other	10,260	8,944	14.7
	67,250	65,455	2.7
Equity in net income of associated companies	7,651	9,377	(18.4)
Total operating revenue	\$ 441,153	\$ 431,513	2.2%

The following discussion of revenue and operating expenses is presented on an operations basis, which includes 100% of the revenue and expenses of MNI, which is owned 50% by the Company and accounted for in the Consolidated Financial Statements using the equity method. It is also exclusive of acquisitions, divestitures and corporate expenses. The Company believes such comparisons provide the most meaningful information for an understanding of its business.

In 2001, total advertising revenue decreased \$4,527,000, or 1.4%. Retail revenue in the Company's markets was not as adversely impacted by the slowing economy as major metropolitan markets, and increased \$1,305,000, or 0.7%, in 2001. Increased emphasis on rate discipline and new accounts helped offset declines in advertising volume. Retail rates increased 3.0% in 2001.

Classified advertising revenue decreased approximately \$5,963,000, or 4.5%, in 2001. Higher margin employment advertising at the daily newspapers accounted for approximately 96% of the decrease and declined 12.5% for the year. Unit declines in employment classified advertising compare favorably to national survey amounts. The automotive category decreased to a lesser extent (6.1%) and other categories were flat.

Circulation revenue decreased \$1,038,000, or 1.1%. The Company's daily newspaper circulation increased 0.7% and Sunday circulation declined 0.2% for the six months ended September 30, 2001, the first upward movement in circulation since 1998, and the Company's best performance in the last 10 years. The Company is focused on growing circulation through a number of initiatives.

Other revenue increased \$986,000, or 1.4%. Internet/online revenue increased \$1,299,000, or 36.7%, due to growth in advertising revenue and cross selling with the Company's newspapers.

The following table sets forth the percentage of revenue of the Company's operating expenses:

	Year Ended September 30	
	2001	2000
Compensation	35.5%	34.3%
Newsprint and ink	10.4	9.5
Other operating expenses	22.5	21.6
	68.4	65.4
EBITDA	31.6	34.6
Depreciation and amortization	5.9	5.7
Operating margin	25.7%	28.9%

Costs other than depreciation and amortization increased \$11,888,000, or 3.7%. Compensation expense increased \$4,339,000, or 2.5%, due to additional sales personnel to drive local ad revenue, increases in medical costs, and one-time costs related to workforce reductions totaling approximately \$500,000. Overall, full-time equivalent personnel declined 0.4%, 2.6% in the fourth quarter of 2001, which will mitigate normal increases in compensation costs in 2002. Newsprint and ink costs increased \$4,169,000, or 8.8%, as the result of price increases offset in part by conservation efforts that decreased consumption by 4.5%. Other operating costs, exclusive of depreciation and amortization, increased \$3,380,000, or 3.1%. Increases in provisions for doubtful accounts accounted for approximately one-third of the increase.

Included in corporate expenses, but not in the comparison above, is \$1,700,000 of one-time costs in 2001 related to exiting certain benefit programs and workforce reductions.

Nonoperating Income and Income Taxes

Financial income increased \$25,289,000 to \$28,548,000 in 2001, due primarily to income earned on invested net proceeds from the sale of the Company's broadcast properties in October 2000. The Company expects a significant decline in financial income in 2002 as reinvestment rates for its investment portfolio have decreased substantially. Further, the Company's invested balances have decreased due to required income tax payments, offset to some extent by funds generated from operations.

In 2001, other nonoperating income consists primarily of realized and unrealized losses on the sale of several small publishing operations and the writedown of certain nonoperating assets. In 2000, other nonoperating income consists primarily of gains from the sale of publishing properties.

Income taxes were 35.7% and 36.6% of pretax income from continuing operations for 2001 and 2000, respectively. Income taxes were reduced in 2001 due to tax-exempt interest income and a lower effective state income tax rate.

2000 VS. 1999

Revenue, as reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements, consists of the following:

	Year Ended September 30		
(Thousands)	2000	1999	Percent Change
Advertising revenue:			
Retail	\$ 160,766	\$ 155,379	3.5%
National	9,317	8,736	6.7
Classified:			
Employment	31,234	26,390	18.4
Automotive	21,990	20,330	8.2
Real estate	15,614	13,318	17.2
All other	37,292	40,239	(7.3)
Total classified	106,130	100,277	5.8
Total advertising	276,213	264,392	4.5
Circulation revenue	80,468	83,102	(3.2)
Other:			
Commercial printing	26,652	23,775	12.1
Internet/online	3,250	1,598	103.4
Niche publications and other	26,609	22,997	15.7
Editorial service contracts, Internet service fees and other	8,944	8,744	2.3
	65,455	57,114	14.6
Equity in net income of associated companies	9,377	9,238	1.5
Total operating revenue	\$ 431,513	\$ 413,846	4.3%

The following discussion of revenue and operating expenses is presented on an operations basis, which includes 100% of the revenue and expenses of MNI, which is owned 50% by the Company and accounted for in the Consolidated Financial Statements using the equity method. It is also exclusive of acquisitions, divestitures and corporate expenses. The Company believes such comparisons provide the most meaningful information for an understanding of its business.

In 2000, total advertising revenue increased \$10,003,000, or 3.2%. Retail revenue in the Company's markets increased \$3,702,000, or 2.1%, in 2000. Volume increases resulting from emphasis on price incentives drove the increase.

Classified advertising revenue increased approximately \$5,177,000, or 4.1%, in 2000. Employment, automotive and real estate advertising all increased.

Circulation revenue decreased \$1,874,000, or 1.9%, primarily due to a decrease in units. Daily newspaper circulation declined 2.7% and Sunday circulation declined 1.6% for the six months ended September 30, 2001.

Other revenue increased \$1,176,000, or 1.7%. Niche publications and other revenue increased \$2,915,000, or 10.5%, with the introduction of new products. Internet/online revenue increased \$1,690,000, or 91.3%, due to growth in advertising revenue. Commercial printing declined \$3,859,000, offsetting other increases.

The following table sets forth the percentage of revenue of the Company's operating expenses:

	Year Ended September 30	
	2000	1999
Compensation	34.3%	33.6%
Newsprint and ink	9.5	9.6
Other operating expenses	21.9	22.3
	65.7	65.5
EBITDA	34.3	34.5
Depreciation and amortization	5.5	5.8
Operating margin	28.8%	28.7%

Costs other than depreciation and amortization increased \$6,792,000, or 2.1%. Compensation expense increased \$6,572,000, or 4.0%, due to normal increases in rates. Newsprint and ink costs were flat as price increases were offset by a 3.7% decline in volume. Other operating costs, exclusive of depreciation and amortization, increased \$202,000, or 0.2%.

