SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

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

Date of Report (date of earliest event reported):

April 15, 2003

Commission file number 1-6961

GANNETT CO., INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization of Registrant)

7950 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (703) 854-6000.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Gannett Co., Inc. Earnings Press Release dated April 15, 2003

99.2 Gannett Co., Inc. Statistical Report Press Release dated April 15, 2003

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On April 15, 2003, Gannett Co., Inc. announced its consolidated financial results for the first quarter ended March 30, 2003. On April 15, 2003, the company also issued a press release announcing the company's statistical report for the period and quarter ended March 30, 2003. Copies of these press releases are furnished with this report as exhibits to Form 8-K. The information contained in this report on Form 8-K is being furnished pursuant to Item 12 under Item 9 of Form 8-K as directed by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Release No. 34-47583.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to 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.

Gannett Co., Inc.

Date: April 15, 2003

By: <u>/s/ George R. Gavagan</u> George R. Gavagan Vice President and Controller

Exhibit Index

Exhibit Description

- 99.1 Gannett Co., Inc. Earnings Press Release dated April 15, 2003
- 99.2 Gannett Co., Inc. Statistical Report Press Release dated April 15, 2003

16-0442930 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> **22107-0910** (Zip Code)

Gannett Co., Inc. Reports First Quarter Results

MCLEAN, VA - Gannett Co., Inc. (NYSE: GCI) reported today that 2003 first quarter earnings per diluted share, on a GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) basis, were 93 cents versus 91 cents for the first quarter of 2002. The company achieved another quarter of positive earnings growth but results were hampered by the effects of the war in Iraq on advertising demand late in the quarter.

Total operating revenues for the company increased 3 percent to \$1.55 billion from \$1.51 billion in the same quarter last year. Net income rose 3 percent to \$249.8 million versus \$243.6 million in 2002's first quarter. Operating cash flow (defined as operating income plus depreciation and amortization) increased to \$467.1 million from \$457.7 million for the year earlier quarter, reflecting another quarter of improved newspaper segment performance.

Average diluted shares outstanding in the first quarter totaled 270,059,000 compared with 268,546,000 in 2002's first quarter.

Commenting on the company's results, Douglas H. McCorkindale, Chairman, President and CEO said: "We are pleased to report another quarter of year-over-year earnings growth led by the performance of our newspaper operations. The quarter started out strong but results, particularly at our television stations and USA TODAY, were depressed by the reluctance of advertisers to spend in an uncertain geopolitical environment. Television results also were affected by the absence of Winter Olympic-related ad spending. In the UK, Newsquest made another solid contribution to cash flow and earnings despite a muted advertising environment.

"While results were held back in the short-term, the extraordinary work our journalists have done during this period has clearly underscored the importance of our industry. The war has been experienced with unprecedented closeness, only because of the courage and tenacity of reporters, photographers and editors. We applaud their efforts," McCorkindale said.

NEWSPAPERS

Total newspaper segment operating cash flow, which includes USA TODAY and our UK properties, rose 5 percent to \$408.1 million, versus \$389.9 million in the same quarter of 2002. Operating revenues were \$1.39 billion for the quarter.

At USA TODAY, advertising revenues increased 1 percent in the quarter. Paid advertising pages totaled 1,096 compared with 1,178 in 2002's first quarter. USA TODAY's results in the quarter reflected substantially diminished demand for travel-related advertising as a result of the uncertain geopolitical situation.

TELEVISION

In the first quarter, television revenues declined 5 percent to \$158.2 million from \$167.2 million in the corresponding interval in 2002. Television operating cash flow trailed year ago results and was \$70.5 million in the quarter. The absence of Winter Olympic-related advertising on our thirteen NBC-affiliated stations was further exacerbated by reduced demand for advertising due to the outbreak of hostilities.

NON-OPERATING ITEMS

The company's interest expense was \$36.1 million in the quarter, up from \$28.8 million in the first quarter of 2002, reflecting higher rates partially offset by lower debt levels. In March 2002 the company refinanced \$1.8 billion in commercial paper obligations with the issuance of fixed rate unsecured global notes.

