

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For The Quarterly Period Ended December 31, 2002

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 42-0823980
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
incorporation or organization)

215 N. Main Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801
(Address of principal executive offices)

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

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 whether the Registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of December 31, 2002, 34,776,121 shares of Common Stock and 9,638,044 shares of Class B Common Stock of the Registrant were outstanding.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

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PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(Unaudited)

(Thousands, except per common share data)	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2002	2001
Operating revenue:		
Advertising	\$ 118,802	\$ 71,677
Circulation	33,612	20,422
Other	18,133	15,261
	170,547	107,360
Operating expenses:		
Compensation	68,492	40,484
Newsprint and ink	14,450	9,777
Depreciation	4,410	3,983
Amortization of intangible assets	6,961	1,858
Other	38,357	25,631
	132,670	81,733
Operating income, before equity in net income of associated companies	37,877	25,627
Equity in net income of associated companies	2,218	2,177
Operating income	40,095	27,804
Nonoperating income (expense), net:		
Financial income	340	2,767
Financial expense	(4,690)	(3,038)
Loss on sales of businesses	-	(40)
Other, net	(344)	(267)
	(4,694)	(578)
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	35,401	27,226
Income tax expense	12,923	9,612
Income from continuing operations	22,478	17,614
Discontinued operations:		
Loss on disposition, net of income tax effect	(20)	(37)
Net income	\$ 22,458	\$ 17,577
Earnings per common share:		
Basic:		
Continuing operations	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Discontinued operations	-	-
Net income	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Diluted:		
Continuing operations	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Discontinued operations	-	-
Net income	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Dividends per common share	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.17

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

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Unaudited)

(Thousands, except per share data)	December 31 2002	September 30 2002
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 26,455	\$ 14,381
Accounts receivable, net	61,861	57,313
Receivable from associated companies	-	1,500
Inventories	10,012	10,166
Other	10,234	10,798
Assets of discontinued operations	-	7,723
Total current assets	108,562	101,881
Investments	28,367	28,776
Property and equipment, net	202,427	204,297
Goodwill	611,591	611,938
Other intangible assets	506,148	513,109
Other	3,762	3,829
	\$ 1,460,857	\$ 1,463,830
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Notes payable and current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 11,600	\$ 14,600
Accounts payable	18,324	21,015
Compensation and other accrued liabilities	29,551	32,591
Income taxes payable	17,908	5,103
Dividends payable	7,550	7,533
Liabilities of discontinued operations	-	157
Unearned revenue	28,478	27,750
Total current liabilities	113,411	108,749
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	370,200	394,700
Deferred items	216,518	216,612
Other	995	995
Stockholders' equity:		
Serial convertible preferred stock, no par value; authorized 500 shares: none issued	-	-
Common Stock, \$2 par value; authorized 60,000 shares; issued and outstanding: December 31, 2002 34,776 shares; September 30, 2002 34,621 shares	69,552	69,242
Class B Common Stock, \$2 par value; authorized 30,000 shares; issued and outstanding: December 31, 2002 9,638 shares; September 30, 2002 9,690 shares	19,276	19,380
Additional paid-in capital	70,864	67,084
Unearned compensation	(3,778)	(1,845)
Retained earnings	603,819	588,913
	759,733	742,774
	\$ 1,460,857	\$ 1,463,830

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

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited)

(Thousands)	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2002	2001
Cash provided by operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 22,458	\$ 17,577
Results of discontinued operations	(20)	(37)
Income from continuing operations	22,478	17,614
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities of continuing operations:		
Depreciation and amortization	11,371	5,841
Stock compensation expense	1,122	890
Distributions in excess of current earnings of associated companies	409	1,950
Other, net	6,136	(1,779)
Net cash provided by operating activities	41,516	24,516
Cash provided by (required for) investing activities:		
Proceeds from sales of temporary cash investments, net	-	23,110
Purchases of property and equipment	(3,781)	(2,406)
Proceeds from sales of assets	3,945	1,491
Other	(75)	(221)
Net cash provided by investing activities	89	21,974
Cash provided by (required for) financing activities:		
Payments on short-term debt	(3,000)	-
Payments on long-term debt	(24,500)	-
Common stock transactions	-	(207)
Dividends paid	(7,533)	-
Other	1,012	1,571
Net cash provided by (required for) financing activities	(34,021)	1,364
Net cash provided by (required for) discontinued operations	4,490	(43,215)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	12,074	4,639
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Beginning of period	14,381	272,169
End of period	\$ 26,455	\$ 276,808