Nonoperating Income and Income Taxes

In 2000, other nonoperating income consists primarily of gains from the sale of publishing properties.

Income taxes were 36.6% and 34.8% of pretax income from continuing operations for 2000 and 1999, respectively. Income taxes were reduced by \$1,500,000 in 1999 due to favorable settlement of a contested matter.

DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

In March 2000, the Board of Directors of the Company made a determination to sell its broadcast properties. In May 2000 the Company entered into an agreement to sell substantially all of its broadcasting operations, consisting of eight network-affiliated and seven satellite television stations, to Emmis Communications Corporation and consummated the transaction in October 2000. The net proceeds of approximately \$565,000,000 resulted in an after-tax gain for financial reporting purposes of approximately \$251,000,000. The results for the broadcast properties have been classified as discontinued operations for all periods presented.

In July 2001, the Company completed the sale of its last broadcasting property. Net proceeds of the sale totaled approximately \$7,000,000. The after-tax gain of approximately \$4,000,000 on the sale is reflected in discontinued operations.

Operating revenue of the broadcast properties for 2001, 2000 and 1999 was \$647,000, \$122,857,000 and \$122,487,000, respectively.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Cash provided by continuing operations was \$107,164,000 for 2001, \$103,198,000 in 2000 and \$77,220,000 in 1999.

The Company anticipates that funds necessary for capital expenditures, which are expected to total approximately \$12,000,000 in 2002, and other requirements will be available from internally generated funds, its investment portfolio and, if necessary, by accessing the capital markets. The Company has substantial liquidity and unused borrowing capacity, including a \$50,000,000 unsecured revolving credit agreement that expires in 2003.

Under the terms of its 1998 note purchase agreement, the Company will be required to repay the then outstanding balance of \$161,800,000 on October 1, 2002, unless the Company reinvests the net proceeds of the sale of broadcast operations or obtains a waiver of that provision of the agreement. If the

Company is required to repay the debt prior to the original maturity date, a prepayment penalty based on interest rates at the time of repayment will be required. If the debt is required to be repaid on October 1, 2002, the prepayment penalty would be approximately \$14,200,000, based on interest rates at September 30, 2001.

Other covenants under this agreement are not considered restrictive to normal operations or historical amounts of stockholder dividends.

SEASONALITY

The Company's largest source of publishing revenue, retail advertising, is seasonal and tends to fluctuate with retail sales in markets served. Historically, retail run-of-press advertising is higher in the first and third fiscal quarters. Newspaper classified advertising revenue is lowest in the second fiscal quarter.

Quarterly results of operations are summarized in Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, included herein.

OTHER FACTORS

The Company has not been significantly impacted by inflationary pressures over the last several years. The Company anticipates that changing costs of newsprint, its basic raw material, may impact future operating costs. Price increases (or decreases) for the Company's products are implemented when deemed appropriate by management. The Company continuously evaluates price increases, productivity improvements and cost reductions to mitigate the impact of inflation.

MARKET RISK MANAGEMENT

The Company is exposed to market risk stemming from changes in interest rates and commodity prices. Changes in these factors could cause fluctuations in earnings and cash flows. In the normal course of business, exposure to certain of these market risks is managed as described below.

Interest Rates

Interest rate risk in the Company's investment portfolio is managed by investing only in securities with a maturity at date of acquisition of 180 days or less. The average maturity of the investment portfolio is 57 days at September 30, 2001. Only high-quality investments are considered.

The Company's debt structure and interest rate risk are managed through the use of fixed and floating rate debt. The Company's primary exposure is to United States interest rates.

Commodities

Certain materials used by the Company are exposed to commodity price changes. The Company manages this risk through instruments such as purchase orders and non-cancelable supply contracts. The Company is also involved in continuing programs to mitigate the impact of cost increases through identification of sourcing and operating efficiencies. Primary commodity price exposures are newsprint and, to a lesser extent, ink.

A \$10 per ton newsprint price increase would result in a reduction in income from continuing operations before income taxes of approximately \$660,000, excluding MNI.

Sensitivity to Changes in Value

The estimates that follow are intended to measure the maximum potential fair value or earnings the Company could lose in one year from adverse changes in market interest rates under normal market conditions. The calculations are not intended to represent actual losses in fair value or earnings that the Company expects to incur. The estimates do not consider favorable changes in market rates. The positions included in the calculations are temporary cash investments, which total \$211,221,000 at September 30, 2001, and fixed-rate debt, which totals \$173,400,000.

The table below presents the estimated maximum potential one-year loss in fair value and earnings before income taxes from a 100 basis point movement in interest rates on market risk sensitive instruments outstanding at September 30, 2001:

(Thousands)	Estimated Impact on	
	Fair Value	Income from Continuing Operations Before Income Taxes
Temporary cash investments	\$ (330)	\$ (1,780)
Fixed rate debt	(7,800)	-

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Information with respect to this Item is included in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations under the heading "Market Risk Management."

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Information with respect to this Item is included herein on pages 17 to 38, immediately following Part IV.

Item 9. Changes In and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not applicable.

PART III

Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant

Information with respect to this Item, except for certain information included under the heading "Officers" in Part I of this Form 10-K, is included in the Company's Proxy Statement dated December 27, 2001, which is incorporated herein reference, under the headings "Proposal One - Election of Directors" and "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance."

Item 11. Executive Compensation

Information with respect to this Item is included in the Company's Proxy Statement dated December 27, 2001, which is incorporated herein by reference, under the headings "Proposal One - Election of Directors," "Compensation of Directors" and "Executive Compensation;" provided, however, that the subsection entitled "Executive Compensation – Report of the Executive Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors on Executive Compensation" shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

Information with respect to this Item is included in the Company's Proxy Statement dated December 27, 2001, which is incorporated herein by reference, under the heading "Voting Securities and Principal Holders Thereof."

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

Not applicable.

