

**UNITED STATES
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): **May 1, 2006**

HOVNANIAN ENTERPRISES, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other
Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

1-8551
(Commission File Number)

22-1851059
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**10 Highway 35, P.O. Box 500
Red Bank, New Jersey 07701**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(732) 747-7800
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since
Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On May 1, 2006, Hovnanian Enterprises, Inc. issued a press release announcing updated earnings per share guidance for the fiscal second quarter ended April 30, 2006 and fiscal year ending October 31, 2006. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K and the Exhibit attached hereto is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release Dated May 1, 2006.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

HOVNANIAN ENTERPRISES, INC.
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Peter S. Reinhart
Name: Peter S. Reinhart
Title: Senior Vice President and
General Counsel

Date: May 1, 2006

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Exhibit 99.1

Press Release Dated May 1, 2006.

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HOVNIANIAN ENTERPRISES, INC.

News Release

Contact: Kevin C. Hake
Senior Vice President and Treasurer
732-747-7800

Jeffrey T. O'Keefe
Director of Investor Relations
732-747-7800

**HOVNIANIAN ENTERPRISES PROVIDES UPDATED EPS GUIDANCE FOR THE SECOND
QUARTER AND THE FULL YEAR**

RED BANK, NJ, May 1, 2006 – Hovnianian Enterprises, Inc. (NYSE: HOV) announced today it now expects its 2006 second quarter earnings to be in the range of \$1.40 to \$1.50 per fully diluted common share, compared with the Company's previous guidance of \$1.55 to \$1.80. Inclusive in the Company's projection for the second quarter are land sale profits of approximately \$0.19 per fully diluted common share, which is consistent with its prior guidance.

In addition, Hovnianian revised projections for fiscal 2006 ending October 31, 2006. The Company now anticipates its fully diluted earnings per common share for fiscal 2006 will be in the range of \$7.20 to \$7.40. While lower than the Company's previous guidance of \$8.05 to \$8.40 per share, these revised projected earnings represent an increase over the \$7.16 per share earned in fiscal 2005 and another record year of earnings for the Company.

"Our anticipated results for our second quarter and the remainder of fiscal 2006 reflect smaller year-over-year increases in earnings than we had anticipated, primarily due to continuing production delays in several markets that have postponed deliveries, a slower recent sales pace, higher cancellation rates, more pronounced use of concessions and incentives, and material price increases," commented Ara Hovnianian, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hovnianian Enterprises, Inc.

"While we experienced a 22% increase in the dollar value of net contracts in our first quarter compared to the prior year, when we release results for our 2006 second quarter on May 31st, we expect to report approximately a 20% decline in net contracts. As discussed above, one factor that has negatively influenced our recent pace of net contracts is the sequential increase in our cancellation rates over the past two quarters," commented Mr. Hovnianian. "Typically our second quarter cancellation rates are lower than those of our first quarter, which was not the case this year. While the number of net contracts recorded in our second quarter increased compared to our first quarter net contract results, market conditions have slowed in certain markets and we did not experience as strong a second quarter sales season as we have traditionally seen. We believe the higher cancellation rates, in addition to an increase in resale listings and increased use of sales incentives in certain markets are temporary aberrations as certain markets work through the increased level of resale homes for sale. However, we remain encouraged that supported by job creation and household formation the long-term fundamentals of housing remain solid."

"As the housing market has continued to cool off from white-hot levels of previous years, we have renegotiated and even walked away from deposits on several parcels of land that we control through options. Approximately \$5 million of write-offs of deposits and related costs is built into our revised second quarter guidance. Although we have not needed to use this tactic as much in recent years, we have

employed it successfully in prior slowdowns. We are confident that our strategy to control land predominantly with options will allow us to better manage our inventories in a slowing housing market," Mr. Hovnianian continued. "Fortunately, contract backlog as of March 31, 2006, including unconsolidated joint ventures, was 13,898 homes with a sales value of \$4.9 billion. Based on this, approximately 82% of our projected deliveries for fiscal 2006 have either been delivered or are in backlog," concluded Mr. Hovnianian.

The Company's summary projection for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2006 will be available today on the "Company Projections" section of the "Investor Relations" section of the Company's website at <http://www.khov.com>.

About Hovnianian Enterprises

Hovnianian Enterprises, Inc., founded in 1959 by Kevork S. Hovnianian, Chairman, is headquartered in Red Bank, New Jersey. The Company is one of the nation's largest homebuilders with operations in Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. The Company's homes are marketed and sold under the trade names K. Hovnianian Homes, Matzel & Mumford, Forecast Homes, Parkside Homes, Brighton Homes, Parkwood Builders, Windward Homes, Cambridge Homes, Town & Country Homes, Oster Homes, First Home Builders of Florida and CraftBuilt Homes. As the developer of K. Hovnianian's Four Seasons communities, the Company is also one of the nation's largest builders of active adult homes.

Additional information on Hovnianian Enterprises, Inc., including a summary investment profile and the Company's 2005 annual report, can be accessed through the "Investor Relations" section of Hovnianian Enterprises' website at <http://www.khov.com>. To be added to Hovnianian's investor e-mail or fax lists, please send an e-mail to IR@khov.com or sign up at <http://www.khov.com>.

Hovnianian Enterprises, Inc. is a member of the Public Home Builders Council of America ("PHBCA") (www.phbca.org), a nonprofit group devoted to improving understanding of the business practices of America's largest publicly-traded home building companies, the competitive advantages they bring to the home building market, and their commitment to creating value for their home buyers and stockholders. The PHBCA's 14 member companies build one out of every five homes in the United States.

Note: All statements in this Press Release that are not historical facts should be considered as "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Such risks, uncertainties and other factors include, but are not limited to, (1) changes in general and local economic and business conditions, (2) adverse weather conditions and natural disasters, (3) changes in market conditions, (4) changes in home prices and sales activity in the markets where the Company builds homes, (5) government regulation, including regulations concerning development of land, the home building, sales and customer financing processes and the environment, (6) fluctuations in interest rates and the availability of mortgage financing, (7) shortages in, and price fluctuations of, raw materials and labor, (8) the availability and cost of suitable land and improved lots, (9) levels of competition, (10) availability of financing to the Company, (11) utility shortages and outages or rate fluctuations,

(12) geopolitical risks, terrorist acts and other acts of war and (13) other factors described in detail in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended October 31, 2005.

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