During the first quarter the company completed a non-monetary transaction under which it contributed its newspaper in El Paso to a newly formed partnership, Texas-New Mexico Newspaper Partnership. The company recorded this non-monetary transaction as two simultaneous but separate events; that is, a sale of 34 percent of its interest in the El Paso newspaper for which a non-operating gain was recognized, and the acquisition of a 66 percent interest in the partnership. The non-monetary gain from the partnership transaction is reflected in non-operating income and was partially offset by other non-operating charges, including those for write-down of minority interest investments in internet businesses.

* * *

At the end of the quarter, Gannett had more than 100 domestic publishing Web sites, including USATODAY.com, one of the most popular newspaper sites on the Web. The company also had Web sites in all of its 19 television markets. In February, Gannett's consolidated domestic Internet audience share was 12 million unique visitors reaching about 10 percent of the Internet audience according to Nielsen//NetRatings. Newsquest is also an Internet leader in the United Kingdom where its network of web sites attracts more than 15.8 million monthly page impressions from more than 1.3 million unique users.

Subsequent to quarter end, Gannett UK, the parent company of Newsquest, completed the acquisition of the publishing business of SMG.

All references in this release and attachments to "operating cash flow" are to a non-GAAP financial measure. Management believes that use of this measure allows investors and management to analyze and compare the company's performance in a more meaningful and consistent manner. A reconciliation of these non-GAAP amounts to the company's consolidated statements of income is presented on an attachment.

As previously announced, the company will hold an earnings conference call at 10:00 a.m. EDT today. The call can be accessed via a live Webcast through the Investor Relations section of the company's Web site, www.gannett.com, or listen-only conference lines, by dialing 1-800-915-4836 (in the U.S.) and 1-973-317-5319 (outside the U.S.) at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the call. Replay of the conference call will be available about two hours after the live call on Tuesday. To access the replay, dial 1-800-428-6051 (in the U.S.) and 1-973-709-2089 (outside the U.S.). The access code for the replay is 288586. Materials related to the call will be available through the Investor Relations section of the company's Web site Wednesday morning.

Gannett Co., Inc. is a leading international news and information company that publishes 100 daily newspapers in the USA, including USA TODAY, the nation's largest-selling daily newspaper. The company also owns in excess of 400 non-daily publications in the USA and USA WEEKEND, a weekly newspaper magazine. Gannett subsidiary Newsquest is the United Kingdom's second largest regional newspaper company. Newsquest publishes more than 300 titles, including 17 daily newspapers, and a network of prize-winning Web sites. Gannett also operates 22 television stations in the United States and is an Internet leader with sites sponsored by its TV stations and newspapers including USATODAY.com.

Certain statements in this press release may be forward looking in nature or "forward looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward looking statements contained in this press release are subject to a number of risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual performance to differ materially from these forward looking statements. A number of those risks, trends and uncertainties are discussed in the company's SEC reports, including the company's annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. Any forward looking statements in this press release should be evaluated in light of these important risk factors.

Gannett is not responsible for updating the information contained in this press release beyond the published date, or for changes made to this press release by wire services, Internet service providers or other media.

For investor inquiries, contact: Gracia Martore Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer 703-854-6918 gmartore@gannett.com

For media inquires, contact: Tara Connell Vice President of Corporate Communications 703-854-6049 tjconnel@gannett.com

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME Gannett Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited, in thousands of dollars (except per share amounts)

| Not Operating Devenues. | | weeks ended Mar. 31, 2002 | % Inc (Dec) |
|--|--|--|----------------|
| Net Operating Revenues: Newspaper advertising Newspaper circulation Television Other | \$ 1,006,047 302,431 158,176 85,591 | \$ 969,803 299,262 167,186 76,907 | (5.4) |
| Total | 1,552,245 | 1,513,158 | 2.6 |
| Operating Expenses: Cost of sales and operating expenses, exclusive of | | | |
| depreciation Selling, general and administrative expenses, | 836,622 | 807,116 | 3.7 |
| exclusive of depreciation | 248,571 | 248,331 | 0.1 |
| Depreciation | 54,229 | 53,369 | 1.6 |
| Amortization of intangible | | | |
| assets | 1,830 | 1,833 | (0.2) |
| | | | |
| Total | 1,141,252 | 1,110,649 | 2.8 |
| Operating income | 410,993 | 402,509 | |
| Non onerating income | | | |