PART IV

Item 14. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules, and Reports on Form 8-K

The following documents are filed as part of this Form 10-K:

Financial Statements

Consolidated Balance Sheets – September 30, 2001 and 2000
Consolidated Statements of Income - Years ended
September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity -
Years ended September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Years ended
September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Independent Auditor's Report
Report of Management

Financial Statement Schedules

II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts - Years ended
September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999

All other schedules have been omitted as not required, not applicable, not deemed material or because the information is included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Exhibits

21 Subsidiaries
23 Consent of McGladrey & Pullen, LLP
24 Power of Attorney

Reports on Form 8-K

The Company filed a report on Form 8-K dated September 5, 2001. The Company reported under Item 5 that it has amended its 1998 Note Purchase Agreement, extending the period for required reinvestment of proceeds from the sale of its broadcast properties to October 1, 2002.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this Annual Report on Form 10-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on the 27th day of December 2001.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

/s/ Mary E. Junck
Mary E. Junck
President and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Carl G. Schmidt
Carl G. Schmidt
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in their respective capacities on the 15th day of November, 2001.

Signature

/s/ Rance E. Crain
Rance E. Crain

Director

/s/ Richard D. Gottlieb
Richard D. Gottlieb

Chairman of the Board and Director

/s/ J. P. Guerin
J. P. Guerin

Director

/s/ Mary E. Junck
Mary E. Junck

President and Chief Executive Officer
and Director

/s/ William E. Mayer
William E. Mayer

Director

/s/ Herbert W. Moloney III
Herbert W. Moloney III

Director

/s/ Andrew E. Newman
Andrew E. Newman

Director

/s/ Gordon D. Prichett
Gordon D. Prichett

Director

/s/ Gregory P. Schermer
Gregory P. Schermer

Vice President - Interactive Media
and Corporate Counsel and Director

/s/ Phyllis Sewell
Phyllis Sewell

Director

/s/ Mark Vittert
Mark Vittert

Director

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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	September 30	
<i>(Thousands, Except Per Share Data)</i>	2001	2000
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 272,169	\$ 29,427
Temporary cash investments	211,221	-
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts:		
2001 \$4,419; 2000 \$3,344	41,349	41,212
Receivable from associated companies	1,500	1,500
Inventories	3,997	4,280
Other	7,441	7,380
Net assets of discontinued operations	-	167,767
	537,677	251,566
Investments:		
Associated companies	18,940	19,155
Other	13,585	15,021
	32,525	34,176
Property and equipment:		
Land and improvements	10,958	11,473
Buildings and improvements	62,914	63,893
Equipment	179,052	172,366
	252,924	247,732
Less accumulated depreciation	133,863	120,376
	119,061	127,356
Intangible assets	310,590	332,520
Other	544	615
	\$ 1,000,397	\$ 746,233

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

	September 30	
	2001	2000
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Notes payable and current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 11,600	\$ 49,532
Accounts payable	10,825	14,242
Compensation and other accrued liabilities	27,232	27,603
Income taxes payable	57,281	7,799
Unearned income	18,201	18,451
	125,139	117,627
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	161,800	173,400
Deferred items:		
Retirement and compensation	13,178	13,418
Income taxes	18,336	46,621
	31,514	60,039
Stockholders' equity:		
Serial convertible preferred, no par value; authorized 500 shares; issued none	-	-
Common Stock, \$2 par value; authorized 60,000 shares; issued and outstanding: 2001 33,659 shares; 2000 33,070 shares	67,318	66,140
Class B Common Stock, \$2 par value; authorized 30,000 shares; issued and outstanding: 2001 10,379 shares; 2000 10,740 shares	20,758	21,480
Additional paid-in capital	48,164	37,330
Unearned compensation	(1,130)	(1,227)
Retained earnings	546,834	271,444
	681,944	395,167
	\$ 1,000,397	\$ 746,233

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

	Year Ended September 30		
<i>(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)</i>	2001	2000	1999
Operating revenue:			
Advertising	\$ 284,124	\$ 276,213	\$ 264,392
Circulation	82,128	80,468	83,102
Other	67,250	65,455	57,114
Equity in net income of associated companies	7,651	9,377	9,238
	441,153	431,513	413,846
Operating expenses:			
Compensation	170,726	158,884	150,462
Newsprint and ink	43,011	38,625	37,447
Depreciation	16,398	14,546	13,766
Amortization of intangible assets	15,760	14,780	13,820
Other	109,242	102,211	100,982
	355,137	329,046	316,477
Operating income	86,016	102,467	97,369
Non-operating (income) expense, net:			
Financial income	(28,548)	(3,259)	(1,920)
Financial expense	11,963	12,643	12,863
Other, net	10,167	(17,132)	(738)
	(6,418)	(7,748)	10,205
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	92,434	110,215	87,164
Income tax expense	32,977	40,340	30,343
Income from continuing operations	59,457	69,875	56,821
Discontinued operations:			
Income from discontinued operations, net of income tax effect	-	4,738	11,152
Gain on disposition, net of income tax effect	254,771	9,050	-
	254,771	13,788	11,152
Net income	\$ 314,228	\$ 83,663	\$ 67,973
Earnings per common share:			
Basic:			
Continuing operations	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.29
Discontinued operations	5.82	0.31	0.25
Net income	\$ 7.18	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.54
Diluted:			
Continuing operations	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.27
Discontinued operations	5.78	0.31	0.25
Net income	\$ 7.13	\$ 1.89	\$ 1.52

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	Year Ended September 30					
	Amount			Shares		
	2001	2000	1999	2001	2000	1999
Common Stock:						
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 66,140	\$ 66,142	\$ 65,144	33,070	33,071	32,572
Conversion from Class B						
Common Stock	694	770	1,116	347	385	558
Shares issued	1,194	478	286	597	239	143
Shares reacquired	(710)	(1,250)	(404)	(355)	(625)	(202)
Balance, end of year	67,318	66,140	66,142	33,659	33,070	33,071
Class B Common Stock:						
Balance, beginning of year	21,480	22,376	23,556	10,740	11,188	11,778
Conversion to Common						
Stock	(694)	(770)	(1,116)	(347)	(385)	(558)
Shares reacquired	(28)	(126)	(64)	(14)	(63)	(32)
Balance, end of year	20,758	21,480	22,376	10,379	10,740	11,188
Additional Paid-In Capital:						
Balance, beginning of year	37,330	32,641	28,715			
Shares issued	10,834	4,689	3,926			
Balance, end of year	48,164	37,330	32,641			
Unearned Compensation:						
Balance, beginning of year	(1,227)	(961)	(650)			
Restricted shares issued	(1,136)	(1,364)	(1,081)			
Restricted shares canceled	251	283	45			
Amortization	982	815	725			
Balance, end of year	(1,130)	(1,227)	(961)			
Retained Earnings:						
Balance, beginning of year	271,444	234,131	202,994			
Net income	314,228	83,663	67,973			
Cash dividends per						
common share:	(29,797)	(28,288)	(26,623)			
2001 \$0.68;						
2000 \$0.64;						
1999 \$0.60						
Shares reacquired	(9,041)	(18,062)	(10,213)			
Balance, end of year	546,834	271,444	234,131			
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 681,944	\$ 395,167	\$ 354,329	44,038	43,810	44,259

