

brokerage firm that markets property/casualty products and services to commercial, professional, and individual customers. The company's property insurance protects against physical damage to property and the resultant interruption of business caused by firestorm, windstorm, or other perils. Casualty insurance relates to

automobile insurance, and fidelity and surety insurance. Has about 3,400 empls. Off./ dir. own 21.1% of stock; J. Hyatt Brown, 15.8%; T. Rowe Price, 5.4% (3/04 Proxy). Chairman and CEO: J. Hyatt Brown. Inc. Fl. Addr.: 220 South Ridgewood Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32114. Tel.: 386-252-9601. Internet: www.brown-n-brown.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '01-'03 to '07-'09 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. 22.0% 24.5% 27.0% 17.0% 15.0% 19.5% 12.5% 14.0% Revenues "Cash Flow" 24.5% 12.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value 27.0% 29.5% 21.0%

332.3

207.1

297 7

27.3 63.3

Current Assets

Accts Pavable

Debt Dué

Current Liab

Other

343.5

221.9

60.9

301.5

334.5

237 0

62 1

367.6

Cal- endar			VENUES (\$ Sep. 30		Full Year
2001 2002 2003 2004 2005	89.4 111.0 144.7 165.6 170	114.9 137.9	133.5	119.1	365.0 455.7 551.0 630 700
Cal- endar			ER SHARE Sep. 30	-	Full Year
2001 2002 2003 2004 2005	.20 .31 .44 .53 .56	.20 .31 .41 .46 .50	.21 .29 .38 .43	.24 .31 .37 .43 .54	.85 1.22 1.60 1.85 2.10
Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		/IDENDS P Sep.30		Full Year
2000 2001 2002 2003 2004	.033 .038 .048 .058 .07	.033 .038 .048 .058 .07	.038 .048	.048 .058	.14 .16 .20 .24

Brown & Brown continues to post **healthy results.** For the second quarter of 2004, the company's share earnings rose by 12% year over year. Takeovers of small insurance firms are boosting top-line growth. For instance, Brown & Brown completed 10 acquisitions over quarter, with total estimated annual revenue of approximately \$38, bringing the total number of deals for the year to 21. In addition, decent organic growth of 5.1% was fueled by higher sales of the company's insurance services. All told, revenues increased by 15% from a year ago, which helped operating margins to widen slight-

We expect a softer insurance premium rate environment over the coming year. Insurance rates across most segments should remain relatively flat or even decline in the next few quarters, partly due to greater competition. This will likely lead to lower gains in Brown & Brown's revenues, especially within commissions. Nonetheless, ongoing acquisitions may serve to lift the top line and offset the softened premiums rates. Given the company's history, we've factored in a

small amount of takeovers into out estimates. Also, sales growth is outpacing the rise in expenses, which may lift operating margins further.

We project modest top- and bottomline advances over the coming 3 to 5 years. Earnings and revenue will likely rise between 10% and 15% annually over this period, as more synergies are realized through Brown & Brown's takeover strategy. Commissions and fees should also rise at a steady pace through geographic expansion. Underwriting gains may slow down though as premium rate increases diminish.

These good-quality shares are ranked favorably for performance over the coming six to 12 months. The company seems to have hit on a workable strategy to build the business. Earnings growth should remain strong through 2005 as a result. Furthermore, Brown & Brown's solid cash flow and the recent funding of \$200 million in debt should help to sustain the company's expansion plans. Longer term, growth rates will probably ease as the company gets bigger. Randy Shrikishun August 27, 2004

(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due

(C) In millions, adjusted for splits

(B) Dividend historically paid in mid-February, May, August, and November. (D) Includes intangibles. In '03: \$470.7 million, \$6.87 a share.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A 75 Price Growth Persistence 95 **Earnings Predictability** 90