Non-operating income
(expense):

| Interest expense Other | | (36,109) 4,852 | (28,754) (2,292) | 25.6 **** |
|--|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Total | | (31,257) | (31,046) | 0.7 |
| Income before income taxes Provision for income taxes | | 379,736 129,900 | 371,463 127,900 | 2.2 1.6 |
| Net income | \$ ====== | 249,836 ====== | \$ 243,563 | 2.6 ====== |
| Net income per share-basic | | \$0.93 ===== | \$0.92 ===== | 1.1 |
| Net income per share-dilute | d | \$0.93 | \$0.91 | 2.2 |
| Dividends per share | | \$0.24 ===== | \$0.23 ===== | 4.3 ====== |

BUSINESS SEGMENT INFORMATION Gannett Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited, in thousands of dollars

| | Ма | Thirteen v r. 30, 2003 | | % Inc (Dec) |
|---|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Net Operating Revenues: Newspaper publishing Television | \$ | 1,394,069 158,176 | \$ 1,345,972 167,186 | 3.6 (5.4) |
| Total | \$ == | 1,552,245 | 1,513,158 | 2.6 |
| Operating Income (net of depreciation and amortization): | | | | |
| Newspaper publishing Television Corporate | \$ | 362,485 63,955 (15,447) | 344,703 72,769 (14,963) | 5.2 (12.1) (3.2) |
| Total | \$ == | 410,993 | 402,509 | 2.1 |
| Depreciation and Amortization: | | | | |
| Newspaper publishing Television Corporate | \$ | 45,582 6,571 3,906 | \$ 45,235 6,417 3,550 | 0.8 2.4 10.0 |
| Total | \$ | 56,059 | \$ 55,202 | 1.6 |
| Operating Cash Flow (1): Newspaper publishing Television Corporate | \$ | | 389,938 79,186 (11,413) | 4.6 (10.9) (1.1) |
| Total | \$ == | 467,052 | 457,711 | 2.0 ====== |

(1) Operating Cash Flow represents operating income for each of the company's business segments plus related depreciation and amortization expense. See attachment for reconciliation of amounts to the Consolidated Statements of Income.

NON-GAAP FINANCIAL INFORMATION Gannett Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited, in thousands of dollars

A reconciliation of "Operating Cash Flow" to "Operating Income", as presented in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Business Segment Information, follows:

Thirteen Weeks Ended March 30, 2003

| | Newspaper Publishing | | evision | Corporate | Consolidated Total | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----|---------|-------------|-----------------------|---------|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| Operating cash flow Less: | \$ 408,067 | \$ | 70,526 | \$ (11,541) | \$ | 467,052 | |

| Depreciation Amortization | | (43,752) (1,830) | | (6,571) - | | (3,906) - | | (54,229) (1,830) |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Operating Income | \$ == | 362,485 ====== | \$ ==== | 63,955 | \$ == | (15,447) ====== | \$ === | 410,993 ====== |

Thirteen Weeks Ended March 31, 2002

| | | ewspaper blishing | Tel | evision | Co | rporate | | olidated otal |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------------------|---------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|----------------------|
| Operating cash flow Less: | \$ | 389,938 | \$ | 79,186 | \$ | (11,413) | \$ | 457,711 |
| Depreciation Amortization | | (43,402) (1,833) | | (6,417) - | | (3,550) - | | (53,369) (1,833) |
| Operating Income | \$ | 344,703 | \$ | 72,769 | \$ | (14,963) | \$ | 402,509 |
| | == | ======= | === | ====== | ==: | ====== | ==== | ======= |

Gannett Co., Inc. Releases March Statistical Report

McLEAN, VA - Gannett Co., Inc. (NYSE: GCI) reported today that total pro forma operating revenues for the third period ended March 30, 2003 increased 1 percent. Results in March, particularly in the last half of the month, were hampered by the war in Iraq.

Pro forma (assuming that all properties presently owned were owned in both periods) newspaper advertising revenues in March were up 2 percent compared with the same period in 2002 on flat ROP volume and an 11 percent advance in preprint distribution.

Pro forma classified revenues increased 5 percent in the March period on a 3 percent increase in ad volume. Employment revenues declined 1 percent from the same period last year. Classified real estate revenues advanced 16 percent, and automotive increased 1 percent.