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Year Ended September 30		
(Thousands)	2001	2000	1999
Cash provided by operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 314,228	\$ 83,663	\$ 67,973
Less: discontinued operations	254,771	13,788	11,152
Income from continuing operations	59,457	69,875	56,821
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities of continuing operations:			
Depreciation and amortization	32,158	29,326	27,586
Losses (gains) on sales, or expected sales, of assets	6,233	(18,439)	(738)
Distributions less than earnings of associated companies	(552)	(2,891)	(2,220)
Change in assets and liabilities, net of effects from business acquisitions:			
Decrease (increase) in receivables	(654)	2,422	(3,491)
Decrease (increase) in inventories and other	113	3,751	(1,218)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable, accrued expenses and unearned income	(5,232)	8,357	(1,620)
Increase (decrease) in income taxes payable	6,449	2,421	(1,097)
Other	9,192	8,376	3,197
Net cash provided by operating activities	107,164	103,198	77,220
Cash required for investing activities:			
Purchases of temporary cash investments	(872,836)	-	-
Proceeds from sales of temporary cash investments	661,615	-	-
Purchases of property and equipment	(9,904)	(25,392)	(24,938)
Acquisitions, net	(4,518)	(71,609)	(15,416)
Proceeds from sales of assets	5,341	8,775	492
Other	(3,002)	929	(3,867)
Net cash required for investing activities	(223,304)	(87,297)	(43,729)
Cash required for financing activities:			
Proceeds from (payments on) short-term notes payable, net	(37,937)	30,500	6,000
Payments on long-term debt	(11,600)	-	(25,000)
Purchases of common stock	(10,050)	(20,021)	(11,830)
Cash dividends paid	(29,797)	(28,288)	(26,623)
Other, primarily issuance of common stock	11,358	4,210	4,418
Net cash required for financing activities	(78,026)	(13,599)	(53,035)
Net cash provided by discontinued operations	436,908	16,589	13,139
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	242,742	18,891	(6,405)
Cash and cash equivalents:			
Beginning of year	29,427	10,536	16,941
End of year	\$ 272,169	\$ 29,427	\$ 10,536

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Company directly, and through its ownership of associated companies, publishes 28 daily newspapers and more than 100 other weekly, classified and specialty publications, along with associated online services.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

Certain amounts as previously reported have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

Accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly, or majority-owned, subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of reporting cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less at date of acquisition to be cash equivalents.

Investments

All temporary cash investments, consisting of municipal and corporate debt securities, are classified as held to maturity, as the Company has the ability and the positive intent to do so. Such securities are stated at amortized cost, adjusted for amortization of premium and accretion of discount. Due to the short term nature of these investments, carrying value approximates fair value.

Investments in the common stock of associated companies are reported at cost plus the Company's share of undistributed earnings since acquisition, less amortization of intangible assets.

Other investments primarily consist of marketable securities held in trust under a deferred compensation arrangement. These investments are classified as trading securities and carried at fair value with gains and losses reported in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

Inventories

Newsprint inventories are priced at the lower of cost or market with cost being determined primarily by the last-in, first-out method. Newsprint inventories at September 30, 2001 and 2000 were less than replacement cost by \$2,954,000 and \$4,481,000, respectively.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Property and equipment

Property and equipment are carried at cost. Equipment, except for printing presses, is depreciated primarily by declining-balance methods. The straight-line method is used for all other assets. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

	Years
Buildings and improvements	5 - 25
Publishing:	
Printing presses	15 - 20
Other major equipment	3 - 11

The Company capitalizes interest as a component of the cost of constructing major facilities.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets include covenants not to compete, consulting agreements, customer lists, newspaper subscriber lists, and the excess cost over fair value of net assets of businesses acquired.

The excess cost over fair value of net tangible assets include \$6,493,000 incurred prior to October 31, 1970, which is not being amortized. Excess cost related to specialty publications is being amortized over 10 to 15 years. Intangible assets representing non-compete covenants, consulting agreements, customer lists, and newspaper subscriber lists are being amortized over periods of 3 to 40 years. The remaining costs are being amortized over a period of 40 years. All intangible assets are amortized by the straight-line method.

The Company annually reviews its intangibles and other long-lived assets to determine potential impairment. In performing the review, the Company estimates the future cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset and its eventual disposition. If the sum of the expected future cash flows (undiscounted and without interest charges) is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment is recognized. The amount of impairment is measured based upon projected discounted future cash flows using a discount rate reflecting the Company's average cost of capital.

In 2001 the Company reduced the carrying value of certain of its intangible assets by \$4,775,000. This amount is classified as non-operating expense in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

Revenue recognition

Advertising and circulation revenue is recognized based on date of publication.

Unearned income

Unearned income arises in the ordinary course of business from advance subscription payments for newspapers. Revenue is recognized in the period in which it is earned.

Advertising costs

Advertising costs, which are not material, are expensed as incurred.

Income taxes

Deferred taxes are provided using the liability method, whereby deferred tax assets are recognized for deductible temporary differences and loss carryforwards and deferred tax liabilities are recognized for taxable temporary differences. Temporary differences are the difference between the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and their tax basis. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are adjusted for the effects of changes in tax laws and rates on the date of enactment.

Restricted stock

The Company amortizes as compensation expense the value of restricted stock, issued under a long-term incentive plan, by the straight-line method over the three-year restriction period.

