

HENNESSY ADVISORS INC
Form 10QSB
January 26, 2006
Table of Contents

FORM 10-QSB

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended December 31, 2005

Commission File Number 000-49872

HENNESSY ADVISORS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

7250 Redwood Blvd, Suite 200

Novato, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

68-0176227
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

94945
(Zip Code)

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(415) 899-1555

(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 a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ; No .

The number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common equity as of December 31, 2005 was 2,477,958.

Transitional Small Business Disclosure Format: Yes ; No

Table of Contents

HENNESSY ADVISORS, INC.

INDEX

| | <u>Page Number</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| PART I. Financial Information | |
| Item 1. Condensed Financial Statements | |
| <u>Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2005 (unaudited) and September 30, 2005</u> | 3 |
| <u>Statements of Income for the three months ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 (unaudited)</u> | 4 |
| <u>Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the three months ended December 31, 2005 (unaudited)</u> | 5 |
| <u>Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 (unaudited)</u> | 6 |
| <u>Notes to Condensed Financial Statements</u> | 7 |
| Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis</u> | 12 |
| Item 3. <u>Controls and Procedures</u> | 16 |
| PART II. <u>Other Information</u> | 17 |
| Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u> | 17 |
| <u>Signatures</u> | 17 |

Table of Contents**Hennessy Advisors, Inc.****Balance Sheets****(In thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

| | December 31, 2005 | September 30, 2005 |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | (Unaudited) | |
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 6,378 | \$ 6,291 |
| Investments in marketable securities, at fair value | 5 | 5 |
| Investment fee income receivable | 1,287 | 1,218 |
| Prepaid expenses | 117 | 221 |
| Deferred income tax asset | 154 | |
| Other current assets | 45 | 102 |
| Total current assets | \$ 7,986 | \$ 7,837 |
| Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$47 and \$41 | \$ 282 | \$ 125 |
| Management contracts, net of accumulated amortization of \$629 | 19,406 | 19,406 |
| Non-compete agreement, net of accumulated amortization of \$269 and \$135 | 1,347 | 1,481 |
| Deferred income tax asset | | 145 |
| Other assets | 130 | 113 |
| Total assets | \$ 29,151 | \$ 29,107 |
| Liabilities and Stockholders Equity | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accrued liabilities and accounts payable | \$ 824 | \$ 1,818 |
| Income taxes payable | 276 | |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 2,091 | 2,091 |
| Total current liabilities | \$ 3,191 | \$ 3,909 |
| Long-term debt | \$ 10,167 | \$ 10,690 |
| Deferred income tax liability | 930 | 829 |
| Total liabilities | \$ 14,288 | \$ 15,428 |
| Stockholders equity: | | |
| Adjustable rate preferred stock, \$25 stated value, 5,000,000 shares authorized: zero shares issued and outstanding | \$ | \$ |
| Common stock, no par value, 15,000,000 shares authorized: 2,477,958 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2005 and 2,460,213 at September 30, 2005 | 7,095 | 6,951 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 190 | 45 |

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| | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Retained earnings | 7,578 | 6,683 |
| Total stockholders equity | \$ 14,863 | \$ 13,679 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders equity | \$ 29,151 | \$ 29,107 |

See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements

Table of Contents**Hennessy Advisors, Inc.****Statements of Income****(Unaudited)**

| | Three Months Ended December 31, | |
|---|---|---------------|
| | 2005 | 2004 |
| | (In thousands, except share and per share amounts) | |
| Revenue | | |
| Investment advisory fees | \$ 3,257 | \$ 2,401 |
| Shareholder service fees | 422 | 283 |
| Other | 4 | 16 |
| Total revenue | 3,683 | 2,700 |
| Operating expenses | | |
| Compensation and benefits | 663 | 595 |
| General and administrative | 432 | 235 |
| Mutual fund distribution | 741 | 472 |
| Amortization and depreciation | 151 | 11 |
| Total operating expenses | 1,987 | 1,313 |
| Operating income | 1,696 | 1,387 |
| Interest expense | 222 | 90 |
| Other income | (18) | |
| Income before income tax expense | 1,492 | 1,297 |
| Income tax expense | 597 | 519 |
| Net income | \$ 895 | \$ 778 |
| Earnings per share: | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.36 | \$ 0.32 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.35 | \$ 0.31 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | 2,464,629 | 2,452,713 |
| Diluted | 2,582,494 | 2,537,237 |

