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## United Community Banks, Inc. Reports 17 Percent Gain in Diluted Earnings per Share for Third Quarter 2006

BLAIRSVILLE, GA, Oct 24, 2006 (MARKET WIRE via COMTEX News Network) -- United Community Banks, Inc. (NASDAQ: UCBI) HIGHLIGHTS:

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-- Record Third Quarter Earnings
    Diluted Earnings per Share of 42 Cents - Up 17 Percent
Net Income of \(\$ 17.4\) Milition - Up 22 Percent
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    Net Income of \(\$ 17.4\) Million - Up 22 Percen
    Return on Tangible Equity of
Total Assets Rise
Total Assets Rise to $\$ 6.5$ Billion
Strong Loan and Deposit Growth and Rise in Net Interest Margin Drive
Unth Cornunity Bank now open in Cleveland, Tennesse




Mickey Torbett who is joined by nine other local veteran bankers. United now has a stronger foothold in this attractive market that is among Tennessee's leaders in number of manutacturing companies."

Tallent continued, "Our balanced growth strategy also includes selective acquisitions. During the third quarter, we completed the accuuisition of two banking offices in Sylva and Bryson
Southern National Bank. Southern National Bank has two offices in Marietta and Canton, located in fast-growing Cobb and Cherokee counties on the northwest side of metro Allanta."









"Our outlook for the fourth quarter of 2006 is for earnings per share growth slighty above our long-term goal of 12 to 15 percent. For 2007 , our outlook for growth is within this range of 12 to 15 percent," Tallent

"Our results for the first,
Conference Call

About United Community Banks, Inc.

Sate Harbor

UNITED CoMMUNITY BaNKS, INC.
Selected Financial Information

| (in thousands, except per share data; taxable equivalent) | 2006 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Third Quarter | Second Quarter | First Quarter |
| income summary |  |  |  |
| Interest revenue | 119,802 | 111,728 | 102,797 |
| Interest expense | 55,431 | 49,407 | 43,065 |
| Net interest revenue | 64,371 | 62,321 | 59,732 |
| Provision for loan losses | 3,700 | 3,700 | 3,500 |
| Fee revenue | 12,146 | 11,976 | 11,758 |
| Total revenue | 72,817 | 70,597 | 67,990 |
| operating expenses | 44,939 | 43,483 | 42,222 |
| Income before taxes | 27,878 | 27,114 | 25,768 |
| me taxes | 10,465 | 10,185 | 9,729 |
| Net income | 17,413 | 16,929 | 16,039 |
| performance measu |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Basic earnings | 43 | . 42 | . 40 |
| Diluted earnings |  |  | . 39 |
| Cash dividends declared | . 08 | . 08 | . 08 |
| Book value | 13.07 | 12.34 | 12.09 |
| Tangible book val | 10.16 | 9.50 | 9.25 |
| ey performance |  |  |  |
| Return on tangible equity (1) (2) (3) |  |  |  |
| (1) (2) (3) | 17.298 | ${ }^{17.688}$ | ${ }^{17.668}$ |
|  | 13.22 | 13.41 | ${ }^{13.25}$ |
| Return on assets (3) Net interest margin (3) | 1.09 | 1.10 | 1.09 |
| Netinterest margin (3) | ${ }^{4.30}$ | 4.34 | 4.33 |
| Efficiency ratio | 58.44 | 58.53 | 59.06 |
| Dividend payout ratio | 18.60 | 19.05 | 20.00 |
| Equity to assets | 8.04 | 7.95 | 8.04 |
| SSEt quality |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Allowance for loan losses | 60,901 | 58,508 | 55,850 |
| Non-performing asse |  | 8,805 |  |
| Net charge-offs | 1,307 | 1,042 | 1,245 |
| ${ }^{\text {Allowance for loan losses to loans }}$ | 1.238 | ${ }^{1.228}$ | 1.228 |
| Non-performing assets to total assets |  |  |  |
| assets Net charge-offs to average loans | .14 | 14 | . 14 |
| (3) | . 11 | . 09 | . 11 |
| average balances |  |  |  |
| Loans | \$ 4,865,886 | \$ 4,690, 196 | 4,505,494 |
| Investment securities | 1,029,981 | 1,039,707 | 1,038,683 |
| Earning assets | 5,942,710 | 5,758,697 | 5,574,712 |
| Total assets | 6,350, 205 | 6,159,152 | 5,960,801 |
| Deposits | 5,085,168 | 4,842,389 | 4,613,810 |
| Shareholders' equity | 510,791 | 489,821 | 478,960 |
| Common shares outstanding: |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {Basic }}^{\text {Bred }}$ | ${ }^{40,223}$ | 40,156 | 40,088 |
|  | 41,460 | 41,328 | 41,190 |
| at period end |  |  |  |
| Investment securities | ,965, 265 | \$ 4,810, 277 | \$4,584,155 |
| Earning assets | 980,293 | 962, 614 |  |
| 俍 ${ }_{\text {Earning assets }}^{\text {Total assets }}$ | 6,012,987 $6,455,290$ | 5,862,614 | 5,633,381 |
| Deposits | 5,309,219 | 4,976,650 | 4,748,438 |
| shareholders' equity | 526,734 | 496,297 | 485, 414 |
| Common shares outstanding | 40,269 | 40,179 | 40,119 |
|  | 200 |  | hird |
| (in thousands, except per share |  | Third | ${ }^{\text {Quarter }}$ |
| data; taxable equivalent) | Quarter | Quarter | Change |
| Income summary |  |  |  |
| Interest revenue | 95,465 | 89,003 |  |
| Interest expense | 38,576 | 34,033 |  |
| Net interest revenue | 56,889 | 54,970 | 178 |
| Provision for loan losses | 3,500 | 3,400 |  |
| Fee revenue | 11,373 | 12,396 | (2) |