2 ACQUISITIONS AND DIVESTITURES

In March 2000, the Board of Directors of the Company made a determination to sell its broadcast properties. In May 2000 the Company entered into an agreement to sell substantially all of its broadcasting operations, consisting of eight network-affiliated and seven satellite television stations, to Emmis Communications Corporation and consummated the transaction in October 2000. The net proceeds of approximately \$565,000,000 resulted in an after-tax gain for financial reporting purposes of approximately \$251,000,000. The results for the broadcast properties have been classified as discontinued operations for all periods presented.

In July 2001, the Company completed the sale of its last broadcasting property. Net proceeds of the sale totaled approximately \$7,000,000. The after-tax gain of approximately \$4,000,000 on the sale is reflected in discontinued operations.

Income from discontinued operations consists of the following:

(Thousands)	Year Ended September 30		
	2001	2000	1999
Operating revenue	\$ 647	\$ 122,857	\$ 122,487
Income from, or gain on sale of, discontinued operations	\$ 402,697	\$ 23,620	\$ 19,371
Income tax expense	147,926	9,832	8,219
	\$ 254,771	\$ 13,788	\$ 11,152

At September 30, 2000, the assets and liabilities of discontinued operations consisted of the following:

(Thousands)	
Assets:	
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 23,493
Program rights and other	8,190
Property and equipment, net	29,775
Intangible and other assets	122,310
	183,768
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities	13,072
Deferred items and other	2,929
	16,001
Net assets of discontinued operations	\$ 167,767

In 2000, the Company acquired a daily newspaper and specialty publications and received \$9,300,000 of cash in exchange for all the assets and liabilities of two of its daily newspapers and the related specialty and classified publications. In connection with this transaction, the Company recognized a gain on sale of \$18,439,000.

In addition, the Company acquired six weekly newspapers or specialty publications and increased its ownership in an Internet venture in 2001; acquired three daily newspapers, and several weekly newspapers and classified or specialty publications in 2000; and one daily newspaper, two weekly newspapers, and several classified or specialty publications in 1999.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

All acquisitions were accounted for as purchases and, accordingly, the results of operations since the respective dates of acquisition are included in the Consolidated Financial Statements. Acquisitions and dispositions in 2001 did not have a significant effect on operating results.

The purchase prices of businesses acquired or exchanged were allocated as follows:

	Year Ended September 30		
(Thousands)	2001	2000	1999
Noncash working capital	\$ (301)	\$ 1,475	\$ (100)
Property and equipment	1,049	8,197	1,207
Intangible assets	3,770	74,745	16,048
Other long-term assets	-	54	-
Issuance of note payable	-	(432)	(1,000)
Deferred items	-	(1,170)	(739)
	4,518	82,869	15,416
Less fair value of assets exchanged	-	11,260	-
Total cash purchase price	\$ 4,518	\$ 71,609	\$ 15,416

In 2001, the Company sold several weekly and specialty publications. Proceeds from sales of properties or exchanges consisted of the following:

	Year Ended September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Noncash working capital	\$ 519	\$ 111
Property and equipment	1,319	764
Intangible assets	4,961	721
	6,799	1,596
Gain (loss) recognized on sales of properties	(1,458)	18,439
	5,341	20,035
Less fair value of assets exchanged	-	11,260
Proceeds from sales of properties	\$ 5,341	\$ 8,775

3 INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

The Company has a 50% ownership interest in Madison Newspapers, Inc. (MNI), a company that publishes daily and Sunday newspapers, and other publications in Madison, three other daily newspapers and various other publications in Wisconsin; and also holds interests in Internet service ventures.

Summarized financial information of MNI is as follows:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Assets:		
Current assets	\$ 21,805	\$ 28,102
Investments and other assets	32,175	34,025
Property and equipment, net	14,810	14,044
	\$ 68,790	\$ 76,171
Liabilities and stockholders' equity:		
Current liabilities	\$ 18,911	\$ 23,394
Long-term debt	12,000	16,000
Stockholders' equity	37,879	36,777
	\$ 68,790	\$ 76,171

	Year Ended September 30		
(Thousands)	2001	2000	1999
Revenue	\$ 105,880	\$ 97,279	\$ 90,626
Operating expenses, excluding depreciation and amortization	76,337	64,769	58,705
Operating income	24,824	29,781	29,325
Net income	15,302	18,791	18,461

Accounts receivable from associated companies consist of dividends from MNI. Fees for editorial services provided to MNI by the Company are included in other revenue and totaled \$8,929,000, \$8,944,000, and \$8,744,000 in 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively. Certain other information relating to the Company's investment in MNI is as follows:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Company's share of:		
Stockholders' equity	\$ 18,940	\$ 18,388
Undistributed earnings	18,690	18,164

4 DEBT

The Company has a \$50,000,000 unsecured revolving credit agreement with a bank group that expires in 2003. Interest rates float at rates specified in the agreement. The Company had borrowings of \$37,500,000 under this agreement at September 30, 2000.

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
1998 note purchase agreement, 6.14% to 6.64%, due in varying amounts from 2002 to 2013	\$ 173,400	\$ 185,000
Less current maturities	11,600	11,600
	\$ 161,800	\$ 173,400

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Aggregate maturities during the next five years are \$11,600,000, \$11,600,000, \$36,600,000, \$11,600,000, and \$12,400,000, respectively. Under the terms of its 1998 note purchase agreement, the Company will be required to repay the then outstanding balance of \$161,800,000 on October 1, 2002 unless the Company reinvests the net proceeds of sale of broadcast operations or obtains a waiver of that provision of the agreement. If the Company is required to repay the debt prior to the original maturity date, a prepayment penalty based on interest rates at the time of repayment will be required. If the debt were required to be repaid on October 1, 2002, the prepayment penalty would be approximately \$14,200,000, based on interest rates as of September 30, 2001. Covenants under these agreements are not considered restrictive to normal operations or historical amounts of stockholder dividends.

5 RETIREMENT PLANS

Substantially all the Company's employees are eligible to participate in a qualified defined contribution retirement plan. The Company has other retirement and compensation plans for executives and others. Retirement and compensation plan costs, including interest on deferred compensation costs, charged to continuing operations were \$9,800,000 in 2001, \$10,200,000 in 2000 and \$10,800,000 in 1999.

6 COMMON STOCK, CLASS B COMMON STOCK, AND PREFERRED SHARE PURCHASE RIGHTS

Class B Common Stock has ten votes per share on all matters and generally votes as a class with Common Stock (which has one vote per share). The transfer of Class B Common Stock is restricted. Class B Common Stock is at all times convertible into shares of Common Stock on a share-for-share basis. Common Stock and Class B Common Stock have identical rights with respect to cash dividends and upon liquidation. All outstanding Class B Common Stock converts to Common Stock when the shares of Class B Common Stock outstanding total less than 5,600,000 shares.