See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements

Table of Contents**Hennessy Advisors, Inc.****Statements of Changes in Stockholders Equity****Three Months Ended December 31, 2005****(In thousands, except share data)****(Unaudited)**

| | Common Shares | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Earnings | Total Stockholders Equity |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| Balance as of September 30, 2005 | 2,460,213 | \$ 6,951 | \$ 45 | \$ 6,683 | \$ 13,679 |
| Net income for three months ended December 31, 2005 | | | | 895 | 895 |
| Employee and director stock options exercised | 17,750 | 144 | | | 144 |
| Employee restricted stock compensation | | | 15 | | 15 |
| Tax benefit of employee and director stock options exercised | | | 130 | | 130 |
| Adjustment for fractional shares paid in cash | (5) | | | | |
| Balance as of December 31, 2005 | <u>2,477,958</u> | <u>\$ 7,095</u> | <u>\$ 190</u> | <u>\$ 7,578</u> | <u>\$ 14,863</u> |

See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements

Table of Contents**Hennessy Advisors, Inc.****Statements of Cash Flows****(Unaudited)**

| | Three Months Ended December 31, | |
|--|--|-----------------|
| | 2005 | 2004 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 895 | \$ 778 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 151 | (21) |
| Loss on asset disposal | 33 | |
| Deferred income taxes | 92 | 96 |
| Tax benefit from exercise of employee and director stock options | 130 | |
| Tax benefit from restricted stock unit compensation | 15 | |
| (Increase) decrease in operating assets: | | |
| Investment fee income receivable | (69) | (118) |
| Prepaid expenses | 104 | (64) |
| Other current assets | 56 | 24 |
| Other assets | (22) | |
| Increase (decrease) in operating liabilities: | | |
| Accrued liabilities and accounts payable | (993) | (828) |
| Income taxes payable | 276 | 422 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 668 | 289 |
| Cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities: | | |
| Purchases of property and equipment | (202) | (9) |
| Disposal of fully depreciated assets | | 33 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | (202) | 24 |
| Cash flows used in financing activities: | | |
| Principal payments on long-term debt | (523) | (282) |
| Proceeds from exercise of employee and director stock options | 144 | |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (379) | (282) |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 87 | 31 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period | 6,291 | 4,568 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period | \$ 6,378 | \$ 4,599 |

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| | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information: | | |
| Cash paid for: | | |
| Income taxes | \$ | \$ 1 |
| | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| Interest | \$ 218 | \$ 88 |
| | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements

Table of Contents

Hennessy Advisors, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Financial Statements

(1) Basis of Financial Statement Presentation

The accompanying condensed financial statements of Hennessy Advisors, Inc. (the Company) are unaudited, but in the opinion of management, such financial statements have been presented on the same basis as the audited financial statements and include all adjustments consisting of only normal recurring adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented. The condensed financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for interim financial information. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. Operating results for the three months ended December 31, 2005, are not necessarily indicative of results which may be expected for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. For additional information, refer to the financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2005, which are included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-KSB, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 6, 2005.

The operating activities of the Company consist primarily of providing investment management services to six open-end mutual funds (the Hennessy Funds). The Company serves as investment advisor of the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund-Series II, Hennessy Cornerstone Value Fund, Hennessy Balanced Fund, Hennessy Total Return Fund and Hennessy Focus 30 Fund.

(2) Management Contracts

As of December 31, 2005, Hennessy Advisors, Inc. had contractual management agreements with Hennessy Funds, Inc. for the Hennessy Balanced Fund and the Hennessy Total Return Fund; with Hennessy Mutual Funds, Inc. for the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, the Hennessy Cornerstone Value Fund and the Hennessy Focus 30 Fund; and with Hennessy Funds Trust for the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund-Series II.