| Total revenue Operating expenses |  | $\begin{aligned} & 64,762 \\ & 40,520 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63,966 \\ & 41,294 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income before |  | ${ }_{24,242}$ | 22,672 |  |
| Sme taxes |  | 9,012 | ${ }_{8,374}^{2,2624}$ |  |
| vet income | $s$ | 15,230 | 14,298 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | s | ${ }^{.388}{ }^{\text {a }}$ | . 3.36 | ${ }_{17}^{16}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | (1.05 $\begin{gathered}1.05 \\ 4.20 \\ 1\end{gathered}$ | (1.01 |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {che }}^{58}$ | ${ }_{6}{ }^{\text {6.1.16 }}$ |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {c }}^{17.95}$ | $\underset{\substack{18.92 \\ 7.46}}{\text { c. }}$ |  |
|  |  | 5.82 | 5.53 |  |
|  | s | 53,995 | ${ }^{51,8888}$ |  |
|  |  | $\underbrace{\substack{\text { a }}}_{\substack{12,995 \\ 1,993}}$ |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{1}^{1,228}$ | 1.228 |  |
|  |  | ${ }^{22}$ | ${ }^{24}$ |  |
| Non-pers |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | .16 | ${ }^{13}$ |  |
| average bainuces |  | .328, 613 |  |  |
|  |  | (eat, 966 | (1, 00, 687 |  |
|  |  | ,769,622 |  | ${ }^{13}$ |
|  |  |  | 4, $4.78,489$ | ${ }_{22}^{25}$ |
|  |  | 084 | ,345 |  |
|  |  | 40,379 | 39,670 |  |
| coicle |  |  | 4, $9,54,0551$ |  |
|  |  |  | 5,322,532 | ${ }^{3}$ |
|  |  | , 865,756 | ${ }_{\substack{5,709,666 \\ 4,196,369}}^{\text {a }}$ | - |
|  |  | 472,686 |  |  |
|  | For the Nine Months Ended |  |  |  |
| (in thousads, exepet per thare |  |  |  | $\underbrace{\substack{\text { Pr }}}_{2006 \text { z-200 }}$ |
|  |  | 2006 | 2005 |  |
| Incowe sumany |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $147,903$ | ${ }_{\substack{243,335 \\ 88,550}}^{2}$ |  |
|  |  | 186, 224 | 154,503 |  |
|  |  | 10,900 <br> 35,880 | 8,600 |  |
| Torat reverue |  | (211,004 | (180,678 | H |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Income before taxes |  | 80,760 <br> 30,379 |  | 23 |
| Net incone |  | 50,381 | 41,512 |  |
| perporkance veasures |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { er common share: } \\ & \text { Basic earnings } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1.22 | 1.05 | ${ }^{16}$ |
|  |  | - 13.24 | - 11.24 | +14 $\begin{aligned} & 18 \\ & 18\end{aligned}$ |
|  |  | 10.16 | 8.05 | 26 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 17.5 | 19.308 |  |