In 1998, the Board of Directors adopted a Shareholder Rights Plan ("Plan"). Under the Plan, the Board declared a dividend of one Preferred Share Purchase Right ("Right") for each outstanding share of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock (collectively "Common Shares") of the Company. Rights are attached to and automatically trade with the Company's Common Shares.

Rights become exercisable only in the event that any person or group of affiliated persons becomes a holder of 20% or more of the Company's outstanding Common Shares, or commences a tender or exchange offer which, if consummated, would result in that person or group of affiliated persons owning at least 20% of the Company's outstanding Common Shares. Once the Rights become exercisable, they entitle all other shareholders to purchase, by payment of a \$150 exercise price, one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Participating Preferred Stock, subject to adjustment, with a value of twice the exercise price. In addition, at any time after a 20% position is acquired and prior to the acquisition of a 50% position, the Board of Directors may require, in whole or in part, each outstanding Right (other than Rights held by the acquiring person or group of affiliated persons) to be exchanged for one share of Common Stock or one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Preferred Stock. The Rights may be redeemed at a price of \$0.001 per Right at any time prior to their expiration on May 31, 2008.

7 STOCK OWNERSHIP PLANS

At September 30, 2001, the Company has three stock-based compensation plans. As permitted under generally accepted accounting principles, grants under those plans are accounted for following APB Opinion No. 25 and related interpretations. Accordingly, no compensation cost has been recognized for grants under the stock option or stock purchase plans.

Had compensation costs for all of the stock-based compensation plans been determined based on the grant date fair values of awards (the method described in FASB Statement No. 123), reported net income and earnings per common share would have been reduced to the pro forma amounts shown below:

<i>(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)</i>	2001	2000	1999
Net income:			
As reported	\$ 314,228	\$ 83,663	\$ 67,973
Pro forma	312,470	82,035	66,600
Earnings per common share:			
Basic:			
As reported	\$ 7.18	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.54
Pro forma	7.14	1.86	1.50
Diluted:			
As reported	7.13	1.89	1.52
Pro forma	7.09	1.85	1.49

Stock options and restricted stock

The Company has reserved 4,319,000 shares of Common Stock for issuance to key employees under an incentive and nonstatutory stock option and restricted stock plan approved by stockholders. Options have been granted at a price equal to the fair market value on the date of grant, and are exercisable in cumulative installments over a ten-year period. The fair value of each grant is estimated at the grant date using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions for grants: dividend rates of 2.0% to 2.6%; price volatility of 18.5% to 21.0%; risk-free interest rates based upon the life of the option ranging from 4.4% to 6.7%; and expected lives based upon the life of the option ranging from 0.7 to 8 years.

A summary of stock option activity is as follows:

	Number of Shares		
<i>(Thousands)</i>	2001	2000	1999
Under option, beginning of year	1,178	1,258	1,491
Granted	355	282	185
Exercised	(547)	(336)	(397)
Terminated and canceled	(19)	(26)	(21)
Under option, end of year	967	1,178	1,258
Exercisable, end of year	467	767	945

Average prices of options are as follows:

	2001	2000	1999
Granted	\$ 27.24	\$ 29.11	\$ 27.62
Exercised	18.83	14.15	15.45
Under option, end of year	26.44	22.72	19.09
Weighted-average fair value of options granted	6.97	7.75	6.55

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A summary of options outstanding at September 30, 2001 is as follows:

Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable		
Range of Exercise Prices	Number Outstanding	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Life (In Years)	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Number Exercisable	Weighted- Average Exercise Price
\$15 to \$20	100,000	2.9	\$ 17.48	100,000	\$ 17.48
20 to 25	59,000	5.5	21.64	53,000	21.55
25 to 30	720,000	7.9	27.41	263,000	27.61
30 to 34	88,000	6.2	31.86	51,000	32.11
	967,000	7.1	\$ 26.44	467,000	\$ 25.24

Restricted stock is subject to an agreement requiring forfeiture by the employee in the event of termination of employment within three years of the grant date for reasons other than normal retirement, death or disability. In 2001, 2000 and 1999, the Company granted 44,000, 46,000 and 39,000 shares, respectively, of restricted stock to employees. At September 30, 2001, 84,000 shares of restricted stock were outstanding.

At September 30, 2001, 3,352,000 shares were available for granting of stock options or issuance of restricted stock.

Stock purchase plan

The Company has 1,072,000 shares of Common Stock available for issuance pursuant to an employee stock purchase plan. April 30, 2002 is the exercise date for the current offering. The purchase price is the lower of 85% of the fair market value at the date of grant or the exercise date, which is one year from the date of grant. The weighted-average fair value of purchase rights granted in 2001, 2000 and 1999, computed using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, were \$6.97, \$5.32 and \$6.34, respectively.

In 2001, 2000 and 1999 employees purchased 85,000, 124,000 and 97,000 shares, respectively, at a price of \$19.20 in 2001, \$19.31 in 2000 and \$24.78 in 1999.

8 INCOME TAXES

Income tax expense consists of the following:

Year Ended September 30			
(Thousands)	2001	2000	1999
Current:			
Federal	\$ 181,412	\$ 36,036	\$ 30,633
State	28,937	6,612	5,652
Deferred	(29,446)	7,524	2,277
	\$ 180,903	\$ 50,172	\$ 38,562

Income tax expense related to continuing operations differs from the amounts computed by applying the U.S. federal income tax rate to income before income taxes. The reasons for these differences are as follows:

	2001	2000	1999
Computed "expected" income tax expense	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
State income taxes, net of federal tax benefit	4.0	4.0	3.9
State income tax credits	(2.4)	-	-
Net income of associated companies taxed at dividend rates	(2.2)	(2.3)	(2.9)
Goodwill amortization	1.2	1.0	1.2
Other	0.1	(1.1)	(2.4)
	35.7%	36.6%	34.8%