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

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

1 Basis of Presentation

The Consolidated Financial Statements included herein are unaudited. In the opinion of management, these statements contain all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring items) necessary to present fairly the financial position of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2002 and the results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented. These Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included in the Company's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Because of seasonal and other factors, the results of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2002 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

Effective October 1, 2002, the Company adopted the fair value provisions of FASB Statement 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, as amended by FASB Statement 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure, and all prior periods have been restated. See Note 5.

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

2 Acquisitions

In April 2002, the Company acquired the stock of Howard Publications, Inc. (Howard), a privately owned company comprised of 15 daily newspapers, 50% of the stock of Sioux City Newspapers, Inc. (SCN), and related specialty publications. The transaction was valued at approximately \$696,800,000 after taking into account \$50,000,000 of cash on the Howard balance sheet to be retained by the Company, and other adjustments. Certain non-publishing businesses of Howard were not included in the transaction.

The Company paid the purchase price and expenses related to the transaction from \$433,000,000 of available funds, including proceeds from the sale of its broadcast properties, and revolving loans under the terms of a five year, \$350,000,000 credit agreement.

In July 2002, the Company acquired the remaining 50% interest in SCN from a privately owned company. The transaction was valued at \$57,000,000 and was funded in part with approximately \$42,000,000 in cash and temporary cash investments. The remainder of the purchase price was funded by the Company's credit agreement. \$3,000,000 of the purchase price was paid in November 2002. The Company's Flathead group of weekly newspapers in Montana was transferred as partial consideration for the purchase.

The pro forma consolidated statement of income information for the three months ended December 31, 2001, set forth below, presents the results of operations as if the acquisitions of Howard and SCN had occurred at the beginning of the period and is not necessarily indicative of future results or actual results that would have been achieved had the acquisitions occurred as of the beginning of the period.

	Three Months Ended December 31 2001

(Thousands, except per common share data)	

Operating revenue	\$166,701
Income from continuing operations	19,857
Earnings per common share:	
Basic	\$ 0.45
Diluted	0.45

3 Investment 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, Wisconsin, 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:

(Thousands)	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2002	2001
Operating revenue	\$ 29,207	\$ 26,470
Operating expenses, excluding depreciation and amortization	20,465	18,325
Depreciation and amortization	1,363	1,004
Operating income	7,379	7,141
Net income	4,436	4,356

Debt of MNI totaled \$32,344,000 at December 31, 2002 and September 30, 2002.

4 Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Changes in the carrying amount of goodwill are as follows:

(Thousands)	Three Months Ended December 31 2002
Goodwill, beginning of period	\$611,938
Goodwill adjustments related to acquisitions	(347)
Goodwill, end of period	\$611,591

Identified intangible assets related to continuing operations consist of the following:

(Thousands)	December 31 2002	September 30 2002
Unamortizable intangible assets:		
Mastheads	\$ 26,022	\$ 26,022
Amortizable intangible assets:		
Noncompete covenants and consulting agreements	28,406	28,406
Less accumulated amortization	(22,515)	(21,967)
	5,891	6,439
Customer and newspaper subscriber lists	525,224	525,224
Less accumulated amortization	(50,989)	(44,576)
	474,235	480,648
	\$506,148	\$513,109

Annual amortization of intangible assets related to continuing operations for the five years ending December 2007 is estimated to be \$27,713,000, \$27,041,000, \$24,232,000, \$23,218,000 and \$23,164,000, respectively.