The management agreements were renewed by the Board of Directors of Hennessy Funds, Inc. and Hennessy Mutual Funds, Inc., at their meeting on March 8, 2005 for a period of one year. The agreements may be renewed from year to year, as long as continuance is specifically approved at least annually in accordance with the requirements of the 1940 Act. Each management agreement will terminate in the event of its assignment, or it may be terminated by Hennessy Funds, Inc. or Hennessy Mutual Funds, Inc. (either by the Board of Directors or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of each Fund) or by Hennessy Advisors, upon 60 days' prior written notice.

Under the terms of the management agreements, each Fund bears all expenses incurred in its operation that are not specifically assumed by Hennessy Advisors, the administrator or the distributor. Hennessy Advisors bears the expense of providing office space, shareholder servicing, fulfillment, clerical and bookkeeping services and maintaining books and records of the Funds. Hennessy Advisors, as deemed necessary or by contract, may be required to waive its management fee or subsidize other expenses for the Funds it manages. Hennessy Advisors has agreed to cap the expense ratio of the Hennessy Focus 30 Fund at 1.45%

Table of Contents

of the fund's average daily net assets until the limitation is terminated by the Board of Directors of Hennessy Mutual Funds, Inc. Hennessy Advisors has further agreed to cap the expense ratio of the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Series II at 1.25% of the fund's average daily net assets through June 2006. The expense ratios for both funds are below the contractual cap and subsidy is not currently required.

(3) Long-term Debt

On March 11, 2004, Hennessy Advisors, Inc. secured financing from US Bank National Association to acquire the management contracts for certain Lindner funds. The loan agreement required fifty-nine (59) monthly payments in the amount of \$94,060 plus interest at the bank's prime rate as it may change from time to time (7.25% effective December 31, 2005) and was secured by the Company's assets. On July 1, 2005, the loan was amended to provide an additional \$6.7 million to fund acquisition of the management contract for the Henlopen Fund. The amended loan after payment of an installment of \$94,060 on July 10, 2005, requires 64 monthly payments in the amount of \$174,210 plus interest at the bank's prime rate (currently 7.25%) and is secured by the Company's assets. The final installment of the then outstanding principal and its interest is due September 30, 2010.

In connection with securing the financing discussed above, Hennessy Advisors, Inc. incurred loan costs in the amount of \$101,110. These costs are included in other assets and the unamortized balance of \$85,289 (as of the loan amendment date of July 1, 2005) is being amortized on a straight-line basis over 64 months.

(4) Investment Advisor and Shareholder Service Fee Revenue

Investment Advisory and Shareholder Service fees, which are the primary sources of revenue, are recorded when earned. The Company receives investment advisory fees monthly at an annual rate of 0.74% of the average daily net assets of the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Series II, Hennessy Focus 30 Fund, and Hennessy Cornerstone Value Fund. The annual advisory fee for the Hennessy Balanced Fund and Hennessy Total Return Fund is 0.60%.

Fees for shareholder support services provided to the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Series II, Hennessy Focus 30 Fund, and Hennessy Cornerstone Value Fund, are charged at an annual rate of 0.1% of average daily net assets.

(5) Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method, in accordance with the provisions of FASB Statement No. 109 Accounting For Income Taxes .

Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those differences are expected to be recovered or settled. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are adjusted for the effects of changes in tax laws and rates on the date of enactment.

A valuation allowance is then established to reduce that deferred tax asset to the level at which it is more likely than not that the tax benefits will be realized. Realization of tax benefits of deductible temporary differences and operating losses or credit carryforwards depends on having sufficient taxable income of an appropriate character within the carryforward periods. Sources of taxable income that may allow for the realization of tax benefits include income that will result from future operations.

Table of Contents

The Company's effective tax rate for three months ended December 31, 2005, was 40.0%, and differs from the federal statutory rate of 34% primarily due to the effects of state income taxes.

(6) Reclassification of Prior Period's Statements

Certain items previously reported have been reclassified to conform with the current period's presentation.

(7) Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share is determined by dividing net earnings by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding, while diluted earnings per share is determined by dividing the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding adjusted for the dilutive effect of common stock equivalents.

On January 27, 2005, our Board of Directors declared a three-for-two stock split which was implemented on March 8, 2005 for shareholders of record as of February 15, 2005. All disclosures in this report relating shares of common stock, stock options and per share data have been adjusted to reflect this stock split.