Net deferred tax liabilities consist of the following components:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property and equipment	\$ 10,374	\$ 10,190
Equity in undistributed earnings of affiliates	1,238	1,457
Deferred gain on sale of broadcast properties	-	3,266
Identifiable intangible assets	13,093	38,168
Other	185	178
	24,890	53,259
Deferred tax assets:		
Accrued compensation	6,644	8,181
Allowance for doubtful accounts	2,707	1,341
Capital loss carryforward	-	4,161
Other	2,691	1,443
	12,042	15,126
Less valuation allowance	-	4,161
	12,042	10,965
	\$ 12,848	\$ 42,294

Net deferred tax liabilities have been included in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets as follows:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Other current assets	\$ 5,488	\$ 4,327
Noncurrent liabilities	(18,336)	(46,621)
	\$ (12,848)	\$ (42,294)

The Company established a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets due to limitations imposed by the tax laws on the ability to realize the benefit of capital loss and acquired net operating loss carryforwards. Deferred tax assets relating to the carryforwards were reduced in 2001, 2000 and 1999 as the Company utilized the loss carryforwards on its income tax returns. The amounts relating to these reductions in

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

deferred tax assets were reclassified to income taxes payable with no effect on income tax expense. The acquired net operating loss carryforwards were associated with discontinued operations sold in October 2000. The sale also resulted in a reduction of the income taxes payable related to acquired net operating loss carryforwards and a corresponding \$2,467,000 reduction of goodwill.

9 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments for which it is practicable to estimate that value.

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, temporary cash investments, accounts receivable, and accounts payable approximate fair value because of the short maturity of those instruments. The carrying value of other investments, consisting of debt and equity securities in a deferred compensation trust, is carried at fair value based upon quoted market prices. Equity securities totaling \$3,927,000, consisting primarily of the Company's 17% ownership of the nonvoting common stock of The Capital Times Company, are carried at cost, as the fair value is not readily determinable.

The fair value of the Company's debt is estimated based on the quoted market prices for the same or similar issues or on the current rates offered to the Company for debt of the same remaining maturities. The estimated fair values of the Company's debt instruments are as follows:

<i>(Thousands)</i>	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
September 30:		
2001	\$ 173,400	\$ 178,100
2000	222,932	216,300

10 EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per common share:

	Year Ended September 30		
<i>(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)</i>	2001	2000	1999
Income applicable to common stock:			
Continuing operations	\$ 59,457	\$ 69,875	\$ 56,821
Discontinued operations	254,771	13,788	11,152
Net income	\$ 314,228	\$ 83,663	\$ 67,973
Weighted average common shares outstanding	43,873	44,099	44,347
Less non-vested restricted stock	89	94	74
Basic average common shares outstanding	43,784	44,005	44,273
Dilutive stock options and restricted stock	305	355	588
Diluted average common shares	44,089	44,360	44,861
Earnings per common share:			
Basic:			
Continuing operations	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.29
Discontinued operations	5.82	0.31	0.25
Net income	\$ 7.18	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.54
Diluted:			
Continuing operations	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.27
Discontinued operations	5.78	0.31	0.25
Net income	\$ 7.13	\$ 1.89	\$ 1.52

11 OTHER INFORMATION

Intangible assets related to continuing operations consist of the following:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Goodwill	\$ 296,280	\$ 296,130
Less accumulated amortization	66,049	54,170
	230,231	241,960
Noncompete covenants and consulting agreements	22,805	23,878
Less accumulated amortization	21,692	22,552
	1,113	1,326
Customer and subscriber lists	109,831	113,084
Less accumulated amortization	30,585	23,850
	79,246	89,234
	\$ 310,590	\$ 332,520

Compensation and other accrued liabilities related to continuing operations consist of the following:

	September 30	
(Thousands)	2001	2000
Compensation	\$ 13,698	\$ 13,831
Retirement and stock purchase plans	4,615	4,915
Interest	5,537	6,022
Other	3,382	2,835
	\$ 27,232	\$ 27,603

Cash flows information is as follows:

	Year Ended September 30		
(Thousands)	2001	2000	1999
Cash payments for:			
Interest, net of capitalized interest :			
2000 \$1,389; 1999 \$703	\$ 13,025	\$ 5,783	\$ 12,881
Income taxes	165,028	42,345	39,528
Program rights acquired by issuing long-term contracts	-	7,794	12,417
Capital expenditures related to discontinued operations	-	7,102	7,493

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12 IMPACT OF RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In July 2001, the FASB issued Statement No. 141, *Business Combinations*, and Statement No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*. Statement 141 requires that the purchase method of accounting be used for all business combinations initiated or completed after June 30, 2001. Statement 141 also specifies criteria intangible assets acquired in a purchase method business combination must meet to be recognized and reported apart from goodwill. Statement 142 will require that goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives no longer be amortized, but instead tested for impairment at least annually. Statement 142 will also require that intangible assets with definite useful lives be amortized over their respective estimated useful lives to their estimated residual values, and reviewed for impairment in accordance with Statement 121, *Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to be Disposed Of*.

The Company is required to adopt the provisions of Statement 141 immediately, except with regard to business combinations initiated prior to July 1, 2001, and Statement 142 effective October 1, 2002. Furthermore, any goodwill and any intangible asset determined to have an indefinite useful life that are acquired in a purchase business combination completed after June 30, 2001 will not be amortized, but will continue to be evaluated for impairment in accordance with the appropriate pre-Statement 142 accounting literature. Goodwill and intangible assets acquired in business combinations completed before July 1, 2001 will continue to be amortized prior to the adoption of Statement 142.

Statement 141 will require, upon adoption of Statement 142, that the Company evaluate its existing intangible assets and goodwill that were acquired in a prior purchase business combination, and make any necessary reclassifications in order to conform with the new criteria in Statement 141 for recognition apart from goodwill. Upon adoption of Statement 142, the Company will be required to reassess the useful lives and residual values of all intangible assets acquired in purchase business combinations, and make any necessary amortization period adjustments by the end of the first interim period after adoption. In addition, to the extent an intangible asset is identified as having an indefinite useful life, the Company will be required to test the intangible asset for impairment in accordance with the provisions of Statement 142 within the first interim period. Any impairment loss will be measured as of the date of adoption and recognized as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle in the first interim period.

As of October 1, 2001, the date of adoption, the Company expects to have unamortized goodwill in the amount of approximately \$230,000,000, and unamortized identifiable intangible assets in the amount of approximately \$80,000,000, which will be subject to the transition provisions of Statements 141 and 142. Amortization expense related to goodwill was \$7,936,000, \$6,936,000 and \$6,380,000 for the years ended September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

Because of the extensive effort needed to comply with adopting Statements 141 and 142, it is not practicable to reasonably estimate the impact of adopting these Statements on the Company's financial statements at the date of this report. The Company does not expect any transitional impairment losses will be required to be recognized as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle.