|  |  | 1.09 | ${ }^{1.03}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 19.20 | 19.44 |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{8}^{8.01}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Alo |  | $\xrightarrow{60,901} 9$ | $\underbrace{\text { c, }}_{\substack{51,888 \\ 13,565}}$ |  |
|  |  | 3,5994 | 3,908 |  |
|  |  | 1.238 |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }^{14}$ | ${ }^{24}$ |  |
|  |  | . 10 | ${ }^{13}$ |  |
|  |  | s $4.688,512$ |  |  |  |
| UERage bainecs |  |  |  | 3,970,937 | ${ }_{5}^{18}$ |
|  |  |  |  | ${ }_{15}^{15}$ |
| Total |  |  | cis | ${ }_{25}^{15}$ |
|  |  |  | 408,399 | ${ }_{21}$ |
|  |  | ${ }^{40,156}$ | 38,272 |  |
|  |  | 41,327 | 39,499 |  |
|  |  | 965, 365 S 4 | 4, 254,0551 |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 |
|  |  |  |  | ${ }^{13}$ |
|  |  |  |  | ${ }_{24}^{27}$ |
|  | (1) Memmon shares outstanding |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| UNITED COMMUNITY BANKS, INC. onsolidated Statement of Income (unaudited) |  |  |  |  |
|  | Three Months Ended September 30 , |  |  |  |
| (in thousands, except per share data) ate | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| nterest revenue: |  |  |  |  |
|  | 6,688 | * 77,470 | S 296,133 | S 210,383 |
|  | ${ }^{822}$ |  |  | 29,549 |
| Tax exempt <br> Federal funds sold and deposits in banks |  |  |  |  |
|  | 365 | -253 | 685 | 662 |
| Total interest revenve | $\stackrel{19,3}{ }$ | 88,583 | 332,9 | 242,1 |
| Interest expense: |  |  |  |  |
| DemandSavings Time |  |  |  |  |
|  | (3, 324 | 17,623 | 89,689 ${ }^{680}$ | ${ }_{45,880}^{565}$ |
| Total deposit interest expense | 45,175 | 23,063 | 116,757 | 59,338 |
| Federal funds purchased, repurchase agreements, \& |  |  |  |  |
| other short-term borrowin Federal Home Loan Bank | 2,254 | 1,651 | 5,814 | 3,723 |
| addancesLong-tern debtdemer |  |  |  |  |
|  | ${ }_{\text {2,124 }}^{5,2628}$ | 2,1188 | 6,495 | 6,386 |
| Total interest expense | 5,431 | 34,033 | 147, 90 | 88, 850 |
| Met interest revene | $\xrightarrow[\substack{\text { 3,9,98, } \\ \text { 3,700 }}]{ }$ | $\underset{\substack{\text { 5, } \\ 3,450}}{\text { a }}$ | (185, 18.3 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Fee revenue: <br> Service charges and fees Mortgage loan and other related fees Consulting fees Brokerage fees Securities losses, net Other | 6,914 | 6,627 | 20,095 | 18,521 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{571}$ | ${ }_{\text {2, } 2,480}^{\text {5, }}$ | 1,781 |
|  |  |  |  |  |