(8) Stock-Based Compensation

On May 2, 2001, the Company established an incentive plan (the Plan) providing for the issuance of options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, performance awards, and stock loans for the purpose of attracting and retaining executive officers and key employees. The maximum number of shares which may be issued under the Plan is 25% of the outstanding common stock of the Company, subject to adjustment by the compensation committee of the Board of Directors. The 25% limitation shall not invalidate any awards made prior to a decrease in the number of outstanding shares, even though such awards have resulted or may result in shares constituting more than 25% of the outstanding shares being available for issuance under the Plan. Shares available under the Plan which are not awarded in one particular year may be awarded in subsequent years. The compensation committee of the Board of Directors has the authority to determine the awards granted under the Plan, including among other things, the individuals who receive the awards, the times when they receive them, vesting schedules, performance goals, whether an option is an incentive or nonqualified option and the number of shares to be subject to each award. However, no participant may receive options or stock appreciation rights under the Plan for an aggregate of more than 75,000 shares in any calendar year. The exercise price and term of each option or stock appreciation right will be fixed by the compensation committee except that the exercise price for each stock option which is intended to qualify as an incentive stock option must be at least equal to the fair market value of the stock on the date of grant and the term of the option cannot exceed 10 years. In the case of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% shareholder, the exercise price must be at least 110% of the fair market value on the date of grant and cannot exceed five years. Incentive stock options may be granted only within ten years from the date of adoption of the Plan. The aggregate fair market value (determined at the time the option is granted) of shares with respect to which incentive stock options may be granted to any one individual, which stock options are exercisable for the first time during any calendar year, may not exceed \$100,000. An optionee may, with the consent of the compensation committee, elect to pay for the shares to be received upon exercise of their options in cash or shares of common stock or any combination thereof.

Table of Contents

As the exercise price of all options granted under the Plan were equal to the market price of the underlying common stock on the grant date, no stock-based employee compensation cost was recognized in net income. There were no options granted during the three months ended December 31, 2005, and 115,500 options were granted during the quarter ended December 31, 2004. The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share if the Company had applied the fair value recognition provisions of FASB Statement No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, as amended, to options granted under the stock option plan. Because the estimated value is determined as of the date of grant, the actual value ultimately realized by the employee may be significantly different.

As required under FASB Statement No. 123 and FASB Statement No. 148, Accounting for Stock-based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure, the proforma effects of stock-based compensation on net income and earnings per common share have been estimated at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model.

The value of options granted during the three months ended December 31, 2004, was determined at the date of grant by using an options pricing model with an assumed risk-free interest rate of 2.84%, an expected life of 5 years, zero dividends and a volatility factor of 36.50%:

| | <u>Net Income</u> | <u>Basic EPS</u> | <u>Diluted EPS</u> |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| <u>For the three months ended December 31, 2004</u> | | | |
| Net income | \$ 778,000 | \$ 0.32 | \$ 0.31 |
| Fair value of stock options - net of tax | 257,796 | 0.11 | 0.10 |
| Proforma net income | <u>\$ 520,204</u> | <u>\$ 0.21</u> | <u>\$ 0.21</u> |

Table of Contents

During the quarter ended December 31, 2005, the Company issued restricted stock units (RSU) under its 2001 Omnibus Plan. Under the Company's 2001 Omnibus Plan, participants may be granted RSU's, representing an unfunded, unsecured right to receive a Company common share on the date specified in the recipient's award. The Company issues new shares for shares delivered for RSU recipients. The RSU granted under this plan vests over four years, at a rate of 25 percent per year. The Company recognizes compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the four-year vesting term of each award. RSU activity for the quarter ended December 31, 2005 was as follows:

| Restricted Stock | | |
|--|---|---|
| Unit Activity | | |
| Three Months Ended December 31, 2005 | | |
| | Number of Restricted Share Units | Weighted Avg. Fair Value at Grant Date |
| Non-vested Balance at September 30, 2005 | | |
| Granted | 12,500 | \$ 24.06 |
| Vested | (607) | |
| Forfeited | | |
| Non-vested Balance at December 31, 2005 | 11,893 | \$ 24.06 |
| Restricted Stock Unit Compensation Three Months Ended December 31, 2005 | | |
| (In Thousands) | | |
| Total expected compensation expense related to Restricted Stock Units | | \$ 301 |
| Compensation Expense recognized as of December 31, 2005 | | (15) |
| Unrecognized compensation expense related to RSU's at December 31, 2005 | | \$ 286 |

As of December 31, 2005, there was \$0.3 million of total RSU compensation expense related to non-vested awards not yet recognized, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average vesting period of 3.2 years.