5 Stock Ownership Plans

A summary of activity related to the Company's stock option plan is as follows:

(Thousands, except per common share data)	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at September 30, 2002	1,049	\$ 29.04
Granted	300	32.51
Exercised	(39)	26.33
Cancelled	(8)	30.79
Outstanding at December 31, 2002	1,302	\$ 29.91

At December 31, 2002, the Company has three stock-based employee compensation plans. Prior to October 1, 2002, the Company accounted for those plans under the recognition and measurement provisions of APB Opinion 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations. Accordingly, no compensation cost had been recognized for grants under the stock option or stock purchase plans. Effective October 1, 2002, the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions of FASB Statement 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, for stock-based employee compensation, as amended by FASB Statement 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure. All prior periods presented have been restated to reflect the compensation cost that would have been recognized had the recognition provisions of Statements 123 and 148 been applied to all awards granted to employees after October 1, 1995. The cumulative effect of the adoption of Statements 123 and 148 decreased non-current deferred income tax liabilities and increased stockholders' equity by \$1,518,000 at September 30, 2002.

The impact of the adoption of Statements 123 and 148 on both income from continuing operations and diluted earnings per common share is as follows:

(Thousands, except per common share data)	Three Months Ended				Year Ended
	December 31 2001	March 31 2002	June 30 2002	September 30 2002	September 30 2002
Income from continuing operations:					
As reported	\$18,037	\$13,226	\$30,756	\$19,010	\$81,029
Additional stock compensation expense (net of income tax expense)	(423)	(560)	(568)	(594)	(2,145)
As adjusted	\$17,614	\$12,666	\$30,188	\$18,416	\$78,884
Diluted earnings per common share:					
As reported	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.83
Additional stock compensation expense	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.05)
As adjusted	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.42	\$ 1.78

Options to purchase 1,164,889 shares of common stock with a weighted average exercise price of \$28.50 per share were outstanding at December 31, 2001.

6 Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes includes deferred taxes and is based upon estimated annual effective tax rates in the tax jurisdictions in which the Company operates.

7 Earnings Per Common Share

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

(Thousands, except per common share data)	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2002	2001
Income applicable to common stock:		
Continuing operations	\$ 22,478	\$ 17,614
Discontinued operations	(20)	(37)
Net income	\$ 22,458	\$ 17,577
Weighted average common shares outstanding	44,370	44,086
Less non-vested restricted stock	149	110
Basic average common shares	44,221	43,976
Dilutive stock options and restricted stock	132	265
Diluted average common shares	44,353	44,241
Earnings per common share:		
Basic:		
Continuing operations	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Discontinued operations	-	-
Net income	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Diluted:		
Continuing operations	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40
Discontinued operations	-	-
Net income	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40

8 Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In July 2002, the FASB issued Statement 146, Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities. Statement 146 requires companies to recognize liabilities and costs associated with exit or disposal activities initiated after December 2002 when they are incurred, rather than when management commits to a plan to exit an activity. Statement 146 will affect only the timing of the recognition of future restructuring costs and is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 2. 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 months ended December 31, 2002. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and related Notes thereto and the 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

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

CONTINUING OPERATIONS - THREE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

Operating results, as reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements, are summarized below:

(Thousands, except per common share data)	Three Months Ended December 31		Percent Change
	2002	2001	
Operating revenue	\$ 170,547	\$ 107,360	58.9%
Income before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) (1)	49,248	31,468	56.5
Operating income	40,095	27,804	44.2
Nonoperating expense, net	(4,694)	(578)	NM
Income from continuing operations	22,478	17,614	27.6
Earnings per common share:			
Basic	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.40	27.5%
Diluted	0.51	0.40	27.5

(1) EBITDA is not a financial performance measurement under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (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. EBITDA excludes equity in net income of associated companies and nonoperating items, primarily interest, gains and losses on sales of businesses and losses related to other ventures. EBITDA as presented may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies.

