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Krispy Kreme Deserts McDonald's

Partnership to sell treats at chain failed to help doughnut maker's bottom line

By Connor Hart

Krispy Kreme said it would no longer sell its doughnuts at **McDonald's** restaurants, as the partnership wasn't helping the doughnut maker's bottom line.

Chief Executive Josh Charlesworth said Tuesday that the company initially partnered closely with the burger chain to bring its products to about 2,400 McDonald's restaurants across the U.S.

"Ultimately, efforts to bring our costs in line with unit demand were unsuccessful, making the partnership unsustainable for us," he said.

Krispy Kreme unveiled its partnership with McDonald's last year, as the Charlotte, N.C., chain aimed to make its doughnuts available in more places and become a national brand.

Last month, however, the company said it was reassessing the partnership's deployment schedule while it worked to achieve a profitable business model for both parties. The disclosure came as Krispy Kreme withdrew its outlook for the year and said it would stop paying a quarterly dividend, exercising a more cautious approach amid an uncertain economic climate.

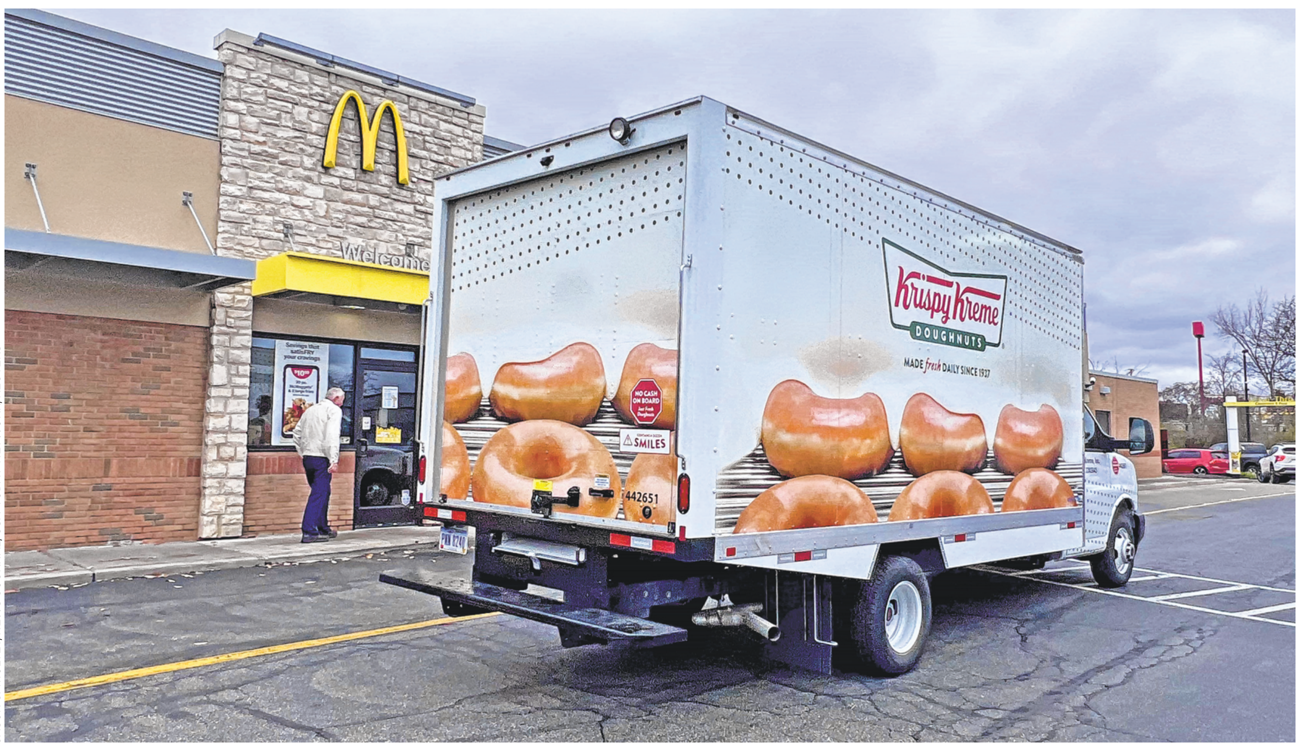
Krispy Kreme said it would now focus on driving sustainable growth by making its doughnuts available in more high-volume retail locations and capital-light international franchise growth.