(9) New Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Statement No. 123R "Share-Based Payment", which amended the provisions of FASB Statement No. 123 "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation". FASB Statement No. 123R requires public companies to recognize as an expense the fair value of stock-based payment arrangements at the date of grant, including stock options and employee stock purchase plans. The statement eliminates proforma accounting for share-based payments using the intrinsic value method previously allowed

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under the provisions of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees .

Effective October 1, 2005, we adopted the fair value recognition provisions of FASB Statement No. 123R under the Modified Perspective method in accordance with the transition and disclosure provisions of FASB Statement No. 148 Accounting for Stock-based Compensation Transition and Disclosure. All compensation costs related to restricted stock units granted in the first quarter ended December 31, 2005 have been recognized in our condensed financial statements.

Table of Contents

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis

Overview

We derive our operating revenue from management fees and shareholder servicing fees paid to us by the Hennessy Funds. These fees are calculated as a percentage of the average daily net assets in each of our mutual funds and vary from fund to fund. The fees we receive fluctuate with changes in the total net asset value of the assets in our mutual funds, which are affected by our investment performance, redemptions, completed acquisitions of management agreements, market conditions and the success of our marketing efforts. Total assets under management were \$1.83 billion as of December 31, 2005.

The assets we manage have grown rapidly as a result of acquisitions of management agreements, fund inflows and market appreciation. The following table illustrates the growth in assets under management since December 31, 2004 through December 31, 2005:

| Assets Under Management | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| At Each Quarter End, December 31, 2004 through December 31, 2005 | | | | | |
| | 12/31/2004 | 3/31/2005 | 6/30/2005 | 9/30/2005 | 12/31/2005 |
| | (In Thousands) | | | | |
| Beginning assets under management | \$ 1,222,073 | \$ 1,376,303 | \$ 1,347,881 | \$ 1,373,166 | \$ 1,807,472 |
| Acquisition inflows | | | | 299,225 | |
| Organic inflows | 64,390 | 107,136 | 72,672 | 137,530 | 122,446 |
| Redemptions | (91,804) | (108,114) | (87,886) | (118,651) | (120,497) |
| Market appreciation (depreciation) | 181,644 | (27,444) | 40,499 | 116,202 | 22,572 |
| Ending assets under management | \$ 1,376,303 | \$ 1,347,881 | \$ 1,373,166 | \$ 1,807,472 | \$ 1,831,993 |

A significant portion of our expenses, including employee compensation, are fixed and have historically demonstrated minimal variation. To implement our business strategy, we have expanded and upgraded our facilities and anticipate increasing our staffing. As a result, we expect our fixed expenses to increase.

The principal asset on our balance sheet, management contracts net of accumulated amortization, represents the capitalized costs incurred in connection with the acquisition of management agreements. As of December 31, 2005, this asset had a net balance of \$19.4 million.

The principal liability on our balance sheet is the long-term bank debt incurred in connection with the acquisition of the management agreements for the Lindner Funds and the Henlopen Fund. As of December 31, 2005, this liability, including the current portion of long-term debt, had a balance of \$12.3 million.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations

The following table displays items in the statements of income as dollar amounts and as percentages of total revenue for the three months ended December 31, 2005 and 2004:

| | Three Months Ended December 31, | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| | 2005 | | 2004 | |
| | (In thousands, except percentages) | | | |
| | Amounts | Percent of Total Revenue | Amounts | Percent of Total Revenue |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Investment advisory fees | \$ 3,257 | 88.4% | \$ 2,401 | 88.9% |
| Shareholder service fees | 422 | 11.5 | 283 | 10.5 |
| Other | 4 | 0.1 | 16 | 0.6 |
| Total revenue | 3,683 | 100.0 | 2,700 | 100.0 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Compensation and benefits | 663 | 18.0 | 595 | 22.0 |
| General and administrative | 432 | 11.8 | 235 | 8.7 |
| Mutual fund distribution | 741 | 20.1 | 472 | 17.5 |
| Amortization and depreciation | 151 | 4.1 | 11 | 0.4 |
| Total operating expenses | 1,987 | 54.0 | 1,313 | 48.6 |
| Operating income | 1,696 | 46.0 | 1,387 | 51.4 |
| Interest expense | 222 | 6.0 | 90 | 3.4 |
| Other income | (18) | (0.5) | | |
| Income before income tax expense | 1,492 | 40.5 | 1,297 | 48.0 |
| Income tax expense | 597 | 16.2 | 519 | 19.2 |
| Net income | \$ 895 | 24.3% | \$ 778 | 28.8% |

Revenues: Total revenue increased by \$1.0 million or 36.4%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$2.7 million in the prior comparable period, primarily due to fees earned from increased assets under management. Investment management fees increased by \$0.9 million, or 35.7%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$2.4 million in the prior comparable period, and shareholder service fees increased by \$0.1 million, or 49.1%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$0.3 million in the prior comparable period. These increases resulted from increases in the average daily net assets of our mutual funds, which can differ considerably from net assets of our mutual funds at the end of an accounting period. Net assets in our mutual funds increased by \$456 million, or 33.1%, as of December 31, 2005, from \$1.376 billion as of the end of the prior comparable period. The \$456 million increase in net mutual funds assets is attributable to a \$299.2

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million asset acquisition, cash inflows of \$439.8 million, redemptions of \$435.1 million and market appreciation of \$151.8 million. Redemptions as a percentage of assets under management decreased from an average of 2.4% per month to 2.3% per month during the same period.

Operating Expenses: Total operating expenses increased by \$0.7 million, or 51.3%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$1.3 million in the prior comparable period. The increase resulted from increases in several components of general and administrative expense, increased mutual fund distribution costs, and increased amortization expense. As a percentage of total revenue, total operating expenses increased by 5.4% to 54.0% in the three months ended December 31, 2005, as compared to 48.6% in the prior comparable period.

Table of Contents

Employee Compensation and Benefits: Compensation and benefits increased by \$0.07 million, or 11.4%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$0.6 million in the prior comparable period. The increase resulted primarily from the addition of a portfolio management specialist, a senior accountant and salary increases for officers and staff. As a percentage of total revenue, compensation and benefits decreased by 4.0% to 18.0% for the three months ended December 31, 2005, compared to 22.0% in the prior comparable period.

General and Administrative Expenses: General and administrative expense increased by \$0.2 million, or 83.8%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$0.2 million in the prior comparable period, primarily due to increases in professional fees, marketing expenses, business travel expenses, office rent, and promotion costs. As a percentage of total revenue, general and administrative expense increased by 3.1% to 11.8% in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from 8.7% in the prior comparable period.

Mutual Fund Distribution Expenses: Distribution expenses increased by \$0.3 million, or 57%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$0.5 million in the prior comparable period. As a percentage of total revenue, distribution expenses increased by 2.6% to 20.1% for the three months ended December 31, 2005, compared to 17.5% in the prior comparable period. The increase is due to increased assets through mutual fund supermarkets such as Charles Schwab, Fidelity and TD Waterhouse.

Amortization and Depreciation Expense: Amortization and depreciation expense increased by \$0.1 million, or 1,272%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$0.01 million in the prior comparable period. The increase is related to amortization of the \$1.6 million non-compete agreement purchased in July, 2005 as part of the Henlopen acquisition. As a percentage of total revenue, amortization and depreciation expenses increased by 3.7% to 4.1% for the three months ended December 31, 2005, compared to 0.4% in the prior comparable period.

Interest Expense: Interest expense increased by \$0.1 million from the prior comparable period due to interest incurred on an additional \$6.7 million loan through US Bank used to acquire the management agreements for the Henlopen funds in July, 2005. As a percentage of total revenue, interest expense increased by 2.6% to 6.0% for the three months ended December 31, 2005, compared to 3.4% in the prior comparable period.

Other (Income) Expense: Other income relates to interest income earned on cash and investments in marketable securities. The income is partially offset by a loss on asset disposal due to writing off the remaining leasehold improvements at our previous rental property.