|  | 12,146 | 12,396 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total revenue | 22,364 | 63,566 | 210,053 | 179,487 |
| ${ }^{\text {Operating expenses: }}$ Sel |  |  |  |  |
| $\underbrace{\text { ate }}_{\substack{\text { Salaries and employee } \\ \text { benefits }}}$ | 29,585 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 9, ${ }_{\text {, } 5121}^{8,129}$ |
| ndvertising and public |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {reater }}^{\substack{\text { reations } \\ \text { posage, pr pr }}}$ | 1,882 | ${ }^{1,683}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3,844 |  | $\xrightarrow{12,5}$ |  |
| Total operating expenses | 44,93 | 4,2 | 130,644 |  |
| Incone before |  | ${ }_{\substack{22,252 \\ 7,954}}^{1,2,20}$ |  |  |
| vet i | 17,413 | 14,298 | 50,381 |  |
| Net income $\$ 17,41$ <br> Net income available to <br> common shareholders $\$=17,40$ |  |  |  |  |
| Earnings per common share: <br> Basic Diluted <br> Dividends per common share Weighted average common shares outstanding: |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| UNITED COMMUNITY BANKS, INC. <br> Consolidated Balance Sheet |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| (in thousands, except share and pe share data) |  |  |  | ember <br> , |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| assers |  |  |  |  |
| Interest-bearing deposits in banks |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cal |  |  | ${ }_{192,5}^{142,58}$ |  |
| Seurities aval lable for |  |  | 990,687 22,335 | 39 |
| Loans, net of unearnet in in |  |  | ${ }_{\text {398,286 }}$ | 52 |
| $\underbrace{\text { for Loan }}_{\substack{\text { Less } \\ \text { Loses } 11 \text { owance }}}$ |  |  | 53,595 | 51,888 |
| eat |  |  | , 689 |  |
|  |  |  | 37,197 | 6,108 |
| assets <br> Other assets |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 118,651 \\ 96,738 \end{gathered}$ | 119,1 100,2 |
| Total assets | 86,45 | S 5 | 865,756 | 5,70, 666 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY <br> Liabilities: |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Demand Interest |  | 891 | , 525 |  |
| $\underbrace{}_{\substack{\text { Savings } \\ \text { Times }}}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Less than $\$ 100,000$ Greater than $\$ 100,000$ Brokered |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \begin{array}{c} 218,277 \\ 895,466 \\ 320,963 \end{array} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,118,102 \\ 790,784 \\ 294,198 \end{array}$ |
| Federal funds purchased, <br> repurchase agreements, \& other |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ${ }_{\text {l }}^{1735}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 870 | 45,104 | 38,53. |
| Fotal 1iabilities |  | . 556 | 070 | 5,285,66 |
| Shareholders' equity: Preferred stock, $\$ 1$ par value; $\$ 10$ stated value; $10,000,000$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| shares authorized <br> $32,200,32,200$ and 37,200 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 100,000,000 shares authorized; <br> $40,268,604,40,019,853$ and |  |  |  |  |
| Common stock issuable; 22,741 and 9,948 shares as of |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| and 9,948 shares as of <br> September 30, 2006 and <br> December 31, 2005, |  |  |  |  |
| Capital surpus, |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 271 \\ 193,355 \end{array}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| as of September 30, 2005, at <br> cost |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | (599) | (11,845) |  |
| Total shareholderss' equity | uity | , 734 | 472,686 |  |
|  |  | 290 s | , 756 |  |
| Fid commurry bawrs, rnc. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| (doll ars in thousands, taxabe equivalent) |  |  |  | ${ }_{\text {atemet }}^{\substack{\text { Rug. } \\ \text { Rate }}}$ |
| $\substack{\text { Assets, } \\ \text { Interest }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ereat-earning assets: |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Federat fund sold and dithe |  |  | \%,893 |  |
| Total interest-earning assets |  |  | 2,710 | 028 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 行 ${ }^{04}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total assets |  |  | ,205 |  |
| (Liatinities and Sharenolders' 'Equity: |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 为 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ari |  |  | ,017 | 5, 2754.8 |
| Federal funds purchased \& other borrowings Federal Home Loan Bank advances Long-term debt |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | $2,174$ |
| Total borroved funds |  |  | 5,116 1 | 0,266 5.7 |
| $\xrightarrow{\text { Total } 1 \text { interest-bearing liabilities }}$ |  |  | 5,133 5 | 5,4314 |
| Non-interest-bearing liabilities: Non-interest-bearing deposits Other liabilities |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | , |  |
| Total 1.1 .12 .12 ities |  |  | ,791 |  |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity |  | , 35 |  |  |
| Net interest revenue <br> Net interest-rate spread |  | \% 6 6, 3 , 31 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |



Total interest-bearing 1iabilities
Non-interest-bearing 1 liabilities:
Non- interest-bearing deposits
Non-interest-bea
Other 1 iabilities
$\xrightarrow[\text { Shatal liabilities }]{\text { Sholders' }}$
Total 1 iabilities and shareholders
equity
Net interest revenue
Net interest-rate spread
Net interest margin (4)
 (1) Interest revenue on tax-exempt securtities and Loans has been Increas
to reflect comparable interest on taxale securities and loans. The
rate used was 398 , reflecting the statutory federal tax rate and the
(2) Inderal tax adjusted state tax rate ind in the average balance of Loans outstanding are loans where
(2) Included in the average balance of loans outstanding are loans where
(3) Securitiual of intinerest has been discontine tor tor sale are shown at amortized cost. Pretax
 of 57,000 in 2005 are included in other assets for purposes of this
presentation. (4) Net interest margin is taxable ey
bor average interest-earning assets.
Formore intormation:

For more intormation:
Rex S. Shuuete
Chief Financial Officer


SOURCE: United Community Banks, Inc.