Pro forma local advertising revenues increased modestly in the March period on a 5 percent decline in ad volume. The performance of the company's small and medium-sized advertisers in its domestic newspapers outpaced the revenue performance of its largest advertisers.

Pro forma national advertising revenues fell 3 percent on a 1 percent decline in ad volume. National volume at the company's local domestic newspapers was down slightly in the period compared with the same interval in 2002. At USA TODAY, advertising revenues declined 10 percent on a 17 percent decrease in paid ad pages to 329 from 396. Travel advertising demand at USA TODAY was particularly hard hit by the onset of hostilities. For the year-to-date, USA TODAY's paid pages numbered 1,096 versus 1,178 last year while ad revenues were 1 percent higher.

Television revenues declined 5 percent in the period. National revenues fell 8 percent and local revenues decreased 3 percent. Television revenues were also unfavorably affected by the war.

Pro forma other revenues, which primarily include Gannett's share of the operating results of the Detroit and Tucson joint operating agencies and the company's commercial printing activities, rose 2 percent.

Ad linage for Newsquest is not included in the ad volume statistics. Circulation volume numbers for Newsquest's paid daily newspapers are included in the enclosed statistics, but volume from unpaid daily and non-daily publications is not included in the circulation volume statistics.

Gannett Co., Inc. is a leading international news and information company that publishes 100 daily newspapers in the USA, including USA TODAY, the nation's largest-selling daily newspaper. The company also owns in excess of 400 non-daily publications in the USA and USA WEEKEND, a weekly newspaper magazine. Gannett subsidiary Newsquest is the United Kingdom's second largest regional newspaper company. Newsquest publishes more than 300 titles, including 17 daily newspapers, and a network of prize-winning Web sites. Gannett also operates 22 television stations in the United States and is an Internet leader with sites sponsored by its TV stations and newspapers including USATODAY.com, one of the most popular news sites on the web.

Certain statements in this press release may be forward looking in nature or "forward looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward looking statements contained in this press release are subject to a number of risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual performance to differ materially from these forward looking statements. A number of those risks, trends and uncertainties are discussed in the company's SEC reports, including the company's annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. Any forward looking statements in this press release should be evaluated in light of these important risk factors.

Gannett is not responsible for updating the information contained in this press release beyond the published date, or for changes made to this press release by wire services, Internet service providers or other media.

Contact: Gracia Martore Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer 703-854-6918 gmartore@gannett.com

| GANNETT | СО., | INC. | |
|---------|-------|-----------|---------|
| REVENUE | & STA | ATISTICAL | SUMMARY |

| | | Period 3 (Ma | rch | ı 3, 2003 - Ma | rch | 30, 2003) | |
|-------------------|----|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| REVENUES: | | 2003 | | 2002 | | CHANGE | % CHANGE |
| National | \$ | 143,769,000 53,195,000 | \$ | 143,235,000 55,016,000 | \$ | 534,000 (1,821,000) | 0 (3) |
| Classified | _ | 150,328,000 | _ | 143,078,000 | _ | 7,250,000 | 5 |
| Total Advertising | \$ | 347,292,000 | \$ | 341,329,000 | \$ | 5,963,000 | 2 |