Income Taxes: The provision for income taxes increased by \$0.08 million, or 15%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, from \$0.5 million in the prior comparable period.

Net Income: Net income increased by \$0.1 million, or 15%, in the three months ended December 31, 2005, compared to \$0.8 million in the prior comparable period, as a result of the factors discussed above.

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We continually review our capital requirements to ensure that we have sufficient funding available to support our growth strategies. Management anticipates that cash and other liquid assets on hand as of December 31, 2005 will be sufficient to meet our short-term capital requirements. To the extent that liquid resources and cash provided by operations are not adequate to meet long-term capital requirements, management plans to raise additional capital through debt or equity markets. There can be no assurance that we will be able to borrow funds or raise additional equity.

Total assets as of December 31, 2005 were \$29.2 million, which was an increase of \$0.04 million, or 0.1%, from September 30, 2005. Property and equipment, management agreements, and non-compete agreement acquired totaled \$21.0 million as of December 31, 2005. Our remaining assets are very liquid, consisting primarily of cash and receivables derived from mutual fund asset management activities. As of December 31, 2005, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$6.4 million.

Our Bank Loan: We have an outstanding bank loan with U.S. Bank National Association. We incurred \$7.9 million of indebtedness in connection with acquiring the management agreements for the Lindner Funds and an additional \$6.7 million of indebtedness in connection with acquiring the management agreement for The Henlopen Fund (now known as the Hennessy Cornerstone Growth Fund, Series II). The indebtedness we incurred to acquire the management agreement of The Henlopen Fund was rolled into a single loan with the indebtedness we incurred to acquire the management agreements of the Lindner Funds. We currently have \$12.3 million of principal outstanding under our bank loan, which bears interest at U.S. Bank National Association's prime rate as set by U.S. Bank National Association from time to time (7.25% as of December 31, 2005). The loan agreement requires us to make 64 monthly payments in the approximate amount of \$0.2 million, plus interest, with the final installment of the then outstanding principal and interest due on September 30, 2010.

Forward Looking Statements

Certain statements in this report are forward-looking within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Although management believes that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, future levels of activity, performance or achievements cannot be guaranteed. Additionally, management does not assume responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of these statements. There is no regulation requiring an update of any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this report to conform these statements to actual results or to changes in our expectations.

Our business activities are affected by many factors, including redemptions by mutual fund shareholders, general economic and financial conditions, movement of interest rates, competitive conditions, industry regulation, and others, many of which are beyond the control of our management. Statements regarding the following subjects are forward-looking by their nature:

our business strategy, including our ability to identify and complete future acquisitions;

market trends and risks;

our estimates for future performance;

our estimates regarding anticipated revenues and operating expenses; and

our ability to retain the mutual fund assets we currently manage.

Table of Contents

Although we seek to maintain cost controls, a significant portion of our expenses are fixed and do not vary greatly. As a result, substantial fluctuations in our revenue can directly impact our net income from period to period. Risk factors are described in more detail in the Risk Factors section of the Company's Annual Report, filed on Form 10-KSB with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on December 6, 2005.

Item 3. Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer, the Company conducted an evaluation of its disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on such evaluation, the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

There has been no significant change in our internal controls over financial reporting identified in connection with the foregoing evaluation that occurred during the last quarter and that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

Part II. OTHER INFORMATION

There were no reportable events for items 1 through 5.

Item 6. Exhibits

- 31.1 Rule 13a 14a Certification of the Chief Executive Officer
- 31.2 Rule 13a 14a Certification of the Chief Financial Officer
- 32.1 Written Statement of the Chief Executive Officer, Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350
- 32.2 Written Statement of the Chief Financial Officer, Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350

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:

HENNESSY ADVISORS, INC.

Date: 1/26/06

By: /s/ Teresa M. Nilsen

Teresa M. Nilsen,

Executive Vice President,

Chief Financial Officer and Secretary

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

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| <u>31.1</u> | Rule 13a 14a Certification of the Chief Executive Officer |
| <u>31.2</u> | Rule 13a 14a Certification of the Chief Financial Officer |
| <u>32.1</u> | Written Statement of the Chief Executive Officer, Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350 |
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