13 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (UNAUDITED)

<i>(Thousands, Except Per Common Share Data)</i>	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
2001:				
Operating revenue	\$ 118,625	\$ 102,197	\$ 111,001	\$ 109,330
Income from continuing operations	21,015	13,141	15,736	9,565
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	250,887	(85)	(34)	4,003
Net income	271,902	13,056	15,702	13,568
Earnings per common share:				
Basic:				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.22
Income from discontinued operations	5.75	-	-	0.09
Net income	\$ 6.23	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.31
Diluted:				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.22
Income from discontinued operations	5.71	-	-	0.09
Net income	\$ 6.19	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.31
2000:				
Operating revenue	\$ 108,687	\$ 100,973	\$ 109,925	\$ 111,928
Income from continuing operations	26,396	11,737	15,955	15,787
Income from discontinued operations	4,148	1,864	4,218	3,558
Net income	30,544	13,601	20,173	19,345
Earnings per common share:				
Basic:				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.36
Income from discontinued operations	0.09	0.04	0.10	0.08
Net income	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.44
Diluted:				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.36
Income from discontinued operations	0.09	0.04	0.10	0.08
Net income	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.44

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Stockholders
Lee Enterprises, Incorporated
and subsidiaries
Davenport, Iowa

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated and subsidiaries as of September 30, 2001 and 2000 and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the years ended September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated and subsidiaries as of September 30, 2001 and 2000 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years ended September 30, 2001, 2000 and 1999 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, Schedule II included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2001, presents fairly the information set forth therein, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

McGladrey & Pullen, LLP

Davenport, Iowa
November 9, 2001

REPORT OF MANAGEMENT

The management of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated is responsible for the preparation and integrity of all financial statements and other information contained in this Form 10-K. We rely on a system of internal financial controls to meet the responsibility of providing accurate financial statements. These controls provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

The financial statements for each of the years covered in this Form 10-K have been audited by independent auditors, who have provided an independent assessment as to the fairness of the financial statements, after obtaining an understanding of the Company's systems and procedures and performing such other tests as deemed necessary.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, which is composed solely of directors who are not officers of the Company, meets with management and the independent auditors to review the results of their work and to satisfy itself that their respective responsibilities are being properly discharged. The independent auditors have full and free access to the Audit Committee and have regular discussions with the Committee regarding appropriate auditing and financial reporting matters.



Mary E. Junck
President and Chief Executive Officer



Carl G. Schmidt
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

**LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED
AND SUBSIDIARIES**

SCHEDULE II - VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

<i>(Thousands)</i>	Balance, Beginning of Year	Additions Charged to Income	Charged to Other Accounts	Deductions from Reserves	Balance, End of Year
Allowance for doubtful accounts:				(1)	
Year ended September 30:					
2001	\$ 3,344	\$ 4,400	\$ -	\$ 3,325	\$ 4,419
2000	4,460	3,445	(1,203) (2)	3,358	3,344
1999	4,110	3,776	-	3,426	4,460
Allowance for loss on loans:					
Year ended September 30, 2001	\$ -	\$ 2,522	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,522

(1) Represents accounts written off as uncollectible, net of recoveries, which are immaterial.

(2) September 30, 1999 balance for discontinued operations.

Executive Officers

Mary E. Junck

President and Chief Executive Officer

James W. Hopson

Vice President - Publishing;
Publisher, *Wisconsin State Journal*

Brian E. Kardell

Vice President - Information Systems,
and Chief Information Officer

Vytenis P. Kuraitis

Vice President - Human Resources

Michael E. Phelps

Vice President - Sales & Marketing

Gregory P. Schermer

Vice President - Interactive Media

Carl G. Schmidt

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer

David B. Stoeffler

Vice President - News

John VanStrydonck

Vice President - Publishing

Greg R. Veon

Vice President - Publishing

Board of Directors

Richard D. Gottlieb

Chairman of the Board
Retired Chief Executive Officer
Director since 1986; retiring from the
Board in January 2002

Rance E. Crain

Director since 1990
President, Crain Communications

J.P. Guerin

Director since 1985; retiring from the
Board in January 2002
Private investor

Mary E. Junck

President and Chief Executive Officer
Director since 1999

William E. Mayer

Director since 1998
Founding Partner, Park Avenue Equity
Partners, L.P.

Herbert W. Moloney III

Director since 2001
Chief Operating Officer, North America,
Vertis, Inc.

Andrew E. Newman

Director since 1991
Chairman, Race Rock International

Gordon D. Prichett

Director since 1998
Partner, Cairnwood Cooperative, and
Professor of Mathematics, Statistics and
Information Sciences, Babson College

Gregory P. Schermer

Vice President - Interactive Media
and Corporate Counsel
Director since 1999

Phyllis Sewell

Director since 1977; retiring from the
Board in January 2002
Retired Senior Vice President,
Federated Department Stores

Mark Vittert

Director since 1986
Private investor

Stockholder Directory

Corporate Office

Lee Enterprises, Incorporated
215 N. Main Street
Davenport, IA 52801-1924
(563) 383-2100

Securities Market

New York Stock Exchange
Trading symbol: LEE

Annual Meeting

The 2002 Annual Meeting of Stockholders
will be held at the Radisson Quad City
Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, 111 E.
2nd Street, Davenport, Iowa, at 9:00 a.m.
on Wednesday, January 23, 2002.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

EquiServe Trust Company
P.O. Box 2500
Jersey City, NJ 07303-2500
(800) 446-2617

www.equiserve.com

For online access to your account:

<http://gateway.equiserve.com>

Stockholder Inquiries

Communication concerning the transfer of
shares, lost certificates or changes of
address should be directed to the Transfer
Agent.

General Counsel

Lane & Waterman
220 N. Main Street, Suite 600
Davenport, IA 52801-1987

Online information

www.lee.net

At www.lee.net you may access a wide
range of stockholder information, including
news releases, monthly statistics and
filings with the Securities and Exchange
Commission. You also will find links to
local, regional and national news; archives,
reader services; advertising services; and a
wealth of classified and employment
information at Lee's daily, weekly and
specialty publications.