Operating Revenue

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

(Thousands)	Three Months Ended December 31		Percent Change	
	2002	2001	Total	Same Property
Advertising revenue:				
Retail	\$ 75,841	\$ 45,943	65.1%	3.6%
National	4,072	2,671	52.5	(1.1)
Classified:				
Employment	8,750	5,090	71.9	(5.1)
Automotive	10,110	5,312	90.3	2.2
Real estate	7,173	3,850	86.3	7.8
All other	12,856	8,811	45.9	3.7
Total classified	38,889	23,063	68.6	1.5
Total advertising	118,802	71,677	65.7	2.7
Circulation	33,612	20,422	64.6	0.7
Other:				
Commercial printing	5,659	5,874	(3.7)	(6.2)
Online	2,481	1,474	68.3	42.7
Niche publications and other	9,993	7,913	26.2	8.9
Total operating revenue	\$ 170,547	\$ 107,360	58.9%	2.7%

All categories of revenue were substantially impacted by the acquisition of Howard, which the Company purchased in April 2002. In total, acquisitions accounted for \$63,040,000 of revenue growth in the current year quarter. Businesses sold in the year ended September 2002, but still included in continuing operations, did not impact the current year quarter but accounted for \$2,135,000 of revenue in the prior year quarter.

Sundays generate substantially more advertising and circulation revenue than any other day of the week. The quarter ended December 31, 2002 had the same number of Sundays as the same period last year.

Revenue - Same Property

The following discussion of revenue is presented on an operating 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 and divestitures. The Company believes such comparisons provide the most meaningful information for an understanding of changes in its revenue.

For the quarter ended December 31, 2002, total revenue increased \$3,588,000, or 2.7%, and total advertising revenue increased \$2,361,000, or 2.7%. Retail revenue increased \$1,965,000, or 3.6%. Average retail rate, excluding preprint insertions, increased 3.5%.

Classified advertising revenue increased approximately 1.5% for the quarter ended December 31, 2002, the first such increase since the quarter ended December 2000. Higher margin employment advertising at the daily newspapers decreased 5.1% for the quarter, but was more than offset by revenue increases in automotive and real estate of 2.2% and 7.8%, respectively. Automakers continue to offer incentives and real estate interest rates remain favorable. Classified rates increased 1.1%.

Advertising lineage, as reported on a same property operating basis for daily newspapers only, consists of the following:

(Thousands of Inches)	Three Months Ended December 31		
	2002	2001	Percent Change
Retail	2,003	2,023	(1.0)%
National	85	96	(11.5)
Classified	1,594	1,597	(0.2)
	3,682	3,716	(0.9)%

Circulation revenue increased \$176,000, or 0.7%, in the current year quarter. The Company's unaudited average daily newspaper circulation units increased 1.5% and Sunday circulation was flat for the three months ended December 2002, compared to the same period in the prior year. The Company remains focused on growing circulation units and revenue through a number of initiatives.

Commercial printing revenue declined \$487,000, or 6.2%. Online revenue increased \$678,000, or 42.7%, due to growth in advertising revenue and cross-selling with the Company's newspapers.

Operating Expenses and Results of Operations

The following table sets forth the Company's operating expenses and results of operations, as reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements:

(Thousands)	Three Months Ended December 31		
	2002	2001	Percent Change
Compensation	\$ 68,492	\$ 40,484	69.2%
Newsprint and ink	14,450	9,777	47.8
Other operating expenses	38,357	25,631	49.7
	121,299	75,892	59.8
EBITDA	49,248	31,468	56.5
Depreciation and amortization	11,371	5,841	94.7
Operating income, before equity in net income of associated companies	37,877	25,627	47.8
Equity in net income of associated companies	2,218	2,177	1.9
Operating income	\$ 40,095	\$ 27,804	44.2%