| Circulation Other revenue Television | 100,220,000 29,824,000 52,943,000 | 97,900,000 29,135,000 55,539,000 | 2,320,000 689,000 (2,596,000) | 2 2 (5) |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Total Revenue | \$ 530,279,000 ====== | \$ 523,903,000 \$ ====== | 6,376,000 ====== | 1 ===== |
| VOLUME: Newspaper Inches: Local National Classified | 2,880,133 306,809 4,489,365 | 3,021,765 310,434 4,345,352 | (141,632) (3,625) 144,013 | (5) (1) 3 |
| Total ROP | 7,676,307 | 7,677,551 | (1,244) | (0) |
| Preprint Distribution (in thousands) | 863,576 | 780,689 | 82,887 | 11 ==== |
| NET PAID CIRCULATION: Morning (w/USAT) Evening | 7,269,676 1,204,019 | 7,196,291 1,234,147 | 73,385 (30,128) | 1 (2) |
| Total Daily | 8,473,695 ======== | 8,430,438 | 43,257 | 1 ==== |
| Sunday | 7,128,443 | 7,126,182 | 2,261 | 0 ==== |
| | Year-to-Date | through March 30, | 2003 | % |
| REVENUES: Advertising: | 2003 | 2002 | CHANGE | CHANGE |
| Local National Classified | \$ 416,988,000 \$ 163,024,000 429,282,000 | 407,069,000 \$ 159,560,000 408,534,000 | 9,919,000 3,464,000 20,748,000 | 2 2 5 |
| National | 163,024,000 | 159,560,000 408,534,000 | 3,464,000 20,748,000 | 2 |
| National Classified | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) | 2 5 |
| National Classified Total Advertising Circulation Other revenue | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 \$ 1,556,417,000 \$ | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) 34,040,000 | 2 5 4 1 7 |
| National Classified Total Advertising Circulation Other revenue Television | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 \$ 1,556,417,000 \$ ================================== | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 1,522,377,000 \$ ================================== | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) 34,040,000 34,040,000 (204,051) 61,454 567,462 | 2 5 4 1 7 (5) 2 ==== |
| National Classified Total Advertising Circulation Other revenue Television Total Revenue VOLUME: Newspaper Inches: Local National | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 \$ 1,556,417,000 \$ ================================== | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 1,522,377,000 \$ ================================== | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) 34,040,000 34,040,000 (204,051) 61,454 567,462 | 2 5 4 1 7 (5) 2 ===== (2) 7 4 2 |
| National Classified Total Advertising Circulation Other revenue Television Total Revenue VOLUME: Newspaper Inches: Local National Classified | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 \$ 1,556,417,000 \$ ================================== | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 1,522,377,000 \$ ================================== | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) 34,040,000 24,040,000 24,040,000 24,040,051 61,454 567,462 | 2 5 4 1 7 (5) 2 ===== (2) 7 4 |
| National Classified Total Advertising Circulation Other revenue Television Total Revenue VOLUME: Newspaper Inches: Local National Classified Total ROP Preprint Distribution | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 \$ 1,556,417,000 \$ ================================== | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 51,522,377,000 \$ ================================== | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) 34,040,000 34,040,000 (204,051) 61,454 567,462 424,865 263,214 | 2 5 4 1 7 (5) 2 ==== (2) 7 4 2 ==== 11 |
| National Classified Total Advertising Circulation Other revenue Television Total Revenue VOLUME: Newspaper Inches: Local National Classified Total ROP Preprint Distribution (in thousands) NET PAID CIRCULATION: Morning (w/USAT) | 163,024,000 429,282,000 \$ 1,009,294,000 \$ 303,271,000 85,676,000 158,176,000 \$ 1,556,417,000 \$ ================================== | 159,560,000 408,534,000 975,163,000 \$ 300,163,000 79,865,000 167,186,000 51,522,377,000 \$ ================================== | 3,464,000 20,748,000 34,131,000 3,108,000 5,811,000 (9,010,000) 34,040,000 34,040,000 (204,051) 61,454 567,462 424,865 263,214 4,575 (30,266) | $2 \\ 5 \\ \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 7 \\ (5) \\ \\ 2 \\ ==== \\ (2) \\ 7 \\ 4 \\ \\ 2 \\ ==== \\ 11 \\ ==== \\ 0 \\ (2) \\ (2) \\ (2) \\ (2) \\ (2) \\ (3) \\ (4) \\ (4) \\ (4) \\ (5) \\ ($ |

Note: The operating results from the company's newspapers participating in joint operating agencies, and which are accounted for under the equity method of accounting, are reported as a single amount in other operating revenues. Advertising linage statistics from these newspapers are not included above, however, circulation volume statistics for these newspapers are included above.

The above revenue amounts and statistics have been restated to include all companies presently owned.

Newsquest (which includes Newscom) is a regional newspaper publisher in the United Kingdom with more than 300 titles, including paid and unpaid daily and non-daily products. Circulation volume statistics for Newsquest's fifteen paid daily newspapers are included above. Circulation volume statistics for Newsquest's unpaid daily and non-daily publications are not reflected above. Advertising linage for Newsquest publications is not reflected above.