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TheStreet.com Q1 2009 Earnings Call Transcript

Question-and-Answer Session

Operator

(Operator Instructions). The first question comes from the line of Joseph Garner with Emerald Advisers. Please proceed

Joseph Garner - Emerald Advisers

Hi, first, I would like to start out by thanking Eric for all the time and effort that you've put into the business, and also wish you luck with wherever you go next.

Eric Ashman

Thanks, Joe. I appreciate that.

Joseph Garner - Emerald Advisers

I guess number one, I'm curious if you could elaborate a little bit more may be on the demand environment since the end of the quarter, just from observing the site, it looks like perhaps there may have been some pickup in the advertising activity. Just wondering is what I'm seeing may be accurate, so if you could comment a little bit on that?

Eric Ashman

First of all, one of the things that anybody that was on the site at the beginning of the first quarter would have noticed is that the first quarter certainly was slow to start from an advertising perspective. One of the things I mentioned in my comments was that a number of advertisers delayed till the middle of the quarter to get campaigns off the ground as budgets firmed up on the client side.

Certainly in the second quarter, we have seen the cyclical effect that we generally see, which means is that we are seeing a stronger Q2 than certainly what we saw as a trend in the back half of Q1. It doesn't suggest and I don't want to suggest that in anyway we have seen any meaningful overall macro improvement, but more that we certainly have seen a pickup sequentially as we typically do as the business cycles through Q1 to Q2.

So if you have been on the site, you are right. You certainly will see more activity in the second quarter than what you saw in the first.

Joseph Garner - Emerald Advisers

Second question for Daryl, one of the concerns as a long-term shareholder of the company is that we've seen quite a bit of turnover here in the last 60 days or so in the senior executive ranks, the company. Just wondering if you can talk a little bit about that and particularly given the economic environment that we are operating in and the importance, obviously, of having a strong and experienced management team in place to lead us through that.

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