Costs other than depreciation and amortization increased \$45,407,000, or 59.8%. All categories of expenses were substantially impacted by the acquisition of Howard, which the Company purchased in April 2002. On a same property basis, such costs increased 3.0%. In total, acquisitions accounted for \$43,484,000 of operating costs, excluding depreciation and amortization, in the current year quarter. Businesses sold did not impact operating expenses in the current year quarter, but accounted for \$1,717,000 of operating expenses other than depreciation and amortization in the prior year quarter. Compensation expense increased \$28,008,000, or 69.2%, in the current year quarter due to costs of acquired businesses and a 7.5% increase in same property compensation expense. Higher medical expenses, normal salary adjustments, higher incentive compensation from increasing revenue, and one-time cost reductions in the prior year quarter, contributed to the increase in same property costs. Same property full time equivalent employees remained unchanged year over year. Exclusive of non-recurring cost reductions in the prior year, same property compensation expense increased 4.5% in the current year quarter. Newsprint and ink costs increased \$4,673,000, or 47.8%, in the current year quarter as volume increases related to acquired businesses more than offset price decreases and same property volume declines. Same property newsprint and ink expense decreased by 13.5% in the quarter and volume declined 0.2%. Other operating costs, exclusive of depreciation and amortization, increased \$12,726,000, or 49.7%, in the current year quarter. On a same property basis, other operating costs increased 3.4%. The increase in depreciation and amortization expense in 2002 is primarily due to the acquisitions of Howard and SCN.

EBITDA improved 56.5% to \$49,248,000 in the current year quarter from \$31,468,000 in the prior year. EBITDA margin declined to 28.9% from 29.3% in the prior year. Lower newsprint prices were offset by lower margins of acquired businesses and other cost increases as noted above. Operating income increased 44.2% to \$40,095,000. Operating margin decreased to 23.5% from 25.9% for the same reasons, but was further impacted by a higher level of amortization expense from acquisitions.

Nonoperating Income and Expense

Financial income decreased \$2,427,000 to \$340,000. The Company's invested balances were substantially reduced in April 2002 by the acquisition of Howard. Financial expense increased due to debt from the acquisitions of Howard and SCN, offset by lower interest rates and debt reduction from operating cash flow.

Overall Results

The effective income tax rates were 36.5% and 35.3% for the quarters ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The prior year tax rate was lower primarily due to tax-exempt interest income.

As a result of all of the above, earnings per diluted common share from continuing operations increased 27.5% to \$0.51 per share from \$0.40 per share in the prior year quarter. The adoption of FASB Statements 123 and 148 reduced the prior year's quarterly results by \$0.01 per share.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Cash provided by operating activities of continuing operations was \$41,516,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2002 and \$24,516,000 for the same period in 2001. Increased income from continuing operations and changes in working capital account for the change between years.

Cash provided by investing activities totaled \$89,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2002, and \$21,974,000 in the same period of the prior year. Proceeds from the sale of temporary cash investments were responsible for the primary source of funds in the prior year.

The Company anticipates that funds necessary for capital expenditures, which are expected to total approximately \$19,000,000 in 2003, and other requirements, will be available from internally generated funds, availability under its existing credit agreement or, if necessary, by accessing the capital markets.

Cash required by financing activities totaled \$34,021,000 during the three months ended December 31, 2002, and provided \$1,364,000 in the prior year. Debt repayments totaling \$27,500,000 and dividends were the primary uses of funds in the current year period.

Cash provided by discontinued operations totaling \$4,490,000 in the current year primarily reflects net proceeds from the sale of businesses. Cash required for discontinued operations totaled \$43,215,000 during the three months ended December 31, 2001, primarily for income tax payments related to the gain on sale of discontinued operations.

INFLATION

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.