Its doughnuts represented a small, nonmaterial part of McDonald's breakfast business, according to Krispy Kreme and McDonald's.

The Chicago-based fast-food giant noted that breakfast remained a core pillar of its business strategy, and that it would continue to focus on providing affordable and convenient breakfast options to customers.

"We had strong collaboration with Krispy Kreme and they delivered a great, high-quality product for us," said Alyssa Buetikofer, McDonald's USA chief marketing and customer experience officer.

She noted that while the partnership met McDonald's expectations, "this needed to be a profitable business model for Krispy Kreme as well."



JASON J. MOLYET/NEWS JOURNAL/USA TODAY NETWORK/REUTERS

Krispy Kreme unveiled its partnership with McDonald's last year, aiming to make its doughnuts available in more places.

FedEx Posts Profit Growth, Subdued Outlook

By Katherine Hamilton

FedEx had a higher top and bottom line in the fiscal fourth quarter, but shared a mixed outlook for the current quarter amid tariff and inflation challenges.

The package-shipping company on Tuesday posted a profit of $1.65 billion, or $6.88 a share, in the quarter ended May 31, compared with $1.47 billion, or $5.94 a share, a year earlier.

Stripping out certain one-time items, adjusted per-share earnings were $6.07, ahead of the $5.82 forecast by analysts, according to FactSet.

Revenue rose 1% to $22.22 billion. Analysts surveyed by FactSet forecast revenue of $21.74 billion.

FedEx expects revenue to be flat or increase up to 2% in the first quarter. Analysts were anticipating a sales increase of about 0.6%.

Earnings per share are projected to be $2.90 to $3.50, below the $3.83 a share analysts were forecasting.

Adjusted earnings per share are set to be $3.40 to $4.00, missing the $4.05 expected by Wall Street.

The company didn't share earnings or sales guidance for the 2026 fiscal year. Its outlook assumes no additional adverse economic, geopolitical or trade-related developments, it said.

The Memphis, Tenn., company in March cut its outlook for the 2025 fiscal year, citing softer demand and uncertainty from tariffs. Inflation had slowed business-to-business shipments and consumer demand as well, the company said at the time.

Before sweeping tariffs were announced in April, FedEx was grappling with subdued shipping demand for about three years as inflation pushed prices higher and curtailed some consumers' discretionary spending. The company has been looking for ways to cut costs, and is spinning off its freight business.

FedEx's segment operating results improved during the fourth quarter, driven by increased U.S. and international export volumes and higher base yield. Its freight segment's results declined due to lower fuel surcharges, reduced weight per shipment and higher healthcare and wage costs.

Job-Search Platform Sets Sales, Files for Bankruptcy

By Soma Biswas

CareerBuilder + Monster filed for bankruptcy Tuesday with plans to sell various business lines to different buyers.

The Apollo Global Management-backed company, once one of the leading job-search platforms, said it reached a deal to sell its job-board business to JobGet. Monster media properties, which include Fastweb.com and Military.com, would be sold to Valnet. And Monster Government Services, which provides software to state and local governments, would be sold to Valsoft.

CareerBuilder is actively cutting costs across its U.S. businesses and evaluating strategic options for certain international divisions, the company said.

"Like many others in the industry, our business has been affected by a challenging and uncertain macroeconomic environment," Jeff Furman, chief executive of CareerBuilder, said.

JobGet, Valnet and Valsoft will serve as stalking-horse, or lead, bidders in a court-supervised sale process, subject to higher and better offers.

The company is finalizing a $20 million loan from Blue Torch Capital to help finance its chapter 11.

CareerBuilder said it plans to pay its vendors to its U.S. businesses in full in the normal course during its bankruptcy proceedings.

Last year Randstad NV, the world's largest employment agency, formed a joint venture between its Monster job board business and Apollo portfolio company CareerBuilder.