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LOCAL BANKER FEATURED ON SYNDICATED BUSINESS CABLE SHOW

ROCKFORD, IL (November 6, 2008)— Todd James, CFO at Blackhawk Bank, was recently interviewed by “First Business,” a syndicated TV business show that airs on hundreds of stations around the country.

A Chicago-based show, First Business features commentary and interviews from area financial and economic experts. James’ segment will be featured with interviews of other conference participants, including former FDIC Chairman Don Powell.

The focus of the conference was on the disruption in the credit markets and what accounting and regulatory issues are facing the banking industry. During the interview, James spoke on how the credit crunch has affected community banks and how those institutions have reacted. James commented on the economic environment he anticipates for 2009 and discussed Blackhawk Bank’s plan of action.

“We expect 2009 to be a tough economic environment; however, Blackhawk will continue to make loans following essentially the same prudent underwriting guidelines that we have been following,” said James.

Blackhawk operates eight banking centers in Beloit, WI; Roscoe, Machesney Park, Rockford, Belvidere and Capron, IL. For more information about the bank, log onto www.blackhawkbank.com.

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