In January 2003, several newsprint manufacturers announced price increases of \$50 per metric ton, effective for deliveries in March 2003. The final extent of changes in current prices, if any, is subject to negotiation between such manufacturers and the Company.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Company's discussion and analysis of its financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on-going basis, the Company evaluates its estimates, including those related to bad debts, investments, intangible assets, remaining useful lives of long-lived assets and income taxes. The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

See Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, included in the 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K, for a description of the Company's accounting policies used in the preparation of its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

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 maturity at date of acquisition of 180 days or less. Only high-quality investments are considered. In April 2002, the Company liquidated substantially its entire investment portfolio in conjunction with the acquisition of Howard.

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 the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). A one percent increase to LIBOR would decrease income from continuing operations before income taxes on an annualized basis by approximately \$2,200,000, based on floating rate debt outstanding at December 31, 2002, excluding MNI.

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 metric ton newsprint price increase would result in an annualized reduction in income from continuing operations before income taxes of approximately \$1,115,000, excluding MNI, based on anticipated consumption in 2003.

Sensitivity to Changes in Value

The estimate that follows is intended to measure the maximum potential impact on fair value of fixed-rate debt of the Company 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 that the Company expects to incur. The estimates do not consider favorable changes in market rates. The position included in the calculations is the Company's fixed-rate debt, which totals \$161,800,000 at December 31, 2002, excluding MNI.

The estimated maximum potential one-year loss in fair value from a 100 basis point movement in interest rates on market risk sensitive instruments outstanding at December 31, 2002 is approximately \$6,860,000. There is no impact on operating results from such changes in interest rates.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

In order to ensure that the information that must be disclosed in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission is recorded, processed, summarized and reported in a timely manner, the Company has disclosure controls and procedures in place. The Chief Executive Officer, Mary E. Junck, and Chief Financial Officer, Carl G. Schmidt, have reviewed and evaluated disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2002, and have concluded that such controls and procedures are appropriate and that no changes are required.

There have been no significant changes in internal controls, or in other factors that could affect internal controls, since December 31, 2002.

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

Exhibits

Exhibit 99.6 Sarbanes-Oxley Act Section 906 Certification

Reports on Form 8-K

No reports on Form 8-K were filed during the three months ended December 31, 2002.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

/s/ Carl G. Schmidt

DATE: February 13, 2003

Carl G. Schmidt

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I, Mary E. Junck, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q (Quarterly Report) of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (Registrant);
2. Based on my knowledge, this Quarterly Report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this Quarterly Report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the Consolidated Financial Statements, and other financial information included in this Quarterly Report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this Quarterly Report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the Registrant and we have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this Quarterly Report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Quarterly Report (the Evaluation Date); and
 - c) presented in this Quarterly Report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the Registrant's auditors and the Audit Committee of Registrant's Board of Directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
 - a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the Registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal controls; and
6. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have indicated in this Quarterly Report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: February 13, 2003

/s/ Mary E. Junck

Mary E. Junck
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I, Carl G. Schmidt, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q (Quarterly Report) of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (Registrant);
2. Based on my knowledge, this Quarterly Report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this Quarterly Report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the Consolidated Financial Statements, and other financial information included in this Quarterly Report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this Quarterly Report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the Registrant and we have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this Quarterly Report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Quarterly Report (the Evaluation Date); and
 - c) presented in this Quarterly Report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the Registrant's auditors and the Audit Committee of Registrant's Board of Directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
 - a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the Registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal controls; and
6. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have indicated in this Quarterly Report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: February 13, 2003

/s/ Carl G. Schmidt

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

EXHIBIT 99.6

The following statement is being made to the Securities and Exchange Commission solely for purposes of Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. 1349), which carries with it certain criminal penalties in the event of a knowing or willful misrepresentation.

Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20549

Re: Lee Enterprises, Incorporated

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the requirements of Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. 1349), each of the undersigned hereby certifies that to our knowledge:

- (i) this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended December 31, 2002 (Quarterly Report), fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)); and
- (ii) the information contained in this Quarterly Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Lee Enterprises, Incorporated for the periods presented in the Quarterly Report.

Dated as of this 13th day of February, 2003

/s/ Mary E. Junck

Mary E. Junck
Chairman, President and
Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Carl G. Schmidt

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