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Form 8-K

September 10, 2004

Ryan's

Press Release

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Chairman and Chief
Executive Officer

For Immediate Release
September 10, 2004

RYAN'S ANNOUNCES PROMOTION OF MICHAEL RICK KIRK
TO VICE-PRESIDENT - OPERATIONS

GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA - Ryan's Restaurant Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: RYAN) today announced the promotion of Mr. Michael Rick Kirk to the position of Vice President - Operations effective immediately.

Mr. Kirk assumes the duties that were once the responsibility of Alan E. Shaw, Senior Vice President Operations, who continues to be unable to perform his duties due to a serious medical condition. Mr. Kirk will report to G. Edwin McCranie, President and Chief Operating Officer.

Mr. Kirk joined Ryan's in 1986 as a restaurant manager and has subsequently held positions of increased responsibility as a District Manager, Regional Director Operations, and Regional Vice President - Operations. In January 2002 he became a Regional Partner - Operations.

Mr. Kirk has contributed significantly to Ryan's success, particularly in the Company's Southern and Southeastern regions.